

Caldwell Chamber of Commerce Names Bryan Moore as its President and CEO

LENOIR, NC (February 21, 2019) -- It is with great pleasure that we announce Caldwell Chamber of Commerce's new President and CEO, Bryan Moore. Mr. Moore takes the helm on March 4th and brings with him a wealth of experience as a business leader and innovator.

Moore, who resides in Hudson, NC, with his wife and the youngest of their four daughters, is a seasoned executive who possesses an in-depth level of experience in every aspect of business, including customer service, operations, human resources, business development, marketing, real estate valuation, accounting, finance, business analytics, risk management, and strategic planning. He comes to us after most recently spending over two years as the Director of Marketing and Sales for the upscale Chetola Resort as, where he launched a rebranding campaign and industry-specific marketing initiatives to elevate the 87-acre resort's status as a revenue-generating leader for transient guests, weddings and special events, and corporate group sales and conventions.



Moore has spent the greater part of his professional career in the hospitality industry in a variety of roles – from Regional Director of Sales and Marketing and Director of Business Development, to Director of Operations and Director of National Sales Deployment – for both national and regional hotel groups (Extended Stay America, Maya Hotels, Broadway Hospitality & Adams Mark) across the state of North Carolina and the Southeast. His goal-driven, relationship-oriented experience has led to his expertise in business management, creative marketing, and sales and business development. Moore's community and Chamber involvement is extensive, reaching from Mecklenburg to Caldwell to Watauga counties and all points in between. Moore has served on multiple Tourism Boards around the state of North Carolina and most recently, he served as a Board Member for the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce and sat on the organization's Economic Development Council, as well as procured membership for Chetola Resort within the Charlotte, Raleigh, Wilkes, Boone and Caldwell Chambers of Commerce. Moore is a graduate of the State University of New York College at Cobleskill, and the Walt Disney World College Program.

An outgoing and approachable leader, Moore is famous for fostering new relationships quickly and has an extensive business network of local, regional, national, political, and personal contacts. His ability to evaluate reports and mine data has informed his track record of discovering new opportunities and bringing innovative ideas to fruition through success-driven change, accountability, inspiration, and strategic partnerships. **Continued on page 2...**

Winter fun in March at Sugar Mountain Ski Resort

SUGAR MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT, NC (February 26, 2019) -- The weather folks are forecasting a chilly, snowy March. Let's hope they are correct.

Beginning March 4, March Madness at Sugar Mountain Resort begins. Every day until the end of the season customers receive twenty-five percent discount off lift/slope tickets-including group prices, ski and snowboard lessons, equipment rentals, and tubing and ice-skating rates. That's not all! Items throughout the ski shop are on sale too and Winter Value Package prices drop another notch and expand into weekends.

Extra March Madness fun includes an Easter egg hunt on the slopes open to youngsters twelve and under Saturday, March 9. A season pass valid for next winter is among the thousands of plastic surprise-filled eggs scattered along the Lower Flying Mile slope. Sugar Bear's birthday, and the Dick Trundy Sugar Cup competition occur Sunday, March 10. The Sugar Cup competition is open to skiers and snowboarders and one-hundred percent of the entry fees goes to the American Cancer Society. Details for each event can be found by logging onto <http://www.skisugar.com/events/>.



Stay tuned to www.skisugar.com/cams for a real-time look at Sugar Mountain Resort's spring-time conditions. For more information call 800-SUGAR-MT or visit www.skisugar.com.

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

Caldwell Journal

Caldwell Journal Weather

Thursday (28th): Mostly cloudy, afternoon rain.
 High 60 Low 46
 Precipitation: 0.36 in.

Friday (1st): A little rain; cooler.
 High 50 Low 41
 Precipitation: 0.14 in.

Saturday (2nd): Low clouds, then some sun.
 High 62 Low 47
 Precipitation: 0.03 in.

Sunday (3rd): On-and-off rain, some heavy.
 High 57 Low 36
 Precipitation: 1.77 in.

Monday (4th): Partly sunny; chilly.
 High 49 Low 25
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Tuesday (5th): Partly sunny; chilly.
 High 46 Low 19
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.

Wednesday (6th): Snow or flurries possible.
 High 38 Low 20
 Precipitation: 0.00 in.



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Newcomers of Catawba Valley to sponsor talk by Elon University Professor John Beck

HICKORY, NC (February 26, 2019) -- Elon University Professor John Beck will talk about the cuisine of southern kitchens and restaurants at a community gathering on Wednesday, March 13 at the Crowne Plaza hotel.

