



NEW YEAR. Youngsville's Otha Hill was festively dressed for the Centerville New Year's Day Parade. It's the only community in Franklin County that has such an event.

January

- Centerville was once again front and center of attention, starting 2024 with Franklin County's only New Year's Day parade.
- Brian Christmas began his duties in January as the first full-time chief of the Youngsville Fire Department.
- Juan Black, 47, was one of three people found dead inside a Vance County home on Jan. 6. According to reports, all three died from apparent gunshot wounds.
- The case remains under investigation.
- Louisburg leaders tasked Town Administrator Sean Medlin with doing the leg work necessary to create a "white flag" shelter in town.
- In the months since, more discussions have taken place about providing folks with a place to seek refuge from extreme cold or heat. However, no definitive action has taken place regarding the issue.
- Franklin County authorities arrested Anne Marie Green, alleging that she tormented dogs and deprived them of food while they were at her Green Meadow Kennels — which she operated out of her Tarboro Road home in Youngsville.
- The case against her remains pending;
- Then State Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Pruitt visited Long Mill Elementary School;
- Franklinton's Bernie Meader was named Citizen of the Year by the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.
- Meader serves as the guiding force behind a solid volunteer effort to operate a good garden that provides produce for those in need in and around Franklinton;

February

- All Franklin County public schools students became eligible to receive free lunch through the school year.
- The move was possible because of a partnership with Franklin County Schools, the State Department of Public Instruction School Nutrition Division and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- The goal is to extend the effort for four years;
- The law enforcement community said goodbye to longtime Louisburg of-

icer Cliff Stephens. Stephens completed a 27-year career, all with the Louisburg Police Department. Months later, Stephens was joined by officers Joe Sherrill, Shari Brinkley and Greg Alston — who had about 100 years of combined law enforcement experience with Louisburg.

Chief Jason Abbott is set to retire on Jan. 31 — Friday;

- The Louisburg Town Council took its official stance, telling the State Department of Transportation not to close Johnson Street.

Franklin County management has said that the road along the Hamilton Hobgood Courthouse Annex needs to be closed to accommodate planned renovations and new construction at the courthouse.

But, those who oppose the closure argue it would hamper access to Riverbend Park and could impact emergency responder traffic.

Ultimately, Franklin County officials have slowed down their courthouse plans, but the prospect of closing Johnson Street still looms;

- An early morning fire destroyed Clifton Auto Sales on Bickett Boulevard.

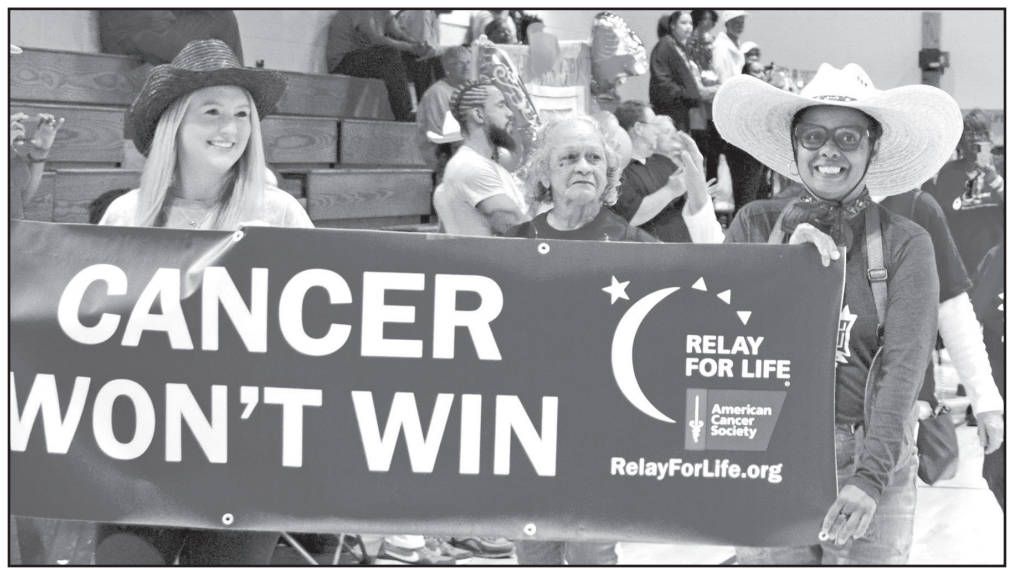
No injuries were reported, but the office was totally gutted.

