

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 41

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

Thursday, Oct. 17, 2013

Thurs., Oct. 17

• Taize at Holy Family Lutheran at 5:30p.
• Town Board meeting at 7p at the Community Building on US 64 east next to the ballfield.

Fri. & Sat., Oct. 18-19

• Art League of Highlands Fine Art Show. Friday, noon-6p; Sat., 10-5p. Highlands Rec Park.

Fri., Oct. 18

• Live music in Town Square on Main Street from 6-8p featuring The Macon Grass Band

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 18-19

• Sapphire Masters Association arts and crafts show, 10a-4p each day. Food, music and free admission

Sat., Oct. 19

• At The Hen House on Main Street, a signing with artist Kathy Miller with her "TAILGATING THROUGH THE SOUTH" prints and cards of 14 SEC schools, 2-4p.

• The Highlands Bolivian Mission fall yard sale, lunch and bake sale on from 11a to 3p at the Highlands United Methodist Church on Main Street.

• Highlands School annual Fall Festival from 5-9p in the old gym.

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway work trip at 9a. Meet at the large upper parking lot behind the Rec Park.

Tues., Oct. 22

• Doggie Fun Day at Chestnut Hill Retirement Center 2-4 p.m. Park at Zachary Park on Buck Creek. Call Mary Bean, 787-2114 for more information.

• The Highlands Dialogue, 10-11:30a at Hudson Library. "The Vitamin Craze"

• Leadership Highlands Candidate Forum 7-8:30 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building.

PAB said to be a huge commitment

Franklin's Smoky Mountain Center representatives weigh in

Jane Woodruff's gift of a 600-seat Performing Arts Building is all the buzz right now. Proponents and opponents are rampant. Mayor David Wilkes says it's a gift the town can't afford to

pass up. Others say it's a huge tax burden for the 980 taxpayers of Highlands.

Woodruff is proposing to build the structure on Rec Park property and to outfit it. It's been

suggested that the town or its designee would be responsible for operating expenses including staffing, utilities and maintenance.

At the Thursday, Oct. 17

•See PAB page 2

Push is on to raise age of 'juveniles' in NC

By David Eldridge

North Carolina and New York are the only states that try 16-year-olds as adults. Eleven states set the age at 17 years old; 37 states set it at 18. Lawmakers on either side of the aisle in Raleigh are deliberating yet again on whether to increase that age from 16 to 18.

House Bill 725, also known as "Youth Offenders Rehabilitation Act," has cleared its first milestone in years at the General Assembly. The bill, which proposes to raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction from 16 to 18 for misdemeanors and some felonies, has garnered bi-partisan support since earlier versions have been proposed over the years.

After passing in Judiciary subcommittee—a place where its former versions had died in previous years, HB 725 is up for a third reading in Appropriations before a vote on the House floor, when the General Assembly reconvenes on May 14.

For the past five years, previous attempts to increase the age have failed, largely because of budgetary constraints. The current laws, passed in 1919, should be revised, say legislators.

•See JUVENILES page 14

Basking in autumn's colors



Charles Pinkston, transport assistant at Chestnut Hill Senior Living Community of Highlands, gathered some fall foliage for a colorful photo op with his granddaughter Leila Pinkston, daughter of Highlands School ESL teacher, Kim Pinkston and her husband Jesse Pinkston, Franklin High School computer and business teacher, and boy's varsity basketball coach.

Photo by Penny Moffitt

Question 3 in candidates' 5-question lineup

This is the third week in a 5-week Q&A series with the candidates running for the Highlands Town Board.

The mayor's seat and two commission seats are open.

Commissioner Brian Stiehler and Pat Taylor are running for the Mayor's seat.

Commissioner Gary Drake's and Commissioner Amy Patterson's seats are open. They are both running as incumbents.

Vying for their seats are Donnie Calloway and Michael

"Bud" Rogers.

Commissioner Gary Drake said "thanks but no thanks" when asked to participate in the Q&A in Highlands Newspaper.

Question 3:

Though the only things a year-round (bubbled) pool and Jane Woodruff's proposed Performing Arts Building have in common are being part of the Rec Park Complex AND the fact

•See Q&A page 6

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Imagination Library touches lives

By Brittney Parker

Since the expansion of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to an estimated 1,800 children in Macon County, the program currently has an enrollment of 599 children. The program, which provides one book every month to children from birth to five years old, has had 655 children in the program, with 56 "graduating" or aging out.

Through community donations from individuals, businesses and local government grant, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, which would normally cost \$30 per child per year, is free of charge to Macon County residents.

With the goal of promoting early literacy in Macon County children, the Highlands Literacy Council and Read2Me worked to bring the program to the community.

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library provides one book per month free of charge for all children, birth to five, who register.

"This program is one of the most important ways I know to improve the educational opportunities for children in your community," says Parton in the program's information letter. "When I was growing up in the hills of

•See LIBRARY page 9

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Go to the Oct. 17 Town Board mtg. and say no to Jake Brakes!

Dear Editor,

Many thanks to Mike Little for his letter concerning jake brakes in last week's paper. As new residents, we live halfway between Highlands 106 and NC 28 and can observe traffic on both roads from our deck. The use by truckers of their Jake brakes is most irritating.

Truckers Jake brake on the downgrade, south bound, approaching Dusty's on NC 106 and when reducing speed entering town on NC 28.

The motorcycle people are always annoying no matter whether entering or

leaving town. Their machines left the factory with quiet mufflers, but were intentionally altered by their riders to make this offensive noise.

Returning to Highlands last week from Jacksonville, FL, on US Hwy. 1, we observed "No Jake Brake" signs in three small towns.

It is high time Highlands updated its noise ordinance to include Jake brakes and loud motorcycles. We urge all our friends and neighbors to attend the Town Board meeting on October 17, 7 p.m. in the Community Building next to the ballfield on US 64 east to be counted among those of us who value our peaceful existence. If you can't attend, please phone one of our fine Town Board members or our Town Manager.

**Charlie and Sue Wolf
Highlands**

Thanks for your paper!

Dear Editor,

I stumbled upon your information page about you and Jim. How interesting and I enjoyed the read.

Also, I wanted to thank you for your pub. My wife, Kristi and I have a small cottage in Highlands and are up just as much as time/jobs will allow from Georgia. I ALWAYS check your paper prior to coming up to be sure we don't miss anything as well as listen to WHLC via the Internet! It helps me feel connected to your wonderful town.

Thank you for keeping us so well in the loop. We appreciate your efforts to publish a free and informative paper. We also use the paper as a resource for vendors such as Buddy Miller who recently came to our place and repaired a plumbing leak. He did a great job and was fairly priced. Without y'all, we would not have known who to contact!

Cham Watkins, GA

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions.

NO ANONYMOUS LETTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands Newspaper. Please EMAIL letters by Sunday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

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Circulation 10,000

Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-3228

Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor – Kim Lewicki

Copy Editor – Glenda Bell; Digital Media - Jim Lewicki

Locally owned and operated Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com

265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

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...PAB continued from page 1

Town Board meeting, representatives from Woodruff's architectural firm will be on hand to make a presentation.

Representatives of Franklin's Smoky Mountain Center, a 1,500-seat facility, who are entertainment enthusiasts, say they would love more entertainment options in Macon County and love the idea of expanding its entertainment culture so there could be a back and forth between Highlands and Franklin; but they offer words of advice:

"A Performing Arts Center in Highlands is something that seems great in your head, but when you put the numbers to paper, it doesn't make sense. This is a tough business," they said.

For one thing, there is a small window of opportunity – basically, spring, summer and fall – when shows need to cater to the built-in market. Anyone that comes to town just because of a show would be icing on the cake."

Not counting utility costs – water, sewer and electricity – which would run into the thousands of dollars per month, it takes a "ton of time and a team of dedicated people to run a performing arts center."

Besides a house manager, it would take a volunteer coordinator, at least two tech people – one for sound and one of lights – a group sales person, a cleaning crew, an accounting team and a marketing department – "or else you have a beautiful facility that no one knows about," they said.

"The truth is a performing arts center is a big undertaking and a massive animal to manage and run," they said.

Due to the number of seats, Highlands' Performing Arts Center would likely draw smaller shows, they said – stage performers, blue grass performers, etc., – shows that cost \$10,000 to \$20,000.

For a 600-seat facility to just break-even, ticket prices would have to be set at

• See PAB page 3

• THANKS •

From the Picklesimers

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the outpouring of love and support shown to our family during our time of great loss.

Your phone calls, visits, cards and prayers have supported and comforted us more than we can express. Thank you to each one of you.

Our love goes out to you all,
Clark Picklesimer and family

Laurel Garden Club

On behalf of the Laurel Garden Club, we extend sincere appreciation to the community of Highlands for their extraordinary support of our recent Kitchen Tour on September 21.

We thank our sponsors, homeowners, volunteers, and tour guests who braved a very rainy day to come on the tour and to shop in our Pantry. Our Kitchen Tour was a huge success because of you!

The funds raised from the Kitchen Tour will enable the Laurel Garden Club to continue its level of significant giving to worthy organizations and projects in the Highlands/Cashiers area. As of September 1, Laurel Garden Club has given more than \$76,000 to fund grant proposals from this area.

