



The Fairview Town Crier

AUGUST 2023 VOL. 27, No. 8

FAIRVIEW, NC

fairviewtowncrier.com



HAIKU CONTEST WINNERS!

by Clark Aycock

It was hard to choose just one winner from the 26 entries we received, so Jim Carillon and I ended up picking two winners (shown below) and an honorable mention. You can read all of the remaining entries on page 16.



*The orchid undoes
her papery bonnet—Look:
cheeks flush with effort*

—Edie Fay

*Winter windows at night
Constellations glittering
On the dark hillsides*

—Jack Sundquist



SUPPORT LOCAL KID MAKERS



Joslyn McIntire loves to make handmade arts and crafts, stickers and musical instruments, as well as woodworking and anything handmade and art-related.



Rosa Lee is a creative 10-year-old who enjoys combining art, history and nature in her endeavors. She is crafting hand-made paint brushes and pigments for the upcoming kid's market. The pigments are made from local rocks and soil, and the brushes are feathers and fiber from her family farm. Rosa Lee learned the techniques to make these items from reading and experimentation.

Fairview Postmaster Retires



Melody Dodge, a friendly, familiar face at the Fairview Post Office, retired last month as postmaster after a career with the USPS.

After filling in at Fairview in 2014, she took over full-time in April 2015. She grew up in Swannanoa and lives in Candler, but Fairview had become like a second home over the years. "If you tell me where you live in Fairview, I know where it's at," she said. "I carried every route in the office."

And she had connections to the area before she started serving here. Her dad was the pastor at Spring Mountain Baptist Church in the mid-80s. "So I knew something about the Fairview community," she said. "And then I realized I have family members who live out here, so I got to see them. Two of my cousins work or worked at the TE plant."

She wanted to send thanks to the Fairview community for supporting her while she was here. "The people of Fairview are awesome," she said. "Very caring. It's a close-knit community. I like that." And, she added, "it's a gorgeous area."

When the *Crier* learns who will be taking over as postmaster, we'll let you know. If you did not get to see Dodge before she left (many of her last days were spent delivering mail due to a worker shortage), email or call/text the editor (or drop a note in the dropbox next to our door) and he will forward it to her. clark@fairviewtowncrier.com or 828-771-6983.

Ashley Haywood, who is organizing the Fairview Kids' Makers Market on August 5, received more than 30 applications to take part. That's more space than she had available, so some kids ended up on the wait list. It's a great response and shows a good deal of interest from the community.

The market will take place at Spring Mountain Community Center, located at 807 Old Fort Road in Fairview, from 11 am–3 pm. **Parking is limited, so carpooling is highly encouraged.**

To give you an idea of some of the amazing kids you'll meet at the market, see the mini-profiles of two of the incredible vendors, pictured above.

EVENT SMCC SUMMER PICNIC

August 19, 5:30 pm

807 Old Fort Road, Fairview

At Spring Mountain Community Center's annual picnic, hamburgers and hot dogs will be furnished, and everyone is asked to bring a side dish big enough for their family and four other people. All paper products, utensils and beverages will be provided.

Events include the Ducky Derby for kids and a dessert contest. All are welcome. Come see old friends and make some new ones!

For more info and to volunteer, text Maria Horton at 828-778-0279.



SAVE THE DATE! GertonFest XII will be held on September 2 at the Upper Hickory Nut Gap Community Center. See page 2 for more info.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

back to school

August 25 FAIRVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 8–10 am
Meet the Teacher

August 25 A.C. REYNOLDS MIDDLE SCHOOL
Meet the Teacher 6th grade (10 am–12 pm)
7th and 8th grades (1–3 pm)

August 24 A.C. REYNOLDS HIGH SCHOOL 8:30 am–1 pm
New Student Orientation
Check with the school for the full day's schedule

August 28 First day for all county schools

The *Crier* was not able to confirm orientation information for **Cane Creek Middle School** before our publish date. Check their website at ccms.buncombeschools.org.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AUGUST 1 WNC PROSTATE SUPPORT GROUP 6:30 pm

Medical professional speakers. Free via Zoom and First Baptist Church of Asheville. wncprostate@gmail.com or 419-4565.

AUGUST 3 EMBROIDERERS MEETING 9:30 am–12 pm

Embroiderers' Guild of America
A program in creating a fabric thread holder with an attached strawberry pin cushion. This project uses the blanket stitch as a design element. There is a nominal kit fee. 3 Banner Farm Rd., Etowah/Horse Shoe. For info, call 575-9195.

AUGUST 5 TAKE ROOT FARM FESTIVAL 3-8 pm

Root Cause Farm
Summer fundraiser: food truck, farm tours, bouquet making, kids activities, local beer, live music, silent auction and more. See ad on page 11. 26 Joe Jenkins Rd., Fairview.

AUGUST 5 FAIRVIEW KIDS' MAKERS MARKET 1 am–3 pm

Spring Mountain Community Center
See the front page for more information. 807 Old Fort Rd., Fairview.

FOOD PANTRIES

Food for Fairview

Fairview Community Center, 1357 Charlotte Hwy., Fairview.

MONDAYS 3–6 pm

For food assistance and to volunteer (shifts run from 1–6 pm.)

TUESDAYS RESTOCKING, 8:30–10:30 am

The Place Fellowship Church
646 Concord Rd., Fletcher.

TUESDAYS 4–6 pm

2 Laura Jackson Rd., Fairview (next to Food Lion). 581-0588.

Trinity of Fairview

TUESDAYS 9 am–12 pm

Back of church grounds. 628-1188.

AUGUST 10 GRIEFSHARE 6-8 pm

Trinity of Fairview
For those who have lost a loved one. Thursday nights through November 2. \$25, includes workbook. To register or for more info, see ad on page 22.

AUGUST 11 DR. WILL MEMORIAL MARMALADE (JAM) SESSION 5:30-8 pm

Barn Door Ciderworks
Come remember Dr. Will and play with friends. For more info, call 917-504-1503. 23 Lytle Rd., Fletcher.

AUGUST 12 9 am–3 pm

Rusty Dog Arts & Crafts Show
See ad on page 23. 379 Old Charlotte Hwy., Fairview.

AUGUST 14 FAAL SUMMER PICNIC 5–8 pm

Fairview Area Art League
Bring a camp chair, plates and utensils, and a side dish to share. For more info, email FaArtLeague@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/fairviewart. Re.Imagine, 15 Spivey Lake Dr., Fairview.

AUGUST 14 MONTHLY MEETING 3 pm

Stitches of Love
Create handmade items that are donated to local charities. New members welcome. Panera Bread, 1840 Hendersonville Rd., Asheville. For info, call 575-9195.

AUGUST 18 FBA MEETING 5:30–8:30 pm

Fairview Business Association
The monthly meeting of FBA members. See page 27 for more info.

AUGUST 18 PLANT-BASED COOKING CLASS 6 pm

Seventh Day Adventist Church
Featuring Korean cuisine. See ad on page 11. 57 Cane Creek Cir., Fairview.

AUGUST 19 LIBRARY BOOK SALE 10 am–3 pm

Fairview Public Library
Fundraising sale with books, CDs and DVDs. Half price after 2 pm. See ad on page 9. 1 Taylor Rd., Fairview.

AUGUST 19 SUMMER PICNIC 5:30 pm

Spring Mountain Community Center
See the front page for more information. 807 Old Fort Rd., Fairview.

AUGUST 20 WINE AND CHEESE GATHERING FOR DEMOCRATS 5–7 pm

Buncombe County Democrats
Refreshments provided. Sponsored by Democrats in Precinct 38.3. Everyone 21+ is invited to support local Fairview businesses and neighborhoods. Plenty of parking. 15 Spivey Lake Dr., Fairview. For info, contact Gwynne Kell 847-212-5661 or gkell53@gmail.com.

AUGUST 25 TRANSFORMATION CELEBRATION AUCTION AND GALA 6:30 pm

Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry
In-person and virtual event. Celebrate transformed lives while raising funds to equip and empower others. See ad on page 8 for more info. 273 Monte Vista Rd., Candler.

AUGUST 29 LABELING THE CRIER 10 am

Fairview Town Crier
Come chat with your neighbors as we put labels on the papers that go to Fletcher and Reynolds. Contact volunteer coordinator Diana Soll to volunteer or get more info at dbsr828@gmail.com. Fairview Fire Department, 1586 Charlotte Hwy., Fairview.

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS LIVE MUSIC

Straightaway Café & Pub
Every Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. See the ad on page 24. 1722 Highway 9, Black Mountain.

MONTHLY ROOT CAUSE FARM

Volunteer Days, Sundays, 3–6 pm, Mondays, 9 am–12:30 pm; Potluck Dinner, last Sunday of every month, 5 pm; Share Market, Mondays, 12–1 pm.



coming next month

SEPTEMBER 2 GERTONFEST XII

Upper Hickory Nut Gap CC
Music, baked-at-home sale (cakes, cookies, brownies, quiches, pies, breads), fall plant sale, artists fair (buy or browse), and chicken or pork BBQ to eat in or take out.

SEPTEMBER 30 MOTORS FOR MISSIONS

Trinity of Fairview
Car, truck and motorcycle show. Registration by donation at trinityoffairview.com. See ad on page 9.

GET ON THE LIST!

Every month, the *Crier* sends an email to more than 70 people in the community, reminding them to send in their scheduled columns, news updates or information about community events.

In addition to the columnists you love to read every month, this email list includes locals such as school principals and other school representatives, leaders of political party clusters, those who help run community centers, nonprofits, the fire station's auxiliary, and churches. Those on the list usually fill up the community calendar.

It's easy for you to be put on this list, too. Get in touch if you have news or events to regularly share with the community. *Please note: We don't publish everything sent to us. Contact us and we'll let you know.*

Email clark@fairviewtowncrier.com or call/text 828-771-6983.

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Editorial Policy. *The Fairview Town Crier* reserves the right to refuse any advertising or editorial submission deemed inappropriate for the tone and style of the publication. A best effort has been made to verify legitimacy of information received and published. Views expressed in columns and/or articles do not represent those of *The Fairview Town Crier*.

Submissions: Announcements, community news, upcoming events, personal notices, letters, etc. will be published free as space allows. Email clark@fairviewtowncrier.com. For staff directory, contacts and additional info, please visit fairviewtowncrier.com or see page 31.

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Final Month of Summer Learning Is Here

The Summer Learning Program ends August 31. Kids and teens are encouraged to pick up the Summer Learning Activity Sheet at any county library. It's filled with fun and interesting challenges. Complete four challenges and pick a free book.

UPDATES

Friends of Fairview Library Meeting

August 1 from 7 to 8 pm
The date of this meeting is a change from the normally scheduled time.

Sizzlin' Summer Book Sale

August 19 from 10 am-3 pm
The Friends of Fairview Library are grateful to Fairview for its support on our first Book Donation Day. Many wonderful books and a variety of genres were donated. Now it's time to buy some! *All purchases will be half-price after 2 pm.*

Bingo Canceled This Month

We will make an announcement in the *Crier*, as well as on social media, when games resume.

FOR KIDS

Saturday Outdoor Story Time

August 19 from 10:30-11:30 am
Join us once a month throughout the

summer for a special Saturday story time. For preschoolers.

Weekly Story Time at the Library

Tuesdays, 10:30 am, 3-6 years
Thursdays, 10:30 am, 18 months to 3 years

Lego Club

August 25, 3:30 pm
The library provides the Legos, you provide the creativity. Perfect for ages 6 and up.

