

## From Our Foothills Partners...

Written by Steve Frank

Wednesday, 02 October 2013 14:47

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**LENOIR (WJRI)** The Lenoir City Council met in regular session last night where one of the items on the agenda was a public hearing to discuss the city's sign ordinance. The ordinance sparked controversy last year when Larry Smith put up a 25-foot tall snowman to advertise his Christmas tree business. After nearly an hour of deliberation last night the council voted to relax the ordinance and Frosty will be allowed this year. The vote was 4-2 with Todd Perdue and T. J. Rohr voting against the change.

**LENOIR (WJRI)** Caldwell County Emergency Services will be testing the new flood warning system on Wilson Creek today. The test will last for three minutes and all 5 sirens will be tested on today at Noon. The sirens were constructed between the Brown Mountain Beach Campground and Edgemont Baptist Church. Officials say that outside of the testing, the sirens will only be set off in the event of a flash flood or tornado warning and will not be set off during watch situations.

**LENOIR (WJRI)** Over 20 employers are expected to be on hand tomorrow at the J. E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir for the biannual Caldwell is Hiring event. Officials say that the businesses are looking to fill hundreds of positions and the event is scheduled to begin at 3:00 tomorrow afternoon and last until 6:00 tomorrow evening.

**NEWTON (WKVS)** A Connelly Springs man will spend at least the next 6-years behind bars after he was convicted on robbery charges this week. 45-year-old William Lee Sparks was accused of robbing convenience stores in Burke County and in Hickory in December of 2011. He was sentenced to between 6 and 9 years in prison.

**HICKORY (WKVS)** Hickory Police say theyve arrested a woman from Virginia on drug charges. Reports state that 40-year-old Angela Maria Eagle of Gladston Virginia was taken into custody around 2:30 yesterday morning. The vehicle that Eagle was driving was stopped because of a broken tail light. The officer who stopped the car asked if she had anything illegal in the car and she said she did. Police say they found 1.8 grams of methamphetamine inside the car. There were four passengers in the car, who police believe that didnt know the drugs were in the car. Eagle was the only one arrested and she was charged with felony possession of a controlled substance. Her bond was set at \$2,500.

**LINCOLNTON (WKVS)** Police in Lincolnton say that they found a bomb in a mans home. Authorities were in the home of 36-year-old Donald Cunningham looking for child pornography when they discovered the device. The bomb known as a cricket is made from carbon dioxide cartridge containing gunpowder and a fuse. The bomb was safely detonated. Police say they feel the bomb was designed to hurt them. Cunningham is accused of distributing and receiving child pornography and computers from the home were taken by the FBI as the investigation continues. Cunningham was jailed in Lincoln County under a \$125,000 bond.

**HILDEBRAN (WKVS)** The Burke County Health Department will be holding a car seat safety check this Sunday in Hildebran. The event will take place from 1-3 at the Food Lion on Highway 70. Car seats will be checked for free at the Fire Prevention Week Kickoff event that will be

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going on. More details are available at 828-764-9219.

MCDOWELL COUNTY (WKVS) McDowell County Law Enforcement Officials are looking for whoever stole tires from three school buses. The buses were at North Cove Elementary School when drivers reported Monday morning to begin the day, tires and wheels were taken from the vandalized buses. Spare buses were used to bus the affected students to school. Sheriffs Officials say that the thieves took the tires but left the lugnuts behind.