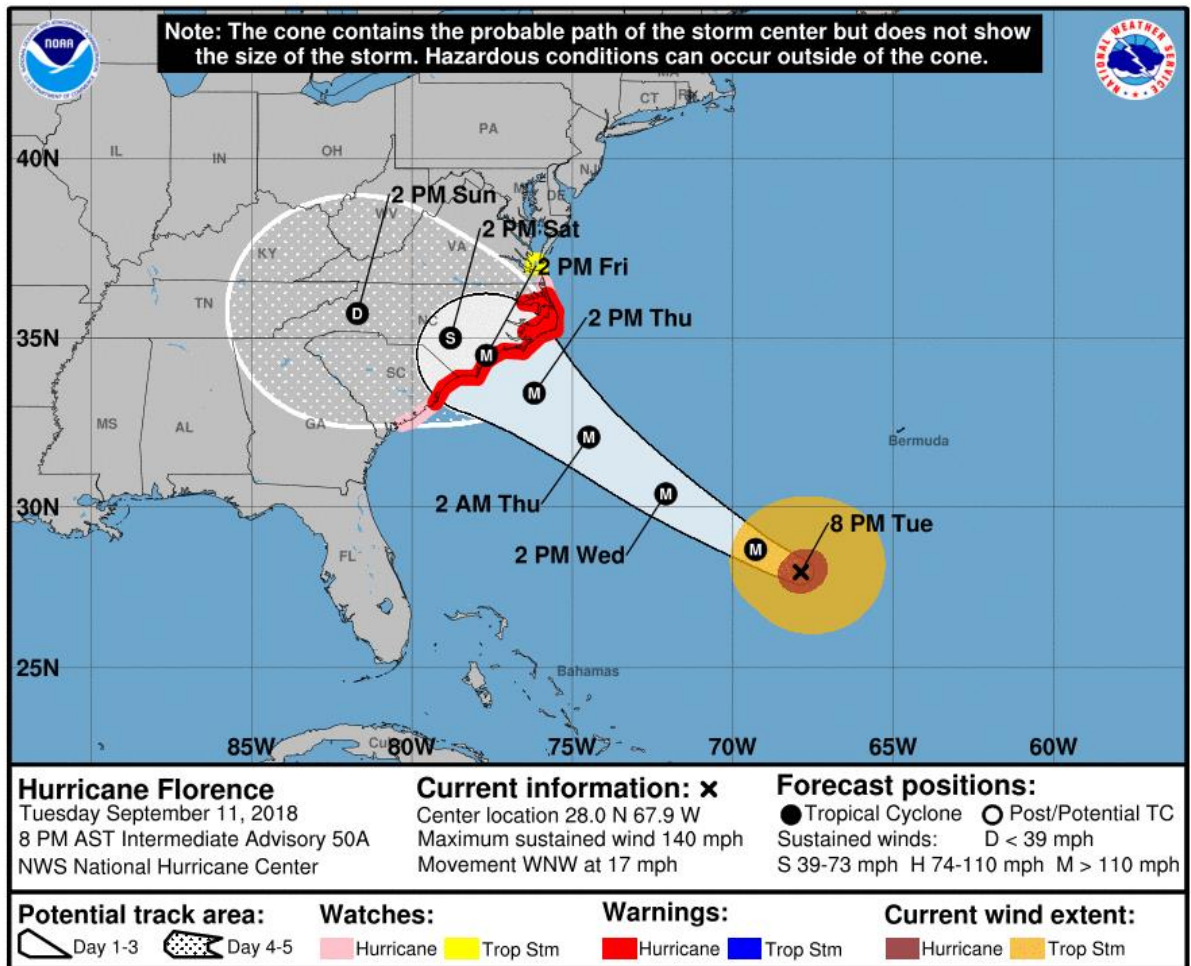


Hurricane Florence headed towards western North Carolina?

