

Highlands Newspaper

Early Voting is still on! **VOTE!**

Volume 21, Number 43

Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com

Thurs., Oct. 24, 2023

Closure of GA road makes life challenging but not impossible

Gorge Road is ablaze with color; businesses are open

By **Kim Lewicki** 106 between Highlands and Scaly rival of Hurricane Helene, Friday, Sept. 27, has closed N.C. 106
A deep pipe failure and a Mountain that was initiated by heavy downpours prior to the ar-

• See **GA ROAD** page 22

•INSIDE THIS ISSUE•

Mayor on Duty	2	Shopping Pullout.....	16-17
Weather	2	Events.....	18-19
Investing at 4,118 Ft.....	4	Spiritually Speaking	26
Obituaries.....	7	Police and Fire.....	27
Letters	7	Classifieds	29
Ink Penn.....	10		

Court to decide if SAVE Highlands is due attorney fees

By **Kim Lewicki**

Following a surprise closed session during the Thurs., Oct. 17 worksession prior to the Town Board meeting, Town Attorney Bob Haggeman versed commissioners on the latest move from SAVE Highlands, the group of citizens and business owners who sued the town over its short-term rental policies back in the fall of 2021.

Now that the town has amortized short-term rentals, the original Huff vs. Town of Highlands case which has been stayed for about three years, has been reinstated.

Lifting the stay and initiating court action was something SAVE Highlands attorney Derek Allen warned the board about at the required public hearing prior to the board voting to amortize STRs.

The upcoming in-person hearing scheduled for November 20 at 9:30 am at the Macon County Courthouse is to determine if SAVE Highlands is due about \$70,000 in legal fees.

Basically, the current lawsuit was filed because the town banned STRs outright effective January 2022. The town rolled back the ban because of the lawsuit from SAVE Highlands pending state legislation on the issue.

Next the town banned New STRs which SAVE Highlands say it compromised on because the town also grandfathered STRs in existence in residential districts prior to September 2022.

Now that the town has amortized STRs with a 4-1 vote, the new action has forced SAVE Highlands' hand and will bring a whole new lawsuit.

On Nov. 20, however, SAVE Highlands is only going for summary judgement from the court to see if it is owed the first \$70,000 in attorney's fees from the original suit.

It is a hearing and not a trial because the attorney's fees are the only thing still relevant to the first suit. A second lawsuit is forthcoming because of the amortization ruling.



From left: Asst. Principal Alyssa DeBois, Principal Sarah Holbrooks, MC Commissioners John Shearl, Danny Antoine, Gary Shields, Senator Kevin Corbin, Superintendent Josh Lynch, MC Board members Hilary Wilkes, Jim Breedlove, Stephanie Laseter and Diedre Breeden.

— Photo by Kim Lewicki

Highlands School Project breaks ground

By **Kristin Fox** School had a reason to celebrate groundbreaking ceremony held
Kim Lewicki as the Highlands School project in the middle school courtyard on
This week, Highlands officially moved forward with a

• See **HIGHLANDS** page 20

Highlands
Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

We offer our clients proprietary entrée to a world of affluent buyers and sellers.
Contact us today.
Let's discuss what we can do for you!

114 N. 4th Street | (828) 526.8300 • 1371 Cullasaja Club Drive | (828) 526.4104

M^cCULLEY'S

The largest selection of
Scottish cashmere in the U.S.A.

In Highlands ...on the hill
242 S. 4th St. • 828-526-4407

Open 7 days a week

www.mcculleys.com

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

The NC 106 story

Way back in the good old days, there were no roads to Highlands, just what we now would consider mountain trails. The Gorge Road between Highlands and Franklin was built in 1929, the Walhalla Road, aka NC 28, in 1938, and the Dillard Road, aka NC 106, in 1940. What I mean by a built-road to Highlands is that drivers and passengers would not have to get out and push their cars through ruts and mud on what was built originally for wagons. These new modern roads provided the prospect of continuous traffic flow without delays.

Well, now, in 2024, continuous traffic flow without delays is no longer the case with NC 106; as of last Saturday morning, it has been closed completely due to major damage incurred during Hurricane Helene. I always worried about the Gorge Road, US 64, being shut down. In fact, it was shut down this past February due to a major washout but was repaired and reopened in only several weeks. I didn't have the same concern for NC 106, the main corridor to Georgia.

Unlike the short closure time for the



Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor

Gorge Road, we will not be so fortunate with the closure of NC 106 between Scaly and Highlands. The rebuilding of that section will take months. NCDOT understandably does not want to over-promise an early completion date. Their current estimate is four months to rebuild and open NC 106.

I'm more optimistic that they can do like what was done on the Gorge Road repair an open NC 106 ahead of that projected date, say late December or early January.

But that may just be my wishful thinking.

NCDOT is facing tremendous pressure across Western North Carolina in the aftermath of Helene, and their resources and personnel are stretched very thin. It will take years to rebuild the hundreds of roads, bridges, and culverts that have been damaged or destroyed.

For the NC 106 project to move forward ahead of schedule, a lot of variables would have to fall into place for NCDOT staff. First, they would need a spate of good weather, allowing for continuous working days. Second, they would need access to critical materials without incurring back-order delays. With the demand for construction materials throughout WNC that may be a challenge. I already know they will have to replace the old 1940 stone piping system, which failed, the primary source of the road failure, with huge concrete cast pipes that could be over 6 feet in diameter. Installing these massive pipe sections in highly distressed mountain terrain will be an engineering and construction challenge. That installation will only be the first step in stabilizing and rebuilding the roadbed. A third concern is that once construction begins, there is always the possibility of discovering more structural problems that must be corrected. I understand the engineers have already discovered additional road stability problems near the original washout area.

So, I guess what I am saying is that we all have to be patient with what NCDOT has to do. It is not an easy and fast fix like the Gorge Road repair. What amazes me is that the system installed on NC 106 over 85 years ago has held up as long as it has.

In the meantime, the detour for traffic will be to use US 441 to Franklin. Cars and small trucks will then be able to take the

• See **MAYOR** page 20

• SNAPSHOT •





'Super' Hunters Moon up close and personal



Photo by Lori Mathis taken through her telescope Thurs., Oct. 17

Do you have a heartfelt, funny, interesting, or beautiful photo you would like to share in our new "SnapShot" section? Email it to highland-seditor@aol.com or text it to 828-200-1371, with a brief description and a name. No anonymous photos will be accepted.

• WEATHER •

Thu, 24-Oct	Fri, 25-Oct	Sat, 26-Oct	Sun, 27-Oct
 70 °F 40°F	 70°F 45°F	 68°F 47°F	 59°F 43°F
Mild with plenty of sunshine RealFeel® High: 73° Low: 43°	Partly sunny and mild RealFeel® High: 73° Low: 41°	Mostly sunny RealFeel® High: 71° Low: 47°	Rather cloudy RealFeel® High: 60° Low: 47°

For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather

Highlands Newspaper

www.highlandsinfo.com

Phone: (828) 200-1371

Email:

HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor: Kim Lewicki

Reporters: Brittney Lofthouse

Brian O'Shea

Digital Media/Circulation - Jim Lewicki

Locally owned and operated by

Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at

www.HighlandsInfo.com

265 Oak St. PO Box 2703

Highlands, N.C 28741

All Rights Reserved. No articles, photos, illustrations, advertisements or design elements may be used without permission from the publisher.

Letter Policy:

There is a 500-word limit. We reserve the right to reject or edit letters-to-the-editor. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands Newspaper.

HIGHLANDER ROOFING SERVICES INC.

New & Re-Roofing Applications Including:
Asphalt • Cedar • Metal • Synthetic Materials

Showroom: 1511 Highlands Rd • Franklin • O: 828-524-7773
info@highlandernc.com • www.highlandernc.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12



FIRESIDE

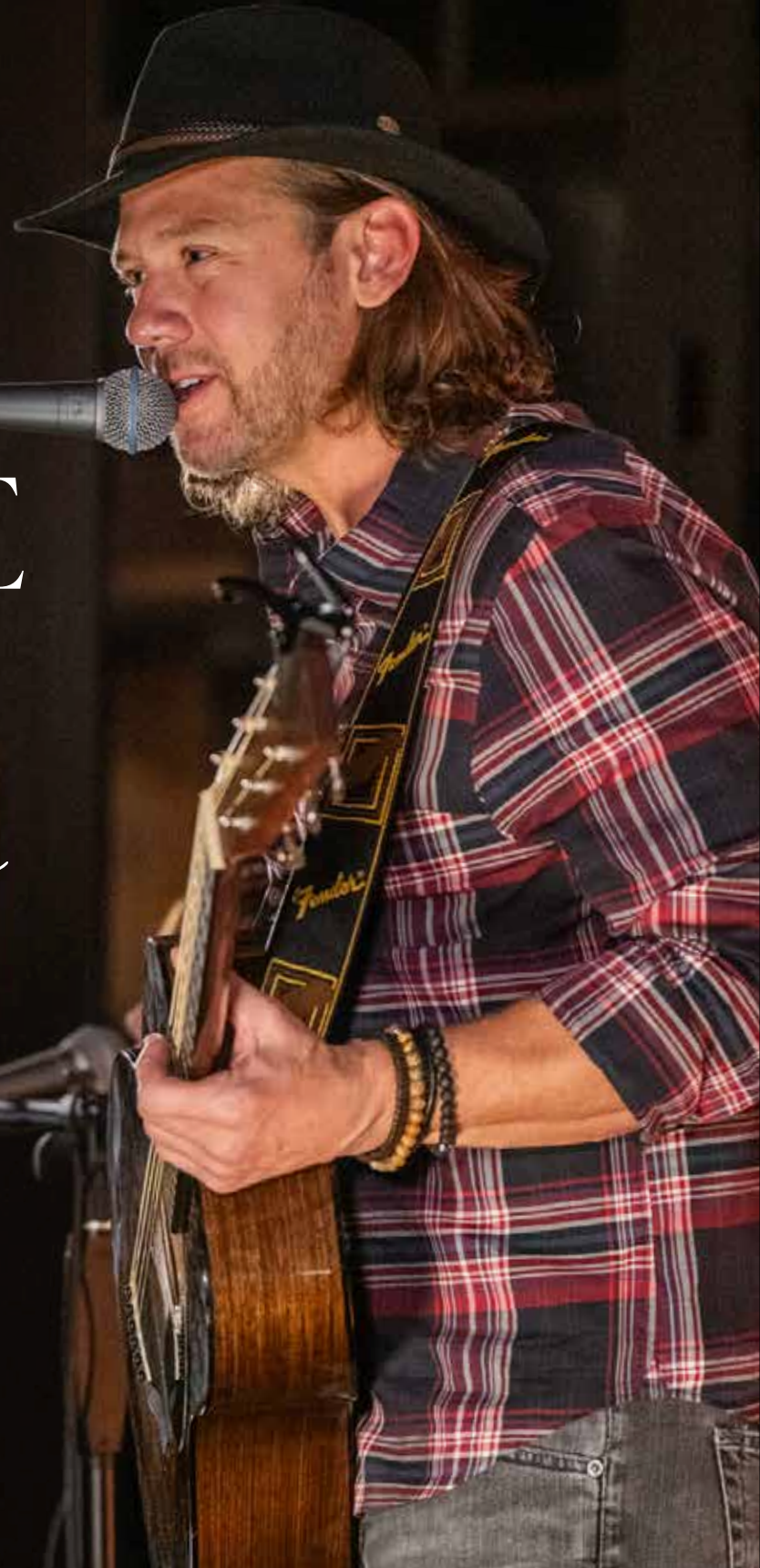
AT THE FARM

A HOLIDAY EVENING WITH

Mike Kinnebrew



purchase tickets





POST AND BEAM... WORK OF ART
 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Private gate, 4.56 Acres
 Lake, walking trails, pet friendly
 Offered for \$2,395,000

Andrea Gabbard
 c: 828.200.6742
 AndreaGabbard@gmail.com

**Read Highlands Newspaper for free from
 everywhere ... on the street or on the web.**

**Go to www.highlandsinfo.com. Click on Local News.
 Delivered and uploaded every Thurs.AM**

• INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

Fly Fishing and Real Estate

As of this writing I'm in Big Sky, Montana fly fishing with old friends and new ones. Recently, one of my fly fishing heroes, author John Gierach, passed away of a massive heart attack at age 78. John once wrote; "Maybe your stature as a fly fisherman isn't determined by how big a trout you can catch, but by how small a trout you can catch without being disappointed." We all need to fly fish more, and with 2500+ miles of trout water surrounding our town, this is the place to do it! So forgive me, but I can't help sharing how my passion for fly fishing mirrors the Real Estate business for the following reasons:

LOVE: I fly fish because I love the sport; I practice Real Estate because I love helping others to "fish where the fish are" and perhaps discover that special property that suits their lifestyle.

MOUNTAINS, RIVERS & LAKES (WHERE FISH LIVE): They hold healing powers, peace, and stillness. Living here full-time or part-time promotes wellness and offers a tranquility far from the rigors of a hectic schedule and busy-ness of the city.

RELATIONSHIPS: I've never met a jerk on a trout stream (except for a guy who waded into the stream exactly where I just caught 3 trout). Likewise, being a Broker creates lasting friendships built on trust. We enjoy one another's company, wise counsel, sharing a meal, an adult beverage, or a day on the stream.

"MATCHING THE HATCH": To be a successful fly fisherman, you try to choose a fly that matches the bug life (entomology) occurring or "hatching" on a stream at any given moment (Google: entomology of mayflies). Things change constantly like weather, time of day, water temperature, and stream conditions. You look like a genius or an idiot. Trout either want



Pat Gleeson
 828.782.0472

Christie's
International Realty

to eat, or just taunt you! Research, preparation, and decisiveness rule the day. All of these elements are true about Real Estate where we try and "match" needs of each Customer with what's occurring in the market and in what's happening in their lives (empty nesting, a death in the family, the need for more space, or "second-home-itis", (a common but curable ailment). We help buyers and sellers decide when it's time to strike!

FRIENDLINESS: Some of our closest friends and customers are fly fishers

(women and men). They have discovered the sport by living here or they have fished elsewhere. By investing in Highlands and Cashiers they have invested in life experiences and new relationships. Learning to fly fish both nurtures and enhances friendship at all levels. I have a good friend who's 82 and just lost his wife to cancer. We're taking him fly fishing for the very first time later this month.

