

# ★ HALL OF FAME: *Five new members to be inducted in Nov.*

• **From Page 1**  
has served as a coach and formed juggling teams for her students. She has participated in juggling events across the world as part of the International Juggling Association. She was a member of the “Manic Expressions” Team which won the International Juggling Championship in 1987. The 2005 Teacher of the Year at Bethlehem Elementary, Setzer has appeared on Good Morning America, at NBA halftime shows, and toured Japan with the International Juggling Association.

In 2009, Setzer’s daughter, Jordyn, was a member of the ACHS Softball State Championship Team, making the pair the first two generation state champions in Alexander Central’s storied softball history. Setzer and her youngster daughter, Mati, were standout basketball players for ACHS Women’s Basketball Conference Championship Teams in 1981 and 2013.

Now retired from teaching, Setzer and her husband, Tim, reside in the Bethlehem Community of Alexander County. They are the parents of two daughters.

**HALL OF FAME HIGHLIGHTS**  
• 1981 Alexander Central High School Graduate  
• Member of first ACHS State Softball Championship Team, 1979  
• All-Conference Softball, 1979-1981; Player of the Year, 1980 & 1981  
• First Mother/Daughter Softball State Champions at ACHS  
• Bethlehem Elementary School Teacher of the Year, 2005

**JEREMY FORTNER**  
A lifelong resident of Alexander County, Jeremy Fortner is a 1996 graduate of Alexander Central High School. While at Alexander Central, Fortner was a standout, three-sport athlete, participating in foot-

ball, basketball, and baseball for four years.

His basketball career at Alexander Central is one of the most decorated in the school’s history. A four-year letterman for Coaches Dale Yount and Ron Hargrave, Fortner was a two-time Co-Player of the Year in the NW Conference and became the first Cougar player to surpass the 1,000 point mark in scoring. Fortner earned team Most Valuable Player honors three times and shared League Player of the Year honors following the 1995 and 1996 seasons. He was an All-Conference performer in all three sports while at ACHS. As a quarterback at ACHS, he led the Unifour area in passing his senior season for the Cougars.

Following high school, the all-time leading male scorer in school history signed a college basketball scholarship to attend Tusculum University in Greenville, Tennessee. While at Tusculum, Fortner was named the South Atlantic Conference’s Scholar Athlete of the Year in 2000.

He currently works as an accountant at Martin Starnes and Associates in Taylorsville. After college, he has been very active in civic and community organizations. He also serves as a coach in the county’s recreational leagues.

Jeremy and his wife, Jill, are the parents of two children and reside in the Ellendale Community of Alexander County.

**HALL OF FAME HIGHLIGHTS**  
• 1996 Graduate of Alexander Central High School  
• NWC Basketball Co-Player of the Year, 1995 & 1996  
• First 1,000-point scorer in Alexander Central basketball history  
• All Conference Performer at ACHS in football, basketball, and baseball  
• Attended Tusculum University on a basketball scholarship  
• South Atlantic Conference Athletics Scholar of the Year, 2000

**CHARLES RICKEY SHERRILL**

A 1964 graduate of Taylorsville High School, Charles Rickey Sherrill was a four-sport high school athlete and later became a standout football player in college and the Marine Corps.

Sherrill played football, basketball, baseball, and track during his high school days in Taylorsville. A well-rounded athlete, Sherrill shined most in football, earning All-Conference

honors for the Bears during his career. As a senior, Sherrill was voted the team captain and earned a spot in the Lions’ Bowl for top high school players.

In 1965, Sherrill enrolled at Appalachian State University and earned a spot on the football team as a walk-on in the spring. By the regular season in the fall of 1965, Sherrill had earned a starting spot on the Mountaineer defense at linebacker. During three seasons in Boone, Sherrill started 29 of 30 games, and led ASU in tackles in 1966 and 1967.

He graduated from ASU in 1968 and entered the United States Marine Corps in 1970. Sherrill spent 21 years in the Marine Corps before retiring to enter the education field. In 1980, Sherrill was presented the Leftwich Leadership Award, which is awarded to one US Marine annually. He also earned the Meritorious Service Award, the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy/Marine Achievement Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal with Star, and numerous other honors.

His decorated playing career at ASU, coupled with his Marine Corps career resulted in Sherrill being presented with the Appalachian State Distinguished Alumni Award in 1989.

Following his retirement from the Marines in 1991 as a Lieutenant Colonel, Sherrill entered the education field and received two more degrees from Appalachian State University (Masters of Arts, 1995 and Education Specialist, 2000).

Sherrill served as an assistant principal, principal, athletic director, assistant superintendent, and superintendent in North Carolina Schools from 1993 until retiring in 2010. He served as the Superintendent of Schools in Pamlico County from 2005 until 2008 and closed his career as an educator as the Associate Superintendent of Schools in Burke County from 2008 until 2010. In all, Sherrill spent 21 years in the Marine Corps and 21 years in NC Schools before retiring from each occupation.

Sherrill and his wife, Bonita, recently returned to Alexander County and are currently living on Lake Hickory. The couple has two children.