From the National Weather Service (09-11-2018 3:41am) -- The track of Tropical Cyclone Florence will need to be closely monitored by interests across the western Carolinas and northeast Georgia throughout the week. Some impact from this system in our area will be possible late in the week, perhaps from late Thursday through the weekend, but uncertainty remains too high to be specific about the exact impacts or precise timing. Please continue to follow the latest forecasts from the National Hurricane Center.



****This is an early edition of our weekly paper****

Our weekly paper normally comes out on Thursday's

Caldwell Journal Info

"Published each Thursday by the Caldwell Journal"
Established October 2, 2014

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*The content of the articles or the advertisements does not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone affiliated with the Caldwell Journal.
The Caldwell Journal is a non-discriminatory paper.*

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

Caldwell Journal Weather

Thursday (13th): Rather cloudy; humid.

High 86 Low 67

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Friday (14th): Mostly cloudy, a bit of rain.

High 85 Low 68

Precipitation: 1.14 in.

Saturday (15th): Wind & rain.

High 75 Low 67

Precipitation: 4.70 in.

Sunday (16th): Tropical Rainstorm Florence.

High 74 Low 67

Precipitation: 3.06 in.

Monday (17th): Tropical Rainstorm Florence.

High 82 Low 64

Precipitation: 1.58 in.

Tuesday (18th): A t-storm possible.

High 81 Low 61

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Wednesday (19th): A p.m. t-storm possible.

High 83 Low 60

Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Be Prepared, Build a Kit

Here are some items you and your family will need:

Non-perishable food (dried fruit or peanut butter)

First aid kit

Cell phone with charger

Extra batteries

Matches in a waterproof container

Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap

Paper plates, plastic cups and utensils

Water - at least a gallon per person, per day

Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio

Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person

Flashlights

Whistle to signal for help

Can opener (manual)

Local maps

Pet supplies

Baby supplies (formula, diapers)

Anti-bacterial hand wipes or gel

Prescription medications and glasses

Fire extinguisher

Important documents

Fill your bathtub with water, unless you have little children

10th Annual Granite Falls Merchants' Association Festival on Main postponed

GRANITE FALLS, NC (September 11, 2018) -- The 10th annual Granite Falls Merchants' Association Festival on Main, scheduled for Saturday, September 15th from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. in historic downtown Granite Falls, has been postponed due to the potential impact of Hurricane Florence. The Festival on Main is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. pending the availability of scheduled performers. The October 6th date and additional information will be confirmed and communicated to the public and Festival vendors as soon as possible.

Watch Out For Price Gouging Scams During Hurricane Florence

RALEIGH, NC (September 11, 2018) -- As Hurricane Florence approaches our coast this week, all of North Carolina is under a state of emergency. This means that our state's price gouging law is in effect as well. Price gouging occurs if businesses or vendors charge excessively high prices in a time of crisis. If you notice businesses in your area charging too much while under a state of emergency, report them to our office by calling 1-877-5-NO-SCAM or by filing a complaint online at <http://ncdoj.gov/pricegougingcomplaint>. The price gouging law took effect when the state of emergency was declared on Friday, Sept. 7, and will remain in effect until the state of emergency is lifted.

As we track the storm's progress over the next few days, please be sure to follow readync.org for state weather updates and safety alerts. You can also read more from Attorney General Josh Stein on how to prepare for natural disasters and their aftermath.

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Caldwell Journal Weekly Recipe

Homemade Spaghetti Sauce

Ingredients

Hamburger (1 or 2 pounds)

Mushrooms

Onions

Green Peppers

Celery

Garlic

Salt & Pepper to taste

1 can spaghetti sauce

1 can tomato paste (8oz.)

1 can tomato sauce (8oz.)

1 can V-8 or tomato juice

2 teaspoons sugar

Instructions

Fry hamburger with mushrooms, onions, green peppers, celery, garlic, salt & pepper and drain. Add other ingredients and simmer on medium heat for one hour, stirring occasionally.



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facebook

Stay Safe and Avoid Scams

RALEIGH, NC (September 10, 2018) -- The price gouging law that protects consumers from scammers is now in effect in North Carolina after Governor Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency for the state as Hurricane Florence moves toward the coast. Attorney General Josh Stein notified businesses and consumers today to be on the lookout for any issues.

