

## Significant Winter Storm Possible this Weekend

CALDWELL COUNTY, NC (December 6, 2018) -- Old Man Winter may be making an early and possibly harsh visit to our area this weekend. Forecasts are still evolving and are being updated every few hours. Most forecasts are calling for a significant snow event for Caldwell County. There is still a lot of uncertainty in regard to total snow accumulations for our area. The National Weather Service suggested on this past Tuesday afternoon that 12" to 18" of snow was possible but was changed to 8" to 12" on Wednesday afternoon. Some forecast models have suggested upwards of 24" of snow mainly in mountains. We probably will not have a good idea of what to expect until this Saturday so stay tuned.

Where heavy wet snow and/or freezing rain fall and accumulate, widespread power outages and roof collapses are another possibility. Make plans for a safe alternative heating source.

It's probably best to make plans to "hunker down" during the storm with a three day supply of food and water. Also, limit unnecessary travel. Plan for the Worst and Hope for the Best...



**Officials want to remind the public that 9-1-1 is for emergencies only.  
Please do not call 9-1-1 for road conditions, power outages  
or other non-emergency reasons.**

## Caldwell Journal Info

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**Our Deadline Is On Friday At 5pm For Next Week's Paper**

## Caldwell Journal Weather

**Thursday (6th):** Times of clouds & sun.

High 46 Low 27

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

**Friday (7th):** Times of clouds & sun.

High 49 Low 29

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

**Saturday (8th):** Cloudy.

High 40 Low 28

Precipitation: 0.15 in. (Snow 0.6")

**Sunday (9th):** Snow, some ice early.

High 33 Low 33

Precipitation: 0.91 in. (Snow 3.6")

**Monday (10th):** Snow or flurries possible.

High 41 Low 22

Precipitation: 0.01 in. (Snow 0.1")

**Tuesday (11th):** Clouds & sun; chilly.

High 44 Low 22

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

**Wednesday (12th):** Mostly sunny.

High 49 Low 30

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

## Blue Ridge Energy Prepares for Potential Winter Weather Impacts

LENOIR, NC (December 5, 2018) -- Blue Ridge Energy crews are on high alert and are monitoring potential impacts from the winter storm that is expected to impact the region this weekend.

Line technicians are prepping trucks with all necessary supplies and materials for any outages that may occur as a result of the storm. System operators monitor the Blue Ridge power system and weather on a daily, 24-hour basis and all other employees are on high alert, ready to respond to member needs, including the cooperative's member/customer service contact center.

Blue Ridge Energy urges members to act now to make preparations to remain safe and comfortable in the event of an outage. While specific precipitation types and amounts continue to be fine-tuned, forecasts indicate that our service area may be heavily impacted by the storm.

How you can prepare:

- Assemble an emergency kit. It should include at least a three-day supply of water, non-perishable food, medication, first aid supplies, a flashlight, weather radio and extra batteries. Include a list of emergency contacts.
- Charge your cell phone and have external, backup power sources charged.
- Stay tuned to local forecasts.
- Fuel up. Fill up your vehicles before the storm as a loss of power could put affect gas stations.
- Consider having supplies handy for your propane or charcoal grill. Be sure to grill outdoors in well ventilated areas for safety.
- Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.

Keep the Blue Ridge Energy outage reporting number handy: 1-800-448-2383. Members can also report outages on the Blue Ridge Energy mobile app, available for free on app stores.

## Sheriff Alan C. Jones sworn in to serve fourth term

LENOIR, NC (December 4, 2018) -- On Monday, December 3rd, 2018 Sheriff Alan C. Jones was sworn in to serve his fourth term as Sheriff of Caldwell County. The Oath of Office was administered to Sheriff Jones by retired Chief District Court Judge Robert Brady who has administered the Oath of Office to Sheriff Jones at each swear in since he was initially sworn in as Sheriff in 2007.

