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# THE STAR

SUNDAY, September 14, 2014

SHELBY, N.C.

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Lem Lynch Photography/Special to The Star  
**Preston Corey and Carlos Skelton were killed in a wreck on Post Road in Shelby on Saturday. For video from the scene, visit [www.ShelbyStar.com](http://www.ShelbyStar.com).**

## 2 killed in overnight wreck

**Trooper: Speed, road conditions likely factors**

**Joyce Orlando**  
jorlando@shelbystar.com

Two men were killed in a wreck on Post Road in Shelby on Saturday morning.

At 1:48 a.m., the Shelby Police Department and North Carolina Highway Patrol responded to a call of a car that was headed north on Highway 180 and hit a concrete pillar head on. The two killed in the wreck were Preston

Corey, 34, and Carlos Skelton, 38, both of Cherryville.

"They were leaving from Preston's older brother's house and heading back home," said Tijuana Griggs, Corey's family member and a friend of Skelton.

**BEST FRIENDS**

The two were described as best friends and couldn't have been closer unless they were

family, Griggs said.

Skelton and Corey grew up together and were known to go on late-night drives, Griggs said.

"We all grew up as family," Griggs said. "They were loving and happy guys."

This is not the first death that the family and friends of the victims have dealt with recently.

"We just buried our cousin 26 days ago. She had a wreck in Cherryville," Griggs said.

**>> See WRECK/Page 8A**

## 'A place for meditation, prayer'

**Catholic groups  
move forward  
with plans to build  
along Broad River**

**Jackie Bridges** | jbridges@shelbystar.com

**BOILING SPRINGS**

Since announcing plans in early 2012 to build a seminary and monastery on nearly 500 acres of land along the Broad River, two Catholic groups have raised money and shown the property to visitors from all over the world.

People in Boiling Springs see the nuns around town, and members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Shelby know about the project, but it's been 2 1/2 years since *The Star* first reported the story.

The land, off Timber Drive south of Boiling Springs, is owned separately by the Te Deum Foundation of Winston-Salem and a group of cloistered nuns from Charlotte, known as the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration.

"We are still in the planning stages," said Billie Mobley, president of the Te Deum Foundation. "We are focusing on getting the road in."

**>> See PRAYER/Page 8A**



Star photos by Joyce Orlando  
**The sisters of Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration from Charlotte and members of the Knights of Columbus Council 11946 in Shelby pray on Sept. 6 around a cross erected on land near Boiling Springs owned by the Te Deum Foundation, where a seminary will be built. The cross was placed on the spot as a way to thank God for providing the land, said Billie Mobley, president of the Te Deum Foundation. The sisters own property next to the Foundation's and plan to build a monastery there.**

Members  
of the  
Knights of  
Columbus  
Council  
11946  
in Shelby  
work to  
help the  
nuns clear  
the land  
where a  
seminary  
will be.



**WANT TO HELP?**

Volunteers who want to help the Knights of Columbus clear brush from the land may email the group at [kofc11946@gmail.com](mailto:kofc11946@gmail.com).

Donations may be made by visiting the group's websites:

- [www.tedeumfoundation.org](http://www.tedeumfoundation.org)
- [www.stjosephmonastery.com](http://www.stjosephmonastery.com)

**AT RIGHT: It has been 2 1/2 years since *The Star* first reported on plans to build a monastery and seminary in Boiling Springs.**





Halifax  
MEDIA GROUP

Page edited by Lauren Frame

OBITUARIES | 4A

**W.P. Miller Jr.**, 82, Vale  
**Lillie Jackson**, 90, Mooresboro  
**Loretta Elliott**, 51, Shelby  
**Joe Whisnant**, 87, Shelby  
**Ella Holland**, 78, Ellenboro  
**Robert Blackwell**, 63, Forest City


5 Sections  
30 Pages

Volume 120  
No. 257

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LOW  
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FROM THE FRONT

<< Prayer

Continued from Page 1A

The Te Deum Foundation assists those seeking priesthood. The organization will oversee the seminary and the Poor Clares will operate the monastery.

GROUPS WORKING AS A TEAM

“It was one large property and we each own our part,” Mobley said in an email to *The Star*. “We are two separate organizations, but we work as a team with each having its part of the total mission, to educate (the seminary) and the other spiritually support (the monastery) the preparation of men for the priesthood. Although, the monastery also spiritually supports the area and the world.”

The nuns own two parcels of the property. Their 333 acres is valued at \$444,024, according to Cleveland County land records. The foundation owns the remaining parcel, which is 151 acres and valued at \$192,687, according to land records.

Until the road is built, the nuns and representatives of the Te Deum Foundation access the land by several old logging roads. The roads are kept clear of overgrowth and the grass mowed by members of the Knights of Columbus Council 11946 in Shelby.

Last Saturday, the nuns and Mobley visited the property and thanked the Knights of Columbus for the volunteer work they do.

