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**Mrs. Leatha Lang Luther**

Mrs. Leatha Lang Luther, age 87, died peacefully on October 28, 2017, at CHC Union in Monroe.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, November 2, 2017, at Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Larry King officiating. Interment followed at Anson Memorial Park.

Leatha was born in

**Obituaries**

Anson County on June 18, 1930, a daughter of the late Malcolm Henry Lang and Gracie Arra Dell Edkins Lang, one of eight children. Leatha retired in 1995 after 48 years of dedicated work in the textile industry, primarily as an employee of Little's Cotton Manufacturing and Charles Craft. She will be remembered by all who knew and loved her for her skill and enjoyment of cooking, canning, quilting and her wonderful sense of humor. Leatha had a life-long commitment to God, church, friends, hard work, and family (especially her great granddaughters). Her philosophy was, always "I want the best for everybody and for them to follow God's work and the path He has for everyone."

Survivors include her daughter, Ms. Edna Dell Luther of the home; her granddaughters, Mandy (Brian) Lee and Whitney Luther, all of Wadesboro;

her great granddaughters, Emma Lee, Cheyenne Luther and Marilyn Luther, all of Wadesboro; her daughter-in-law Janet Floyd Luther of Wadesboro; her brother Malcolm Henry Lang, Jr.; numerous nieces and nephews; and lifelong friend of more than seventy years, Star Watkins Adams of Polkton.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband William Alexander Luther and son William Ranson "Billy" Luther.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude and appreciation to the staff at CHS - Anson, Concord and Union, as well as the doctors and staff at Sanger Heart and Vascular Institute, Carolinas Primary Care and the Kindred Home Health nurses and physical therapists for the wonderful care and friendship provided to Leatha.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Sandy Plains United Methodist Church, James Phillips, 1591 Prewitte Road, Morven, NC 28119

or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

**Mrs. Elaine Rorie Martin**

Mrs. Elaine Rorie Martin, 81, died Sunday, October 29, 2017, while a resident at Meadowview Terrace Assisted Living.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, November 5, 2017, at Leavitt Funeral Home.

Elaine was born in Union County, NC on November 21, 1935, a daughter of the late Olin Rorie and Ruth Funderburk Rorie. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Richard A. "Dick" Martin and two brothers, Garry Rorie and Larry Rorie.

Survivors include her children, Richard (Rita) Plattenberger of

Marshville, Toby Plattenberger of Conover, Pam Martin of San Antonio, TX, James Dale "Jim" (Catherine) Martin of Monroe, and Jeffrey (Barbara) Martin of Ft. Mill, SC; four grandchildren, Cole Adams, Sean Martin, Ayden Martin and Riley Martin; a brother James H. "Sonny" Rorie of Marshville; and one sister Sylvia Ann Griffin of Peachland.

The family suggests memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association Western Carolina Chapter, 4600 Park Road, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28209.

Leavitt Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

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**Letter to the Editor Positive Things Behind Those Gates at Lanesboro Correctional Institute**

Dear Editor,  
My husband and I serve on the Community Resource Council for Lanesboro Correctional Institute, the largest prison in our State, and the one which houses the roughest inmates. Of course the LCI sometimes makes the news for the things the mentally disturbed and spiritually disturbed do, but there are positive things happening there which the community should know. The article below shares that information. There's enough bad news out there about the prison system—this is some good news for a change!

Blessings, Delores Thomas, Chair, Lanesboro Community Resource Council  
Sometimes a piece of distressing news gets out about the Lanesboro Correctional Institute. After all, they are housing the most difficult and hardened inmates in our State. When another prison in the state has an inmate they cannot seem to handle, they call Lanesboro and ask to transfer him there. But a lot of good also goes on behind those gates—and this is a story about some of the day-to-day operations for good that happen there.