March

- Franklin County officials agreed to spend as much as \$175,000 to build a pickleball/tennis court at Owens Park. Surface work began late in 2024.
- After a months-long back and forth with Franklin County, Bunn commissioners agreed to let the county build an emergency radio tower at Bunn High School.
- The county wanted to build the tower behind the Bunn Fire Station on Main Street, but residents and commissioners were concerned about its impact on downtown, as well as its proximity to a nearby tower behind Bunn Town Hall.
- The decision to allow it on property behind Bunn High School was a compromise, but county officials said the delay caused by not being able to use their original site cost them time and money — as much as \$1 million.
- Gov. Roy Cooper visited Louisburg Elementary School as part of his "The Year of Public Schools" tour, where he tried to galvanize support for public education;
- Franklin County property owners began receiving their tax assessments which, while expected to be high, even exceeded the wildest expectations.
- Commissioners and residents spent the next few months trying to make sense of the assessments, as well as affect modifications that could ease the burden.
- Ultimately, commissioners urged property owners to appeal their assessments and made proclamations to fix the problem, at least for the next revaluation.
- The Board of Education approved a new athletic opportunity at Louisburg Magnet High School — 7 on 7 girls flag football.

April

- The State Bureau of Investigation revealed that an officer-involved shooting that took place in December of 2023 was in the hands of District Attorney Mike Waters.
- A still-unnamed deputy is accused of shooting Samuel Joseph Tripp during a confrontation at Tripp's Cheves Road



FIGHT ON. Franklin County's Relay For Life continued its efforts to battle cancer Home.

According to a woman identified as Tripp's wife, Tripp attempted to check himself into a crisis center, as he was suffering from chronic pain and other issues.

Tripp was sent to the emergency room and was given pain meds and sent home, the woman said.

When deputies arrived at Tripp's home for an undisclosed reason, he was alleged to have been holding what was later determined to be a paintball gun and confronted the two deputies.

Tripp was fatally wounded, but the deputies were not injured.

District Attorney Mike Waters has yet to reveal the conclusion of his review.

- The United Way of Franklin County made its first pitches to Bunn, Franklinton and Louisburg to help them build basketball courts in those communities.

In December, Franklin County unveiled the basketball court at Franklinton Park. A basketball court and pickleball court are under construction next to town hall in Bunn and Louisburg leaders cleared land for a basketball court at Joyner Park.

- Franklin County closed on a property on T. Kemp Road that had been in legal dispute.

Commissioners agreed to buy five acres and the accompanying warehouse and office space at 424 T. Kemp Road — which had been the operational space for Advanced Metal Processing from 2006 to 2010.

When the county decided to buy the property, though, they had to file a lawsuit against the owner — 424 T. Kemp Road LLC — for not properly conveying the property and turning over the title.

The legal challenge was successful. The county's plan is to renovate the property to house facilities maintenance staff and equipment.

- Franklinton police arrested Christian David Webster, alleging he shot and killed his roommates, Matthew Johnson, 34, and William Hulme, 26 — all of whom lived on Pine Street.

In July, Webster was sentenced to life in prison. He avoided the death penalty as part of his plea agreement.

- Franklin County proved to be partially in the path of a total solar eclipse that plunged a swath of the country in darkness.

- The Franklin County Board of Commissioners agreed to move forward with plans for a judicial complex that would tear down historic Louisburg Theater and close Johnson Street, running parallel with the Hamilton Hobgood Courthouse Annex.

A 2019 facilities study revealed the need for more space, including within the

with its annual event. Carrying the banner was Haley Connors and Susette McConnell.

courthouse. Oakley Collier Architects presented with plans to add 14,000 square feet of renovations to the current Hamilton Hobgood Courthouse Annex, and build a 55,000-square-foot, three-story building immediately behind it.

