

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 31

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

Thurs., July 31, 2014

Ongoing

• At Highlands Playhouse, the movie "Belle" Sun., 6 & 8p and Mon.-Sat., 1 & 4p.

Thurs., July 31

• At ...on the Verandah, Well Strung in the lounge.

• Free Family Movie Night at The Bascom – rain or shine. "Jurassic Park." Lawn opens at 7p; movies start at 9p.

Thurs., July 31

• Zahner Lecture, at the Nature Center. "Soul Mates for Life: Native Plants and their Fungal Partners" 6:30pm, free.

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 1-2

• Free wine tasting 5-8p at High Cotton Wine & Cheese on S. 4th St.

Fri., Aug. 1

• At the Nature Center. Fungi Foray, 10am-2pm; Featured Creature at 11:30 a.m.; Snakes of the Highlands Region" at 7 pm, all ages.

• Live music in Town Square from 6-8. Macon Grass Band.

Sat., Aug. 2

• Just for You Yard Sale at 1st. Citizens Bank 9a to 1p.

• Farmers Market 9a to 1p K-H Park on Pine Street.

• Bark for Life at K-H Park 1-3p.

• Open House at the Highlands F&R Station with free hot dog plates and rides on a firetruck! 11a to 3p. Donations accepted

• Free Kids Day at the Hudson Library. 11a to 12:30p, Salt Painting. Ages toddler to 12; noon to 2p, The Lego Movie; 2-3p, Ice cream party.

• Live music in Pine St. Park from 6-8 p.m. Lonesome Band.

Mon., Aug. 4

• SOAR Golf Tournament at Sky Valley CC. 9:30 am. Call 828.787.2323 for details.

Wed., Aug. 6

• Interlude Concert at 1st Pres. at 2 p.m. Norman Mackenzie,

Man experiences cardiac arrest at Highlands Aerial Park

Sunday, July 20 at around 4:30 p.m., a 52-year-old man from New Orleans suffered cardiac arrest while on the zip line at Highlands

Aerial Park in Scaly Mountain.

Aerial Park staff lowered the man to the ground from the zip line platform and immediately

began administering CPR and mouth to mouth resuscitation until help arrived.

• See PARK page 17

BOE sets High School iPad info session

By Brittany Burns

To answer questions from community members, and to alleviate parent's concerns about the implementation of a 1:1 program for Macon County high school programs involving iPads, Macon County Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin the school system will be hosting a public information session on August 12 at the Fine Arts Center at Franklin High School.

"We want to be able to answer any questions from parents, students or the community concerning the move to digital devices as a way to provide textbooks and other needed learning tools for our students," Dr. Baldwin said at Monday night's BOE meeting.

The Macon County Board of Education unanimously voted early this year to purchase digital devices for all high school stu-

• See IPAD page 8

OpenHouse at HF&R Saturday



The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. is holding its annual Open House Saturday from 11a to 3p. There will be rides on firetrucks, free hot dog plates and more. Donations are accepted.

BOE addresses staffing concerns

By Brittany Burns

Budget cuts to public education have made headlines across the country for the last couple of years. In North Carolina, the debate surrounding public education, teacher salary, and teacher

tenure has taken a forefront while citizens patiently await decisions from state lawmakers.

Local school officials have been awaiting word from the state, too, regarding funding allo-

• See STAFFING page 2

INSIDE

Mayor on Duty.....	2
Dining	4-5
The Fredster.....	7
Events.....	12-13
Spiritually Speaking.....	16
Police.....	19
Service Directory.....	20-21
Classifieds.....	22

President Carter visits Highlands

Mid-week last week, President and Mrs. Carter were in Highlands for a fundraiser event for Mercer University where Jimmy Carter serves on its board of trustees.

With confidentiality paramount concerning presidents and like officials, the exact location of the main fundraising event hasn't been disclosed, but there were signs for at least one Mercer event in the vicinity of Old Edwards Inn complex.

The famous couple was accompanied by their life-long team of Secret Service agents, but the service asked the Highlands Police Department to perform special duties and functions during their multi-day stay as the couple travelled about Highlands.