His talk is sponsored by Newcomers of Catawba Valley and is open to the public at no cost, starting at 10:30 a.m. in the ballroom of the hotel, 1385 Lenoir-Rhyne Blvd., Hickory.

Reservations are not needed for Dr. Beck's talk, but prepayment is required for the optional lunch of traditional southern cooking that will follow. The buffet lunch will feature southern fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, collard greens, buttered corn, biscuits, apple crisp, tea and coffee. The lunch price of \$15 includes tax and gratuity.

Payment for the lunch must be received by March 5. Mail a check made out to Newcomers of CV to 2425 N. Center St., # 169. Hickory, NC 28601.

Southern cooking's roots are traced to Native Americans, the British and Africans. Dr. Beck says Southern cooking is taking a new direction in some restaurants from professionally trained chefs who are exploring its possibilities.

Dr. Beck's talk is made possible by funding from the N.C. Humanities Council, a nonprofit foundation and state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

For questions, contact Dianne Straley at (828) 328-1412.

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"I am thrilled to join the Caldwell Chamber family and take this fantastic organization to new heights," says Moore. "I live in this community, I love this community, and I am excited to lead our business community into a prosperous future. My experience and education have guided me into a well-rounded executive leader dedicated to success, but one who is never too far removed from the reality and empathy of the associates, stakeholders, members, and partners who work with me every day."

Ben Willis, Chairman of the Caldwell Chamber Board of Directors states, "The board of directors and chamber staff are very excited to welcome Bryan as our new Chamber President. With his level of experience, knowledge, and leadership Bryan will continue to lead our organization to be the voice of business for Caldwell County."

Annual Grief Camp Offers Children Help with Loss

LENOIR, NC (February 22, 2019) -- Caldwell Hospice will offer an opportunity to help grieving children. We may not recognize their grief because children express grief differently from adults. When children experience death, they may think they are the only ones in the world who have ever lost a mom, dad, grandparent or other loved one. At Good Mourning Children's Grief Camp, children will learn that they are not alone, their feelings are normal, and it is okay to remember their loved ones.

Caldwell Hospice's annual Good Mourning Children's Grief Camp will be on Saturday, March 30, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Bo's Family Entertainment, 1115 Blowing Rock Blvd., Lenoir. For over 20 years, children ages six through 12 who are grieving the loss of a loved one have been invited to spend a day devoted to remembering and healing through grief related activities. Through age-appropriate activities including arts, crafts, bowling, laser maze, and mini-golf, children will gain a better understanding of grief and realize they are not alone. As they talk, draw, write, listen, and laugh, children can find the healing tools they need.

Good Mourning Children's Grief Camp, presented by Ashewood Grief and Counseling Services, is provided at no cost to participants due to the generosity and support of the community, Greer-McElveen Funeral Home and Crematory, and Bo's Family Entertainment. Camp is facilitated by Caldwell Hospice staff and specially trained adult and teen volunteers. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

Ashewood Grief and Counseling Services, grief support care of Caldwell Hospice, helps individuals of all ages and their families cope with the loss of people they love. Grief support services are provided at no cost to the community, even to those with no affiliation with hospice services. For more information, or to register for grief camp, contact Bereavement Coordinator Kimberly Setzer, MSW, LCSWA at 828.754.0101, email ksetzer@caldwellhospice.org, or visit www.caldwellhospice.org or Facebook.

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Caldwell Journal Weekly Recipe

Pork & Sauerkraut

Ingredients

2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

1 (3-lb.) pork tenderloin

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

4 tbsp. butter

1 small onion, thinly sliced

2 tbsp. packed brown sugar

1 c. beer or cider

1 large tart apple, thinly sliced

1 tsp. caraway seeds, optional

1 lb. sauerkraut, drained

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350°. Season pork liberally with salt and pepper. In a large dutch oven over medium-high heat, heat oil. Add pork and sear on all sides until golden all over, about 8 minutes. Set aside.

Add butter and let melt. Add onion and apples and cook until starting to soften, about 4 minutes. Stir in sauerkraut, brown sugar, beer, and caraway seeds. Bring mixture to a simmer then place seared pork on top.

Cover pot then transfer to oven and bake until pork reaches internal temperature of 160°, about 45 minutes.



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New Grandfather Mountain admission pricing April 1

LINVILLE, NC (February 20, 2019) -- Starting April 1, guests of Grandfather Mountain will notice a slight increase in the cost of adult admission.