That renovation and new construction would also necessitate the demolition and closure — which town residents and leaders have opposed.

The issue remains pending as Franklin County leaders have halted — but not abandoned — their plans.

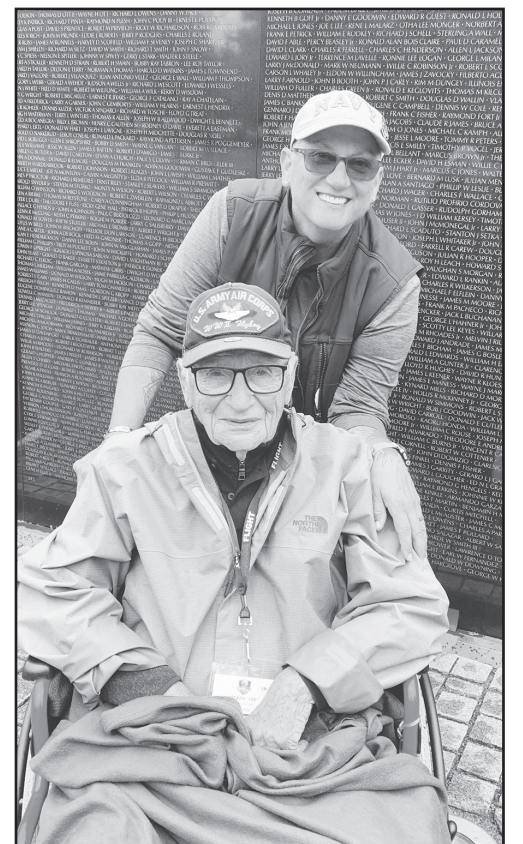
- Franklinton officials agreed to rezone a 3.5-acre parcel on Green Hill Road, one of the first steps toward the fire department placing a substation at the site.

Fire officials said the site would account for growth and reduce response times west of U.S. 1.

- Franklin County's Relay for Life at Terrell Lane Middle School proved a success.

- World War II veteran Joe Balogh got to take part in the Blue Ridge Honor Flight, where he and other veterans got to visit war memorials in the Nation's Capital that honor their service.

The 103-year-old flew more than 100 missions during his service in the U.S. Army.



WHAT A TRIP. World War II vet Joe Balogh visited the national monument as part of the Blue Ridge Honor Flight, with the help of Veteran Chris Phillips.

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May

• A joint meeting between leaders of Franklin County schools and Franklin County government devolved into back-and-forth accusations and demonstrations of mistrust.

The two boards met to hammer out the school system's budget request — which they allege was bare bones and met their needs, for which county government appeared skeptical. They also alleged would require a tax increase.

Ultimately, county commissioners agreed to fund the school system's request, but not before bad blood was shared and some relationships appeared fractured.

• County commissioners agreed to spend as much as \$130,000 to build a dog park at Pilot Lions Park.

• Franklin County began livestreaming its commissioners meetings, giving access to meetings via the county's website and Youtube channel.

June

• Authorities said two men were fishing at Bunn Lake when their boat capsized.

One of the men was able to hold onto a rock or drainage pipe until they were rescued by members of the Bunn Volunteer Fire Department.

The Wake Forest Fire Department and Youngsville Dive Team searched the lake, finding the body of the second man about 45 minutes later.

The drowning victim has not been publicly identified.

• Crooked Creek Airport proprietor Frank Swett was injured in a single engine, tow plane crash.

The craft was found in the area of Reid Road and Howard Tant Road.

Swett sustained "moderate" injuries.

According to reports, the craft was returning to the airport, less than a mile

away, when the crash occurred.

According to the Federal Aviation Administration's Aviation Safety Information Analysis and Sharing website, the craft crashed under unknown circumstances.

• Some Lake Royale residents protested the removal of Gabe Fanara as interim police chief — the day that a Jr. Police Camp began.

The reason for Fanara's dismissal remains a mystery.

• Bunn, Louisburg and Franklinton high schools celebrated graduations. Franklin County Early College High School held their commencement exercises in May.