COMMUNITY: Fly Fishing and Real Estate are all about helping others. It's my honor to help with the Three Rivers Fly Fishing Festival as a volunteer. 100% of the proceeds benefit Highlands Scholarship Fund. Every Graduate from Highlands High School gets a scholarship check, and our festival helps fund them! So many of our customers fly fish in the festival with us...and we invite you to do the same!

In closing, here's one more quote from the late great John Gierach; "The solution to any problem – work, love, money, whatever – is to go fly fishing, and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be."

• Pat and Bee Gleeson are proud to be with a team of "Helpers" and Real Estate Brokers at Christie's International Real Estate Highlands-Cashiers. You can reach us at 828.782.0472. Please stop by for coffee and conversation at 210 N. 5th Street in Downtown Highlands.

*We're not #1 in
 Highlands real
 estate sales, but
 our customers are
 #1 in our hearts
 and minds.*

CHRISTIE'S
 INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com
 210 North Fifth Street,
 Highlands, NC 28731

Deborah "Bee" Gleeson
 404.307.1415
 BeeGlee4@gmail.com

and

Pat Gleeson
 828.782.0472

PatrickGleeson4@gmail.com

UNRIVALED LUXURY



#1 in the Carolinas
Since 1957



1124 Billy Cabin Road

Highlands, NC 28741 | \$3,300,000 | MLS #105978
Rick Harrison & Steve Sheppard | 404.906.5113



1005 Concho Mountain Road

Cullowhee, NC 28723 | \$799,000 | MLS #106051
Dan Doughty | 828.200.5047



HIGHLANDS-DOWNTOWN OFFICE | 828.526.8784
CASHIERS OFFICE | 828.547.0022
SAPPHIRE OFFICE | 828.507.3156
WILDCAT CLIFFS OFFICE | 828.526.4525

Scan to see our luxury listings



Pat Allen
REALTY GROUP

Rooted locally. Connected globally.

Leading

REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
OF THE WORLD®



• HIGHLANDS DINING •

WOLFGANG'S RESTAURANT & WINE BISTRO



**American Cuisine with a
Creole Twist and German Flair**

Celebrating Our 30th Year
Taste the Difference, Always Fresh!

Wednesday - Sunday
Bistro Opens at 4pm | Dining Room at 5:30pm



474 Main Street | 828.526.3807
wolfgangs.net

The Ruffed Grouse Tavern & Highlander Mountain House



**Open for
LUNCH**
Wednesday-Saturday
11:30-3p
**Open for
DINNER**
Wednesday-Saturday
5:30-9p
**Open for
SUNDAY BRUNCH**
with Blue Grass music
10a-3p

290 Main Street • Highlands • 828-526-2590
highlandermountainhouse.com



The Secret Garden

Sandwich shop and gourmet food market

Open Year-Round

Mon.-Fri. 11:30a to 5p • Sat. 12-5p



208 N. 5th St. • Village Square • Next to Pine St. Park

Offering a variety of hot and cold specialty sandwiches, various salads, desserts and charcuterie prepared by a Johnson & Wales certified chef. Stop by and enjoy a hot sandwich, a cup of homemade soup and a daily pasta salad. We have indoor and outdoor courtyard seating, and a large variety of drink options including wine and beer.

Can't linger?

Call (828) 305-7509 to place a pick-up order.

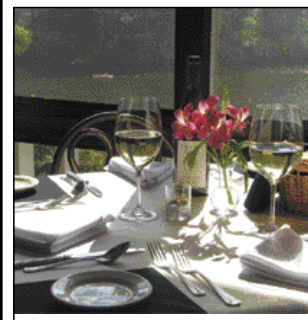


Open Mon.-Sat. 11a to 8p • Sun. 11a to 7p
Closed Tuesdays
828.526.3554
595 Franklin Rd. Highlands, NC



...on the Verandah
Restaurant
on Lake Sequoyah

42 Years of Fine Dining



Open

5:30-9p
7 Days a
Week

828-526-2338

US 64w • Highlands

www.ontheverandah.com



828-526-4035

Serving Lunch and Dinner Year-Round
Gourmet Foods & Full Service Bar
Town Square at 348-D Main St. • Highlands



**Open
7 Days
a Week**

**Lunch: 11a-3:30p
Dinner:
5:30p - 9p**



Open Tuesday - Saturday
Dinner Starts @ 5:30 PM

Outdoor Dining / Dine-In Art Gallery / lakesiderestaurant.info



531 Smallwood Ave 828-526-9419 HIGHLANDS

• DINING •

A HIGHLANDER MOUNTAIN HOUSE HOTEL

OUTPOST
CASHIERS

COFFEE BAR
NOW OPEN



Thursday through Sunday
from 8am



790 North 4th Street, Highlands | info@outpostinnhighlands.com | 828-482-7736

HIGHLANDS BURRITO



NEW
DINNER
HOURS!

Monday - Thursday, 11 am - 3 pm
Friday - Saturday, 11 am - 8 pm

226 South 4th Street • Highlands, NC
Highlandsburrito.com

Fall into
Dusty's

ENTERTAINING
MADE EASY

Appetizers

Fresh Produce

House made Salads

Cut-to-Order Steaks

Sides and Entrees

Fresh Baked Goodies

Sandwiches

Wine & More!!!

493 DILLARD ROAD
828-526-2762

• OBITUARIES •

Overton 'Tucker' Chambers

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Overton Tucker Chambers from Highlands, NC on October 13, 2024. Tucker passed away while doing one of things he enjoyed most, taking his morning walk with his dog. He was born on Aug. 17, 1953.

Tucker was known for his deep appreciation of the quiet beauty of Highlands, where he made his home and built lasting connections. His morning walks were a cherished part of his daily routine, a reflection of his love for nature.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Jeannie Chambers; his sons, Royce Chambers (Danielle) of Fredericksburg, VA, and Adam Chambers of Byron Bay, Australia, his daughters, Erin Britt (Travis) of Hodges, SC, and Susan Williams (James) of Franklin, NC, a brother, Tim Chambers (Karen) and his 13 grandchildren, Katie Grace, Lydia, Rebecca, Jon-Ira, Melissa, Asa, Mason, Josiah, Janie, Maddie, Grant, Levi and Clayton. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, cousins, members of Jeannie's family and friends who he considered family, and special friends, Debbie and Mike Clark. Tucker was preceded in death by his father, Overton (Tony) Chambers, II, his mother, Isabel Hall Chambers and a brother Thomas T. Chambers.

Tucker was a beloved husband, father, grandad, and friend, whose warmth, kindness, and love for life touched everyone who knew him. Along with his wife, he owned and operated The Chambers Agency, Inc, as Realtor, property manager and vacation rental manager. He was a past president and active member of Mountaintop Rotary and sustaining member of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. As an Eagle Scout, he believed in service from an early age. He had a genuine appreciation of the local people of Highlands and loved to hear their stories. As a dog lover, Tucker had several over the years, but his last companion, Sadie, was with him on his last walk and stayed right by his side.

A memorial service was held on October 23rd at the Church of the Incarnation, in Highlands, where friends and family gathered to celebrate his life. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of one's choice in his



memory or to organizations like Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Highlands Historical Society, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society and of course, Mountaintop Rotary (mtrgives.org).

Though he will be deeply missed, his spirit will forever live in the hearts of those who knew him. Think of him when you go on a walk in the woods.

Tim Dazzo

Tim Dazzo, age 78, of Scaly Mountain, North Carolina, passed away peacefully on October 16, 2024, in Miami, FL, at Baptist Hospital. Tim resided in Scaly Mountain, NC, and Miami, FL. He was born to the late Joe and Mary Dazzo and is survived by his brother Frank B. Dazzo and sister-in-law Olga Dazzo along with many cousins in St. Louis, New Orleans and elsewhere in Louisiana.

Tim graduated from Miami High School and earned his bachelor's degree from Florida State University. He enjoyed several outdoor hobbies, including hiking, fishing, duck hunting, and football games. A devout Catholic, Tim's faith was a central part of his life.

Tim will be remembered for his kind heart and will be deeply missed by his immediate family, many other relatives, and friends.

Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 1 PM at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, 315 N 5th Street, Highlands, NC, with Father Jason Barone officiating. Interment will immediately follow the service at Highlands Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends on Monday, October 28th, 2024 at Hunter Funeral Home, 423 Warwoman Rd. Clayton, GA, from 3:30-6:30 PM. The family will have a Recitation of the Rosary starting at 6 PM.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Tim's name to either St. Helena Catholic Church in Clayton, GA, or Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Highlands.

Hunter Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Tim Dazzo. To leave a condolence please visit: www.hunterfuneralhomega.com



Tony Long

There will be a celebration of life service for Tony Long of Highlands, at 2 PM on Saturday, October 26th inside Coleman Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Highlands. All are welcome to attend.

• LETTERS •

Vote for the 'qualified' candidate

Dear Editor,

As a 48-year-old white man who voted twice for Barack Obama and once for Hillary Clinton, I have one thought about why it is time to elect a woman for President. That thought,

however, may run counter to what you might expect.

I don't want to elect Vice-President Harris as a role model for my 15-year-old daughter, as wonderful an example as Ma-

...LETTERS continued from page 7

dame Harris would prove for her! Nor do I want to see an election based on what is "fair" for the 50% of the country who have never seen themselves represented by this highest seat of power in the world.

No, I think it is time we elected a woman for President because, quite simply, this woman is overwhelmingly qualified to lead our country. Her opponent, on the other hand, has proven time and again that he is unfit.

Blur the candidates' names, parties, identifying characteristics; vote for the person you want answering the phone when the world comes calling. That person is a woman, and that woman is Kamala Harris. It is time for a woman to be President because this woman is the best choice.

Jay Wamsted
Atlanta, GA

Coloring within the line

Dear Editor,

I voted today. Months of intense discussion of how to persuade others to vote was for me abstraction. As everything mostly is. But then the time had come for me to vote. In person.

I have voted in every presidential election since casting for John Kennedy. But this was different. Elegiac. In the booth I was coloring within the line of the oval as a child not wanting to displease the teacher, so concerned that my ballot not be thrown out.

Voting is a celebration, ratifying our way of life, our constitution, with its magnificent (and fragile) first principles. But this moment feels different.

Outside and walking to the car I thought of young Athenians and their induction into the culture. Their oath of citizenship, which in elegant script hangs on the wall of my library, begins: "We will never disgrace this our city..." and continues through the heroics of the text

to the spine stiffening promise, "...that we may transmit this city not less, but greater, better and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us".

Inside the car I tilted my head back to pool the tears. The Philosopher teaches that democracies will not last. But others were voting with me and across the land, some to save the Republic.

J. Albert Westbrook
Highlands NC

Enough is Enough!

Dear Editor,

The Letters' page has morphed into a pro liberal/anti Trump page.

More disinformation, lies, distortion, misinformation, misrepresented positions and quotes and opinions without merit or fact.

With just a few weeks till the election, I suggest the Letters Page become "Letters For & Against."

Draw a line down the middle putting those submissions AGAINST on the left of the line and those submissions FOR on the right side.

Please don't allow your publication to become a vehicle for the left only and have America's current division find a home in Highlands.

"FAIR and Balanced" should not only be applied to FOX. It's not a bad goal for any journalist or publication.

America has a new thirst for the truth.

Thanks for considering to deliver just that.

Mac McCloskey
Scaly Mountain

Before you vote, consider this

Dear Editor,

If you are still voting for Donald Trump or are undecided, please consider the following information:

President Trump's willingness to lie is well documented. He embellishes stories, lies for no reason and is always the hero or victim. The latest lie about the level of support that FEMA is giving to states impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton has put lives in danger and is un-American. Trump and Vance's lies have been refuted by 3 Republican Governors and 1 Democratic Governor of states impacted by the storms as well as by Republican Congressman Edwards who represents our area.

His lies range from campaign promises that Mexico would pay for the wall to his pledge to get rid of American's debt to his refusal to accept that he lost the 2020 election. His erratic behavior caused a historic attack on our Capital. Do you really think that Republican governors in the states he lost would have certified the election if he had really won those states. Sixty-two law suits and multiple recounts in swing states found no evidence of

fraud.

The question is not about Trump's relationship with the truth. You have to know he is a pathological liar. What is it like to be around liars? They make terrible business people, neighbors and especially spouses but somehow many Americans think that Trump would make a good President. This is ironic given that Republicans tried to impeach a Democratic President for lying under oath about an affair with an intern. It is common knowledge that Trump has cheated on all 3 wives. Liars cannot be trusted.

The loyal opposition, our Republican fellow citizens, really can do better. So, I ask: Do you really want a leader who:

1. Dehumanizes "the other" and uses violent political language, which are the 2 most common strategies for ending democracies.

2. Was convicted of business fraud because he overstated his assets to get lower interest rates for loans and underestimated his assets when paying taxes. It is no wonder that no major New York bank will lend to the Trump organization.

3. Claims the US economy is on the verge of collapse in spite of the Wall St. Journal stating that our economy is the "Envy of the World" and our country under Biden's leadership has avoided a recession. On October 14th, The WSJ also stated that Trump's economic plan would increase inflation and add far more to our national debt than Harris' plan.

4. Sells Bibles to raise money to cover his many law suits claiming to be a Christian. His behavior goes against everything Jesus taught.

Finally, before casting your vote, ask yourself why are so many prominent Republicans are voting for Kamala Harris. Many of Trump's cabinet members including V.P Pence and Mark Esper other officials in his administration like John Bolton and General Milley, Liz and Dick Cheney, General McChrystal and 741 members of the Intelligence Community serving in the Reagan, both Bushes and Obama administrations have publicly stated they will vote for Kamala Harris because Trump is a danger to our National Security.

Is Donald Trump worth the risk? Please vote for Kamala Harris and just don't tell anyone you did.

Linda Beville Arnold
Highlands

Loving the letters

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing so many letters this week. I found only two outrageous ones in the Oct. 17 edition: "False advertising for Democrats" and "May the best man win."

Henry Cheatham
Griffin, GA

• See LETTERS page 11

Breakfast
8-10:30a
Lunch
11a to 3p



Open Mon. - Sat. for Breakfast & Lunch

Pet Friendly Place Where Friends Meet

With the same menu, low prices, FREE coffee and an older more mellow attitude!

Come by for a visit and enjoy those Appalachian Fries and a Gyro!

