

BETHLEHEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TERRIFIC KIDS — Bethlehem Elementary School recently recognized the January Terrific Kids. The January honorees included: Ariel Hicks, Collin Brown, Alexis Jaquins, Katie Stroud, Rilyn Sharpe, Parker Payne, Gavin Hedrick, Leah Lor, Blake Cook, Corey Williams, Conley Cline, Adisson Mayberry, Lily Shelton, Landon Ferrese, Makhayla Cook, Austin Merrit, Frankie Mangano, Celeste Crafton, Nate Hedrick, Gracie Evans, Rylee Glover, Connor Rooks, Cadence Rollins, Jayden Hamby, Gavin Bentley, Sophie Little, Madison Hennessee, Jack Skinner, Cassie Lambert, Brianna Jimison, Jadelynn Letterman, Connor Beal, Noah Brinkley, Autumn Brown, Cooper James, McKayla Harrison, Mikayla Watts, Aaliyah Hannah, Mallory Lail, Joshua Prsenell, Thomas Bedzinski, Madalyn Haynes, Laney Overby, and Mason Sills.

#### IN THE SHADOW OF HOGAN'S MOUNTAIN By Dr. Warren Hollar

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# The Times They are Changing!

As a young person in the mid-twentieth century my experiences with technology included such things as turning the Tenna Rotor, listening for the ring on the party line, playing records on my turntable, and holding a transistor radio to my ear. Riding my bicycle to the mailbox at the upper end of Hogan's Mountain was the highlight to receive information from relatives in distant places. The television news came to us only in the evenings from WBTV's Doug Mayes or around the stove at Fred Teague's store.

Fast forward to the second decade of the twentyfirst century and we have entirely different ways to communicate. The president uses twitter and we're not talking birds. We do google searches and we are not doing advanced math. Most anything can be bought from Amazon and we aren't talking the river. We use Tango and aren't dancing. Bloggers discuss opinion in log format and aren't related to those who cut trees. Flickr is a way to share photos via the internet and isn't something that a black and white television does. Photoshop is not a place we take our

film to be developed but a way to make pictures match untruths provided on dating sites. We don't have to go to the movie theatre to see movies, but can use a search engine to see which films are available on Netflix, Roku, or Showtime. We don't have to call our friends to know the good movies, but just go on line to Rotten Tomatoes or Fandango. We can make calls from our I Phones, Androids, or Windows Phones from most anywhere and even do it easier than when Captain Kirk flipped open his communicator. We get our health information from health portals and not from doctors' secretaries. We no longer must imagine what our grandchildren in other states look like when they lose their first tooth. We just Facetime or Skype in real time to remind grandkids that the tooth fairy used to give a nickel instead of a dollar for a lost tooth. Advice asked for from grandpa and grandma are significant reduced by Siri on our phones, Alexa from Amazon, Cortana from Microsoft, or M from Facebook as they provide answers to most questions.

n, Facebook and Google are companies that could hardly be imagined when I graduated high school in the 1960's.

Yes, I know. Those of you in my age bracket say, "I don't use all that stuff!! You can't teach an old dog new tricks!" Well, if we are going to hear from our children and grandchildren and know what's going on their worlds, we might want to learn. Do we have to have a computer? Probably not, but you might want to consider getting a smart phone such as an I phone or Android. They can do the basic things that a computer does including texting, emailing, Facebook, and researching topics on the internet. Oh, and you might want to have your wife learn how to use Facebook so you can see the grandchildren in action and hear what is going on in their lives.

Let's look at some of the generational bridges that can be built if we learn

some basic tech stuff! Texting - Texting has quickly become the standard choice for communication in our society. LinkedIn tells us about 80% of Americans text and they send over 6 billion texts daily. Texting, twitter, and other instant messaging have significantly reduced the art of letter writing and post office profits. Learn to type with your thumbs. If arthritis bothers you, use the old hunt and peck method from typewriter days. Don't text and drive and particularly if you are a senior citizen. I have had near death experiences being near texting and driving grandmas. Learn some basic text speak. I wouldn't use it, but young people do and you soon get tired of guessing what they are saying. Texting is not private and don't expect immediate answers. They might be driving. Keep texts short.