• County commissioners agreed to pay \$200,000 for just over two acres and \$150,000 for just under half an acre — for a new EMS station at the airport and the space to build an elevated water tank at the intersection of Tarboro and Mays Crossroads road.

Officials expressed heartburn about the cost, however, the locations were critical for both projects.

• Longtime Franklin County Economic Development Administrative Specialist Lori Duke retired after nearly 30 years of service.

• Youngsville fire crews battled a home blaze and saved a family pet.

No other injuries were reported in the fire as heat indices hovered around the triple digits.

Youngsville fire crews responded to a home in the 100 block of E. Fleming Road to find it engulfed in flames.

The resident was outside cutting grass when the fire began, but a dog was inside, said Youngsville Fire Chief Brian Christmas.

A firefighter, Christmas said, was able to slip into the house through a window to find the dog, unconscious, and brought it out.

The dog's breathing was labored, Christmas said, and EMS used an oxygen mask to rouse the animal.

They placed the dog in a shaded area and gave it water "and he came to, a little bit," Christmas noted.

The animal was then taken to a vet to be checked out.

• Levi Odom won the 2024 North Carolina Junior Disc Golf Championship, MJ15 division.

• Steps from where Rosanell Eaton began her remarkable journey in pursuit of civil rights, a downtown Louisburg building was dedicated in her honor in early July with family and friends witnessing the ceremony.

Eaton rode a mule-drawn wagon in 1943 to the Franklin County Courthouse to register to vote — but election officials in that Jim Crow era tried to stop her by requiring her to recite the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

She surprised them by doing it — flawlessly — and began a life-long fight for civil, human, women's and voter rights that even included a visit to the White House to meet with then-President Barack Obama.

To commemorate the woman and her journey until her death at 97 in 2018, Michael and Deborah Liter dedicated a building they recently rehabilitated at 217 Court Street in Eaton's honor.

July

• Franklinton got a jump start on Independence Day festivities, hosting their event on June 29 at the Franklinton Middle School football field.

• Days of extreme heat and intermittent, often sporadic rainfall that was far less than normal were adding up to a potential catastrophe for local farmers.

On the Friday after the July 4th holiday, three local farmers — Jon Pearce, Steve Nelms and Ed Wheeler — gathered with Bob Etheridge, executive director of the North Carolina Farm Service Agency, to take a quick look at how local crops are faring and the results were stunning.

• The Louisburg Town Council finalized its newly created Economic Development Committee. The committee consists of nine members appointed by the town council.

• Louisburg police department said goodbye to nearly 100 years of law enforcement experience. Police Chief Jason Abbott led a celebration for officers Joe Sherrill, Greg Alston and Shari Brinkley during a retirement ceremony.

• Franklin County commissioners changed a utilities ordinance that developers said was hamstringing growth.

The board changed a 24-year-old ordinance so that it no longer requires that major subdivision developments hook onto nearby county water and sewer service — giving developers the freedom to drill wells and use septic systems, instead.

The change gives developers an option other than waiting on an allocation of public water that is slowly doled out because the availability is limited.

August

• One juvenile was in custody, but authorities were looking for two other teenagers they allege went on violent crime spree in Franklin County before leading officers on a multi-county chase.

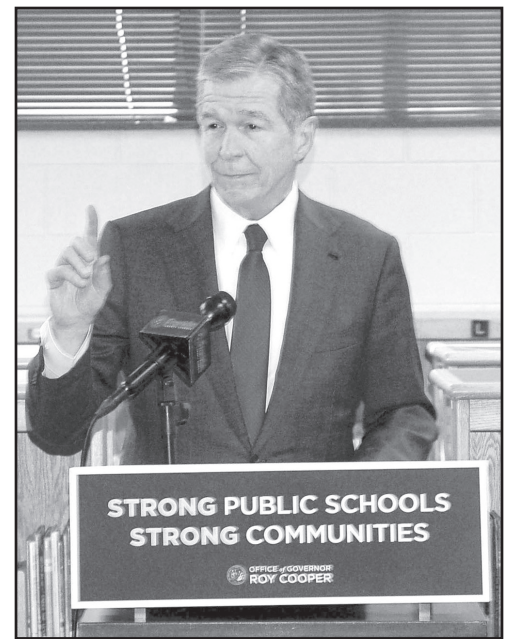
Their crimes, police said, included an assault and armed robbery, an attempted armed robbery and theft of a vehicle outside of Franklinton.

