

West Caldwell Athletic Director earns national distinction

LENOIR, NC (January 30, 2019) -- The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) recently announced that Stephen McMasters, Athletic Director at West Caldwell High School and serving there since 2001, has earned the distinction of a Certified Athletic Administrator.

To reach this stature, McMasters demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration. The voluntary certification process included a thorough evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience and professional contributions, as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination.

The organization announced, "Stephen is one of an elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism."

The NIAAA is a national professional organization consisting of all 50 state athletic administrator associations and more than 10,000 individual members. It is dedicated to promoting the professional growth of high school athletic administrators and preserving the educational nature of interscholastic athletics and the place of these programs in the secondary school curriculum.



CCC&TI Hosts Author Doc Hendley for Writers Symposium

HUDSON, NC (February 5, 2019) -- Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute will host Doc Hendley, author of *Wine To Water: How One Man Saved Himself While Trying to Save the World*, for the 2019 Laurette LePrevost Writers Symposium.

The college will host a reading and discussion session with Hendley on Thursday, March 28 at 12 p.m. on CCC&TI's Watauga Campus and at 7 p.m. at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir. On Friday, March 29, the college will host a reading and discussion with Hendley at 12 p.m. in the gym on the Caldwell Campus in Hudson. All events are free and open to the public.

The Symposium also will include book clubs focusing on Hendley's *Wine To Water* on both campuses for students, faculty, staff and the community.

The Watauga Campus in Boone will host its book club on Wednesday, March 20 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Watauga Campus library (Building W371). The Caldwell Campus in Hudson will host its book club at 12 p.m. on March 12, March 19 and March 26 in the Library (E Building). Light refreshments will be served, and attendance will be

taken for instructors who are offering extra credit.

Wine To Water: How One Man Saved Himself While Trying to Save the World is Doc Hendley's story about braving tribal warfare to help bring clean water to far-flung regions of the world. It's an inspirational tale of how one ordinary person can make a difference. Many CCC&TI students are reading Hendley's novel this semester as part of the curriculum. Hendley's book is available for purchase in the campus bookstores.

About the Author

Dickson Beattie "Doc" Hendley was a recent N.C. State graduate working as a bartender in Raleigh when he became inspired to do something about the severity of worldwide water shortages.

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Caldwell Journal Info

"Published on our website each Thursday"
Established October 2, 2014

www.caldwelljournal.com
www.facebook.com/CaldwellJournal
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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

Caldwell Journal Weather

Thursday (7th): Partly sunny.
 High 76 Low 53
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Friday (8th): Decreasing clouds; cooler.
 High 58 Low 28
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Saturday (9th): Partly sunny.
 High 50 Low 25
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Sunday (10th): Mostly cloudy; chilly.
 High 44 Low 35
 Precipitation: 0.16 in.

Monday (11th): Rain & drizzle possible.
 High 52 Low 36
 Precipitation: 0.49 in.

Tuesday (12th): Cloudy, a chance of rain.
 High 43 Low 38
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Wednesday (13th): Mostly sunny.
 High 59 Low 33
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Baseball and softball registration open in Lenoir

LENOIR, NC (February 4, 2019) -- Registration is open through March 8, 2019, for youth baseball and softball.

The City Parks and Recreation Department offers Baseball, Tee-ball, and Softball in the spring and fall. Games generally are played at Mulberry Recreation Center and Lenoir Optimist Park.

Baseball/Tee-ball Divisions

- 4-5 year-old Co-Ed Tee-ball/Coach Pitch
- 8U 6-8 Boys Coach Pitch
- 10U 9-10 Boys
- 12U 11-12 Boys
- 15U 13-15 Boys (Spring Season only)

Softball Divisions

- 8U 6-8 Girls Coach Pitch
- 10U 9-10 Girls
- 12U 11-12 Girls

More information and games times at cityoflenoir.com/baseball_softball.

Merchants Distributors, LLC named 2019 N.C. Exporter of the Year

RALEIGH, NC (January 31, 2019) -- Hickory-based Merchants Distributors, LLC, or MDI, has been named the 2019 N.C. Exporter of the Year by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The award recognizes individuals or companies that have made a positive impact on N.C. agricultural exports. Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler presented the award to John Gray, director of commercial accounts for the distribution company, during the Ag Development Forum Jan. 31 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

"MDI began distributing to supermarkets in 1931 and now distributes to retail grocery stores and distributors in 35 countries throughout the world," Troxler said. "Alex and Lee George built their business around the principles of hard work and service to customers. MDI continues to pride itself on its customer focus and valuing its employees, customers and suppliers."