Price Gouging Law in Effect in North Carolina...

“My office is here to protect North Carolinians from scams and frauds,” said Attorney General Josh Stein. “That is true all the time – but especially during severe weather. It is against the law to charge an excessive price during a state of emergency. If you see a business taking advantage of this storm, please let my office know so we can hold them accountable.”

North Carolina has a strong statute against price gouging – charging too much during a time of crisis – that is tied directly to a declaration of a state of emergency. When Governor Cooper declared a state of emergency for North Carolina on Friday, September 7, the statute went into effect for the entire state and will remain so until the state of emergency is lifted.

Attorney General Stein and the North Carolina Department of Justice will be reviewing complaints from consumers closely over the next several weeks and are prepared to take action against any businesses engaging in price gouging activities. Please report potential price gouging by calling 1-877-5-NO-SCAM or file a complaint at www.ncdoj.gov.

SBI's Northwestern District Office Phone Number is Being Spoofed

HICKORY, NC (September 7, 2018) -- Citizens from Rolesville to Rutherfordton are getting deceptive calls from people who are spoofing the State Bureau of Investigation's Northwestern District Office phone number and claiming to be from the SBI. These people are not with the SBI and have no connection with the agency.

Spoofing uses technology that allows an anonymous person to send and receive phone messages from a different number than the device they are using. The SBI number being spoofed is 828-294-2226.

If anyone gets a call from someone claiming to be with the SBI and saying that you are the victim of identity theft, disregard the caller and hang up. Local law enforcement, not the SBI, are the ones who handle identity theft cases.

In addition, if an SBI agent were to call, he or she would identify himself or herself and give his or her agent identification number. That number can be verified by calling the district number, 828-294-2226, or by calling SBI headquarters at 919-662-4500.

The spoof calls are being reported to local police departments as well as the Northwestern District Office in Hickory.

Bethlehem Baptist Annual Picnic Rescheduled to October 14

BETHLEHEM, NC (September 6, 2018) -- The annual picnic hosted by Bethlehem Baptist Church has been rescheduled to Sunday, October 14, 2018, at Bethlehem Park, 369 Bethlehem Park Lane, Taylorsville, NC. “This is a fun and relaxing time of fellowship that we look forward to each year,” says Bethlehem's pastor Dr. Wayne Caviness. “We invite our community to join us this year at 4pm, with the meal around 5:30pm.” There will be games, inflatables, great food, and time to ‘just sit and visit’! (Please bring a chair or blanket.)

Bethlehem Baptist Church is located at 7500 NC Hwy 127N, Taylorsville, NC. For more information, call 828.495.7250 or visit www.bethlehembc.org.

Blue Ridge Energy Prepares for Potential Impacts of Hurricane Florence

LENOIR, NC (September 10, 2018) -- Blue Ridge Energy is closely monitoring the path and potential impacts of Hurricane Florence as it develops, preparing to respond quickly and safely should outages occur.

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.

While the path of the storm is evolving, all parts of North Carolina could be impacted due to the severity of the storm.

Blue Ridge Energy urges members to act now to make preparations to remain safe and comfortable in the event of an outage.

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.
- Develop an evacuation plan in case it's needed. Communicate the plan to your family. Include pets or livestock in your plan.
- Secure outdoor items. Safely store lawn furniture, decorations, toys, garbage cans and other items that can be brought indoors.
- Close windows and doors in the event of high winds.
- 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.

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.

As a reminder, if heavy rains and strong winds lead to downed lines, stay away! Contact with downed lines can be dangerous, even deadly. Report downed power lines to Blue Ridge Energy at 1-800-451-5474 or call 911 immediately.