Salads • Pitas • Burgers • Philly Cheese Steak • Shrimp Pita • Susan's Rueben
Italian Sausage • Appalachian Fries • Onion Rings • Jambalaya • Kabobs
Shrimp Gumbo • Soups

Dine in or Call in your order for Pickup! • 828-482-1513

462 Dillard Road, Highlands (across from Dusty's)

30% off all cleaning & repairs

SALE

FREE Pickup & Delivery

Open for the last 39 years, Shiraz has been offering wholesale prices to the public on its entire inventory of genuinely hand-woven oriental rugs. Thousands of antique and contemporary pieces from around the world.

HAND CLEANING • RESTORATION • APPRAISALS



Mon.-Sat: 9:30a-6p • Sun: noon-5p

(828) 526-5759

Main Street • Oak Square
Highlands, NC 28741
www.shirazruggalleries.com

OTHER SHOWROOMS:
TAMPA • NAPLES • SARASOTA
ORLANDO

 PUPPY APPROVED 

Just like our love for dogs, you'll fall in love with these luxury homes.



Dog Mountain beauty... open floor plan and updated! View and move-in ready with a double garage. A bargain at \$1,190,000!



Queen Mountain home with great view and large rooms with old Highlands charm. Quiet and serene setting with garage. Bargain priced at \$950,000!



Pat Allen
REALTY GROUP

PAT ALLEN & JULIE OSBORN
Allen Tate Realtors® | Brokers

(828) 200-9179 | (828) 200-6165 | PatAllenJulieOsborn.allentate.com

A HOWARD HANNA PARTNER 



REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
OF THE WORLD®



LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL®



Proudly Serving Our Mountain Communities.

Over 25 years of time-tested investment discipline, helping clients achieve their goals.



Marci Sherwood
Highlands



Donald Jowdy, Founder
Tampa - Highlands



Robin Cook
Sanibel - Highlands



SUNCOAST
EQUITY MANAGEMENT
PROSPERITY ADVISORS

Highlands | Tampa | Sanibel

828-487-8009 | SuncoastEquity.com | 431 N. 4th Street, Highlands 28741

Investment advisory services are offered through Suncoast Equity Management, LLC,
a Securities and Exchange Commission Registered Investment Advisor.

• INK PENN •

The end of a series feels like losing an old friend

As I write this column, I'm heartbroken because I've just finished reading the final installment in the 18-book Maisie Dobbs series.

The first book came out in 2003, and I've read every one. Some I've owned. Others I've picked up at the library. I've recommended them to friends who've become hooked on them, too.

At the moment, I have a bag of Maisie Dobbs books ready to share with a friend who's in the middle of the series.

The Comfort of Ghosts by Jacqueline Winspear

The "Wall Street Journal" excerpt below comes from Maureen Corrigan's article titled "When a Book Series Turns the Final Page." The article was prompted by Elin Hilderbrand declaration that she's written her last Nantucket novel and by the end of the Maisie Dobbs series. It perfectly captures how I feel about this series that's been part of my life for 20 years. It's like losing a friend.

"One truth I've gleaned ... is that the very elements that cause series fiction to be undervalued as literature make it exceptional as a storytelling form.

"Which is why the end of a beloved series packs a different emotional punch than the end of a beloved standalone book, or even a series on Netflix. Since individual titles in a series are usually published over a long expanse of time, series fiction accompanies its readers through the changes and milestones of their own lives. Simply put: In most series, the characters get older, and we readers get older, too. Perhaps we don't age in tandem, but we head in the same direction together."

The books span 1910 to 1945, taking Maisie from a 13-year-old in pre-World War I England to a middle-aged woman at the end of World War II. Maisie moves from being a maid in an aristocratic household to a battlefield nurse in the first World War and then a private investigator.

Winspear says she always knew the se-



Kathy Manos Penn

ries would end with World War II, and she has done a masterful job of capturing what the two wars did to England and her beloved characters. She brings alive not only the physical devastation, but also the loss of two generations of young men and the lasting emotional trauma it leaves on those who survived.

In this final book, she brings us a more vulnerable Maisie, one who is still helping and protecting others, but who is also reflecting on her life. It may well be the best in the series. If you haven't given it a try yet, I recommend you begin with Book I. If you like historical fiction, particularly of the WWI and II eras, I predict you'll be hooked.

During the 20 years she spent writing the Maisie Dobbs series, she also wrote two standalone novels, and I realized that I haven't read the very first one — "The Care and management of Lies," set during WWI. That's an oversight I intend to rectify soon.

I grabbed the other one, "The White Lady," as soon as I heard about it. It spans WWI to WWII and beyond, but in one book, not 18. She's also produced two nonfiction books — "This Time Next Year We'll Be Laughing," a memoir, and "What Would Maisie Do? Inspiration from the Maisie Dobbs series."

Perhaps reading the standalone novel I somehow missed will help to heal my broken heart until Winspear, hopefully, tries her hand at fiction again.

Meanwhile, I'll be in search of another series whose main character can become my friend. Recommendations are welcome.

Happy reading!

• Award-winning author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her cozy mysteries at Franklin Office Supply & Gifts, and on Amazon. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/.



Fall Residency Concert

The Rose Quartet

Saturday, October 26, 2024 | 5 PM

First Presbyterian Church in Highlands

FREE

Sponsored by Cullasaja Women's Outreach

Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival

www.h-cmusicfestival.org | hccmfnc@gmail.com | (828) 526-9060



...LETTERS continued from page 8

The democratic party is the threat to democracy

Dear Editor,

There has been a lot said about democracy being on the ballot but it's mostly Democrat gasbaggery. The Democratic Party is the main threat to democracy because they are obviously afraid of it in action. Who tried to eliminate the opposition by lawfare and efforts to remove candidates from the ballot? Remember, Trump was not the only candidate they went after. Who has spoken against the first and second amendments and been engaged in online censorship? Who has advocated for packing or even eliminating the Supreme Court when rulings don't go their way? Who wants to abolish the Electoral College so that a handful of large Democrat controlled urban centers could dictate to the rest of the country? Who wants to eliminate the Senate filibuster to ensure easy passage of partisan legislation? Who has opened the southern border and has no concerns about noncitizens voting? It sounds like a lot of breaking of norms to me. But Trump is supposed to be the norm breaker. Pffff!

Let's think a little. With the great effort expended to make sure that Donald Trump never gets back in the White House regardless of voter's wishes, is it really far-fetched to believe that somewhere in the Deep State there was a plan to assassinate him? Why after all these years, everything about the JFK assassination has not been declassified? Why do we still not know much about Trump's would be killer and there is largely

media silence? It appears that the FBI is the place where investigations go to die, at least as far as public disclosure is concerned.

Furthermore, with the dismal response by the government after Hurricane Helene it has been abundantly clear to me that our leaders are not interested in governing, only getting elected by lies and fraud. Maybe this is why it is getting difficult for the armed forces to reach their recruitment goals. If a prospective enlistee felt that by joining he wouldn't be defending his country but only the imperial designs of the DC gangsters, why would he join? Why, indeed?

David Parker
Sylva

Climate change action is on the ballot

Dear Editor,

North Carolina is already facing the harsh realities of climate change. From destructive hurricanes to record heat, unpredictable weather, and rising sea levels, these impacts threaten our environment, economy, and public health. Recent devastation from Hurricane Helene shows that even Western North Carolina can no longer be called a climate haven.

Fortunately, steps are being taken. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has modernized our energy grid, improved public transit, and invested in clean technologies, creating jobs in renewable energy. The Inflation Reduction Act, championed by the current administration, is the most significant climate investment in U.S. history, accelerating

our transition to clean energy.

However, we face opposition from MAGA extremists. When he was President, Trump withdrew the U.S. from the UN Climate Agreement, called climate change a hoax, and recently undermined support efforts for those affected by Hurricane Helene. Our Representative, Chuck Edwards,

denies climate change's urgency, pointing to emissions from other countries instead. Yet the U.S. remains the largest historical emitter of greenhouse gases, contributing 25% of all CO2 since the Industrial Revolution. NC Senator Kevin Corbin hasn't prioritized climate action in his legislative efforts,

• See LETTERS page 12

DECEITFUL ALLIANCE

Trump? No. He's just the PAWN. This is the real Republican ticket. Familiarize yourselves with what these guys want to do to destroy our democracy. Project 2025 is readily available online. Read it and weep.



JD Vance. Handpicked for VP by the guy on the right. Promoting a Second American Revolution meant to destabilize democratic norms.



Kevin Roberts. Architect of Project 2025 and head ideologue at the Heritage Foundation.

Paid for by Indivisible Highlands

John deVille School Board

It's Time For A Teacher!



Recruiting and retaining our best teachers.



More community involvement with our schools and students.



Budget Transparency — Every dollar spent shows up in the classroom.



Paid For By John deVille For School Board

801 SPLIT RAIL ROW

\$2,200,000 | MLS 104075 | 3 BED | 4 BATH



Pam Nellis

(828) 787-1895 | pam.nellis@yahoo.com



Cole Fuhrman

(843) 576-9653 | highlandsncreator@gmail.com

...LETTERS continued from page 11

despite advocating for disaster relief.

But there are leaders on the ballot that are willing to act: Kamala Harris, Tim Walz, Josh Stein, Caleb Rudow, and Adam Tebruge.

Inaction will cost far more than addressing these issues now. Rebuilding after Helene in North Carolina could cost up to \$250 billion and will take years.

With Election Day approaching, we must decide: vote for leaders who take climate change seriously or support those who ignore it and leave us to pay the price.

Make your vote count!

**Constance Neely
Scaly Mountain**

Here's to seeing you at 'Home for the Holidays!'

Dear Editor,

On behalf of Mountain Theatre Company, I want to thank our community of supporters for helping to make this summer so much fun! Our 2024 Summer Season included productions of "GREASE" and "CATCH ME IF YOU CAN," which were the most well-attended in our 86-year history. For those of you who loved the shows SO much that you saw them multiple times (btw. 8 times was the record for one patron), we promise to protect your identities and look forward to seeing you again, and again, and again in the future!

We loved seeing both full-time residents and visitors enjoying the shows and were particularly thrilled to see the local community embracing our "RUSH" discount ticket program and our free ticket program for students. We are passionate about producing Broadway-quality musicals in Highlands and are committed to ensuring access to all.

The Cullasaja Women's Outreach organization has generously contributed to making our discounted and free ticket programs possible and we extend them a special note of appreciation. Our shows are not touring productions but are produced right here in Highlands by our local team and feature professional talent from all over the US.

Following a fun summer season, we moved into Fall excited about bringing to life our production of "The Burnt Part Boys," a musical set in Appalachia and featuring a beautiful, bluegrass-influenced sound. This is a story that speaks to the human spirit and how it can overcome tragedy and loss through indomitable hope and compassion. This is a story that is right for

our community and particularly relevant now. I was proud to personally provide financial sponsorship for this incredible production.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature decided to test the human spirit and threw two hurricanes at the Southeast over a period of two weeks. Those of us in the Highlands-Cashiers area fared better than our neighbors in and around Asheville. We are incredibly thankful that our staff and visiting cast and crew all emerged safe and unharmed. Hurricane Helene's widespread impact, however, severely jeopardized our ability to bring "The Burnt Part Boys" to the stage. During what would have been our first week of rehearsal, our team spent that time without power, cell service or internet. Once we were able to connect with each other and our suppliers, we realized the magnitude of the storm's impact. We were initially hopeful that the storm would just cause a delay in opening the show, but it soon became apparent that there was no alternative but to postpone the production until 2025. The decision to postpone was heartbreaking, but we are moving forward!

You will be hearing from us soon with our 2025 season announcement. Meanwhile, we look forward to seeing you at our all-new production of "Home for the Holidays" on stage at the PAC from December 6th through the 22nd!

**Clif Gottwals
President, MTC Board of
Directors**

A President for all?

Dear Editor:

Donald Trump promised at the NRA convention to roll back gun control measures enacted under Biden and to fire the head of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. He was met with a roar of approval there. However, a 2023 survey by Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions revealed broad approval for gun violence prevention policies regardless of one's political affiliation or gun ownership. These approved policies include temporary gun restraining orders in domestic violence cases, a family's ability to remove guns from a relative believed to be at risk of harming self or others, the need to obtain a license before buying a gun, the necessity of locking up guns and ammunition when not in use, and the funding of gun violence prevention programs. While support was lowest among Republicans, there was 54-76% support for these

• See LETTERS page 13



Peace of Mind in the Mountains

HomeWatch and Home Maintenance Services for Seasonal/Absentee Homeowners. We look for things like storm damage, pests, moisture and mold issues, leaky plumbing, electrical issues, vandalism and more. Proudly serving Franklin, Lake Nantahala, Highlands, Cashiers and Lake Glenville with thorough inspections and qualified vendors.



828-421-4744

MountainHomeMinders@gmail.com

MountainHomeMinders.com

...LETTERS continued from page 12

policies among the total group surveyed by Johns Hopkins. So, whose vote was Trump actually seeking that day? Apparently, not the ones of a majority of this country.

On abortion, Trump has been openly prideful of his presidential decision to nominate three justices to the Supreme Court instrumental in overturning *Roe v. Wade*. But Trump has recently been all over the place regarding his abortion policy going forward from that decision. In speeches, his latest position has been that the individual states should determine what rights the state government has to interpose itself and regulate women's pregnancies and even to punish them for obtaining abortions. His comments advocate for this kind of overarching governmental control while still not clarifying his own personal position on abortion. The same is true for outlawing birth control. Abortion continues to be a critical issue for Americans, with 52% identifying as pro-choice and 44% as pro-life. On the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, 38% say it was a good thing, while 62% regard it as negative. Can Donald Trump really be the president of such 62% on this issue?

Another issue broadly touted by Trump is immigration. Border policy has been outdated for at least the last twenty years and in critical need of updating, but yet the most recent Senate bipartisan immigration proposal crafted with significant Republican input was torpedoed by Republicans at the last minute under the direction of Trump. Moreover, per the Heritage Foundation's 2025 Plan (created with the substantial assistance of Trump allies), in a second term he would ramp up immigration policies restricting both legal and illegal immigrants. Under the proposed plan, people from some Muslim majority countries would be banned from entry, and it would also reimpose the refusal of asylum claims. Unauthorized immigrants would be rounded up and deported by the millions, being first detained in massive camps while awaiting deportation flights. To facilitate the policy, in addition to federal police, local police and national guard troops would be deputized to search for and seize them. The requirement for due process hearings would be eliminated. As many as 11 million undocumented immigrants would be uprooted after years, or even decades, of settling here.

