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**CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
Hickory's Riverwalk overwater bridge closed until further notice due to storm damage.



**MARION FACILITY CLOSED**  
Baxter plant in Marion closed because of Helene flooding; 2,500+ workers affected.



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Events canceled and moved after Helene

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The Burke County Chamber of Commerce released a list of postponed or canceled events on Thursday morning.

Events are being postponed or canceled due to the devastation from Hurricane Helene, the chamber said.

Postponed events include:

■ Burke County Chamber of Commerce's Business Showcase

■ WCI—Solutions for the Workplace

■ Meet & Greet with UNC Health Blue Ridge Gary Paxon

Canceled events include:

■ NCSD Foundation Golf Tournament

■ Fall Tractor Show at Catawba Meadows Park

■ JR's Rodeo

■ UNC Health Blue Ridge Dragon Boat Races

These lists are not comprehensive and reflect what the Burke County Chamber of Commerce is currently aware of. The chamber said it will keep the public updated as best it can.

Below is a non-comprehensive list of more cancellations and postponements.

**Burke County**

Western Piedmont Community College in Morganton canceled **fire college**, according to a Facebook post from Western Piedmont Community College Regional Fire & Rescue Training.

"In observing the wide area of destruction throughout (western N.C.) and compromised infrastructure to our region and the safety of our students, we have decided to cancel the 2024 Burke County Regional Fire College so our responders can fulfill their obligations at home and begin to recover from last week's tragedy," the post said.

**The Give Cheese a Chance**



FILE PHOTO, THE NEWS HERALD

Firefighters demonstrate extinguishing a large fuel tank fire during a simulation at the Western Piedmont Community College Emergency Services Training Center. Fire college at the campus has been canceled.

**grilled cheese competition** in Morganton has also been postponed, according to a Facebook post. The post said more information is to come.

**The 80s MTV Experience** at CoMMA in Morganton has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 26, at 7:30 p.m., according to an email. The email said all tickets purchased for the original date will be honored for the new date.

**"A Wolf's Mother"** at CoMMA has been rescheduled to Nov. 21-23, the email said. "Tickets bought for the original date will be honored for the new date, the email said.

**Deana Carter's concert** has

been rescheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m., the email said. Tickets bought for the original date will be honored for the new date, the email said.

"If you cannot attend the rescheduled dates, please reach out to the box office at 828-433-7469," the email said.

**Spooky Meadows** in Morganton has been canceled, according to an email.

**McDowell County**

**The Mountain Glory Festival** in Marion has been canceled, according to a Facebook post from the Mountain Glory Festival page.

"The recovery from the catastrophic weather event to our county and those counties surrounding us will be underway for quite some time," the post said. "Our resources are simply too limited at this time to be in a position to host the thousands of visitors that attend this event."

The post said the event will return in 2025.

The post said vendors will be emailed as soon as possible with information regarding a refund of vendor fees.

**An Evening with Western N.C. Writers** in Marion has been canceled, according to an email

from St. John's Episcopal Church.

The Mountain Gateway Museum and Heritage Center in Old Fort has canceled its **Farms and Foliage** event, said Brittany Bennett Joachim in an email.

"Sadly, due to the cleanup process needed and out of safety and concern, the event has been canceled," Joachim said, adding that the museum hopes to do the event next year.

**Catawba County**

**The TJ Miller show** at the Hickory Premier is canceled, according to a Facebook post from the Hickory Premier venue.

Roads, bridges in Burke, McDowell affected by storm

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The North Carolina Department of Transportation said that travel to western North Carolina is limited to local and hurricane response traffic.

NCDOT said motorists cannot get from North Carolina to Tennessee via Interstate 40 or Interstate 26.

And there are some roads in Burke and McDowell counties that have been damaged or impacted by the storm.

**Burke County roads closed**

Daivd Uchiyama, a spokes-

person for NCDOT, said bridges on U.S. and N.C. routes in Burke County have been inspected and officials are currently examining bridges on secondary routes.

The roads in Burke County that have been affected:

■ Clark Loop is impassable in both directions due to pipe failure.

■ Rose Carswell Road is closed due to bridge failure.

■ Oakland Avenue near Enon Drive is closed due to trees in the road.

■ N.C. Highway 126 at the county line, the bridge over Old Catawba Creek is closed, on the south side of Lake James, around

the corner from Lake James Community Church.

■ N.C. Highway 126, near Benfield Landing Bridge is closed due to structural damage. The road is expected to re-open once repairs are made. That could be anytime through Nov. 30, according to NCDOT.

■ N.C. Highway 126 near Parks Drive the westbound lane is closed due to shoulder failure. Work on it was expected to be done between Tuesday and Nov. 30, according to NCDOT.

■ Enola, near JP Hawkins Circle in Connely Springs is closed due to power line utility work.

Work started early Wednesday and is expected to be completed Thursday evening.

**McDowell County roads closed**

In McDowell County, bridges that have been affected are:

■ Interstate 40 near Parker Padgett Road east of Old Fort at mile marker 75 heading east, the right lane is closed.

■ Interstate 40 east and west-bound, near Catawba Avenue in Old Fort at mile marker 73 to 66 at Dunsmore Avenue, is down to one lane due to a mud slide and

downed trees. The issue should be resolved by Oct. 10.

■ U.S. Highway 221, near U.S. Highway 221 N in Woodlawn, is closed in both directions due to a mud slide and downed trees. The impact to traffic is considered high and the estimated date the issue should be resolved is Oct. 10.

■ Tatertown Loop in Marion is closed in both directions due to a pipe repair. It is expected to be resolved by Oct. 10.

■ Deepcove Spring Drive in Marion closed in both directions due to pipe failure going to water plant on Clear Creek Road. Issue expected to be resolved by Oct. 10.

THE NEWS HERALD

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