The electric cooperative serves some 76,000 members in Caldwell, Watauga, Ashe, and Alleghany counties as well as parts of Avery, Alexander and Wilkes counties. Learn more at www.BlueRidgeEnergy.com

Hibriten Outruns South, Wins Caldwell Cup

SAWMILLS, NC (September 7, 2018) -- I begin with the typical "duh" statement, in pro football, it is the Lombardi Trophy for the Super Bowl winner. Having seen it this at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio recently, have to say "nice piece of hardware". In professional hockey, it is known as the Stanley Cup. In Stanly County, NC, it is also known as the "Stanly Cup" sponsored by the local newspaper there.

Here in Caldwell County, sponsored by the Lenoir News Topic, it is simply called the Caldwell Cup, presented to the high school who goes 2-0 among the high schools in Caldwell County. Since Hibriten defeated West Caldwell in the season opener and South Caldwell this past Friday, 56-12, the Topic's Sports Aficianado Bryant Lilley presented the hardware to the 2018 winner after the game.

One feature with regard to the Spartans this season; their offense is moving the football with better efficiency. They gained 340 total yards from scrimmage, topped by Quarterback Jason Martin's strikes of 77 and 48 yards to Austin Raynor along with Avery Raynor and Isaiah Kirby rushing for 44 and 45 yards respectively. The defense managed early to sack Panthers quarterback Jaylen Scott for an eleven-yard loss and hold star tailback McKinley Witherspoon to eight yards on his first five carries.

Note, there is a valid reason for Hibriten winning the NCHSAA 2AA State championship., McKinley Witherspoon. After he began with futility, he regained form at the 3:16 mark of the second period, scoring the first of his three touchdowns. Witherspoon finished the contest with 138 yards along with Marqwone Jones with 113 yards. Hibriten opened the scoring match with a 65-yard touchdown pass to Skylin? Thomas after recovering a Spartans' fumble. Fumbles have been a "bugaboo" for the Spartans at this stage of the season.

"Our offense is now a two-headed monster. We know we can move the ball in the air and on the ground. We still have a few things to work on with regard to our defense and turnovers. Hibriten is a fast and solid team and I'm proud of our guys effort tonight" commented South head coach Marc Kirkpatrick.

South continues with its non-conference schedule as they host the R-S Central Hilltoppers. It is likely that the game will be played in mid-week as most of North Carolina is bracing itself for Hurricane Florence. It is suggested that you follow the school calendar, or the Caldwell Journal as Mark will post such information with rescheduling and time of kickoff.

Caldwell County Schools host financial aid information night

LENOIR, NC (September 11, 2018) -- Caldwell County High Schools in partnership with Carolina College Advising Corps and Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute will host a Financial Aid Information Night on Thursday, September 27 at 6:00 pm at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. The event is open to families of all Caldwell County High School juniors and seniors who are interested in financial aid opportunities available at community colleges and 4-year universities.

The event will feature an overview of the financial aid process by CFNC regional representative, Skip Watts. Prior to the event and following the presentation, college financial aid representatives from Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute, Appalachian State University, Lees-McRae College, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Western Carolina University, and UNC-Asheville will be available to discuss specifics of their financial aid programs and to answer questions. Informational materials and handouts will be available. Light refreshments will be provided, courtesy of Communities In Schools.

For more information, contact Carolina College Adviser, Hannah Scruggs (hscruggs@caldwellschools.com) or Hannah Kim (hkim@caldwellschools.com) .



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Caldwell County Sheriff's Office makes arrest after yearlong investigation

LENOIR, NC (September 7, 2018) -- Sheriff Alan C. Jones announces that after a yearlong investigation an arrest has been made related to an overdose death that was reported to the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office on August 3, 2017.

Dorian Roshad Ferguson, age 31, was arrested on Thursday and charged with one count of Second Degree Murder related to the Drug Overdose death of Michael Todd Hollar, age 48, that was reported on August the 3rd 2017 at 2087 Ransom Place in Lenoir, NC.

The investigation into the death of Hollar revealed that Hollar consumed a lethal amount of Fentanyl which was the cause of his death. Investigators were able to determine that the Fentanyl that was ingested by Hollar was supplied by Dorian Roshad Ferguson prior to his death.