Admission for adults (ages 13-59) will increase from \$20 to \$22, while pricing for children (ages 4-12) will remain at \$9. Children younger than 4 will continue to receive free admission. The new pricing will be reflected in current adult discounts, although membership to the park's Bridge Club seasonal pass program will remain the same, as will school group rates.

The increase comes during a time of growth for the nonprofit nature park, which draws all of its funding from admission, food and beverage sales, souvenir sales and donations.

"Grandfather Mountain has experienced some wonderful expansion and enhancements over the years," said Jesse Pope, president and executive director of the Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation, the nonprofit organization that owns and operates the Linville, N.C., nature park.

Such enhancements include renovation to some of the park's most popular overlooks and trailheads, as well as the cougar and elk habitats.

"We also have some more exciting changes in store," Pope added.

This marks the first time in five years that Grandfather Mountain has seen an increase in its admission pricing.

"Because we're a nonprofit organization, everything we earn from ticket sales goes right back into the mountain, preserving it for generations to come," said Frank Ruggiero, the stewardship foundation's director of marketing and communications.

"We try to set our ticket prices at the lowest possible level that will still make the park accessible to guests of all ages," Pope said. "We want to remain sustainable — both environmentally and financially."

Admission to Grandfather Mountain offers more than a trip to the Mile-High Swinging Bridge, however. It also includes access to 12-plus miles of premier alpine hiking in the adjacent Grandfather Mountain State Park; a visit to the park's environmental wildlife habitats, which are home to resident black bears, cougars, bald eagles, river otters and elk; an educational journey through a Nature Museum, featuring exhibits that spotlight the park's geologic and natural wonders; documentary screenings in the museum's auditorium; samples of fresh homemade fudge from the park's environmentally sustainable Fudge Shop; more than 100 picnic areas, where guests can enjoy a packed lunch or takeout from Mildred's Grill; regularly scheduled nature programs, animals encounters and habitat keeper talks; and a calendar chockfull of special events.

Guests are encouraged to spend at least three hours on the mountain to take in some of the highlights, but Ruggiero said it's not unusual for visitors to spend a whole day, only to return again that same week for a whole new experience.

"Most importantly, a visit to the park helps support the Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation in our goal of inspiring conservation of the natural world," Ruggiero said.

Coming attractions at the Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum

GRANITE FALLS, NC (February 22, 2019) -- In recognition of National Quilting Month, the Granite Falls History Committee will sponsor a quilt show/contest at the Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum during March. Visitors to the museum will select People's Choice Award recipients in two (2) categories - regular size and lap size or smaller quilts. Voting begins at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 2nd and ends at 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 30th. There will be a public reception to recognize award recipients and honor all quilters on Sunday, March 31, 2019 from 2 until 4 p.m.

On Saturday, March 16th, the Granite Falls Historical Association will sponsor two (2) hikes to the falls that gave the town its name. Participants should meet at the museum at either 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. While at the museum, hikers may vote on their favorite quilts and enjoy refreshments. Those wishing to participate in the hikes should call Linda Crowder at (828) 396-1066 or email her at lrdrcrowder@gmail.com.

Located at 107 Falls Avenue, the museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 until 4 p.m. (except holiday weekends).



**NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING
ON MARCH 21 REGARDING THE PROPOSAL
TO UPGRADE THE INTERSECTION
OF U.S. 64 / N.C. 18
AT CALICO ROAD (S.R. 1142) IN GAMEWELL
CALDWELL COUNTY
STIP Project No. U-6033**

The N.C. Department of Transportation proposes to upgrade the intersection of U.S. 64 / N.C. 18 at Calico Road (S.R. 1142) in Caldwell County.

A public meeting will be held from 5-7 p.m. on **Thursday, March 21** at the **Gamewell Elementary School** located at **2904 Morganton Boulevard SW**.

The purpose of this meeting is to inform the public of the project and gather input on the proposed design. As information becomes available, it may be viewed online at the NCDOT Public Meeting Webpage: <https://www.ncdot.gov/news/public-meetings>.

The public may attend at any time during the public meeting hours, as no formal presentation will be made. NCDOT representatives will be available to answer questions and receive comments. The comments and information received will be taken into consideration as work on the project develops.

The opportunity to submit written comments will be provided at the meeting or can be done via phone, email, or mail by **April 4, 2019**.

For additional information, please contact Ramie Shaw, NCDOT Division 11 Project Manager at 801 Statesville Road, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659, (336) 903-9134 or, rashaw@ncdot.gov.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Tony Gallagher, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, by phone (919) 707-6069 or by e-mail at magallagher@ncdot.gov as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.