**Judy Allison and Sarah
Morgan Wingfield,
Co-Chairs,
Laurel Garden Club 2013
Kitchen Tour**

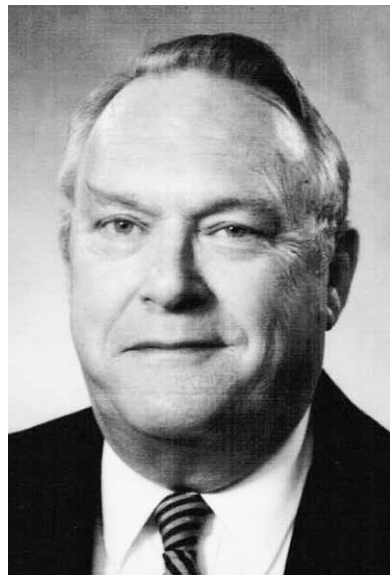
• CORRECTION •



In last week's feature about Woodrow Wilson, the woman in the above photo was identified as Melinda Wilson. It is author Sara Benson. We regret the error and are happy to see the record straight.

• OBITUARY •

William P. Watkins, Jr.



William P. Watkins, Jr., age 90, of 34 Watkins Road in Highlands, NC died October 11, 2013.

Born on December 15, 1922 in Greenwood, South Carolina, Mr. Watkins was the son of the late William Paul Watkins and Genevieve Hunter Watkins.

He attended the public schools in Greenwood and graduated from The Citadel in Charleston, SC in 1943 receiving a B.S. degree in business administration.

He was inducted into the U.S. Army of World War II prior to graduation, received his commission on December 2, 1943 and served in the Pacific Theater. After the war he remained in the Army Reserves for a number of years.

Mr. Watkins was associated with Abney Mills for 34 years where he was Corporate Controller and a member of the Board of Directors. He also served on the Board of Directors of Mutual Savings and Loan Association and United Savings Bank.

Mr. Watkins was a lifelong Presbyterian and an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood, SC where he served as Deacon and Elder, Sunday School Superintendent, Treasurer and teacher.

In his community of Greenwood, Mr. Watkins served as President of the Kiwanis Club, a member of the Board of Trustees for School District 50, Vice-President and Board of Trustees of Community Chest, Chamber of Commerce Committee Chairman, Campaign Chairman and President of the Community Chest of Greenwood County, President of Greenwood Historical Society, served on the Advisory Committee of Piedmont Technical College, Board of Directors of

Greenwood Country Club, District Vice-Chairman of Boy Scouts Of America and Director of Greenwood YMCA.

While residing in Greenwood, he was a member of the Greenwood Country Club.

He retired in 1980 and moved to his family's summer home in Highlands, North Carolina in 1982.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Highlands, NC where he was an Elder and Treasurer and a member of the Faith and Practice Sunday School Class.

Mr. Watkins is survived by his wife of 59 years, Peggy Scott Watkins, a daughter Cynthia (Mrs. W. T.) Rice of Raleigh, NC and son William Paul Watkins, III of Cashiers, NC and a granddaughter Katherine Elizabeth Rice, now serving as an officer in the United States Navy.

Memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.

For online condolences please visit www.blythfuneralhome.com.

...PAB continued from page 2

the 300-seat rate, because there is never a guarantee that 600 tickets would be sold. "If it's a sellout, then that's double the profit and great, but you can't count on that," they said.

For instance, if a show costs \$40,000, setting the ticket price at 300-seats sold makes it \$133 per ticket; a \$20,000 show makes the ticket price \$66; a \$10,000 show makes tickets \$33 – "and remember that means you just break even," they said.

Other things to consider besides the financials and operating costs are logistics.

"You have to consider getting buses up and out of there; you have to book art-

ists patrons are willing to drive to Highlands to see; as well as considering touring artists' routing dates and guaranteeing enough people so artists' get a good return on merchandising sales – which they get 100% of," said representatives.

According to Director of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce Bob Kieltyka, accommodations are also an issue. There are only 300 rooms in Highlands.

It's too early to say if a decision or vote will be taken Thursday night. But the discussion is likely to be an interesting one.

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...PAB continued from page 3

Town Attorney

Now that Town Attorney Bill Coward has been appointed to the Superior Court bench to replace Judge James Downs, the Town Board will consider three candidates to replace Coward - J.K. Coward, John Henning, Jr., and Peter A. Paul.

Town Manager Bob Frye suggests a special meeting to interview the selected candidates and hopes a new attorney will be seated by the November 21st meeting.

The Oct. 17 Town Board meeting is at 7 p.m. in the Community Building on US 64 east next to the ballfield.

- Kim Lewicki

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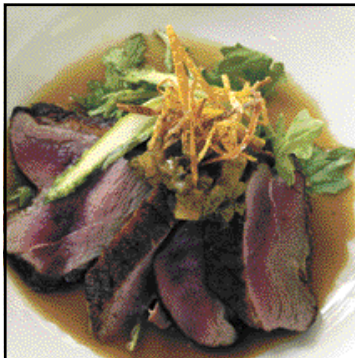
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on Lake Sequoyah

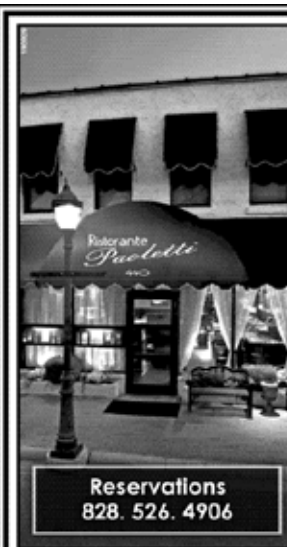
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...Q&A

continued from page 1

that they would take town funds to staff and operate, citizens have come to think it would be an either/or situation as far as the Town Board is concerned.

For years year-round (voters/taxpayers) have expressed an interest in a year-round pool for recreation, exercise and a school swim team. This idea is regularly dismissed. Would you be willing to at least consider the idea and perhaps entertain ways to make this happen?

Concerning the Performing Arts Building – do you think this is a project the town should embrace and if so how can you justify its expenditures?

If you are for the Performing Arts Building and not the year-round pool, how would you justify one over the other?

If you are for the year-round pool and not the Performing Arts building, please explain why.

Donnie Calloway

To my understanding the pool that is now being bid on is not for an enclosed pool. Originally the pool was built with the state funding under the direction of the Board of Outdoor Recreation. It was and still is to my understanding that if an indoor pool is built while the existing pool is abandoned, the original funding would have to be paid back by the town. After meeting with the

• See Q&A page 7

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• THE FREDSTER •

Night-night

The wind is howling and snow is blowing sideways. The grizzlies of the great Northwest are overweight from eating salmon from the streams. They've gorged themselves on red meat all summer and their cholesterol is way over 400. They're drowsy and grumpy; they need to sleep. Why bring this up you ask? I can identify with the grizzlies. I am a grouchy ole grizzly.

In Highlands, the wind is only a breeze but the smell of winter is in the air. I'm told it's going to be a doozy. The cold of winter is coming and I'm getting grumpy. The great black bears of Highlands will hibernate just a little, waking occasionally to hit a nearby garbage bin. The only omega 3 coursing through their veins came from the salmon scraps from our awesome restaurants' garbage bins. Is it Alaskan or farm-fed? I don't think the bears care.

I'm also like the bears 'cause I, too, need a place to sleep for the winter. My fingers are cold and don't move across the keyboard like they did during the summer. I'm grouchy because I feel our country continues to degrade and I haven't written a word about it. It's time for me to hibernate and catch my breath.

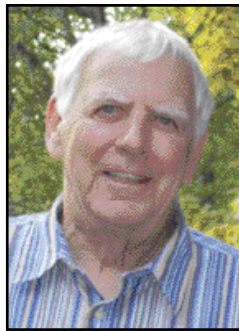
But please know I have hope for our country and especially for my beloved Highlands. During the winter months, while my fingers rest, I hope that small minded people, like those who wanted the farmer's market closed, won't vote down

...Q&A from page 6

town manager, this was affirmed. The approximate amount due back to the state would be around \$500,000 dollars. Also, in the manager's opinion a tax increase would be necessary to operate an indoor pool. An indoor pool would be great to have and personally I would like to see that happen. However, we need to really look into the matter to see what we can afford.

While talking with the town manager, I learned that the town and Mrs. Woodruff are in the early stages of dialogue concerning the proposed Performing Arts Building. Some of the concerns I have are apparently going to be addressed by the board and the Mayor at future meetings.

• See Q&A page 8



Feedback is encouraged
highlandseditor@aol.com

six million dollars to build a new performing arts building with theatre seating offered by Jane Woodruff. I don't know about you, but I'm tired of sitting behind a six foot guy and only hearing the play. It will be nice to actually see it.

And I hope a new philanthropist will be found who will build a proper indoor swimming pool with real walls so that all Highlanders can enjoy it. Highlands is a wealthy resort town and should be able to support an indoor pool. There's no better way to fight children's obesity than with a structured all-year swim program.