CRAFTING AND CREATING

Take Home Kit: Faux Stained Glass Window Art

Tissue paper, contact paper—simplicity and perfection. While supplies last. Age 5 and up.

In-House Activity:

Tissue Paper Flowers

Fun, beautiful, and pretty easy. While supplies last. Age 4 and up.

1,000-Book Program Kickoff Event

August 12 from 10 am-12 pm
(at East Asheville Library)

A nationwide initiative to encourage grown-ups to read 1,000 books with their young child (ages birth to 5) before they enter kindergarten kicks off in Buncombe County on August 12.

Families who read to their children from a young age can help them build early literacy skills such as letter recognition and building vocabulary.

SPECIAL EVENT

Asheville Creative Arts Presents "Shell"

August 25 at 2 pm

Shell is a 30-minute, interactive, multilingual and multimedia performance installation for kids ages 0 to 5 and their caretakers. The performance includes projections, movement, puppetry and play. The story of *Shell* follows a Slug and a Snail who journey to find a new shell when Snail's shell is broken in a storm.



There will be 10 minutes of free play at the end that will allow young people to interact with the puppets and set pieces and to practice games, movements and noises they experienced during the performance. No reservations or tickets required.

This event is financially sponsored by the Friends of Fairview Library.

Families can pick up a program booklet at any county library after August 12. Caregivers record the titles of the books read to their child in the booklet. When you reach 500 books, return to any library with your booklet to receive a free canvas tote bag. When you reach 1,000 books, return to a library for your completion certificate.

At the kickoff event, the children's music group Big Bang Boom will headline. Enjoy games, crafts, puppets and refreshments. Even though this event will not be at your local branch, Fairview's favorite children's librarian, Jennifer, will be there to help celebrate.

You do not have to be present at the kickoff to participate in this program.

FOR ADULTS

Fiber Arts Club

August 8 from 6:30-8 pm
A monthly gathering of those who enjoy knitting, crocheting, and hanging out with friends. This is not an instructional group, but newcomers are most welcome.

Online Book Club

The Library's Online Book Club resumes reading and discussing in September. You can join by emailing jaime.mcdowell@buncombecounty.org.

Jaime McDowell is the head librarian at Fairview Public Library. She can be reached at jaime.mcdowell@buncombecounty.org.



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Gold in These Hills

It is not well known that for many years, NC was the major source of gold in the US until the California Gold Rush. Rutherford County was the main source of gold in the region. Today, people still search the creeks of Rutherford County for gold.

Christopher Bechtler came from the Grand Duchy of Baden in what is now Germany. He was a metallurgist by trade. He was said to be the first man in the US to coin gold dollars. Bechtler arrived in NC in 1830 with his two sons and nephew. He opened the only privately operated mint in the US in Rutherford County. Bechtler obtained a government sanction to coin gold in three amounts: \$1, \$2.50 and \$5.00.

Prized Coins

He was said to have coined \$2,241 worth of gold dollars. They are said to be among the most prized coins by collectors in the US. In 1965, one gold coin of Bechtler's was sold at an auction for \$5,000. At the time, a new Chevy was only \$3,000. The press that Bechtler used is on display at the Museum of the American Numismatic Society in New York City.

It has been said that the gold mined in the mountains of WNC was a dull color, while the gold from the lower elevations was bright yellow.

Bechtler also made jewelry and sold watches. His son, August, and his nephew, also named Christopher, worked in Bechtler's mint. During the Civil War, when the Confederacy bought supplies, they were often required to pay with Bechtler's gold coins.

A toll road was built from Rutherfordton through what is now Lake Lure, Chimney Rock, Bat Cave, over Hickory Nut Gap, into Fairview and on into Asheville. Bechtler would travel this road to conduct business in Asheville. After he had made a good sum of money from his mint and decided to move back to Germany, he got in his buggy and headed for Asheville to take care of some business. He would often stop and talk to the people he met along the way.

No Asheville Arrival

Late in the afternoon, he stopped at the toll gate in Henderson County operated by Joe Williams. After talking to Williams and paying the toll, he drove on. But Bechtler never arrived in Asheville or returned home. His family went to hunt for him. Several days later, his buggy was found a short distance past the tollgate at the bottom of a high cliff. Bechtler's body was never found. He was carrying a considerable amount of money, and people believe that someone robbed and killed him. You can ask people in Gerton and Bat

Cave who might have robbed and killed Bechtler, and they will say they do not know. Many think they do know and just won't say.

In the 1870s, there was a goldmine in Forge Mountain between Mills River and Boylston Baptist Church. My great-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Davis (1856-1946), worked at the mine. There he met my great-grandmother, Ellen Augusta Nicholson (1860-1901), and they married on March 21, 1878. I do not know how long the mine operated. My guess is around 10 years.

Golden Opportunity

Around 1969, when I was attending Owen High School in Swannanoa, a man from Grove Stone and Gravel Company came to speak to my economic class. He said that if a person was willing to work hard enough, they could make around \$20 dollars a day hunting gold in the Swannanoa Valley. He said there were not any large deposits of gold in the valley, just a lot of small amounts.

I started looking as soon as I got home from school. I did find a little here and there, but not enough to be of much value. The best place to find a little gold was where the railroad or highway cut through a bank, exposing land that had not been uncovered before.

In a previous article on my great-great grandfather William Whitaker Sr. (1772-1860), I mentioned that he knew where to find some gold in Fairview. When he was getting low on money, he would go off without telling anyone and come home with a bag of gold. They said he even had a large chunk of gold he used to prop his door open in the summer. He would never tell anyone where he got it. People would try to follow him, but he would lead them all over Fairview and not go to his source of gold.

Unfound Treasure

In his will, he left his gold scale to his son Joshua Whitaker. He died without revealing the gold's location to anyone. That makes me think it was not on his property or he would have told his kids where it was and mined all of it at one time. A few people thought it was around Indian Rock, which are the long, high cliffs on the left going up Log Gap Road. My father, my cousin and I went up there and looked around one time, but it was so steep and the ledges so narrow we were afraid of getting killed if we looked around too much.

Bruce Whitaker documents Fairview-area genealogy. To get in touch with him, contact the Crier at editor@fairviewtowncrier.com or 828-771-6983 (call/text).

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INVESTOR PROPERTY
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PROPOSED BUILD
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30 ACRES ON 5 LANE HWY 74A, water, sewer, gas, electric, cable w adorable cottage & acres of gardens **\$1,950,000** MLS# 388748



10 ACRES ON 5 LANE HWY 74A, 900' on Hwy74A, 60' on Cedar Mountain Rd, 300' on Atherton. Water, sewer, gas, electric, cable on property, 3 miles to I-40. Commercial or multi-family w zoning variance. **\$950,000.** MLS# 3644935.



SOLD IN 3 DAYS! 65 Crossings Circle, Fairview **\$869,000**

Summer: Time for Precipitation and Fog

As mentioned last month, summer precipitation generally comes from two sources: thunderstorms and tropical systems. We have had a great number of cold fronts early this summer, which put a damper on the convective showers and thunderstorms. Precipitation from these systems has been lacking because our flow has been more westerly to northwesterly, somewhat blocking out the Gulf moisture. Generally, these storms wax and wane over the summer, and our WNC terrain affects them greatly. We will have to see if we pick up a bit more Gulf moisture and thunderstorms to help keep our precipitation numbers near normal. Otherwise, we will be depending on our second precipitation maker for the rest of the summer—tropical systems from the Atlantic and the Gulf—which can affect us anytime from June through November with a seasonal peak in early September.

QUESTION of the MONTH

What is the meteorological “ring of fire”?

Hint: it isn't a Johnny Cash song, and it has nothing to do with volcanoes in the Pacific.

Find out in next month's Weather Wonder!

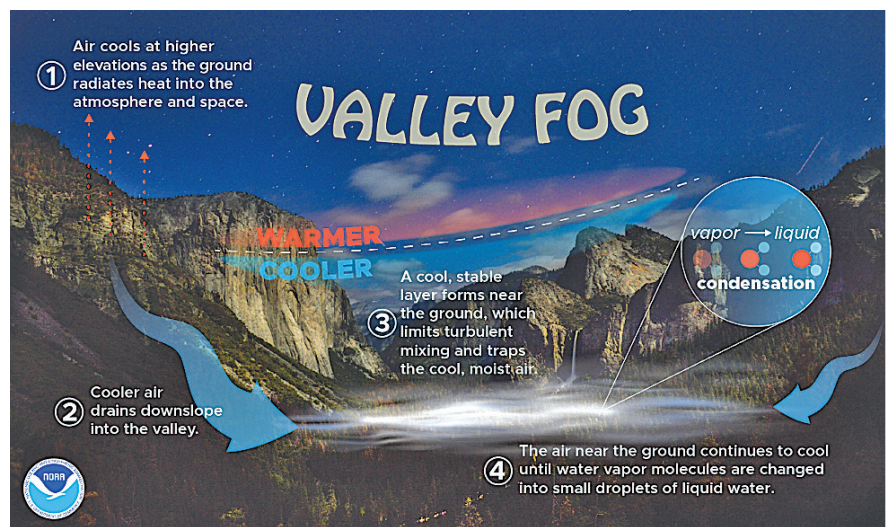
A late summer concern this month is fog, which occurs in the morning when the air close to the ground cools overnight and becomes saturated (its relative humidity reaches 100 percent, so the water vapor in the air condenses and creates tiny suspended water droplets—a cloud on the ground).

The average number of foggy mornings is greater in August than in any other month, with dense fog on about 12 days. This fog usually burns off by 10 am or so. Despite lore that foggy days are harbingers of snowfall, there is no scientific correlation. There may be some years where numbers are close, but that's a coincidence.

By mid to late August, we are 60 days past summer solstice, with the greatest amount of daylight behind us. During August, we lose about two minutes of daylight each day—sunrise is at 6:37 am at the beginning of the month and 7:01 am on the 31st. Sunsets show the same trend; 8:35 pm on the 1st and 8 pm on the 31st. This change allows air close to the ground to cool more at night and thus become saturated, creating our foggy mornings.



Meteorologist Tom Ross managed the Climate Database Modernization Program at the National Climatic Data Center.



WEATHER WONDER

What is the definition of a muggy day, and why do so many of them occur in August?

“It’s not the heat! It’s the humidity!”

That's an old adage when we want to complain about muggy weather. “Muggy” means a combination of humidity and heat that makes you sweaty and uncomfortable and long for air-conditioning. In the middle of winter, when it is cold and snowy, we wish for relief. However, now that we are in August, the muggy dog days of summer bring a nostalgic yearning for some colder weather.

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Sarah Kohrs: A Winding Road to Music and Fairview



KOHR'S AT THE KEYS: In addition to voice, keyboards and flute, Kohrs is a self-taught guitarist and percussionist.

Fairview musician Sarah Kohrs was perfectly happy living near the Berkshires in upstate New York. The weather, the people, the natural beauty—it suited her. Working as an attorney not far from her childhood home, Sarah enjoyed the complexity of her cases and the mental challenge they provided. Plus, she had her music.

Back in 1999, Sarah entered Eastman Conservatory in Rochester, NY, as a freshman studying piano performance and music education. She thrived as an Eastman student. The collaboration and the competition of the students fueled her creative spirit and her love of musical performance. That rigor served her well in law school; she passed the bar in 2007.

