

The Bethlehem Star

VOLUME XLVI NUMBER 4

Serving the Bethlehem Community of Alexander County - Published by The Taylorsville Times

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018



EDUCATOR HONORED - Former Alexander County Superintendent of Schools Jake Hoke was presented the Board of Education's highest honor, the Award of Honor on March 4. Mr. Hoke is pictured above with close friend, Coach Butch Carter, left, during a reception at Alexander Central. *

Hoke, former Superintendent, presented with Award of Honor

Jack Hoke, former Alexander County Schools Superintendent who served 1998-2012 in the Alexander school system, was presented the Board of Education's highest honor, the Award of Honor, by Board Vice Chairman Harry Schrum and Award of Honor Committee Chairman David Odom on Sunday, March 4, 2018, at the Alexander Central Auditorium.

The ceremony was well attended by many friends, peers, and family.

Dr. Jennifer F. Hefner, current Superintendent,

Hickory Tavern getting back in community buzz with St. Patrick's Day

HICKORY — The Greater Hickory Jaycees (GHJ) is teaming up with Hickory Tavern to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, while raising funds for the Christmas for Teens service project.

A percentage of the proceeds from food and non-alcoholic beverages will be donated to the Great Hickory Jaycees in support of the Christmas for Teens annual service project. The service project is annually organized by the Greater Hickory Jaycees, where low income parents from Catawba and Burke counties apply to receive gifts for children ages 7-18.

This past Christmas, the project provided gifts for 60 children from 33 families.

"We are excited to be working with the Hickory tavern, and happy that they have chosen to support the Jaycees and the Christmas for Teens project," Alison Reed, Greater Hickory Jaycees president, said. "We hope to be able to grow this project with the funds raised from this partnership."

As for General Manager Eric Pennell and Customer Service Manager Sheila Moore, being able to team up with GHJ is the bright beginning of the restaurant's community engagement initiative.

"We want to get back out in the community, and show that we are a community partner," Pennell said. "We want to bring the buzz back — when you walk in the door, we want people to have that sense of belonging and want to be part of what we plan to do with the community."

welcomed the crowd to the facility.

Scott Bowman, Chairman of the Board of Education, gave the invocation for the ceremony.

Verbal tributes were offered about Hoke's distinguished educational career by Dale Robertson, Director of Maintenance; Dr. Jane H. Teague, former Director of Programs for Exceptional Children and AIG; Scott Ferguson, former Board of Education member; and Dr. Ron Hargrave, Superintendent of Scotland County Schools and former

Alexander County Schools administrator.

Hoke, a Caldwell County native and 1970 graduate of Hibriten High School, is a graduate of Appalachian State University. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a Master's degree in Public School Administration, and an Education Specialist degree in Public School Administration.

Mr. Hoke worked in the Caldwell County School System for 22 years, serving as a teacher, coach, athletic director, assistant principal, and principal. He served the Alexander County School system for 15 years, first as Associate Superintendent, and then as Superintendent for 12 years. He retired from public schools with 37 years of service.

Following retirement, Hoke was named Executive Director of the N.C. School Superintendents' Association, where he continues to provide professional development and mentoring.

Among his several awards, he is recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Mr. Hoke and his wife, Joan, live in the Bethlehem Community. His daughter, Lauren, and her husband, Dr. Wes Braden, live in Chicago, Illinois, and have one daughter, Emma. *

"Christ in the Passover" set March 29 at Bethlehem Bapt.

Jesus' Last Supper was actually a Jewish Passover. Lynn McCoy of Jews for Jesus will re-create the traditional Passover service and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover" on Thursday, March 29, at 7pm, at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7500 NC Hwy 127, Taylorsville, NC.

McCoy, veteran missionary at the Washington, DC branch of Jews for Jesus, will set a table with items traditionally used at the Passover meal and detail their spiritual significance. She will also explain the connection between the events of the first Passover

in Egypt and the redemption that Jesus accomplished, as well as the deep bond between the ancient Passover feast and the Christian communion celebration today.

