

# The Guardian

Henderson County Sheriff's Office Newsletter



Turn Around Don't Drown!

Thank you to all our emergency responders during recent flooding and landslide events.

Photo credit: Deputy Collier

June 2018

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## Message from the Sheriff

One of the greatest honors serving as your Sheriff occurs when I get to see members of my team succeed and be recognized for what they do. This feeling of pride can be felt by anyone serving in a supervisory capacity, but there is a special weight that goes along with those in the often-thankless field of public service.

I attended the recent graduation of the Western North Carolina Law Enforcement Leadership Academy (LELA) held at the First Baptist Church in downtown Asheville on June 15, 2018. LELA is a six-session course that takes place over six months that brings officers and deputies from all over the region together to build their leadership and managerial skills. The Henderson County Sheriff's Office had four deputies graduate from this year's program: Sgt. Jason Capps, Cpl. Jonathan Tankersley, Deputy Rich Hallberg and Deputy Frank

Towle. Our very own Sgt. Jason Capps was the 2018 LELA Class President and provided the key note address during the graduation ceremony. It brought me great joy to sit back and hear one of our first line patrol supervisors address his fellow graduates on what he had gleaned from the course and what leadership means to him and our agency.



Law enforcement is constantly facing new challenges locally and across the nation; we need strong leaders now more than ever. We continue to see there is no shortage of leadership opportunity, although there is always a shortage of good leaders. I thank these men for the dedication and time they have devoted to building their skills and embarking on a path to greater leadership development. I thank their team members for pitching in and covering shifts to allow them to attend class. The sacrifices their families make as they continue to train should also be noted and given appreciation.

Leadership is not about privilege, but responsibility. Thank you to the men and women of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office who continue to train, participate in promotional processes and leadership training, and display the attributes of servant leadership in their day-to-day service to their teammates and the citizenry we serve.

Sheriff Charles S. McDonald

## **Hometown Heroes**

**Each month we would like to celebrate a few of the achievements and victories of our employees.**

On Tuesday, May 15, 2018, the North Carolina Supreme Court held sessions in the Henderson County Historic Courthouse. The Henderson County Sheriff's Office Protective Services Team provided security for the historic event. NC Supreme Court Justice Paul Newby wrote a note thanking the team for their help and saying, "Your staff could not have been more professional." Great work by the deputies involved in creating and executing the specialized security plan.

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Congratulations to Lt. Andrew Anderson! He was inducted into the TC Roberson Ring of Gold on April 27, 2018. The Ring of Gold honors former student athletes, coaches and administrators who displayed outstanding achievement and service to the athletic department as well as in their post high school years. Following his impressive golf career, Andrew Anderson joined the Henderson County Sheriff's Office and worked as a patrol deputy and violent crimes investigator. Now he is the Lieutenant over the Support Services Division and a polygraph examiner for the agency. We are proud to have Lt. Anderson on our team!



Lt. Anderson (left) at the Ring of Gold induction ceremony

On May 29, 2018, the Henderson County Sheriff's Office was made aware of a BOLO (Be on the Look-Out) for a blue 2008 Toyota Yaris with a male driver allegedly involved in an abduction of a female and three small children from a gas station in Greene County, TN. A vehicle matching the description was spotted by Henderson County Sheriff's Office Volunteer in Partnership (VIP) Danny Livingston and called into the Communications Center.



Deputies were dispatched and stopped the vehicle off Four Seasons Blvd. at approximately 10:20am on May 29, 2018. During the course of the investigation, Henderson County detectives determined the kidnapping story to be a fabrication. As a precaution, the children were taken to a local hospital, found to be in good health and released to a relative. Investigators determined there was no evidence to support that the female or her children were ever in danger. The male suspect was released and the female, Kristin Grimmert, age 19 of 765 Snake Hollow Road, Mosheim, TN, was charged with filing a false police report.