Despite her full schedule as a commercial litigator, Sarah didn't set her music aside. She continued honing her skills and writing her own songs. She enjoyed going to open mic nights too—as a spectator, not as an artist. She limited her performances to her closest friends and family.

"I missed participating in the music scene, though. So, one day, I just went for it," she said. "I didn't tell anyone I was doing it." Sarah laughed, adding, "If it went badly, I didn't want people I knew to witness it!"

Sarah sings and plays keyboards and flute; she is also a self-taught guitarist and percussionist. "After drumming, I feel

rested," she said. "It calms me. But then, music is really the only thing that fills up my head."

The night of that first open mic back in 2014, Sarah's head was certainly full of music, but there were plenty of nerves crowded in there too. By her own design, she was there alone—no supportive friends or family present to cheer for her.

The place, called Gypsy Joint, was a kind of restaurant-bar combo with a stage set up for performers. When it was her turn, Sarah stepped up and took her place behind the microphone stand. As an employee adjusted the mic for her, Sarah ventured a glance at the crowd: Gypsy Joint workers serving meals, bartenders taking orders, and guests far more focused on their food and drinks than on the amateur talent up front. The place radiated disinterest as Sarah began to play.

Meeting her Music-mate

"It was as if no one was listening to me," Sarah recalled. "But then I saw this one woman looking straight at me, attentive and engaged." Reframing her circumstances on the spot, she allowed the chaos of the venue to fade from her consciousness. "I just played for her," Sarah said.

When she finished her set, Sarah met her target audience. Iris (pronounced in the Finnish way: "EAR + ris") Tuomenoksa, excited to meet the singer who had so enthralled her, invited Sarah to join her at her table. It turns out Iris wasn't the only one listening; her husband Mark was too. "Mark started talking about music, and I thought, 'Yes! He gets it!'" Sarah said.

And that was the start of Tumo Kohrs, the musical duo that features Mark (saxophone, keyboards, guitar, flute, arrangements) and Sarah (lyricist, composer, vocalist, instrumentalist). Shortly after their initial connection, they started playing gigs. They both had day jobs, so making a living with their music was not the point. Still, they recorded an EP and generated listeners through streaming platforms. As with all gig workers, the pandemic affected their performance schedule, but Tumo Kohrs continued making music.

Then Sarah's life took a hard turn and slammed into unknown territory. It was August 28, 2021. Sarah was at a stoplight when a young driver rear-ended her. Taken to the hospital by ambulance, she was treated and released.

On Monday, she went to work. In her office, she took out a contract she needed to review. "I looked down and it was as if my brain was a puzzle that had broken into pieces. The type on the page appeared to form odd shapes, the letters not representing actual words." It was about that time that her boss walked in. "He asked me some questions about the case, and I looked up at him," Sarah said. Her disorientation must have been painfully apparent to him. "His facial expression was shocking." She went on, "I remember thinking, 'He seems mad at me; that's weird.'"

Weird was just getting started.

Realizing something was very wrong, Sarah asked a friend to take her back to the hospital. There, she learned she had sustained a traumatic brain injury when she hit her head on the seat of the car. Rehabilitation would be slow and laborious. Moreover, doctors could not promise that her brain would fully recover. The short story? Sarah had just worked her last day as an attorney.

Before the wreck, she could analyze the testimonies of multiple witnesses and dozens of bits of evidence in order to prepare for litigation. Now, she processes information differently. What once was automatic now takes deliberate concentration. In the past, she could sort details instinctively without effort; now she uses multiple memory tools to keep things straight. It's been two years since the wreck, and Sarah is making progress. "I'm getting better," she said. "But I'm not close to the capacity I would need to practice law."

Meanwhile, just a few weeks following the accident, Mark and Iris moved 800 miles south for his work. They found a lovely place in a little town called Fairview. Sarah knew the area. "Place is very important to me," she explained. "I was drawn to the Asheville area when Tumo Kohrs toured here years ago. There was something about it that felt like home." So, in August 2022, Sarah packed her bags and joined her friends down south.



Sarah Kohrs and Marcy Gallagher

Together again, Tumo Kohrs started booking gigs. As it happened, Marcy Gallagher, a resident of the Reynolds community, attended one of those performances last fall. Marcy listened just as Iris had eight years previously. She recognized a kindred spirit in Sarah and began to imagine a partnership.

"I'm not a musician, but I had written a musical!" Marcy said. "What was I thinking?" She had the script and lyrics, but she needed a composer to write the music. "And Sarah, well she's just brilliant!" The show, *At the Café*, a musical by Gallagher with original music by Sarah, plays at the Tina McGuire Theater in Asheville on August 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 27.

"I love it here!" Sarah says of her new home in Fairview. "The weather, the people, the natural beauty—it suits me."



Rev. Dr. Aileen Mitchell Lawrimore is the pastor of Ecclesia Baptist, which meets at 607 Fairview Road. She blogs regularly at aileengoeson.com.



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Bipartisan Town Hall Draws Crowd in Fairview



Local state representatives (left to right): Warren Daniel, Julie Mayfield, Eric Ager, Lindsey Prather PHOTOS: COURTLAND WHITE

Almost the entire Buncombe County state delegation—Rep. Eric Ager (D), Rep. Lindsey Prather (D), Sen. Julie Mayfield (D), and Sen. Warren Daniel (R)—assembled in mid-July for a Legislator Town Hall at the Biltmore Plaza Barbershop in the Olde Eastwood Village Shopping Center. In fact, turnout proved larger than expected, so the event had to be moved to the parking lot.

The Town Hall was hosted by the Buncombe County Democratic Party, but the presence of Warren Daniel made it a bipartisan affair. Audience questions about

legislation in Raleigh ran the gamut from affordable child care to gerrymandering.

“The Legislator Town Hall ... was what political interactions are supposed to look like,” Ager said. “It was a significant departure from the Twitter and Facebook battles that so often define the political conversation in this day and age. The audience asked thoughtful questions about real issues that have been before the NC General Assembly this session and got honest answers from both sides of the political divide.”



This month, the *Crier* sent questions to Keith Miller, the tax assessor in the county's Property Assessment department. He's responsible for listing, appraising and assessing all taxable property in the county.

Asked about an important current issue, he noted Reappraisal 2025. “Reappraisal of your land, buildings and homes happens every four years,” he said. “And the next one is in 2025.” This is an effort to keep up with current market values. “Without a reappraisal in an appreciating real estate market like ours, not everyone would be paying an equitable amount based on what their property is worth.”

When we asked about programs that our readers might not know about or take advantage of, Miller mentioned two: property value appeals; and special programs for the elderly, disabled and veterans.

The appeal period (from January 1 to mid-April) is an opportunity for property owners to let the assessor know of anything that may be incorrect or that could be affecting their assessment that the assessor doesn't know about.

For the elderly, the disabled and veterans, the assessor oversees state-provided exemption and exclusion programs. Property tax relief is available for qualifying county residents who are 65 years of age or older; are totally and permanently disabled; and for veterans with a permanent and total service-connected disability. For more info, go to tinyurl.com/yc6xatxr or call the number below.

And what's a good online tool at his department? The property owner portal, he said. “We took input from our community and revamped our website to give property owners the ability to review the data associated with their property, appeal their assessment, find comparable sales, review community information relative to the assessment of the community, communicate with the assessor, update their data online, pay their bill, and more. The tool can be found at tax.buncombecounty.org.

We thank Miller for his time and service to the county. The best way to reach him and his department is to call 250-4949.

Help for Housing Costs

Residential property owners who have lived in their house as their primary residence for at least five years and who earn at or less than 80% of the Area Median Income as a household may be eligible to have grant funds applied to their property tax bill and/or paid and applied to other housing-related obligations.

You can apply on August 1 by calling or submitting an inquiry to determine eligibility. Go to buncombecounty.org/homeownergrant or call 250-5500. You may qualify for up to \$300 in unincorporated Buncombe County, and up to \$500 in the City of Asheville. If you received grants last year, you'll need to re-apply.

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ACTIVE LISTINGS

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Fairview



6.32 ACRES

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\$300K-599K	8	\$446K	67.5	98.3
\$600K-899K	6	\$789K	21.5	100.5
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Agent Spotlight JEAN DAVID



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—Ben & Brenda Stephenson

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Spotting the Scammers

By Ellen Westbrook

For years, I was always able to spot and avoid scams. But recently, I paid the cost of postage for a free sample, which resulted in multiple charges on my credit card for items I didn't order or receive. Looking back, I see some of the warning signs. What appeared at the time to be a perfectly legitimate offer was actually a scam.

A scam is a fraudulent act or scheme designed to make a quick profit. Spotting a scammer is not always easy. They know how to evade our better judgment and may promise big payoffs or play on our emotions to get us to act. They may also pose as companies, agencies and people we know and trust. Though scams can be conducted in person or via mail, these days they're more likely to be pulled off via telephone, text, email or websites.

Following are some steps you can take to spot and avoid scams:

- **Don't answer the phone if you receive a call from a number you don't recognize.**
- **Even if you pick up but don't speak, you've let the scammer know your number is active** and they may call back.
- **If you speak, your voice may be recorded** and used to your disadvantage.
- **If the caller leaves a voicemail message, don't call back** unless you know the person or business.
- **If you receive an email or a text** that

warns you there's a problem with one of your financial accounts, don't click on a provided link. If you think there's a real problem, find the phone number yourself and call the company.

- **Check with your cell phone and email companies** about apps that can identify and block spam, or potentially fraudulent calls, texts and emails.
 - **If someone gets through to you** and asks for payment via gift cards, hang up the phone. Scammers love being paid with gift cards because it's a virtually untraceable way to steal.
 - **Become familiar with the most common and the newest scams.** The AARP Fraud Watch Network (aarp.org/fraud), which lists and describes at least 80 scams—such as the charity, DMV, student loan, reverse mortgage, romance, and grandparent scams—is a handy resource.
 - **Sign up for the bi-weekly AARP Watchdog alerts** for information on the latest scams.
- You can also visit The Federal Trade Commission's site (consumer.ftc.gov/scams) to learn more or to report scams.

Ellen Westbrook is an AARP volunteer who lives in Fletcher. For more info on AARP, go to aarp.org or see the ad on page 2.



LAUGH TIME BLAINE GREENFIELD

Classic novel (n.): A book which people praise, but seldom read.

A guy spots a sign outside a house that reads "Talking Dog for Sale." Intrigued, he walks in.

"So what have you done with your life?," he asks the dog.

"I've led a very full life," says the dog. "I lived in the Alps rescuing avalanche victims. Then I served my country in Iraq. And now I spend my days reading to the residents of a retirement home."

The guy is flabbergasted. He asks the dog's owner, "Why on Earth would you want to get rid of an incredible dog like that?"

The owner says, "Because he's a liar. He never did any of that!"

I CAUGHT MY SON CHEWING ON ELECTRICAL WIRES. SO I GROUNDED HIM. HE'S DOING BETTER AND CONDUCTING HIMSELF PROPERLY.

There are three ages for women in Hollywood: babe, district attorney and Driving Miss Daisy.

—Goldie Hawn

When I was a kid my parents moved a lot, but I always found them.

—Rodney Dangerfield

If I worked in a used record store, I would tell every customer that "all sales are vinyl."