"MDI has worked with NCDA&CS to promote North Carolina manufacturing companies and to expose their products to an international customer base," Troxler said. "The company has grown astronomically over the years and supports North Carolina's No. 1 industry, agriculture."

MDI has over a million square feet of distribution space offering distribution and business services to full-service grocery stores. With its international presence, MDI utilizes seven different East Coast ports from Miami to Elizabeth, N.J.

CCC&TI Hosts Author Doc Hendley for Writers Symposium

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He learned that at least 1 in 6 people worldwide lack access to safe water, and that preventable water-borne illnesses kill far more children (15 million) each year than HIV/AIDs and malaria combined. Using his connections and people skills, his first fundraiser in 2004 raised \$6,000. In 2007, Hendley founded Wine to Water, which raises money and provides wells and water purification systems to hundreds of thousands of people in Third-World countries. Hendley spent a year in Darfur to repair, sanitize and build wells, for which he was named a "Top 10 CNN Heroes" in 2009.

Today, Wine to Water has helped 338 communities across the world with 984 projects that have given 742,794 people access to clean water. Hendley lives in Boone with his wife and children.

March Exhibit to feature Watercolor Society of NC

LENOIR, NC (February 6, 2019) -- The Caldwell Arts Council is pleased to host a showcase of artwork by western region members of the Watercolor Society of North Carolina March 1-30, 2019.

An opening reception will be held Friday, March 1, 2019, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, hosted by Caldwell County Schools Association of Educational Office Professionals (CCSAEOP). The exhibition will continue through March 30, 2019 – free and open to the public – Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm.

The Watercolor Society of North Carolina, Inc. (WSNC) is a non-profit art organization founded to encourage and recognize professional and artistic excellence through competitions and by elevating standards in watermedia to increase the visibility and stature of watercolor as an artistic medium.

WSNC strives to strengthen and promote watercolor throughout the state by hosting workshops featuring nationally recognized artists, by sponsoring juried exhibitions, and by educating artists, collectors, art enthusiasts, and the people of North Carolina through informational programs.

Programs and activities provide stimulating interaction and technical information to watercolor artists from the novice to the professional.

There are over 75 artists who are members of the WSNC and reside in the western part of the state. They form the Western Region of the WSNC.

The Caldwell Arts Council presents the arts in all its forms to the people of Caldwell County. Located at 601 College Avenue in Lenoir, the Caldwell Arts Council is open Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm, free to the public. Phone 828-754-2486; Website www.caldwellarts.com.

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Caldwell Journal Weekly Recipe

Honey Garlic Glazed Salmon

Ingredients

- 1/3 c. honey
- 1/4 c. soy sauce
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. red pepper flakes
- 3 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 4 6-oz. salmon fillets, patted dry with a paper towel
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 lemon, sliced into rounds
- Freshly chopped parsley, for garnish

Instructions

In a medium bowl, whisk together honey, soy sauce, lemon juice and red pepper flakes. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, heat two tablespoons oil. When oil is hot but not smoking, add salmon skin-side up and season with salt and pepper. Cook salmon until deeply golden, about 6 minutes, then flip over and add remaining tablespoon of oil. Add garlic to the skillet and cook until fragrant, 1 minute. Add the honey mixture and sliced lemons and cook until sauce is reduced by about 1/3. Baste salmon with the sauce. Garnish with sliced lemon and parsley to serve.

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Spartans Hoops Updates by Dan O'Neal

GRANITE FALLS, NC (February 2, 2019) -- Here's hoping all of you managed with the polar vortex our neighbors to the north sent our way. Sadly, there were those in those Midwestern states who did not, and our heartfelt prayers go up for their families.

That made for a wise decision on the part of the School Board to cancel all athletic events scheduled for this past Tuesday. The sanctity and well-beings of human matter much more than wins or losses.

South Caldwell had Wednesday and Friday basketball games at home this week. Even on a Wednesday evening, Spartan Gym was pretty much filled to capacity and the Girls and Boys squads went up against County and Conference rival West Caldwell. The girls were looking to sweep the Warriors while the boys were looking to counter the wide margin of victory by West in early January at Gamewell.

After numerous lead exchanges in the girl's matchup, Taylor Austin made clutch free throws down the stretch and rebounded her own miss at the line to seal the Spartans victory over the Warriors 33-31. Jenna Pittman paced the Spartans with thirteen while Kaitlyn Propst also made crucial baskets in the fourth period and finished the night with nine.

In the finale, the boys began the game with an excellent pace, scoring twenty-four points along with an amazing field goal percentage. The "ESPN" crew on hand certainly expressed their enthusiasm and the Student Section was more psychotic than the Cameron Crazies. Even "even-keeled" Samuel Craig did more than smile.

