

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HENDERSON COUNTY
VOTERS GUIDE
November 3, 2009**

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CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE MAYOR

TIMOTHY P. KURTZ

Website: timmkurtz.com

taproot@mchsi.com

Age: 47

Education: AS, BFA, Street

Occupation: Artist, Entrepreneur

Volunteer involvement in the community:

Donations to the Boys & Girls Club, Arts Council of Hendersonville,
Discounting & Contributions to all local schools.

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Lack of children friendly environment: No bike trails, sidewalks lacking in many city neighborhoods, parks and rec. areas in disrepair, lack of lights in neighborhood intersections.
2. How the City can attract better manufacturing jobs, skilled labor, high tech.
3. Why the 3+ years to resolve downtown traffic signalization program: Why so long? Actual cost? When will it be finished?

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE MAYOR (cont.)

MARY JO PADGETT

Website: www.maryjopadgett.com
maryjo@maryjopadgett.com

Age: 61

Education: B.A. English, UNC Greensboro

Occupation: Self-employed teacher, presenter, consultant

Volunteer involvement in the community:

I have worked with and organized hundreds of volunteers since 1987 to accomplish major tasks as founder and former executive director of the ECO.

I also have a 28-year history of volunteer service and leadership in the city, county, and region, serving on such boards and committees as former Hendersonville City Commissioner and Mayor Pro Tem, Hendersonville Green Challenge Task Force, Henderson County Planning Board, Western Carolina Community Action board, Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy board (chair, Public Policy Committee), Land of Sky Regional Council committees, Henderson Co. Transportation Advisory Committee, Henderson Co. Historic Courthouse Comm., among others.

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. To lead City government creatively and efficiently through the economic challenges I see looming for the next 3-4 years, keeping a balanced budget without raising taxes while preparing for future growth.
2. Strengthen the Comprehensive Plan to a transparent Strategic Plan, setting priorities that citizens understand and goals for when they will be accomplished.
3. Hendersonville is the County Seat of commerce, business, and government for Henderson County, and I want to enhance that role. I will build on a sense of community pride through cooperative policies, good communication, safety, leadership in environmental practices, and support for small business.

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE MAYOR (cont.)

BARBARA G. VOLK

Website: VolkforMayor@ioa.com

Age: 63

Education: BA in Mathematics, Valparaiso Univ., Graduate classes in education-Wake Forest Univ.

Occupation: Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

Volunteer involvement in the community:

Past president/chair: Hendersonville Rotary Club, The Healing Place, Henderson County League of Women Voters, Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church Ladies Guild, Hendersonville Green Challenge Task Force, Hendersonville Junior Woman's Club, GFWC Forrest Woman's Club, N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs, Bruce Drysdale PTO, Hendersonville Community Schools Advisory Council; past board member: Dispute Settlement Center (also volunteer mediator), Helping Hand Development Center, Downtown Hendersonville, Inc.; member: Hendersonville Comprehensive Plan Committee, Asheville Regional Housing Consortium, Western N.C. Housing Partnership, N.C. Museum of Natural Resources Advisory Council (Governor's appointee); past member: N.C. Community Development Council (Governor's appointee)

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Improve traffic signage and parking to make it easier for residents and visitors to get around, working with NCDOT to synchronize lights for better traffic flow
2. Make government more effective. I want transparent government and will have an open door policy to hear concerns. I will inform and educate the public and be a team-builder for council and staff. I will work with other officials to increase cooperation.
3. Enhance Hendersonville as a place to live, work, play and visit. I will implement policies for energy efficiency, develop a better approach to setting priorities and protect and improve Hendersonville's outstanding assets.

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE COUNCIL

DIANE RUDISILL CALDWELL

Office Sought: City of Hendersonville Council

Website: drcaldwell52@aol.com

Age: 57

Education: AAS- Computer Programming
AAS- Business Administration
BA- Business Management

Occupation:

Volunteer involvement in the community: Hendersonville 30 yr. Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Board member for Hendersonville Seventh Ave. District (17 Years.), Board Member for Mountain BizWorks, Board Member for the Black Alliance Org. , Founder and President of Yahyah Rasheed, Inc. (Harambee Festival, Kwanzaa, and the Red, White & Black Ball), Annual MLK celebration at the Union Grove Church.

