

Wildlife Commission Opens Hatchery Supported Trout Waters April 7

RALEIGH, NC (March 20, 2018)...The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will open Hatchery-Supported Trout Waters in 25 western counties at 7 a.m. on April 7. The season will run through Feb. 28, 2019.



While fishing on Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, anglers can harvest a maximum of seven trout per day, with no minimum size limits or bait restrictions. On page 17 of the 2017-2018 North Carolina Inland Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Regulations Digest, the closed season date of March 1 through April 1 for Hatchery Supported Trout Waters is incorrect. The correct dates are March 1 through April 7.

To give trout anglers opportunities to plan fishing trips in advance, the Commission has posted the full Hatchery-Supported Trout Waters stocking schedule on its website that provides information on what days each water is being stocked. Anglers can search by county and by month. The agency also posts daily updates at noon for all waters stocked that day. Information can be searched by county, by month, or both.

Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, which are marked by green-and-white signs, are closed from March 1 until April 6 so that Commission staff can stock the waters with trout. Staff will continue to stock certain streams through June. Staff will stock many of these waters monthly, although they will stock some heavily fished waters more frequently. Over the four months, staff will stock nearly 916,000 trout — 96 percent of which will average 10 inches in length, with the other 4 percent exceeding 14 inches in length.

Stocked trout are produced primarily at two mountain region fish hatcheries operated by the Commission and are distributed along hatchery-supported streams where public access for fishing is available. While Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are open to public fishing, many of those miles are privately owned so the Commission urges anglers to respect the property they're fishing on and remember that landowners can take away access if they feel their property is being misused.

Anglers can help prevent the loss of public access to fishing by:

- Respecting private property and landowners at all times;
- Removing all trash and litter from fishing and parking areas;
- Parking only in designated areas and leaving driveways open for traffic;
- Closing and/or locking gates after use; and,
- Reporting wildlife violations by calling 1-800-662-7137.

For a complete list of all Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, as well as trout maps, the complete stocking schedule, and daily stocking updates on Hatchery-Supported Trout Waters, visit the Commission's trout fishing page.

For more information on fishing in public, inland waters, visit the Commission's website, www.newwildlife.org or call the Inland Fisheries Division, 919-707-0220.

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The Caldwell Journal is a non-discriminatory paper.*

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

Caldwell Journal Weather

Thursday (22nd): Mostly sunny.

High 53 Low 30

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Friday (23rd): Cool with periods of sun.

High 56 Low 35

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Saturday (24th): Rain & drizzle in p.m.

High 43 Low 35

Precipitation: 0.34 in.

Sunday (25th): Mostly cloudy & cold.

High 47 Low 28

Precipitation: 0.15 in.

Monday (26th): Cold with clouds & sun.

High 47 Low 32

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Tuesday (27th): Mostly cloudy & cool.

High 55 Low 44

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

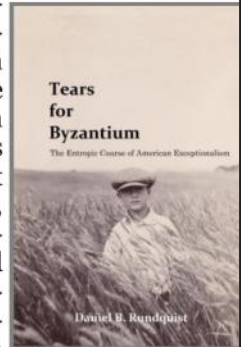
Wednesday (28th): Turning cloudy.

High 62 Low 46

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

New Plymouth Press, LLC announces release of new book title by local author – all net proceeds are designated to support local DAV

CALDWELL COUNTY, NC (November 7, 2017)...
New Plymouth Press, LLC is proud to announce today that a new book will be released to the public on December 1, 2017. The author, Dan Rundquist has completed work on his nonfiction title, *Tears For Byzantium; The Entropic Course of American Exceptionalism*. The work seeks to address the question of what exactly is the proper size, role, and scope of American government in a post-9/11 world through the prism of world history. It is told by a father, taxpayer, and ordinary American citizen.