Send an email if you need something long. Don't text in the middle of the night. Light sleepers wake up when they hear the text

Emails - Radicati Group tells us 2.4 million emails are sent every second, 2.5 billion people use email around the world, and an average office worker receives 121 emails per day. 43% of people even check their email in the bathroom. Interesting statistics! Some things you might want to consider per Net M@nners: Make sure to give a subject heading. If you want your children or grandchildren to read your email, make sure to give a heading that describes the content of the email. Don't send bad news via email. People would rather hear a voice to find out about a death, accident, or some other lifechanging event. Using all capital letters in emails is considered shouting and very rude. Be very careful not to hit reply all, everyone sees your response. Use it sparingly. When replying to an e-mail, include the original message along with any additional correspondence so the person receiving it can easily reference past communication. If someone has taken time to go out of their way to do something special for you, they deserve a handwritten thank you note and not an email. If you wouldn't want it on the front page of the Taylorsville Times, don't write it or send it. You never know where your e-mail may end up. Always ask permission before emailing a photo of someone.

So, there you have it! In the words of Forrest Gump, "And that's about all I know about that!" If you learn to Google or talk to Siri, you can probably get minimum competencies for most any technology. Good luck! Try it, you might like it

### **Extension's Master Gardener** Series will begin on March 8

By LENNY ROGERS

Alex. Extension Director Are you an avid gardener, but still wanting to improve your knowledge on all aspects of gardening? Well, the Nationally known Extension Master Gardener Program might just be for you. Our Master Gardener Program is an educational program designed to enhance public education and assistance in horticulture in our communities. It provides a comprehensive 13 session educational program to its

participants.

The Master Gardener Program is supported by a State Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator housed in the Horticultural Science Department at N.C. State University and by various Extension specialized agents and subject matter specialists. As a participant in the Master Gardener Program, you will receive 40 hours of training in all aspects of Horticulture including fruit and shade trees, ornamentals, lawn care, and vegetable culture. After the training if you wish to be certified as a Master Gardener, you will have the opportunity to provide 40 hours of volunteer service. This can be done by either judging 4-H gardens, assisting with fairs and their horticulture entries, planting or caring for community or

public gardens/landscap-

ing, or assisting with edu-

cational programs through the Extension Center.

Apple, Microsoft, Amazo

Plans are well underway for the 2017 series Alexander/Caldwell Master Gardener classes. Classes will be meeting on Wednesdays 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. beginning on March 8 and ending the last week of

From the looks of things, this is going to be one GREAT YEAR! We have recruited outstanding speakers, presenters, and subject matter specialist to meet the needs of interested citizens. Some classes will be taught in the Alexander Extension Center, three at outdoor settings, and several at the **Caldwell Extension Center** to which we will ride together to attend jointly with the Master Gardener groups there.

Application for acceptance into the Extension Master Gardener Program will be taken into February or until the class is full which ever comes first. The cost is \$100 which will be used to cover the costs of the Master Gardener Notebook, hands on supplies, and field trip expens-

Call the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Alexander County Center at 632-4451 for more information, or to register for the 2017 Extension Master Gardener Program. Please plan to register now as the

class usually fills up.

### **Baptist Women's Day set** Feb. 19 at Antioch Baptist

The ladies and girls of the church will lead the worship service on Sunday, February 19, at Antioch Baptist Church in Taylorsville in observance of Baptist Women's Day.

The service will begin at 10:55 a.m. with Ms. Jada Cable from North Carolina Baptist Children's Homes as speaker. She will share her experiences as she works with single teens and babies at the Children's Home in Lenoir. She is a

very inspirational speaker. Antioch is located at 580 Antioch Church Road.