“It has been such a blessing for us, and today is one of the biggest days, because it’s the first time we have gotten to do some work on the logging road,” said Mother Dolores Marie, Mother Superior of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration. “It’s beautiful to see how excited they are about it, and they are eager to help. The Lord has moved their hearts to be a part of it.”

‘HERE TO PRAY FOR EVERYONE’

She and the other nuns wore their habits in the 90 degree heat, and some of them walked the mile-long road back to a clearing in the woods. Mother Dolores Marie drove her Jeep over the ruts in the narrow, winding road, crossing at least one small stream.

When they arrived in a clearing, they set up a tent for shade and poured orange Gatorade for everyone.

Mother Dolores Marie, who grew up in a small community in Alabama, said she enjoys visiting the property and the Boiling Springs area.

“I love the country,” she said. “We had a lot of people call and welcome us to the community. They are grateful to have a prayerful presence in the community. We are here to pray for everyone.”

While she spoke, Abdul Elkout, owner of the Italian Garden in Boiling Springs, dropped by for a visit. His land adjoins the property.

“I am very happy they are here,” Elkout said. “I’m a neighbor, and you have to love your neighbor.”

BEARS AND BLACKBERRIES

On one of their first trips to the wooded property, Broad River Greenway Ranger Reid Jolly came over and told them about the plants and wildlife in the area.

“We asked him what to do if we saw a bear,” she said. “He said, ‘Enjoy the moment.’”

They haven’t seen a bear, only evidence that one has been around, Mobley said.

“When I first came down here, there was a flat place on the ground,” she said.

The real estate agent with her pointed out that the flat place in the grass was right in front of some blackberry bushes, but the blackberries were gone.

“He said, ‘A bear sat there and ate the blackberries,’” she said.

‘THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS HELP’

No bears were seen last Saturday, but the roar of a tractor and a truck engine could be heard as the Knights of Columbus cleared brush. Also helping trim the trees were members of Venture Crew 111 with the Boy Scouts of America Piedmont Council, Battleground District.

Frank Kopenec, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, said 10 members of the group were working on the roads and would stay between three and four hours.

“We come out every two to three months — or anytime they are coming. We open up (the roads) for them,” Kopenec said. “They devote their life to praying for us and praying for the world, and the least we can do is help them.”

The Knights of Columbus meet at St. Mary’s in



Star photos by Joyce Orlando

ABOVE: The sisters of Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration pray Sept. 6 around a cross erected on land near Boiling Springs.

LEFT: The sisters set up a tent in a clearing on their land near the Broad River, south of Boiling Springs. They had help from William Stockham, left, and Dallas Rudisill, right.



Shelby and also do other community service projects. The group has around 60 members, Kopenec said.

“We are out here to support the church and support the good works,” he said.

One of their annual fundraisers is a concession stand at the Cleveland County Fair in Shelby. The money they raise supports their projects in the community, member Eric Stockham said.

THE NEXT STEP

Kopenec said the Knights are there to help and will come out more often when construction begins.

Building the road is the next step, Mother Dolores Marie said.

“The land is completely paid off. The architectural plans are completed and the engineering design for the road is completed,” she said. “We have some furnishings that were purchased from churches that have closed in other areas. The next phase is putting in the road, which is over a mile long, and we have to raise the funds for that.”

St. Joseph Adoration Monastery, once completed, will provide space for more than 20 nuns to live, work and pray. A chapel, open to the public, will seat 150 people. When completed, the seminary will be the only Catholic seminary in the Southeast. Currently, there are seminaries in Washington, D.C., Boynton Beach, Fla., and New Orleans.

“The education that will be done here with these young men is important,” Mobley said. “They will be living in our culture and our environment. Lifestyles are different. They will be learning the

culture of the area along with an education.”

A ravine divides the property and will separate the monastery from the seminary.

“The sisters live a cloistered life of prayer,” she said. “They will be the spiritual support. This is to give them a place for meditation and prayer.”

Even though the sisters live a separate life, the public will be welcome to visit.

“People will travel from other areas to visit, to go to Mass,” Mobley said. “It will be a spiritual draw.”

<< Wreck

Continued from Page 1A

THE WRECK

Corey was driving the two home early Saturday morning when the Mercury Marquis veered off the highway and plowed head on into a concrete pillar holding a sign for

Cleveland Vocational Industries Inc., according to Highway Patrol Trooper J.L. McSwain.

Corey and Skelton were pronounced dead at the scene by paramedics, Sgt. G.S. Johnson said.

“The vehicle was heavily damaged,” Johnson said.

The two men were the only people in the vehicle, he said.

“The vehicle was exceeding safe

speeds for the conditions,” McSwain said. “The two were not wearing seatbelts either.”

After an initial investigation, troopers said that they believe speed and road conditions played a part in the fatal wreck. It had been raining Friday evening and Saturday morning.

There were no witnesses to the crash.

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