Views on immigration remain mixed and highly partisan among the U.S. population. According to a 2023 Gallup poll, no one is totally satisfied, especially since the World Trade Center bombing in 2001 when dissatisfaction was at an all-time

high. From then, dissatisfaction with immigration has remained steady or increased in older people while decreasing in younger and middle-aged citizens. In a 2024 NPR/Marist Poll, 57% of registered voters believe welcoming others to our country is essential to our national identity. That positive number is strongly representative of Democrats rather than Republicans, 84% vs 27%. Independents too are favorable to welcoming others, 55% vs 44%. Yet Trump's immigration policy is aimed at the minority of the electorate fearful of welcoming the stranger. Are these the people for whom Trump is running to be President?

There are many more policy issues I could and should address (including Trump's outlandish positions on taxation, healthcare, inflation, and global warming to name a few) that would give us a clue to Trump's true intentions if president again. However, the issues addressed in this letter, and the many more put forward in the foregoing 2025 Plan, should leave us asking "Does Trump want to be my President?" in addition to "Do I want Trump to be my President?"

Paul A. Pavlis
Highlands, NC

The price good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men

Dear Editor:

In the era of Watergate, Richard Nixon was renounced by the Republican Party, the Supreme Court, and the American people. When the number of Americans favoring Nixon's removal from office reached nearly six in ten, and Republican members of Congress told him he would likely be impeached, Nixon resigned.

For 50 years no president has sought to interfere in a criminal investigation - until now. Former president Trump has managed to rewrite fundamental, well-established standards of law and order while simultaneously sustaining solid support within the GOP; through two impeachments, the deadly January 6th attack on our Capitol, and scores of criminal and civil indictments. Incomprehensibly, criminal charges and felony convictions seem favorable to Trump politically. What has so changed America in a short half-century?

Timothy Naftali (founding director of the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum and now a senior research scholar at the Columbia School of International and Public

• See LETTERS page 14

HARRIS OR TRUMP: WHO WILL MAKE YOU BETTER OFF?

SO FAR

THE BIDEN/HARRIS ADMINISTRATION HAS:

- ♥ Reduced Covid Inflation
- ♥ Created 16 million new jobs, higher pay
- ♥ Built the strongest economy in the world
- ♥ Reduced border crossings despite Republican opposition
- ♥ Acted effectively on climate change

HARRIS HAS **ACTUAL PLANS** TO MOVE AMERICA FORWARD:

- ♥ Promote Economic Stability and Fairness
 - ♥ Outlaw Corporate Price Gouging
 - ♥ Promote Pro-Family Tax Plan to Reduce Tax Inequities
 - ♥ Expand Healthcare Access & Affordability
 - ♥ Protect Social Security & Medicare, with home care for seniors
 - ♥ Protect Reproductive Rights
 - ♥ Boost Public Education Funding
 - ♥ Reform Immigration, Sign the Bipartisan Border Bill
 - ♥ Invest in Clean Energy and Research
 - ♥ Protect Voting Rights
 - ♥ Promote Equity for All Citizens
 - ♥ Maintain Position as World Leader With Effective Foreign Policy
 - ♥ Honor the Sacrifices of Veterans.
- THEY ARE NOT "SUCKERS" AND "LOSERS."

The Harris/Walz Platform aims for a fairer economy, stronger democracy, and competent, honest leadership.

VOTE HARRIS/WALZ FOR THE PEOPLE

Help Heal the Divisions Created by Former President Trump

Paid For By Indivisible Highlands

THE HEIGHT OF HAPPINESS



HIGHLANDS

NORTH CAROLINA

— ELEV. 4118 —



Halloween on Main

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

6 — 8 PM

Free!

TRICK-OR-TREATING
HOT DOGS & HOT CHOCOLATE

LIVE MUSIC BY

ABC COMBO, HIGH 5 & DJ MIKE MURPHY

visithighlandsc.com

Made possible by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC.

...LETTERS continued from page 13

Affairs) nails the answer: Trump has survived because he is different from Richard Nixon in one way - "Richard Nixon had not only a sense of history, but a sense of shame. Donald Trump has never been a student of history and" (as Trump has proven over and over and over again) "he has no shame. He has no interest in protecting the honor of the presidency and clearly does not fear dishonor. It's honor and shame that has kept our system on the rails." We are reminded of the founders final words in the Declaration of Independence: "We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Martin Luther King always believed "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Half a century later, our institutions have failed us, a president has willfully trampled the rules of law, rejected the Constitution, and breached his oath of office discarding values and principles yearly all Americans once held inviolate. Would MLK be so convinced today? I think not.

American tolerance of dishonesty, lying, and unethical behavior is exceeded only by our willingness to plunge ever deeper into the abyss of stomach-churning abhorrent

corruption and the deception of our citizens and allies around the globe .

It's no longer deniable that the United States squandered its long-held reputation as the world's foremost constitutional government and has metamorphosed into an unmistakable Anocracy. An Anocracy is a form of government neither entirely democratic or entirely autocratic, it's something in between. Referred to sometimes as "partial democracies" or "illiberal democracies," it's in such nations that most civil wars occur.

The reason the United States is in danger of becoming a full-blown dictatorship is because our people have repudiated the will to abide by our own Constitution, abandoned fundamental rules of law and forsaken the essential tenets that define democracies; commitment to the people's welfare, to govern by representative consensus, and to advance and maintain high regard for solidarity among our citizens.

"The price good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men." Plato

David L. Snell
Franklin, NC

It's all about living our faith

Dear Editor,

I still remember September 27, 1953. That was the Sunday my brother, Greg, and I were baptized and committed our lives into following the way of Jesus Christ. From that day at Second Avenue Methodist Church in Rome, GA, I have attempted to live as a person of faith.

Since we live in the Bible Belt, I am certain many of you treasure such a holy moment in your lives. Our church-faith experience taught us to love one another as we sang "Jesus Loves the Little Children." Hate was wrong and forgiveness was right. We welcomed all in worship and remembered to care for the poor and the least of these. We were not to judge but to thank God for forgiving our sins through Grace. Yes, all of this was part of my faith journey and for me to serve as a United Methodist minister for over 50 years.

As a follower of Jesus, I am struggling with a person who is running for President of the United States. One who reflects the opposite of "Christ like." I wonder where and when he was baptized. What local congregation did he attend for worship? With what denomination is he affiliated? Where does he faithfully worship now? He says the Bible (which he held upside down) is his favorite book. Yet, he seems incapable of sharing a cherished verse from the Old or New Testament. I have never met a person of faith who couldn't quote or paraphrase at least one Bible

verse. To say, "I love it all and it's private" is a slippery way out. Six-year-old children can quote a Bible verse and as Christians we are to proclaim the Gospel, "For God so loved the world," not to shy from it.

When asked the Greatest Commandment, Jesus was precise and challenging: Love God & your neighbor. Making fun of a young man with a speech impediment, calling women hurtful names, encouraging others to hit a dissenter, referencing s***hole countries, suggesting shooting fellow Americans, inappropriate relations with women — these actions are not a display of Godly character nor is it loving our neighbor. Please also listen to the former President's language, including speaking of a respected golf pro's anatomy. My parents and surely yours would not accept such vulgar outbursts from us.

If Mr. Trump claimed no faith, I would respect his choice while it would not be mine. Yet to claim to be a follower of Jesus, one must display one's Christian faith. Surely, no objective person can state that the former President is a reflection or example of one who faithfully follows Jesus. Something many of us understood when we were 7 years old — IT'S ALL ABOUT LIVING OUR FAITH.

Dr. Mike Cordle
United Methodist minister, retired
Highlands, NC

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

'Walk in the Park' to bring the past to life

The Highlands Historical Society will host its annual Walk in the Park on Saturday, October 26th. Eight "ghosts" will entertain visitors in two separate sessions as local actors tell Highlands' history by portraying some of its most famous past residents. As Irish author, Frank Delaney wrote, "To understand and reconnect with our stories, the stories of the ancestors, is to build our identities."

"The goal for Walk in the Park is to present a unique opportunity to learn about the pioneers who helped settle and shape the Highlands Plateau from both a cultural and economic perspective," said event co-Chair, Peter Worthy.

"Actors or 'ghosts' as we call them, bring history to life by combining education and fun," said Lee Lyons, event co-Chair. "If you have ever wondered why streets have certain names or how and why people came here, take a walk with our ghosts and wonder no more."

The first session begins at 2p with reserved times until 3:30p and will allow visitors to stroll Highlands Memorial Park Cemetery as they hear riveting stories from Highlands' past. Past residents like Silas McDowell, Lt. James Rideout, Meta Norton Frost Hall and Eleonore Raoul will be portrayed by local actors. Anyone choosing the first session should plan on a moderate hike from one end of the park to the other. All first session visitors will

park at the Community Building and will be shuttled to the park at their reserved time. The shuttles will return visitors at the end of their walk.

The second session will begin at 5p in the Community Building. All visitors will be seated in the comfort of the facility and the "ghosts" will visit them with images of the Park Cemetery in the background for just the right ambience. Anyone who has mobility issues or who does not wish to walk the park should register for the second session.

In the event of poor weather, both sessions will be held in the Community Building with the first session beginning at 2:30p for all ticket holders, regardless of their scheduled time. Second session ticket holders will still begin at 5p as scheduled.

Tickets for Walk in the Park can only be purchased by visiting the Highlands Historical Society website at highlandshistory.com and following the appropriate link. First session ticket holders should note their scheduled time and plan on arriving at the Community Building 15 minutes in advance to take the shuttle to Memorial Park. There will be no cars allowed in the park during the first session. All tickets are \$25 and are non-refundable. Due to space requirements, a limited number of tickets are available for both sessions. Depending on availability, tickets may be purchased at the door for both sessions.

Celebrate Halloween the natural way!

Celebrate Halloween the natural way! Join the Highlands Biological Foundation for their annual Enchanted Forest Halloween bash on Tuesday, October 29th from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Go trick-or-treating through the forest trails of the Highlands Botanical Garden to learn about some of the animals we associate with Halloween. A bonfire, refreshments, and more will be waiting at the end. Costumes are encouraged!

Those wishing to participate in this



free, family-friendly event should meet in the amphitheater behind the Highlands Nature Center (930 Horse Cove Road). This event is weather-dependent, and no reservations are required. The Highlands Nature Center and Highlands Botanical Garden are a part of

the Highlands Biological Station, a multi-campus center of Western Carolina University.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A DEMOCRAT TO VOTE FOR HARRIS—JUST A PATRIOT

A few notable Republicans who are backing Harris-Walz:

Admiral Steve Abbot, (Ret.) former Dep. Homeland Security Advisor, G.W. Bush

Major General John Barry, USAF (Ret.)

Richard Barth, Former Asst. Sec'y. Dept. Homeland Security, G.W. Bush

William Bodie, Former Asst. to Sec'y of the Air Force, G.W. Bush

Richard Boucher, Former Asst. Sec'y. of State, G.W. Bush

Greg Brower, Former Asst. Dir, FBI for Obama and Trump

Liz Cheney, former Wyoming Rep.

Dick Cheney, VP to G.W. Bush

Wm. Cohen, Former Sec'y of Defense, Clinton

Barbara Comstock, Former VA Rep.

Charles Djou, former Hawaii Rep.

Michael Donley, former Sec'y of

Air Force, G.W. Bush, Obama

Geoff Duncan, former Ga. Lt. Gov.

Jeff Flake, Former Arizona Sen.

William Gaches, former Dir. Of Counterterrorism, NSA, G.W. Bush

Stuart Gerson, former Acting Att'y. Gen. of the US, G.W. Bush

Alberto Gonzalez, former Atty. Gen., G.W. Bush

Stephanie Grisham, former Trump Press Sec'y.

Sen. Chuck Hagel, Former Sec'y Defense, Obama, and former U.S. Senator, Neb.

Gen. Michael Hayden, former Director CIA & NSA, G.W. Bush & Obama

Cassidy Hutchinson, Former Trump aide

James Kelley, former Asst. Sec'y. of State, G.W. Bush

Adam Kinzinger, Former Ill. Rep.

Brig. Gen. George Landis, Ret.

Dan Miller, former Florida Rep.

John Mitnick, former Gen. Counsel Dept. Homeland Security, Trump

John Negrooponte, Former Dir. Of Nt'l. Intelligence,

Former deputy Sec'y of State, G.W. Bush

Sean O'Keefe, former Sec'y of the Navy,

former NASA Administrator, G.W. Bush

Bill Paxon, former NY Rep.

William Pickney, former CIA Chief of Station, Reagan

Anthony Scaramucci, former Trump W.H. Comm. Dir.

Christopher Shays, former CT Rep.

William Taft IV, former Dep. Sec'y of Defense and Ambassador to NATO, G.W. Bush

Larry Thompson, former Dep. Att'y Gen, G.W. Bush

Olivia Troye, former advisor to VP Pence

Col. Terry Virts, ASAF (Ret.), former NASA Astronaut/Commander of International Space Station

William Webster, former Dir. of CIA and FBI, Reagan and G.W. Bush

"He is the most dangerous person ever. I had suspicions ... about his mental decline and so forth, but now I realize he's a total fascist. He is now the most dangerous person to this country."
—General Mark Milley (Ret.), Trump's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

It's Leaf-looker time in Highlands!

Highlands Mercantile on Main



WESTMAN ATELIER



Fine goods for your family and home.

Books • Chocolates • Coffee • Guy Gifts • Home • Skincare
322 Main Street, Highlands • 828-482-0818

birddogs



338 Main St.
526-4777

THE MOLLY GRACE



Beudin Trunk Show Nov. 9

Shop
clothes, home, gifts
& more
at
The Molly Grace!

(Across from Town Hall)
(828) 526-8390
207 N 4th St., Highlands

Fine American Handcrafts including Pottery, Jewelry, Fun Gifts and More!



PEAK EXPERIENCE

828-526-0229
2820 Dillard Road
Highlands, NC

BIG Fall SALE



S. 4th Street
526-4473

The Highlands Hatter

Stylish hats at affordable prices!
Visit The Highlands Hatter
To get your Hattitude adjusted!



Open 10am Daily
828-482-1920
221 N. 4th St.
(Across from Town Hall)

Haley's FINE LINGERIE



468 Carolina Way,
Highlands
828-371-7890
haleysfinelingerie@gmail.com

It's Leaf-looker time in Highlands!