Jews for Jesus has presented "Christ in the Passover" at over 38,000 churches. It has been enthusiastically received by Christians who appreciate learning more about the Jewish backgrounds of their faith.

Moishe Rosen, who founded Jews for Jesus in 1973, has also co-written the book, *Christ in the Passover*, with his wife, Ceil. This seminal work includes a look at Passover in ancient times and how it is practiced today. It will be

available after the presentation. Also available will be a DVD of the Christ in the Passover presentation with David Brickner, the executive director of Jews for Jesus, officiating. Brickner, a fifth-generation Jewish believer in Jesus, succeeded Rosen as Executive Director in 1996. Brickner has kept Jews for Jesus on the cutting edge as the ministry has expanded and established branches in eleven countries, including the United States, Brazil, Israel, Russia, France, and South Africa.

"We exist to make the Messiahship of Jesus an unavoidable issue to our Jewish people worldwide," Brickner states. "There are still a few that haven't heard of us!" Lynn McCoy will be happy to answer questions after the presentation. Call (828) 495-7250 or visit www.bethlembc.org or Facebook for more information. Getting into the building may look a little confusing due to construction, but just follow the signs to park behind the building. Entrances from the parking area are to the far left and far right. Guest parking is available near the building, and greeters will welcome you just inside the door.

For more information about Bethlehem Baptist Church, call 828.495.7250, visit www.bethlembc.org, or like them on Facebook.*



Lenoir-Rhyne junior forward Madi Suddreth

LRU's Weigt, Suddreth garner All-SAC Women's Basketball accolades

ROCK HILL, S.C. — A pair of Lenoir-Rhyne University Women's Basketball players — guard Kennedy Weigt (Manteno, Ill.) and forward Madi Suddreth (Taylorsville, N.C.) — earned 2017-18 All-South Atlantic Conference honors. Weigt was named to the SAC All-Freshman Team after averaging 10.3 points per game and connecting on a team-leading 43 three-pointers in an injury shortened season. Suddreth was an honorable mention all-league pick after leading the squad in points

scored (14.5), rebounds (7.1) and blocked shots (23). Suddreth started all 29 games and totaled four double-doubles on the year. Suddreth will also enter her senior season just 43 points away from 1,000 for her career.

Lenoir-Rhyne (15-14, 9-11) finished with its second straight winning season. LR fell to No. 7 Carson-Newman by a 75-63 score in the Quarterfinals of the 2018 South Atlantic Conference Championship in Jefferson City, Tenn., on February 28.



West Alexander completes perfect volleyball season with 12-0 record

On Thursday, February 22, the West Alexander Middle School Lady Bulldogs Volleyball Team defeated Hudson Middle and East Alexander in the semi-finals and finals of the NW Middle School Conference Tournament to complete a perfect season with a 12-0 final record.

After posting a 10-0 regular season and securing the regular season league title, the Lady Bulldogs finished 2-0 in the tourney to close another perfect campaign.

West Alexander's winning scores for the match against Hudson Middle in the semi-finals were 25-13, 25-3, and 25-14. In the first game of the semi-finals match, Reece Sharpe was the leading scorer with nine points. In game two, Jenna Hensley notched a match-best seven service points. The leading scorer was Ashlyn Merritt with seven points in the third and final game of the first match. Layna West with more than 26 sets and Jada Streeter with 17 sets led West in the win.

The Lady Bulldogs then went on to beat East Alexander in the final tournament match, winning 25-19, 25-10, and 25-15. In the first game of the Finals Tournament match, Jenna Hensley was the leading scorer with 11 service points. Ashlyn Merritt led the Bulldogs service game in game two and three. She finished with six points in game two and added a dozen points in game three. The leading setters for WAMS were Layna West with more than 46 sets and Jada Streeter with 18 sets. *

Next Star prints April 12

The next issue of The Bethlehem Star will be printed on Thursday, April 12, 2018. The deadline for advertising and correspondence is Tuesday, April 10, 2018, before 5 pm.

