

Helene

From A1

Food, water and ice in Burke County

Burke County has set up a donation and distribution location at Foothills Higher Education Center in Morganton. The center is at 2128 S. Sterling St., Morganton.

Donations are being accepted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day and will be distributing needed items from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.

The county is offering free bags of ice at four locations:

- Old Kmart parking lot – 110 Bost Road, Morganton
- Fiddlers Run Shopping Center – 160 Fidler Run Blvd., Morganton
- Brentwood Water Corporation – 1911 Jamestown Road, Morganton
- Foothills Thrift Store – 2880 U.S. Hwy. 17, Morganton

Where to donate for flood relief in western NC

Looking to donate food, clothes or toiletries to flood victims in western North Carolina? Here are donation sites in Catawba, Caldwell, Burke, Iredell and McDowell counties.

Several sites around the Catawba Valley are collecting donations:

- N.C. State Highway Patrol station – 3265 U.S. Highway 70 SE in Conover
- Catawba County United Way office – 2760 Tate Blvd. SE in Hickory
- WHKY office – 526 Main Ave. SE in Hickory
- Conover Fire Department, Station No. 3 – 1776 Village Square NW in Conover
- Hickory Motor Speedway – 3130 U.S. Highway 70 SE in Newton
- Klingspor Abrasives – 2566 Third Ave. NW in Hickory

- Brookford Police Department lobby – 1700 S. Center St. in Hickory
- Long View Town Hall – 2404 First Ave. SW in Long View (Until Oct. 7)
- Adrian L. Shuford Jr. YMCA – 1104 Conover Blvd. E. in Conover
- Hickory Foundation YMCA – 701 First St. NW in Hickory
- Lincoln County Family YMCA – 1402 Gaston St. in Lincolnton
- Sally's YMCA – 1601 Forney Creek Parkway in Denver
- Phifer Family YMCA – 2165 S. Sterling St. in Morganton
- Lower Creek Baptist Church – 633 Lower Creek Drive in Lenoir (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Statesville Regional Airport – 238 Airport Road in Statesville (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
- Statesville Fire Department Station No. 1 – 822 Fifth St. in Statesville
- Statesville Fire Department Station No. 2 – 110 Security Drive in Statesville
- Statesville Fire Department Station No. 3 – 779 Eastside Drive in Statesville
- Statesville Fire Department Station No. 4 – 115 Martin Lane in Statesville
- Universal Advanced Manufacturing Center – 634 College Drive in Marion
- Foothills Higher Education Center – 2128 S. Sterling St. in Morganton

Items needed for flood victims

Don't know what to donate? Here is a list of items that local donations sites are requesting.

- Powdered drink mix packets
- Bottled water
- Baby formula/baby food
- Nonperishable food items
- Plastic utensils
- Paper plates/cups
- Manual can openers
- Toiletries
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Hand sanitizer
- Baby wipes
- Diapers for adults/children

- Sanitizing wipes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Bug spray
- Sunscreen
- Dog/cat food
- Cat litter
- New clothes
- Unopened socks of all sizes
- Blankets
- Heavy-duty work gloves
- Plastic tarps
- Cleaning supplies
- Trash bags 13-gallon or bigger
- Batteries
- Flashlights
- Chain saws (Brookford Police Department only)

Statesville Fire Departments are not accepting used clothes, water, fuel or flammable items, most chemicals including bleach, or hazardous materials. Other sites are not accepting glass items.

North Carolina Helene disaster relief funds

Want to donate money to help Hurricane Helene victims? Here are two official relief funds for North Carolina.

Monetary donations can be made to the N.C. Department of Public Safety's disaster relief fund at nc.gov/donate.

The North Carolina United Way is also accepting monetary donations through NC 211 at unitedwaync.org.

Power outages in Catawba Valley

Nearly 65% of McDowell County was without power on Tuesday at 10:45 a.m. There were 19,562 customers out of 30,262 with no power, according to PowerOutages.us.

Half of Burke County residents still had no power as of Tuesday. As of 10:45 a.m., 21,853 out of 43,519 customers were without power, according to PowerOutages.us.

Nearly 40% of Caldwell County remained without power as of 10:45 a.m. on

Tuesday. Out of 42,228 customers, 16,134 still did not have power, according to PowerOutages.us.

On Tuesday, 9,836 customers out of 82,391 in Catawba County were still without power, according to PowerOutages.us.