And finally, I hope and pray I make it through the winter and return to my column in May. By then I should be well rested and on the attack. For all my loyal readers, I say thank you, thank you, thank you, for your support. And for those few who still found my new soft columns offensive, I say, "Get a life."



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My concerns are the following: What is the total cost? Is this a turn-key no cost gift to the town? Who will be responsible for daily operations, bookings, audio, video, advertising, and other professional directives needed to operate this facility? Will there be any funding set aside by the donor to cover the maintenance and expenses to run this facility? Until there are clear answers to these questions I cannot give an unequivocal yes or no answer.

Amy Patterson

The idea of an indoor, year-round swimming pool for Highlands is not new and is an example of how decisions may seem relatively simple "yes" or "no's", but that arriving at the answer can be complex. Let's explore the idea.

First, the recreation park where the current pool is located was purchased with money from a grant agreement with a state agency specifically for outdoor recreation. Anytime the town wants to construct a building on the land we must get approval from the outdoor recreation fund granting agency that originally granted the purchase money. That granting agency considers pools outdoor recreation. Fresh air, sunshine and a swimming pool equals good fun, outdoor recreation. In the past, the agency has indicated they would not give permission for an enclosed pool. The

town would have to purchase additional recreation property either for a new, indoor pool or as a substitute for the outdoor recreation area lost by enclosing the current pool.

Second, we need to consider the problems associated with indoor pools. The construction and maintenance of an indoor pool is not as simple as we might like. Many municipal and county recreation departments are moving away from indoor pools because of maintenance and operating difficulties. The constant humid environment of indoor pools promotes rotting, corrosion and deterioration of conventional building materials and provides ideal conditions for the growth of mold, mildew and bacteria. While these problems are not insurmountable, the initial capital costs for a building to mitigate rotting and corrosion problems are significantly higher than for a conventional building. On-going maintenance, cleaning and monitoring costs will be higher than for an outdoor pool. Air handling equipment must be specialized to meet the needs of the high humidity and other air quality issues associated with indoor pools. Most modern air handling equipment achieve energy efficiencies by recycling the indoor, conditioned air to conserve the energy used to heat or cool the air. Indoor pools need larger turn-over volumes of fresh air because of air quality problems.

Recent studies have shown high levels of chloramines in the air of indoor pools. These are irritating to lung and respiratory tissue and can be toxic at high levels. Chloramines are produced by the interaction of the chlorine compounds used to disinfect the pool water and proteins shed by swimmers in the form of skin cells, hair, sweat, body oils, etc. (Chlor- from chlorine; -amine from amino acids that make-up proteins). Chloramines are thought to be especially harmful to the developing lungs of young children and may contribute or even cause asthma in swimmers. The only way to combat the chloramines in the air is to have high volume turn-over of fresh air. This increases operating costs for heating and cooling.

While it would be nice to have an indoor pool for cold weather recreation and exercise, the costs and difficulties managing an indoor pool make it a luxury that I do not feel Highlands can afford.

The new proposed performing arts facility that Ms. Woodruff is generously offering the town is a project that is still in the discovery stage. We should be convinced that there is a need and that it will be used by our performing arts community. We also need to study a business model

• See Q&A page 10

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...LIBRARY continued from page 1

East Tennessee, I knew my dreams would come true. I know there are children in your community with their own dreams. They dream of becoming a doctor or an inventor or a minister. Who knows, maybe there is a little girl whose dream is to be a writer and singer. The seeds of these dreams are often found in books and the seeds you help plant in your community can grow across the world."

From the time a child is first registered, he/she will receive the first book within 90 days. The first book in the series is "The Little Engine That Could," by Watty Piper. The book comes with a special note from Dolly Parton.

Early literacy is a vital tool in a child's development and can have a lasting impact on a child's education. According to the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD), a not-for-profit organization geared toward bringing hope and help into the lives of children and adults with learning disabilities, a student who finishes second grade without being able to read has only a one in four chance of reading at grade level by the end of elementary

school.

The NCLD also states that 35 percent of children with reading disabilities drop out of school, a rate twice that of their classmates and even more alarming, 25 percent of adults in the United States lack the basic literacy skills required for a typical job.

Children who do not learn to read constitute approximately 17 percent of the population and comprise more than 50 percent of the special education population. Currently 2.7 million students with learning disabilities (primarily reading disabilities) receive special education services, an increase of 42 percent over the last decade.

With the goal of increasing the access and availability to literature, both Read2Me and the Highlands Literacy Council want to double the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Programs numbers in the coming year.


Enrollment forms can be picked up at the Macon County Central Office, the Macon County Public Library, or by clipping out the form in this article. For more information, contact Diane Cotton at 524-2938.

Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY Official Registration Form
Privacy Statement: This information will not be used for any purpose other than those related to the Imagination Library. PLEASE PRINT

1st Preschool Child's FULL Name _____
 Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M F Phone _____
 2nd Preschool Child's FULL Name _____
 Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M F Phone _____
 Parent/Guardian's Name _____
 Child's Home Address _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
 Mailing Address (if different) _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
 Email Address _____

"This child is a resident of Macon County" _____
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Group Code: _____

Sign up your child today!
Simply fill out the above form and mail to:



**The Literacy Council
 of Highlands**
 P.O. Box 2320
 Highlands, NC 28741
 (828) 526-0863

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 one mind at a
 time."*

Taylor-Made for Highlands

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My door will always be open. My cell phone, (828) 506-3138, is and will always be on.



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— A pledge to the citizens of Highlands

Pat Taylor

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...Q&A continued from page 8

that will realistically project costs and revenues given estimated usage so we are sure it is economically feasible.

Michael "Bud" Rogers

I would entertain the idea of a bubbled pool. Any pool we have should be covered as it is more cost effective to keep a pool up and running rather than to open

and close it. As far as the Performing Arts Center for every building that Ms. Woodruff has ever built the doors are open and it is running today. As far as people giving freely of their money knowing what kind of building she builds that we should come together as a community and support this building that she is wanting to give for free.

As we know all buildings have to be maintained and the type of buildings she builds the maintenance is relatively low. I think it would be an asset to the whole community for a real nice Performing Arts Center where people can get in and out and the performers and casts can get their sets in and out with ease, have a nice concession area with a nice atmosphere and setting that would complement the Highlands area. Once the building is built, the money for

the maintenance and upkeep always comes. As far as I am concerned, in this I would rather see a rain forest all under roof put in this area similar to the Fern Bank in Atlanta, GA. With this type of building a museum and theater could be combined which I think would help bring a different array of people to this area and help support the income of this building. This rain forest would open up grant opportunities as well. This would open this up to a more year-round venue as having only performing arts is seasonal at best.

I am for both the pool and the Performing Arts Center. I don't feel you can turn away someone who is wanting to give their money and the money always comes for maintenance, etc. To answer the question are we going to support these two projects or are we going to continue to fight and argue and have a wedge driven between the town where the voters are split into two different sides. If the community wants a building and a covered pool we need to all come together and support it.

Brian Stiehler

I would love a year round pool more than anyone in Highlands. I have spent a considerable amount of time trying to find ways to justify this. However, from a financial standpoint, it doesn't seem financially feasible at this time. Our outdoor pool is attracting 70-80 people per day in the summer. This is obviously a time of year when students are out of school. In the winter, I estimate the attendance to be a third of that on a good day. The math simply doesn't work when you factor use versus the cost to keep it operational. Heating a pool, for example is a large expense. Total operational costs are estimated to be triple the cost of an outdoor pool. Our recreation director has looked at trends in indoor facilities in the southeast and most are in a declining state. To rebuild our current pool is \$250,000 higher than we budgeted. To construct an indoor facility, we would be looking at \$1.5 million or more. At this point, I personally would have a difficult time taking money from the general fund to support this. Do I want an indoor pool? Yes. But again, looking at all of the factors including use, cost and benefit, I do not see the value right now. However, I would remain open to discussion or ideas to make this happen in the future.

With regards to the Performing Arts Building, it is too early to tell what the town's financial requirement would even be. This is a situation where all factors must be weighed. We certainly do not want to create an organization that would compete with our current arts groups. As a Playhouse and PAC Board member, I have



Mac Bridges, MD
General Surgery

PRACTICE INFORMATION

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Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 301
209 Hospital Drive
Highlands, NC 28741

Office Hours

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CERTIFICATION

- Dr. Bridges is Board Certified in General Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He is experienced in all aspects of general surgery including laparoscopic and single-site laparoscopic procedures. He received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine and completed his surgical internship at East Tennessee State University. He went on to complete his surgical residency at Georgia Baptist Medical Center serving as chief resident from 1990-1991. Dr. Bridges is a North Carolina Native, outdoor enthusiast, and father of four children.



Welcome!

Walter "Mac" MacFarland Bridges, II, MD
General Surgery

Please welcome Dr. Bridges to our community of Board Certified Physicians and Providers. Dr. Bridges joins Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Physician Services practicing on the 3rd floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. His practice, providing a part-time service model, will specialize in General, Thoracic and Laparoscopic Surgical care.