PLANET
by Lauren G

pj harlow
SURROUND YOURSELF IN SOFTNESS

COSABELLA

JV

JULIE VOS

326 Main St.
828-482-4375



DRIFTWOOD

hanky panky

THML
NEW SEASON SS'24 also new arrivals


THE cat's PAJAMAS

Order online at www.facebook.com/LuluBleuNC

JOHNNY WAS

Lulu Bleu

Check out our new store in Cashiers!
Lulu & You – 142 HWY 107

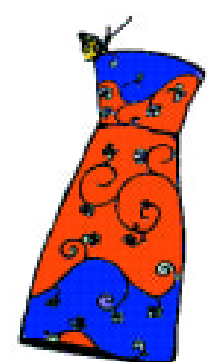


Gourmet Kitchenware

- Cookware
- Bakeware
- Cutlery
- Gadgets
- Tabletop
- Stemware
- Small Appliances

(828) 526-5226
450 Main St.
Highlands

Come shop all our new fall arrivals. Summer clearance still happening...



Wife's End

A Highlands tradition since 1940
Our 84th season on Main Street
Mon.-Sat. 10a-5p • Sunday 12-5p
828-526-3160



PLANET
by Lauren G

Lulu & You

Modern MTN Life
Open Mon - Sat 10 - 5

Books
•
Gifts
•
Her
•
Home






Brazilian Cowhides

Lulu Bleu-Woman's Boutique
326 Main St. Highlands
828.482.4375

142 Hwy 107 Cashiers, NC
828.482.5011
Open Year Round

NATURAL SELECTION



- Tinctures and oils
- Hemp products
- Jewelry/accessories
 - Felt decor
 - Dreamcatchers
 - Local art
 - Candles

(828)421-3546
361 Main St • Highlands
(Next to Annawear)

Come see our Fall arrivals!

ANNAWEAR

- Free People • THML
- Z Supply
- Michael Stars
- Vintage Havana



Jeans by:
Joes • AG
izens
dson

Shoes by:
• ShuSh
• Diba
• Blowfish
• Matisse

355 Main Street
(in The Galax Theatre
526-4660



CELEBRITY COLLECTIONS

Jewelry for Every Occasion!



352 Main Street, Highlands
828-526-4994

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

WINTER POOL SCHEDULE

Lap Swim: Mon.-Fri. 6am-9:45am, and Saturday 10am-11pm - 6 lanes.

Water Aerobics: 18 y+ Mon.-Fri. 10-11am with Karen Chambers.

Adult Swim: 18y+ Mon.-Thurs. 11am-3:30pm, Friday 11am-1:30pm

Public Swim: Mon. thru Thurs. 3:30-7pm, Saturday 11am-6pm and Sunday 1-6pm

ALL WEEK

• Alcoholics Anonymous: "Open Meetings" are for anyone who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. program of recovery. Highlands Mountain View Group holds open

meetings in Highlands at the First Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., on Monday at 5:30 PM and Wednesday and Friday at noon. Women's Group 5:30, Tuesdays. The Cashiers Valley Group holds open meetings at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library Monday at 8:30 AM, Tuesday at 7 PM, Friday and Sunday at 5 PM, and Saturday at 9 AM. For more information, please visit www.aawnc80.org or to speak with a member of AA 24/7 at 828-349-4357.

MOVIES

• Movies at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center at PAC on Chestnut Street See adjoining ad.

PICKLE BALL

• At the Recreation Dept. every

Monday - Friday 10am-1pm indoors for the winter (notice the days and time has changed), everyone is welcome meetings.

Mon.-Fri.

• Nantahala Tennis plays at the Highlands Rec Park 9a-1p.

Mon-Wed-Fri

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9am at the Rec Park.

• Balance, Stretch & Strengthen Class at the Rec Park 8:30-9:30am. The cost for the class is \$30 a month. The class is led by Cathy Hodgson. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

Second Mondays

• The local chapter of PEO, an off-campus sorority founded in the 1800s that provides grants and loans to women with financial need who want to return to school or further their education meets at 10 a.m. More meeting places call president Paula McDonald at 706-372-3004

• Indivisible Highlands from 5:15-6:15pm at the Hudson Library Meeting Room.

1st Tuesdays through Dec.

• HUMC's Community Table Dinner at the Community Building at 6 p.m. Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

2nd Tuesdays

• Highlands Writers Group meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 3pm. Writers still uncomfortable with in-person gatherings may participate via Zoom meetings For more information contact Bud Katz at either 828-526-3190 or at budandlynn@me.com

Tuesdays

• Strength Training at the Rec Park 8:15-9:15 am. Aim for strong, lean muscles using light weights, body weight, and high repetition to shape and tone. Learn proper form and range of motion to safely target all muscle groups for a metabolic boost and feel great.

• At Wayfarers Chapel, Workshop for Writers – Tuesdays from 5-6:30 PM. Facilitated by Sam Renken, this group has a simple mission: to foster and provide consistent community for local writers thereby giving writers of

all ages and genres the opportunity to write, read, revise, and present their work to the group.

• ESL classes are held at the Presbyterian Church in Highlands from 6:30-7:30pm. No registration required – just show up and participate. Questions? call 828-526-0863 or email info@maconncliteracy.org

2nd Wednesdays

• Hudson Library, in partnership with VAYA Health, is hosting an educational series on adult mental health topics, held on the first Wednesday of each month at 11 AM. This series is aimed particularly at older adults and will focus on mental health topics of particular interest to them, but all ages are welcome to attend. The November 1 program is Dementia: A Deeper Understanding. Reservations are required for this free event. To register, stop by the library or call 828-526-3031.

2nd & 4th Wed.

• Digital Navigators will be at the Hudson Library the second and fourth Wednesdays 1PM - 3PM of each month to help patrons with their tech needs. Bring a smartphone, laptop, or other digital device to receive free assistance and support. No appointments are required - all are welcome.

• Pickle Ball inside and outside at the Rec Park. 10am-1pm, everyone is welcome so come out and enjoy a game of Pickle Ball.

Mon., Tues., Thurs.

• The Food Pantry behind the Methodist Church on Spring Street is open from 10a-6p.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at the Rec Park at 5:30. A combo class with different types of exercise. Call the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information

Thurs.-Sat.

Mountain Findings Hours: 10a to 1p.

Thursdays

• Kickboxing 8:15-9:15 am. at the Rec Park. An exhilarating and fun mix of martial arts for a calorie-burning workout. No martial arts background necessary Contact the Recreation De-



HIGHLANDS BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

Enchanted Forest

29^{OCT} 5:30 - 7 PM

Go trick-or-treating along the forest trails of Highlands Botanical Garden & learn more about some of the animals we associate with Halloween!

FREE | No registration necessary | Costumes encouraged!
Meet in amphitheater behind Highlands Nature Center (930 Horse Cove Rd)
(828) 526-2623 | Weather dependent

Highlands Botanical Garden is part of the Highlands Biological Station, a multi-campus center of WCU.

• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

partment at 828-526-3556 for more info.

• At Hudson Library, special children's events will be on tap on Thursday afternoons at 3:30 Kids Zone programs.

Fridays

• At Hudson Library, Friday afternoons at 2 PM, there's a variety of children's programs including board games, STEM programs, and crafternoons.

Saturdays

• Story Ballet - a gentle ballet & creative movement class for Children 3-4. The flow of class follows a story or theme that changes each month, engaging imaginations! Saturday 5:30-6:30pm. 828-421-6720

• Adult Ballet - crafted for beginners, but mindfully taught for all levels. Ballet is an excellent way to move, grow stronger, improve balance, flexibility and coordination while having fun. 6:30-7:30pm. 828-421-6720.

2nd Saturdays

• The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club meets in Highlands at The Bascom at 10 a.m. thru Nov.

3rd Saturdays

• The American Legion Post 370 meets at the First Methodist Church at 315 Main St. in their community room/909 chapel. We serve breakfast at 9 AM and hold our monthly meeting at 10 AM. We invite ALL veterans to attend - email ncpost370@gmail.com for more information or just join us at 9 AM.

Sundays

• At Wayfarers Chapel, Sunday Service: 10 AM Sunday Morning. Stick around for visitation and coffee hour immediately after service. (Coffee hour is replaced by potluck dinner the 1st Sunday of each month).

Thru Mid-October

• Visit the Cashiers Historical Society every Friday & Saturday for a guided tour of the 1850s Zachary-Tolbert House and other historic structures on their five-acre campus. Tours will be available from 11am -

3pm on the top of the hour. CHS is located at 1940 HY 107 S Cashiers, NC 28717.

Thurs., Oct. 24

• Highlands Parks and Recreation will have a Halloween Spooktacular Event on Thursday night from 5:30-7:30pm. The event will include pumpkin decorating, face painting, apple bobbing and other games geared to ages 5-10, but everyone is welcome. Wear your spookiest costume or come as you are. We look forward to a fun event for the whole family.

• Bingo for Wreaths Across America 6:30-8:30p at the Community Building.

Fri., Oct. 25

• At Hudson Library in Highlands, Arts & Crafts of Bhutan with Lama Yeshe Palmo, a retired Buddhist nun now residing in Otto, Tales of the Thangkas, Part 2. Sponsored by the Arts Council of Macon County.

Sat., Oct. 26

• HC Chamber Music Festival presents a free concert featuring the Rose Quartet at the First Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m.


• Highlands School Fall Festival 5-8 p.m.

Thurs., Oct 31

• Highlands' Main Street will transform into a festive pedestrian zone for "Halloween on Main" from 6-8pm on Thursday, October 31. This family-friendly event invites ghosts and goblins of all ages to enjoy an evening of safe, fun activities. Participating merchants will hand out candy, supported by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC and delivered by the Interact Club. Entertainment includes: ABC Combo in front of The Park on Main, High Five playing in front of Berkshire Hathaway, DJ Mike Murphy spinning tunes mid-way on Main Street


Fri. - Sun., Nov. 1-3

• Highlands Cashiers Players presents "The Savannah Sipping Society" 7:30 nightly and 2 p.m. on Sunday. For tickets go to www.highlandscashiers-players.com or call 828-526-9047.





**WREATHS
ACROSS
AMERICA**

LIVE ★ WITH ★ PURPOSE



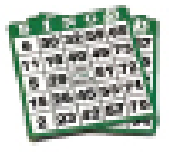
Thursday, October 24, 2024
8:30 pm to 10:30 pm
Highlands Community Building
809 N 4th St
(next to the ballfield)





Rotary
Club of Highlands
chartered 1920

\$1.00 per card
15 games in all
Final game is SUPER Bingo
Fun for the Whole Family



This event is also sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highlands and is licensed by the State of North Carolina.

Highlands Historical Society's Annual

A WALK IN THE PARK

Saturday, October 26th

JOIN US
FOR A WALK
THROUGH
TIME
AND HEAR
STORIES OF
HIGHLANDS'
REMARKABLE
HISTORY



ACTORS
WILL
PORTRAY
SOME OF
HIGHLANDS
MOST
IMPORTANT
HISTORICAL
RESIDENTS

HEAR STORIES FROM JAMES RIDEOUT, META NORTON FROST HALL, HELEN HILL NORRIS, SILAS MCDOWELL & OTHER FAMOUS HIGHLANDERS

Tickets: \$25.00 Adults, Children Under Age 12 Free
Purchase Tickets online at highlandshistory.com

FIRST SESSION PERFORMANCES WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 2:00 UNTIL 3:40 PM IN MEMORIAL PARK WITH RESERVED TIMES. A SHUTTLE WILL TRANSPORT VISITORS FROM THE COMMUNITY BUILDING TO THE PARK. A FINAL, SECOND SESSION PERFORMANCE WILL BEGIN AT 5:00 PM IN THE COMMUNITY BUILDING. IN CASE OF POOR WEATHER, ALL PRESENTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY BUILDING.

Schedule your appointment Now!



NOW OPEN!



Beauty Specialists

Daniella Adriana

- Hair Cuts and Color
- Eyebrow Tints and Facial Waxing
- Dermalogica Facials

**322 Main St Highlands NC
828-482-1112**

**Read Highlands Newspaper for free from everywhere ... on the street or on the web.
Go to www.highlandsinfo.com.
Click on Local News.
Delivered and uploaded every Thurs.AM**

...HIGHLANDS continued from page 1

Wednesday.

County, state, school officials, community members and business organizations joined Vanoy Construction and Macon County Schools to celebrate this milestone as Highlands School expands to accommodate the growing needs of the school.

The Highlands School expansion project will expand the middle school to accommodate much needed classroom space and additional space for career and technical education courses, and an updated media center.

In addition to expanding the middle school building, the project includes renovation to the elementary wing of the school that will repurpose two classroom spaces for pre-k classes fulfilling a signifi-

cant need in the community.

The ceremony opened with the national anthem sung by Joi Chapman Highlands School music teacher. Macon County Schools Superintendent, Josh Lynch was the Master of Ceremonies. Remarks were delivered by School Board Highlands Representative Hilary Wilkes and BOE chairman Jim Breedlove as well as North Carolina Senator Kevin Corbin. Highlands School Principal Sarah Holbrooks also spoke and in a surprise move asked 30-year teacher assistant and graduate of Highlands School Cindy Reed to read two thank you cards she wrote to the school board and county commission.

MC Schools Superintendent Josh Lynch said the Highlands

School stands on the brink of a transformation that will enhance the school's learning environment and better prepare students for the future.

"Innovative classroom spaces will be designed with the latest educational practices so our students can learn in a dynamic and meaningful way while fostering creativity and collaboration.

"Middle school renovations will bring new life into our facilities where students can explore and discover their passions while they navigate their journey," he said.

Lynch said the Pre-k classrooms will provide the youngest learners with a solid foundation.

"Investing in our youngest
• See HIGHLANDS page 24

...MAYOR continued from page 2

Gorge Road to Highlands. A tractor-trailer truck must continue to Dillsboro and proceed to Cashiers by way of NC 107. Expect a lot of truck traffic on US 64 from Cashiers into Highlands.

The concern is that some tractor-trailer operators will attempt to bypass this long detour and come to Highlands on the Gorge Road. Also, some tractor-trailer trucks that normally follow the route from Highlands to Dillard might attempt to go down the Gorge Road to Franklin as a shortcut.

