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The Gaston Gazette

WEEKEND

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Gaston County mural honors soldiers for America 250



Boyce McKinney works on a mural near the intersection of East Woodrow Avenue and North Main Street in Belmont Thursday morning, March 26. MIKE HENSILL/GASTON GAZETTE

'I feel honored to be part of it'

Chloe Collins Gaston Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK

Boyce McKinney will paint just about any mural when asked, "as long as it is not immoral or illegal," he said. • A Stanley resident, McKinney has left his artistic mark all over Gaston County through murals in Stanley, Mount Holly, and now, in Belmont where he is painting an America 250 mural commissioned by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

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McKinney expects to finish the mural in six weeks. It is located at the corner of North Main Street and East Woodrow Avenue in Belmont.



Boyce McKinney designed the mural he will now paint at the corner of North Main Street and East Woodrow Avenue in Belmont. CHLOE COLLINS/THE GASTON GAZETTE

Iran war impacts citizens in many ways

Three share their thoughts, economic pain

Terry Collins
USA TODAY

It's been over a month since the United States and Israel jointly began the Iran war, and Brenna Boyde believes President Donald Trump's repeated promises to end it have fallen flat.

Boyde is one of a trio of Americans, of different political affiliations, who USA TODAY asked about how their lives have changed since the onset of the conflict. All three largely believe the war caused the high gas and grocery prices that are crippling the nation's economy. Their views align with the majority of Americans queried in a recent Reuters/Ipsos poll and other surveys.

"I don't think it will ever be over," said Boyde, a declared independent voter who works as an administrator in Darlington Township, Pennsylvania. "I'm not inclined to believe there is a permanent resolution."

The president initially said the military "excursion" against Iran would last four to five weeks and later expanded his projection, saying he'd need several weeks to achieve his objectives. White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt reiterated March 30 that the administration was estimating the conflict would last four to six weeks.

The end can't come soon enough for Justin Thaemert, a registered Republican from central Minnesota who voted for Trump but has become doubtful the president will deliver on his promise of a quick turnaround.

"I'll believe it when I see it," Thaemert said.

'Tightening their belts'

The mechanic bays at Thaemert's

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Restaurant inspections for part of February in Gaston County

Diane Turbyfill
Gaston Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

Here are the North Carolina Department of Health's restaurant and food stand inspection scores for Gaston County conducted Feb. 10-19.

All restaurants listed this week received an A rating.

The North Carolina Department of

Public Health, Environmental Health Section, conducts regular restaurant inspections to help keep residents and visitors safe.

Disclaimer: On any given day, an establishment may have fewer or more violations than noted in their most recent inspection. An inspection conducted on any given day may not be representative of the overall, long-term conditions at the establishment. A few more recent,

follow-up inspections may not be included here.

Gaston's perfect scores

- Chick-fil-A, 801 Park St., Belmont, 100
- Chick, fil-A, 925 South Point Road, Belmont, 100
- Drift, 315 Lanyard Lane, Belmont, 100

- Barrel Bites by Veronet, 1549 Ike Brooks Drive, Kings Mountain, 100

Other high scores

- Moe's Southwest Grill, 3908 E. Franklin Blvd., 99.5
- SV Afghan Finest Kitchen, 7206 Wilkinson Blvd., Belmont, 99.5

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