Aquellas personas no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

Grandfather Mountain breaks wind speed record

LINVILLE, NC (February 25, 2019) -- At Grandfather Mountain, records aren't broken; they're blown away.

At around midnight Feb. 25, the nonprofit nature park's weather recording station at the Mile-High Swinging Bridge registered a three-second gust of 124 miles per hour, breaking the previous record of 121.3 mph, recorded Feb. 13.

In addition, near 2 a.m., the station detected a gust of 122.3 mph. Conditions at the bridge remained breezy Monday morning, with a sustained wind speed of 90.8 mph recorded around 4 a.m., and gusts as high as 118.7 mph clocked at 7 a.m.

In all, starting late Sunday evening, the mountain saw 16 consecutive hours of gusts higher than 100 mph.

And despite these hurricane-force winds, the park remains intact.

"While trees are down across the High Country, there is no damage to the trees and other plants at the ridgeline of the mountain — where wind speeds were at their highest," said Amy Renfranz, director of education for the Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation, the nonprofit organization that owns and operates the park. "This just goes to prove that the forest here is well adapted to extremes and is much more similar to a Canadian-zone ecosystem than to the South."

But the same can't always be said for weather-recording equipment.

"The folks at the scientific firm where we purchase our meteorological equipment were stunned a few weeks ago when we sent in a thermometer/hygrometer for repair," Renfranz said. "They use the same sensor all across the world and had never seen one in such bad shape. We have the humidity of a rain forest and the winds of the Arctic. It's a crazy place to be."

In comparison, Mt. Mitchell's highest three-second gust during the same timeframe came in at 68.3 mph, according to data from the N.C. Climate Office.

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Mental Health training a top priority

LENOIR, NC (February 21, 2019) -- With the rise of mental health needs prevalent among middle and high school students across the country, mental health for both students and personnel has become a top priority in the Caldwell County Schools.

“A key professional development focus this year has been on understanding trauma and its long-term impact on health and educational outcomes,” said Jill Duffy, Student Support Services Director.

Caldwell County, with multiple agency collaboration, has been selected to participate in the Trauma-Informed Communities Initiative to provide training to multiple agencies. The Caldwell County Collaborative received one of only three grants awarded for this important work funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

As part of the grant, a free, full-day interactive training was held this Wednesday to address effective practices and evidence-based treatments. Principals, student support services personnel, and school district administration attended the training session along with personnel from Vaya Health, local service providers, and other counties in the region. The event was presented by the Center for Child & Family Health as part of the NC Trauma Informed Communities Initiative.

Some of the specific learning objectives included the differences between trauma informed screening, assessment and treatment as well as identifying traumatic stress, toxic stress, and trauma-informed child and family service systems. In order to tailor the needs of future training sessions specifically for this community, a needs assessment survey is made available through the grant for employees of the Caldwell County Schools, Department of Social Services, Juvenile Court, mental health agencies, and the medical community. The results will be presented at the Caldwell County Child Mental Health Collaborative on April 7 at the Freedman Professional Development Center.

Duffy said, “As we continue planning and providing training for multiple agencies, we will critically examine our awareness of children with mental health needs, evidence-based practices and services and support in our community.”

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Hatchery Supported Trout Waters Closed to Fishing, March 1 until April 6

RALEIGH, NC (February 19, 2019) -- The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will close approximately 1,000 miles of Hatchery Supported Trout Waters to fishing one-half hour after sunset on Feb. 28 and reopen them at 7 a.m. on April 6.

While fishing is closed, Commission personnel will stock all Hatchery Supported Trout Waters in preparation for opening day. Staff stocks Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, which are marked by green-and-white signs, at frequent intervals in the spring and early summer every year.

This year, Commission personnel will stock approximately 930,000 trout — 96 percent of which average 10 inches in length, with the other 4 percent exceeding 14 inches in length.

While fishing on Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, anglers can harvest a maximum of seven trout per day, with no minimum size limit or bait restriction. Hatchery Supported Trout Waters are open from 7 a.m. on the first Saturday in April until one-half hour after sunset on the last day of February the following year.

For more information on trout fishing in North Carolina, visit the Commission's trout fishing page, or call the Inland Fisheries Division, 919-707-0220.

Western Piedmont Symphony Presents Dueling Pianos Fundraiser

HICKORY, NC (February 25, 2019) -- The much talked-about Dueling Pianos returns on April 6th, featuring WPS favorites Gregory Knight and John Coffey! This time, our favorite pianists will bring their talents to Rock Barn Country Club.

