



Cal Raleigh planning family affair at 2025 Home Run Derby

SPORTS, 1B

Times News

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MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025

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‘A symbol of the resilience’



People stand at the top of Elk River Falls July 20, 2018. PHOTOS BY ANGELA WILHELM/ASHVILLE CITIZEN TIMES

Popular waterfall in Pisgah National Forest reopens after Helene cleanup

Ryley Ober
Asheville Citizen Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

The United States Forest Service re-opened the Elk River Falls Area within the Pisgah National Forest on July 11 after several months spent clearing Tropical Storm Helene debris, according to an announcement from the agency.

Home to a 65-foot waterfall known locally as Big Falls, the area in Avery County experienced significant flooding during the storm that left the river clogged with debris and the trails blocked by downed trees, the Forest Service said. Visitors are advised to exercise caution near the waterfall area.

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Signs line the path to Elk River Falls in the Pisgah National Forest July 20, 2018.



Jennifer Hensley, five-year member of Hendersonville City Council and practicing chiropractor, outside her practice after a Times-News interview July 10, the day after announcing a run for mayor. GEORGE FABE RUSSELL/HENDERSONVILLE TIMES-NEWS

Hensley announces mayoral bid

Hendersonville council member calls outgoing mayor Volk a mentor

George Fabe Russell
Hendersonville Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

HENDERSONVILLE - Jennifer Hensley, a Hendersonville City Council member for five years, announced her plan to run for mayor, the same day that Barbara Volk, mayor for the last 15 years, announced that she would not seek reelection.

Hensley frames herself as a natural successor to Volk, telling the Times-News July 10 that Volk has been a close mentor to her during her time on City Council.

Hensley said that she “begged” Volk to stay on as mayor. But for her part, Volk said it was time to retire, she told the Times-News July 10. She plans to spend time with family and work with local nonprofits. She doesn’t plan to make any endorsement for months.

In this “crazy” political climate, what Hendersonville needs most is a steady hand at the wheel, Hensley

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Death toll continues to rise in Texas floods

More rains possible as rescuers keep searching

Jeanine Santucci
USA TODAY

Over a week since an inundated Guadalupe River sent floodwaters tearing through homes and youth camps in Texas, optimism for rescuing any of the dozens of people still missing from Texas Hill Country steadily faded as the death toll continued to rise.

Hundreds of rescuers, many of them volunteers, have scoured miles of destruction for any sign of the missing. But they haven’t rescued anyone alive since July 4, the day of the flood, officials in the hardest-hit Kerr County said. Some 160 people are missing in that county alone.

As of the morning of July 12, the death

toll had risen to at least 129, with authorities in Kerr and Travis counties reporting more bodies recovered. The toll in Kerr County rose to at least 103, including 67 adults and 36 children, according to the county’s Joint Information Center. In Travis County, the toll rose to nine, spokesperson Hector Nieto confirmed.

Officials previously said at least 27 campers and counselors from Camp Mystic, the beloved all-girls Christian camp, were among the dead.

“I’ve never seen anything like this, and I’ve seen a lot of bad ones,” President Donald Trump said as he and first lady Melania Trump surveyed the damage July 11.

Kerr County said it was expecting a large number of “spontaneous volunteers” to help with recovery efforts. Volunteers have been a key part of

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Community members grieve July 11 at a candlelight vigil to honor the lives lost in the flash floods that struck Kerrville, Texas. BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES

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Volume 131 | No. 164
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