

New WNC alliance tackles opioids

Vaya Health and community partners announced today the formation of the Western North Carolina Substance Use Alliance, a collaboration to reduce the prevalence of alcohol and drug misuse, as well as the number of fatal overdoses, in 23 western North Carolina counties.

The misuse and abuse of alcohol, prescription medications and illicit drugs affect the health and well-being of millions of Americans. In 2015, for the first time in U.S. history, the number of heroin-related deaths outnumbered gun homicides. In North Carolina, 25 percent of the 1,567 drug overdose deaths in 2015 involved heroin.

Western North Carolina has been hit particularly hard by the opioid epidemic, which includes heroin, other illicit drugs and prescription pain medications. In 2014, 17 of 23 western N.C. counties ranked among the top in the state in the rate of fatal overdoses—more than 20 deaths for every 100,000 residents.

Statewide data also show that all but five counties in the region have higher-than-average rates of opioid pills prescribed per person, particular in counties near the Tennessee border. Macon County topped that list with an average of 258 pills prescribed per resident in 2014, and Swain County prescribers wrote nearly two opioid prescriptions, on average, for each of the county's 14,000 residents.

The WNC alliance aims to increase collaboration across agencies involved in substance use prevention and treatment, leverage resources to maximize efforts, reduce duplication and establish top priorities for the region. This includes coordinating efforts to increase access to treatment and recovery services, strengthen prevention and education efforts and examine the impact of substance use on overall health and economic development, as a result of lost worker productivity.

The alliance will be chaired by Brian Ingraham, CEO of Vaya Health, which manages publicly funded mental health, substance use and developmental disability services in western North Carolina.

"Our region is experiencing an epidemic of opioid addiction, as well as misuse of other substances," Ingraham said. "By bringing together some of western North Carolina's most dedicated, knowledgeable individuals and agencies, this alliance will allow us to build on each other's efforts and make a greater impact as a team than we can acting separately."

The alliance will focus its efforts on the 23 counties Vaya currently serves and be guided by both the 2016 report of the N.C. Governor's Task Force on Mental Health and Substance Use and the first-ever Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health, also released last year. Four sub-committees will focus on key areas:

Safe opioid prescribing and medication-assisted treatment, chaired by Dr. Blake Fagan of the Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC)

Women and perinatal substance use treatment, chaired by Leslie McCrory, substance use consultant for Vaya Health

Adult substance use treatment continuum and crisis services, chaired by Chad Husted of October Road, Inc.

Child and adolescent treatment continuum and prevention services, chaired by Danielle Arias of RHA Health Services, Inc. (RHA)

The alliance's steering committee include representatives from Vaya, Mission Health, MAHEC, Buncombe and Henderson county governments, Duke Life Point, High Country Community Health, Project Lazarus, RHA, October Road, the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority and the local criminal justice system. The counties involved in the alliance are: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey.

Find a great pet

The Yancey Humane Society & Animal Shelter is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation located just outside of Burnsville off Cane River School Road. They take all animals brought to them: strays, feral dogs, cats, and personal pets on a case by case basis. They provide a loving temporary home until they can be placed in a permanent home. They are not a "no kill" shelter, however, we do not have a time limit. They treat all animals as individuals and temperament test them for adoptability. This way, no one slips through the system, and we know each and every personality in the house. So, if you are looking for a pet, the Yancey Animal Shelter can help match you with the perfect friend who will fit your lifestyle. Hours are 12 till 5 on Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. Sat hours are 12 till 4. The shelter is closed on Wednesdays and Sundays.



Hikers will enjoy views like this one of the Overmountain Shelter where the Appalachian Trail and Overmountain Victory Trail intersect if they join High Peaks on one of two hikes on February 11. Photo by Nancy Smith

High Peaks leads two Appalachian Trail hikes Feb. 11

Join the N.C. High Peaks Trail Association for a mid-winter adventure Sat. Feb. 11 on the Appalachian Trail. The club will offer a choice for hikers: either an extremely strenuous 10-mile trek or a less challenging 5-mile jaunt.