• Raleigh residents Joe and Stephanie Farrell have been responsible for changing the fate of economic development on nearly every corner of downtown Franklinton.

The couple was recognized during a dedication ceremony for changing the face of the Franklinton Veterans Memorial Park, renovating the space and laying the foundation for generations to come.

"They really are the reason we are here today and made these park improvements possible," said American Legion Post 52 Commander Chris Smith.

"This park is a beautiful memorial to



LESSONS. Former Gov. Roy Cooper visited Louisburg Elementary School as part of his "The Year of Public Schools" tour in his call to fully fund public education.

honor veterans from all branches of military service," Smith said. "To the citizens of Franklinton and Franklin County, this is your park."

• The state fined Franklin County \$1,000 and issued a warning, alleging animal control staff mishandled cats and broke state law when it needlessly jumped the gun to euthanize a dog.

• Franklin County Schools are free to operate just like virtually all other school districts in North Carolina — and must follow all the state and federal regulations that are in place to govern schools.

That was the result of a federal court order filed in the case of Coppedge et al v. the Franklin County Board of Education.

As a result of that case, which dates to the mid-1960s, Franklin County Schools were under increased scrutiny by the U.S. Justice Department over how it has desegregated and operated schools.

The ruling declared that the need for that oversight is over.

• Franklin County fired its animal services director, two other employees and agreed to pay a fine after the state found shelter staff improperly euthanized a dog and mishandled cats that were being put down.

• Franklin County avoided devastation when Tropical Depression Debby swept through, but just barely. According to the National Weather Service, three tornadoes touched down in Franklin County, the most powerful of which whipped through north central Franklin County.

• Franklin County put a price tag on delays to its plans for a new Bunn emergency communications tower when commissioners approved \$1 million in change orders.

In 2023, Bunn commissioners nixed the county's plans to erect a tower behind the Bunn Fire Department on Main Street. After a long battle between Bunn and county leaders, they agreed to allow the tower to go up along a corner section of Bunn High School.

• Youngsville adopted a Parks and Recreation Master Plan that provides a rough outline of how officials would like to see the program grow — including new facilities and staffing levels.

The Parks and Rec Master Plan has outlined four potential locations for an additional park, two of which could include a 21,740-square-foot indoor community and recreation center.



RETIRED. Lori Duke, an administrative support specialist and the glue of the county's Economic Development office retired after nearly 30 years of service.



THE BEST. Volunteer Bernie Meader was presented with the Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award by Maria Parham Executive Director of Operations Emilee Johnson.

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FUN IN BUNN. Bunn Police Officer Phyllis Johnson drives the town's fun-filled train around the grounds, much to the delight of her children passengers.

September

•Franklin County commissioners increased support toward a grant application that could help build a new Franklinton Elementary School. It was the third year that Franklin County public schools will have sought \$42 million in state funds to replace the aging school.

The first two years the state has required a 5 percent local match to pull down the Needs Based Public School Capital Fund grant. This year, the state requires a 15 percent match — \$6.3 million.

•Bunn commissioners denied a request that would have allowed property next to Bunn Elementary School to be used for a meat processing facility. The property owner petitioned the town to rezone 4.84 acres at 685 Bunn Elementary School Road from low density residential (R-1) to Light Industrial (I-1).

The owners wanted to process cattle and sheep, using a kosher process, inside a building to be built on the property.

•Franklin County tasked a former sheriff with shepherding its animal services department on a temporary basis.

Jerry Jones was hired as the county's interim animal services manager. Jones served as sheriff from 2002 to 2006, and again from 2011 to 2014.

•Youngsville and its taxpayers have worked to expedite a bypass around downtown. They asked Franklin County leaders for some help.

•Bunn commissioners refused to allow bars, taverns and nightclubs in their downtown commercial district — effectively end-

ing a businesswoman's plans to establish some nightlife in the heart of town.