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www.highlandscashiershospital.org

...Q&A continued from page 10

worked closely with both groups and fully understand their concerns. I also don't want to create a building that requires fundraising to keep it operational. With all of our non-profits in town, people work tirelessly to fundraise and enough competition exists on the non-profit front. If this building was an extension of the PAC/ Playhouse/ Chamber Music/ Bascom etc. and could support itself financially, I certainly see an advantage. However, if the building would be seen as a "white elephant" with little community support and requires that the town fund it, that is another story. Until all the facts are laid out, I am keeping an open mind as I do with all decisions I make. This is a big decision and community input and buy in is required for this to go forward. I am grateful for the support Jane Woodruff gives our town but as citizens, we must determine the wants and needs of Highlands.

Pat Taylor

I attended several town meetings where a new pool was discussed. I wrote a letter to the newspaper stating a pool that could be used year-around should be seriously considered. A year-around pool facility was listed as a top priority among citizens responding to a recreation survey a while back.

A town official responded that an indoor pool would cost at least twice as much to build and the operation costs could be triple. I was told only 30 people, at the most, would frequent the pool in winter. Such low participation would not justify the costs.

The board voted for an outdoor pool and bids were requested. It appears that at tonight's October Town Board Meeting, the low bid will be accepted after allocating \$193,000 in reserve funds towards estimat-

• See Q&A page 20

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ARUGULA AND OLIVE OIL, BLACK PEPPER

PEPPERONI

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PEPPERONI

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Ongoing

• Macon County Public Health is now giving flu shots on a walk in basis, with no appointment necessary, at the health and human services building located at 1830 Lakeside Drive in Franklin. Flu shots will be given from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday while supplies last. Flu shots are recommended for everyone age 6 months and older. The cost for regular vaccine is \$25 and high dose vaccine is \$45. Insurance may be filed, so bring your card. Please call 349-2081 for more information.

Thurs., Oct. 17

• Taize at Holy Family Lutheran at 5:30p.

• Town Board meeting at 7p. at the Community Buidling on US 64 next to the ballfield.

Fri. & Sat., Oct. 18-19

• Art League of Highlands Fine Art Show. Friday, noon-6p; Sat., 10-5p. Highlands Rec Park.

Fri., Oct. 18

• Live music in Town Square on Main Street from 6-8p featuring The Macon GrassBand

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 18-19

• Sapphire Masters Association arts and crafts show, 10a-4p each day. Food, music and free admission. Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society Stop n' Adopt and Valley Club Bake Sale.

Fri., Oct. 18

• The High Mountain Squares will dance this Friday night at the Macon County Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC from 6:30 to 9PM. Gary Shoemaker from Sevierville TN will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-371-4946, 828-342-1560, 828-332-0001.

Sat., Oct. 19

• At The Hen House on Main Street, a signing with artist Kathy Miller with her "TAILGATING THROUGH THE SOUTH" prints and cards of all the SEC, ACC schools, 2-4p.

• The Highlands Bolivian Mission will hold its fall yard sale, lunch and bake sale on Saturday, October 19 from 11AM to 3PM in the fellowship hall, next to the Highlands United Methodist Church on Main Street. All proceeds will go to the mission fund that serves many hospitals, clinics, churches, feeding and education centers and the foster home

• Highlands School annual Fall Festival from 5-9p in the old gym.

• A Fun Fundraiser for NAMI, Sat. Oct 19 at the Palmer St Mall, Franklin, located between Habitat for Humanity and new Smart Pharmacy. Eclectic collection of treasures from many individuals 8am-4pm. Rain or shine.

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway will have its monthly work trip this Saturday. Anyone interested in participating, please register with Ran Shaffner by emailing highlandsgreenway@nctv.com or leaving a message at 828-526-5622. We'll meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) behind the Rec Park at 9 AM for a brief orientation session. Participants will be furnished the necessary tools and safety equipment. Participants should bring water, rain gear, and a day pack to hold them. Wearing clothes that can get dirty is advised.

Tues., Oct. 22

• Doggie Fun Day at Chestnut Hill Retirement Center 2-4 p.m., 20 Chestnut Hill Drive off Buck Creek Road. Park across the street at Zachary Park. \$5 - proceeds to benefit the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society. Dress your dog in a costume or favorite outfit for our fashion walk; musical "sit," Owner/Dog Relay Contests; best dog trick and more. Dogs must be leashed. Call Mary Bean, 828-787-2114 for more information.

• The Highlands Dialogue continues its Fourth Season on Tuesday, with "The Vitamin Craze" based on the book Do You Believe in Magic? The Sense and Nonsense of Alternative Medicine by Offit (a copy of this book and the discussion handout is available at the Hudson Library). Our coordinator: Don McCormick. Meetings are at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30a.

• Direct Uniform Scrub and Shoe Sale 7am-4pm, JWC First Floor Suite 103.

• Leadership Highlands is hosting a Candidate Forum from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building.

Sat., Oct. 26

• Scaly Mountain Womens Club pancake Breakfast at Old Scaly School House corner of 106 and Buck Knob road, Scaly. 7:30 to 10:30. Price is \$5.50.

• A Fundraiser for Special Olympics at Parker Meadows from 4-6pm, "Not so Scary" Hayrides and from 7-9pm, Haunted Hayrides. \$2 per Person Children 5 and under free! Concession stand

• HIGHLANDS AREA UPCOMING EVENTS •

will be available. Directions: Take 64 West to Patton Road (beside Mount Hope Church). Take Patton Road to Maxwell Home Road. Take Right on Maxwell Home Road and follow signs to Hayride! Call Jennifer Garrett, Local Coordinator for Special Olympics at 349-2454 for more information!

- Family of the Stars Relay for Life Golf Tournament at Franklin Golf Course. Start time will be 9 a.m. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. This will be a 4-man captain's choice. Call Franklin Golf Course to sign up a team up or Toby Blanton at 828-347-5110. Cost is \$40 per person. Prize money will be determined on the number of teams participating. There will be a longest drive contest and a closest to the pin contest. There will also be a putting contest for \$5 a person. The winner of the putting contest will win half the money brought in by the contest. Lunch will be sold for \$5. There is only space for 12 teams so please get your teams signed up soon. Tee Sponsors are needed for \$50 each. Please help finish the fight against cancer.

Wed., Oct. 30

- Halloween "Enchanted Forest" Na-

ture Trail at the Highlands Nature Center. Group tours leave every 15 minutes from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Bring a flashlight to go early trick-or-treating along the Botanical Garden trails. Encounter friendly forest creatures (portrayed by students of the UNC Institute for the Environment) and learn interesting nature facts about each one! Fun and educational for all ages; \$1 per person. Please call 526-2623 for more information.

Sat., Nov. 2

- Come to the Mountains for Home-Town Day. The Town of Highlands will be hosting HomeTown Day on Saturday in Pine Street Park from 11 am until 3 pm. There will be live music, clogging, farmer's market and craft vendors, tractor hay rides, inflatables for children, a bake contest, greased pumpkins relays, pinto beans and cornbread for dinner and much more. Lonesome Sound will be performing traditional mountain, gospel, country, folk and Americana music from 1 pm until 3 pm. The Southern Appalachian Cloggers will be performing throughout the day as well. All activities are free except items purchased from farmer market and craft vendors. All

donation proceeds will benefit the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund. For more information or to register for the bake contest or as a farmer market/craft vendor, please call Town Hall at (828)526.2118, go to www.highlandscnc.org, or email rebecca.shuler@highlandscnc.org. Pine Street Park is located at 441 Pine Street in Highlands, NC. In case of rain, the event will be held at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 N. 4th Street, Highlands, NC.

Nov. 7-10

- Culinary Festival Opening Night Gala at Highlands Country Club Clubhouse Thursday, November 7 at 7pm. Tickets are \$75. You can order online at www.highlandsculinaryweekend.com via PayPal or call 828-526-2112 to order via Visa/MC over the phone.

Thurs. Nov. 7

- Taize at Our Lady of the Mountain at 5:30p.

Fri., Nov. 8

- Culinary Festival's Sip and Stroll Friday, 11 am-5pm. Tickets are \$35. You can order online at www.highlandsculinaryweekend.com via PayPal or call 828-526-2112 to order via Visa/MC over the phone.

naryweekend.com via PayPal or call 828-526-2112 to order via Visa/MC over the phone. Sip and Stroll.

Sat., Nov. 9

- Culinary Festival's Sip and Stroll, Saturday, 11 am-5pm. Tickets are \$35. You can order online at www.highlandsculinaryweekend.com via PayPal or call 828-526-2112 to order via Visa/MC over the phone.

Sat., Nov. 16

- At The Bascom, from 5-7p, Giving Trees Opening Reception and Nog Off. The Bascom's annual holiday event and a celebration of local artists, organizations and vendors. Sample homemade egg nog recipes and tour the combined opening receptions for In these Mountains and Giving Trees. Call 526-4949.

Wed., Nov. 27

- The Eastern Star will be selling its pumpkin rolls and pecans in front of Bryson's Food Store. Pumpkin Rolls are \$15. Pre-order both at 526-9582 or 342-4378.