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. I am very much interested in continuing the revitalization efforts of the 7th Ave. area (including Grove St. to Duncan Hill Rd. and from 7th Ave over to MLK Blvd.)
2. I am also looking forward to the beginning works on the 30 year comprehensive Land Use plans. I am also interested in looking closer at our environmental protection laws and how we plan the use of open space.
3. Continued effort in reducing crime is necessary as we continue to grow as a city. Safety is one of the main points people consider when they are thinking of relocation.

JEFF COLLIS

Office Sought: City of Hendersonville Council

Website: collisjd@hotmail.com

Age: 40

Education: Bachelors Degree in Business Administration-Montreat College, N.C. Justice Academy

Occupation: Adult Probation Officer, N.C. Dept. of Corrections

Volunteer involvement in the community:

Four Seasons Rotary Club, Land of Sky Regional Council Member, Henderson Co. Medical Loan Closet Board Member, Henderson Co. Criminal Justice Partnership Program Board Member.

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. French Board River raw water intake for city water plant.
2. Eastside Fire Station in place by 2013.
3. Implementation of Hendersonville 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

RALPH FREEMAN

Office Sought: City of Hendersonville Council

Website: rgfreema@bellsouth.net

Age: 69

Education: Attended ASU, UNCA, AB Tech, BRCC

Occupation: Real Estate Investor, Homestead Investment Properties LLC.

Volunteer involvement in the community: Past member of Planning Board, Chairman of Historic Preservation Comm., Member of Board of Adjustment, Former Scoutmaster of Troop 610, Church Activities.

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Fiscally responsible government
2. Protect and preserve the standard of living in our residential neighborhoods.
3. Develop Berkeley Park to be more user friendly.

JERRY SMITH

Office Sought: City of Hendersonville Council

Website: jerrysmithforcitycouncil@hotmail.com

Age: 41

Education: BA-UNC Chapel Hill

M.Ed. - George Mason University

JD-North Carolina Central Univ. School of Law

Occupation: Teacher/Coach- Hendersonville High School

Volunteer Involvement in Community: Mock Trial Coach, Key Club & FAC Advisor-Hendersonville High School. Chairman, Apple Country Greenway Commission- Henderson Co. Coach- Henderson Co. Soccer Association, Henderson Co. Parks and Rec., YMCA.

Volunteer- PTO- Hendersonville Elementary School, Towne Forest Neighborhood Assoc., Providence Baptist Church.

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Water- Upgrading system to meet EPA guidelines for cryptosporidium by 2012, establishing another reliable source of water in case of future drought, following current policy of County Commissioner approval of water line extension in county.
2. Fire- Determine economic impact of expected change in insurance rating for not building new fire station as recommended by NC Department of Insurance; pursuing financing for construction.
3. City government- Return city employee salary schedule to pre-2009 levels when fiscally able: determine appropriateness of HPC proposed expansion of Main Street Local Historic District, addressing safety concerns at skate park.

RON STEPHENS

Office Sought: City of Hendersonville Council

Website: electronstephens.com

ron@electronstephens.com

Age: 71

Education: B.A.- Univ. of Georgia- Athens, MBA- Emory University

Occupation: Real Estate Broker

Volunteer involvement in the community:

City of Hendersonville City Council- Mayor Pro Tem
City of Hendersonville Planning Board- Vice-Chair
City of Hendersonville Comprehensive Plan Comm. – Member
City of Hendersonville Land Plan Revision Comm. – Chair
Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County- Board
United Way Hend. Co. Board-General Campaign Chair 2001-02
Pardee Hospital Board- Chair, Four Seasons Hospice-Board
Rotary Club of Hendersonville- Board
Greater Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce Board-Chair of
Environmental Committee
Hendersonville Board of Realtors- President 2008