Then the Warriors started making the treys. The Spartans, on the other hand, became ice cold, as if the polar vortex affected their offense. They would only score an average of eight points the next three and falling to the Warriors, 61-48, leaving them with one victory on the season.

Women's Game - Hickory 59 South Caldwell 33

Kaitlyn Propst and Kaitlyn Wynn (the Two Kaitlyns) paced the Spartans in the loss to the Red Tornadoes, leaving them with a record of 6-13.

In the nightcap, the boys were looking to improve on the 70-22 loss at Hickory earlier in the season. Though they came up short again, 73-43, in that quest, these young men from both squads played with great tenacity. Justin Eggers led the Spartans with fourteen points and played down low with great confidence while sophomore Steven Reid checked into the game in the last three minutes and made the most of his opportunity, scoring five points on two of three in field goal attempts, which was a delight to the entire crowd. There was a point early in the third quarter where the Red Tornadoes called a timeout due to the Spartans coming after them.

What made both games so special is the way the athletes, coaches, and fans really "had a blast". There were no long faces on the bench. There was no nasty talk at the officials and yes, I have heard some this season (not outing anyone here). Is losing fun? Of course, it isn't fun however, it is my belief that if one cannot enjoy doing what they do, why bother even taking such activity on? If I did not enjoy covering Spartan Nation for local media as my schedule permits, I would find some other activity instead of hollering at my desktop screen due to my extremely inept keyboarding skills.

Best wishes to the Spartans' swimmers in the regional championships tomorrow somewhere in Charlotte. I would also say best wishes to the Saint Stephens grapplers in the NCHSAA 3A State Championship but with their unblemished record this season, the title is a no-brainer.

Have you ever thought about becoming a foster parent or adopting a child from foster care?

MORGANTON, NC (February 4, 2019) -- Have you ever thought about becoming a foster parent or adopting a child from foster care? There are over 11,500 children in foster care in NC. Join Children's Home Society of North Carolina as we discuss how you can be the family who provides a stable, safe, and loving home for a child when they need it most. Our next information meeting will be held in Meeting Room #8 at the Caldwell County Water Department (bottom floor of the Caldwell County Public Library in Lenoir), Tuesday, February 19th from 6pm-7:30pm. For more information or to find other events in our area go to <http://www.chsnc.org/Foster> or call 828-231-2353. Be the difference for a child in foster care. Become a foster parent today!

Caldwell Heritage Museum will host an upcoming interest meeting for ladies interested in joining the Daughters of the American Revolution (JDAR.) Even if you aren't sure, please come to the 23 February 2019 information meeting. We are looking to get a new chapter started. This opportunity is a great way to network with others seeking their Patriot, make new friends and strengthen relationships.

Anne Hobbs, Organizing Secretary with the NCSDAR, will be at the museum on Saturday, 23 February @ 11:00 for an information / interest meeting for anyone interested in the process, ask questions, etc. Please attend and invite your friends, family members and let's fill the house.

If you have any questions, please call the Museum at 828-758-4004 any time between 10:00 - 4:30, Tuesday through Friday; 9:00 - 12:00 on Saturday.

Hickory Elks recognize exceptional firefighter and police officer of the year

HICKORY, NC (February 4, 2019) -- Duty, honor, country: These were the themes of the Hickory Elks' Americanism Recognition Ceremony on February 2. Each of these words, a reference to the famed speech by General Douglas MacArthur, encompass the spirit of Hickory's Fire and Police Departments. The Hickory Elks awarded an exceptional member of each department, among other military and student awardees.



Wesley Blackwelder was named the 2019 Exceptional Firefighter of the Year. For the past year and a half, Blackwelder has been the lead Technical Rescue Ropes instructor, and trained approximately 90 percent of department personnel and individuals from surrounding fire departments. This endeavor required a yearlong commitment to train three shifts of personnel, totaling nine complete classes. The class for each individual consists of 75 hours, including both classroom and practical skills. This resulted in Blackwelder providing over 7,500 training hours of instruction time for the department. In addition, he continued to show his dedication by training all firefighters on Hazardous Materials Sampling and Monitoring. With his expertise in Technical Rescue and Hazardous Materials, he also volunteered his knowledge to research and assist with the purchase of new gas monitors and additional rescue equipment for the department. Blackwelder's extensive knowledge and dedication to training his fellow firefighters certainly qualify him to be named an Exceptional Firefighter.

"Our department and I are very proud of Wes and are thrilled that he has been chosen for this prestigious award. His commitment to continuous learning and improving the fire service through training is commendable. We're happy to see his contributions be noticed," stated Fire Chief Matt Hutchinson.

