



BETHLEHEM ELEMENTARY TERRIFIC KIDS — Bethlehem Elementary School held a ceremony to recognize the school's November Terrific Kids. The October Terrific Kids included: Layna Dula, Carsen Pruet, Caylin Wyatt, Maria-Paula Parreno- Pastor, Jayla Ikard, Greyson Rosenbalm, Allie Evans, Tristan Dunn, Jada Teague, Carson Shook, Levi Spainhour, Aliya Kue, Adain Warren, Aaliyah Summers, Malachi Bennett, Daniela Aguilar, Allie Moore, Lakota Smith, Davis Merritt, Klaire Bowman, Ian Vang, Emily Pugh, Laney Barnes, Ty Matheson, Peyton Wakefield, Carter Bowman, Owen Herman, Marisol Bowman, Emerson Horn, Kaden Tolley, Heidi Fox, Landon Hudson, Charlie Walsh, Tessa Roupe, Grayson Anderson, Lily Cornett, Alissa Sigmon, Simon Yang, Sadie Campbell, Jude Blochaviak, Christian Arroyo, Rya Duckworth, Lindsey Reece, and Ty Sharpe.



MERGER OF REGIONAL ACCOUNTING FIRMS ANNOUNCED — The firms of Martin Starnes & Associates in Taylorsville and Cline & Company in Statesville have announced a merger. Pictured above, left to right: seated — Marcela "Marcie" Spivey, Victoria Martin, and Paula Hodges; standing — Harold "Hal" Armstrong, Frank Williams, Terry Cline, Erica Brown, Brian Gantt, Pat Cline, and G. Maurice Capps.



"SING A SONG OF CHRISTMAS..." — The new White Christmas event was held at the Alexander Central Auditorium on Saturday, December 10, 2016. Santa made a special trip to visit with the children and sing Christmas carols. Crafts and holiday snacks were enjoyed by attendees as (shown above, L-R) Isaac Stewart, Ron Vannoy, Alex Vannoy, and Ashley Bumgarner beautifully serenaded with festive carols. The movie "White Christmas" is a classic that provoked feelings of nostalgia and joy to moviegoers, according to Christine Deal, Auditorium Director.

Bethlehem Business Association will meet January 26

The Alexander County Economic Development Corporation, under the guidance of the Catawba County Chamber of Commerce, invites business leaders in the Bethlehem Community of Alexander County to the first meeting of the Bethlehem Business Association. The new organization will meet on Thursday, January 26 at 5:30 p.m. at PJ's Bethlehem Seafood & Steak.

The purpose of the new Bethlehem Business Association is to bring Bethlehem business owners together to help strengthen and grow the community by listening to concerns and ideas, business-to-business networking, promotion and marketing, and more.

While the agenda for the first meeting is not yet complete, the gathering will likely involve general discussion of the association, adoption of bylaws, election of officers, determination of meeting schedule, etc.

The Bethlehem Business Association is being formed by a collaboration of Bethlehem business leaders, the Alexander County Economic Development Corporation, and the Catawba County Chamber of Commerce. Planning has been ongoing since May 2016.

Efforts are now underway to contact business owners in the Bethlehem Community via email and phone to invite them to the meeting; however, if you own or manage a business in Bethlehem and were not contacted, you are welcome to attend. A large representation of business owners is essential for the Bethlehem Business Association to be successful.

For more information, contact Gary Herman with the Alexander County EDC at (828) 632-1378 or gherman@alexandercountync.gov, or Ryan Sanford with the Catawba County Chamber of Commerce at (828) 431-7241 or rsanford@catawbachamber.org.

Martin Starnes & Associates, Cline & Co. announce merger

With great anticipation and a vision toward the future, Cline & Company, PLLC of Statesville, North Carolina, has joined Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A. (MSA).

Cline & Company partners, Terry Cline and Pat Cline, will be retained as consultants for Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

In conjunction with the transition for both locations, Brian Gantt and Erica Brown will become partners in MSA, bringing the total number of partners in the firm to eight. The staff of Cline & Company, PLLC, will be retained as part of the new structure. These staff members will continue to serve their existing clients, as well as new MSA clients for the Statesville location.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A. was founded in 1987 in Taylorsville, with additional offices in Hickory. MSA has a prominent client base in corporate and individual tax, governmental, manufacturing, and distribution services, along with a solid network for estate planning, retirement planning, and succession planning.