"I have wept for my nation until I am out of tears. Not from a personal depression, but with the deepest grief and sorrow as one might have for a dying loved one. The patient in this case is our nation, America, but she is not so much ill as she is being euthanized. I weep for her because I love my nation, and she is nearly lost to us. I have always loved my country, and I am not alone." *Dan Rundquist*

The Caldwell Journal has been awarded exclusive distribution of the e-book format...

This special edition of the book will be made available exclusively by a distribution agreement with the Caldwell Journal:

- The publisher has set the title price at \$4.99 and the author is donating ALL net proceeds for this special PDF edition to Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 6 Hudson, NC.
- ISBN: 978-0-9862967-8-9
- 151 pages, 8.5 x 11 PDF format, print volume is expected to release summer, 2018.
- Link to the Caldwell Journal: www.caldwelljournal.com
- Media inquiries, requests for advance copies for review can be made directly to the author at dbquist1986@gmail.com
- Inquiries to the Caldwell Journal: Mr. Mark Jackson, mark.jackson@caldwelljournal.com

NCDOT Awards 2018 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grants... Including Hudson

RALEIGH, NC (March 21, 2018)...Nine municipalities and one county from across the state will receive assistance with bicycle and pedestrian planning, thanks to grants awarded this month by the N.C. Department of Transportation.

Recipients were selected from a pool of 23 applications by an awards committee comprised of representatives from regional planning organizations and councils of government, local governments, health professionals and NCDOT staff from multiple units.

This year's recipients include:

- Archer Lodge (joint bicycle/pedestrian plan)
- Beaufort County (bicycle plan)
- Carrboro (bicycle plan)
- Elkin (bicycle/pedestrian plan)
- Fayetteville (bicycle plan)
- **Hudson (bicycle/pedestrian plan)**
- Lowell (bicycle/pedestrian plan)
- Pittsboro (joint bicycle/pedestrian plan)
- Warrenton (joint bicycle/pedestrian plan)
- Wilson (pedestrian plan)

Plans funded are not for one specific project, but represent a comprehensive strategy for expanding bicycle and pedestrian opportunities within a given municipality. These plans address facilities, programs, services and regulations that encourage safe walking and bicycling. Now in its fifteenth year, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant program has awarded over \$5 million for 193 community plans.

For more information on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative, contact the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation or visit the Planning Grant Initiative website.

Please make plans to join Friendship Baptist Church for a rejuvenating time of worship and praise during spring revival March 25-28. Steve Levinson, Creation Evangelist, will be speaking Sunday, March 25 at 9am, 10am, and 6pm. Monday through Wednesday services begin at 7pm with Rev. Stuart White on Monday, Rev. Ron Burgett on Tuesday, and Dr. Alan Carr on Wednesday. The church is located at 4676 Horseshoe Bend Rd, Hudson.

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Caldwell Journal Weekly Recipe

Cowboy Cookies

Ingredients

- 2 cups unbleached white all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup butter, at room temperature (2 sticks)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups rolled oats
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips or chunks (12 ounces)
- 1 1/2 cups raisins, dried cranberries, or chopped dried cherries (optional)
- 1 cup coarsely chopped toasted walnuts (optional)

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a mixing bowl, sift together the flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Set aside. In a large mixing bowl, using an electric mixer, cream together the butter and sugars. Add the eggs and vanilla and beat well. Add the dry ingredients and blend well. Stir in the oats. Fold in the chocolate chips and the dried fruit and the nuts, if using. The dough will be fairly stiff. Drop spoonfuls of dough onto unoled baking sheets. For large cookies, place rounded blobs of dough about the size of a ping-pong ball on the baking sheets, placing them about 4 inches apart. For smaller cookies, drop rounded tablespoons of dough onto the baking sheets, placing them about 2 inches apart. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes until golden brown. Transfer the cookies to wire cooling racks. Cool completely before storing in a sealed container.

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City of Lenoir Finance Department receives award

LENOIR, NC (March 20, 2018)...The City of Lenoir Finance Department again has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the City's most recent comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR).

