

Obituaries

Jean Holbrook McCall

Jean Holbrook McCall of Richlands, Va., passed away on Thursday, August 8, 2019, at Dogwood Crossing Assisted Living in Tazewell, Va.

She was born on March 29, 1929, to the late James Morgan and Mahala Holbrook of Wise County, Va. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her

husband of 58 years, John Robert McCall; son, John Anthony McCall; granddaughter, Natalee Jean McCall; brother, Jack Holbrook; and sisters, Virginia Counts and Gay Burke.

She is survived by two daughters, Barbara McMillian and husband, Jim and Kathy Bennett and husband, Karmon, both of Pounding Mill, Va.; grandchildren, John Marco Warner and wife, Virginia, Brent Warner and fiancée, Natasha Cooper, Kerri Bennett, Kristi Bennett Beck and husband, Brian, Madison McCall Proffitt and husband, Tyler, and Mahala McCall Brien and husband, Caleb; great-grandchildren, Sarah Bond Strong and husband, Reese, Lexie Warner, Knox Anthony Knighten, Lia, Ali, and Brook Beck and Eleanor Proffitt; great-great grandchildren, Willis and Harmon Strong; one brother, Joe Holbrook of Cosby, Tenn.; two sisters, Becky Proulex and Carolyn Straley, both of Coeburn, Va.; and sister-in-law, Shirley McCall of Bristol, Va.

Jean was a member of Cedar Bluff United Methodist Church for 63 years where she served as treasurer for 28 years. She also was a life member and past worthy matron of Richlands Chapter 104 of the Order of the Eastern Star. She also had the honor of serving as Grand Warder Order of the Eastern Star Grand Chapter of Virginia.

Jean was a very gracious hostess to many Saturday and Sunday Dinners at her home where family and friends were always welcome. She loved golfing, playing Rook, cooking chicken and dumplings and her famous cole slaw for members of the community.

A funeral service for Jean McCall was held at 1 p.m. at Singleton Funeral Service in Cedar Bluff, Va., on Saturday, August 10, 2019. Burial followed at Greenhills Memory Gardens in Claypool Hill, Va.

The family received friends from 11 a.m. until time of the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Richlands Teen Center, 217 Railroad Avenue, Richlands, VA 24641.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by going to www.SingletonFuneralService.com.

The family of Jean Holbrook McCall is in the care of Singleton Funeral Service in Cedar Bluff, Va.



Charlene Buchanan

Charlene Diane Buchanan, age 65, of Richlands, Va., passed away on Thursday, August 8, 2019, at her home, following a lengthy illness.

She was born on December 15, 1953, the daughter of Della J. Campbell and the late Charles E. Campbell formerly of Roderfield, W.Va. She was a 1971

graduate of laegar High School and received her B.S. Degree in Human Services Counseling from Old Dominion University. She was the former owner and operator of Geppetto's Floral and Gifts in War, W.Va. for many years.

Charlene was a member of Gethsemane Baptist Church in Richlands, Va. She was a truly special lady who touched the lives of many people. While battling cancer, she continued to spread the Word of God and His love radiated through every kind word and visit she made to those battling cancer alongside her on the 5th floor. Up until the very end, she praised the Lord and her faith was unshakeable.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her son, Roger "David" Buchanan; and her brother, Michael Campbell.

Those left to cherish her memory include the love of her life and husband of 46 years, Roger L. Buchanan; her mother, Della June Campbell of Athens, W.Va.; daughters and sons-in-law, Amos and Jennifer Buchanan Mitchell of Johnson City, Tenn., Jarod and Rebecca Buchanan Johnson of Richlands, Va., and Mike and Lynda Tipton of Fort Smith, Ark.; grandchildren, Abby and Laura "Kate" Johnson, Ana Buchanan, and Jack Tipton; brothers, Jerry Campbell of Athens, W.Va., Timothy Campbell of Lexington, N.C., and Anthony and Cheri Campbell of Hensley, W.Va.; sisters, Ron and Linda Lantz of Round Lake Beach, Ill., Beverly Shepherd of Athens, W.Va., Rick and Kimberly Rocchi of Bluefield, W.Va., and Melanie Campbell of Roderfield, W.Va. She is survived by many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins that she loved dearly.