•A shot fired during a cold morning in January 2023 took 19-year-old Hamilton Woods from his family. A jury decided Gavin Miller's decision to fire that .40-caliber bullet was murder, not self defense, convicting him of second degree murder after a trial.

•Youngsville commissioners supported alignment of the southern tip of the bypass that's expected to have the least environmental and home impacts.

Town staff worked with Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization to amend the path of the bypass — the genesis of the Youngsville Bypass Hot Spot Analysis.

Because the town accelerated work on the project, a closer look was required for each segment, essentially from the U.S. 1A/N.C. 96 intersection, east to Cedar Creek Road, South to Tarboro Road and further south to connect to N.C. 96 south of Youngsville.

Four alignments were identified for the bypass south of Tarboro Road to N.C. 96.

•Franklin County commissioners agreed to inject more than another million dollars into the sheriff's department.

Franklin County management planned to install countywide salary adjustments in October as recommended by its pay and classification study.

County Manager Kim Denton said the sheriff's office would have realized about half a million dollars in increased funding for salaries spread across the sheriff's office, jail staff and courthouse bailiffs. But Sheriff Kevin White said his department would need just over \$1 million to appropriately compensate staff and keep up with neigh-

boring departments' pay.

•Franklin County leaders promised to get back to a resident who questioned EMS's transport policy. Franklinton resident Leslie Joyner said the county's transport policy is keeping him from his preferred health care destination.

•The 2024 graduates of Franklin County high schools racked up more than \$10 million in scholarship offers to continue their educations.

October

•Hurricane Helene missed Franklin County by a couple of hundred miles. But, in its aftermath, Franklin County residents and its emergency response community did not miss a chance to lend a hand.

•Sheriff Kevin White called for the county manager's job, calling alleged acts to hamper hurricane relief a grotesque lack of leadership.

•The Louisburg Town Council sent back a \$300,000 Parks and Recreation grant to the state and took a possible first step toward closing West Johnson Street downtown to clear the way for a proposed courtroom expansion.

The grant was to have been used to develop a greenway through the town's Commerce Park that would have been part of the planned link between Joyner Park and the bikeway along NC 56 West.

However, environmental studies and permits were not completed and the completion of the sewer line has been delayed for 18 months.

The NC Parks and Recreation Department said it could not grant an extension.

•The trailblazing organization driven to end domestic and sexual assault violence honored one of its path setters. During its annual ceremony, Safe Space honored pioneer Jim Grove, who was one of Safe Space's initial volunteers — aiding the abused and others touched by domestic and sexual assault violence.

In presenting him with the Safe Space Lifetime Legacy Award, Safe Space leaders said Grove was just trying to change this part of the world and the lifetime legacy award honors the man who "did change this part of the world."

•Early voting started and voters had a chance to weigh in on races that decide everything from who becomes president, who makes school decisions, who sets county policy to who looks out for our soil and water.

Up for grabs were three contested county commission seats, two contested school board seats, Senate and House of Representatives seats in the General Assembly, the

Register of Deeds and the Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor.

•A presentation about plans to raise test scores in Franklin County's six "low performing schools" was the focus of a Board of Education meeting.

The district has six low-performing schools: Franklinton Elementary; Louisburg Elementary; Bunn Middle; Cedar Creek Middle; Franklinton Middle and Terrell Lane Middle.

State regulations demand that the district submit its plans to improve the performance at those schools.

•North Carolina voters were off to the races, setting a first-day record for voting. More than 4,000 ballots were cast in Franklin County on the first day of early voting. In 2020, 3,114 ballots were cast on the first day of early voting.

•Franklinton used a recent gathering of interested parties along a developing rail corridor to advocate for a stop in town. Last summer, state officials and federal transportation staff broke ground on a rail line, connecting Richmond Va., to Raleigh — and further south into Florida.

The 162-mile passenger route has been in development for about 20 years and stops are planned in Norlina, Henderson and Wake Forest before getting to Raleigh.