The audience will have the chance to bid on their favorite songs, or they can sit back and listen to the two pros! Greg and John will also be joined by Rick Cline on drums for your listening pleasure. The event starts at 6:00 p.m.

Dress for this event is "Spring Chic."

This is an event you definitely don't want to miss! Enjoy great food, fun times and featured young, local talent with your fellow Symphony Supporters!

Tickets are \$75 per person. VIP Table reservations (table of 10) are available at \$1,000, but can also be purchased individually at \$100 per person. Each VIP Table receives premier seating and one VIP song request. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts are included, and a cash bar will be available.

You can purchase tickets on our website: WPSymphony.org/Tickets. You can also call our box office (M-F, 10-4PM) at 828.324.8603, or email us at tickets@wpsymphony.org.

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Crawdads Set Spring Fling for March 23rd

HICKORY, NC (February 21, 2019) -- The Crawdads will be hosting their annual Spring Fling, presented by Lonnie Shook CPA PLLC, at the Frans on Saturday, March 23rd from 10:30am to 1pm. The free stadium event will be full of games, food, and exclusive ticket deals. The first 250 fans will receive a mystery Crawdads prize as they enter the stadium.

Individual tickets will go on sale in-person during the Spring Fling. Fans at the event can take advantage of an exclusive deal of four tickets for Opening Weekend for just \$10.99 (savings of \$29).

The Crawdads will be offering a limited-time sale at the Spring Fling on suite and party patio rentals. For every upset during March Madness' round of 64, fans can take \$10 off the price of a rental in April or May (excluding the Christian Concert on April 27th).

Fans will be able to purchase sweetFrog Claw Club, the official Crawdads kids club for kids 12 and under, and Hickory Falls Silver Sluggers, the 'Dads club for fans 60 and older. Membership cards for those who previously signed up for the clubs will be available for pick up.

The Spring Fling will also feature an inflatable bounce house, speed pitch, cornhole, and an arts and crafts table. Throughout the event, a high school baseball game will take place on the field.

Lonnie Shook CPA PLLC staff will be on hand at the Spring Fling to answer any tax questions. They are committed to providing high quality professional service to every client. Their goal is your satisfaction and your success. Each member of their staff is a degreed professional and has multiple years of accounting and tax experience.

The Crawdads will open their season at L.P. Frans Stadium on April 11th against the Kannapolis Intimidators. For more information about the Crawdads, including promotions, ticket books, and group outings please visit www.hickorycrawdads.com or contact the front office at (828) 322-3000.

Hudson Spring Dinner Theatre Tickets on Sale

HUDSON, NC (February 24, 2019) -- Tickets go on sale for our Hudson Dinner Theatre spring comedy, Divorce Southern Style, Monday morning, February 25th at 8:30 AM. You can now order tickets online by going to townofhudsonnc.tix.com or you can still go by the HUB Station Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM until 5:00 PM. The HUB phone # is 726-8871. Tickets for dinner and the show are \$30.00, show only, \$15.00. The show dates are: Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13. Dinner will be catered by Dan'l Boone Inn and will be served at 6:30 PM. The show follows at 7:30 PM.



NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING

FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS
TO U.S. 321 ALT
FROM PINWOOD ROAD (S.R. 1109)
TO DUKE STREET (S.R. 1106)

CALDWELL COUNTY

STIP PROJECT NO. U-6034

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting regarding the proposed project to improve U.S. 321 Alt from Pinewood Road (S.R. 1109) to Duke Street (S.R. 1106) in Granite Falls. Proposed improvements in regard to this project are meant to increase pedestrian safety, while also helping to relieve vehicular congestion issues that develop during peak hour traffic. Downtown sight-distance issues are intended to be improved, in addition to improving the safety of school-crossings.

The meeting will take place on Thursday, February 28 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church located at 12 Crestview Street in Granite Falls. The public may drop-in at any time during the meeting hours. Please note that no formal presentation will be made.

NCDOT representatives will be available to answer questions and listen to comments regarding the project. The opportunity to submit comments will also be provided at the meeting or via phone, email, or mail by March 15, 2019. Comments received will be taken into consideration as the project develops.

Project information and materials can be viewed as they become available online at <https://www.ncdot.gov/news/public-meetings>.

For additional information, contact Desiree Hagwood, NCDOT Division 11 Design Engineer, at dlhagwood@ncdot.gov or 336-903-9135.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Samantha Borges, Environmental Analysis Unit at smborges@ncdot.gov or (919) 707-6115 as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

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