

## Hall of Legends Event Honors Avery Citizens

Written by Lindsey M. Johnson  
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A very special celebration honoring ten of Avery County's best-known citizens will take place on Sunday, June 24th at 4:00 p.m. at the new Hugh Chapman Center for Families. The Center, part of the Williams YMCA of Avery County and located on the campus of Cannon Memorial Hospital in Linville, will be the setting for the first Martha Guy Hall of Legends gala and the permanent home for the Hall of Legends. The honored citizens to be inducted into the Hall of Legends this year are the ten people named Centennial Citizens for Avery County's 100th birthday last year: John Blackburn, Addie Barrier, Tommy Burlison, Bertie Burlison, Sam Ray, Sam Cartner, Rachel Deal, Martha Guy, Sherman Pritchard, and Juanita Shoemaker. Tickets for the function must be purchased prior to the event. There will be no admissions at the door. Banquet seating, limited to 150 people, will be available in the Great Hall for \$50 per person. There will also be buffet seating available for \$25 per person. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Lindsey Johnson or DeLee Scott at the Williams YMCA of Avery County at (828) 737-5500.

Over the last year, dedicated community leaders and interested citizens have partnered with the YMCA staff members and board of directors to bring the Hall of Legends to fruition. The group chose the new Chapman Center as the location for the Hall of Legends permanent display, which will be expanded as new inductees are added each year.

The Hall of Legends was named in honor of local philanthropist, benefactor, and former banker, Martha Guy.

"Martha Guy is a very well-known family entrepreneur who has impacted many people's lives through her bank," said Dr. Jim Richardson, YMCA Executive Director. "I've had people from all walks of life in Avery County tell me what she has done for them during their times of need. She is very well known and very respected in this county. It seemed appropriate to name the Hall of Legends after a lady who is truly a legend."