

COMMUNITY

GROUP FORMED TO DISCUSS HEALTHCARE CHALLENGES



A group of more than 30 citizens from Mitchell and Yancey counties gathered recently in Micaville to discuss the healthcare challenges facing the area, in particular the closing of labor and delivery services at Blue Ridge Regional Hospital planned for Sept. 30. A range of people attended, including members of the medical community, clergy and concerned citizens. Groups in both counties have been meeting the past two months to address the problem. This meeting brought Mitchell and Yancey together and adopted the name SEARCH, or Sustaining Essential and Rural Community Healthcare. The group meets again at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 15 Hemlock Ave. in Spruce Pine. All are welcome. Call Susan Larson at 828-765-2652 for more information.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

BRRH hosts VolunTEEN Program

SPRUCE PINE – Each summer, Blue Ridge Regional Hospital invites local teenagers from Mitchell and Yancey counties to participate in its annual VolunTEEN program. Participants in the program are teenage hospital volunteers who are placed in departments throughout the organization such as emergency, physical therapy, medical/surgical, laboratory, labor and delivery, pharmacy and primary care for both observation and assistance.

“The volunteering ex-

perience allows local program participants to learn firsthand what day-to-day operations look like inside a healthcare facility,” said Rebecca Carter, president and chief nursing officer at Blue Ridge Regional Hospital. “This firsthand experience provides each volunteer with substantial observation and participatory responsibility in daily tasks alongside staff, daily providing the essential, high quality care for our patients and surrounding communities in a convenient and comfortable setting close to home.”

The VolunTEEN program is designed for students who are considering a career in the medical field.

Each VolunTEEN goes

through an application and interviewing process. The application and interviewing process is designed to mimic a real hiring experience.

Each teen attends three days of orientation and then begins volunteering in the departments that are of interest to them.

“Our hospital VolunTEEN’s assist with answering phone calls, transporting patients to different departments, observing patient care and learning how to help provide an outstanding experience for our patients,” Carter said.

The eight-week Blue Ridge Regional Hospital VolunTEEN program started June 12 and concluded Aug. 4.

RockFest coming to Emerald Village

Celebrate the gem and mineral heritage of the mountains in 12 historic mines Saturday, Sept. 2, and Sunday, Sept. 3, during RockFest at Emerald Village, just off the Blue Ridge Parkway near Little Switzerland.

Food from the Switzerland Café will be available along with hand-dip ice cream.

Listen either day at 11:30 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. to free “Stories in a Real Mine,” revealing details about the Emerald Village mines.

At 11:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. people can take a free guided hike to a small hidden mine. Children 12-and-under can participate in a free treasure hunt both days.

Underground mine tours, gem mining, gold panning, and mineral collecting on the dumps will be available by admission both days.

There will be a Black Light Mine Tour at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at a cost of \$15 for adults and \$10 for students.

Call Emerald Village at 828-765-6463 or email info@emeraldvillage.com for more information.

OBITUARIES

Mary Lee ‘Sis’ Snipes Cuthbertson Sept 4, 1923 — Aug. 16, 2017

Mary Lee “Sis” Snipes Cuthbertson, 93, passed away Aug. 16, 2017, at the John F. Keever Solace Center in Asheville. She was born Sept. 4, 1923, to the late Alonzo and Florence McKinney Snipes.

She was a strong-willed, independent woman whose working career began at the age of 16 when she took a job in Hickory. After working for 10 years, she came home, where she began working at Marion Manufacturing Company and retired 28 years later. Shortly after her first retirement, she began another career with

Baxter Healthcare, where she worked for almost 30 years until her second retirement. She then became a full-time grandmother and great-grandmother until the time of her death.

She was an avid gardener and loved to share the fruits of her labor. She will be remembered for her toughness, her stubbornness and her kind heart.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Cuthbertson; four brothers, David, George, Jesse and Louis Snipes; and a sister, Rachel Matheson.

She is survived by her son, Lonnie Cuthbertson and wife, Faye, of Spruce Pine; granddaughters, Heather Greene and husband, Bryan, and Lacy (Daisy) Cuthbertson-Todd and husband, Jeff, both of Marion; great-grandson, Samuel Greene; great-granddaughter, Sawyer Greene; two sisters-in-law, Nancy and Shelba Snipes; several nieces and nephews; special sister-in-law and lifelong friend, Billie Ashbury; and special caregiver, Wilma Owensby.

A funeral service honoring the life of Mary Lee “Sis” Cuthbertson was 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, 2017, in the Chapel of Webb Funeral Home with Bryan Greene and Jeff Todd officiating. A time to support the family, share memories and receive friends was from 2- 3:30 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. Interment was in the Grassy Creek Memorial Gardens.

Words of comfort may be emailed to the family by going to www.webbfh.com, selecting Mary Lee Cuthbertson’s name and signing her guestbook. Webb Funeral Home of Spruce Pine is assisting the Cuthbertson family. Mrs. Cuthbertson’s obituary has also been posted on Facebook.

Overmountain Victory Celebration is Sept. 14-17 at NC Museum of Minerals

The living history encampment Sept. 14-17 celebrates the crossing of the Blue Ridge Mountains by the Overmountain Men on their way to an eventual battle with British forces at Kings Mountain.

The Museum of North Carolina Minerals in Spruce Pine, milepost 331 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, plays host to the annual event and transforms the grounds into a colonial militia encampment at the head of Gillespie Gap. The encampment provides a glimpse of various colonial activities and tells the story of the Overmountain Men and the Battle of

Kings Mountain.

School Days are 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, and Friday, Sept. 15, and open to public, private and homeschool groups. Registration is required and can be done by calling Ranger Elizabeth Faison at 828-348-3519. Reservations are accepted until Sept. 10 and will be handled in the order they are received.

The encampment is open to the public from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16. Guests are invited to stroll through the encampment, taking part in various demonstrations and visiting with re-enactors. At 2:30 p.m. a re-enactment of the battle will take place at The Orchard of Altapass, milepost 328 off the Blue Ridge Parkway. The day is capped off with candlelight tours through the encampment at the Minerals Museum from 7-9 p.m.

The event concludes at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, with a Drum Head religious service. Call 828-765-1228 for more information.

Overmountain Victory Celebration events

School Days

9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sept. 14-15
Reservations are required.
Call Ranger Elizabeth Faison at 828-348-3519.

Encampment

(open to the public)
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat., Sept. 16
Re-enactors demonstrate crafts and skills of the Revolutionary War period.

Re-enactment of the Battle of King’s Mountain

2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16.
The reenactment is at the The Orchard at Altapass on the Parkway at milepost 328.

Candlelight Tours

7-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16
Take a tour by candlelight through a Revolutionary War-period encampment.

Drum Head Religious Service

10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17
Service conducted in the style of a colonial service to conclude the event.

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Sunday, September 3 at 3pm



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Eddie Miller
2/13/50 - 8/25/11



There are still moments we wish we could bring you back from Heaven to spend one more day with you, give you one more hug, hear your voice and laughter one more time - moments we wish we had one more chance to say I love you and kiss you goodbye.

We love and miss you very much,
Kathy, Mariea & Michael, Matt & Brandy, Aubree & Landon, Mom & Pam