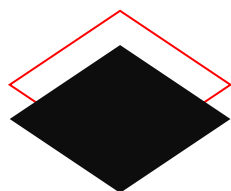




SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN HENDERSONVILLE, NC

“Bridge is more than just an intricate card game; it’s a multifaceted tool that benefits seniors in numerous ways. From enhancing cognitive function and emotional resilience to fostering social connections and improving overall quality of life” -- Senior Living Magazine

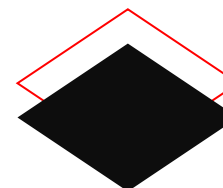




Our Agenda

HURRICANE HELENE HAS HAD A MAJOR IMPACT ON ALL OF US. NONE MORE THAN OUR SENIOR COMMUNITY, WHO NEED A PLACE TO SOCIALIZE AND PROMOTE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

- 01.** **HISTORY**
UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF THE HENDERSONVILLE BRIDGE CENTER
- 02.** **IMPORTANCE**
THE ROLE THE HENDERSONVILLE BRIDGE CENTER PLAYS IN THE COMMUNITY
- 03.** **BENEFITS**
THE BENEFITS THAT THE BRIDGE CENTER PROVIDES, NOT ONLY TO OUR SENIORS BUT TO THE TOWN AND ITS' BUSINESSES
- 04.** **HOPES**
THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A CRITICAL ACTIVITY TO THE AREA IN ORDER TO PROMOTE WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR SENIORS



01. HISTORY

BEFORE HURRICANE HELENE

- ❖ MOVED INTO WHITMIRE IN 2009
- ❖ MORE THAN 225,000 PLAYERS SINCE 2011
(PLAYER TRACKING STARTED IN 2011)
- ❖ MORE THAN \$297,000 PAID TO HENDERSONVILLE
- ❖ MANY PEOPLE MOVED HERE FOR THE VIBRANT BRIDGE COMMUNITY
- ❖ BEFORE COVID, HBC WAS LARGEST BRIDGE CLUB IN NORTH CAROLINA, 16,852 PLAYERS IN 2019
- ❖ RECOVERING IN 2024 ... ON PACE FOR > 12,000 PLAYERS BEFORE HELENE HIT IN SEPTEMBER



ACBL TABLE COUNTS

<http://acbl.org>

Club Table Counts			
Year:	Type:	District:	
2019	Regular	All	
Country:	State/Province:	City:	
All countries	North Carolina		
Overall Rank	Filtered Rank	Club Name	City
86	1	Hendersonville Bridge Center	Hendersonville
146	2	The Bridge Academy	Durham
149	3	Sandhills Bridge Center LLC	Pinehurst
187	4	Triangle Bridge Club	Durham
219	5	Crazy 4 Bridge	Cornelius
299	6	Vanderbilt Bridge Club	Raleigh
331	7	Bridge R Us	Greenville
350	8	Highlands DBC	Highlands
367	9	Brunswick Bridge	Saint James
375	10	Raleigh Bridge Club	Raleigh
383	11	Foothills DBC	Tryon
401	12	Queen of Hearts	Cary
		Monday Afternoon	Charlotte

01. HISTORY

AFTER HURRICANE HELENE

- ❖ REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CASCADES RESORT IN NOVEMBER 2024
- ❖ NO GAMES HELD IN DECEMBER-JANUARY DUE TO LACK OF HEAT, RESUMED PLAY FEBRUARY 1ST
- ❖ SHUT DOWN BY HENDERSONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT ON FEBRUARY 15TH
- ❖ SIGNED AGREEMENT WITH ART HOUSE VENUE IN EAST FLAT ROCK FEBRUARY 16TH
- ❖ SO FAR IN 2025, ON PACE FOR APPROXIMATELY 6,700 PLAYERS (50%+ DECLINE)
- ❖ MANY PLAYERS NOW PLAYING IN CLUBS IN OTHER TOWNS, SALUDA, BREVARD, ASHEVILLE



01. HISTORY

AFTER HURRICANE HELENE

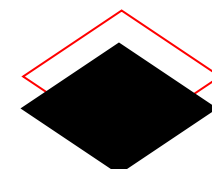
- ❖ OUR CURRENT LOCATION IS INADEQUATE TO HOST A BRIDGE CLUB.
- ❖ INSUFFICIENT PARKING
- ❖ UNPAVED PARKING LOT, FLOODS OFTEN
- ❖ INSUFFICIENT OVERFLOW PARKING AREA
- ❖ INSUFFICIENT LIGHTING FOR PLAYING CARDS
- ❖ TOO SMALL TO ACCOMMODATE ENOUGH TABLES FOR US TO RECOVER TO PRE-COVID TABLE COUNTS
- ❖ PRETTY FOR AN ART GALLERY, BUT NOT APPROPRIATE FOR A BRIDGE CLUB



02. IMPORTANCE

- ❖ LACK OF DEDICATED SENIOR CENTER IN HENDERSONVILLE
- ❖ THE BRIDGE CLUB PROVIDES SOCIALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS
- ❖ 30.9% OF HENDERSONVILLE'S POPULATION IS 65 YEARS OR OLDER*
- ❖ BRIDGE IS ONE OF THE FEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS WITH MOBILITY ISSUES OR HANDICAPS
- ❖ POSITIVE IMPACT ON LOCAL BUSINESSES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS
- ❖ GAMES, CLASSES, SEMINARS AND TOURNAMENTS BRING PEOPLE INTO THE AREA

* 2023 US CENSUS, HENDERSONVILLE, NC





03. BENEFITS

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.