If everything is coming your way, then you're in the wrong lane.

Crier readers are invited to submit funnies. Thanks, Curt Smerker, for this riddle:

Why can't people hear a dog whistle? Dogs don't whistle

And, Sarah Kohrs, for this one:

What did the horse say after it tripped?

Help! I've fallen and I can't giddyup!



Blaine Greenfield hosts BLAINESWORLD, a podcast, and he publishes a blog with the same name. To send items for possible inclusion in a future issue, email bginbc@aol.com.

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Fairview VFD to the Rescue, as Always



When the Crier saw the following story on the "I Love Fairview" Facebook group, we knew we needed to share it with our readers.

On July 20, Natalie Furniss posted the following update.

This is why I love Fairview! My best friend's 4-year-old son (also a Fairview resident) has battled leukemia for three years and finally got to ring

the bell yesterday [to celebrate being cancer-free]. He is obsessed with fire trucks, so I made a simple phone call to Scott Jones, chief of the Fairview Fire Department (FVFD), to see if he could bring a fire truck to Mission Cancer Center and surprise him.

Because of Chief Jones and the amazing crew at the FVFD, this little boy walked out to see four huge fire trucks lining the streets and more than 30 firemen from both Fairview and Asheville. He also received an actual fire helmet and so many gifts—and the fire department drove the family from the hospital to our celebration dinner. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, to all of the wonderful firemen and -women who joined us in celebrating his victory over cancer. And thank you to Chief Jones for making it all happen.

In a separate Facebook post, the fire department wrote: This young man was a blessing to everyone of those firefighters. We see so much tragedy and trauma that it did us well to be a part of something so great as this young man beating leukemia. We went to show our love and support for this young man, and we believe he blessed us more than we did him!

We agree with Natalie. This is why we love Fairview, too.



Did you Celebrate Christmas In July?

Steve Studebaker did.

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— AARP Volunteer Steve Studebaker

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It's Not too Late to Plant Seeds

I planted a garden box, about four feet by four feet, with seeds in June. The second week of July, I was perhaps a little overexcited to discover many tiny sprouts. Confession: This was not some mastermind's plan to have flowers late in the season; this was me just getting around to planting a bunch of seeds that I had this notion way back in spring might be nice to grow. Further confession: I also have a small package of ranunculus that I have intended to plant for over a year that are still in the bag. Hopefully, I will get them in the ground this fall, which is the best time to plant ranunculus.

Further further confession: I have given the package of ranunculus to my grandmother because I feel confident that she will make sure that those corms are taken care of.

Okay, last confession, I promise: I definitely Googled the name for a ranunculus bulb just before I typed that last sentence.

Here is the point that I am trying to make: I am a Semi-Serious gardener. I met a woman at Ingles the other day as I was checking out, and she said, "Hey, aren't you the dahlia guy from the Crier?" I was a little taken aback at this notion, but then realized that I have been writing a fairly regular article that mostly centers



The sprouts that excited the author.

around my love for the humble dahlia for nearly a year now. I suppose some might say that I have been presenting a pretty good case for being called "the dahlia guy." I do love dahlias, and I have realized that in the years we have been growing and learning about dahlias, I have amassed a fair amount of knowledge about these amazing plants. But I still consider myself to be semi-serious, and my greatest hope in writing this column is to inspire some of you to step out of your comfort zone and give gardening a try.

And now, back to the seeds.

We are fortunate to live in a place with such a moderate climate, which translates to easily being able to grow a variety of plants throughout the year. I sometimes fall into thinking that if you haven't done something by a certain time, then you

won't be able to do it. What I realized with planting the ranunculus seeds is that it's never too late.

My grandmother always says that if it's a flower, she loves it. She may have some particular varieties that she loves a little more than others, but to her, they are all beautiful in their own way. If you would like to step out of your comfort zone to have some flowers to enjoy, Here are a few suggestions to consider.

Zinnia These flowers come in many colors and grow relatively easily from seed. They like sunlight, and it is very easy to collect seeds from the flowers after they have passed their prime. They also do a really good job of self-seeding, which means that if you leave them in the garden beyond their life, their seeds will naturally find their way into the ground for the next year.

Sunflower I met a flower farmer who plants a fresh crop of sunflowers every week. This is because this is such a popular flower with her customers and because they are so easy to grow. They also love sunlight and are great self-seeders.

Celosia This is a slightly more difficult flower to grow from seed, owing mainly to the fact that these seeds are so small

(roughly the size of the "o" printed here). When I plant them, I don't stress too much about separating out the individual seeds. Instead, I sprinkle pinches of them, like salt, directly onto the top of the soil over a large area. I then pat the soil down firmly so that the seeds will be less likely to wash away should it rain. After that, they do really well and are excellent self-seeders for the next season.

For all of these plants, it is important to keep the soil moist as they are starting. I generally do this by watering once a day. This time of year, the fairly regular afternoon shower will help get these flowers going.

Here is another great thing about attempting to grow these plants: Seed packets for these flowers will only set you back a couple of bucks.

I hope that you'll consider sowing some seeds so that you too can enjoy some of the beauty that summer has to offer.



Nate Barton is an artist who teaches art. He lives with his wife and two sons in Fairview, where he maintains a flower garden with his mom and grandmother, who are also his neighbors. Find him on Instagram (@etannotrab).

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—Maria Z, June 2022

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Healthy Streambanks, Part 2: The Role of Rocks

In June's *Town Crier*, this column explained how healthy streambanks are key to maintaining the quality and enjoyability of Cane Creek. Four basic principles were discussed: maintain streamside trees, shrubs and native cane; don't mow to the water's edge; repair eroding vertical streambanks; and plan stream access points wisely. These common-sense guidelines can make a big difference in avoiding severe property erosion during floods as well as keeping Cane Creek healthy for wildlife and our community's users.

This article adds a fifth key principle—use rocks and vegetation to restore stable streambanks, especially in problem spots. Cane Creek flows through mostly sandy soils without many rocks, and this is one reason why its streambanks erode easily. In contrast, streams lined by banks with many boulders and cobbles are much more resistant to erosion when flooding occurs. It's easy to see why—the power of flowing water can wash away small sand grains and pebbles much easier than it can tumble boulders downstream.

On a walk along Cane Creek, you can see that the size of the rocks in the streambed is related to the power of the stream's flowing water, and it changes from place to place. For example, in slowly flowing pools you would find mostly sand and silt. But in faster, steeper rapids, you might see mostly cobbles and boulders in the streambed because the finer sands and gravels have been washed away. The more powerful the flow, the bigger the rocks have to be to remain in place. Now imagine what powerful flood waters could do to unprotected streambanks made primarily of sand—even fairly large rocks can be swept away in extreme flooding.

Were you to design a flood-proof streambank, ideally you'd use rocks too big to be washed away, or you could combine not-so-big rocks with something to hold them in place—like trees and shrubs with tough, extensive root systems.

Here in Fairview, it wouldn't be realistic or even desirable to truck in vast amounts of large rocks to cover miles of sandy banks for erosion control. However, adding rocks in specific problem areas can be an effective erosion control approach, especially in combination with native vegetation plantings. What is meant by problem areas? Local examples include: badly eroded banks on the outside of a bend in the stream (see the June article); "blowouts," where a violent whirlpool of floodwaters chewed out a big gap along a streambank; and eroding banks next to bridge abutments.

Restoring a Problem Spot in Fairview

The local site in the photos (about a half-mile west of Route 74A) has elements of all three types of problems: an erosion-prone cut bank near a bend, a flood-damaged blowout, and a crucial setting near a bridge. This streambank was originally



damaged by flood erosion from Tropical Storm Fred in 2021. The accompanying photos show the original damage and the early and later stages of restoration using rocks and vegetation together.

Photo A, taken in February 2022 before the restoration, shows the substantial loss of streambank soil and the exposure of more vulnerable bare soil unprotected by vegetation or rocks. The topsoil was eroded away, and the remaining poor-quality subsoil was unsuitable for revegetation.

"Joint Planting"

To start the restoration, new soil and rocks were added in layers and contoured to rebuild the sloped bank that had been washed away. Native black willow and elderberry live stakes (living branches cut in winter that take root when driven into moist streambanks) were added among the rocks and new soil last winter. This streambank restoration technique is called "joint planting." **Photo B**, from May of this year, shows the early stages of layering rocks and soil in progress, with the first leafy branches of willow and elderberry emerging from the "joints" between rocks.

In **Photo C**, from last month, more layers of rock continue to build the sloped and restabilized bank. The new vegetation, stabilized by the layers of rock, continues to send down roots that also help keep the rocks in place. Future layers of rock and more plantings will extend the restoration farther up the slope as the vegetation becomes established.

As stated in the June article, restoration techniques are helpful but seldom absolutely foolproof in the face of the most extreme floods. One key factor is whether a restoration project's trees and shrubs have had enough time to grow established root systems around the rocks before another flood occurs. In any case, the use of rocks and deep-rooted plants together

can make a big difference in stabilizing former problem spots where even minor storms cause erosion, which can help Cane Creek become healthier and more attractive "home waters" for Fairview.

The joint-planting restoration technique used rocks and tree roots together to stabilize a flood-damaged Cane Creek streambank.

A February 2022, before the restoration.

B May 2023, after the addition of soil, rocks and live stakes.

C July 2023, as willows, elderberries and other plants grow out of the joints between the rocks.

Doug Norton (dougnorton99@gmail.com) is a retired watershed ecologist and online science educator who lives in Fairview. Cane Creek Chronicles explores the Cane Creek Watershed.

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Let's Talk Worms

One of the things I enjoy most about being a veterinarian is having the opportunity to use my senses as diagnostic tools. My patients offer things to be seen, felt, heard and smelled that can provide clues to their diagnoses. It should not be surprising, then, to know that I also enjoy looking through a microscope at samples collected from my patients, searching for evidence that will provide a diagnosis, this time on a microscopic level.

When it comes to the diagnosis of intestinal worms in dogs and cats, microscopic examination is far superior to examining their poop, or stool, with the naked eye. Because adult worms spend their lives attached to the intestinal lining, there is generally no visible evidence when a pet is infected with worms. Fortunately, these worms are releasing eggs that can be found through the microscopic examination of stool samples, providing a much more reliable way of discovering infections. This test, called a fecal float (or just fecal), may be performed at your vet's office or at a reference laboratory.

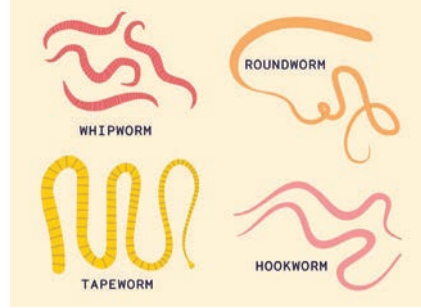
To perform this test, a small amount of the pet's stool is placed in a tube, mixed with a sugar or salt solution, and spun in a centrifuge to improve separation of the eggs from the solids in the sample. Worm eggs will float to the top of the solution, where

they stick to a thin square of glass laid on top of the tube, called a coverslip. The coverslip is then transferred to a microscope slide, where it is ready for examination.

There are four basic types of intestinal worms in dogs and cats: roundworms, hookworms, whipworms and tapeworms. Because the eggs from each of these types of worms have unique features, it is possible to diagnose the various types of worms through an examination of their eggs.