The couple was seen about town and enjoyed the hospitality of local venues – shopping and eating. Chief Bill Harrell

• See CARTER page 6

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Fracking concerns continue

I have been following the fracking issue in North Carolina. Several towns have passed resolutions against the new fracking legislation. No one has passed a resolution against importing into the state that cheap, "ill gotten," fracked gas from other states. We might be seeing a flurry of "nimbysism" in our region.

Given the momentum of legislative forces, I believe fracking operations in North Carolina are inevitable, and resolutions in opposition will not stop them. This is not a home rule state, so towns and counties cannot pass ordinances to block or regulate state legislation like the new fracking bill.

Will we see major fracking operations in this part of the state? I suspect not, at least in the near term. The last map I saw of potential natural gas reserves identified only one small vein of gas in the northern part of Macon County. However, there do appear to be substantial reserves in the counties bordering Tennessee. The question still remains whether it will be economically feasible to tap into these reserves.

As a mayor, I do have concerns about potential health, environmental and safety issues related to fracking. At the last board meeting, the town commissioners gave me the go ahead to write a letter to the N.C. Mining and Energy Commission concerning the rules that they will be developing to regulate the frack operations. While we cannot stop fracking, I hope the new rules and regulations will address the fracking concerns of municipalities.

My letter will urge the commission to develop regulations that protect city water sources. From what I have read, the waste water generated from drilling a well has to be contained and disposed in a safe manner since it contains some of the chemicals used in the fracking process. One way of handling the waste water is to create holding ponds. Holding ponds were also used a Duke Energy plants to hold coal ash. We now know they did not work as well as planned.

My primary concern is what would happen if a fracking operation with a holding pond was located anywhere near our water source. Imagine if a holding pond failed and contaminated the water

supply. Like any town, it would have a disastrous impact on all aspects of the community. Our resort economy would crash and recovery would take years. Even with a total clean up, there would be a long lasting perception of a compromised water system.

I am an advocate for regulations that prevent vertical and horizontal drilling near critical community water systems. In the case of Highlands, the regulation would apply to areas beyond the town limits to where our water sources originate.

Also, I want to make sure all safety procedures will be put into place. For in-



stance, in the BP oil spill disaster a second back up safety check valve may have prevented the well blowout in the gulf. The state, as well as the gas industry, cannot afford to cut corners in cost saving measures at the expense of public health and safety. The best practices, materials and equipment have to be required.

Early this summer, three public hearings concerning the development of fracking rules were announced. The closest hearing was three hours away from this region. Since the original announcement, an additional hearing has been scheduled for Western Carolina. It

will be at the Bardo Fine Arts Center on the campus of Western Carolina University on September 12. The time is from 5 to 9 pm. We can only hope that the N.C. Mining and Energy Commission will be responsive to the concerns of the public in drafting the rules. The legislature will also have to review the rules and insure public safety.

– Mayor Pat Taylor

...STAFFING continued from page 1

cations and whether teachers will receive raises; without a final decision from the state, Macon County officials can make no permanent plans.

At Monday night's Board of Education meeting, Dr. Chris Baldwin told board members that of the half dozen or so advertised vacancies within the school system, most positions have recommendations for hire. But although principals and personnel directors have names to bring before the board for employment, the district is at a hiring standstill because without knowing the state's budget, Macon County cannot move forward with much needed hiring.

The vacancies currently being advertised vary; a math teacher at the middle school, a guidance counselor at Union Academy, a couple of science teachers around the district, all of which are expected to be ready by the first day of the 2014-15 school year on August 25.

"To be perfectly honest with you, principals have recommendations for these positions, but without the final word from the General Assembly, at this point, we don't know what positions we will have funds for, so we can't hire anyone," he said.

On Saturday, more than a month after deadline, media outlets reported that the North Carolina House and Senate had finally reached an agreement on the state budget.

Dr. Baldwin said though he has read that state officials have decided on a 7.2 percent raise for teachers, Macon County has not received any official word from the state to confirm.

