

VALDESE!

SERVICE

EXIT 113

DEALS!

PARAMOUNT

Free Trade Appraisals

PARAMOUNT

Ford

HYUNDAI

No Payments for 90 DAYS!

Well-qualified customers who purchase a new, used, or certified pre-owned vehicle, 4 model years or newer with less than 60K miles, and finance through a participating finance source have the option to defer monthly payments for up to 90 days from contract date, with approved credit. Finance charges begin to accrue on the date you sign the Retail Installment Sale Contract at the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) disclosed in the contract. May not be combined with other financing offers. Equal monthly payments only. Not available to Pennsylvania residents; see your dealer for details. Offer expires 9/30/26.

We Buy Cars

Call Today 828-929-7034

ParamountFord.com

THE NEWS

HERALD

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

morganton.com

‘That was our calling’



Jan and Todd Davis stand with some of their softball players at St. Stephens High School.

SUBMITTED, TODD DAVIS

This couple is retiring after 30 years of teaching and coaching

JASON KOON
jason.koon@lee.net

Todd and Jan Davis took what some would consider an unconventional approach to investing in the next generation.

“We decided not to have kids years ago,” Todd said.

Instead of bringing up a handful of their own children,

The BrightSide

The Bright Side highlights uplifting moments across our community. Visit our website to read more and share your ideas.

The Bright Side:
Where good news lives.

Todd and Jan chose to impact kids’ lives through 30 years of teaching and coaching.

“We dedicated our love of children to our players,” Todd said. “We still do. We’ve been to weddings, baby showers and now some of their graduations. That shows how old we are.”

“We just felt like that was our calling,” Jan said. “It was what we were meant to do.”

“God has a plan for all of us,” Todd

added. “Whenever we made the decision not to have kids, we felt like the Lord wants us to use our faith and our abilities to at least show our Christian love to those kids so that they know they’re going to be loved.”

This spring, Todd and Jan both retired in May.

How it started

Todd and Jan Davis met at Gardner-Webb University in the early 1990s.

Please see DAVIS, Page A3

Officials: Petting zoo goats with rabies visited Burke

Those who came in contact with animals urged to contact health department

JOE MARUSAK
The Charlotte Observer

Multiple baby goats at a North Carolina mobile petting zoo had rabies and may have been in direct contact with people at events while infectious, state health officials said Friday.

Anyone who came in contact with the goats from Farm Adventures in the rural northern Iredell County community of Harmony between July 28 and Aug. 27 should contact their local health department, the North Carolina Department

of Health and Human Services urged.

That’s so officials can determine if you need medications to prevent infection from the potentially fatal disease, according to an NCDHHS news release.

Events included one on Miller Mills Road in Hickory, in Burke County, on Aug. 9, according to public health departments with Catawba and Burke counties.

The North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health confirmed the cases.

“The petting zoo held off-site events involving children and elderly individuals across multiple counties within that time frame,” according to the news release.

“Organizers of these offsite

Please see RABIES, Page A3

Elevate your backyard grilling with beef tenderloin kebabs. **LIVELY, D1**

Inside

360	C1	Comics	D3, D5
Advice	D4	Entertainment	D6
Business	C5	Sports	B1
Classifieds	B5	What to Watch	D4

Weather

Hot and humid
High: 95 **Low:** 69
Forecast: A6

\$1.00 • TT

Volume 140, Issue 244



7 65161 17550 8