Tapeworms are the one exception to the rule that a diagnosis of worms is hard to make with the naked eye. Tapeworms, like other intestinal worms, attach to the intestine, but the end of a tapeworm is made up of segments. These egg-filled segments, which look like grains of rice or cucumber seeds, separate from the rest of the worm, ending up in the pet's stool. Owners often find them on their pet's stool or around their pet's behind. Curiously, these segments are capable of wriggling movements even though they represent only part of a worm.

All dogs and cats are at risk for infection with worms, even pets that spend all or most of their time indoors, as there are many ways pets can become infected. Worm eggs enter pets' bodies through their mouths, and infections commonly occur when pets eat poop from infected animals or eat dirt contaminated with worm eggs.



Even potting soil can contain worm eggs, creating an infection source for indoor pets.

Insects are another source of infection for indoor pets. Fleas can be infected with tapeworms, which then infect pets when they ingest the flea during self-grooming. Other insects, like flies and roaches, can carry worm eggs into homes on their bodies, infecting pets when they eat them.

The ingestion of infected mice and other rodents is another way that pets can become infected with worms. Additionally, many puppies and kittens become infected before or shortly after birth through the transfer of worm larvae across their mother's placenta or through the ingestion of larvae contained in their mother's milk.

Fecal floats are an important part of maintaining pets' health and protecting the health of their human families. Intestinal worms can cause anemia, malnutrition and discomfort for pets. Additionally, humans are at risk of infection with worms carried by pets and may develop more severe disease symptoms when infected with them. While deworming products like heartworm preventions are

an important part of protecting pets and their families, they don't replace the need for regular stool checks. This is especially true now that populations of worms with drug-resistance, including resistance to the medications found in preventions, have been identified and are becoming more prevalent.

Help keep your pet healthy by bringing a stool sample to each wellness exam and to any appointment where your pet has symptoms of possible intestinal disease, like diarrhea, vomiting, decrease in appetite or weight loss. Collect a stool sample about the size of a sugar cube and place it inside a clean plastic or glass container. The sample should be kept cool and collected no more than about 24 hours prior to your pet's appointment.

Intestinal worm monitoring and treatment is an essential part of healthcare for pets, and I encourage you to have your vet check your pet for worms at least once a year.



Dr. Elaine Klesius grew up on a farm, where she discovered her passion for working with animals when she was very young. She is a veterinarian at Fairview Animal Hospital, 867A

Charlotte Hwy., Fairview. 628-3557.

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Fairview's hubbub hums Newspaper pages blossom Readers are writers

The Crier was delighted to receive 26 entries for our haiku contest. Jim Carillon, my fellow judge, and I were entertained and enlightened by all of the poems. Some made us think, some made us laugh—but they all showed a lot of talent.
— Clark Aycock

• HONORABLE MENTION

MORNING DRIVE
*Mine Hole Gap Glistens
Fog-Halos Wrap the Mountains
Pause to be Grateful*
—Clay Satterfield

*Troweled bulbs in dirt,
Mother Nature takes over
Sprouting daffodils*
—Gay Gueringer

*at her's journey
calm is nowhere to be found
whoops—she resides here*
—Sarah Elizabeth Malinak

*I call to the trees
But they call to the mountains,
A magical sound.*
—Michele Marshall

*I came here with hope
lovely city in the sky
I stay here with joy.*
—Christine Nolte

*Fairview my new home
It has lots of strange people
I love my neighbors*
—David George

*Rain sounds on the roof
Like a children's lullaby,
Singing me to sleep.*
—Mick McClung

*The wee little ones
ride unicycles round town
display such talent*
—Dustin Clark

*Our Fairview Mountains
Echo back rolling thunder
As summer rain falls*
—Allan Tenney

*First thought of the day
Reaching for the hand I love
I am truly blessed.*
—Karen Warren

*Summer-hot, humid.
Rivers drip off nose, armpit
A/C now. Full blast!*
—Linda Kuhn

*The cold wind blows hard.
My soul seeks better refuge.
In the sun birds sing.*
—Beth Bostic

*My forever home
will be in Fairview NC
Oh I see a deer!*
—Michele Hamner

*Doctor Ciero
McAfee Mckracken is
not old for a house*
—Kevin Harbaugh

*Text from upstairs guy.
"Your car sunroof is open.
It's raining outside."*
—Julie Wander

*Twisty scape curls round.
Warm earth hides the paper head.
Dawn ends nine months sleep.*
—Stephanie Summers Searce

*Dandelion tufts
scatter in a wisp of breeze
Wee ballerinas*
—Kit Schmeiser



*On a summer's night
Driving home from the airport
In the Fairview rain*
—David Weiner

*most cars have a dog
or two peering out the glass
studying the views*
—Lyric Birch

*As the wind rages
And the thunder grows louder
The oak tree stands strong*
—Will Davis (age 9)

TIM TROUT
*Tim, the trout so small,
Bridge whispers of our meeting,
Searching, hope lingers*
—Patrick Garvin

*Fairview is my home
Green, Friendly and Glorious
I'm a lucky guy!*
—Bill Carpenter

The Conductor John Drake
*Street Cars ran back then
Grandfather was the first and
Last one in Asheville*
—Sabrina Miller

LOOKING GLASS
*vanity be gone
reflection true or wishful
matters not to love*
—Marlene Smith

Fairview's 12-U Softball Team Takes State Title—Again!

The Fairview 12-U Softball All-Stars went 14-3 in postseason play this season. They started out 12-0, winning the Fairview Invitational Tournament and the District 1 & 2 All Star Tournament on their way to winning the state championship. Half of the players on this team were also part of last year's state championship team.

The team then traveled to New Bern for the Southeast Regional Softball Championship, taking Second Place. They are only the third Fairview team in 27 years of fast pitch softball to make it to the regional level. And since 2003, this team is only the second team to make it to the championship game.

Peachtree All-Stars out of Virginia defeated Fairview in a defensive battle, in which neither team allowed any runs between the third and sixth innings. After battling in the extreme heat, an exhausted Fairview team was crowned the Southeast Regional Runner-Up.



Babe Ruth also recognized **Trinity Earley** and **Zoey Stewart** with the "Heart of the Babe" award for their character and leadership.

Della Draper and **Trinity Earley** competed in the Regional Home Run Derby and tied for first place.

Congratulations to all!

★ FAIRVIEW ALL-STARS ★

Della Draper
Julie Dotson
Lyric Hall
Raylyn Wilkie
Roxie Christensen
Rylea-Ann Dobbs
Skylar Griffin
Tallulah Pitts
Trinity Earley
Zaira Arvizu
Zoey Stewart

HEAD COACH
Chad Draper

ASSISTANT COACHES
Travis Earley
Sarah Draper
Dustin Dobbs

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New Faces at Fairview Elementary

Fairview Elementary School (FES) is excited to welcome several new certified staff members this school year, including a new administration team.



Dr. Bonnie Bolado, the school's new principal, is a National Board-Certified Educator who earned her undergraduate degree at

UNC-Wilmington and both her Master's in Executive Leadership Studies and her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Gardner-Webb University. She brings 14 years of education-related experience to FES, including teaching at Waynesville Middle School, as well serving as Assistant Principal at Canton Middle School, an Adjunct Professor at Gardner-Webb University, and a Senior Math Specialist and then Chief Academic Officer at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

Dr. Bolado grew up with a passion for teaching and public education. She believes each child deserves the chance to strive to become whatever they dream to be and sees the invaluable opportunities public education offers to students. She finds it an honor to have a career that allows her to contribute to student success

and does not take the magnitude of that for granted. Acknowledging the amazing tradition of excellence at FES, Dr. Bolado is honored and committed to lead the school to continue that tradition. She is excited to get to know parents, students, staff and community members, and believes the collaboration of all these dedicated individuals is key in helping students grow and succeed.

A native of WNC, Dr. Bolado lives in Asheville with her incredibly supportive husband and their four-year-old daughter. She is beyond excited to be a Fairview Cardinal and very eager for the start of a wonderful school year.



Rachel Austin, who has been named Assistant Principal, has worked for Buncombe County Schools for 25 years. She earned her

undergraduate degree at Western Carolina University and her Master's in K-12 Education from Montreat College. She is currently completing the administrative licensure program at Barton College.

Austin has taught at Candler Elementary, Sand Hill-Venable Elementary and Black Mountain Primary, where she also served as Lead Title I Literacy Specialist.

She has always loved learning and the joy of supporting students as they learn new things. She is looking forward to supporting the family atmosphere, the relationships with staff, and the connections with students and families at FES. And she is excited to be part of the supportive and loving community that FES offers. Austin has always been inspired by the Magic Johnson quote, "All kids need a little help, a little hope, and somebody who believes in them." She is excited to join the ranks of the teachers and staff at FES and to encourage every child that enters the school building, every day.

Also a native of Buncombe County, Austin makes her home in Swannanoa with her husband, two kids and two dogs. She enjoys reading, shopping, hiking and camping. She is looking forward to her new role and is extremely excited to be part of this wonderful school.

New Teachers



Avery Estep will begin her fourth year of teaching, this year at FES. Estep graduated from Appalachian State University. Growing up, she was a student at FES, and she

Safety First

With student safety of utmost importance at FES, the administration has put together some reminders to help keep everyone safe, as well as a few pointers to help make the school year successful. You can find the entire list of handy and important information at fes.buncombeschools.org/o/fes/news.

completed her student teaching here as well. She has always dreamed of teaching at her home school and loves making connections with children and their families.



Also joining the FES staff this year is **Emeline Lundberg**. She is also a native of Fairview and also will begin her fourth year of teaching, this year at FES. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher and hopes to pass along her passion for learning to all her students.

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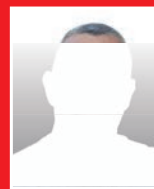
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Kate Wargo was inspired to teach when her mother, also a teacher, would occasionally allow Kate to read to her first-grade students.

Wargo would see the children's eyes light up as she read with enthusiasm, hoping to make the experience come alive for them.

As the mother of an FES student, Wargo sees how the teachers and staff genuinely care about the whole child, not just academics, and she is excited to help nurture children in the same way.

She is a native of Pittsburgh, where she taught for nearly a decade.



And finally, **Casey Schneider** will be the new Physical Education teacher.

Schnieder has been teaching in Buncombe County for

16 years and has coached multiple sports teams. She strives to provide experiences and opportunities that encourage students to love physical activity.

Schnieder hopes her students will learn the importance of movement and develop healthy, life-long habits.

Schnieder and her family live in Fairview and are excited to live, play, and now teach and learn in the community they love so much.

Friendship Is a Force

If you've read my earlier columns, you won't be surprised to find that I struggle to keep in contact with people via the phone or that I think spending hours on FaceTime talking to friends is a waste of time.

Well, you may be as shocked as I was to find out that I now not only keep in regular touch with my best friend Charley in Florida, but I spend up to 12 hours a month on FaceTime talking to her. What brought about this change in me and



Ansley Fuchs

TEEN PERSPECTIVE

brought together two relatively introverted personalities? Star Wars.

We started out just watching things together, but we slowly got to know each other really well. A beautiful, meaningful, and deep friendship has blossomed. Sometimes we go months without talking, but we pick up right where we left off. No awkward, "So...um...how are you?"—just straight into conversation as if we had only seen each other an hour ago.

Charley and I watch Star Wars the same way we read a good book—connecting storylines, developing plots and characters, theorizing, etc. And our early watch parties

have turned into hours-long conversations before we even get to talking about Star Wars.