• See STAFFING page 3

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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• MILESTONE •

First Inter- Swim Meet highlights



Though all team members swam well, Coach Steve Hott pinpointed some highlights of the July 17 Swim meet in Franklin. Zori Nastasic finished in 1st place in the 13-14 boys 100-yard backstroke; Harrison Gates swam fast enough to qualify for the Mountain Swim League's Allstar meet in both the 8 & under boys 25-yard freestyle, and the 8 & under boys 50-yard freestyle; Dave Foster also swam fast enough to qualify for the Allstar meet in the 9-10 boys 50-yard backstroke. and Cane Smolarsky at age 4 was the youngest competitor at the meet and swam well in the 6 & under 25 yard freestyle.

...STAFFING continued from page 2

Even with a confirmation that the state reached a budget deal, the final stamp of approval still sits with the Governor, whose budget is far different than what was reported on Saturday.

Dr. Baldwin explained that while media outlets across the state report that the House and the Senate have agreed to give teachers a 7.2 percent raise, the overall budget for K-12 education remains unchanged, meaning that to fund the raise, significant cuts will need to be made in other areas of education. Whether the state will mandate those cuts, or if it will be left up to the local district, remains to be seen.

"A state lawmaker was quoted saying teachers will get a raise this year, but fewer of them will receive it," Dr. Baldwin noted. "There are just a lot of uncertainties right now."

Franklin High school educator John deVill spoke to board members during the public comment period Monday night to address his concerns regarding personnel levels. DeVill noted that school sites across the district are operating with far fewer employees today than in previous years, and more cuts can be expected.

During the 2012-13 school year, Macon County Schools was operating with

• See STAFFING page 10



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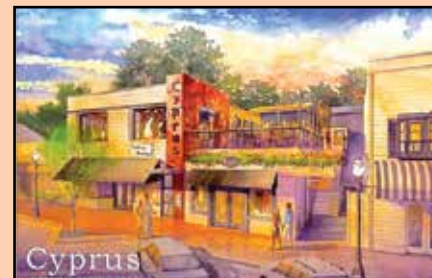
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...CARTER continued from page 1

said many young people didn't recognize them and those that were old enough to remember their days in office were surprised at President Carter's height since he was shorter than how he looked on TV.

"As a kid in my 20s he looked like a

giant president," said Harrell. "The camera angles of him when in office depicted him taller and more imposing, as due his office, which was of course intentional."

"He is a super nice guy," said Harrell. "Humble as pie and a devout Christian."

Harrell and his team enjoyed the camaraderie of the Secret Service detail. Agents told them stories about their assignments with the Carters; things they've seen and places they've been, said Harrell.

Aside from attending the main fundraising event, and shopping, the couple visited friends in Highlands.

Carter isn't the first ex-president to come to Highlands nor was this Harrell's first "presidential" detail.

When President George Bush, Sr., was in Highlands fundraising and campaigning for his son, then Macon County Sheriff detective Harrell was assigned to ground security at tan estate on Satulah Mountain. Though he wasn't allowed a photo op as this time with President Carter, he saw President Bush throughout the event.

— Kim Lewicki

President Jimmy Carter and
Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell



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• THE FREDSTER •

Why I'm a racist and proud of it....period

Sharpen your pencils, angry people of Highlands, because this may be more about who you are as much as what I am. And since I write so much satire (fiction) I'm obligated to inform you this is not fiction.

By definition, I'm not a racist. By current cultural standards, I am a racist and here is why.

I love my country and the culture I was raised in....my bad. Shame on me! They called it "The Fifties." That alone makes me a racist by today's ridiculous standards. And yes, I'm an angry old white male from the greatest generation and proud of that also. I have a strong work ethic and taught my three children rigid standards of discipline. I was an old school rough and tumble cop and loved what I did....and did it well. Oh, I almost forgot; police work taught me to love and respect black people, especially the black officers I worked with. But what does that matter? I'm old and white and that makes me a racist....period. And I don't care that you disapprove so don't waste your energy writing in.

I love God and his son and don't care if that offends you either.

I don't want to carry the gay rights flag but I support and accept their right to be whatever they want and receive all of America's freedoms given to all of us. That comment alone should bring out a few haters who will call me names.