Great work by VIP Danny Livingston for keeping an active watch, spotting the vehicle, reporting it and keeping eyes on the vehicle until deputies arrived. We appreciate the commitment Danny places on his assignment as a VIP.

Henderson County Sheriff's Office Deputies made 196 arrests between 4/30 and 5/27. Below are links to some newsworthy arrests and events from the past month.

[Deputies: Shop owner, man arrested after drugs found at auto upholstery business](#) (Fox Carolina)

[Man charged after drugs, firearms seized from Henderson Co. home](#) (WSPA)

[Henderson County man arrested following overnight pursuit](#) (Times-News)

[Police seek Flat Rock man wanted on drug trafficking charges](#) (Times-News)

[Police: Two face felonies after bringing AR-15, handgun to middle school campus](#)(Asheville Citizen Times)

## **Sheriff's Exchange Location**

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office encourages people who buy items on the internet to meet at a safe location to make their exchanges. An area of the Sheriff's Office parking lot located at 100 North Grove Street in Hendersonville has been designated as an Exchange Location to provide an area where citizens can feel safe when meeting up to conduct their transactions.

"Many people already take advantage of the Sheriff's Office as a place for conducting internet exchanges," said Major Frank Stout. "We have parents who meet up for child custody exchanges in our parking lot and to buy items purchased on Facebook, Craigslist and other sites."

The signs are located in the first parking spaces directly in front of the main Sheriff's Office entrance and explain the area is under video recording. The Sheriff's Office recommends exchanges be conducted during daylight hours.





The Hendersonville Police Department also offers an Internet Purchase Exchange Location in their parking lot behind City Hall at 6th Avenue and King Street.

Major Stout explained he continues to see people using the Sheriff's Office as a safe area to conduct exchanges and wants to encourage others to be smart when buying and selling items online. "Establishing a safe meeting place, like our Sheriff's Office, is a great step in reducing your chance of becoming a victim."

## **Deputies Recognized at Promotion Ceremony**

On Tuesday, May 22, 2018, Sheriff Charles McDonald held a ceremony to honor individuals who have been promoted to the ranks of Corporal and Sergeant within the Henderson County Sheriff's Office. The honorees have already been serving in these leadership roles, but the event served as recognition of their commitment and the opportunity to celebrate their achievement with friends, family and co-workers.



Cpl. Brittain receives his oath and badge from Sheriff McDonald

The ceremony was held at the Henderson County Historic Courthouse. The invocation was delivered by Pastor Cody Sturgill of Boiling Springs Baptist Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Grady Hawkins. County Manager Steve Wyatt congratulated the honorees on their achievement. Family and friends joined the honorees at the front of the meeting room as the Oath of Office was administered by District Court Judge Peter Knight. Sheriff McDonald presented each honoree with his badge and a copy of his oath. Sheriff McDonald delivered the key note address and spoke on the sacrifice of servant leadership.

"This evening is special because the individuals being honored have chosen to step forward and take on greater responsibilities, not only in their own lives, but in the lives of others," said Sheriff McDonald. Sheriff McDonald explained the rigors of the Sheriff's Office promotional process and expounded upon the traits of a good leader. The Sheriff also thanked the family members present who sacrifice in their own special ways in their daily support of those being honored.

Fellowship and refreshments followed the ceremony in the Historic Courthouse Community Room.

Congratulations to the following deputies who were recognized at the ceremony:

**Sergeant:**

Jason Capps  
Josh Harden  
Aaron Lisenbee

**Corporal:**

Billy Brittain  
Carlos Montoya  
Matt Orr  
Ricky Woodard



\*Chris Barber (Sgt. Detention Deputy), Kevin Newcomer (Cpl. Detention Officer) and Ron Perine (Cpl. Detention Officer) have also been promoted, but were unable to attend the ceremony. The Henderson County Sheriff's Office congratulates them on their achievement.

## Recent Events

### Correctional Officers Week

Last month we celebrated our Detention Officers for the important role they play in protecting our community. In 2017, 4,691 inmates were booked into the Henderson County Jail. Our team is responsible for the safety and security of inmates entrusted to their care.