Charley has been exactly what I need a good friend to be. She's compassionate, not easily embarrassed and silly (unlike me), but also serious and smart. I have the deepest conversations with her about Star Wars, life and especially faith. We challenge each other to think deeply about our beliefs, and to grow in knowledge and defense of them. I have very few teenagers in my life that I can talk about things with as deeply and intelligently as I do with Charley or with whom I can maturely discuss disagreements and debate. Aside from the Star Wars connection, the foundation of our friendship and what it has grown into in such a short period of time is why I think our friendship will last a lifetime.

Charley is a one-in-a-million friend. I know because my whole life I have valued these real, deep and thoughtful relationships, leading me to gravitate toward adults. This has allowed me to gain precious, invaluable mentors and friendships with people much older than me. But it also means that I have few close friends my own age. While missing out on some of the high school fun is sad, I believe that the friendships created and lessons learned because I'm not a typical teen will stay with me a lifetime.

I could try to change, but having found a friend like Charley proves to me that it's not

worth it. I could pretend to like things my peers like. I could follow the crowd and I would probably have tons of friends—if by that you mean people who will hang out with you, giggle, chat and goof. It can be fun in the moment, but it's not what I truly value. Talking Star Wars is a great hobby, but what I value about my friendship with Charley is the types of conversations we have.

Some conversations are lighthearted, shallow and fun, but others are deep. The ability to sit down and talk to a friend for hours about faith, theology and life—or even fictional things, like Star Wars, is rare for me. I frequently receive a random, four-paragraph text from Charley in which she just unloads her thoughts about the motives and structure of the Jedi Order. It's awesome, and hilarious—she dives into emotional confinements, exploitation, corruption and the intertwining of powers. The consideration and intelligence she puts into everything makes every conversation we have lively and challenges me to think deeply and critically.

Having a friend like Charley has shown me that standing true to my values, impressions and character will push me far in life and create lasting friendships that will strengthen my abilities, grow my passions, deepen my understanding and drive my thirst for knowledge.

Ansley Fuchs lives in Fairview with her parents and three siblings and is a rising sophomore at Asheville Christian Academy.

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A Message from the ACRHS Principal

As we embark on another school year, it is our togetherness that will make this upcoming year one of the very best in Rocket Country. The relationship between school and home is vital. It is a united partnership for the growth of each Rocket student and the betterment of our entire community.

At A.C. Reynolds High this upcoming year, the expectations for our students will be the same regarding their conduct in the classroom, on the fields and courts, and on our performance stages. The same solid expectations will be upheld for our teachers and coaches to maintain an environment of classroom rigor and athletic and artistic excellence. Through every expectation comes opportunities—for students both individually and as a group. Opportunities for involvement in the classroom or with a club, sport or organization could yield new friendships, hidden talents and advancement during and after students' time at ACRHS. Our students often hear me say that our school is only as strong as we make it. Their relationship with their school is just as important as yours—as their parents—is with their school.

In our togetherness this upcoming year—at Meet the Teacher or our Curriculum Night, at the various band and chorus concerts, the fall and spring theater



I invite *you* to come out, to show up, and to support each of our students in all of their endeavors.
—ACRHS Principal Ben Alexander

productions, the academic award ceremonies, or under the Friday night lights at R.L. Dalton Stadium and all the very great athletic events throughout the entire year—I invite *you* to come out, to show up, and to support each of our students in all of their endeavors. I encourage you to get involved with your school, whether it's joining our athletic or band boosters, joining our PTA, supporting your own student in trying a different class or sport, or getting involved in a club that could bring students a new sense of confidence and happiness.

I thank you for giving ACRHS the opportunity each and every day to teach your kids. I thank you for the incredible privilege of being our school's principal. I thank you for always showing that Reynolds—both our school and community—is the *very best* in all of NC.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead and all that comes with it, where together we're all always proud to say, "Go Rockets!"

CHRISTI HURD

A Learning-Affirming Home

As a new school year begins, start considering how to make your home environment one with a learning-affirming atmosphere.

- Encourage predictability by holding regular family meetings to share upcoming events and discuss anticipated, temporary stresses.
- Post an agenda on your fridge for anyone to write down topics to discuss at the meetings.
- Promote and model an organized schedule that produces relaxed productivity and peace, harmony and security.
- Provide many opportunities for children of all ages to immerse themselves in a creative process (a box of dress-up clothes, musical instruments, artistic tools for expression, etc.).
- Enjoy games that promote critical thinking like chess, checkers and cards.
- Play quiet instrumental music while kids are doing homework, chores or other activities.
- Promote communication by making it easy to connect. For example: a seating area in the kitchen; big pillows throughout the house where siblings can sprawl out and catch up; and a swing or outdoor furniture for outdoor chats.
- Show your own interest in learning by providing a place for books, magazines, and newspapers on a wide variety of topics. Let your kid see how you value actual printed materials.
- Check out healthychildren.org for resources to set up a family media agreement for screentime balance.



Christi Hurd, M.A., NBCT, who retired from CCMS, is certified through the Parent Coaching Institute. See hurduddleparentsupport.com for more info.

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In Memoriam

Malcolm David “M.D.” Hathaway, Jr.



Malcolm David “M.D.” Hathaway, Jr. transitioned from this earthly life on July 8 at 80 years of age, at home surrounded by loved ones. M.D. grew up in Churchland, VA, and attended Norfolk County public schools and graduated from Churchland High School in 1961. He was awarded a football scholarship by the University of South Carolina and lettered there, making lifelong friends. He made connections with athletes from the entire Tidewater area, as he enjoyed all sports and excelled in most. He spoke with some of these friends throughout his recent illness.

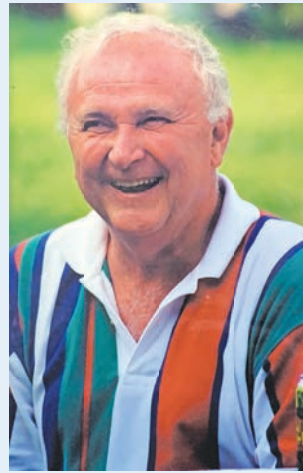
For many years, M.D. worked for McLean Contracting, building bridges, piers, dry docks, interstate flyovers and more in most Mid-Atlantic states. He later worked for Tidewater Construction and ended his career with Skanska USA. Many enduring friendships were forged along the way.

M.D. was the quintessential family man, always providing for his family in every possible way. Thus, the Hathaway home has always been a gathering place for our children’s friends, friends and neighbors, and family. He was a true homebody who enjoyed being home!

M.D. is preceded in death by his parents, and a twin sister, Betty Lou Butt. He is survived by his wife, Ann Ogg; daughter, Amy Hathaway (Chase Andrews); son, Malcolm D. (Dave) Hathaway, III (Stephy); a sister, Marilyn Gooden Sharpe; nieces Michelle Wilkins Knowles and Mary Beth Gooden; and the Ogg family of nieces, nephews and cousins, all dear to him.

M.D. was a “people” person who made deep connections with those he was near, be it Heart Path rehab class, sports, work or our children’s friends. Nature and animals have always been a huge part of the Hathaway household for over 58 years of married life.

M.D. is missed by many. A celebration of life will be held in his beloved mountains of WNC where he lived his final years. No date has been set yet. Information may be obtained from Groce Funeral Home in Asheville (687-3530) when available.



Larry Keith Turner

Larry Keith Turner was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend to all. He lived as part of the Fairview community since 1988. He entered his heavenly home on May 4.

Larry was an active member of Fairview Christian Fellowship. He started worked with the Reverend Dr. Billy Graham’s team in 1967.

Larry’s wife Nancy and children Corey Turner, Kimberley Turner Hall and Jon Turner and their families

welcome you to join them at Larry’s Celebration of Life, taking place on August 13 at 3 pm at Fairview Christian Fellowship, located at 596 Old US Highway 74 in Fairview.

To read Larry’s obituary, please visit Harwood Home for Funerals website (harwoodhomeforfunerals.com/obituary-listing).

Larry’s family wishes to thank you for your outpouring of love and support. God bless you all.

The *Crier* is honored to share memorials to Fairview-area loved ones who have passed away. And there is never a charge to print an obituary or notice of a celebration of life.

Please get in touch with the editor (see page 31) if you would like to pay tribute to a family member.

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Hey there, neighbors! I wanted to share some tips that may help you save money on your insurance premiums.

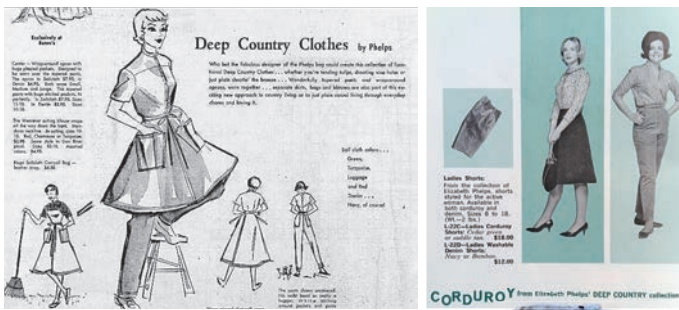
- If you have a roadside plan with AARP or AAA, make sure you're not also paying for that coverage on your auto policy. If you have a spare car at home, you may not need rental reimbursement coverage at all. It's also worth checking to see if you're eligible for "good student," "away student," low miles, senior safety course or multiple policy discounts.
- Pay less by going paperless, paying in full, or setting up recurring monthly payments—you will reduce your overall expenses and greatly reduce the risk of having a lapse in coverage. Avoid receiving and paying bills by mail, as that is usually the most costly premium and you risk not getting mail to/from the company.

Joanne Winkler is the owner of ESCO Insurance Agency.

Anyone Remember Deep Country Clothes?

We're curious to know if anyone in the community knows of or remembers anything about Elizabeth Phelps, who moved to Fairview in 1951 with her husband William. Their fashion line, designed by her, was called Deep Country Clothes.

We think this would be a fun article to research and are looking for any local connections. Email or text/call the editor with any tips at clark@fairviewtowncrier.com or 828-771-6983. You can read more about the Phelps at tinyurl.com/ynp69jj4.



FREE PIANO AND BENCH

Blasius and Sons upright piano (manufactured before 1925). You must pick up; will require at least 4 people (or fewer with piano dolly); no stairs. House located near Spring Mountain Community Center. Contact Philip at pjj.ets@gmail.com or call (text preferred) 828-490-5615.

ON THE ROAD

Sheila Garcia-Garmon is traveling again! This time she took the Crier on a road trip to Loveland, Colorado; Alma, Kansas; St. Louis; and Nashville. She saw the real Parthenon in Greece on a previous trip, and then saw the one pictured here in Nashville.



Mark Small carried a copy of the Crier on a recent trip to watch the Dolomites Ultra Trail team race, where a team of two athletes start together, in Brixen, go through checkpoints together and reach the finish in Brixen in South Tyrol, Italy. Thanks, Mark!



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Be Careful What You Tell Your Friends

By Clark Aycock

When I was at the post office last month, I ran into Kim Thompson, who lives in the Spring Mountain community. She was very eager to show me some pictures on her phone (shown here). When she did, I just scratched my head and asked her to explain.

Kim said that she had always wanted a scarecrow in her garden. She had let other people know that, too, including her friends Debbie Rayl and Melanie Wilkins. And now she's learned to be careful what you wish for!