I'm resistant to change and strongly cling to my Christian culture. I'm a racist because I don't want to be generous and kind, allowing my country to be littered with mosques as has happened in Great Britain and other countries. I don't want a mosque built near the Twin Towers where so many died and I denounce Sharia law....sue me....or call me a racist! I just don't care!

I was born in the mid thirties to two hard working parents who, early in life, decided to work out any marital differences rather than divorce. Is that silly, or what? They died late in life still loving each other. The li'l missus and I hope for the same.

So I grew up loving Little Richard and Nat King Cole. I wouldn't want any of those characters living next door so that makes me a racist. Could you imagine having Little Richard living next door? Who would get any sleep with all



Fred Wooldridge

that racket and piano banging? Unfortunately Little Richard was black so I'm automatically a racist regardless of my reasons not to have him as my neighbor. And yes, Little Richard was gay before he met Jesus, but who cares? It has nothing to do with my being proud to be a racist.

I was a Miami Beach cop for twenty-eight years. Are you sitting down? Just before dark, Negro people (that's what they were called back in the sixties.) were booted out of the city I patrolled or faced going to jail just because they were black. I know you think I'm lying but guess what? I don't care. And I know some bonehead will write in to inform me that kicking people of color (that's what they're called now.) out of town just because they're black is unconstitutional. No DUH!

Miami Beach was and still is one of the most liberal bleeding-heart Democratic cities in America. They had a "wandering and strolling" ordinance that directed police officers to stop all black folks on the streets after dark and make them give an account of themselves or go to jail. It's how the liberals used the police to keep crime low. And guess what, liberals of Highlands, the unconstitutional ordinance worked. While we violated a lot of people's civil rights, we ran a lot of really dangerous criminals out of town. Now that's liberal racism at its finest! Am I allowed to even say "liberal racism?"

And I know you're probably not going to like this either. Our department employed a black gay cop who worked off-duty as a stripper. He was a good man who used his naked body gyrations on stage to entice mostly gay customers to give him information (and money) about criminal activity which he would pass on to the Criminal Investigation Division I headed up. We were good friends even though he knew I didn't approve of his off duty work. Unfortunately he died of AIDS as did another female gay cop friend of mine. Does feeling sad for their deaths make me a racist? I know there are people in Highlands who are baffled by all of this but I don't care.

And finally, I ask this question. As an American, do I have a constitutional right to be a racist?

• When and if you calm down after reading this, read my book, Deceived....or not. Oh, and there's not a racial slur in the whole book.

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A Variety of Salads



House Specialties Calzone & Lasagna



...IPADS continued from page 1

dents in the district. The move was in large part made to account for the loss of funds for textbooks on the state level.

"In addition to the reduction in funding, the state recently announced that in 2017, the state would no longer make money available for hardback pa-

per textbooks," said Dr. Baldwin. "In response to this announcement, we began looking at digital textbooks as an alternative to paper copies. We found that digital textbooks – with their interactive charts, graphs, and maps, imbedded videos, interactive quizzes, built in dictionary, highlighting

and note taking capabilities – were superior to paper copies of the same textbook."

Macon County Schools' IT Director Tim Burrell informed the board that the district has drafted FAQs for parents, students, and the general public addressing concerns posed by the community. The FAQs can be found online at the school system's website.

One concern addressed in the FAQs is how to fund digital devices for all area high schools and how the move will save dollars in the long run. According to the FAQs, to license most textbooks on a digital device, the school system will pay about \$15. The cost of purchasing a hardback textbook ranges from \$70 to \$125.

"The average cost of providing eight hardback paper copy textbooks for a student would be more than \$800," explained Baldwin. "The cost of providing a student with an iPad and eight digital textbooks is about \$727."

The process will partially be funded by IT improvement money allocated from commissioners as part of a two-year plan to improve the district's technological infrastructure.

The district began working with commissioners for overall technology upgrades in the district. Commissioners allocated \$1.5 million to be spent over two years for replacing aging computers – many of which were nine or 10 years old – and other technology devices with newer technology.