David Squad in Detention

## Document Shred/Pill Drop Events Across Henderson County

During the month of May, the Henderson County Sheriff's Office partnered with 1st Citizens Bank, Village of Flat Rock, City of Hendersonville, Hendersonville Police Department, Hope Rx and TRIAD Henderson County to offer multiple document shred/pill collection events across the county. The next event is scheduled for August 17 at the Mills River Ingles from 9am-12pm. The public is always invited to dispose of their unused and expired medications any Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm at the Sheriff's Office lobby located at 100 North Grove Street. Drop boxes are also now available at the Hendersonville and Laurel Park Police Departments. Thank you to our staff and team of HCSO VIPs ([Volunteers in Partnership](#)) who assisted at the events.

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## 911 Center

Congratulations to our 911 Center! The Henderson County Sheriff's Office earned a perfect score during their 911 Board PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) review. Pictured in the photo is part of the 911 Review Board Committee and Communications Director Lisha Stanley. Thank you to our 911 Center Staff for their commitment to professionalism and excellence! Henderson County is lucky to have this caliber of a 911 Center serving them 24/7/365!



## WNC Regional DWI Task Force

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office was happy to host the WNC Regional DWI Task Force meeting in May. We thank Ellen Pitt, public safety advocate and head of the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) WNC chapter, for serving crime victims and supporting law enforcement. Representatives from Asheville-Buncombe DWI Task Force, Waynesville Police Department,



Henderson County Sheriff's Office, Polk County Sheriff's Office, NC Wildlife, NC Highway Patrol, DA's offices from all over WNC, MADD advocates, victims services personnel and more were in attendance. Exciting things are happening with new legislation and public safety campaigns to hold offenders accountable and educate the public.

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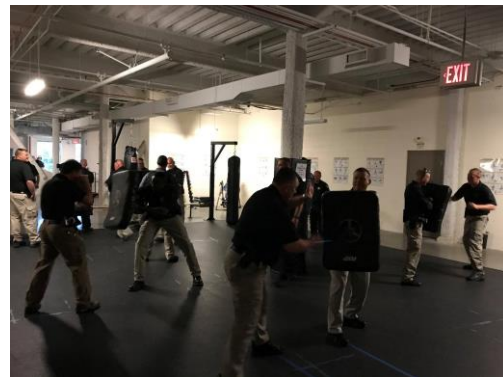
### **Field Trip!**

Edneyville Elementary took a field trip to Bearwallow Mountain for a reading day. Captain Terry was signed up to provide extra security at the school and was asked to accompany Edneyville on their field trip. Thanks to Riley for sharing this photo with us!



### **In-Service Training**

This year's second block of in-service included Asp, Taser and the seated portion of Firearms. Our deputies and detention officers are committed to training on a variety of force options.



### **K9 Maik visits the Animal Club**

Deputy Pace and K9 Maik went to speak to The Leader in Me Animal Club at Mills River Elementary about service animals and how Maik helps the Sheriff's Office. Maik is primarily trained in narcotics detection, locating articles and handler protection. Thank you to Melanie for sharing this photo!





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## Police Week Blood Drive

HCSO partnered with the Blood Connection to offer a blood drive during Police Week that provided donors with a commemorative Police Week t-shirt. Members of the public as well as Sheriff's Office staff participated. Deputy Owen is shown in the photo donating blood.



Photo credit: Patrick Sullivan-Times-News

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## Peace Officer Memorial Day

The Sheriff's Office remembers and honors the following officers who were killed in the line of duty: Sheriff William Grayson McCall, Hendersonville Police Officer Denny Quay Envold and Henderson County Detective Randall "Shane" Thomas. Read more about their sacrifice on the [HCSO Facebook page](#).

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## Police Week

Members of the Henderson County Law Enforcement Honor Guard traveled to our nation's capital to honor the fallen. Thank you HCSO Detective Tweed and Fletcher Police Department Sgt. Gutierrez for representing our county.