Sheriff Alan Jones is the 32nd Sheriff in the history of Caldwell County and also has a 3rd Great Grandfather, Robert Tuttle, who was Caldwell Sheriff from 1852 to 1866 and 1880-1882.

During the Ceremony Sheriff Jones was accompanied by his family including his wife, children and mother.

Once Sheriff Jones was sworn in the members of the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office took their respective Oaths of Office.

Sheriff Jones stated "I am honored to again take the Oath of Office as Sheriff and look forward to providing the best service possible to the citizens of Caldwell County. Both my Staff and I appreciate the overwhelming support that has been shown to us by everyone."

During this term in Office Sheriff Jones will become the longest serving Sheriff in the History of Caldwell County.



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## Caldwell Journal Weekly Recipe

### Beef Cauliflower Fried Rice

#### Ingredients

- 1 large head of cauliflower, cut into florets
- 1/2 lb. ground beef
- kosher salt
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 c. diced carrots
- 1/4 c. low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 c. frozen peas
- 1/4 c. chopped green onions

#### Instructions

Place cauliflower into a blender filled with 3 cups of water. Pulse until cauliflower is the size of rice. If necessary, blend in two batches. Drain in colander and pat dry with paper towels, then set aside to dry. In a large sauté pan over medium-high heat, brown ground beef, breaking up pieces with a wooden spoon; season with 1 teaspoon salt. Add onions and carrots and sauté until softened, 3 to 4 minutes. Add soy sauce, garlic powder and red pepper flakes; simmer 1 minute. Add cauliflower and peas, toss together until warmed through, 2 to 3 minutes. Add green onions and serve immediately.

## Two Hickory Fire Department Firefighters Retire

HICKORY, NC (December 3, 2018) -- A ceremony was recently held for two retirees.

### Gerald Bentley

After 30 years in the fire service, Captain Gerald Bentley has retired from the Hickory Fire Department. He was hired on December 11, 1989, as a firefighter and moved through the ranks. In 1998 he was promoted to Captain. Captain Bentley obtained certifications and courses to further his career including: Associates degree in Fire Science Technology from Central Piedmont Community College in 1995, NC Level II Firefighter, NC State HAZMAT Operations level, NC Level II Qualified Fire Service Instructor, NC Fire Prevention Inspector Level I, NC EMT Basic, NC EVD, NC RIT, Leadership I-III, NIMS through FEMA, and National Fire Academy Fire/Arson Investigation Course.



Since 1987, Bentley has also served as a volunteer with Kings Creek Volunteer Fire Department, where he is still a member. In 1997, Bentley began working as a part time Fire Apparatus Operator with Kings Creek Fire Department.

Bentley said "I want to thank God for allowing me to have a career in the fire service with the City of Hickory Fire Department. Also, to my dad, (Gerald E. Bentley, Sr.) who passed away in February 2018, for planting a seed back in 1985 for me to explore the opportunity of making the fire service my career."

Gerald resides in Caldwell County with wife, Anne, and family. Plans after retirement are to continue employment at Kings Creek Fire Department. He is looking forward to traveling with family, fly fishing, and going on mission trips with his church.

### Craig Gwaltney

After 30 dedicated years to the fire service, Captain Craig Gwaltney has retired from the Hickory Fire Department. His employment as a firefighter with the city began on December 11, 1989. During his career at Hickory, he was promoted to Firefighter II, Senior Firefighter, Fire Apparatus Operator, and to Captain in 2000, a position which he held until his retirement.



In 2009, Captain Gwaltney graduated from Catawba Valley Community College with an Associates in Applied Science of Fire Protection Technology. During his career, Gwaltney completed certifications and courses to further his career as a firefighter, including: Hazardous Materials Operations level I, Emergency Vehicle Driver, Level II Fire Service Instructor, Specialty in Incident Command Systems, Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations, Technical Rescuer, Rapid Intervention Team, Fire & Life Safety Educator level I, Fire Officer I & II, Basic Life Support (CPR) Instructor, EMT, and Level I Fire Inspector.