"With iPads we could provide more personal learning devices per student than we could by providing desktop computers," said Baldwin. "We are using \$275,000 of the remaining \$1.5 million to enter into a lease/purchase agreement with Apple. The additional lease payments of \$110,000 will be appropriated from State funds and conversion of a portion of textbook funds from the state."

State funding allocated toward purchasing new textbooks has been steadily reduced from

\$297,726 in 2008-2009 to \$62,773 in 2013-2014.

"This represents a 79 percent reduction in funding," explained the FAQs. "It has now been more than 10 years since Macon County Schools has adopted new textbooks, and since that time, new curriculum standards have been imposed. Most of our current hardback paper textbooks do not meet or follow the new standards."

Burrell explained to board members that he and his staff have spent the last several days, and plan to spend the coming weeks pre-programming every device to be ready for students when school starts. The devices will be programmed to filter inappropriate material or distracting applications while in school and home.

"The iPads' Internet access is filtered while at school and also when they are at home connected to their home Internet," said Baldwin. "All Internet connections both at school and at home must pass through the district's content filter firewall before the device is allowed to connect to the Internet. Our Mobile Device Management (MDM) system enforces this policy on all district devices. Our filters can also block social networking sites. Any attempt to disable, remove or bypass this feature will be logged and reported."

While the additional devices would seemingly place stress on the school district's current wireless network, the FAQs explain that through state-mandated directives in previous years, the school system's network has slowly been preparing for this transition.

Utilizing Race-to-the-Top funds, Macon County has already built a robust and scalable wireless network with more than 300 access points in contact with enterprise class wireless controller, which means Macon County Schools has the wireless network in place to handle all the devices.

To view the digital learning FAQs in its entirety, visit the school system's website at www.macon.k12.nc.us and click the Digital Learning FAQ link in the bottom left corner of the page.

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The Bascom announces new Interim Executive Director

Effective July 2nd, the Board of Directors of The Bascom in Highlands, NC, named Sallie Taylor as Interim Executive Director of The Bascom, a Center for the Visual Arts for the Plateau.

Sallie was previously Director of Exhibitions for The Bascom. She is a recognized artist and was an art educator in the public school system for 24 years before coming to The Bascom. She is married to Patrick Taylor, Mayor of Highlands and local potter, who was part of establishing The Bascom in its present location.

The Board would like to recognize the contribution of Bob Fisher, who stepped in as the Interim Executive Director during early 2014. Fisher was one of



the early supporters of The Bascom, a past Chairman of the Board, and is recognized as the "Father of The Bascom."

"We are fortunate to have had Bob come in and keep the fire burning at The Bascom, but now, since he agreed only to do this for a short time, it is comforting that Sallie can take the reins," said T. Wayne Davis, present Chairman of the Board. "Bob has done a masterful job in directing The Bascom, sacrificing his other full time job and helping us immeasurably. Sallie has the knowledge and the artistic background to move us forward, and enjoys the full support of the Board."

Inquiries may be made to The Bascom at (828) 526-4949.



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with Marc Chatov

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Learn fundamentals of drawing, value, color and composition.

The Essence of Flowers in Watercolor
with Pat Fiorello

August 7 to 8, 10 am to 4 pm
Capture the freshness of flowers in watercolor using a direct painting approach

For questions, please contact Billy Love, Adult Education Manager at 828.526.4949.

...STAFFING continued from page 3

712 employees – 642 full-time and 70 part-time. Currently, Macon County is down a total of 58 employees, which includes 54 full-time and 4 part-time, and according to Dr. Baldwin, the district has no way of knowing how that figure will change this coming year at this point.

In an attempt to retain as many classroom positions as possible, the school system has been operating on bare bones in the central office. This summer alone, Macon County Schools lost two significant positions in the central office due to retirement -- positions that will be replaced

based on minimal contracted services, and attrition of duties by existing staff.

Carol Waldroop, who has worked with Macon County Schools as the Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Director as well as Director of Title I for the district, will only be replaced by a contract employee to handle Title I.

As of August 1, Pat Davis, Director of Testing and Accountability for the district will also be retiring. Duties once overseen by Davis, including all end-of-year testing, will be absorbed by existing staff member Nancy Cantrell.