Highlands School Fall Festival is this Saturday – Oct. 19, in old gym

The Highlands School PTO Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 19th from 5-9 in the old gym at Highlands School. The festival has great food (catered this year by David Bee and Ashly Coppage) and many exciting activities for children and adults. Highlands Rotary Club sponsors our cash bingo from 6:30 until 8:30...where the winner takes half! The Chenoweth Cake Walk (named after Steve & Kim Chenoweth who have emceed the event for many years even after their own children had graduated). The senior class is preparing a thrilling haunted maze. There will be a 20' obstacle course, Velcro wall and bounce house, hay rides, face paint and hair spray, fish pond, pirate dig, soccer, basketball, football booths and balloon dart toss...not to mention the popcorn, caramel apples, cotton candy and many more exciting activities!

Each class has prepared a theme box filled with great items that will be available for our Great Silent Theme Box Auction. Bryson's Food Store, Reeves

Hardware, Highlands Smokehouse, Wolfgang's Bistro and The Doghouse have all donated gift certificates for our traditional Fall Festival Raffle where tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Our senior class and parents donate their time and energy giving back to their school by running the game booths. In return the PTO pays for their cap and gown for graduation. All teachers and staff at the school volunteer for at least two hours to receive money for their individual classrooms. PTO board members and parents fill in the remaining volunteer positions and bake cakes and goodies for the kitchen and cake walk. It takes a community effort to make the festival a success. This success goes directly back into the classrooms and again reaches every child at Highlands School.

Be part of our success...bring your whole family for a night of affordable fun and support a great cause! See you Saturday, October 19 from 5-9 in the Highlands School Old Gym

Experience the Magic at PAC



Welcome to the nerve center of the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands, NC. The light and sound booth is where the magic happens, and our very own techno-wizards, Megan Potts and River Trent are conjuring something special for HCP's Murder Among Friends, directed by Tanji Marshall (the director formerly known as Tanji Armor). While the actors are busy looking fabulous and making it all seem effortless, these behind-the-scenes magicians have put in countless hours of work to ensure that every light cue and sound effect is perfectly timed. Join us October 17-20 and 24-27 and experience the magic of live theatre.

For ticket information, please call 828-526-9047 or visit highlandspac.org.

Eastern Star Fundraiser coming up

Pumpkin Rolls

Highlands Chapter #284 Order of the Eastern Star is once again selling pumpkin rolls. We will be selling pumpkin rolls in front of Bryson's Food Store on Wednesday, November 27. Pre-orders may be made by contacting Paula Gordon, Secretary, at 526-9582 or 342-4378 and leaving a message with your name and phone number. Pre-orders are requested as this will be the ONLY time in 2013 that you will be able to purchase a pumpkin roll, but -- you don't have to pre-order to be able to get one. Don't miss out. Pumpkin rolls are \$15 each.

Pecans

Eastern Star will also be selling pecan pieces and pecan halves from the 2013 crop. The pecans are in 16 oz bags and will be on sale. Please call Paula Gordon, Secretary, at 526-9582 or 342-4378 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We will call back once the pecans have been received in November.

... JUVENILES continued from page 1

"To benefit society, both in North Carolina and abroad, we have to raise our kids' right," said House Representative Marilyn Avila (R-Wake) on Monday. "With this legislation, kids in this state have the same opportunity as those in any other state for social mobility. It's an equal playing field."

Through her experiences of raising her own children, and considering the economic disadvantage the current law puts juveniles in NC, Avila feels the policy change is worth fighting for in the future, should the bill not pass. Avila is the bill's primary sponsor.

"This is a big milestone for 'Raising the Age'," said Brandy Bynum, policy director for Action for Children advocacy group. "We are confident that this is a change that will eventually come to pass in North Carolina. This is a change that's been fought for five years now. All that effort is beginning to pay off."

Eddie Caldwell, spokesman for the North Carolina Sheriff's Administration, said that his organization is still officially

opposed to the currently proposed legislation. "Our position is identical as it was when this legislation was proposed back in 2012. The bill as it has currently been introduced is not workable."

He added that just because the bill calls to increase the age in six-month increments over a four-year period, the solvency of the state budget is too uncertain for large jurisdictional overhaul.

"Restrictions aren't in place to handle those inherent problems with the proposed bill," he continued. "Until (NCSA) sees the bill sprout when North Carolina has a better economic situation, we just can't get behind it," he said, cautioning that adequate law enforcement requires adequate funding and a budget of certainty. Caldwell added the NCSA is not entirely opposed to the change, so long as it is properly planned and funded.

Aside from bureaucracy, the bill also has other obstacles ahead of it.

•See JUVENILES page 20

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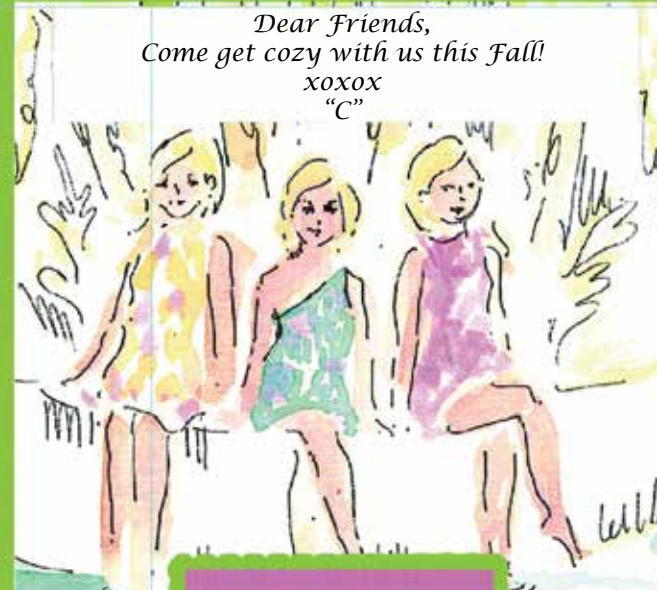


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Magical mountain views from this VZ Top condo with 3br/2ba, cozy fireplace, bright and airy. Just 4 steps to walk into from the street. \$235,000. MLS# 77067



Mountain views from this 3br/3ba with family room in Highlands Falls CC on private acre lot adjoining USFS. \$497,000. MLS# 73006



13.8 beautiful acres with mountain views and a family 3br/2ba home. Land borders US Forest Service off of Buck Creek. \$375,000. MLS# 74052



Adorable 2br/2ba cottage with vaulted ceilings and wood floors throughout, granite kitchen, screened porch and carport. \$299,000. MLS# 78090



Highlands Falls CC free standing condo with 3br/3ba, beautifully furnished, golf course view and zero maintenance. \$465,000. MLS# 74042



Just outside city limits, this 1947 Log Cabin on 2.84 acres has 3br/3ba, 2 lofts, sunroom and stone patio. \$295,000. MLS# 76384



Highlands Falls Country Club. Whiteside Mountain view, 4br/4.5ba, private setting on two lots, lower level guest suites. \$797,000. MLS# 71048



Canoe and fish at nearby Lake Wilson. 1br/1ba cabin with masonry fireplace, sleeping loft, spacious screened porch in Blue Valley. \$79,500. MLS# 74134



English cottage in The Cotswolds. 3br/3.5ba, very private with long winding driveway, lovely landscaping and views. \$797,000. MLS# 75521



Waterfall property with sweeping views and two separate homes, located just outside city limits. \$675,000. MLS# 68046



3br/3ba like-new cottage with screened decks, vaulted ceilings, loft, quiet location in Wildwood Forest. \$457,000. MLS# 78054



Lovely 3br/3ba home in Highlands Falls Country Club with great upgrades, 2 fireplaces and wonderful screened porch. \$679,000. MLS# 68076



On Lake Sequoyah. Adorable 3br/2ba furnished cottage with wood floors, stone fireplace, family room and lovely yard. Bring your canoe. \$349,000. MLS# 77512



Like new 3br/2ba home in Highlands Falls CC with adjacent stream and private cul-de-sac location. \$369,000. MLS# 75733



A good mountain view from the deck of this 3br/2ba Highlands cottage in Mirror Lake, wood ceilings and family room. \$387,000. MLS# 76090



Furnished 2br/2ba condo in downtown Highlands, only two blocks to Main Street. Includes spacious screened porch and fireplace. \$169,000. MLS# 7809



Broadview Acres. Great mountain view from this 4br/3ba where lower level has a separate apartment. \$387,000. MLS #76950



Cute 3br/3.5ba cottage in Mirrormont located on 1.07 acres of mostly level yard with mature trees. Excellent value at \$295,000. MLS# 73333



Relax on the porch of this small but tidy 1br/1ba condo, move in ready with a one-car garage. \$65,000. MLS# 77019

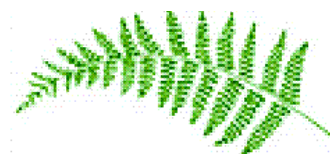


Exquisite lodge-style home in Highlands Falls Country Club. 5br/5.5ba home with 5 masonry fireplaces, Whiteside Mountain view. \$2,250,000. MLS# 77789

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~ Percy Bysshe Shelley



Susie deVille
Owner/Broker-in-charge
White Oak Realty Group

Percy Bysshe Shelley embraced the magic of autumn in his writing. I believe that if the renowned poet were here in our mountains right now, he would be inspired to write ream upon ream of poetry, in an attempt to fully capture the staggering beauty. Crimson, orange, and yellow bursting throughout the landscape and mountainsides, call us to the woods to enjoy Mother Nature's palette.