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The City's CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

"It's an honor to be recognized by the GFOA," Finance Director Donna Bean said. "The City of Lenoir is fortunate to have such a skilled and dedicated team of professionals who are committed to providing the highest level of excellence, accountability, and transparency through financial reporting."

This is the 27th time the City has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Government Finance Officers Association is a major professional association servicing the needs of nearly 19,000 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy and management. The association is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in Washington, D. C.

The CAFR and other financial reports are available online at <http://www.cityoflenoir.com/financialreports>.



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Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Opioid STD/Cures (Grant#14791080257) and SFF-RX (Grant # 1U79SP022087).

Attorney General Josh Stein and the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission Unveil Human Trafficking Awareness Signs

RALEIGH, NC (March 21, 2018)...Attorney General Josh Stein and North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission (NCHTC) Chair Libby Magee Coles today announced the design and distribution of human trafficking signs to raise awareness about the prevalence of human trafficking in North Carolina. The awareness signs will be displayed at transportation centers, rest areas, welcome centers, job centers, ABC-licensed locations, and emergency rooms across the state.

“Human trafficking is a heinous but poorly understood crime,” said Attorney General Josh Stein. “These signs will let victims know there is help on the other end of a phone call and help educate the public so we can look for the telltale signs of trafficking and take steps to end human trafficking in North Carolina.”

North Carolina has one of the top 10 highest reported rates of human trafficking in the country. However, cases of human trafficking are under-reported because people don't recognize the crime in their communities and victims don't believe there is help. The signs will help people in North Carolina better identify possible incidents of human trafficking and report tips. Victims of human trafficking will also be able to contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline via phone or online to find information and resources to get out of a trafficking situation.

In 2017, the National Human Trafficking Hotline received more than 900 calls from North Carolina. There were 258 human trafficking cases brought by law enforcement and more than 1,200 victims and survivors identified in our state last year.

Attorney General Stein and NCHTC Chair Coles were joined by NC Department of Public Safety Chief Deputy Secretary Pam Cashwell, SBI Director Robert Schurmeier, SBI Alcohol Law Enforcement Branch Head Terrance Merriweather, NC Alcohol Beverage Control Commissioner Zander Guy, NC State Highway Patrol Lt. Colonel Vic Ward, and Southeast Director for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Darrell Ruban.

The signs were designed and will be distributed by the North Carolina Department of Justice and the NCHTC as part of a law passed by the North Carolina General Assembly (SL 2017-57). English and Spanish versions of the sign are available for download at <http://ncdoj.gov/nchte>.

Mountain Grove Baptist Church, 2485 Connelly Springs Road, Granite Falls will host the Liberty University Wind Symphony on March 25 at 6pm. The symphony, under the leadership of Dr. Stephen Kerr, has toured throughout the Eastern United States, from Vermont to Miami, and from St. Louis to New Orleans. It is comprised of 56 college musicians and the length of the concert is typically one hour. The public is invited to attend and there is no charge for admission.



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Lenoir man charged with soliciting prostitution

LENOIR, NC (March 21, 2018)...After receiving complaints from female citizens of the Lenoir area, the Lenoir Police Department began investigating Shane Max Phillips for attempting to lure women to his apartment under the pretense of applying to clean his apartment. Several of the women stated that during the alleged interview he made them feel uncomfortable and propositioned them to engage in a sexual act for money.

While further investigating the complaints a female undercover investigator with the Lenoir Police Department went to his apartment after telephone conversations concerning the position. Once inside Phillips propositioned her to engage in a sexual act for money.

A surveillance team of Officers entered the apartment and took Phillips into custody without incident.

The Lenoir Police Department takes a proactive stance on protecting our citizens and visitors when exposed to any criminal activity that endangers their safety and way of life. While we continue to develop further relationships with our community through ongoing safety meetings and workshops we will not tolerate those who wish to take advantage of our citizens. We are confident that Phillips has made contact with victims whom we have not been made aware. We encourage anyone that feels like they have been victimized in this case or any other to please call the Lenoir Police Department at any time.