The family received friends from 6 until 9 p.m. Monday, August 12, 2019, at Gethsemane Baptist Church in Richlands, Va.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at Gethsemane Baptist Church with Dr. Marc Brooks officiating. Entombment followed at Greenhills Memory Gardens Mausoleum in Claypool Hill, Va. Pallbearers were Deacons of Gethsemane Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Gethsemane Baptist Church, 2902 Clinch St., Richlands, VA 24641, or St. Jude Children's Research, 262 Danny Thomas Pl., Memphis, TN 38105.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by going to www.SingletonFuneralService.com.

The family of Charlene Buchanan is in the care of Singleton Funeral Service in Cedar Bluff, Va.



Brian Beck and Regina Sayers of AASC.

Sayers wins award for leadership

THE NEWS & PRESS

CEDAR BLUFF, Va. — Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens' Executive Director Regina Sayers was awarded the 2019 n4a Excellence in Leadership Award.

This prestigious award recognizes Area Agencies on Aging and Title VI directors who have demonstrated exceptional leadership capabilities at the local, state or national level in advancing the mission of the Older Americans Act and preparing communities for our nation's rapidly aging population.

The n4a Excellence in Leadership Award was presented to Sayers at the n4a conference last week in New Orleans, Louisiana. Sayers has spent the last nine years serving Tazewell County and as executive director of the Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens in Cedar Bluff. In her role at AASC Sayers has been honored with several awards for her service. Sayers has demonstrated exceptional leadership capabilities and has a proven track record.

In addition to Sayers' prestigious award, AASC was the recipient of two additional very special awards during the event. The Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens was recognized by n4a's Aging and Disability Business Institute as runner-up for The John A. Hartford Foundation 2019 Business Innovation Award. The award recognizes Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens for its work to develop a rural Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly to help older adults in its community continue living in their homes while providing a continuum of much-needed medical and supportive services. Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens was recognized as co-runner up alongside the Camarillo Health Care District in California for its health care contracting efforts related to post-acute care, case management and self-management.

"We applaud each of these outstanding programs for the contributions they have made toward creating a collaborative system of care for older adults and people with disabilities," said Terry Fulmer, PhD, RN, FAAN, President of The John A. Hartford Foundation. "These programs serve as models for age-friendly health systems that integrate community-based supports and transform the way care is delivered to older adults in this country."

County approves new employee pay scale, organizational chart

BY JIM TALBERT
The News & Press

TAZEWELL, Va. — A new organizational chart and pay scale for county employees was approved by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors last week.

The new chart has fewer executive positions and more part-time employees. The action eliminated department heads in IT, EMS, Tourism and Maintenance. The county garage, maintenance, custodial services, animal shelter, parks and recreation and building safety were all consolidated into the department of operations.

Supervision of IT was moved to the engineering department and EMS is now directly under the director of emergency services.

"This action makes permanent

the changes we implemented last year. Fewer departments allow us to operate with fewer employees and fewer department heads," County Administrator Eric Young said.

The board's vote also permanently eliminated the positions of assistant county attorney and assistant county engineer that have been vacant since 2018 due to budget cuts. The position of assistant tourism director will be eliminated and that department will get two part-time positions. A pair of full time spots at Cavitt's Creek Park will be filled with part-time seasonal help.

The new chart also allows the county to operate without an assistant county administrator. The new pay scale for administrative employees establishes starting pay rate for each position. Young said the

idea is to go with fewer employees and pay them a little more.

The scale was developed after studying Wise, Smyth, Washington and Pulaski Counties which are comparable in size to Tazewell. The scale not only established the rate for new hires, but it also adjusted the pay rate of current employees who took on additional duties.

Young said the elimination of positions saved the county more than \$150,000 after the adjustments for the new scale. He said the new scale will allow the county to move away from relying on retirement and health benefits as a way to recruit new employees. He said the scale was adjusted to acknowledge years of service in order to avoid new hires moving ahead of senior employees.

Griffith introduces bankruptcy bill

THE NEWS & PRESS

Congressman Morgan Griffith, R-Virginia, has introduced legislation to allow employees of companies that have filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy to draw from qualified cash or deferred arrangements, such as 401ks, when they are not regularly scheduled for work or paid. He issued the following statement: "By now, most Southwest Virginians know the stories of the Blackjewel miners who have had

paychecks rescinded from their accounts and lived with uncertainty for weeks about their next check. This situation is very difficult. My legislation aims to help workers in similar situations by allowing them to draw on additional financial arrangements, such as 401ks, to get through times of difficulty. It is my hope that this bill will become law and workers can avoid the dilemma now faced by employees of Blackjewel."

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