While school officials are working to retain as many teachers as possible, the overall operations of the district could suffer.

"The obvious benefit of these changes is that classroom positions will be pre-

served due to the cost savings of these moves. Anytime two people of the caliber of Ms. Davis and Ms. Waldroop leave an organization you expect a period of transition. We are fortunate to have the local resources of Ms. Arnold and Ms. Cantrell to tap into as well as other administrators who are willing to take on extra duties to ensure that our students and teachers are well supported," said Baldwin.

DeVillie expressed his appreciation for how hard Macon County teachers are working, despite the lack of funding and support from the state level.

"We're providing the 28th best in education with about 48th best in per pupil funding which means NC public education is a hell of a bargain for taxpayers," said deVillie.



The Center for Life Enrichment

The Curious Mind Knows No Bounds

Upcoming Classes and Events:

Science & the Arts: Closer Than You Think or Further Apart: Sat, Aug 2, 10-2 Lecture will include artwork and film clips to give examples of science-art connections that rise to the sublime but also sink to the ridiculous. Presenter Sidney Perkowitz is the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Physics at Emory University.

Theatrical Design & Designers of the Music Halls of Paris: Tue, Aug. 5 10-12 View collections of Erte', Freddy Whittop, Georges Barbier & Zig. Presenter Sylvia Panell has been a theatrical designer and educator for over 3 decades.

Facebook for the Absolute Beginner Tue, Aug. 5, 6-8 **Class is FULL!**

Why Is There Anything? Wed, Aug. 6, 10-12 The fundamental question of philosophy is "Why does the universe exist at all?" This lecture will attempt to unravel this tangled question. Dr. Matthew Rave is an assistant professor of physics at WCU.

What is Nanotechnology? Recent Advances in Nanosciences for Cancer Research Fri, Aug 8, 10-12 This lecture will explain nano-materials and their use in cancer research. Dr. Channa De Silva is a chemistry professor at WCU whose research focuses on developing nanomaterials for cancer diagnostics.

All lectures are \$25 members/\$35 non-members unless otherwise noted. Walk-ins are welcome

For more information and complete schedule visit: www.clehighlands.com or 526-8811, email clehighlands@yahoo.com



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Relay For Life Of Highlands

Fri. & Sat., Aug. 8-9
Highlands Rec Park



Events

We are still \$50,000 away from our goal this year. Please encourage everyone you can to make a donation to help us with this great cause! Donations can be made by cash, check, or credit card (website only - www.relayforlife.org/highlandsnc).

• **BARK FOR LIFE AND THE GIANT YARD SALE** are both this Saturday, August 2nd. Yard Sale starts at 9am at the First Citizens Bank. Bark For Life starts at 1pm at the Kelsey-Hutchison (Pine Street) Park. For more info on the yard sale, please contact Heather Mangum at (321) 624-2356. For more info on Bark For Life, please contact Debbie Grossman at (828) 421-2144.

• **SURVIVOR DINNER** - Tuesday, August 5th, 6pm, Episcopal Church of the Incarnation (corner of Main St and 5th Street). All survivors, caregivers, and their families are encourage to attend! For more information, please contact Kristy Lewis at (828) 200-0477.

• **RELAY BINGO** - Thursday, August 7th, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Highlands Community Building (next to the town baseball field). The Rotary Club of Highlands is hosting a CASH BINGO, with all proceeds going to Relay! Please spread the word and help us get at least 100 BINGO players at the Community Building that night! For more information, contact Christy Kelly at (828) 332-1712.

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

First Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church hosts a non-denominational Men's Meeting the first Monday night of each month at 7 pm and all men are invited to attend.

Tuesdays

• Community Table Dinner at the Community Building at 6 p.m. It's free.

Tues. & Thurs.

• Aerobics at the Rec Park with Tina Rogers 5:15. \$5.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

• Zumba at the Rec Park at 9:05a. \$5.

Thursdays

• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at

6pm at the Cashiers Community Center. Questions? Call Lisa 828-506-3555 Last Fri. of each month

Fri.-Sun.