Shane Max Phillips was given a \$10,000 secure bond and placed in the Caldwell County Detention Center. Phillips was given an initial court date of April 30th, 2018.

Anyone with information relating to this incident is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at 758-8300 or the Lenoir Police Department at 757-2100.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Commissioner Causey welcomes 15 agents to fight fraud

RALEIGH, NC (March 16, 2018)...N.C. Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey is expanding the department's criminal investigations division as part of his vision to eliminate insurance fraud in North Carolina.

On Friday, 15 new special agents were sworn - in by State Supreme Court Justice Barbara Jackson as officers to the NCDOI Fraud Control Group - nearly doubling the size of the existing team.

"One of the first things I did when I took office was meet with our criminal investigations division," said Commissioner Causey. "I learned, because of the vast number of insurance fraud complaints in this state, we were shorthanded on the number of investigators to examine them."

Each month, North Carolina receives between 400 -500 criminal insurance fraud complaints.

In 2017, Commissioner Causey's first year in office, 334 people were arrested for insurance - related violations - almost 60% more arrests than 2016 under the previous administration. Those arrests resulted in the recovery of approximately \$14.1 million.

Insurance fraud costs consumers between 15 and 20 cents of every dollar they spend on insurance premiums.

Because of the enormity of the problem, the North Carolina General Assembly, in 2017, appropriated \$2.4 million to hire additional agents in NCDOI's criminal investigations division including a crime analyst, forensic accountant, attorneys and special agents.

With the addition of the 15 agents, Commissioner Causey is determined to move forward in stemming the tide of insurance fraud to save consumers even more money.

The newly hired agents spent the past week in NCDOI's Special Agent Academy, training in the classroom and out in the field to learn the best methods for investigating insurance fraud.

North Carolina was the first state in the nation to set up a criminal investigations division within the Department of Insurance. That was 73 years ago, in 1945. Over the years, as the population has grown to more than 10 million people, the Department of Insurance fell behind in keeping up with enough agents to investigate fraud.

CCC&TI Early Childhood Education Program Hosting Free Reading Event

HUDSON, NC (March 21, 2018)...Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute's Early Childhood Education Program will host "Spring Into Reading," a free reading event for children, on Monday, April 16 at the Caldwell Campus library in Hudson. The event will begin at 5 p.m. with snacks and creative centers throughout the library followed by an interactive read-aloud led by CCC&TI's Early Childhood program students.

The event will coincide "The Week of the Young Child," an annual week of events promoted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), which celebrates early learning, young children, their teachers, and families. This year's Week of the Young Child is April 16 -20.

CCC&TI's event will feature several hands-on stations throughout the library including art, clay and face painting from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Snacks will be available as well as information on CCC&TI's Early Childhood Program and other programs of study. At 6 p.m., children will be invited to the library's classroom for an interactive reading and activity session with CCC&TI Early Childhood students. Students will share stories, flannel board activities and selected readings featuring the work of children's author Eric Carle.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information on this event or CCC&TI's Early Childhood Education Program, contact Program Director Amanda White at 828-726-2604 or email mwhite@cccti.edu.

Bethlehem Baptist Church will host Lynn McCoy of Jews for Jesus on Thursday, March 29 at 7pm. McCoy will re-create the traditional Passover service and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover". The church is located at 7500 NC Hwy 127, Taylorsville. For more information call 828-495-7250 or visit www.bethlehembc.org.

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Bridge on Abington Road closed after inspection

NORTH WILKESBORO, NC (March 20, 2018)... N.C. Department of Transportation officials closed a two-lane bridge on Abington Road in Lenoir as a safety precaution.

The bridge is located just below West Lenoir Baptist Church.

NCDOT crews established a marked detour around the closure utilizing Fairview Drive Northwest, Harper Avenue North West, U.S. 64 and Beecher Anderson Road.

