

Names and Faces, compiled by John Dayberry

Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory names Teacher of the Year

At the May 4 meeting of the Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory, Rotarian David Moore announced the 2017 Wilmer Jenkins Teacher of the Year for the Hickory Public Schools. The award is given annually in memory of Wilmer M. Jenkins, who served as superintendent of Hickory Public Schools from July 1, 1958 – June 30, 1967 and was a member and past president of the Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory.

This year the selection committee chose Madison Yount, who teaches English at Hickory High School. Yount is a product of the Hickory Public School system and a graduate of Hickory High School. She received a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Lenoir-Rhyne University. She is also the adviser of Interact and the National English Honor Society.

"This year, as every year, we know full well that the winner is not here with us today," said Kathy Greathouse, chair of the Wilmer Jenkins Teacher of the Year selection committee. "The winners — all 4,200 of them — are studying at desks in schools across our city. With you today are the inspiring teachers who are changing their lives in profound ways."



Shown (from left) are Caitlin Norton, Janice Walker, Diane Urtel, Madison Yount, Christina Lancaster, Jason Stephens, Tony Crouch, Jessica Johnson and Elizabeth Rollins.

Teachers nominated for this year's award were Tony Crouch, Firefighting Technologies Academy instructor at Hickory Career Arts and Magnet School; Jessica Johnson, second-grade teacher at Jenkins Elementary School; Christina Lancaster, sixth- and seventh-grade math and science teacher at Grandview Middle School; Catlin Norton, kindergarten teacher at Viewmont Elementary School; Elizabeth Rollins, pre-k teacher at Southwest Elementary School; Jason Stephens, chorus teacher for grades six, seven and eight and coach at

Northview Middle School; Diane Urtel, Exceptional Children teacher at Oakwood Elementary School; Janice Walker, fourth-grade teacher at Longview Elementary School; and Yount.

Each nominee received a plaque and a check for \$500, and the Teacher of the Year received \$1,000.

These donations are made possible by the Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory's successful fundraising activities, including the annual Rotarian Idol competition. The Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory's ongoing commitment of financial sup-

port continues to provide necessary educational assistance locally, and is consistent with the club's continued commitment to and financial support of local educational initiatives.

The Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory was founded in 1921 by Watt Shuford. In adherence to Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self," the club has a history of giving back to the community through its primary service avenue of education. For more information about The Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory, visit www.hickoryrotary.org.



Michael Chapman (left) is shown with Michael S. Helmick, president of WPCC.

City of Morganton employee honored by college

City of Morganton purchasing agent/warehouse supervisor Michael Chapman was recently named Western Piedmont Community College's 2016 Outstanding Alumnus.

Each year, the Western Piedmont Foundation recognizes an alumnus who has given unselfishly of his or her time and talents to advance the mission and goals of Western Piedmont Community College and the local community. Chapman received the honor during the May 1 Morganton City Council meeting.

Chapman began his education at WPCC where he received a Certificate in Criminal Justice and his Associate's degree in Accounting. He then entered the GOAL (Greater Opportunities for Adult Learners) program at Gardner-Webb University and received a Bachelor's in Business Administration. He is working on his MBA

with only a few classes left to complete, all while maintaining no less than a 3.5 GPA and at the same time working full time and being a devoted husband and father to his family. He

has also achieved his Purchasing Certificate from the School of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

During his time at WPCC, Chapman volunteered for the VITA tax program, helping prepare tax returns for students and the community. He was active in clubs and activities on campus, and served as the president of the Criminal Justice Club. He is also a former employee of the school.

Chapman is an active contributor to the community. He volunteers as a soccer coach at New Dimensions, and volunteers with various downtown Morganton events, such as parades and the Historic Morganton Festival.

Board of Elections staff honored

Staff members of the Caldwell County Board of Elections were each honored in separate ways at the North Carolina Association of Directors of Election (NCADE) Conference held in Wilmington in April.

Sandy Rich, director of the Caldwell County Board of Elections, was elected first vice president for the association. She will serve a two-year term until 2019. Rich has previously served as honors and as secretary for the NCADE.

The other two members of the Caldwell County Board of Elections staff were also recognized at the conference. Chad Barnes, chief deputy director of elections for Caldwell County, received a certificate honoring his five years of service. Margaret Lester, deputy director of elections for Caldwell County, was recognized as a new



Shown (from left) are Margaret Lester, deputy director; Sandy Rich, director; and Chad Barnes, chief deputy director.

member. The NCADE was established in 1967 as a professional association

dedicated to continuing education and improving the electoral process in North Carolina.

