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Mr. Henry Shannon Hill, Jr.

Mr. Henry Shannon Hill, Jr., 87 years old, passed peacefully on Friday, June 29, 2012.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 7, 2012, in the Lilesville United Methodist Church with Rev. Norm Jones officiating. Interment will follow in Lilesville Cemetery. The family will greet friends at the church one hour prior to the service.

Henry was born May 1, 1925, in Charleston, WV, Kanawha County. He grew up there with parents Grace

Obituaries

Davidson Hill and Henry Shannon Hill, Sr. and with his sister Helen Hill.

Henry joined the Army of the United States at 18 years old. He served as Sergeant in the 326th Airborne Medical Company in Northern France until injured. He recuperated at rehabilitation facilities then located at Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC.

After a long career in staff development and training, working in both West Virginia and South Carolina, Henry retired in North Carolina. He served on the town council in Lilesville Township, and as Sunday School Superintendent at Lilesville United Methodist Church. He enjoyed golf, backyard basketball games and other outdoor activities. He liked to pull for his favorite sports teams, the University of West Virginia Mountaineers, the Carolina Panthers and the Charlotte Bobcats.

Survivors include his wife, Ila Williams Hill; his children, Linda Shupe, Patricia Hill, Sandra Kerley, Thomas Hill and Samuel Hill; his stepchildren, Darlene Streater; Debby Wheeler

(Jack) and Dawn Burt (David); grandchildren; great-grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents and sister, and by step-daughter, Danette Streater and step-son, Johnny Streater.

The family is grateful to staff at the NC Veterans Nursing Home in Fayetteville for the care, kindness, and friendship they gave to Henry and to our family.

Flowers are appreciated. Donations may be made in Henry's memory to the Danette Streater Memorial Endowment, NC Community Foundation, 4601 Six Forks Road, Suite 524, Raleigh, NC 27609.

Leavitt Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

Mr. John Albert Ashcraft, Sr.

Mr. John Albert Ashcraft, Sr., 84, passed away on June 29, 2012, after a long illness at his residence, where he was lovingly cared for.

Funeral Services were held on Sunday, July 1, 2012, at Morgan & Son Funeral Home. Interment followed at Marshville City Cemetery.

Mr. Ashcraft was the son of the late Lynn May and Emma Griffin Ashcraft. He was a retired farmer and an accomplished wood craftsman. John took great pleasure in gathering his family in the car and taking them to the beach, the mountains or their favorite fishing hole. Attending gospel or bluegrass concerts were the other things he so greatly enjoyed.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his sisters Grace Ashcraft, Annie Mae Ashcraft and Mary Thomas.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Joyce Edwards Ashcraft; a son, John Ashcraft, Jr. (Jan) of Marshville; two daughters, Mrs. Wanda A. Crater (Mike) of Wesley Chapel and Mrs. Cathy A. Nicholson (Furman) of Hendersonville; two sisters, Mrs. Eula Rorie and Mrs. Bulah Moser, both of Monroe; ten grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family has requested that memorials be made to Philadelphia Baptist Church, 5709 Philadelphia Church Road, Marshville, N.C. 28103 or to the hospice of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be made at morganandsonfuneralhome.com.

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Hay Testing: Know What You are Feeding

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture offers a valued resource to many hay producers throughout the state. For \$10, a sample of hay, silage, baleage, or feed can be nutritionally analyzed through their laboratory. Through our Extension office here, an agent can help you take proper samples, ship it to Raleigh, and help interpret the results. But why should you know what's in your hay?

#1 Are your animals getting enough nutrition Animals such as horses, cows, and goats can survive on next to nothing, however, that doesn't mean they will perform at optimum levels. The females are the longevity of a herd, they are the ones that are constantly reproducing. Ensuring that the females receive proper nutrition at certain life stages is critical for a long, healthy life. For instance, pregnant animals require less energy than those who are nursing. For animals that are lactating, they require energy for themselves, as well as enough energy to create milk for their young, which is a lot more than when they were pregnant. By analyzing the hay and forage fed, you can tell whether they are receiving the best nutrition or if something needs to be added. It can be as easy as feeding a mineral supplement, or just feeding more of the hay you have to meet those requirements.

#2 Making a plan If it is found that hay quality is low, it's not the end of the world. There are ways to improve quality of the forage for upcoming seasons, including fertilizing properly, combating weeds, and possibly incorporating a different type of forage into a hay field. It is smart to know what you are feeding, and then try to improve upon it.

#3 It's a selling point- if you have quality hay If you are selling hay to others, they might feel better knowing exactly what they are getting, therefore you may charge a higher price. If hay is high in protein, and has more leaf than stem, it can go to a niche market of horse producers who would pay a few dollars more.

For questions about information in this article call Jessica Anderson, Agriculture Agent at the County Extension Office, at 704-694-2415.

By Jessica Anderson, Agriculture Agent

About 1,500 Certificates Requested to Thank Veterans of Korean War

Community groups sought to coordinate local ceremonies

About 1,500 Certificates of Appreciation have been requested through the NC Division of Veterans Affairs by Korean War veterans and family members as part of the US. Department of Defense's June launch of "The Year of the Korean War Veteran."

"The certificates are processed in Washington, D.C., where they are signed by Defense Secretary Leon Panetta," said Tim Wipperman, Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs. "We have sent out about 800 so far and expect to get more very soon."

The NC Division of Veterans Affairs (NCDVA) is working with community groups to host ceremonies where certificates will be presented to recipients. Wipperman said NCDVA is eager to build relationship with additional organizations to ensure that events are planned statewide.

"The Korean War was sometimes referred to as the 'Forgotten War,' but it's gratifying to see that local groups are so dedicated toward helping to make these presentations special and appropriately patriotic," Wipperman said. "We would love to hear from communities that want to get involved in honoring their heroes and the families that supported them."

Interested organizations are encouraged to call NCDVA at 919-807-2450. Wipperman said the presentations will continue into 2013, adding that residents of North Carolina's State Veterans Day in November. NCDVA records indicate that more than 177,000 North Carolina citizens served in Korea between June 27, 1950, and Jan. 31, 1955. It is estimated that more than 72,000 of these veterans are still living in North Carolina today, as well as many of their descendants.

NCDVA has placed a link on the Division website (www.dva.nc.gov/vets-KoreanWarForm) to provide a Certificate of Appreciation to all Korean War veterans and the family members who supported them. No documentation is necessary and the form can be filled out and submitted online by the veteran, family member or a friend. Requests for certificates may also be downloaded and mailed to: Korean War Veterans Certificate, N.C. Division of Veterans Affairs, 1315 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1315.

According to NCDVA, North Carolina recorded 968 deaths in service during the conflict, of which 784 were battle deaths. An additional 2,272 service members were wounded; 109 were taken as prisoners of war (POWs), and 204 were designated as Missing in Action.

In addition to the Certificate of Appreciation, the U.S. Department of Defense encourages any Korean War veteran who would like to share his or her story with the Korean War Commemoration Committee's oral history project to visit koreanwar.defense.gov or call 703-545-0522.

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