-- Henry Ford

Combatting Loneliness: Bridge clubs can help combat feelings of loneliness, especially among the elderly, by fostering social interactions and a sense of belonging.

-- Faster Capital



WASHINGTON POST

Seniors who regularly engaged in pastimes that stretched their minds... lowered their risk of developing Alzheimer's disease and other dementias by as much as 75 percent



UNIV. OF CA - BERKELEY

A study by Berkeley University showed that there are significant health benefits from learning to play bridge.



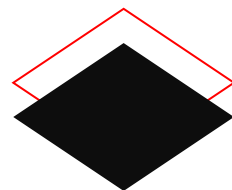
NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

Seniors who played bridge regularly had a significantly lower risk of developing dementia compared to those who did not play the game

03. BENEFITS

SEMINARS AND TOURNAMENTS

- ❖ BRIDGE EVENTS BRING IN PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES
- ❖ HOSTED AT WHITMIRE ACTIVITY CENTER
- ❖ ARRANGEMENTS WITH MULTIPLE HOST HOTELS IN THE AREA
- ❖ INCREASED PATRONAGE AT LOCAL BARS, RESTAURANTS
- ❖ ADVERTISING IN TRADE MAGAZINES



BRIDGE with
LARRY COHEN
www.larryco.com

**UNIT 171 AND THE HENDERSONVILLE
BRIDGE CENTER PRESENT**

**LARRY
COHEN
LIVE**

25 National Championships
2002 ACBL Player of the YEAR
ACBL Hall of Fame
Top 10 Living Most
Influential People
in Bridge

**19th-20th
MAY 2024**
STARTS AT
9:00 AM

\$199
INCLUDES
BOTH DAYS

**REGISTER
ONLINE**
<http://bit.ly/Larry171>

DAILY SCHEDULE

9:00	Continental Breakfast
	Meet and Greet
9:30	Lecture + 4 Deals
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Lecture + 4 Deals

DECLARER PLAY
The Most Important Decision
Don't Grab

DEFENSE
The Key Strategy

BIDDING
The Most Important 'Convention'

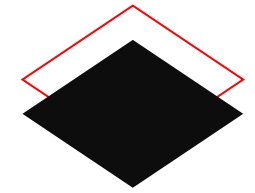
WHITMIRE ACTIVITY CENTER
310 LILY POND DR.
HENDERSONVILLE, NC

SEMINAR HOST HOTELS
reserve by 4/18/24, mention
'Bridge Seminar' for special rates

Fairfield Inn and Suites
\$89/weekday, \$155/weekend
1-828-513-5100

Holiday Inn Express
\$129, 1-877-666-3243

04. HOPES



THE BRIDGE CENTER IS CRUCIAL IN PROVIDING FOR THE WELL-BEING AND MENTAL HEALTH OF ITS' SENIORS. WE NEED A VENUE ...

1

PUT MAJOR EMPHASIS AND FUNDING ON THE PATTON PARK INITIATIVE

INVEST ONLY WHAT IS ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED TO RESTORE THE WHITMIRE BUILDING

LEASE WHITMIRE TO THE HENDERSONVILLE BRIDGE CENTER FOR EXCLUSIVE USE DURING THE WEEK

ALLOW OTHER TO USE FACILTY ON WEEKENDS VIA SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

PROVIDE A 3-YEAR LEASE DURING WHICH TIME THE HBC WOULD ATTEMPT TO FIND A LONG-TERM SOLUTION OR BUILD OUR OWN FACILITY.

2

CONSIDER SELLING WHITMIRE. POTENTIAL BUYER IS IN THE WINGS AND THE DIFFICULTY OF DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC OWNED ASSETS IS RECOGNIZED

THE SALE OF TRANSFER OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED REAL PROPERTY TO A NON-PROFIT MAY BE SIGNIFICANTLY EASIER UNDER THIS SITUATION.

HBC IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING REORGANIZATION AS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH NC GS 55A AND IS PURSUING 501(C)(7) NONPROFIT STATUS.

WE EXPECT TO INITIATE THE NEW DESIGNATION AT THE BEGINNING OF 2026.



THANK YOU

WE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNICATE THE IMPORTANCE OF A VIBRANT, HEALTHY SENIOR COMMUNITY, AND THE VITAL ROLE THAT THE HENDERSONVILLE BRIDGE CENTER PLAYS IN MEETING THAT GOAL.



[HTTPS://HENDERSONVILLEBRIDGE.COM](https://hendersonvillebridge.com)

HENDERSONVILLE BRIDGE CENTER

NICK WEEDMAN, CLUB MANAGER



nickweedman@gmail.com



828-388-1201