Master Police Officer Marcus Chapman was chosen by his peers as the 2019 Exceptional Police Officer of the Year for his continued outstanding service to citizens and his fellow department members. MPO Chapman always exemplifies Hickory Police Department's core values of Professionalism, Accountability, Compassion, and Teamwork. He is a training officer for the department and seeks out opportunities to mentor other officers, even outside of this role. He cares for his fellow officers and recently demonstrated compassion by requesting HPAC assist with a BBQ benefit fundraiser for a coworker. He is also dedicated to serving the community beyond work hours. Chapman volunteers his time to assist coaching the Hickory High School wrestling team to give back and mentor the student athletes on the team. MPO Chapman strives to offer the citizens of Hickory the best and most professional police service on each and every encounter. His exemplary conduct and commitment to serving both the community and his fellow officers qualify Chapman to be recognized as an Exceptional Police Officer.

"Officer Chapman is certainly deserving of this high honor. It's even more special because he was nominated and selected by his fellow coworkers for his outstanding service to the community. We appreciate his daily efforts to make Hickory a better place, and consider ourselves lucky to work alongside him," added Police Chief Thurman Whisnant.

The City of Hickory is proud of Blackwelder and Chapman and congratulates them on receiving this high honor. The City also appreciates the Hickory Elks Lodge and their efforts to recognize those who give of themselves to better the community.



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ALE and SHP Arrest Two After Alcohol-Related Crash Kills Teen

BURKE COUNTY, NC (January 31, 2019) -- An 18-year-old East Burke High School student is dead, and two adults are in custody after an alcohol-related accident on January 23, 2019.

Myles Bradley Davis, 18, of Hildebran was killed in a single-occupant, single-vehicle crash on Highway 70A shortly after he left home Wednesday night. Davis was found unresponsive and pronounced dead at the scene.

North Carolina State Highway Patrol suspected Davis was impaired prior to the accident after alcohol was found near the vehicle. Troopers notified North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement who began a joint investigation into how Davis obtained the alcohol.

That investigation led SHP troopers to Davis' residence, at 102 2nd Street Place in Hildebran, where they found three, unconscious underage individuals. ALE special agents later interviewed the individuals to find out more about the events which led to Davis' death. The investigation led ALE special agents to the Run In 114, a convenience store, located at 400 South Center Street in Hildebran, NC.

Cody Childress, 37, and Amanda Mullins, 37, of Rhodhiss, deliberately overrode the cash register's age-verification system in order to sell alcoholic beverages to Davis, who was under the age of 21 and intoxicated.

ALE and SHP arrested Childress and Mullins at the Run In convenience store earlier today. Both were charged with the sale of alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of 21, and the sale of alcoholic beverages to an intoxicated person.

"These arrests underscore the importance of checking identifications before selling alcoholic beverages to anyone who may be underage," said ALE Assistant Special Agent in Charge M. Shoaf "Additionally, clerks have a responsibility to ensure they never sell alcoholic beverages to a person who is intoxicated."

Childress and Mullins were taken before a Burke County Magistrate and each given a \$20,000 secured bond. They are due in court May 1, 2019.

ALE's 109 specially trained agents have the authority to arrest and take investigatory action for any criminal offense. Their primary responsibility is the enforcement of Alcoholic Beverage Control laws and state lottery laws. ALE is a branch of the State Bureau of Investigation.



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The Tesla Quartet returns for a final Chamber Classics Concert as Quartet-In-Residence

HICKORY, NC (February 5, 2019) -- The Tesla Quartet returns to Hickory once again with their final concert as the Hickory Metro String Quartet in Residence. Enjoy an evening or afternoon of beautiful music performed by the world-renowned Quartet.



Chamber Classics IV: Meditations, will be held in the Drendel Auditorium at the SALT Block on Saturday, February 16th at 7:30 p.m. This program features String Quartets by Beethoven.

If you can't make the evening performance -- join the Tesla Quartet for lunch at our very popular Soup, Salad & Strings lunch-

eon series at 11:45 a.m. in the Keiser Community Room on Friday, February 15th at the SALT Block. Soup, Salad & Strings is an informal luncheon/concert that is perfect for concert goers that would rather not drive at night.

All tickets are available in advance online at WPSymphony.org/tickets, by calling the office at (828) 324-8603, or by emailing tickets@wpsymphony.org. Ticket prices for these concerts range from \$5-\$35. You may also purchase tickets at the door. Both performances will take place at the SALT Block, located at 243 Third Avenue NE, Hickory.