Both hikes will traverse a section of the trail north of Roan Mountain, with the long hike climbing from U.S. Highway 19E in Avery County over Big Hump and Little Hump, two grassy balds that offer spectacular views. The moderate hike will climb Little Hump.

Hikers should assemble on the Burnsville Town Square at 8:30 a.m. Transportation will be provided in a Yancey County van for a donation of \$5. Bring warm clothes, rain gear, plenty

of water, lunch, snacks and hiking poles if you have them. Leashed dogs are allowed on the hike but if you bring your pooch you must provide your own transportation since they are not allowed on the county vans.

The long hike will include a climb of about 2,700 feet and should only be attempted by experienced hikers in excellent condition.

The moderate hike will start at the Roaring Creek Trailhead and proceed up to Yellow Mountain Gap on an in-and-out hike with a maximum climb of 1,300 feet.

While still strenuous, this hike will allow the option of turning around and returning to the starting point anywhere

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Ray Vance Miller of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of April 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 18th day of January 2017.

Paul N. Badgley
9 East Main Street, Suite 200
Burnsville, NC 28714
Gregory S. Hildebran, Attorney
Published January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2017

Volunteers needed at Brian Center in Spruce Pine

Would you like to bring joy and love to an elderly person in our facility? Volunteers are needed at our facility to spend time and share memories with our residents. With your help we can alleviate loneliness and bring joy to an elderly person's life.

Do you want to make a difference in someone's life? If you do, please call 537-4179 or contact the Activity Department at Brian Center in Spruce Pine at 828-765-7312 for more information. Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a difference in someone's life.

MY Meds Medication Ministry

MY Meds Medication and Health Ministry is a local non-profit organization that provides help to Mitchell and Yancey County residents who have no prescription health plan and often have to decide between buying food and buying medicine. No one should have to make that choice. If you need help paying for needed prescription medications call MY Meds office at 766-6337.

Volunteers needed

Meals on Wheels needs volunteers to deliver meals weekdays from 10:30 to noon. Call the Senior Center at 682-6011.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA YANCEY COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

FILE NO: 16 CVS 102
NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
JERREMY M. MEADER
Plaintiff
vs
MARK D. GUNTER and ELIZABETH T. CUELLAR
Defendants
TO: Elizabeth T. Cuellar;
107 Sleepy Hollow Road;
Apt. 2, Burnsville, NC 27848.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is the recovery of monetary damages for personal injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident on July 24, 2013 when the vehicle you owned crossed the centerline of the highway and struck the vehicle being operated by Plaintiff on US Highway 19 near Burnsville, North Carolina. You are required to make defense to such pleadings within 40 days after February 1, 2017, being the date of the first publication of this notice, exclusive of said date; and, upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 30th day of January, 2017.

s/ M. Braxton Massey, IV
M. Braxton Massey IV
Hardee & Hardee, LLP
202 E. Arlington Blvd., Suite W
PO Box 924
Greenville, NC 27835-0924
Telephone: (252) 355-1998
Facsimile: (252) 321-2948
NC State Bar No.: 41414
mbm@hardeehandhardee.com

Attorney for Plaintiff
Published February 1, 8, 15, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF YANCEY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION FILE NO.: 08 CVS 278 NOTICE OF EXECUTION SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

EDWIN L. HORST & LOIS D. HERB
Plaintiffs,
vs.
DOLPH SILVERS, D/B/A DOLPH, & S.W. SILVERS
CONSTRUCTION, ET AL.
Defendants.