An inspection on Tuesday revealed irregular flexing in the beams, which weakened the overall integrity of the bridge. All 18,000 NCDOT bridges are inspected at least every other year. This bridge had been on a list to be replaced in the next two years.

The bridge was built in 1972. It has wood supporting steel beams, a steel floor and an asphalt top. An average of 4,600 cars traveled that road as of the last count in 2015.

Transportation officials remind drivers to slow down in work zones and obey all posted traffic signs.

DAV Golf Tournament set for May

CALDWELL COUNTY, NC (March 20, 2018)...Disabled American Veterans of Caldwell County announce the James Smith Annual Golf tourney to be held Saturday May 19th at The Coves Golf Course, Gamewell Captains Choice 4 man teams. Tee time at 9AM. Thank you gifts for all players and cash prizes of \$300.00,\$200.00; \$100.00 to top 3 teams. Hot dogs with all trimmings after the outing. Cost-\$50.00 per player with mulligans available. Prizes on all par 3s and longest drive. Would appreciate early sign - ups by calling Ronnie Mack at 828-754-2882 or The Coves 828-754-1992. 100% of all funds stay in Caldwell County to help our Veterans. If you are planning on playing any golf tourney this year, make it the DAV Annual Golf Tourney at The Coves.

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CCC&TI High School Students Win Big at Regional Science Competition

HUDSON, NC (March 20, 2018)...Students from the Caldwell Early College High School (CECHS) and the Caldwell Career Center Middle College (CCCMC) recently participated in the North Carolina Science Olympiad Hickory Regional Competition and brought home several awards. The CECHS Team took Second Place overall with 16 students winning individual medals, more than any other team competing.

Their performance at the regional competition has won the CECHS Team the right to move on to the statewide Science Olympiad competition to be held in April at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

North Carolina Science Olympiad (NCSO) is a nonprofit organization with the mission to attract and retain the pool of K-12 students entering science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) degrees and careers in North Carolina. Every year NCSO hosts tournaments on university, community college, and public-school campuses across the state. These tournaments are rigorous academic inter-scholastic competitions that consist of a series of different hands-on, interactive, challenging and inquiry-based events balanced between the various disciplines of biology, earth science, environmental science, chemistry, physics, engineering and technology. In 2017, more than 900 K-12 teams representing over 18,000 students and 85 counties in North Carolina participated in NCSO activities.

All of the students who participated in the regional event have been involved with CCC&TI's Science Club and have been preparing for competition since August 2017. Students have also worked to raise the funds needed to participate in the competition.

"The students have put in countless hours of hard work and dedication," said Science Club Advisor and CCC&TI Instructor Denise Williams. "Early College students have been competing for five years and have won numerous individual medals every year. However, this is the first year that the CECHS team had a full roster and enough members to enter all events at the competition, giving them the chance to be competitive in team standings. We're very proud of their accomplishments!"

At the state competition in April, the CECHS Team will be competing for a chance to move on to the national tournament in Colorado.

Following are lists of participants in this year's competition.

CECHS Team Members:

Paris Annas II
Griffin Dilsaver
Rhiannon Greene
Rachel Hagen
Jack Hall III
Kelsey Hamby
Sarah Hedrick
Cheyenne McMahon
Patrick Miller
Novena Persico
Kendra Price
Lucas Price (team captain)
Ben Reed
Greta Rhuberg
Kayla Shook
Mary Thomasson
Christian Williams

CCCMC Team Members:

Kemdyn Clement
Ariel Coffey
Faith Hamilton (team captain)
Marina Herrera
Hailey Lewis
Emori Lipford
Tanner Shull
Halia Sides

Faculty Advisors:

Dustin Greene
Aaron Littell
Mike Leonowicz
Mark Walters
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Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Opioid STR/Cures (Grant#1H79T08G257) and SRF-RX (Grant # 1U79SF022087).

Caldwell County Sheriff's Office Makes Arrest in Robbery

DUDLEY SHOALS, NC (March 16, 2018)...Working with tips received through Crimestoppers and from the Dudley Shoals community, the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office have arrested a suspect in the robbery that occurred at Pappy's Market on Dudley Shoals Road Thursday morning.