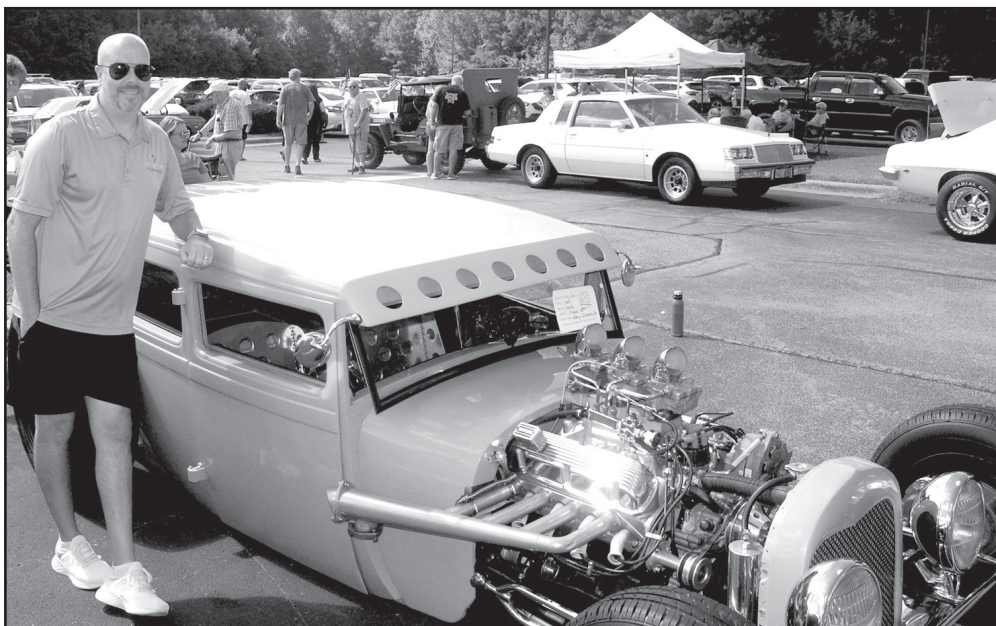
•Lisa Lawrence penned the Franklinton Area Community Theatre's first play two decades ago, profiling many of the town's historic figures, from Soupy Sales to T.H. Pearce to the Bibby Brothers.

Twenty years later, FACT is generating its own history, marking two decades as an artistic cradle for actors, singers, musicians and technicians that all have a love for the stage and its lights.

FACT has close associations with Franklinton High, but it isn't part of the school — even though that's where Lawrence got her start with theater.

•In the spring of 2022, town leaders adopted the Louisburg 2030 comprehensive plan that established the town's vision for its development future. Now planners have crafted a new zoning ordinance that would turn that vision into reality.

•The Franklin County Board of Elections agreed to the fixes necessary to resolve an issue for four voters who alleged they received incorrect District 3 ballots. Elections staff assured the board and the public that a broader breakdown in election integrity was very unlikely.



FALL FEST. Youngsville Mayor Fonzie Flowers stands by Gary Duffield's crowd-favorite 1928 Model A during the town's annual Fall Festival at Faith Baptist Church.



HONORED. Safe Space Executive Director Monica Kearney presented Jim Grove with a hug and the organization's Lifetime Legacy Award for his help with the group dedicated to ending domestic and sexual assault violence.

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November

Franklin County commissioners fired county manager Kim Denton and the two commissioners who made the decision possible have never said why. Denton immediately left her post, and Assistant County Manager Ryan Preble was elevated to county manager on an interim basis.

Nearly 78 percent of the county's voters turned out, giving the Republican party control of the county's board of commissioners — six of the seven seats.

Republicans Logan Davis and Stuart May had the most votes on election day for seats for District 1 and 7, respectively.

Incumbent District 3 Commissioner Mark Speed won his race against Russell Bottoms.

When the Louisburg mayor, town council and three top administrators met in a reconstructed log building at Lynch Creek Farm, the challenge facing them was evident.

The price tag was staggering — \$82,350,000 spread across town departments and representing needs that are coming in the relatively near future. They were called "the most crucial for the town at this time."

The Louisburg Town Council tip-toed right up to approving several steps that would have cleared the way for a controversial courtroom building project by Franklin County — but tabled the whole matter at the suggestion of Franklin County Commission Chair Harry Foy.