Being good friends—and a little mischievous—Debbie and Melanie waited until Kim went out of town and then created and installed this scarecrow in her garden. It's over 6 feet tall and unlike any other scarecrow I've ever seen.

From the twinkle in her eye, it seemed like Kim might be planning some "revenge" on her friends soon.



DR. ASHLEY LUCAS

Maintain Gut & Weight

Recent research has revealed that bacteria living in your digestive tract, known as the gut microbiome, could play an important role in maintaining a healthy weight. The good news is that you can promote a happy, healthy gut through simple diet and lifestyle choices. Here are three tips.

- 1 Fill Up on Fiber** Fiber is the superhero of gut health. It acts like a broom, sweeping away waste and toxins, while also providing nourishment for the beneficial gut bacteria. Try to include a variety of foods rich in fiber daily, such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains. For example, swap white bread for whole-grain bread, and enjoy a colorful salad loaded with veggies for lunch.
- 2 Embrace Probiotic Foods** Probiotics are the friendly bacteria that can help balance your gut microbiome. These can be found in fermented foods like yogurt, sauerkraut and kimchi. Try adding a serving of yogurt topped with berries as a tasty, gut-friendly snack option.
- 3 Reduce Stress** High stress levels can disrupt the balance of gut bacteria, leading to digestive issues and weight gain. Taking time for self-care activities like deep breathing, meditation or an enjoyable hobby can help. Additionally, regular exercise can have a positive impact on both your mood and your gut.



Ashley Lucas, who lives in Fletcher, has a PhD in nutrition and is a Registered Dietitian. Her company, PHD Weight Loss and Nutrition, is located at 1833 Hendersonville Road, Suite 170, Asheville. 552-3333 or myphdweightloss.com.

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Inflation Can Be ‘Shocking’ in Retirement

When you retire, you hope that you’ll be able to anticipate the events that could cause you financial challenges down the road. For one thing, most retirees are probably aware that, even if they remain healthy, their health care costs may rise, even if they’re covered by Medicare or Medicare Advantage. But there’s another potential risk that can sneak up on retirees: inflation.

However, once they reach retirement, retirees are all too aware of the effects of rising prices. In fact, 63% of retirees think the biggest financial shock in retirement is inflation and the rising cost of living, according to a recent survey by Age Wave and Edward Jones.

As you know, we have experienced mild inflation for some time, up until the past couple of years. But even when inflation subsides again, it can still be a threat to your retirement security. A 3% annual inflation rate can double your cost of living in about 25 years. What can you do to help alleviate the shock of inflation?

Actually, you can take considerable action to help meet this threat. Here are a few steps to consider:

- **Try to cut down on expenses.** Take a close look at all your discretionary expenses, such as travel, entertainment and so on. You might find areas in which you can cut back somewhat—and every little bit helps. Also, take

advantage of all the senior discounts available to you. These days, many businesses and services offer these discounts, but you may have to ask about them. And if you want to look at an area that potentially offers even bigger savings, you might consider downsizing your living space, though this decision involves many factors, not all of them financial.

- **Consider part-time work.** If you wouldn’t mind doing some part-time work or consulting, you’ll find that the extra income could improve your cash flow and possibly make you somewhat less dependent on your investment portfolio for the financial resources you need to maintain your lifestyle. And the added income could eventually contribute to increased Social Security benefits. (However, if you earn over a certain amount and have already started collecting Social Security but haven’t reached your full retirement age—between 66 and 67—your benefits may be temporarily reduced.)
- **Review your investments for growth and income opportunities.** Understandably, many investors shift their investment portfolios toward a more conservative approach when they retire – after all, they simply have fewer years to recover from the inevitable short-term market declines. Yet, to help stay ahead of inflation, even retired

investors need some growth potential in their portfolios, such as stocks and other growth investments. At the same time, it may be a good idea to consider whether you’re getting what you need from your income-producing securities, such as certificates of deposit (CDs), bonds and other fixed-income investments. A financial professional can help review your portfolio to determine if the mix of growth and income is aligned with your particular needs given your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

The past few years have been a wakeup call for many people, especially retirees, on the threat that inflation poses to their financial security. But being proactive can help prevent inflation from deflating your retirement hopes and dreams.



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Stephen Herbert. 628-1546, stephen.herbert@edwardjones.com.

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PRICE RANGE	NO. OF SALES	\$ AVG PRICE	AVG DAYS ON MKT
100-199,999K	3	134,333	48
300-399,999K	3	336,670	124
400-499,999K	1	474,900	1
500-599,999K	4	526,125	9
700-799,999K	2	728,500	21
800-899,999K	4	850,000	22
900-999,999K	2	930,000	38
1M-1.2M	3	1,225,000	22

HOMES LISTED: 4	HOMES CLOSED: 22	LAND LISTED: 6	LAND CLOSED: 3
Max \$1,479,000	Max \$1,190,000	Max \$529,000	Max \$465,000
Min \$450,000	Min \$112,000	Min \$59,000	Min \$89,000
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Recent Grads and Summer Updates

I hope all of our Reynolds district students, families and staff are having a fun, relaxing summer break. And I want to congratulate all of our recent ACRHS graduates. There were 224 Reynolds students in the class of 2023, and they have now started on their new adventures, joining the workforce, enlisting in our country's armed forces or pursuing higher academic education. I know all of you graduates will do great things in the world, and I hope you always keep that "Rocket Pride Inside."

Great summer programming is ongoing for students in our school system, like the new Career Technical Education Camp, Summer Academy, band camps, Reynolds sports camps, and various club activities. Special congratulations go to the Reynolds FFA and FCCLA students who represented the Rocket community while competing in state and national competitions. Also, notably, we celebrate the ACRHS Symphonic and Concert bands, who performed at Carnegie Hall. We have so many students pursuing great things in our schools that it can be hard to keep track.

FES Update

Earlier this summer, we recognized Dr. Angie Jackson upon her retirement as the principal of Fairview Elementary School (FES). Principal Jackson served our FES community for the last seven years with kind, professional and steady leadership. We appreciate all she

has done for the students and families during her time and wish her a happy retirement. Also at FES, we celebrated assistant principal Christen Davidson, her many contributions, and her promotion to serve as principal at Haw Creek Elementary School.

We are excited to welcome the new principal, Dr. Bonnie Bolado. Principal Bolado comes to FES after serving for several years as a school administrator in Haywood County and most recently the Chief Academic Officer at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, based in Cullowhee. She is very excited to be a Fairview Cardinal, and we look forward to all of the great things she will do for our students and school community.

School-Community Partnerships

In the summer, principals are busy planning for the next school year, which will begin on August 28. They are actively engaging parents and community partners to serve on the School Advisory Council, the School Improvement Team, PTA, booster clubs and other volunteer opportunities. If you are a parent of a student or a community member interested in helping our schools, call or email the principal and let them know.

I want to acknowledge the great work of our PTAs in the Reynolds district. Their memberships and participation have been growing, and it's great to see the positive energy from all the collaboration. I especially

want to highlight that ACRHS will have a PTSA this year. The "S" stands for "students," and this new organization provides students with the opportunity to serve in leadership roles and advocate for the needs of their school community.

Advocacy with State Government

The students in our public schools represent the future of our community and our state. They deserve our very best efforts, and I am always eager to advocate for our needs as a public school system. Twice this summer, I was asked to participate in town hall events with Governor Cooper and other elected officials to discuss how we can better support our public school students, teachers and families.

Several bills that will affect the state's investments in public schools are making their way through the General Assembly this session. The most notable is S406/H823, known as "Choose Your School, Choose Your Future." This bill will direct \$5 billion dollars of taxpayer money to private school vouchers over the next 10 years. If it is passed, Buncombe County public schools would lose \$5.6 million of funding. Another bill to be aware of is House Bill 66, which would change how our school board elections are held in the county, beginning in 2024. I believe that House Bill 66 was filed and passed with technical errors that will be very difficult to remedy, so we would be unsure

what our districts would look like or when the bill could actually be implemented. If you agree with me and want to support our public schools, I encourage you to reach out to your elected officials and let them know how this type of legislation will affect your own student or our school community. Regardless of state-level legislation, I will stay committed to focusing on the true needs of our Reynolds district and county's public schools.

Lastly, I would like to thank Isaac the Barber at the Biltmore Barber Shop in Olde Eastwood Village in Reynolds for hosting a great bi-partisan town hall last month that included all of our General Assembly delegates, including Senators Warren Daniel (R) and Julie Mayfield (D), and House Representatives Eric Ager and Lindsay Prather (both D). It was respectful, constructive and very refreshing to see our community discussing important topics and listening to the concerns of their neighbors. I believe through compassionate dialogue like this we can make our community a better place.

If you would like to contact me with questions or concerns about school board-related items, please email me at rob.elliott@bcsemail.org or call/text 828-222-4874.



Rob Elliot is the Reynolds District School Board Representative. Contact him with questions or concerns about school-board related items at rob.elliott@bcsemail.org or call/text 828-222-4874.

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Spotted Lanternflies: Wings of Doom

Anniversaries are usually happy occasions. Unfortunately, this summer marks the progression of invasive spotted lanternflies as they continue expanding out of Pennsylvania.

It's been one year since spotted lanternflies were first discovered in NC, near the Forsyth/Guilford county border. Although not physically harmful to humans, these invasives hit where it really hurts: the economy. They can be detrimental for agriculture, agrotourism events and more. Swarms of spotted lanternflies produce large amounts of sap-sucking insect excrement—known as honeydew—that can attract other insects like yellow jackets, ants and flies.

Spotted lanternflies were first detected in Pennsylvania in 2014, and their effects have been devastating. A study in that state revealed that they feed on 70 different native plant species and could cost the state's economy approximately \$324 million annually without intervention. They have now been found in over 14 states—and continue to spread.

They are known to feed on various plants and have a significant appetite. The US Department of Agriculture lists several possible food choices, including almonds, apples, apricots, cherries, grapes, hops, maple trees, nectarines, oak trees, peaches, pine trees, plums, sycamore trees, walnut

trees and willow trees. The wide variety of meal choices is a significant concern. However, their feeding behavior in swarms is the most problematic aspect.

They feed on the sap of plants, consuming large quantities and continuously excreting honeydew. While other insect species also feed on tree sap, the problem with spotted lanternflies is the massive size of the swarms. As an invasive species, they lack natural predators and face fewer weather constraints compared to their native habitat in China. This allows their population to grow uncontrollably, overwhelming and killing the resources they feed on. And the excrement produced by spotted lanternflies during feeding promotes a fungal growth called sooty mold, which can cover and kill the affected areas.

Spotted lanternflies start as larvae inside egg clusters, which have been said to resemble squished gum, putty, peanut butter, mud or a clump of dish soap bubbles, typically measuring around an inch in length. These clusters are tan or grayish in color and can be found on various outdoor surfaces, including trees, rocks, fence posts and outdoor sheds. They are usually produced during the fall and winter, hatching in May. Egg sacs on material transported by people—even the side of an RV—can spread spotted lanternflies.

After hatching, the larvae enter the

nymph stage. During this stage, spotted lanternflies are black with white spots and typically measure around 1/8 of an inch in length. The nymph stage begins in April and ends in July, transitioning to the third phase of their lifecycle.