The three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Encourage inclusive government by carefully listening to all sides, focusing and enlarging upon areas of agreement to find reasonable solutions for areas of disagreement. Specifically, I would insist of Public Workshops on major issues before they go before Council to insure public input, end Council meeting at a reasonable hour so working people could attend and televise Council meetings.
2. Use the City’s new Comprehensive Plan as a guideline for ordinances and zoning regulations and on decisions involving growth and development.
3. Provide Leadership for sound fiscal decisions, so important in today’s challenging economic environment by drawing on years of management experience.

TOWN OF LAUREL PARK COUNCIL

ANDREW KILPATRICK

OFFICE SOUGHT: Laurel Park Council

Website/email: [http://sites.google.com/site/ak4council/
LPhomeOwner@morrisbb.net](http://sites.google.com/site/ak4council/LPhomeOwner@morrisbb.net)

Age: 67

Education: B.S., Electrical Engineering (Communications)
NC State Univ. (Raleigh) 1965

Occupation: Engineer (Retired in 2002)

Three Issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Maintaining controlled growth in our community without generating a negative impact on existing Laurel Park residents- specifically with regard to taxes, water supply, roads, power, safety, parks and quality of life.
2. Maintaining a balanced budget during these recessionary times, without reducing the maintenance of the town's parks or curtailing law enforcement and town oversight.
3. Finding alternative providers for telephone and internet service providers. This should promote better service and possible lower rates for the community.

DONA MENNELLA

OFFICE SOUGHT: Laurel Park Council

Website/Email: robdona@morrisbb.net

Age: 77

Education: BA from George Mason Univ.; MLS Univ. of Maryland

Occupation: Currently Commissioner of the Town of Laurel Park

Volunteer involvement in the community: Since living here, I have been president of our homeowners assn; tutor for the Blue Ridge Literacy Council; secretary and then president of the Friends of the Library; Laurel Park Civic Assn Board; served on the Laurel Park Board of Adjustment.

Three pressing issues you would like to address while in office:

1. Budget: continue to work to balance Town expenditures and income so the tax rate can remain the same until the next revaluation.
2. Sewer: roughly 50% of the homes in Laurel Park are on septic systems, and septic system failures occur every year. Some homeowners do not have a repair field and must either connect to a sewer (if available), buy land (if available), or abandon their home. We have been trying to solve this problem without further burdening taxpayers.
3. Storm water Management: rainfall in Laurel Park brings rainwater down the mountain. Public works personnel work hard to keep the culverts and drainage areas open to prevent flooding.

CAREY O'CAIN

Office Sought: Laurel Park Council

Website/email: careyocain@yahoo.com

Age: 59

Education: B.S. Clemson Univ. '72, Architectural Construction

Occupation: Retired general contractor

Volunteer involvement in the community: I was born in Hendersonville and learned to swim in Laurel Park lake where later I taught life saving and water safety. I pursued my business career for 35 years before returning to Laurel Park in 2005. Once returning to L.P., I became a member of Henderson Co. Master Gardeners and have been able to relate much of this knowledge to improvements within our town. I am involved with Hendersonville Country Club greens committee, a member of St. James Episcopal Church and I am serving my third year as President of the Laurel Park Civic Assoc. Under my tenure as Pres. We have improved landscaping, initiated historic markers, planned & developed future walking trails, organized the first historic presentation, Theatre in the Park and the Christmas Tree Lighting. Currently I am working with the Greenways Comm. concerning dev. of the old lake bed property.

Three pressing issues I would like to address while in office:

1. Properly managing our assets
2. Improving the quality of our environment
3. Preserving our heritage and protecting our future.

