
BARRACUDA NEWS REPORT

October 11, 2017

LOCAL NEWS

Love All the Way from Hickory to Las Vegas

By Sarah Hartsell

October 1st now marks the date of the most deadly mass shooting in United States history. At a Jason Aldean concert on the Las Vegas Strip, 58 were killed, and over 500 were injured by a gunman shooting from his hotel window. Many are still in critical condition and under hospital care.

However, an overwhelming amount of love and support for victims' families comes amidst this tragedy. Residents of the city have organized vigils with candles, flowers, and artwork on the Strip, and one individual created a makeshift memorial by writing the names of victims on the pavement. In Hickory, groups have also facilitated memorials for the victims. Last Tuesday, Olive Branch Ministries and Indivisible Citizens of Catawba Valley held a vigil on Union Square to honor victims and their families. Alyssa Hogan, an organizer of the event, states, "We must all set an example of reaching out to others, not only in times of need, but to nurture a kind and healthy culture for our community."

We ask that you continue this example of kindness and openness and keep victims' families and those still recovering in your thoughts and prayers.



Pictured: Las Vegas residents hug in front of a memorial of wooden crosses.

U.S. NEWS

Maria Brings Destruction to the Caribbean

By Lauren C. and Nina Z.

Hurricane Maria ravaged several Caribbean islands late September, only worsening Irma's destruction across the Atlantic. After barreling through the Leeward Islands, Maria pummeled the island Dominica only two weeks after it was devastated by Irma. Then, making landfall on September 20th, Maria hit Puerto Rico, drilling the country with strong wind and rain for more than 30 hours. Meteorologist Jeff Weber described hurricane Maria, "as if a 50- to 60-mile-wide tornado raged across Puerto Rico, like a buzz saw." Puerto Rico has not seen such a startling degree of intense weather in years. Before Irma, Hurricane Hugo in 1990 was the last to travel within 75 miles of the central part of the island. Maria also hit Turks and Caicos, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti.

As expected, the hurricane left Puerto Rico devastated, resulting in widespread destruction and disorganization. "Most, if not all, of the built environment is destroyed," stated Tricia Wachtendorf, a professor of sociology at the University of Delaware studying disaster relief. Though over two weeks have passed since Hurricane Maria crashed into the island, most residents still lack access to electricity and clean water. Many have made relief efforts, but the tumultuous weather has made some donations unavailable to the people. For example, 10,000 shipping containers of food and supplies were stranded in the Port of San Juan, failing to reach the island's interior due to the lack of fuel, labor, and working roads. Despite all this, the people are slowly, but surely, recovering from the devastating loss. In response, we can contribute through prayer and donations.

Service Spotlight: Catawba County United Way

By Catherine C. and Suha S.

UCHS Student Council has recently partnered with Catawba County United Way. This year, the council wanted to introduce a service component which would provide an opportunity for UCHS students to help the community and earn service hours. Catherine Crooks, the UCHS Student Council's Vice President, pioneered this initiative. As a representative on Catawba County Youth Council, she helped bring the two councils together for the common purpose of improving our county. Through this promising collaboration, UCHS students can now serve with Catawba County Youth Council and the United Way. Student Council will regularly announce upcoming events to inform UCHS students about ways to volunteer your time and talents in order to help the people of Catawba County.



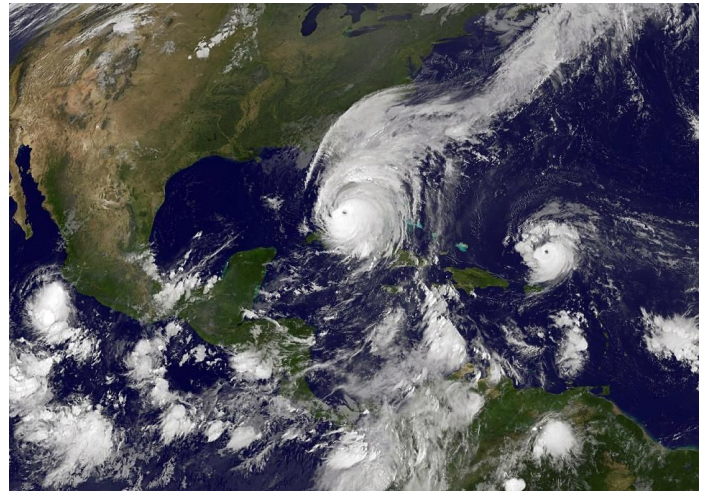
Catawba County United Way

Have a service you would like to suggest for service spotlight?

- Contact **Caroline Walker** or **Brock Pate**
- carolinewalker@uchigh.com
- brockpate@uchigh.com

See you next week on service spotlight!

Pictured: The Story of Hurricane Maria



A satellite image of Hurricane Maria.



Puerto Ricans walk in the flooded streets after Hurricane Maria.



The National Guard performs relief efforts after the devastation in Puerto Rico.

BARRACUDA CULTURE

Your Source for UCHS Sports and Entertainment

SPORTS

Your UCHS Athletics Briefing

By Alex Morrow

Volleyball: Our ladies' volleyball team is spiking through the season with an overall record of 11-8-0 along with a conference record of 4-5-0. Currently with only four losses, the Barracuda volleyball team is sure to have many more successful matches before closing a great fall sports season. All of our ladies have contributed effort and strength, and together make an extraordinary team.

Girls' Tennis: The Lady Barracudas are certainly "causing a racket" out on those courts! With an outstanding overall record of 6-0-1 following with a conference record of 2-0-0, these girls are proving to be



undefeated once again. Just this past week, the tennis squad put one of the toughest teams in their place with a sweeping victory. Coach Jason Burgess and his hard-working ladies are positively set to keep up these awesome wins!

Girls' and Boys' Cross Country: This team is racing their way across the fall sports season. Running in only three meets, our team has kept the pace in their competition for first place. All of our runners are doing an exceptional job in racing tough meets against all the other schools. Only time can tell the future of the successful Lady and Men's Barracudas!

Boys' Soccer: These boys are scoring some major points in this chunk of the fall season. The team is holding an overall record of 8-4-0 and a conference record of 5-3-0. With two determined coaches, Mr. Barrett and Mr. Chase, it is no surprise that these boys are so successful in their games! They have only lost 5 games this whole season, which is very good considering the tough rivals they face on occasion. Keep up the hard work, boys!

ENTERTAINMENT

Hickory's Largest Festival Turns 30 - Don't Miss It!

By Carter Pennell

Visit downtown on October 13th, 14th, and 15th for Hickory's annual **Oktoberfest**. Enjoy the largest festival of the year with amazing food, homemade crafts, and constant live music that attracts visitors from across the region. All this weekend, local and traveling musical groups will be featured.

On October 14th, come out to see a talented lineup of students from Hickory Music Factory including our very own **Brock Pate** perform their original songs! Free CDs, professionally produced by local studio **Blue Moon Sound Lab**, will be distributed after the concert. Billed as the HMF CD Release Party, this performance will take place on the HMF stage near BB&T beginning at 7:00 P.M.

Upcoming Events

- **30th Annual Hickory Oktoberfest.** Huge festival with food, music, and culture. [Oct 13-15]. Downtown Hickory.
- **Rocky Horror Picture Show.** Lincolnton Theatre Guild. Showtimes vary. [Oct 20, 21, 27, 28, plus special showing on Halloween].
- **Student Council Halloween Dance.** UCHS. \$5/person. Alice in Wonderland/Tim Burton Theme. Come in costume! [Oct 27 @7PM]
- **Two act Comedy: The Foreigner.** Hickory Community Theatre. [Oct 6-29].