The proposed building — expected to cost in the range of \$30 million — is a three-story structure that will include five new courtrooms and a great deal of office space all built on a 2.37-acre site downtown.

Veteran Louisburg Police Chief Jason Abbott made it official, he is retiring, effective Jan. 31, 2025. Abbott began as a patrol officer with the Louisburg department in 1996 and "worked all the high spots in the department" until becoming interim police chief in April, 2017. The council named him chief of police in October, 2017.

Emma Stewart, who served 30 years as



DESERVED. Former Louisburg Town Councilwoman Emma Stewart was presented with The Order of the Long Leaf Pine by Mayor Christopher Neal.

a Louisburg council member and has been involved in many civic projects, received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award. The award was made by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper and presented to her by Louisburg Mayor Christopher Neal. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is presented to individuals who have a proven record of extraordinary service to the state.

Franklin County swore in its new tax administrator, John Preston, and appointed him as the tax administrator — filling the vacancy of former Tax Administrator Marian Cascone, who resigned in July.

The Louisburg Fire Department opened its Fire Department Museum with "Maude," a fully restored 1921 American La France fire engine as its centerpiece. Volunteers plan to have the museum open the third Sunday of every month from 2 to 5 p.m. — and also for special tours that can be arranged in advance. The museum is at 121 Davis Street in Louisburg.

Managers of Franklin County's emergency communications system said they're moving ahead with plans to erect a supplemental tower if a federal mandate to lower a primary tower impacts



OUTSTANDING SEASON. The Louisburg College Hurricanes Football Team exits the field after another win at home, part of an 8-2 campaign that landed them a spot in the NJCAA DIII National Championship game. They lost that game, 31-14 to College of DuPage.

Plans to build a 325-foot tower along the southern U.S. 401 corridor were thwarted when the Federal Aviation Administration required that the tower be lowered to 294 feet due to its proximity to the county airport.

Engineers suspect that lowering the tower could impact a radio signal's ability to penetrate dense buildings, such as big box stores and similar structures.

December

Louisburg police continued to look for suspects in two shootings — one fatal. It was the second fatal shooting within a week's time.

Louisburg officers responded to a call of shots fired at Franklin Court Apartments on Nov. 26.

They found Christian Xzavier Alston suffering from a gunshot wound.

The 24-year-old Louisburg resident was taken to WakeMed where he died.

While on scene at Franklin Court Apartments, Abbott said, another gunshot victim arrived at the emergency room at Maria Parham Franklin. Ty-Shaun Gibson, 20, was taken to Maria Parham Franklin and then transported to another hospital where the the Louisburg resident was treated.

Franklin County commissioners authorized county management to award a construction bid for a new Bunn EMS station. And, they agreed to move forward with actions to speed up an if-necessary radio tower along one of the county's main thoroughfares.

Commissioners had agreed to pay the May family just over \$200,000 for a two-acre site to build a new EMS station along N.C. 39, next to Bunn Middle School to serve Bunn.

Architects recommended the county hire Raleigh-based Harrod & Associates Constructors, who bid the project at \$2.99 million.

The solution to Louisburg's — and perhaps Franklin County's — long-term water needs is a reservoir, built off stream from the Tar River but able to draw water from the river during peak flows and store that water until it's needed.

That's the gist of a long report presented to the Louisburg Town Council by Reed Palmer, a civil engineer who is a senior associate of Hazen and Sawyer, the firm hired by the town to take a look at its water source requirements.

Hazen and Sawyer is a national firm whose sole focus is water.

Palmer cautioned that this solution is neither simple nor inexpensive, adding that it could cost up to \$75 million and take at least eight years.


Two new companies are set to establish their first pilot facility and future manufacturing center in Franklin County.

TerraSafe Materials, Inc. and its sister company, DisSolves, Inc., said they are establishing a facility that will create 20 new full-time jobs — with an average annual salary of \$100,000 — with over \$10 million invested between the combined companies. The new facility will be located at 35 Weathers Street in Youngsville.



Franklin County Commissioners look away after firing Kim Denton as county manager.

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