Prior to his employment with the Hickory Fire Department, Gwaltney served as a volunteer firefighter with Wittenburg Volunteer Fire Department. In 1984, he began as a volunteer firefighter and through the years served as Lieutenant, Captain/Training Officer, Chief in 2000 to 2003, and Assistant Chief in 2003 to 2008, and also served on the Board of Directors.

He resides in Wittenburg with his wife Deborah. They have two daughters and three grandchildren. Captain Gwaltney is looking forward to enjoying his retirement alongside his family and hopes to hunt, fish, and golf.



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1 Special enrollment periods are available for individuals with qualifying life events. Visit [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) for more details

2 45 CFR 155.410(b)

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## **CCC&TI Launches New 'Night School' Initiative**

HUDSON, NC (December 3, 2018) -- With local unemployment at its lowest level in decades, the demand for flexible scheduling for working adults attending school is increasing. In response to the growing need, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI) is launching a Night School program by expanding the number of classes available at night, as well as the number of degree and job training programs that can be earned at night.

"Our number one goal is to serve the needs of our students and the community," said Dr. Mark Poarch, President of CCC&TI. "With the area at near full employment, there is a need for more non-traditional college and technical training options for students who work full-time jobs or have family responsibilities during the day."

The new scheduling option will allow students to complete an Associate in Arts degree, which normally takes two years, at night in only three years. Both traditional seated and online classes will be offered. Though night classes are available on the Watauga Campus in Boone, the new Night School program will only be offered on the Caldwell Campus in Hudson with plans to expand it to the Watauga Campus in the future.

The program also will include short-term programs, such as Industrial Maintenance, Welding, Nurse Aide, HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) and other high-demand technical job training programs.

Spring Semester enrollment for degree programs will continue through Dec. 17 with classes starting on Jan. 7. Registration for short-term workforce training programs continues throughout the year.

For information or to register, please call 828-726-2200 or stop by campus.

## **Granite Falls History Museum Hosts Art Contest**

GRANITE FALLS, NC (November 30, 2018) -- The Granite Falls History Committee is sponsoring an art contest at the Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum featuring the work of students at Granite Falls Elementary School and Granite Falls Middle School. The theme of each entry is "The Twelve Days of Christmas." An outside, impartial judge will determine a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place award winner for each school, and visitors to the museum will choose one overall "People's Choice" Award. The museum will be open from 2 until 4 p.m. on the following dates: Sunday, December 2nd; Saturday, December 8th; Sunday, December 9th; Saturday, December 15th, Sunday, December 16th, Saturday, January 5th; and Sunday, January 6th. Persons wishing to see the exhibit at other times may call the Town Office at 396-3131 to request a private tour.

On January 6th, there will be a public reception to honor the artists from 2 until 4 p.m. Visitors may vote through 3 p.m., and the History Committee will present awards at 3:15 p.m. In keeping with "The Twelve Days of Christmas" theme, the Committee will serve refreshments suitable for a traditional Twelfth Night or Epiphany Celebration.

Located at 107 Falls Avenue in Granite Falls, the museum is located in the former home of Andrew Baird, who established an iron forge at the falls that gives the Town its name. It is the second oldest resident, after Fort Defiance, in Caldwell County. For more information, check out [www.granitefallshistorymuseum.org](http://www.granitefallshistorymuseum.org).

## **Children and the Flu Vaccine**

CDC, ATLANTA, GA (November 28, 2018) -- Influenza (flu) is a contagious viral infection that affects the respiratory system. Children are especially vulnerable to becoming sick with flu because of exposures in classrooms or daycare settings. The single best way to protect your children against seasonal flu, and its potentially severe consequences, is to get them and get yourself a flu vaccine each year!