**HALL OF FAME HIGHLIGHTS**  
• 1964 Graduate of Taylorsville High School  
• Three-year football starter at Appalachian State University, 1965-1967;  
• United States Marine Corps, 1970-1991

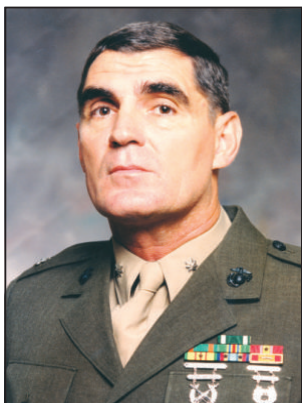
## 957 Mobile Cafe plans golf tourney

957 Mobile Cafe is planning their first annual golf tournament to be held Saturday, October 1, at Brushy Mountain Golf Club, 300 Golf Course Lane, Taylorsville. The start time will be 1:00 p.m. with lunch served at 12:00 noon. The tournament will be Captain’s Choice and the cost will be \$50 per player or \$200 per team. Mulligans will be \$5 with a limit of four per team.

Sponsorships are available for \$100/hole. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the kitchen renovation at The Cafe located at 54 East Main Ave., Taylorsville. For more information, contact Mike Richmond at 704-880-8292, Angie Bryan at 828-471-7070, or Amy Fox at 828-471-7070.



JEREMY FORTNER  
Class of 2016



RICKEY SHERRILL  
Class of 2016



VAN TARLTON  
Class of 2016

• Marine Corps Leftwich Award Winner, 1980  
• Appalachian State Distinguished Alumni Award, 1989

**ROBERT VAN TARLTON**  
Robert Van Tarlton was born in Concord, North Carolina and lived in Cabarus County until traveling to Lenoir-Rhyne College on a football scholarship in 1951. He was a standout football and baseball player at Mt. Pleasant High School which paved the way for him to become a member of the football and baseball programs at LRC.

He was one of the leaders on the LRC team which captured the North State Conference Championship over Elon in 1952.

During his days at Lenoir-Rhyne, Tarlton first visited Taylorsville to play with the Taylorsville Town Baseball Team following his freshman year. The team was coached by the legendary Hanley Painter. He later played with the Taylorsville Town Team in the Blue Ridge Semi-Pro League of the Catawba Valley and was the leading vote-getter in the All-Star Game. In 1953, Tarlton led the LRC team in batting with a .426 average as the Bears again claimed the conference championship.

In 1953, he was signed to a professional baseball contract with the Cincinnati Reds. From there, he played in several minor league cities before giving up baseball to enter the education field as a teacher and coach at Hiddenite High School. Tarlton taught the eighth grade boys’ class at Hiddenite and assisted Coach Gene Bost in basketball and baseball.

In addition to teaching, Tarlton worked at Matlock Motor Company in Taylorsville. In 1957, he opened the Tarlton Insurance Agency in Taylorsville and served the people of Alexander until his retirement in 1994. Tarlton was a member of the Taylorsville Rotary Club from the 1950’s until the 1970’s and was an original member of Brushy Mountain Golf Club. He also served on the Alexander County Hospital Board of Directors and was a member of the first-ever Athletic Boosters Club at Alexander Central High School.

In addition to his civic and community involvement in Alexander County since 1952, Tarlton has served as a youth baseball coach and sponsored one of the strongest women’s softball teams in Alexander County history.

Van and his wife, Patty, live in Taylorsville and have three children.

**HALL OF FAME HIGHLIGHTS**  
• 1951 Graduate Mt. Pleasant High School  
• Earned Football Scholarship to Attend Lenoir Rhyne College, 1951  
• Led Lenoir-Rhyne College in hitting (.426), 1953  
• Signed a professional baseball contract with the Cincinnati Reds, 1953  
• Hit a Grand Slam home run in his first college at-bat  
**ABOUT THE NOMINATION PROCESS**

Once a person is nominated, his or her nomination remains permanent and will receive selection consideration each year by the selection committee.

Nomination forms are found on the Education Foundation link on the Alexander County Schools’ webpage (www.alexander.k12.nc.us) and are due by June 1 each year.

Alexander County Sports

Hall of Fame Committee members include John Bruce (Chairman), Dennis Smart (Treasurer), Brigitte Rhyne (Secretary), Andy Anderson, Alvin Burke, Anna Ferguson, Mike Millsaps, Donny Pennell, Bobby White, and Larry Yoder.

**ALEXANDER SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**  
2012  
• Heath Bost  
• Harry Gant  
• Kay Wilson Hammer  
• Thurmond Teague  
• David Elder  
• Pat Gainey (posthumously)

2013  
• Joan Gilreath Sykes  
• Scooter Grinton  
• Dave Jolly (posthumously)  
• Raeford Thomas  
• Glenn Wilson  
• Rex White

2014  
• Gary Lail  
• Angelle Foust Pennell  
• Richard Mash  
• Gary Walker

2015  
• Mitzi Davis  
• Robin Harris  
• Shena Bowman Hollar  
• Chris Kite  
• Edwin “Squirrel” Thomas



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