Law enforcement agencies and NCDOT will have to maintain enforcement efforts to keep these huge trucks off the Gorge Road. It has to be open to our visitors, workers, building contractors, and delivery folks who operate vehicles of the permitted size and can negotiate those sharp curves near the Cullasaja Gorge. Efforts to address this potential problem are underway.

I hope cool heads and understanding will prevail during the challenging coming weeks and months. Working together, we will

get through this period.

Several years ago, NCDOT planned to upgrade and improve NC 106. Citizens reacted negatively to the plan, and it was removed from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) prioritization list. Two years ago, it was put back on the Macon County Comprehensive Transportation Plan as a project that might be funded around 2040. It is time to rethink the prioritization of NC106, which is a lifeline for the Highlands and Cashiers area.

OBAGI Day
SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday October 15th
10am-4pm
209 Hospital Rd, Ste #202, Highlands
Consultations, Refreshments, and Prizes!



October Monthly Specials

IPL/Photofacials - 20% off
Microneedling - \$50 off

FRANKLIN: 828-349-1280
HIGHLANDS: 828-482-4430

20% OFF
OBAGI
10/14/2024 - 10/18/2024



REJUVENATE LASER CENTER

www.rejuvenatelasercenter.com

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

There is nothing cozier than the Holidays in Highlands!

The Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC has an exciting lineup of holiday events in store. The schedule boasts a diverse range of activities, including:

Ice Skating in Park – Thur., Nov. 21, 3:30-8pm in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park

The Highlands Parks and Recreation-managed Ice Skating in the Park kicks off Thursday, November 21 and runs through early March, weather permitting.

The hours are Thursdays, 3:30-8pm, Fridays, 3:30-10pm, Saturdays, 1-10pm, Sundays, 1-5pm.

Thanksgiving Week: 11/25-11/27, 1-8pm, Closed Thanksgiving Day, 11/29-11/30 1-10pm, 12/1, 1-5pm.

Christmas Break: 12/23, 1-8pm, 12/24, 1-5pm, Closed Christmas Day, 12/26, 1-8pm, 12/27-12/28 1-10pm, 12/29, 1-5pm, 12/30, 1-8pm, 12/31, 1pm-1am, 1/1, 1-8pm.

The price is only \$8, with or without skates. Coffee and hot chocolate are available for purchase.

Light Up the Park – Sat., Nov. 30, 6-8pm in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park

Anticipation will fill the mountain air as the community gathers in the park to enjoy treats and a program that includes live music and carols led by the Foxfire Boys, a display of



HOLIDAYS IN
HIGHLANDS

HIGHLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/VISIT HIGHLANDS, NC

children's artwork and a reading of the Christmas story. Then, Santa arrives atop a firetruck to usher in the lighting of the park and Main Street. Watch the park come alive with thousands of holiday lights that will remain throughout the season, along with ice skating and photo-op fun.

Santa in the Park – Sat., Dec 7, Sat., Dec. 14, Sat. Dec. 21 and Tues. Dec. 24 in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park

Santa Claus himself will make special appearances on Saturdays in the park to listen to the wishes of children, both young and young at heart. On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, Santa is extremely busy prepping for gift delivery so appointments are required and can be booked at www.highlandschamber.org/event/santa-in-the-park/1306/

ta-in-the-park/1306/ Additionally, he will make periodic visits to collect letters placed in a designated mailbox within the park.

Highlands Christmas Parade – Sat., Dec. 7, 10am-12pm along Main Street

As part of this longstanding tradition, expect to witness a delightful procession along Main Street featuring marching bands, llamas, camels, imaginative floats, and, of course, the star of the show, Santa Claus. Those who wish to participate in the parade must submit a completed application to the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC no later than 12 noon on Nov. 15. To apply and for more information, email events@highlandschamber.org or call 828-526-5841.

Lighting of the Menorah – Weds., Dec. 25, 5:30pm, Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park

Hanukkah is an eight-day winter festival of lights, celebrated to mark the triumph of light over darkness. One candle of the giant menorah will be lit on the first night of Hanukkah and an additional candle each successive night. This will be done until the eighth night when the Menorah is fully illuminated.

For more information about the Holidays in Highlands, call the Highlands, NC Welcome Center at 828-526-2112 or visit www.visithighlandsonc.com.

It's Sweater Weather!

at

Nancy's & Fancys The Exchange
for Men



828-526-5029

2060 Dillard Rd, Highlands
2 miles south of Main, Highlands

Enjoy Cool Fall Evenings in your New SPA



Call us today to schedule
your closing

HOT SPRINGS
POOLS & SPAS
SINCE 1989

HOT TUBS / RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL

556 Highlands Rd Franklin, NC • 828.369.2871



...GA ROAD continued from page 1

(Georgia Road) to through traffic for 6-8 weeks or possibly longer.

Due to the washout and roadbed failure, on Thursday, Oct. 10, the road was temporarily closed but then one lane was opened to through traffic.

Once engineers were able to assess the damage that was exasperated by Hurricane Helene, both lanes were closed to through traffic Saturday, Oct. 19, possibly until the end of January according to the NC DOT website. However, officials hope it will be repaired sooner.

“I think that’s just giving a range of time for it to be possibly closed,” said Senator Kevin Corbin. “It will be what it is. It will depend on when the contractor is assigned and gets to work. We won’t know until they get to work on it. I am sure they will get it fixed as quickly as possible.”

The road is closed to all traffic between the Blue Valley Overlook and the Osage Overlook however residents will have access to their homes in neighborhoods off N.C. 106. But this damage cuts the direct connection for passenger vehicles between Highlands and Georgia.

Parents of students at Highlands School who live in Scaly Mountain or near-by Georgia must take the long way to Highlands - through Dillard, Otto and Franklin - to reach the Gorge Road or Buck Creek Road to get to the school

The bus assigned to the area is picking students up at 6:30 a.m. to get to Highlands School by the start of school day at 8 a.m.

Additionally, students who attend Rabun Gap Nacoochee in Georgia, who are normally picked up by that school’s bus in Highlands Plaza at 8 a.m., must now drive down the Gorge or Buck Creek roads to get to the Baptist church parking lot at Walnut Creek by 8 a.m. to get to the bus to the school.

NC DOT has marked a detour will direct westbound drivers north on N.C. 106 to U.S. 64 West to U.S. 441 South. The same routes, in reverse, will apply to eastbound drivers.

Interestingly, according to the Highlands Police Department, trucks are prohibited on the Gorge Road and N.C. 106 during normal conditions. Even though motorists continually encounter 18-wheelers on NC 106, large trucks are supposed to use U.S. 441 to Dillsboro, then U.S. 23/74 to Sylva, then N.C. 107 south to Highlands.

To compound matters, due to transfer trucks getting stuck at NC 28 and Warwoman Road, Georgia DOT has closed Warwoman from Clayton to NC 28 to commercial truck traffic until an anticipated time of November 22. However, regular vehicular



Signage at the corner of the Dillard Road (NC 106) and Main Street alert motorists to the upcoming closure of the road.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

traffic can travel both ways on Warwoman Road – to NC 28 back into Highlands as an alternative route to Highlands or to Clayton if going that way.

NCDOT engineers found a deteriorated pipe more than 40 feet below the road surface during a thorough examination of the road following the storm as well as a deteriorated hand-set stone walls and a cast concrete top installed when the road was built in the 1940s.

Transportation officials will award a

contract in the coming days to repair the pipe, rebuild the roadbed and strengthen the slope below the road.

At Thursday’s Town Board meeting, Mayor Taylor said transportation officials have identified more than 7,380 damaged sites in western North Carolina including 640 bridges and 684 culverts. NCDOT has reopened more than 760 roads, but more than 500 remain closed – 83 primary roads – due to the devastating storm.



On Tuesday, Oct. 22, Joni Alpert and her husband were trying to return to Clayton via NC 28 to Warwoman. When they arrived at the crossroad, an 18-wheeler had just gone off the road and into a ditch. There were no injuries but there was a 5-hour delay. The Warwoman detour will likely continue to be problematic.

– Photo by Joni Alpert

COREY JAMES GALLERY & Estate Consignments

Bronze sculpture • Paintings
Vintage & Antique Collectables &
Furniture • Costume Jewelry



(828) 526-4818

On the corner of 3rd & Spring

Read
Highlands Newspaper
for free from
everywhere ... on the
street or on the web.
Go to
www.highlandsinfo.com.
Click on Local News.
Delivered and uploaded
every Thurs.AM



HAGAN BINDER
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Maximize the
full potential
of your
property!



466 Dillard Rd | Highlands NC
haganbinder.com

• UPCOMING EVENTS •



The cast of The Savannah Sipping Society rehearsing a scene in the Martin Lipscomb Theater. From left: Emily Wright, Diandra Mundy, Cathy Myers and Berney Kirkland.

HCP to present 'The Savannah Sipping Society'

Shows are Nov. 1-3 and Nov. 7-10

The Highlands Cashiers Players will present The Savannah Sipping Society, a comedy by Jones

Hope Wooten, November 1 - 3 and 7 -10 at the Martin Lipscomb Theater in the Highlands

Performing Arts Center. In this laugh-a-minute comedy, directed by Ron Leslie, four unique Southern women, all needing to escape the sameness of their day-to-day routines, are drawn together by fate—and an impromptu happy hour—and decide it's high time to reclaim the enthusiasm for life they've lost through the years. "It is the perfect evening of entertainment for people attending the Highlands Food and Wine Festival," said Leslie.

The cast includes HCP newcomer Emily Wright, who audiences may remember from her role in last spring's PAC Educational Theatre production of Oliver!. Emily plays Dot, a widow who is trying to move on alone in the place she and her husband chose for their retirement. Diandra Mundy returns to HCP after appearing in Squabbles and Always a Bridesmaid earlier this season. Diandra plays Randa, a long-time Savannah resident reeling from

the loss of her job, who opens her beautiful verandah as a meeting place for her new friends. Berney Kirkland is making her second appearance on the HCP stage this season. This past March, she played one of the lead roles in Squabbles. Berney plays Marlafaye, a former nurse from Texas who moves to Savannah after a nasty divorce and takes a job as a liquor distributor. Cathy Myers rounds out the cast as Jinx, a wannabe life coach who sees her three new friends as an opportunity to practice her craft. While Cathy is a newcomer to the stage, she is no stranger backstage at Highlands Cashiers Players, where she has been the stage manager for the last several shows. Cathy is doing double duty, also serving as production manager for The Savannah Sipping Society. Jayne Pleasants is the assistant director, and Jim Spencer is the stage manager.

Performances are nightly at 7:30 except for the Sunday shows, which are 2 pm matinees. Tickets are available at highlandscashiersplayers.com, or by calling 828-526-9047. The Highlands Performing Arts Center is located at 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands, NC.

Halloween on Main – Thursday, October 31

Highlands' Main Street will transform into a festive pedestrian zone for "Halloween on Main" from 6-8pm on Thursday, October 31. This family-friendly event invites ghosts and goblins of all ages to enjoy an evening of safe, fun activities. Participating merchants will hand out candy, generously supported by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC and delivered by the Interact Club.

Entertainment includes:

- ABC Combo performing in front of The Park on Main
- High Five playing in front of Berkshire Hathaway
- DJ Mike Murphy spinning tunes mid-way on Main Street



Refreshments such as hot chocolate and hot dogs will be available, courtesy of the Highlands Cashiers Hospital and Fidelity Eckerd Living Center and volunteers from the Highlands and Mountaintop rotaries.

"Halloween on Main is more than just an event – it's a time-honored tradition that brings our community together," says McHan. "We look forward to continuing this festive celebration year after

year."

All events are free and open to the public.

For more information on October events, visit www.highlandschamber.org or contact the Welcome Center at 828-526-2112.

**HATE AND LIES
WON'T MAKE
AMERICA GREAT**

**VOTE for truth
VOTE for freedom
VOTE for stability
VOTE for equality**

**VOTE for
HARRIS/WALZ**

PAID FOR BY INDIVISIBLE HIGHLANDS

...HIGHLANDS
continued from page 20


students is investing in our Highlands community and our collective future.”

In addition, he said the media center will be a place where imagination knows no bounds.

“As we turn the soil today, remember this groundbreaking represents more than just renovation and construction, it symbolizes our commitment to nurturing young minds and shaping leaders of tomorrow.

Highlands School Board representative Hilary Wilkes gave an emotional and heartfelt speech describing the vision of the

• See **HIGHLANDS** page 27



WHOLE LIFE MARKET
Natural Products Store

Hours: 9am-5pm
Mon-Sat
828-526-5999
Wholelifehighlands@icloud.com

LOCATED AT 680 N 4TH ST, HIGHLANDS

NECTAR Organic smoothie/juice bar located inside Whole Life Market
Juice Bar



CREATIVE CONCEPTS SALON

Hair • Nails • Waxing

- Tanning
- Facials

Walk-ins Welcome!

Open at 9a Tues.-Sat.

828-526-3939

Owner/Stylist:

Lacy Jane Villardo

Stylists:

Heather Escandon

Maggie Barden

Desiray Schmitt

Lauren Buckely

Nail Tech:

Jenna Schmitt

Upstairs and Across the Walkway at Falls on Main, Highlands

Read

Highlands Newspaper for free from everywhere ... on the street or on the web.

Go to

www.highlandsinfo.com.

Click on Local News.

Delivered and uploaded every Thurs. AM



TL&LC Adopts i-Ready for student assessment and lessons

The Literacy & Learning Center (TL&LC) is excited to announce that it has adopted i-Ready to assess all after-school students.

i-Ready is a comprehensive assessment and instruction program designed to help educators identify students' individual learning needs and provide targeted support. The i-Ready Diagnostic test provides valuable data on students' strengths and weaknesses in math and reading, enabling teachers to tailor their instruction accordingly.

By using i-Ready, TL&LC aims to provide personalized instruction and support for all learners. i-Ready supports teachers in planning instruction, setting goals with students, and assessing student progress. This data-driven approach will help ensure students receive the most effective support possible.

TL&LC is committed to using the latest tools and technologies to enhance student learning. Adopting i-Ready is another step towards achieving that goal.

TL&LC welcomes Violeta Rojas Quintero to the Pre-K team

The Literacy & Learning Center (TL&LC) is excited to announce the addition of Violeta Rojas Quintero to its team as a part-time Pre-K Assistant. Violeta brings a wealth of experience and a passion for early childhood education to her new role.

