

Helping Hands of Yancey County 2018 grant recipients

A high school farming pilot program and an esteemed community non-profit will be this year's recipients of proceeds from the Helping Hands of Yancey County Fun Flea.

The recipients are: *Mountain Heritage High School Future Farmers of America.*

The MHHS FFA is the primary teaching program for the next generation of Yancey County farmers. Helping Hands of Yancey County will provide funding for the spring semester cost of a part-time staff person to serve as secondary advisor to the FFA program and coordinator of the new Learning Garden project. Through a partnership with TRACTOR, the MHHS FFA Chapter has use of a one-acre plot on the Bowditch Bottom farmland. The Learning Garden will be planted, tended, and harvested by MHHS FFA/agricultural education students, and then, the crops will be sold to the Yancey County Schools to be served in the MHHS cafeteria.

This pilot project will be the first of its kind in North Carolina.

Southern Reconciliation Ministries.

Since 1983, the Reconciliation House ministry has served low income Yancey County residents with services that offer food, clothing, household items, heating and utilities assistance.

Helping Hands of Yancey

County will help to support Reconciliation House's growing food pantry program.

The Helping Hands grant will partner with local churches, community groups and individual donors to support this vital need in our community.

In addition to the grant awards, two Mountain Heritage High School students who will be attending Mayland Community College this fall, *Paige Rizzuto and Alston Randolph*, have received scholarships from Helping Hands of Yancey County.

Helping Hands of Yancey County is an all-volunteer organization that operates the annual Fun Flea Sale in order to raise funds that provide support for worthy projects in the community.

More than 50 volunteers help to make the Fun Flea possible each year. Since Helping Hands of Yancey County was formed in 2014, the organization has contributed more than \$50,000 to local charities.

The 2018 Fun Flea Sale will be held September 14, 15, and 16, 8am-4pm on Friday and Saturday; 1-4 pm on Sunday, in the old Taylor Togs building (east entrance), 621 Micaville Loop, Micaville.

More than 50 volunteers help to make the Fun Flea possible each year.

For more information, email helpinghandsofyanceycounty@gmail.com.

You Decide Should the Fed be raising interest rates?

Our nation's capital, Washington D.C., is a beautiful city of wide boulevards, historic memorials, and buildings and political intrigue. I was fortunate to observe each of these in person forty-five years ago when I was a summer intern. My greatest thrill was being mere feet away from President Nixon and Russian leader Brezhnev during a state visit.

Suffice it to say, there's never a dull moment in Washington. This was reinforced recently when President Trump called out the leaders of the Federal Reserve and criticized them for their policy of increasing interest rates. While this skirmish may not rise to the level of popular interest in other Washington battles, it does have important implications for the economy and economic policy-making.

First, let me provide a little background. The Federal Reserve is the central bank of the U.S. It has a regulatory role in making sure banks are safe. It can intervene with banks and keep those afloat who have hit hard times during a rough economy. We saw a lot of this kind of help from the Federal Reserve during the Great Recession a decade ago.

The Federal Reserve also has the ability to adjust interest rates in the economy up or down. The Fed's influence is primarily over short-term interest rates, and the Fed implements its power through one key rate, then letting other interest rates adjust on their own.

The Federal Reserve's power over interest rates is the

main way the agency attempts to influence the path of the economy. It's often said the Fed likes a "Goldilocks economy," meaning an economy that is not too hot, not too cool but just right.

The Fed wants the economy growing and creating jobs, but not at too fast of a pace to ignite more rapid increases in prices.

For example, when the economy was struggling during the Great Recession and immediately after, the Fed lowered interest rates to zero. This was designed to motivate borrowing and increase spending and revive the economy.

Eventually, the economy did come back - although economists disagree exactly why - but that's a topic for another column. Now the economy is growing, and some say it is growing at a rate twice as fast as in prior years. The unemployment rate is low and still falling, and the prices of many commodities, materials and products are rising more rapidly. So - in its pursuit of the Goldilocks economy - the Fed is turning its attention away from worrying about growth to worrying about inflation.

As a result, the Fed is now increasing interest rates. It has already increased rates twice this year - for a total hike of 0.5 percentage points -, and the bank is expected to do two more rate increases this year for a total of one percentage point.

Recently the Fed's interest

rate policy drew a reaction from President Trump, and it wasn't complimentary. The President worries the interest rate hikes will go too far in deterring borrowing and spending and slowing economic growth.