As a member of the Community Resource Council, I recently toured one of several Department of Public Safety (DPS) Enterprise operations. There are several located across the state at various DPS Institutes. The one I toured was at the Lanesboro Correctional Institute, located near the town of Polkton in Anson County. Lanesboro is the largest of the state's prison facilities and at present in the three facilities (maximum, medium and minimum), there is a total of 1,723 inmates.

An employee of Lanesboro Correctional Institute, Mark Poplin, met my husband and I at the gate and led us past a class of men taking a course in brick and stone laying, past beautiful vegetable gardens, a greenhouse and a large recycling area, to the huge building housing the Enterprise metal operations. Just outside is a beautiful metal praying mantis overlooking the building's entrance. As the door was opened, we walked inside to a hot, non-airconditioned facility where inmates were working in sweat-soaked shirts, with perspiration running down their faces, doing their jobs just like anyone—perhaps with more enthusiasm even—than someone on the "outside."

The metal products plant currently employs forty-two minimum custody inmates who produce a variety of stainless steel kitchen equipment, beds and lockers for other prison facilities, outdoor wood-burning and gas-fired grills and fire rings, as well as the huge order they are currently producing for the NC Parks and Recreation systems. Among those items are aluminum poles for the park signs, picnic tables, and huge trash bins fabricated from heavy gauge steel. They also receive special requests for stainless tissue holders, custom engraved grills and other items which are presented to state employees as service awards.

For fabrication, they use shears, press brakes, saws, plasmas, and machines called piranhas—obviously so named because they can eat the metal as necessary.

A serious inmate can earn a year of schooling and after working two years with the Enterprise, will receive an apprenticeship in combination welding through the US and North Carolina Department of Labor. Currently there is a shortage of welders, so the training these men receive will be valuable to them when they exit the prison system—which is the main purpose of prison anyway—to rehabilitate and train people to earn a living and be a positive influence on the outside.

In the CAD office, two inmates were at work—one had just completed the design of a metal stool while another showed me his inventory process.

As Brian Johnson, supervisor of the welding department, toured us through the operation, it was plain to see from his comments that he cares about the inmate employees and treats them with respect. When I mentioned this, Brian said, "I don't tell them, 'this is your punishment'. I will treat you like a man - like a fellow worker." There was no cat calling as we toured, only polite smiles, hand waves or an extended hand.

There are Enterprise factories in many of the DPS facilities: a wood-manufacturing facility in Alexander County; a braille script facility in Scotland County; a canning operation in Halifax County; and sewing plants at Scotland, Columbus, and Tabor City, among many other operations across the state. All these operations save the state a lot of money. For instance, the sewing plant makes uniforms and shirts for DPS, as well as provides quality inmate training in various plant operations.

Even the maximum facility at Lanesboro has an enterprise called Prison Industry Enterprise (PIE), which packages orders for small gift packages ordered by family or friends for inmates.

In addition to Brian Johnson, other supervisory personnel at The Enterprise are Scott Ingram, supervisor for Fabrication; Charles Cummings, powder coating supervisor; Johnny Hathcock, installation supervisor; Mike Horne, Assistant Manager; and Clayton Wright, Manager.

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL DRAWDOWN LIMITS FOR LAKE TILLERY**

Duke Energy Progress received the new operating license for the Yadkin-Pee Dee Hydroelectric Project on April 1, 2015. This license defines how Duke Energy Progress will operate the project, including lake level requirements for Lake Tillery. This notice is to inform the public of the annual drawdown limits for Lake Tillery between December 15, 2017 and March 1, 2018.

Duke Energy Progress strives to maintain Lake Tillery at no more than 1.5 feet below full pond. However, lake level fluctuations are allowed to be as much as 3 feet below full pond during the December 15 to March 1 time frame. If storage is needed for electrical generation during this period, Duke Energy Progress may reduce the lake level by as much as 5 feet below full pond. This would occur only if there are no other options to meet the electric system demand. Water fluctuations of up to 8 feet may occur during system emergencies and potentially be greater during drought periods.

Information about lake level is available online at [duke-energy.com/lakes](http://duke-energy.com/lakes) or by calling 800.899.4435.

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