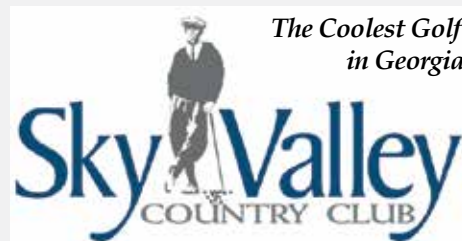
As a mother of four, Violeta understands the importance of providing a nurturing and supportive environment for young children. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to help guide and teach the youngest TL&LC students, equipping them with the social and academic skills they need to thrive in kindergarten and beyond.

Violeta's experience with TL&LC has

made her even more committed to the Center's mission. Several of her children have benefited from TL&LC's programs, and she is eager to contribute to the success of other families.

Pre-K Director Carolyn Middlebrooks is particularly excited to have Violeta join the team, especially given her fluency in Spanish. This will be a valuable asset in supporting the many native Spanish-speaking children in the class.

Staff are thrilled to welcome Violeta to the TL&LC family and look forward to her contributions to the Pre-K program.



• Incredible Views

• Par 72 Championship Course

stretching 6,900 yards of Peaks and Valleys

• Open Daily • Year-Round • Public Golf

2 hrs. northeast of Atlanta • 20 Minutes from Highlands, NC

For Tee Times, Membership Information or Event Rentals, please call 706-746-5302

www.skyvalleycountryclub.com

• BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION NEWS •

42nd Annual Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament delivers \$280,000 for primary healthcare on the plateau



The 42nd Annual Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament at Highlands Country Club raised \$280,000 to benefit the Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation. These funds will support Blue Ridge Health-Highlands Cashiers (BRH-HC), providing essential primary care medical services to everyone in the community, regardless of ability to pay.

The prestigious tournament, held annually in August, pays tribute to golf legend Bobby Jones and upholds a tradition of excellence. The Bob Jones Invitational features the presence of Walker Cup Players and boasts an impressive history.

“We are pleased to dedicate the proceeds from the Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament to support the Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation” said Ed Crenshaw, Co-Chair of the Tournament Committee. “Their important work supports health and well-being for families and neighbors across our Highlands and Cashiers area. Their commitment to ensuring local access to high quality, affordable health care is essential to all of us.”

The Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament’s impact on the community is long and distinguished. For the past four years, the event has prioritized addressing the primary care shortage on the Plateau through its support of the BRH-HC clinic, the Health Foundation’s cornerstone investment. Throughout the past four

decades, the Bob Jones Invitational has contributed over \$7 million to vital health services on the Plateau.

Blue Ridge Health-Highlands Cashiers provides high-quality, comprehensive healthcare to hundreds of families of all ages on the Plateau, recently reaching their 10,000th patient visit. Services include family medicine, pediatrics, women’s health, screenings, vaccinations, preventative care, testing for minor infections, mental and behavioral health services, nutrition services, and more.

“The Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation expresses profound gratitude for the generous support from Highlands Country Club and the Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament,” stated Charlotte Muir, Executive Director of the Health Foundation. “These contributions enable us to further our mission of enhancing health and well-being for everyone in our community. This year’s success highlights the dedication and generosity of everyone involved at Highlands Country Club.”

**Read Highlands Newspaper for free from
everywhere ... on the street or on the web.**

Go to www.highlandsinfo.com.

Click on Local News.

Delivered and uploaded every Thurs.AM

**Don't think you can vote for a woman?
Then vote for the women in your life.**

**Vote for your grandmother or
great-grandmother**, who risked her life
to have children, often losing them in infancy
or even losing her own life.

Vote for your mother, who dreamed
of a career but was denied the chance due
to family needs or lack of opportunities.

Vote for your sisters and cousins,
educated but overlooked for jobs or underpaid
in their jobs because they are women.

Vote for your wife, who balanced a
career and family, often sacrificing her own aspirations.

Vote for your daughter or granddaughter, striving to
make choices in a society where a GOP win will limit their options.

Vote for Kamala Harris
because she represents these women
and their future.



Paid for by Indivisible Highlands

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING



An update on Our Lady of the Mountains' new church

Fr. Jason Barone
Our Lady of the Mountains
Catholic Church

If you've driven along N. 5th Street in recent months, you've likely noticed significant activity on the campus of Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church. Nearly two years have passed since we first announced plans for a new church, and with construction now underway, it's time to share both a review of our journey and an update on our progress.

After a comprehensive pastoral planning process in early 2022, we, the parishioners and I, recognized the need for a new church. That year, we launched a capital campaign to support this vision. Since the fall of 2022, progress has felt slow, as we grappled with rising costs and the challenge of balancing our budget while remaining true to our architectural vision.

This past May, we finally began the preparatory work, which included relocating our offices and demolishing the old office building, thanks to Highlands Henkelman Construction. On July 14th, we celebrated our groundbreaking ceremony with our new bishop, Bishop Michael Martin. Although we commenced site work, we faced some necessary pauses. As you read this, I hope you'll find that work has resumed in earnest by our general contractor, JDavis Construction. The construction is projected to take approximately 14 months, but even if we are met with some delays, we are very confident the church will be complete by Easter of 2026.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to revisit the vision behind this project. The architectural style we have chosen is baroque, a reflection of a time of renewal and reform within the Catholic Church following a period marked by scandal and corruption during the Renaissance. Mark Twain's observation that "history never repeats itself but it rhymes" resonates with the Church's journey in recent decades, reflecting the Church's decline and difficulties being followed by signs of hope and renewal. This project aims to tell that story.

Any church worth visiting required many years to come to completion with its full ornamentation. The same will be true for Our Lady of the Mountains. From the outset, I have emphasized our commitment to creating a noble structure that, while being relatively simple initially, we will beautify further over time. For instance, we have plans for an exquisite stone front façade and a bell tower. While these elements are not included in the initial scope of the project, we intend to incorporate them as funds permit. We have the opportunity given the demographics of the Highlands area to build a truly remarkable church drawing many to visit and providing hope and inspiration.

We invite you to join us on this journey of faith and renewal as we look forward to the completion of our new church, a sacred space we trust will enrich not only our Catholic community, but our beloved town of Highlands. More information can be found at our website olmhighlands.org. Opportunities to memorialize are also available by either contacting our office or emailing memorializeolm@gmail.com.

PLACES TO WORSHIP

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (828) 421-1315
Sundays: School: 10 a.m., Worship: 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

CASHIERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Aryn Williams-Reubel, Pastor 828-743-5298
Sundays: School at 9:30; Worship 10:30

CHAPEL OF THE SKY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Rev'd Dr. Michael Matlock, Rector
464 U.S. Hwy. 64E, Cashiers, NC

CAC@christanglicancashiers.org • 828-743-1701

Sunday: 9a Fellowship; 9:30a Adult Christian Ed; 10:30a
Holy Eucharist Wed: 6p Bible Study and Prayer

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470 www.cashiers.church
Sun. S.S 9:30a, 10:45a; Tues. Guys study 8am. Gals 10am.;
Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.
Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
3645 Cashiers Rd. Highlands, NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins
Sun: Service 10:45am, Children's 10:30am
Wed.: Youth 5:30-7pm; Women's Bible Study: Mon. 4:30pm, Tues.
10am; Men's Bible Study: Wed. & Thurs. 7am @ Zookeeper Bistro

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

706. 746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447
Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

Worship: Sun. 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion 2nd Sunday
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
Rev. W. Bentley Manning, Rector • 526-2968
5th and Main streets • www.incarnationwnc.org
Sunday: Rite I, spoken, 8 am in Chapel, Rite II with Choir 10:30
am in Sanctuary, Wed: Healing Eucharist 12 pm in Chapel,
Morning Prayer: Mon-Thurs 8:30 am in Chapel

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org
Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor • 220 Main Street, Highlands
Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am
Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 am; Women's 10:30 am

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Emily Wilmarth, pastor, Kelley Connelly Asso. Pastor
828-526-3175 • fpchighlands.org
Sun.: Adult Ed.: 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.
Tues: Men's Group 10 a.m. Wed: Bell Choir 4 p.m.. Choir: 6p
GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH
(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship
242 Hwy 107N. 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers
www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter 743-9814
Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Nathan Johnson
Sunday: School 9:45a. Worship 11a & 7p. Bible Study 6p
Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street
Wed. Bible Study: 6 p.m.; Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson • 11339 Buck Creek Road
The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily
sharing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.
Sunday Worship is at 9a. Wednesday Worship is 6:30p

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas, Pastor 526-3376
In-Person and live-streamed Worship Services
909a Bluegrass and 11a Traditional
www.highlandsmethodist.org

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741
Rev. Ken Langsdorf
Worship/Communion: 10:30 All are welcome.

Visit our website: Holy Family Lutheran Highlands NC

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Zane Talley
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11. Choir: 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.: 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

Franklin • 828-634-1312 • mountainsynagoguenc.com.
Services: 1st Fri. and 3rd Sat. and Rosh Hashanah & Yom
Kippur.

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church
Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church. 4224 Big Ridge
(4.5 miles from NC 107)

Weds: Youth Group 6 p.m.; Bible Study 6:30 p.m.;

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone - 526-2418
Tues. - 9:30am; Thurs. - 9:30am; Sat. 4pm; Sun. - 11am
SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Donald G. Bates • 526-3212
Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 6 p.m.

ST. JUDE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass: Tues. noon (Latin). Thurs. 9a.; Fri., noon; Sat. 5:30p; Sun. 9a
THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
1448 Highway 107 S.. Office: • 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood
Sunday Rites-Holy Eucharist: 8a. 9:30 & 11a
Visit our website www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com for
schedules of activities.

Our Bazaar Barn is open Thurs. - Sat. 10a -2p.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers • 828-743-2122
Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands Police entries from Oct. 15. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a summons/citation, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or those of public officials have been used.

Oct. 15

• At 1:28 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Spring Street.

Oct. 16

• At 2:48 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Main Street.

Oct. 17

• At 9:30 a.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Mill Creek parking lot.

• At 5:33 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on US 64 east (Cashiers Road) at Memorial Park Drive.

Oct. 18

• At 2:22 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Main Street.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Oct. 15.

Oct. 15

• At 12:29 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Buck Creek Road.

• At 3:37 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on Laurel Heights.

Oct. 16

• At 7:03 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Oak Street.

• At 12:54 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers Fire Department.

• At 1:47 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Bob Zahner Road.

• At 8:24 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street.

Oct. 17

• At 8:48 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.

• At 12:27 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Country Club Drive.

Oct. 18

• At 5:42 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Ridgewood Road.

• At 6:21 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Laurel Street.

• At 6:35 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Morewood Road.

Oct. 19

• At 6:14 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Log Cabin Lane.

• At 6:21 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a residence on Arnold Road.

Oct. 20

• At 1:07 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Rock Creek Road.

• At 1:07 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Oak Street.

• At 8:08 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mt. Lori Drive.

Oct. 21

• At 3:06 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cook Road.

• At 5:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.

Oct. 24

• At 2:55 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cowee Ridge Road.

NOTE:

“Public Assistance” responses can mean various things: keys locked in vehicles, batteries in a smoke detector and more.

THE FIREWOOD COMPANY



Highlands • Cashiers • Atlanta

828.200.3050

bobhenritze@gmail.com • www.firewoodcompany.net

...HIGHLANDS continued from page 24

Advance Highlands Education Committee (AHEC) to what was transpiring today.

With the help of every aspect of the Highlands community – parents, private donors, nonprofits, Highlands School got a technology boost segueing into realizing Pre-K needs as well as expansion and renovations to the existing campus.

“Highlands School is a top priority for the school board and the county commission which is why we are celebrating today,” she said. “We have the best teachers, coaches, janitorial and cafeteria staff, principal and assistant principal who deserve to work in a school that will rise to meet their needs and the needs of the students. It doesn’t just take a village. It truly takes an army,” she said.

Board of Education chairman Jim Breedlove spoke of

Wilkes before introducing Senator Kevin Corbin saying that students are the most important resource of the county and the nation and “that’s why we do what we do.”

“We are celebrating the advance for these young people to make things better for them and the Highlands community as whole,” he said.

He also praised Wilkes for working so hard to improve the education of all students in Macon County.

“She is the reason we are all here,” he said.

Senator Corbin, who was on the school board when the middle school building was built in 1995, said being at the school Wednesday was like coming full circle.

“I was proud to be involved back in 1995 with the initiation of Macon County Schools’ long-term

25-year plan and I am proud of being here today,” he said. “Macon County and North Carolina are committed to Highlands School for the long-term,” he said.

He said he helped pass a special bill that ensures funding for the three K-12 schools in the state with two of them in Macon County.

“I am proud of this unique school,” he said.

Principal Sarah Holbrooks said she proud to be part of the awesome Highlands community.

“I love my teachers, my students and the community that does so much for us.”

A reception followed the ceremony.

It is hoped that the project will be completed by the fall of the 2025-’26 school year.



DONATING MATTRESSES
TO THOSE IN NEED

COLCHONES GRATIS A
QUIEN LO NECESITE

A MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND THE BAZAAR BARN. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DONATE, CONTACT SKIP RYAN AT 828-226-2588



The Church OF THE
Good Shepherd

HIGHLANDS CHURCH

9a Sunday mornings

LIVE STREAM: Andy Stanley



Following Jesus makes your life better,
And makes you better at life!

For details, text Bee at 404-307-1415

Paul Corbin
Owner



A&O LANDSCAPING SERVICES, LLC

828-371-2240

pcorbin1631@aol.com



Cosmos Flowers

Full Service Florist

Store: 828-526-0044

Cell: 828-200-6101

cosmosflowersnc@gmail.com

95 Highlands Plaza

Follow us

Instagram and facebook

@cosmosflowersnc

Whiteside Cove Cottages

5 log cabins nestled in
the hemlocks
on 25 acres at the base
of Whiteside
Mountain.

800-805-3558 • 828-526-2222

CHESTNUT STORAGE

Storage Units Available
Secure 24-Hour Access
Easy In - Easy Out
Great Rates - Great Terms

Call today to find out why we're
"Highlands Premier Facility"

828-482-1045

Look for our sign!