This is a legitimate concern. Economic policy is not like driving a car, where you know how much to push on the brake to slow the car to a specific speed. Instead, economic policy is like driving a new car with new technology each time you get behind the wheel, where every time you push on the brake the car slows by a different amount.

Indeed, economists have been surprised by how relatively tame inflation has been in recent years. Not too long ago I was on a panel with other economists, and one jokingly said, "I've been predicting faster inflation for each of the last four years, and I'm going to continue making this prediction until I get it right!" Now, I'm not picking sides between the President and the Federal Reserve. I'm simply saying the economy is very, very difficult to predict, and there are usually defensible positions on both sides of most economic policy questions.

The President can voice concerns about the Federal Reserve's interest rate hikes, but he can't directly prevent them. Unlike cabinet departments like Defense, Treasury or Veterans Affairs (to name a few), the managers (actually called "Governors") of the Fed do not

report to the President, and the Federal Reserve has its own budget independent of both the President and the Congress.

But presidents do have one way to potentially shape the decisions of the Fed. Presidents appoint the Governors as well as the head of the Fed governors, called the Chair, with all subject to Senate confirmation. In fact, President Trump appointed the current Fed Chair, Jerome Powell, earlier this year.

There are seven permanent members of the Fed's Board of Governors, and because the terms are staggered and long, it's unusual for presidents to be able to appoint all of them. But, as it turns out, President Trump may actually be able to appoint six of the seven. Of those he has yet to name, I'm sure he will quiz them about their views on interest rates! It's likely the Federal Reserve will wait until the fall to consider another rate hike. In the meantime, look for the Trump Administration to continue registering its concern about higher interest rates. Most people want the Goldilocks economy of good growth and low inflation. Is the question - do we need higher interest rates to get it? You decide.

Walden is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor and Extension Economist in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at North Carolina State University who teaches and writes on personal finance, economic outlook, and public policy.

Connect @ your Yancey Library

Ongoing events:
Book Club- The club meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 10 a.m. The book for August is Educated by Tara Westover.

Event: The Blue Ridge Fine Arts Guild (BRAG) will be showing member's artwork through September 8th in the Herring-Kivette Gallery. There's a back to school

supply bash happening Friday, August 17th from 1-4 pm.

The Friends of the Library are providing all of the materials. Please stop by early, once they run out the event will end.

The Carolina Mountains Literary Festival is September 6-8! You can go to cmlitfest.org for a list of the authors who will be here and all of the amazing events!

LEGO Block Party: Thursdays @ 3 p.m. and Saturdays @ 10 a.m. We supply the LEGOs. Kids (7-12) just need to bring their imaginations and creativity.

Contact Us: On Facebook, call 682-2600, or email ycpl@amyregionallibrary.org.

Share your thoughts, we love hearing from you!

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, having qualified as the Ancillary Personal Representative of the Estate of Bonnie Davis Bell AKA Bonnie D. Bell, deceased, late of Yancey County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned:

John M. Rolfe, Jr., Ancillary Personal Representative c/o Burt Langley, P.C. P.O. Box 7007 Asheville, NC 28802 on or before October 18, 2018, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned at the address listed above.

This the 18th day of July 2018.

John M. Rolfe, Jr., Ancillary Personal Representative of the Estate of Bonnie Davis Bell

Yancey County Estate File 18-E-164

April M. Burt Attorney for the Personal Representative of the Estate of Bonnie Davis Bell

Burt Langley, PC P.O. Box 7007 Asheville, NC 28802 Published July 18, 25 August 1, 8, 2018.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/ EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Harold Dean Penland of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of October, 2018 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 18th day of July, 2018. Lila Mozelle Penland 181 Rush Cove Road Burnsville, NC 28714 Published July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2018

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/ EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of Ruth Edna Banks of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 1st day of November, 2018 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2018.

John Randall Banks 14 Bennett Street Burnsville, NC 28714 Michael D. Banks 60 Luther Drive Burnsville, NC 28714 Published August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2018

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/ EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Armin J. Watkins of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of October, 2018 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 25th day of July, 2018. Gretchen A. Watkins 169 Southridge Drive Burnsville, NC 28714 Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2018

Tops Club meets every Tuesday

Tops Club, Taking off pounds sensibly meets every Tuesday at the United Community Bank's community room. Doors open at 5 pm and the meeting starts at 5:30.