These concerts are sponsored by the Friends of the Quartet. WPS is proud to partner with WDAV, Classical Public Radio, Café Gouda and Texas Roadhouse for our Soup, Salad & Strings. Western Piedmont Symphony is a grant recipient of the North Carolina Arts Council and a funded affiliate of the United Arts Council of Catawba County. Business offices are located on the SALT Block at 243 Third Avenue NE, Hickory. Box Office hours are 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. daily.

For more information about the Western Piedmont Symphony, call 828-324-8603, visit www.WPSymphony.org, or email info@WPSymphony.org.

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Man and woman from Lenoir convicted of second-degree murder

LENOIR, NC (February 5, 2019) -- Two people were convicted of second-degree murder in connection with the June 2013 death of a Lenoir man during Caldwell County Superior Court on Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

Earl Franklin Moore, Jr., 40, of Lenoir, was sentenced to 23 to 28 years in prison following his plea for second-degree murder in the death of 34-year-old Raoul Anton Dula and other property crimes.

Jenny Lynn Childress, 39, of Lenoir, will spend 18 to 22 years in prison after pleading guilty to second-degree murder for Dula's death along with other property crimes.

The Honorable Lisa C. Bell, Superior Court Judge from Mecklenburg County, imposed the active sentences for both defendants, who will serve their prison terms in custody of the North Carolina Division of Adult Corrections.

Dula was killed in the early-morning hours of June 20, 2013, and his mutilated body was found in the yard of a residence later that day. Due to the extent of his injuries, it took several hours for law enforcement officers to identify Dula as the victim. They used booking photos from the Caldwell County Detention Center to help with the identification.

The investigation shows that Dula and a family member knew Moore and Childress, and the four people spent time together engaged in drinking and drug activities on June 19, 2013. At one point, Dula's family member was given money to make a drug purchase, but he did not return.

Prosecutors disclosed text messages between Moore and Childress that outlined a rough plan to kill Dula. They stopped at some point that night for Moore to get a machete more than 2 feet long, which is believed to be the murder weapon, used in a robbery of the victim.

Video surveillance from various convenience stores around Caldwell County put the four people together over the two-day period and showed a unique pair of jeans that Dula was wearing. After receiving information that the weapon was dumped in the Mill Pond in Granite Falls, divers searched the area and found a machete wrapped in the jeans that Dula had been wearing.

A lack of scientific evidence was a consideration in plea negotiations as well as mental acuity for Moore and variations in versions of the events of the killing offered by Childress.

The medical examiner who conducted the autopsy indicated that the machete found might not have been the weapon used to kill Dula. There also was no blood found in the car used on the night of the murder or on the clothing of the defendants.

Sgt. Doug Dupell led the investigation for the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office with assistance from Lenoir Police Department and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation. Assistant District Attorneys Andrew Jennings and Jennifer Mathews prosecuted matters for the State.

Prescribed Burn Season Brings Benefits to Wildlife Habitat

RALEIGH, NC (February 1, 2019) -- Some people see smoke in the vicinity of N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission game lands and their immediate thoughts go to wildfires. What they're witnessing is actually one of the most beneficial and cost-effective methods of managing habitat for wildlife - a prescribed burn.

The Commission uses prescribed burning, an intentional burning of vegetation, to help restore and maintain wildlife habitat on most of the 2 million acres of state game lands used by hunters, anglers and wildlife watchers throughout the state. Burning encourages production of native grasses and herbaceous vegetation, which provides valuable food and cover for a wide variety of wildlife species. Prescribed burns are also used to help reduce high levels of forest fuels (such as leaf litter and pine straw) that can lead to catastrophic wildfires and to control disease and insects.

The Commission's burn season typically runs January through March. Some burns, however, are conducted into spring and summer, as warm season burning provides for better control of young hardwoods in certain habitats. Optimal conditions for a prescribed burn occur on cool-weather days with the absence of strong wind.

Many of North Carolina's declining or rare wildlife species, such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, are adapted to fire or found only in fire-dependent habitat. Commission staff typically conduct maintenance burns in multi-year cycles to open groundcover for quail, grassland birds, deer and turkeys.

"Some may worry that the animals will be unable to escape from the fires during our burning season," said Chris Jordan, the Commission's lands program coordinator. "The Commission utilizes burning techniques that ensure animals have time and room to escape. Vegetation typically returns within a few weeks, with the animals following shortly after."

Follow the Commission's Twitter page for daily information on prescribed burns being conducted across the state.

For more information on prescribed burns, view No Cause for Alarm and visit Prescribed Fire: What NC Citizens Need to Know. For more information on the Commission's game lands program, including an interactive game land map, visit www.ncwildlife.org/gamelands.