In the third stage, the nymph becomes a "late-stage nymph." They retain their black color with white spots but develop red circular patterns beneath the white circles. The nymph also grows to approximately 1/2 inch. This transformation usually occurs between July and September, leading to the final stage.

Starting in late July, the late-stage nymph reaches adulthood, becoming a full-fledged spotted lanternfly. In this stage, they reach a length of 1 inch and develop wings.

An adult spotted lanternfly has two layers of wings. The top layer is cream-colored with black spots and covers about 3/4 of its length. The ends of the top wings have black lines. The second layer of wings is white and red, with black spots on the red sections. This stage unlocks their full destructive potential, as they become a disaster for native ecosystems.

They may look a bit like moths, but please do not confuse the invasive spotted lanternfly with harmless—or beneficial—native species like the giant leopard moth.

If you spot one, please report it at the




NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' website (tinyurl.com/5ev9zx2r). You can check out similar-looking species using the links at fairviewtowncrier.com/links.

If you have confirmed the identification of a spotted lanternfly or egg mass, the best treatment is to destroy it.

When hiking, camping, hunting or otherwise enjoying outdoor recreation, be sure to check your clothes for spotted lanternflies. Hikers often unknowingly transport lanternflies by carrying them on their clothing or gear. And be sure to source your firewood locally to prevent the spread of these and other invasive insect species.

Cullen Harvey is a copywriting intern with SAHC. Angela Shepherd is Communications Director of the SAHC in Asheville. She can be reached at 253-0095 ext. 200 or sahc@appalachian.org. Visit Appalachian.org.

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Future meetings
September 12 at Steam Master; another September meeting (date and time to be announced) will be held with Shannon Capezzali, from the Buncombe County Land Planning Board, who will explain the adopted Future Land Use Map.
October 10 at Frame It and Clothes Mentor.
November 8 at Cloud 9 Relaxation.
December 5 at Black Bear BBQ for a Christmas gathering.



Seen Our Kiosk?

The kiosk outside the Fairview Post Office is an often-overlooked place to find local business information in our digital age. It's especially important for newcomers, who can get a visual, hands-on experience with the multitude of entrepreneurs otherwise hidden in our Fairview community. It was erected by the Fairview Business Association years ago for this reason.

There are two sides of the kiosk, with the glass-covered part facing the post office for FBA members only. Business cards (to take) are on the right, and posters are put on the left side. (Members should take down their poster if the event has passed.) The side facing the parking lot is for community use.

If you're a member, remember to place some of your business cards here. And if you're not a member, join us soon!

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Summer Mushrooms: Beauty and the Beastly

It is shaping up to be yet another abundant season for the wild mushroom frontier in WNC.

I have decided that it is time to begin writing more fully about poisonous mushrooms and plants, not to invoke fear but to educate. If one is to enjoy the many splendors and delights of the wild edible and medicinal kingdoms, it is crucial to learn and appreciate the poisonous species that grow in our mountains.

One of my favorite wild mushrooms, the chanterelle, is coming out in full force. Like morels in the spring, these delicacies are a true treasure. I love them so much that I often refer to them as “forest gold” because of their beautiful color.

However, there is another mushroom in WNC to be aware of, the jack-o'-lantern (Omphalotus olearius). These are also beautiful, but don't eat them. They are highly poisonous but rarely fatal. If ingested, they cause severe gastrointestinal distress that is intense and can last several days and require hospitalization.

Jack-o'-lantern mushrooms are common and abundant in the mountains. Unfortunately, they are responsible for more poisonings in NC than any other mushroom.

Make sure you always have 100% positive identification before eating any mushroom. When in doubt, don't eat. Get



Be sure you know the difference between the jack-o'-lantern mushroom (left) and chanterelle (above).

verification from a mushroom expert. Books are not a substitute for first-hand field experience and expertise.

Here are the different characteristics of jack-o'-lanterns and chanterelles.

Jack-o'-lantern Mushrooms

- Grow in dense clusters, often more than eight together and are found directly on wood, at the base of tree trunks or on roots. However, the wood the mycelium (fungal root) is attached to may be invisible to the naked eye (such as in deeply rotted wood, under leaf mulch, etc.), and these mushrooms are rarely found growing singularly;
- Have true knife-edged gills that do not fork or have any cross veins and are easily pulled apart;
- When jack-o'-lantern stems are cut open, they appear pale orange in color throughout the flesh;



When fresh, some will glow in the dark and are one of the few species of luminescent mushrooms associated with foxfire. Put them in a plastic bag and turn off all the lights. It's a magical experience—but note that not every sample will glow.

Chanterelles

- Grow on the forest floor and are never found directly on wood;
- Usually appear singularly. They do occasionally grow in clusters, but almost never more than four or five;
- Have false gills that look like they are melted onto the cap, with thick, blunt ridges that are forked and have cross veins in between. These are all firmly attached and hard to separate;
- When you cut Chanterelle open, at least for the smooth chanterelle common in WNC, the stems are creamy white and

somewhat resemble string cheese;

- When fresh, often have a mild fruity aroma, reminiscent of a faint apricot essence;

Note: There are several species. The small, red cinnabar chanterelles that arise later in the season are a much deeper red-orange in color, and their false gills look more like the true gills of regular mushrooms.

Most often, the confusion between jack-o'-lanterns and chanterelles takes place with beginners, whose enthusiasm outweighs any healthy caution. However, even seasoned foragers can and do make mistakes. And once cooked, mushrooms can no longer be identified.

The reason I ask for such caution is that there are no cures for eating some mushrooms, such as amanita.

The wild mushroom frontier is a joy to behold and they are all beautiful and enormously beneficial life forms, regardless of edibility. But remember the old adage: There are old mushroom hunters and bold mushroom hunters but there are no old and bold mushroom hunters.



Contact Roger at rogerklinger@charter.net.

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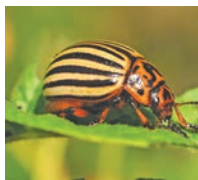
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Buggin' Out in the Garden

It's that magical time of year filled with river swims, exploding cherry tomatoes and cucumbers straight from the vine. You wake up to a sunny morning and travel barefoot to your garden. It's an idyllic summer day until your eyes focus on the horrific display of bugs devouring the vegetables you have poured your blood, sweat and money into for the past several months. We've all been there. It's simply part of gardening, but it still stings pretty badly. Fear not, though—following is a list of the insects to look out for and how to fight back like your kale's life depends on it.



Colorado Potato Beetles

An orange-ish brown color with black stripes, it's hard to miss these

because when they arrive, they bring quite the crowd. The best way to get rid of them isn't the most pleasant—good ol' hand-picking. I personally like to send out my children with a cup of soapy water to pop them into and pay them by the plant, but I know not all of us have access to child labor, so feel free to use a friendly neighbor or spouse.



Slugs

We haven't seen a lot of them this year at Root Cause Farm (RCF), but if you have them, the best thing you can do is

pluck them off at dusk or try organic slug repellent. Or get ducks. Then you'll have no slugs and duck eggs to eat. Not a bad tradeoff.



Cabbage Looper

Well, well, well, it's the old cabbage looper. If you garden, you probably know this one—a cute white moth

that leaves petite yellow eggs that in turn become a dozen hungry, hungry caterpillars going to town on your collards. They feast on most brassica leaves, so if you don't put a cover of some kind on your plants, be prepared to deal with them. In a small garden, I love hand-picking them and feeding them to my chickens like the spiteful gardener I am, but on a larger scale, like at RCF, I'd recommend spraying. We use a combination of Bt and fish emulsion in the evening or early morning. Bt should not be sprayed on flowers of any kind, as it's not friendly to

pollinators, but it's great for big kale leaves being devoured. Spray until the leaves are dripping and don't forget the underside.



Tomato Hornworm

This big fat worm with a giant horn on the end is a marvel to look at, but it's a big

tomato bully if you let it hang out. Keep an eye out and hand pick it when found. If you find one with little white blobs all over it, you are in for a treat. The obtrusions are actually the cocoons of a parasitic wasp. A female wasp has laid her eggs under the skin of that hornworm. As the eggs hatch, the larvae feed on the hornworm—from the inside. The larvae eat their way out of the caterpillar and spin a cocoon. Eventually, adult wasps will emerge from the cocoons and the weakened hornworm will die. It's a real blast.



Mexican Bean Beetles

If you grow green beans, you no doubt know these lady-bug look-alikes. Catch 'em early and pick

off by hand or use row cover when seeding to prevent a pesty takeover.



Aphids

Tiny and rather gross-looking, the easiest and most effective way to deal with these colonies of little invaders is to

hit 'em hard with your garden hose or with some neem oil.

While these little buggers might not completely kill a plant like some of these other pests, nobody wants a mouthful of aphids in their salad!

Learn more

If you would like to learn more about gardening or just love getting your hands dirty, join us Sundays from 3–6 pm and Mondays from 9 am–12 pm. We grow food and give it away, and we'd love for you to join us.

Take Root Festival

Come see the farm and partake in summer merriment at our Take Root Farm Festival fundraiser on August 5. There will be music, creamy ice cream, cold local beer and all sorts of kids and garden activities, plus a silent auction. Hope to see you there!

Amy Miller is the Director of Operations at Root Cause Farm. 26 Joe Jenkins Road, Fairview. rootcausefarm.org.



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Data, Check Fraud, Email Times

Despite knowing that many private companies buy data from the thousands of data brokers in the US, it is amazing that the largest purchaser of private data is the US government. Many agencies involved in this purchasing are part of the intelligence community, but there is little oversight limiting what can be bought.

Using an **ad blocker** helps block third-party ads, speeds up page loading speeds, and helps with security, as it can block “ads” that pop up. Now to make more money, YouTube will disable playback for those using ad blockers. Currently, they are experimenting with a small group of users and are likely to roll this out for all. Soon, you may have to unblock ads for YouTube or buy YouTube Premium.

Check fraud is increasing. Sending or receiving checks in the mail gives fraudsters an edge up—physically stealing checks provides routing numbers, signatures and paper to “wash” and reuse with changes to payee and amount. As much as you may have concerns about electronic fund transfers, they are safer than mailing checks. Monitor your accounts online to see when checks are cashed. Consider paying for services with a credit card, if that option is available to you.

DuckDuckGo has a beta for Windows users (duckduckgo.com/windows). Their goal is to outdo other browsers’ tracking protections by automating cookie pop-ups, with the ability to hide many “I accept”

options, and offering a built-in player for YouTube that disables many ads and keeps you out of YouTube’s algorithm.

Optimal email sending times and days keep changing. Now 10 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm are best. The trick is avoiding hungry/rushed times, so different industries may have varied “happy” times. And, no surprise: Mondays and Fridays are busier, so emails should arrive Tuesday to Thursday. Much of this info comes via email marketers, who track when messages are actually opened. There is nothing wrong with emailing when you need to. Just remember you may have to send a follow-up—maybe aim for one of the better times.

Just as you learn to limit distractions from digital notifications, you need to **create a signal** for real people to recognize when you do not want to be disturbed. It could be a simple physical object or closing the door, or LED “busy lights” that plug into your computer and change color if you are busy—they can even be set to trigger at certain times. Make sure they integrate with software you use or have features you need. Otherwise, just use a red plush toy.



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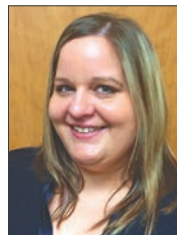
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