Following worship service, there will be a fundraiser lunch of soup, sandwiches, and homemade desserts with proceed to go to the "Open Door Homeless Ministry" program. The public is cordially invited to join in Christian fellowship and good food. For more information, call the church office at 632-2929.

#### **Crosspoint Church plans** Feb. 19 blood drive at ACHS

Community Blood Center of the Carolinas is planning a blood drive February 19, 2017, at Crosspoint Church, which meets at 223 School



Drive (Alexander Central Auditorium), in Taylorsville. The event will run 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM. Note: CBCC's minimum weight requirement for blood donors is 120 pounds.

### Cooper offers HB 2 repeal compromise, Forest says no

In a press conference Tuesday, Feb. 14, Governor Roy Cooper was joined by Democratic Legislative leaders Representative Darren Jackson and Senator Dan Blue to offer a compromise proposal to repeal House Bill 2.

Governor Cooper's compromise would wipe House Bill 2 off the books while taking major steps to address all stated Republican concerns. The proposal includes:

A full repeal of House

· Tougher penalties for crimes committed in restrooms and dressing rooms A requirement that local governments give the legislature 30 days' notice before voting on non-dis-

crimination ordinances know North Carolinians are tired of hearing about this. HB 2 has divided us and stained our reputation. I've proposed a common sense compromise that will get HB2 off the books and address concerns on both sides. It's time for Republican leaders to step up and lead their members because February needs to be the month we get this done," said Governor Cooper.

"House Bill 2 is currently the biggest obstacle facing our economy and it must be repealed. Despite their supermajority, legislative Republicans have refused to offer a viable solution that will bring jobs and sporting events back to North Carolina. This

proposal requires some compromise by Democrats but it addresses every single one of legislative Republicans' reported surrounding concerns

HB2 and we're willing to come together to get the job done," said Senate Democratic Leader Dan

"HB 2 has already cost our economy thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars. We now have a very short window to take action before the NCAA removes tournament games for six years. We must act," said House Democratic Leader Darren Jackson.

A deal to repeal House Bill 2 failed in December after the Charlotte City Council partially rescinded its non-discrimination ordi-

Republican Lt. Gov. Dan Forest doesn't agree.

"If Governor Cooper's proposed bill for repealing HB2 becomes law, it will create a state-sanctioned 'Look But Don't Touch' policy in our bathrooms. Heterosexual men will be able to access women's showers and bathrooms by simply posing as a transgender individual. They will be able to watch and children women shower, or shower next to them. As long as the man doesn't touch them, assault them, or film them, no legal protection would be afforded the offended woman or child. Nothing. As a husband and father of four, the concept of 'Look But Don't Touch' as a meaningful response to HB2 is a sad commentary on how far the progressive movement, and the elected officials beholden to it, will risk the safety of our people to achieve a radical social policy agenda," said

### ACHS student art auction, gala planned at Revive Salon Feb. 24

The Canvas Art and Hair Art Project will showcase student art to the public, all for a good cause, at a Taylorsville hair salon.

This project is a collaboration of current ACHS art students and Revive Salon, owned by ACHS alumna Autumn Davidson, who graduated in 2005.

The following students participating in the project by submitting artwork and having their hair dyed to coordinate with their artworks: Jenna Roberts. Savannah Shanley, Lucas McCall, Allie Little, and Nancy Wilkie.

Also, all of the ACHS Art II students will be displaying their miniature acrylic landscape paintings.

"We're really excited to be doing this. The kids

are enthusiastic to have their works shown and the opportunity to have their hair match their work. I'm very thankful that the Revive Salon is giving our students an opportunity to showcase their works,' said ACHS art instructor Robbin Isenhour-Stewart.

Lt. Governor Dan Forest, a

Republican.

The Canvas Art and Hair Art Project auction and gala will take place Friday, February 24, at 6:30 p.m. at Revive Salon, located at 119 Commerce Park, off NC 16 North near Koto's Restaurant.

Artwork will be hung for previewing by the public on Monday, February 20, and those interested can preview the art during normal business hours at Revive Salon. For details, phone 828-352-9373.

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