20-year-old Isaiah Monty Simmons of 2314 Central Drive in Lenoir, was taken into custody on the evening of Thursday, March 15.

"We want the public to know how thankful we are for all the tips and information that we received as we worked this case yesterday," says Captain Aaron Barlowe of the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office. "It was the determination of the residents to protect their community that helped give us the information we needed. Our investigators and patrol division worked together seamlessly to solve this case."

Simmons has been charged with Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon, False Imprisonment, Driving While License Revoked and Possession of a Simple Possession of a Schedule VI (suspected marijuana) and Possession of a Schedule II (suspected Cocaine and Opioids.)

As patrol officers approached his house, they saw Simmons get into his car and drive off at 4:17 p.m. Knowing he was driving with a revoked license, patrol officers pulled the car a short distance down Central Drive. After finding suspected drugs on his person, officers searched the car allegedly finding more suspected drugs as well a book bag with a sum of money. After obtaining a search warrant for Simmons's home, investigators were able to recover some of the clothing believed worn in the robbery. Simmons was charged with the robbery at 8:47 p.m. He is being held under \$102,000 bond in the Caldwell County Jail.

The clerk at Pappy's Market told investigators that a man came into the store carrying a long rifle and wearing a green polo shirt, camo and lime green jacket and a hoodie over this head. The man took property before forcing the clerk into a back room and then leaving in a white sedan. The clerk was not injured in the robbery.

"I am appreciative to the Citizens of Caldwell County for working with the Officers at the Sheriff's Office to bring a swift closure to this case. This case is a great example cooperation between the public and law enforcement bring a positive result" - Sheriff Alan C. Jones

Update from Bethel Colony. We would like to thank you for all you are doing for our Women's Campus. God has provided greatly although we still need approximately \$15,000.00. This will ensure we have enough money for the closing cost and the down payment on the loan. We hope to finalize the purchase by mid-April. Shortly afterward we will begin renovations. We would like to ask for continued prayer as we are raising funds for the renovations. If anyone would like to help in any way, feel free to call us. We have a list of items we need for the start-up of the facility. Remember, if you have done it to the least of these, you have done it for Jesus. Call 828-754-3781.

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Paperback November 2, 2017

Poetry about L.A. (east in North Carolina). These poems are taken from the Facebook page, Poetry in LA (@poetryinla) created by LB Sedlacek. Poems are about Hibernian Mountain, the annual Sculpture Fest, the annual Blackberry Festival, Wilson Creek, Highway 1890, the antique car shows, old times buildings, and the general way of life in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountain area that locals fondly call "LA." for Lenoir Area.



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City of Hickory to host annual Easter egg hunts

HICKORY, NC (March 19, 2018)...The Hickory Parks and Recreation Department will host its 31st annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 24, at Henry Fork River Regional Recreation Park, located at 5655 Sweet Bay Lane. At this free event, children will have the opportunity to search for over 25,000 eggs.

The hunt will be divided into separate age groups with 2-year olds starting at 10:00 a.m., 3-4 year olds at 10:15 a.m. and 5-6 year olds at 10:30 a.m. A night hunt for 7-12 year olds will begin at 8:15 p.m., so please remember to bring a flashlight.

All participants are encouraged to bring their own baskets to collect the eggs filled with candy and prizes. There will be a drum circle and face painting, along with other games, under the pavilion. Be sure to bring your camera for a photo with the Easter Bunny. The rain date is Sunday, March 25, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Special thanks to the Hickory Elks Lodge for being the presenting sponsor of the event, and to the Greater Hickory Jaycees and the Hickory Youth Council for helping to make the Children's Easter Egg Hunt such a fun and successful event each year.