Buck Creek Rd - 1/2 mile off Cashiers Road near the hospital



Highlands Automotive

Service
&
Repair



NC
Inspection
Station



828-787-2360



2851 Cashiers Road • highlandsautomotive.com

Call Raul

706-982-3803

706-970-7638

828-347-0255



valenciagrading@gmail.com

Grading • Lot Clearing • Retaining Wall
Driveways • Septic Placement



- Grading
- Excavating
- Driveways
- Build sites
- Hauling
- Septic Systems

Edwin Wilson

Cell (828) 421-3643

Offic/fax (828) 526-4758

wilsongrading@yahoo.com

828-200-9217

Fully Insured

Crane
Rentals
Available



MENDOZA TREE EXPERT

Quality Tree Care & Removal 18+ years

estimates@mendozatreecare.com

mendozatreecare.com

COUNSELING
CENTER

HIGHLANDS, NC

864-481-0598

INFO@COUNSELING-CENTER.ORG

LOCATED AT THE PEGGY CROSBY CENTER

348 S. 5TH STREET, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741

OFFICES: 201, 203 & 210

COUNSELING-CENTER.ORG

WE STRIVE TO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS
BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO QUALITY MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES REGARDLESS OF FINANCIAL ABILITY.

Kim's Compassionate Care

Skilled Hands & A Warm Heart

Kimberly Ferrell

Certified Nursing Assistant/Caregiver

CPR Certified

30+ years experience

References Available

828-347-2542



360 MAIN STREET ESTATE JEWELERS OF HIGHLANDS



**WE BUY
AND CONSIGN
OLD JEWELRY**

Appointment Only!

Call: 828-526-1960

Text: 770-855-0825

Email: ejofhighlands@gmail.com

• CLASSIFIEDS •

Ryan M. Bears

Branch Leader

Cell: 803-271-5426

Office: 828-526-8784

ryan.bears@allentate.com



We are home.®



ALLEN TATE REALTORS/PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP

HIGHLAND EXCURSION



mtntours.com

Nantahala National Forest Permitted



▶ 828-526-9325 ◀

Generators aren't just a "thing" we do, generators are all we do!

GENERAC



KOHLER

Al Stoneham

Realtor-Broker

Luxury Home Specialist

Licensed in NC & GA

Cell: 828-332-9767

al.stoneham@allentate.com



We are home.®



ALLEN TATE REALTORS/PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP
HIGHLANDS/SCALY MOUNTAIN/CASHIERS



Kiln dried FIREWOOD

Delivery or pickup

2460 Cashiers Road • Highlands 828-526-2395
highlandslawnandgarden.com

FOR SALE

LAND FOR SALE - 3 tracts, 7.5 miles south of Highlands, 8.64 acres with spring, by far the best view in the area at \$200,000; 6.12 acres with spring (already subdivided into 2, 3-acre lots) \$140,000; 3.99 acres with southern exposure, \$70,000. 828-974-1137. (11/28)

SEASONED FIREWOOD - Any size load. call 828-342-6806. (st. 1/25)

TINY HOME LOTS FOR SALE. \$55k-\$85k ea. Each lot comes with water, power, and sewer run to each lot. www.TinyMountainEstates.com for more info. (st. 11/22/24)

RV SITE - class A only - in Wildflower Creek RV Resort. Just minutes from Highlands and Sky Valley. Full hook-up, concrete pad, landscaped and storage shed. \$195,000. For more info call 828-421-1709 or email bobnancync@gmail.com. (st. 1/25)

FOR RENT

HIGHLANDS COMPLETELY FURNISHED 2BD, IBA COTTAGE. Starlin movies, water included. \$2,000/mth. Text 828222-9319. (st. 10/17)

SEASONAL NEW LOG CABIN

Align Therapeutic, PLLC

Mental Health Therapy and Support Services

Nicole Dilbeck, LCMHCA

nicole@aligntherapywnc.com

www.aligntherapywnc.com

828-526-6370

Locations in Franklin and Highlands, NC



Growing Happiness One Stem at a Time!

Local NE
Georgia Flower
Farm
Mobile
Flower Parlor
for
Events
Aaron & Justyne
Reese

828-342-2740



Pumpkins and
Gourds
•
Weekly
Flower
Subscriptions
•
Weekly
Flower
Subscriptions

randrflowerfarm@gmail.com

Facebook: R&R Mobile Farm and Cart/Instagram:@randrflowercart

ON SAGEE DRIVE. 2 bedroom & 2 bath suites on Creek. 1 1/2 mile to downtown. Monthly or seasonally \$8,700 (1) month \$7,200 (3) Months. email: renee7726@gmail.com (st. 5/2)

WORKFORCE HOUSING - 2 bedroom/2 bath and 3 bedroom/2 bath with between Highlands & Cashiers. Includes hi-speed internet, water, & washer/dryer. No dogs. Inquires, Marcy_(706) 982-0444 or (828)-482-4239, (st. 5/2/24)

HELP WANTED

LUPOLI CONSTRUCTION is hiring a Bookkeeper/Accounting Coordinator. Full-time, in-person, compensation based on experience. Must have experience in Construction Accounting. Contact regina@lupoliinc.com, 770.757.5004 (st. 9/19)

SERVICES

CAREGIVER/SITTER with 40 years experience available for part-time personal care, errands, transportation, meals, etc. Highlands full-time resident. Robert Doe 828.399.0262. (st. 8/29)

HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDY-MAN - Chatlos Construction - Remodels, Additions, Framing, Siding, Roofing, Decks, Painting. References. Insured. 828-200-4071. (4/25)

MURPHY'S PAINT CO. - interior/ exterior painting/sheetrock repair/wallpaper removal/log homes/decks. Insured. Free estimates. 828-332-0525 or 828-421-8600. (12/26)

NEED FURNITURE MOVED OR ANYTHING HAULED AWAY? Call or text James of Going Gone at 828-421-2655. (3/28)

ANYTHING GOES CLEAN-UP SERVICE Complete property cleanup - house, garage, property, etc. Call at 828-200-2855. (st. 9/28)

HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN VINSON: scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing. Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208.

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •



President Randy Foster, Tom McClarty, Paul McClarty.

Rotary hears about scaling Mt. Everest

The speaker for the day was Tom McClarty, son of our Rotarian member Paul McClarty, who shared with his experience ascending to Base Camp Mt. Everest. The camp sits at 17,600 feet above sea level. Tom relayed in his own words what it takes, the preparation, the physical and mental work that goes into undertaking such an experience and what he took away from that experience in terms of personal growth! His story also told of the Nepalese people, the different cultures he encountered on the trip, Hindu, Budists, the stunning landscapes, and the challenges faced by the climbers.



2024 Highlands Middle School in front of some of the donations to the victims of Hurricane Helene at the Swim for a Cause swim meet Oct. 19 in Franklin.

On Saturday, October 19, the Highlands Middle School Swim Team participated in the "Swim for a Cause Meet" hosted by the Highlanders and the Macon Middle School Swim Team. Donations were collected both in Highlands and Franklin to be donated through "828 is Gr8t" to the victims of Hurricane Helene.

Five teams participated. Two teams could not as the storm has too greatly affected their area in Buncombe and Transylvania counties.

Led by Ian Batista, Jr. Olympians Alex Lopez, and Justin Powell the Highlands Middle School Boys Swim Team won. Batista, Lopez, and Powell scored 53, 55, and 54 pts respectively. Aleks Petric-Sakonjic scored 44, Ivan Shchelgachov, 39, Benji Vines 28 and Asa Garner 26. Both the boys 200 Medley Relay (Powell, Shchelgachov, Lopez, and Batista) and the 200-yard Freestyle Relay (Powell, Batista, Lopez, and Petric-Sakonjic) won as did Lopez in the 100 yard freestyle.

In the Girls meet Jr. Olympian Emilina Hernandez won both of her events (the 100 yd freestyle, and the 50-yard breaststroke) and scored 40 pts. New swimmer Ava Penland continues to improve garnering a 3rd place finish in the 50 yard backstroke 30 pts.

How uniting can create change

As part of Rotary International's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Mountain-top Rotarians were recently treated to a wonderful program by Kwiyoung Kim Baumgarten and Cal Issacs, Senior Human Resources Manager at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Rotarians believe that cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture is essential to realizing its vision of a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change.

Kwiyoung came here with her presentation included how she and her family were treated after they arrived in the United States - both positively and negatively.



Kwiyoung Baumgarten discusses how to create change through action at Rotary meeting.

Issacs discussed how brains can be easily programmed, and

how this programming takes over our speech. He gave several examples and, much to the amazement of the audience, actually did some elementary programming of brains at the meeting.

Highlands School Students of the Month



From left: Randy Foster, President, Rotary Club of Highlands; 12th Grade: HENDY RIOS RUIZ; 8th Grade: AUBREY BROOKS; 5th Grade: ANNA NICOLE SHELGHACHOV; ALYSSA DEBOIS, Assistant Principal, Highlands School

HCCDC students help with Hurricane Helene outreach



Some of the 4-year-old students from The Highlands Community Child Development Center (HCCDC), accompanied by their teachers, recently walked from HCCDC to the distribution center at the Bank of America building and brought a wagon full of supplies for distribution to communities affected by the hurricanes. They were welcomed by several members of our local Rotary clubs who are helping facilitate distribution of needed supplies.

SILVER EAGLE
Native American Jewelry
Crystal & Gem Gallery



349 Main Street, Highlands, NC
828.526.5190 silvereaglegallery.com

COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES
Highland Square Office
Real Estate



Country Club Properties
Your local hometown
Real Estate professionals.
3 Offices 828-526-2520
www.CCPHighlandsNC.com

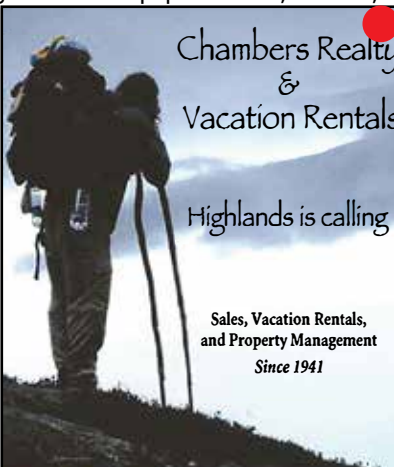
Highlander Mountain House & The



highlandermountainhouse.com

Weichert
REALTORS
Highlands Properties
450 N. 4th St. Highlands, NC
828-526-5522
www.highlandsproperties.com

Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals
Highlands is calling



Sales, Vacation Rentals,
and Property Management
Since 1941

401 N. Fifth Street, Highlands,
NC 28741
828-526-3717 www.highlandscalling.com
info@highlandscalling.com




Far from the maddening crowd.

Only 15 minutes to Highlands, this custom built family legacy home has "forever" views, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, office, 2 living rooms, wet bar.

Offered for \$1,890,000


2514 Buck Knob



Darlene Conley
Mountain Luxury
Your Dream. Your Journey. YOU'RE HOME!
Dedicated to finding the home you've always wanted.
Cell: 404-427-2448
darlene.conley@allentate.com


We are home.

ALLEN TATE REALTORS/
PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES | MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY

MITZI RAUERS
Broker / Luxury Collection Specialist
(404) 218-9123
mitzi@bhhsmmr.com



Andrea Gabbard
c: 828.200.6742
AndreaGabbard@highlandssir.com

Ace is the Place,

Reeves
Hardware

At Main & 3rd streets
Highlands 526-2157

Highlands
Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

114 N. 4th Street
Highlands, NC



Highlands Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

114 N. 4th Street • Highlands, NC

Local Expertise, Global Connections.

Licensed in NC and GA
office: 828.526.8300 • cell: 828.337.0706
sheryl.wilson@sothebysrealty.com highlandssir.com



Team Rick Steve
"The Power of 2"

Trusted advisors
providing impeccable
personalized service

We are home.

ALLEN TATE REALTORS/PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP
(404) 219-1349 • HIGHLANDS & CASHIERS NC

CHRISTIE'S | HIGHLANDS CASHIERS
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Highlands Office | 210 N. 5th Street

Cell: 828-787-1895
pamela.nellis@yahoo.com





**MORE THAN 33 YEARS OF
EXEMPLARY SERVICE ON THE PLATEAU**

Our clients rate us 5 out of 5 ★★★★★

VOTED AMERICA'S BEST



5



**JULIE OSBORN
& PAT ALLEN**

828.200.6165 | 828.200.9179
julie.osborn@allentate.com
pat.allen@allentate.com



Pat Allen
REALTY GROUP



LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL

Leading

REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
OF THE WORLD



**DAVID
BOCK
BUILDERS**

www.BockBuilders.com 828-526-2240



BRIAN RENFRO
BROKER



LANDMARK
REAL ESTATE SALES & VACATION RENTALS
A REDNOR/HELL COMPANY

5 Offices across the plateau!

HIGHLANDS OFFICE
225 MAIN STREET

6

CELL: 828-226-0118

BRIANRENFRO@GMAIL.COM

Highlands | **Sotheby's**
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Our numbers *speaks for themselves.*

\$1.02
billion

Sales Volume, 2020 - 2023

#1
Real Estate Firm

983
Transactions

\$1.35 Million
Average Sales Price

45
Agents

Downtown Highlands
(828) 526.8300

Cullasaja Club
(828) 526.4104



Open Year-Round • 6 days a week
343-D Main Street • 526-4035



Open
7 days
Lunch &
Dinner
11a-3:30p
&
5:30-9p

www.wildthymegourmet.com

8



Taste the difference, Always fresh.

Wed. through Sun.

**Bistro opens at 4p
Dinner begins at 5:30p**



474 Main Street
828.526.3807 | wolfgang.net



Deborah "Bee" Gleeson
404.307.1415

BeeGlee4@Gmail.com
and

Pat Gleeson
828.782.0472

PatrickGleeson4@Gmail.com

*Every home ...
has a story.
Let us tell yours.*

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

HighlandsCashiersCIRES.com
210 North Fifth Street,
Highlands, NC 28731

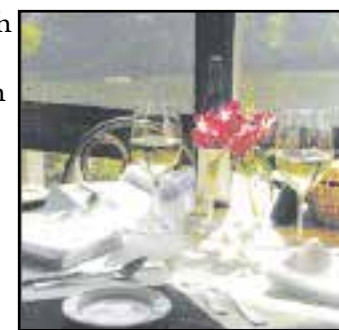
30



...on the Verandah
Restaurant
on Lake Sequoyah
828-526-2338

42 Years of Fine Dining

Open
5:30-9p
7 Days
a week



www.ontheverandah.com

M'CULLEY'S
CASHMERE

Scotland's Best Knitwear

Open 7 days a week
526-4407

242 S. 4th St. & Pop up
on Main Street



9