Our mountains are especially stunning at this time of year, and there are many wonderful attractions and activities, including many picturesque waterfalls, several great hiking trails, scenic byways, mountainside golf courses and more. In short, fall is a perfect time to visit Highlands and Cashiers!

One of our more compelling fall attractions occurs from mid October into early November on the side of the 4,930-foot Whiteside Mountain.

On clear sunny days, the Shadow of the Bear emerges slowly from behind Whiteside Mountain. Beginning at about 5:30 p.m. (and lasting for about 30 minutes), the mystical shadow morphs into various shapes, eventually appearing as a giant bear shadow across the treetops of the valley. The best place to see the bear shadow is Rhodes Big View Overlook, located along Highway 64 between Cashiers and Highlands. Get there a little early, as parking is limited.

Before you go to the overlook to enjoy the evening bear shadow show, take in one of the area's most scenic (and to me, most spiritual) hikes to the top of Whiteside Mountain. Take the short drive along Whiteside Mountain Road to the parking area at the trail head. The hike to

the top is of moderate intensity and may be accomplished by children. Plan on about 25 minutes each way, with ample time to walk along the ridge and enjoy the various vistas. You will be able to see three states from the top, as well as multiple ridge lines that disappear into faint hues of blue along the horizon. Prepare to be dazzled and remember your camera!

If you are looking for renewal of spirit, body, and mind, grab your sweater, your favorite jeans and hiking boots, and head to Highlands, NC this fall. Along with your camera, tuck your journal into your bag, as you just may be inspired to capture in words (like Percy Bysshe Shelley) the splendor that surrounds you.

• Susie deVille, ME, ABR, SFR, is Owner/Broker-in-Charge of White Oak Realty Group. Her areas of expertise include real estate investments, niche marketing, social media, and strategic property positioning. An expert in entrepreneurship and anthropology, Susie applies her acumen in human behavior toward negotiating and advocating on behalf of her clients. White Oak Realty Group's sales office is located at 125 South Fourth Street in the heart of the retail district in Highlands. For more information, visit WhiteOakRG.com or call (828) 526-8118.

• REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS •

This Cottage Has It All!



Renovated cottage in Mirror Lake area. This 3BR/3BA home features hardwood, tile, and carpet flooring; vaulted ceiling and wood burning fireplace in the living room; loft; expansive decking (open & covered); spacious master suite with fireplace, sitting area, wet bar, hot tub; great mountain view; and paved access. Furnishings are negotiable! Offered at \$390,000. MLS #77862. Contact Susie deVille at (828) 371-2079.

Golf Course Frontage & Mtn. Views



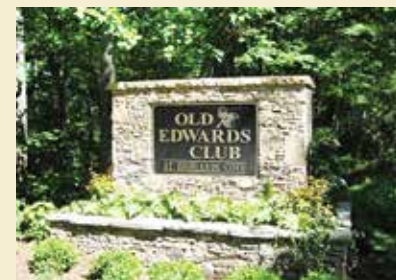
Country club living at its best! Recently remodeled, this 4BR/3BA cottage in HFCC is right on the golf course. Covered porch and open floor plan, new kitchen (w/ all new stainless steel appliances) tile & wood floors, fireplace, double garage & paved access. Unfinished bonus room on the lower level. Offered at \$495,000. MLS# 77439. Contact Susie deVille at (828) 371-2079.

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Highlands Country Club Condo; tucked away at the first fairway. This 3BR/3BA lower-level unit a short distance from the Club House. All furnishings are available separately. This "priced right" condo at one of Highlands most prestigious Country Clubs. Listed for \$787,000.



This unique country inspired cottage on the deep water of Mirror Lake has been completely remodeled. High-end kitchen appliances, vaulted ceilings, wood burning fireplace and marble heated flooring in the baths are just a few of the luxuries this home offers. Offered for \$599,000 MLS #77824



Live on one level! This spacious home is on 4 acres and is wheelchair accessible complete with elevator and generator. Master on main, gleaming hardwood floors, 2 stone fireplaces, attached 2 car garage. And extra lot! Great price \$695,000 MLS 76593

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...Q&A continued from page 11

ed costs overruns. Construction would begin immediately, therefore the pool issue will be apparently resolved. Still, many people continue to say we need a year-around pool.

I do not foresee the town building such a pool facility unless additional resources can be secured from either the county, state, or private sources. I don't know if the new pool can be converted to a covered facility later.

If private funds were used along with town funds to build a year-around pool, the town would assume additional operating costs. Yes, it can be compared to the town accepting a gift of a performing arts center and then contributing tax funds at some level toward its operation. Both situations are matters of what citizens want and are willing to pay for.

To make a specific statement about a performing arts center is premature since the formal proposal will be presented at the October Town Board meeting. Nevertheless, multiple issues

should be resolved before a final decision. If taxpayer money is required, questions have to be answered before accepting the gift. What is the need for the facility, and who are the potential supporters? What will be the impact of a new facility on existing performing arts groups already receiving town support? What will be the level of town financial commitment, and what will be the external funding sources? All of our arts community stakeholders, as well as residents, should be consulted and their voices heard.

• Next week candidates will answer Question 4: The music in K-H Park and the music in Town Square, where the majority of attendees were year-round citizens, exemplifies the need for more family-oriented activities – festivals, concerts, fairs – year-round in Highlands and not just during the summer months. Do you support these types of activities and if you do, how would you expand options if elected?

...JUVENILES from page 14

"Some others in the house are very strict, 'you do the crime, you do the time' types," said Avila. "Those that have studied on the issue know that there are several factors that don't make it that simple; the lack of brain development in children under the age of 18, the lack of supervision and suitable environments to grow and learn. Without understanding these things, we are just attaching a police record to kids who made a mistake. That's the battle ahead of this bill. While I am a hardliner as well, I don't think this should extend to non-violent juveniles.

These kids deserve an actual chance, just like kids in any other state."

While the proposed policy change will be a step towards the societal status quo, Avila admits that it will have an impact on the budget. "It's certainly not going to help balance the budget, and the savings won't be immediate," she said, explaining that recidivism is just as costly, while preventative and rehabilitative measures taken with adolescents will save the state in the long-term by ending many problems before they begin.



Wildwood Subdivision. 3 BR/2 baths. Tennis/community lake great walking area. MLS #76726 \$285,900.



Highlands Manor condominiums. WALK to town convenience. Being sold furnished with few exceptions. Upper 3BR/ 2BA with nice updates MLS#74416. \$375,000.



Great location for home occupation, or small business- or as a personal residence. 3 BR/2.5 baths. Near Rec Center- great yard. MLS #74418 \$390,000.



Webbmont - near Lake Sequoyah. 3 BR/ 3 baths all on one level, screened porch and open deck. Great year round of summer living. MLS #69697 \$225,000



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Mary McClean (aka the tooth fairy) with the help of students dressed in tooth, gum and tongue costumes demonstrates the proper use of a tooth brush.

On Oct. 11, the Rotary Club of Highlands and the Rotary Club of Highlands-Mountaintop combined to sponsor dental education day at Highlands School. Mary McClean (aka the tooth fairy), a registered dental hygienist from Nashville, TN who specializes in dental education, visited with students in grades K-5. Using puppets, a giant toothbrush and other props, she instructed the students in proper dental care. After her presentation, each student was given a gift bag containing a toothbrush, tooth paste and dental floss.

In addition to the annual dental education day, the two clubs jointly sponsor and financially support a weekly fluoride rinse and a yearly dental exam for students in grades K-5.