Investigators with the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office and Lenoir Police Department are continuing to work very closely with members of the District Attorney's Office for the 25th Judicial District to combat the string of deaths related to fentanyl overdoses.

Dorian Ferguson is currently serving a prison sentence related an arrest for Possession of Fentanyl that also occurred on August 3, 2017.

Dorian Roshad Ferguson is charged with:

One Count of Second Degree Murder and his Bond is set at \$500,000.00 Secured

His First Appearance was held in District Court in Lenoir on 09/06/2018

"We will use all resources available to hold Drug Dealers responsible for the devastation they cause to the families that have lost a loved one" Sheriff Alan C. Jones

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Pickleball at Mulberry Recreation Center in Lenoir

LENOIR, NC (September 5, 2018) -- Mulberry Recreation Center is now hosting pickleball games three days a week, and the program is free, and you don't even have to bring your own paddle!

A pickleball group organized by local residents Tish and Terry worked with Parks and Recreation to bring pickleball to Mulberry Recreation Center.

The group has been playing for several weeks now and wants to spread the word about the sport.

"It's a combination of tennis, ping pong, and badminton played on a badminton-sized court," Tish said. "It's the fastest growing sport in the country. It's been around since 1965, but in the past seven or eight years it has gained incredible popularity."

Pickleball is a paddle sport. It was designed to be played by the whole family, young and old. The game is easy to learn, but can develop into a fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.

The Mulberry group has equipment they can loan to first timers who want to try out the game.

"It's a great way to get exercise and have fun and meet a lot of people," Tish said. "You don't know you're exercising, you're just out having fun."

Mulberry Recreation Center hosts pickleball Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the gym.

Stop by, borrow a paddle, and give it a go. (Flat, soft-soled shoes required.)

Find out more at www.cityoflenoir.com/pickleball.

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A Clean Wilson Creek

By Wes Waugh -- Just slightly over three months ago, I sat on Betsey's Store porch in Mortimer, N.C., with Bruce Gray and discussed the future of Wilson Creek and the wilderness area. The river we felt, continued to be under a grave threat. With no new National Forest Service or Caldwell County funding resources on even a distant horizon, there was every reason to feel disparaged, even depressed about the decade to come. Over the past nine years, an influx of recreational users had established a chronic and overwhelming trash problem. Picking up mounds of weekly garbage, combined with constant efforts required to restore rocks and bridges from vandalism at times resulted in a feeling of exhaustion; physical, emotional, and certainly financial for this small crew.



Yet as our conversation continued, and we focused on possible solutions, we became more optimistic, even while many would argue we had no reason to be. Why? Possibly, because we felt no choice other than continue to battle these elements. But more importantly, I think it's because we know there are thousands of people who love this river and wilderness just as much as we do. If we could come up with a strong team and infrastructure to guide the process, these positive river warriors would rise to the occasion given time and opportunity. We are not idealistic and know there is much work ahead and many partnerships to build. However, we still strongly believe this, so here we go! Help prove us right and provide Bruce Gray with a wave of support in the weeks and months ahead. Below is our new site ready to accept tax deductible, receipt supported donations, and a YouTube video link that we hope you will share. Thank you for any help or shares you can offer up. <https://acleanwilsoncreek.org/>

Breast Cancer Awareness 5k Walk & Run at CCC&TI

HUDSON, NC (September 7, 2018) -- The American Cancer Society is hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness 5K Walk/Fun Run on Saturday, October 13th at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. The event will begin with a Survivor Reception at 8:00 AM followed by opening ceremonies at 9:00 AM, which will include a Survivor Parade. Participants are encouraged to dress in pink with a special award to the most spirited participant.

Early Bird pricing of \$25 lasts until October 3rd and includes an event long-sleeved T Shirt. To register, visit www.runtimeraces.com.

The American Cancer Society is proud to be the largest non-profit organization raising funds for all types of cancer research while offering several programs free of charge to families in our community battling cancer. For more information, please visit www.cancer.org.