Citizens, ages 50 and better, are invited to participate in the Senior Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic on Thursday, March 29, at Westmont Senior Center. The festivities will begin at 12:00 p.m. and will include games, crafts, bingo, face painting, and more! Plus, Hippity Hoppity, the Easter Bunny will be available for photos. Please bring your favorite covered dish to share. Grandchildren are welcome to join in all the fun.

For more information about the Children's Easter Egg Hunt, please contact Senior Recreation Programmer Angela Smith at (828) 324-6990, ext. 3, or via email at asmith@hickorync.gov. For more information about the Senior Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic, please contact Senior Recreation Programmer Von Curry at (828) 324-1200 or via email at vcurry@hickorync.gov.

Mulberry Baptist Church will have a Gospel Singing on March 24 at 7:00pm. The Rogers Family from Rutherford County will be featured. Refreshments will be served.

Mount Carmel Baptist Church located at 3555 Christie Road, Hudson, will be having revival from March 25-28 with Horace Minton. Sunday service times are 11am and 6pm with Monday through Wednesday services beginning at 7pm.

Key Practices of the Christian Life

Practice #4 – Spiritual Fellowship

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” Proverbs 27:17

The old saying “no man is an island” is never truer than in the spiritual realm. If you want to grow in Christ, you really need good and godly relationships with others which spur you on to spiritual growth. The question is, how do we pursue these relationships? And if we have these relationships, how do we relate to others in a way that fosters mutual spiritual growth?

Pursuing Spiritual Fellowship

The best way to pursue spiritual fellowship is to look for other believers who are pursuing spiritual growth in their own lives. You will be able to see this in their words and actions. One of the best places to find these people is in the local church, but you may also find a spiritual friend at work or in your neighborhood. You do not have to go to the same church as your friend in order to share spiritual fellowship with them.

What Spiritual Fellowship Looks Like

1. A Common and Consistent Time to Meet. If you are going to have a relationship with a person for the purpose of fostering spiritual growth, you must meet regularly. You may meet weekly for breakfast, or every other week at lunch, you may talk on the phone on Thursday evening or you may go to lunch Sunday after church. Whenever and wherever, aim and arrive.

2. A Simple Conversation. Just talk with each other about what God is doing in your life, what you are struggling with, what God is teaching you in His Word. You may want to spend some time just reading the Bible together and sharing your insights with each other.

3. A Shared Prayer. A time of lifting each other up in prayer can be very encouraging and meaningful. Spiritual Fellowship can take many shapes but it is an essential part of our growth in Christ. Seek out others who can walk with you as you walk with the Lord.

By Pastor Scott Frady

of West Hickory Baptist Church, 40 12th Street NW, Hickory, NC

Preserving Family Stories Workshop

GRANITE FALLS, NC (March 19, 2018)...The Granite Falls Historical Association is sponsoring a two-day workshop to help people research and record their family stories. The first session will be held Saturday, April 14, 2018 at the Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum from noon until 4 p.m. It will focus on interviewing people with knowledge of your family, researching available printed and online resources, identifying photos, and collecting heirloom artifacts. The second session will center around writing the stories and publishing them. It will be held Saturday, June 9, 2018 from noon until 4 p.m. in the museum. Organizers are designing the workshop to receive CEU credit for teachers in Caldwell County.

The cost is \$5.00 for members of the Granite Falls Historical Association and \$10.00 for non-members. There is an additional charge of \$10.00 per copy for persons wishing to have their stories printed and bound.

Workshop facilitators are Jeanie Robinson, BS, MA and Metaleen Thomas, BA, MRE. Mrs. Robinson teaches history at Caldwell Middle College, and Ms. Thomas taught sociology, religion, and philosophy at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. Both have over 30 years teaching experience, and both have received numerous awards.

To register for the workshop, contact Ms. Thomas at (828) 896-6511 or Mrs. Robinson at (828) 781-1502. When you register, please let the facilitator know if you wish to receive CEU credit. They can also give you information about joining the Historical Association.

For more information about the Granite Falls Historical Association, click on the Association tab at www.granitefallshistorymuseum.org.