

# Times-News

SERVING THE BLUE RIDGE SINCE 1881 • HENDERSON, TRANSYLVANIA AND POLK COUNTIES • 50 CENTS • VOL. 133, NO. 293



FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 21  
2011

## MAKING MUSIC

Band gets new conductor  
CORE • D1



WEATHER  
Partly sunny  
High 57 Low 34  
FORECAST BACK PAGE

### NOTEWORTHY

#### One-stop voting now under way

In Henderson, Transylvania and Polk counties, voters can cast their ballots between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. weekdays through Nov. 4.

One-stop voting in Henderson and Transylvania counties also will place on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In Polk County, the elections office will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Nov. 5, the final day for early voting. The general election will be Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Citizens can vote at their county board of elections office: in Henderson County, 75 E. Central St., 697-4970 or [www.henderson-countync.com/elections/](http://www.henderson-countync.com/elections/); Transylvania County, 221 S. Gaston St., 828-884-3114 or [www.transylvaniaelections.org/](http://www.transylvaniaelections.org/); Polk County, 40 Courthouse St., 828-894-8181 or [www.polknc.org/departments/elections](http://www.polknc.org/departments/elections).

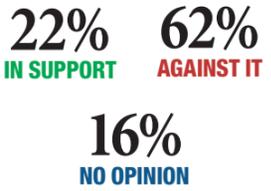
—From staff reports

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### BLUE RIDGE VIEW

Results from: What do you think about the Henderson County Commissioners buying Highland Lake Golf Course for a \$1.15 million recreational area?  
Number of votes: 716



Go to [www.blueridgenow.com](http://www.blueridgenow.com) to vote on this question: Is the world a safer place without Moammar Gadhafi?



Weather art by **Amanda Retzbach**, 9, Mountain Community School.  
We invite children to send in their weather art. Limit size to 8x10. Send to: City Editor, Times-News, P.O. Box 490, Hendersonville, NC 28793.

# Gadhafi captured, killed



Anti-Gadhafi fighters celebrate after routing the last remaining forces loyal to Col. Moammar Gadhafi from the town of Sirte, Libya, on Thursday. The head of the Libyan military council said Gadhafi was killed as fighters battling the vestiges of his fallen regime took control of his hometown of Sirte after a prolonged struggle.

## Ex-leader meets violent end at hands of Libyans

By **RICK GLADSTONE**  
New York Times News Service

MISRATA, Libya — Moammar Gadhafi's last moments Thursday were as violent as the uprising that overthrew him.

In a cellphone video that went viral on the Internet, the deposed Libyan leader is seen splayed on the hood of a truck and then stumbling amid a frenzied crowd, seemingly begging for mercy. He is next seen on the ground, with fighters grabbing his hair. Blood pours down his head, drenching his golden brown pants, as the crowd shouts, "God is great!"

Gadhafi's body was shown in later photographs, with bullet holes apparently fired into his head at what forensic experts said was close range, raising the possibility that he was executed at the hands of anti-Gadhafi fighters.

The official version of events



A Libyan revolutionary fighter inspects the tunnels where Moammar Gadhafi is claimed to have been found on Thursday in Sirte, Libya.

offered by Libya's new leaders — that Gadhafi was killed in a cross-fire — was not supported by the photographs and videos that streamed over the Internet all day, raising questions about the government's control of the militias in a country

that has been divided into competing regions and factions.

The conflicting accounts about how he was killed seemed to reflect an instability that could consume Libya long after the euphoria fades about the demise of Gadhafi.

For weeks, as the fight for Sirte, Gadhafi's hometown and final redoubt in the eight-month conflict, reached a bloody climax, NATO forces and Libyan fighters had watched for an attempt by loyalists of Gadhafi's to flee and seek safety elsewhere. Soon after dawn, they did, leaving urban bunkers in the Mediterranean town and heading west, said a senior Western official in Europe knowledgeable about NATO's operations in Libya.

Around 8:30 a.m. local time, a convoy slipped out of a fortified compound in Sirte, the scene of one of the Libyan civil war's bloodiest and longest battles and a city that was on the verge of falling to Gadhafi's opponents.

Before the convoy had traveled two miles, NATO officials said, it was set upon by a U.S. Predator drone and a French warplane. With the attack the convoy "was stopped from progressing as it sought to flee Sirte but was not destroyed," Defense Minister Gerard Longuet

◆ SEE GADHAFI PAGE A9

## Mission officials: Hospital wants to end state restrictions; Park Ridge disagrees

By **MARK SCHULMAN**  
Times-News Staff Writer

FLETCHER— Mission Hospital has seen substantial growth over the past 15 years, and as health care continues to change, Mission officials say the hospital's regulatory agreement with the state is no longer needed.

More than 300 people crowded into the Virginia C. Boone Mountain Heritage Building at the WNC Ag Center Thursday night for a hearing conducted by the N.C. House of Representatives Select Committee on Certificate of Need and Related Hospital Issues. Lawmakers came to the area to listen to hospital officials and the public express their views on Mission's Certificate of Public Advantage.

What they heard were conflicting stories

from competing interests. Mission officials advocated for an end to the COPA restrictions, saying the health care climate has changed, and Park Ridge Health officials clamored for more state oversight, saying Mission is trying to monopolize the market and drive the smaller hospitals out.

The purpose of the Mission COPA, established in 1995, was to allow Mission and St. Joseph's hospital to join and to monitor competition that may have been reduced as a result of the joint operation. The state of North Carolina has a duty to regulate on the quality of care, health care costs and access to care and to keep smaller rural hospitals open.

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## Americans show little interest in jobs created by Ala.'s immigrant law

By **JAY REEVES**  
The Associated Press

ONEONTA, Ala. — Potato farmer Keith Smith saw most of his immigrant workers leave after Alabama's tough immigration law took effect, so he hired Americans. It hasn't worked out: Most show up late, work slower than seasoned farm hands and are ready to call it a day after lunch or by midafternoon. Some quit after a single day.

In Alabama and other parts of the country, farmers must look beyond the nation's borders for labor because many Americans simply don't want the backbreaking, low-paying

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