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Viking oven and refrigerator, heated bathroom floor, jetted tub, full service generator, skylights, stacked stone fireplace, attractive landscaping and a great deck. Located in Highlands Falls Country Club, membership available but not required. Must see to appreciate! \$987,000



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Walk to everything from this log home located in a great level lot on Foreman Road. Ready for your remodeling ideas. 2/2 MLS#75859 \$240,000



Wonderful family home in Wildwood Mountain perfectly positioned between Highlands and Cashiers. Two oversized decks – one with a fireplace. 4/3.5 MLS# 76488 \$430,000



What a setting in Wildwood Mountain. Great deck overlooking two ponds with a re-circulating water feature. 3/3 plus a family room and an office. Well priced MLS#78078 \$574,000



Perfectly renovated Highlands Country Club cottage with amazing outdoor living space with fireplace plus a great mountain view. 3/2 MLS#76783 \$720,000



Light, bright and open 3/3 floorplan in Apple Mountain. Stacked stone fireplace and vaulted ceilings. MLS#76574 \$300,000. (Under Contract)



One level living in Highlands Falls CC located in an area of million dollar homes. Three bedrooms/ two baths, new kitchen, great back deck. MLS #78236 \$450,000



5 bedroom/5 bath two story home on the golf course at Highlands Falls CC and a fabulous covered deck. Light and bright inside. 2 car garage. MLS#77171 \$617,000



Pristine 4/4.5 mountain home located in Mirrormont beside a rushing stream. Vaulted ceilings, open floorplan, great kitchen, large deck, and dog run. MLS# 77880



Mirror Lake view cottage with new kitchen and baths. Front and rear decks, fenced yard. Privacy and lake access. 2/2 MLS # 77720 \$300,000



Rustic 3 bedroom/4 bath home in Skyline area with two large covered decks, stone fireplace, vaulted ceilings, great kitchen with stainless steel appliances. MLS#75979 \$527,000



This may be the perfect set up for a couple or an expanded family. Remodeled mountain cottage with 2/2/1 main house and attached 2/2 guest house. Mountain View MLS#77916 \$597,000



"Boxwoods" offers English gardens and pond, 5 bedrooms/6.5 baths main house with four fireplaces, large covered deck, family room. 1/1 Guest house. Great value MLS#74659 \$1,000,000



Renovated Mirror Lake cottage. Viking kitchen. Custom cabinetry, vintage log and wormy chestnut interior, granite fireplace. Two covered decks. MLS#77492 \$350,000



On a quiet street within an easy walk to dining, shopping and theatre, this 3/3 cottage overlooks Mill Creek. Two master suites. Vaulted ceilings, great porch. MLS#77846 \$537,500



Wonderful home in Wildcat Cliffs CC yet easy to get to just inside gate, wonderful mountain view, no steep roads, two living spaces, very nicely appointed! MLS#78141 \$612,000



Whiteside Mtn views from the oversized covered deck of this five bedroom/ 4 bath home. Lots of windows, lots of wood, high ceilings. Workshop. MLS#69231 \$1,127,000



The best view of all the Golf Villas in Highlands Falls CC. Watch the golfers on #10 green or the river otter in the lake. Pristine condition. 3/2 MLS#78264 \$425,000



Watch the golfers from tee to green from the large screened porch of this 3/3.5 cottage located on the 5th fairway of Highlands Falls CC. MLS#77704 \$547,000



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Large family home in Highlands Country Club. Custom kitchen with island; large covered decks; Master suite with his and her baths; Great mountain view. MLS#68832 \$1,500,00

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Just listed first floor Highlands Manor Club. Ultra private. Screened porch could be enclosed. Large great room with dining area and stone fireplace. Patio in rear. Wood floors. Large master bath with walk-in closet. 2 1/2 Offered at \$328,500. MLS #77646



Renovated 3 BR/2 BA home with large office and 2-car garage. Easy living on one level. Open great room. Custom kitchen. Wood floors, fireplace. Easy care grounds with waterfall and additional lot. Offered at \$895,000. MLS# 76442.



In gated Cowee Ridge. 3+/- acres with big views. House is light, airy, very high ceilings throughout. 3/3 up, Lower level living, too. Well maintained home. Unbelievably priced at \$499,000. MLS #70237



Located in Dog Mountain, 2BD/3BA plus den/office. Large living area with open great room and wood-burning stove. Loads of windows. Updated kitchen, hardwood floors. Offered at \$337,000. MLS #76825



Condo has one of the best views in the complex. Update 3 BD, 2 BA with great porch and good storage. New clubhouse, pool and tennis for amenities. Easy access. Offered at \$344,900. MLS #75666



Joe Webb's first cottage built in Webbmont in 1922; Lodge sits on 5.58 acres including rock and Bridal Veil Falls with western mountain views. 3BR/3BA. Period furnishings/antiques included. Sleeps five couples; 2.4 miles to center of town. Offered at \$725,000. MLS #76752



Big view on 3 acres. Great room, separate TV room, den, office. High end finishes. Great rental history. Offered at \$499,900. MLS# 77188



Log home in Mirror Lake area. 3BD/3BA, large family/rec room in loft, big covered porch, deck on the back. Property being sold mostly furnished. Finished basement. Offered at \$498,000 MLS# 75769



This Old Highlands Estate 4 ac. tract on Bowery Rd., just off Horse Cove Rd., in-Town Highlands. 3 outbuildings, an old barn, a small building for conversion to a guest home, and a gardener's tool shed. Offered at \$1,295,000. MLS# 72729



Lovely home with 4 BR, 4 1/2 BA plus a garage and guest quarters. Custom kitchen. Mountain view and rushing creek. Pool, tennis, spa and private lake privileges are available for a nominal fee. Offered at \$700,000. MLS #77022



Lovely Fairway cottage in Cullasaja Club. Great location walk to the clubhouse! 3BD/2BA, fireplace and gas stove. Carport, workshop. View. Stacked stone fireplace and screened porch. Offered at \$499,000. MLS #77291



Located on Mirror Lake. 4BD/4BA home and a guest house. Fish off your own deck/dock. Enjoy the relaxing sounds of falling water over the Dam. Offered at a very reasonable price of \$495,000. MLS #75680



3 bedroom plus den, 4 baths. Exceptional Mountain View. Beautifully landscaped yard. Old mountain charm exudes with this unique home located on 3 acres with pond and great gardens. Offered at \$1,225,000 MLS# 72822



Highlands Falls Country Club home has views of the mountains and golf course. Low maintenance Yard and good parking. Huge great room with fireplace, split bedroom plan with 3BD/2BA. large porch with open deck, and two-car garage. Offered at \$670,000. MLS #77724



Located above the Highlands Country Club close to town, 2BD/2BA, an upper level on one level. Wood floors and custom finishes. Long range Blue Valley and Southern exposure. Offered at \$325,000. MLS #77489



Large living room and kitchen, sun porch, master bedrooms and bath on main level, guest bedroom and bath upstairs with loft. Lower level has family room and guestroom with bath. Great yard. A reasonable price for a great setting! Offered at \$479,000. MLS #77531



3BR, 3BA home in Highlands Country Club. Spacious open plan on one level, stone fireplace, hardwood floors, handicap accessibility, and covered parking. Gorgeous view and secluded on 1.51 acres. New roof, new paint, well-maintained and priced under a million. Golf membership available subject to approval/payment of fees. Priced to sell at \$975K. MLS# 75598.



Gentleman's estate features main house, party shed, guesthouse, pasture, pond, and waterfall! Offered at \$ 645,000. MLS #73087



A great Viewpoint cottage. 2BD/2BA plus sitting area. Stone fireplace, hardwood floors. Updated retro tile baths. Covered porch and gentle yard. Listed at \$325,000 MLS# 72180



On almost two acres just two miles from Main Street. 3BD/3BA, open living area with wood burning fireplace and access to a screened in porch. Broker owned and offered at the substantially reduced price of \$450,000. OWNER WANTS OFFERS! MLS# 72254

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Another great awakening

By Mark Ford
First Baptist Church of Highlands

Listen to a description of our country.

Religion is more institutional and less personal, more an affair of choice and instruction than piety. Religion is losing its dramatic, experiential quality. Sermons are preached with little feeling and heard with an emotional response proportionate to the stimulus. Religion is no longer identified with morality. There is a growing neglect of public worship, concurrent with irreverent behavior, decline in family worship, inordinate passions, intemperance, lying, worldliness, refusal to reform, self-seeking and overall unbelief. Rationalism ridicules Divine revelation. Economic independence has led to personal significance without God. Sainthood is more synonymous with respectability, as churches become less a congregation of called out pure saints and more a society of the like-minded. God is less respected as men become more respectable. Impiety and a fall in the power of godliness has led to a time of extraordinary dullness in religion.

These are phrases and descriptions from Edwin Scott Gaustad's description of the American colonies in the 1730s, just prior to the Great Awakening of that time period. The need of the hour was a fresh outpouring of God's Spirit upon the young colonies and soon to be new nation. God graciously sent a miraculous revival in those days through the Spirit, and the work and preaching of men like Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, and others.

From these words in Gaustad's book The Great Awakening in New England and other historiographical social writings of that day, it would seem that history is repeating itself in our own day. Social turmoil, the stench of our political quagmire in Washington, the ascendancy of choice over absolutes of God's Word, individualism that has reached near pathological narcissism, and a religious ethos that is more therapeutic than theological, and more about social respectability than devotion to the Living God – all these things say to me that we are in desperate need of another Great Awakening in our land.

Let me place myself out on a limb and say that no amount of institutional refinement or special programing in the church will suffice to bring about spiritual renewal and awakening in our day. We must shun the popular and return to the Scriptures for our motivation. The idea of being relevant and acceptable according to the dictates of culture while eschewing the demands of complete devotion to the Lord and holiness of life must be part of our repentance. Our nation clearly stands on a precipice of demise. If history has taught us anything, it is that nations and cultures are saved from such crisis when God's people repent of their lethargy, compromise and indifference, and then call out to God for a reviving and return to the "old paths" (Jeremiah 6:16f). Simply, the hope of our homes, churches, community and nation is not political or social reforms. No liberal or conservative agenda will bring about the cure we need in this day. The need is spiritual, and will require a turning back to God in humility, repentance and obedience to the Word of God (II Chronicles 7:14-15). This is not an encouragement to "hope so" passivity or a spiritualized "wringing of the hands." It is a call to the hard, soul-wrenching work of prayer – who will join me?