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## STAR Jam

On Friday, May 18, School Resource Deputies hosted a STAR Jam for 5th graders held at Flat Rock Middle School. These events are a great opportunity for students to have fun with their SRDs and STAR counselors outside of the classroom setting. STAR Jams serve as fundraisers to support summer STAR Camp sessions that teach kids to stay substance free and make a positive difference in the community. Thank you to our dedicated team of SRDs, volunteers, high school STAR counselors and VIPs for making this event such a success!



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## Crisis Intervention Training

Members of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office participated in Crisis Intervention Training that assists officers in responding to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. The class also provides information about local mental health resources. Major Steve Carter taught the instruction block on Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement. Thank you to Thrive, members of the resource panel and local businesses and non-profits who provided presentations and invited class participants to tour facilities!



Photo credit: Thrive Facebook

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## Honor Guard

The Henderson County Law Enforcement Honor Guard presented the colors at the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) graduation held at Blue Ridge Community College. We thank this team for their professionalism and dedication to training.



Photo credit: BRCC Law Enforcement Training Facebook

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To view all upcoming events, visit HCSO's [Calendar](#).

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## Did you know?

The Henderson County Sheriff's Office is always seeking individuals to join our professional and service-oriented team. Two exciting new opportunities have arisen in the past few months.

**1) Applicants for sworn deputy positions are not required to be Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) certified at the time of their application.**

*The Henderson County Sheriff's Office is actively seeking applicants who are interested in becoming sworn deputies. We are looking for new recruits, military personnel who have concluded their terms of service and have a desire to continue serving the community and people with life experience who*

*have always wanted to be in law enforcement but have never had the opportunity. We will be vetting qualified applicants through our standard hiring process with the addition of a physical fitness qualification requirement (Police Officers Physical Abilities Test/POPAT). Applicants who are successfully hired will be sent through a future Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) academy. Upon graduation from the academy, employees will then be assigned to fill open positions throughout the agency based on current needs.*

**2) 18 year old applicants are now eligible to apply for Call Taker positions in the 911 Center. (Previously, applicants had to be at least 21 years old based on NC Training and Standards guidelines.)**



**I saved a life today.**  
**What are your plans after graduation?**

**Embark on a meaningful career  
in the 911 Center**

- Starting Call Taker Pay: \$29,598.40
- Benefits Package Includes medical, dental, vision, wellness clinic, 401K/457(b) plans, state retirement & more
- No experience required
- On the job training provided

**Join our team and make a difference!**  
[www.hendersonsheriff.org/jobs](http://www.hendersonsheriff.org/jobs)

**CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!**

*\* Have you made plans for after graduation?*

*\* Do you want to embark on a meaningful career and make a difference in the world?*

*\* Are you ready for a job NOW?*

**Consider a career in the Henderson County Sheriff's Office 911 Center!**

*We are currently accepting applications for Full-Time Call Takers in the 911 Center. No experience is required, and all on-the-job training and uniforms will be provided. Call Takers are responsible for answering emergency and non-emergency calls from the public and entering call information into the Computer Aided Dispatch System. Applicants must possess excellent computer and communication skills, and be able to stay calm in a high stress environment. High school diploma or GED required. Applicants must be at least 18 years old.*

*Starting pay for a Call Taker position is \$29,598.40. Henderson County also provides a competitive benefits package that includes medical, vision, dental, wellness clinic, Rx benefits, 401K/457(b) plans and state retirement. Employees have access to a gym and work-out area as well as training opportunities for career advancement. Part time opportunities are available as well.*

*If you are interested in scheduling a tour of the 911 Center, contact Communications Director Lisha Stanley at (828) 694-3127.*

*Use your voice to make a difference in Henderson County by joining our team.*

More information on starting pay, benefits, open positions, the hiring process and an application to apply can be found at [www.hendersonsheriff.org/jobs](http://www.hendersonsheriff.org/jobs).

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