TOWN OF MILLS RIVER COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

LARRY FREEMAN

OFFICE SOUGHT: Mills River Town Council, District One

E-MAIL: larrybfreeman1743@att.net
lfreeman@whkp.com

AGE: 61

EDUCATION: Henderson Co. Public Schools, UNV-Asheville

OCCUPATION: News and Program Director, Radio Station WHKP

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY:

Served on: The original Mayor's Committee on Human Relations
County Planning Board, County Courthouse Comm.

Six years Board of Directors, Margaret R. Pardee Hosp.

Serve on: Pardee Hospital's Finance Comm, Chair Pardee Hospital Audit Committee, Chaired Pardee Hospitals most recent CEO search committee, Pardee Hospital Foundation Board of Directors.

I am a 32nd degree Mason

2009 Man of the Year for Community Service- Daughters of the Am. Revolution, Abraham Kuykendall Chapter.

Member Sons of Confederate Veterans.

THREE MOST PRESSING ISSUES I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS:

1. Preserving the rural and agricultural nature of the Mills River community.
2. Providing full support for all local emergency services.
3. Co-Operation with other local governments and agencies to promote the best interests of the Town of Mills River.

FLAT ROCK VILLAGE COUNCIL-DISTRICT 1

RONALD L DAVIS

OFFICE SOUGHT: FLAT ROCK VILLAGE COUNCIL DIST. 1

WEBSITE/EMAIL: eeldavis@aol.com

AGE: 70

EDUCATION: BS-Mathematics, JD-Law

OCCUPATION: Retired Corporate Attorney

VOLUNTEER WORK: Vocational Solutions Board Member since 2005.

Village Board of Adjustment, 2003-2008. Village Council Member since January 2008.

WHAT THREE ISSUES DO YOU LIKE TO ADDRESS:

1. During 2008 and early 2009 the Council adopted a revised zoning ordinance and subdivision ordinance and a new Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Technical (cleanup) amendments are now necessary to improve the effectiveness of these ordinances.

2. The Village is staffed mainly by volunteers, particularly in zoning administration. Effective training programs must be developed to assist these volunteers in administering the revised ordinances.

3. As in the past, the Council must be diligent in insuring that Village ordinances are administered in a way that is both fair to those seeking to develop property and consistent with need to preserve the historic character and ambiance of the Village.

TOWN OF FLETCHER MAYOR

WILLIAM B. MOORE

OFFICE SOUGHT: Mayor for the Town of Fletcher

WEBSITE/EMAIL: genevam6@mchsi.com

AGE: 65

EDUCATION: Graduated from West Henderson High School

OCCUPATION: Sales

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY:

I started the Fletcher Rec. Park sports association in 1985. This is a sports assoc. that manages little league baseball programs in the Fletcher area.

THREE PRESSING ISSUES YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS:

1. In my opinion, our budget is the number one priority for the next four years. We have to realize that we have to keep taxes as low as possible. Our whole country is in an economic slowdown. We will continue to provide services that add to the quality of life for our citizens.
2. We will continue to move forward with the Heart of Fletcher. We need to be very careful however of what we commit to. We need to have the input of our citizens as we move forward.
3. We will continue to work with all industries in Henderson Co. to retain jobs as well as recruit new industry. I am proud of the service that we provide to our citizens, and I will continue to do so. Working together we can do great things for our Town.

TOWN OF FLETCHER COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

EDDIE SLOAN HENDERSON

OFFICE SOUGHT: District 4 Town Council Member

WEBSITE/E-MAIL: eddie.henderson@morrisbb.net

AGE: 62

EDUCATION: AAS Degree in mechanical engineering
Diploma- Building Construction/Cabinet making
Aviation Electrician

OCCUPATION: Retired from Square D Company

INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY:

Current District 4 Council Member, Division 13 & 14 (TAC) traffic advisor committee member.

THREE PRESSING ISSUES YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS:

1. To maintain the current level of services provided for the citizens of the Town of Fletcher during these tough economic times.
2. Move forward with Heart of Fletcher at a comfortable and maintainable pace.
3. Do not raise taxes!