Proverbs 3:5 • PLACES TO WORSHIP • John 3:16

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Wed.: Men's Bible Study -8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church

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Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

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Wed: Supper; 6; 7:15 – children, youth, & adults studies; 6:15 – Adult choir (nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 – Women's Bible Study (nursery)

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

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Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers
Sunday School – 10 am, Worship Service – 11 am

Highlands PD log entries from Sept. 11.. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 25

• At 7:30 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at the Citgo Station on Main Street.

• At 7:36 p.m., Martiniano Gonzalo Pacheco, 50, of Winder, GA, was arrested for DWI when he was pulled over for driving left of center and recklessly.

Sept. 29

• At 2:32 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main and 4th streets.

Sept. 30

• At 7:45 a.m., Dusty's Rhodes Superette, reported a burglary with forced entry and larceny. \$250 in cash was taken, as well as

\$52 worth of tobacco products, a \$10 flashlight and a set of keys.

Oct. 1

• At 3:55 p.m., a burglary with forced entry was reported at a residence on Rocky Hill Road. Damage to a window was reported.

Oct. 4

• At 5:30 p.m., a burglary with forced entry was reported at a residence on Rocky Hill Road.

• At 6:30 p.m., a burglary without forced entry was reported at a residence on Reese Lane where a set of keys were taken.

Oct. 5

• At 12:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on S. 4th and Church streets.

• At 4:21 p.m., Cynthia Watson Potts, 49, of Highlands, was arrested for drunk and disruptive behavior and resisting arrest in Highlands Plaza parking lot.

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• BIZ/ORG. NEWS •

Beale nominated for John Bagget Award



President of NAMI Appalachian South, Ann Nandrea with Commissioner Ronnie Beale.

At the Oct. 8 Macon County Commission meeting, Ann Nandrea, president of NAMI Appalachian South (National Alliance on Mental Illness) announced Commissioner Ronnie Beale's nomination for the John Bagget award.

Beale established the Macon County Mental Health Task Force five years ago which brought together a group of representatives from county departments, law enforcement, the Dept. of Justice, schools and others to address services to individuals and families dealing with mental illness.

This team continues to meet regularly to identify problems and work toward solutions. He helped establish a crisis team, services in the county jail and support CIT training at the local level.

Students learn about plants in outdoor classroom

By Dr. Becky Schilling

Highlands School 6th grade students went on a Plant Safari in their new outdoor classroom on October 4. Thirty-two students and their teachers Mrs. Joy Archer and Mrs. Denise West participated.

Students discussed native and non-native plants and how native plants support birds in our area. Then students went on safari, working in pairs to identify 12 plants -- some native, some non-native--in the outdoor classroom, marking them off on a handout created by the Mountain Garden Club.

"The safari was really fun...because you got to work together," said student Jeslyn Head.

Classmate Julia Egler said, "I learned a lot about native plants."

Students helped plant native Lil Joe Pye weed and native Cranesbill geranium 'Rozanne' as well as violas, pansies and kale.

"The planting was fun," said Matthew Campbell.

"Being dirt girl was my favorite part. I loved scooping out the dirt!" said Emma Weller.

Kedra McCall added, "I learned quite a bit about plants during this event. Thank you to the Audubon Society for the money for the plantings."

Plants and gardening supplies were provided by a generous \$300 grant from the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society (HPAS) and the National Audubon So-



Students planted violas, pansies and kale in the two large boulder-lined planters. Photo by Wanda Cooper.

ciety.

"The native plants will enhance the existing bird habitat and will attract insects which many of our birds need for survival," said Ann Campbell of HPAS. "It takes about 7,000 caterpillars to raise a nest of young chickadees!"

Campbell added, "As students participate in environmental activities like this they learn to appreciate their surroundings and take ownership of caring for their outdoor classroom. It also helps generate excitement about our

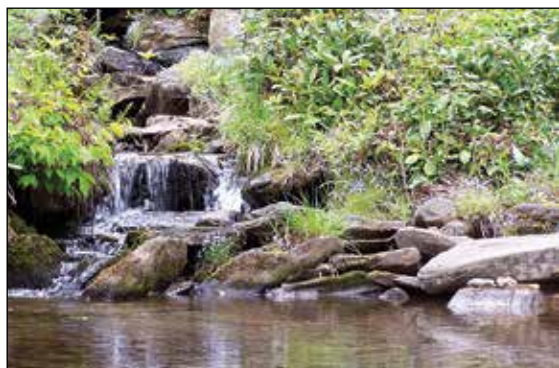
natural world and a stewardship mindset in our young people."

Assisting with the event were Ann Campbell of the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society, Paul Corbin and Jim Tate of Tate Landscaping, and Mountain Garden Club members Mary Lou Bilbro, Caroline Cook, Wanda Cooper, Mozelle Edwards, Molly Leonard, Becky Schilling, and Sarah Sloan. Tate Landscaping recently also planted native Dwarf Crested Iris, donated by Sarah Sloan, in the outdoor classroom.



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• BIZ/ORG. NEWS •

Board certified general surgeon joins medical staff at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital (HCH) welcomes Board Certified General Surgeon, Walter MacFarland "Mac" Bridges, II, M.D., FACS, to its medical staff. Dr. Bridges specializes in a full spectrum of General, Thoracic and Laparoscopic Surgical care and will practice in an on-site service model of one day each week performing surgeries at HCH and seeing patients in his office located on the third level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. With his highly skilled surgical experience, Dr. Bridges will focus on general surgery issues including Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery, Thyroid Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Breast Surgery, Intra-Abdominal Surgery (Hernia, Gallbladder, Colon), Endocrine Surgery, Biopsies, Non-Cardiac Thoracic Surgery and removal of skin lesions.

Dr. Bridges has more than 25 years experience in practicing General Surgery in both office and hospital settings. In addition to HCH's weekly surgical clinic in Highlands, Dr. Bridges practices with Pisgah Surgical Associates in Brevard, and performs surgeries at Transylvania Regional Hospital, a Mission Health Affiliate.

"All of us at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital are proud to have Dr. Bridges serving the medical needs of the residents of the Highlands, Cashiers and surrounding areas," said Hospital President and CEO Craig James. "His special training will bring an added dimension to the wide range of surgical procedures we are able to offer the communities."

Dr. Bridges is Board Certified in General Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He is experienced in all aspects of general surgery including laparoscopic and single-site laparoscopic procedures. He received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine and completed his surgical internship at East Tennessee

State University. He completed his surgical residency at Georgia Baptist Medical Center serving as chief resident from 1990-1991. Dr. Bridges is a North Carolina native, outdoor enthusiast, and father of four children.

His office is in Suite 301 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the Hospital's campus. His office hours are Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, call (828) 526-2371.

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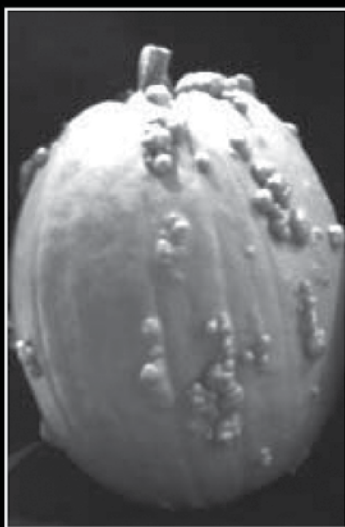
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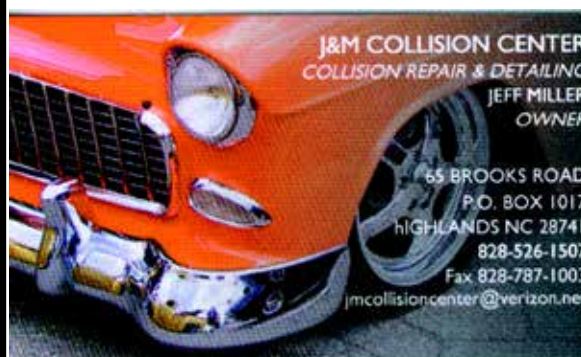
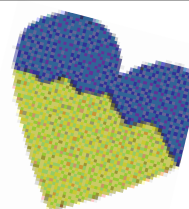
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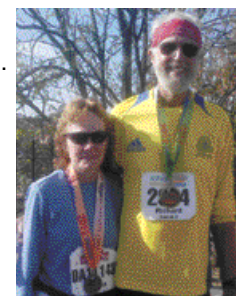
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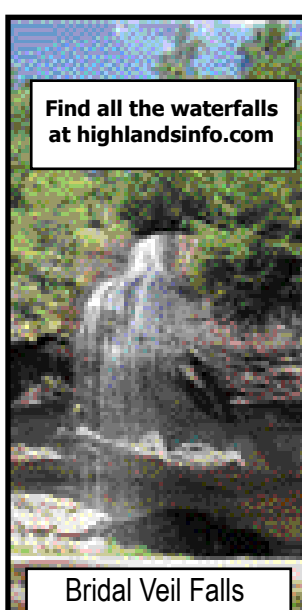
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