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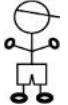


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### Caldwell UNC Health Care quarterly Sunshine Award given

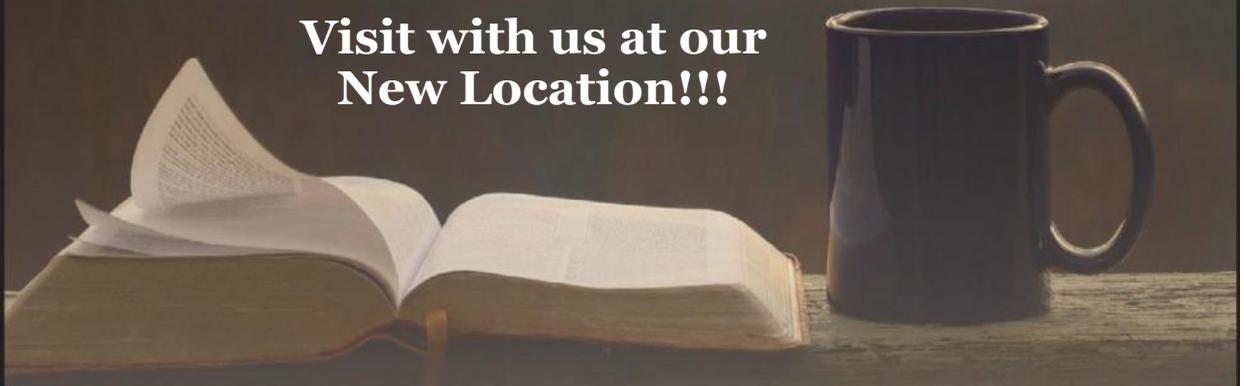
LENOIR, NC (December 3, 2018) -- Autumn Walsh, a CNA with Caldwell UNC Health Care, is the recipient for the quarterly Sunshine Award given for outstanding patient care. Sunshine stands for: Someone who is Understanding, Never says never, Supportive, Helpful, Inspiring, Nurturing and Empathetic. With her for the award presentation from left, are Robin Talmadge, Dir. of Nursing, Acute, Leonora Mahoney, Clinical Leader, 4-West Telemetry, Autumn Walsh, CNA, Rebecca Smith, VP-COO and Jerrell Suddreth, Nursing Manager.



**Care House**, a Baptist Children's Group Home for teen moms and babies, located on the Taylorsville Road in Lenoir is looking for groups of volunteers willing to paint inside and outside of the house. They are also looking for someone who can do brick/concrete work, cut down trees, and an electrician who can look at their wiring. If you can help with any of this contact Jada Cable, Program Supervisor/Case Manager at 828-757-0700.

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Hickory native Ellen Ball is a life-long artist who has created metalsmithed jewelry and assemblages for over 10 years. A member of North Carolina Artist-Blacksmith Association of North Carolina, she creates in a Hickory, NC studio and has taught over 300 people in the foothill's region of the state.

Learn more and register at <https://www.caldwellarts.com/385-hometown-handmade-holiday-workshops/> or by calling 828-754-2486.



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# YOU'RE CORDIALLY INVITED

*We're hosting Owen Calloway, Local Artist and Volunteer and would love for you to join us.*

At the "young" age of 82, Owen Calloway took up painting. He says, "God gives us many talents and gifts. Sometimes we don't realize we have them until late in life... I now really enjoy painting and sharing my gifts with others." Owen will be exhibiting his art during the event.

Enjoy an evening of fun and refreshment. Bring a friend.

## EVENT DETAILS:

**Thursday, December 13, 2018**

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Caldwell Hospice & Palliative Care, Robbins  
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Refreshments will be served.

\* This is a fundraiser for Caldwell Hospice and GHA Autism Support (Albemarle, NC), another organization dear to Owen's heart. He has donated two works for silent auction to support these non-profits. In addition, Owen will be available to sign a calendar displaying one of his works. Donations will be graciously accepted.

No products will be sold at this event.  
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