Call 828-675-9300 for more information

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/ EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of James David Woodby of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of October, 2018 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 25th day of July, 2018. Christy Hill 1168 Three Quarter Creek Rd Burnsville, NC 28714 Published July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2018

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR/ EXECUTOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Janice Gail Wilson of Yancey County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons and corporations having claims against the Estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of October, 2018 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 18th day of July, 2018. Christopher Holt Wilson 140 Sampson Mtn. Road Burnsville, NC 28714 Published July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2018

MY Meds Medication Ministry

MY Meds Medication and Health Ministry is a local non-profit organization that provides help to Mitchell and Yancey County residents who have no prescription health plan and often have to decide between buying food and buying medicine. No one should have to make that choice. If you need help paying for needed prescription medications call MY Meds office at 766-6337.

Area non-profit offering energy grants for small businesses and farms

This fall, area small businesses and farmers may be eligible for 50% or more in cost-share funding for energy projects ranging from solar panels, lighting and insulation upgrades, HVAC improvements, and more.

The WNC Energy Cost-share Assistance Program (energyCAP), a nonprofit program of Blue Ridge Resource Conservation and Development Council in Spruce Pine, NC, is able to directly assist with the application process for the various

grants available.

"We know that farmers and small business owners are busy, so we try to take out the hassle and make these funding opportunities clear and easy to apply to," said Alex Arnold, the program's coordinator.

If a business or farm has high energy bills but doesn't know where to start, Arnold says, "the best place to start is to give us a call. We can do a site visit, or just a quick conversation over the phone, and help determine what avenues would be best to take first."

Carolina Mountains Literary Festival

During the day at the Carolina Mountains Literary Festival on September 6-8, 2018 in Burnsville, NC there will be free readings and discussions with dozens of authors. There will be 3 evening events.

This year's theme is Surface and Rise with stories about people facing challenges and crises and the choices they make. We hope the authors will bring inspiration.

The 13th Annual Carolina Mountains Literary Festival begins at 7 p.m., Thursday night with a free performance by Kane Smego (back by popular demand). He is a National Poetry Slam Artist and Hip Hop Poet. He was featured on King Mez's Grammy Award Winning album which topped the 2017 Spotify Viral 50 Billboard.

The song's video won Best Music Video at the Hip Hop Film Festival. Smego travels the world using music and dance to promote cultural exchange, entrepreneurship and conflict prevention.

The Friday night locally sourced, catered banquet will feature author Michael W. Twitty, the 2018 James Beard Award Winner for Best Writer and Best Book for his blog *afroculinaria.com* and his book,

The Cooking Gene. Twitty traced his family history through the story of Southern and American food. Using genetic re-



Kane Smego, National Poetry Slam Finalist & Hip Hop Artist will open the Carolina Mountains Literary Festival Thursday, September 6 at 7 p.m. in the Burnsville Town Center.

search, historic interpretation, interviews with contemporary food writers and heirloom gardening, his journey led him back to his family's origins in West and Central Africa and the debate over race and food in American life as he "puzzles out of a recipe who [he] is and where [he] came from to document how his [African] ancestors...enriched the diet of the antebellum South." Advance

Times Journal Deadline

Noon on Friday for Wednesday's publication, located at 22 North Main Street. Phone 828-682-2120.

registration is required - \$35 BYOB

Novelist, Gail Godwin will speak to our theme of Surface and Rise in her Saturday night Keynote, "The Desperate Place." She will examine the place in your psyche where you find yourself embedded in a situation that is yours alone and that you may be powerless to change. Wiley Cash said, "No one writes about the psychological weight of the human condition like Gail Godwin." Ron Rash calls her "one of our country's greatest novelists." Godwin spent her childhood in Asheville and this National Book Award finalist often writes about Western North Carolina in her critically acclaimed novels. She said, "I always have one artistic foot in Asheville. You are what you come out of." Advance Registration is required- \$20.

To read full bios, to learn more about the 3-day schedule and to register for required events, go to cmlitfest.org.

For the Saturday night Keynote only, you may also register at the Burnsville Town Center. For the banquet and Keynote, you may also mail a check received by August 31 to CMLF, PO Box 355, Burnsville, NC 28714.

Seats fill up quickly so go to the website cmlitfest.org and register soon.