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE of an Order executed by Honorable Rebecca Eggers-Gryder dated December 13, 2016 and by a Writ of Execution issued by the above-named court in the above-entitled action on January 12, 2017, directed to the undersigned Sheriff from the Superior Court of Yancey County, I will offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash whatever right, title, and interest, the judgment debtor owns or may own in the following described real property which is subject to sale under execution based on the Judgment on Referee's Report in the amount of \$265,000.00, plus interest and costs as provided by law. This sale shall be held at the following location: Yancey County Courthouse entrance, 110 Towne Square, Burnsville, North Carolina 28714, as designated by the Clerk of Superior Court on Friday, February 17, 2017 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. This property is being sold "AS IS, WHERE IS" and said sale shall be subject to all superior liens, mortgages, easements, encumbrances, unpaid taxes and special assessments which were or became effective on the record prior to the lien of the judgment under which this sale is being held. The sale shall be held open for ten (10) days for the filing of upset bids as required by law. No sale is final until confirmed by the

Clerk of Superior Court of the issuing county. The real property being sold is described as that certain tract(s) of land lying and being at 1710 Bailey Branch Road, Burnsville, NC 28714, Yancey County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING on a stake at the branch near the spring and crib and runs a straight line a Northerly course to a Black Walnut; thence a Westerly course a straight line to an Elm; thence a northerly course a straight line to an Oak on the top of the mountain in the Honeycutt line; thence an Easterly course with the Honeycutt line to a stake in Jack Silvers line; thence continuing as Easterly course with Jack Silvers line to an Apple Tree in Jack Silvers line; thence a Southerly course with Jack Silvers line to the creek; then crossing the creek and road with Hollis Silvers line to Edd Higgins lines; thence with Edd Higgins line to Bob Higgins line; thence with Bob Higgins line to Roy Fender's line; thence with Roy Fender's line to Ansel Bailey's line; thence with Ansel Bailey's line down the hill to an Oak on the ridge; thence down and with the height of the ridge to the creek the BEGINNING corner, containing 35 acres, more or less, and being the entire share of S. W. Silvers in the lands described in a deed from Silas Silvers, August 28, 1958 to Dewey Silvers and S. W. Silvers, wrongfully called S. A. Silvers in said Deed, which Deed is recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Yancey County in Deed Book 120, Page 469.

LESS AND EXCEPT that property described in that deed recorded on May 23, 2001, in Deed Book 371, Page 348, Yancey County, NC Registry of Deeds, and being a .952 acre tract as shown on a survey by Dallas G. Miller, PLS, dated October 11, 2000, drawing number 8992-01D.

This the 31st day of January, 2017.

Gary Banks, Sheriff
By: Lt. Daniel Hughes
Published February 8, 15, 2017.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK FILE NO. 2017 E 28 EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Joan Higbee of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 8th day of February 2017.

Patricia Ann Bradley, Executrix
In care of Staunton Norris,
Resident Process Agent
PO Box 548
Burnsville, NC 28714
Published February 8, 15, 22, March 1, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Ruby Honeycutt of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of April 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 18th day of January 2017.

Claudette McCurry
288 Stony Fork Road
Burnsville, NC 28714
Published January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Chloe Hughes of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of April 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 25th day of January 2017.

Timothy Mark Hughes
12 Galley Street
Burnsville, NC 28714
Published January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of Marian Bennett Laufer of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 02 day of May 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 1st day of February 2017.

Sherry Laufer Ingram,
552 North Fork Road,
Burnsville, NC 28714
Elaine Marie Laufer,
128 Ben Lippen Road,
Asheville, NC 28806
Published February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Kittie Hughes of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 8th day of February 2017.

Marilyn Hughes Beinke
PO Box 344
Micaville, NC 28755
Published February 8, 15, 22, March 1, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Mary F. Helmle of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment. This the 8th day of February 2017.

J Todd Bailey
PO Box 217
Burnsville, NC 28714
Published February 8, 15, 22, March 1, 2017

Times Journal Deadline

Deadline for news copy, pictures, classified advertisements is 12:00 on Friday. Copy should be brought by the office located at 22 North Main Street, Burnsville, N.C. 28714.