The origin of Cline & Company, PLLC dates back to the early 1930s as an offshoot of another local firm in which Charles C. Cline was a partner. This firm dissolved, and in the early 1970s, Charles began a solo practice. Pat and Terry Cline are the sons of Charles Cline. Both joined the firm in the mid-1970s. Charles retired in January 1982 and Cline & Company, PLLC was formed as the continuing entity.

Terry Cline and Pat Cline have led this successful firm for many years in Statesville and the surrounding areas. They have a historical record of maintaining long-term client relationships, which is a hallmark of both firms.

"The combination of the two firms will form an even stronger alliance for clientele of all sizes and enable

us to provide a deeper concentration in manufacturing, construction, and healthcare services, as well as providing estate and retirement planning for their owners. We are excited to have such a strong partnership of our two firms and are looking forward to working with Terry, Pat, the new partners, their staff, and their clients," said Vickie Martin, Managing Partner.

"Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A. shares the same values as we do. We conducted an extensive search within our region looking for an opportunity like this. MSA exceeded our expectations as a firm we could combine with to continue the tradition we have for excellent service, extensive expertise, and an engaging environment for our clients and associates," according to Terry Cline. "It is

a natural progression for our firm to align ourselves with a high-caliber, local firm. We look forward to becoming part of the team at MSA and continuing to provide the level of service to which our clients are accustomed," said Pat Cline.

The combined firm will operate as Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A. MSA's Taylorsville office is located at 13 South Center Street, Taylorsville. The location for the Hickory office is 730 13th Avenue Drive Southeast, Hickory. The Statesville office is located at 1710 Wilkesboro Highway, Statesville.

All telephone numbers and contact information will remain the same for the near future. For any questions, call (828) 327-2727 or (704) 872-8923, or visit the firm's website: www.martinstarnes.com.

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HICKORY SPRINGS ROAD 2467 Springs Rd NE Hickory, NC 28601 828-328-3010	STATESVILLE CINEMA DRIVE 1503 Cinema Drive Statesville, NC 28625 704-873-0256
HICKORY VIEWMONT Viewmont - 1021 2nd St. NE Hickory, NC 28601 828-322-2929	MOORESVILLE 539-M East Plaza Dr. Mooresville, NC 28115 704-799-3330
LENOIR 1234 Morganton Blvd. Lenoir, NC 28645 828-758-8900	SALISBURY Mkt. Place Shopping Center 2138 Statesville Blvd. Salisbury, NC 28144 704-633-4561
NORTH WILKESBORO 1922 West Park Dr. N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659 336-667-1912	

DAILY SPECIALS	
MONDAY Kids Night-Kids Buffet Drink not included. (ages 11 & under) \$1.99	TUESDAY Senior Night (60+ Age) Senior Buffet and Drink \$5.99
WEDNESDAY Wing Night Enjoy Wings on the Buffet for \$9.99	THURSDAY College Night FREE Drink with College ID
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Tony Smith Community Action selling Boston Butts

The Tony Smith Community Action group is selling 8-10 pound boston butts for Super Bowl Sunday, February 5. The butts are being pre-sold for \$30 each and will be available for pickup from 8 am until 2 pm on Sunday, February 5, at PJs Seafood & Steak in Bethlehem.

For more information, call 828-632-8606.



Benefit breakfast planned for Saturday, Jan. 21 at PJ's

The Tony Smith Community Action group is sponsoring a benefit breakfast for Lakeland Elder Bolick on Saturday, January 21, from 7 am until 10:30 am at PJs Seafood & Steak in Bethlehem.

All proceeds will go to Lakeland Elder Bolick to assist with medical expenses. She is battling Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS). POTS is a form of dysautonomia that is estimated to impact between 1,000,000 and 3,000,000 Americans, and millions more around the world. POTS is a form of

orthostatic intolerance that is associated with the presence of excessive tachycardia and many other symptoms upon standing. For more information, call 828-632-8606.

