

# Ashe Post & Times

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## Hubbard dies before murder case concludes

BY IAN TAYLOR

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RALEIGH — Jessie R. Hubbard died Sunday, Nov. 29, at 2:15 a.m., while in safekeeping in Raleigh, according to Ashe County Sheriff B. Phil Howell.

Hubbard, 62, of Crumpler, was charged with the Aug. 19, 2018, murder of Diane Goss and four counts of possession of a firearm by a felon.



HUBBARD

from a county jail, such as the Ashe County Detention Center, to a larger,

According to Chief Deputy Danny Houck, Hubbard had been in Raleigh since September, due to liver cancer and a gastrointestinal issue. Safekeeping is when a prisoner is moved

state-run facility as a way to keep either them or those around them from harm.

Hubbard was previously taken to Raleigh for safekeeping in September 2019 due to a medical issue. A month prior, Hubbard was deemed incapable to stand trial by doctors from Central Regional Hospital, a state-run psychiatric hospital in Butner. The

SEE HUBBARD ON PAGE 2

## Oaths of office: Newly elected officials ready to serve Ashe County

JEFFERSON — On the morning of Dec. 7 at 8 a.m. newly elected officials who will serve on the Ashe County Board of Commissioners and Ashe County Board of Education were sworn in by Ashe County Clerk of Court Pam Barlow.

Those elected to serve on the BOC were commissioners William Sands, Jonathan Jordan and Jerry Powers. Those elected to serve on the BOE were Josh Roten and Kim Simmons.

Russell F. Vannoy was also re-elected to serve as the Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor at this time.

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PHOTO BY BAILEY LITTLE

From left, Frosty the Snowman (Gia Gerald), Santa Claus (Jeff Dreyer) and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (Makayla Turnmire) pose for a photo together at this year's Saturday with Santa event. More photos inside.

## Santa visits Ashe County Civic Center

BY BAILEY LITTLE

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WEST JEFFERSON — It was a blustery morning on Dec. 5 at the North Pole-extension, that is the Ashe County Civic Center, as Ashe County children and their families visited Santa Claus.

Due to COVID-19, this year's event was greatly different from previous years but certainly was not lacking in excitement

or holiday splendor.

"The Arts Council is just glad to be able to host an event to bring Santa back to the community and give the kids a safe and socially-distanced way to interact with Santa Claus and bring some holiday cheer to hopefully a lot of families," said Executive Director Jeff Fissel.

From 8:30 to 11 a.m. children and their families

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PHOTO BY BAILEY LITTLE

Evie and Charles Latta smile for the camera while waiting to see Santa and his friends at Ashe County Civic Center.



PHOTO BY BAILEY LITTLE

Commissioner William Sands is administered the Oath of Office on Dec. 7 after being re-elected to serve on the Ashe County BOC in the 2020 General Election.



BY BAILEY LITTLE

Newly elected Board of Education member Josh Roten poses for a photo with his family after being sworn in on the morning of Dec. 7



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