On Tuesday, 1,643 customers out of 19,481 in Alexander County were still without power, according to PowerOutages.us.

Report missing people in McDowell County

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, call the Helene Hotline at 828-652-3241. The 24/7 volunteer operators are standing by to help. The hotline can be used for the following:

1. Report missing or stranded persons
2. Request transportation to a shelter
3. Report urgent medical equipment needs (oxygen, life-saving medication)
4. Any other questions or concerns

How to apply for FEMA assistance

Did you experience damage from Tropical Storm Helene? If you live in Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes or Yancey counties or are a tribal member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, FEMA may be able to help with serious needs, displacement, home repair or other expenses.

To apply, go online to DisasterAssistance.gov, use the FEMA app for mobile devices or call 800-621-3362.

Sarah Johnson is the courts and breaking news reporter for the Hickory Daily Record.

Carter

From A1

"These last few months, 19 months, now that he's been in hospice, it's been a chance for our family to reflect," he continued, "and then for the rest of the country and the world to really reflect on him. That's been a really gratifying time."

James Earl Carter Jr. was born Oct. 1, 1924, in Plains, where he lives in the same one-story home he and Rosalynn built in the early 1960s, before his first election to the Georgia state Senate. The former first lady, also from Plains, died in November at age 96.

About 25 family members filled his home Tuesday, enjoying cupcakes on the front lawn while World War II planes flew over in his honor. At night, they planned to gather around the TV to watch the vice presidential debate.

Chip Carter said his father's next goal is to make it to Election Day. "He's plugged in," Chip Carter said in an interview. "I asked him two months ago if he was trying to live to be 100, and he said, 'No, I'm trying to live to vote for Kamala Harris.'"

Chip Carter sat in the front row of a naturalization ceremony held annually on his father's birthday for 100 new citizens at Plains High School, which his father attended. The building is now a museum.

Jill Stuckey, superintendent of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Park, recalled that a teacher once told Carter's class that one of the students would be pres-



SUSAN WALSH, ASSOCIATED PRESS

A sign wishing former President Jimmy Carter a happy 100th birthday sits Tuesday on the North Lawn of the White House in Washington.

ident someday. She said Carter "took it heart."

"One thing I've learned is to never underestimate Jimmy Carter," Stuckey said, "because if you do, he will prove you wrong."

President Joe Biden, the first sitting senator to endorse Carter's 1976 campaign, praised his longtime friend for an "unwavering belief in the power of human goodness."

"You've always been a moral force for our nation and the world (and) a beloved friend to Jill and me and our family," the 81-year-old president said in a tribute video, recorded in front of the Carter Center.

Townspeople in Plains planned another concert Tuesday evening.

Habitat for Humanity vol-

unteers devoted this week to build 30 houses in his honor in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Carters served as ambassadors for the organization, hosted annual building projects into their 90s.

Minister Barbara Green and Deacon William Le Green of Americus came to Main Street in Plains to honor Carter, who helped build their Habitat for Humanity home in the early 2000s. Le Green recalled how

Carter gave the couple hammers to keep, along with their keys. "He didn't mind getting his hands dirty, or anything of the kind," Le Green said.

Jimmy Carter was last seen publicly nearly a year ago, visibly diminished and silent as he used a reclining wheelchair to attend his wife's two funeral services.

Jason Carter said the family hadn't expected to enjoy his 100th birthday after she died. The former president's hospital bed was set up so he could see and talk to his wife of 77 years in her final days and hours.

"We frankly didn't think he was going to go on much longer," Jason Carter said. "He's really given himself over to what he feels is God's plan. He knows he's not in charge. But in these last few months, especially, he has gotten a lot more engaged in world events, a lot more, just engaged, emotionally, with all of us."

He said the centenarian president, born four years after women were granted the constitutional right to vote and four decades before Black women won ballot access, is eager to cast his 2024 presidential ballot for the Democrat who would be first woman, second Black person and first person of south Asian descent to reach the Oval Office.

"He, like a lot of us, was incredibly gratified by his friend Joe Biden's courageous choice to pass the torch," the younger Carter said. "You know, my grandfather and The Carter Center have observed more than 100 elections in 40 other countries, right? So, he knows how rare it is for somebody who's a sitting president to give up power in any context."

Early voting in Georgia begins Oct. 15.

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