Brookford Equestrians club takes honors

4-H offers youth the opportunity to participate in specialty and general interest 4-H clubs. Horse clubs are one type of 4-H specialty club that can be found in many North Carolina counties and across the nation.

The horse clubs and related contests allow youth to learn about horses, animal science, and biology while building skills in leadership, communication, teamwork and other life skills. It is not necessary to own a horse to participate in a horse club. Brookford Equestrians 4-H Club meets monthly at Brookford Community Center and currently involves youth ages 10 and older, although the club is open to youth ages 5 and older.

In addition to horse shows, there are many knowledge-based horse contests that do not require a horse. Brookford Equestrians has focused on Horse Bowl and Hippology and recently won first place in the junior division in the state Horse Bowl contest. The club qualified for the state contest after winning in the district contest earlier in the year. Horse Bowl involves a team of four or five youth answering horse-related questions, much like Quiz Bowl or "Jeopardy." The team earns points for each correct answer,

loses points for incorrect answers, and earns the chance to answer team bonus questions. Horse Bowl helps youth develop independent study skills, build skills in teamwork and communication, and perform-



Shown (from left) are Breelane Griffin, Malaha Shabeldeen, Kenzie Lee, Cindy Boger (team coach and club leader), Claire Boger and Lauren Williams.

ing under some stress. Horse Bowl team members were Claire Boger, Lauren Williams, Malaha Shabeldeen, Breelane Griffin and Kenzie Lee.

In addition to capturing the top team award, several of the Brookford 4-H'ers earned individual awards based on the total points they earned as they progressed through the tournament. Malaha Shabeldeen earned the fifth-place individual award and Lauren Williams received the eighth-place individual award.

Hippology is another knowledge-based contest that includes a written test on subjects like horse breeds and equipment. Hippology is offered along with the state Horse Bowl contests. The Catawba County team finished third in the junior division in Hippology. Malaha

Shabeldeen earned the sixth-place individual award and Lauren Williams earned the second-place individual award in Hippology with top scores in the exam and identification portion of the contest.

Other knowledge-based horse contests available through 4-H include presentations, public speaking, and judging. High scoring seniors in these contests have the chance to be part of the state team that travels and competes in national 4-H horse contests. For more information about Brookford Equestrians, other 4-H clubs, or starting a 4-H horse club, contact Donna Mull, Catawba County 4-H agent, at 828-465-8240 or donna_mull@ncsu.edu. 4-H is the youth component of the NC Cooperative Extension and an outreach of North Carolina State University.



Tennessee State Regent Charlotte Reynolds pines Susan Lindsey, 2016 Tennessee Outstanding Chapter Regent.

Former local resident honored in Tennessee

Susan Vaught Lindsey, an associate member of the Hickory Tavern Chapter of the North Carolina Daughters of the American Revolution and a member of the Judge David Campbell Chapter of the Tennessee DAR, was named 2016 Outstanding Chapter Regent for the Tennessee Society.

Lindsey serves as regent of her chapter. Her mother, Dr. Grace Vaught of Hickory, is a past regent of the Hickory Tavern Chapter and her sister, Elizabeth "Betsy" Deitz of Conover, is the current regent of the Hickory Tavern Chapter.

The award was presented at the Chapter Regents' Banquet on April 22, and reflects the work the Judge David Campbell Chapter accomplished under her leadership in 2016. She was recognized for the work the chapter did in distributing flags of the United States to school children, members reading to students during Read Across American,

an increase in membership growth and serving meals to the homeless and veterans at the Chattanooga Kitchen, along with numerous other chapter activities. Tennessee State Regent Charlotte Reynolds presented the certificate and pin to Lindsey. In attendance at the ceremony was North Carolina State Regent Elizabeth Candler Graham.

Lindsey attended St. Stephens High School and later graduated from St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo., with a Bachelor's of Science in Meteorology and a Master's of Professional Meteorology. She served 26 years in the military with 12 years active service in the Air Force and 16 years Air National Guard service, retiring as lieutenant colonel.

She is the daughter of Joseph Vaught (deceased) and Dr. Grace Vaught and currently lives in Hixson, Tenn., a suburb of Chattanooga, with her husband Michael Lindsey and their four cats.