• Hal Phillips on the piano at Skyline Lodge during dinner and Sunday brunch.

Fri. & Sat.

• The Land Stewards of the Highlands Plateau, the conservation arm of the Laurel Garden Club, have put together an exhibit in conjunction with the Historical Society at the Museum. It covers our plateau's botanical history from the ice ages to the present.

Saturdays

• The Farmers Market, 9a-1p in K-H Park. Organic vegetables, eggs, honey, cheeses. home-made food and hand-made items. For informa-

tion call 482-0555 Maxine Davidoff.

• Cashiers Local Farmers tailgate market begins May 10 thru October at the Anglican Church Parking Lot Hwy 64 E next to Macon Bank. Contact 828-226-9988 for info.

Thurs., July 31

• At ...on the Verandah, Well Strung in the lounge.

• "Jurassic Park." Free Family Movie Night at The Bascom – rain or shine. Lawn opens at 7p; movies start at 9p. Food, wine, beer and soda, candy and popcorn for sale. Bring blankets and/or chairs.

Thurs., July 31

• Zahner Lecture, at the Highlands Nature Center. "Soul Mates for Life: Native Plants and their Fungal Partners" by Mr. Tradd Cotter, Co-founder, Mushroom Mountain (Liberty, S.C.) 6:30pm, free

Fri., Aug. 1

• Friday Night Live music in Town Square from 6-8. Featuring Macon Grass Band.

• At the Highlands Nature Center. Fungi Foray, 10am-2pm \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, includes catered lunch. Guided fungi walk with Jay Justice and Richard Baird – learn about the fungi that grow on the Highlands Plateau, and how to identify them. More information: highlandsbiological.org/forays

• At the Highlands Nature Center, "Snakes of the Highlands Re-

gion" at 7 pm, all ages. Come for an educational program about regional species featuring live snakes. Learn snake identification, natural histories, and common misconceptions about them. Advanced registration is not required, but please note that seating is limited. Call 526-2623.

• The annual Alpha Delta Pi Sorority alumni luncheon will be held at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club at 11:30 a.m. All ADPis are invited to come and renew acquaintances and college memories. To make a reservation or for more information, contact Emily Buskirk at 787-1015.

Sat., Aug. 2

• Open House at the Highlands Fire & Rescue Station with free hot dog plates and rides on a firetruck! 11 am to 3 p.m. Donations accepted

• Featured Creature at the Highlands Nature Center at 11:30 a.m. For additional information, please call the Nature Center at 828-526-2623 or visit www.highlandsbiological.org.

• Free Kids Day at the Hudson Library. 11a to 12:30p, Salt Painting. Create using glue, colored water and a lot of salt. Ages toddler to 12; noon to 2p, The Lego Movie; 2-3p, Ice cream party. All participants in the Fizz Boom Read! summer read-

ing program will get a free bowl of ice cream with toppings; 3p, Summer Reading Award Winners will be announced.

• Saturdays in Pine Street Park, live music from 6-8 p.m. Featuring Lonesome Band.

Mon., Aug. 4

• SOAR Golf Tournament at Sky Valley Country Club from 9:30 am - Shotgun Start. \$150 per Player Includes: Round of Golf, Hors D'oeuvres & Prizes. Best Ball Scramble (gross prizes). Registration Deadline: Wednesday, July 30th. Please mail payment and completed form to: Mountaintop Rotary Club c/o Bill Zoellner, PO Box 2584, Highlands, NC 28741. Or Call - 828.787.2323 / Bill Zoellner for details.

Wed., Aug. 6

• Interlude Concert at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. featuring Norman Mackenzie, Organist.

• Leadercast leadership conference featuring internationally renown speakers at Ruby Cinemas from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale now for \$50 and includes access to the one-day Leadercast event, a catered meal, and snacks and refreshments during breakout

HCP presents "The Last of the Red Hot Lovers" starting Aug. 21



"The Last of the Red Hot Lovers" on stage at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, August 21 thru August 31. From left: Lee Lyons, Jennifer Royce, Lance Trudel, Adair Simon.

An oldie but a goodie—one of Neil Simon's most popular, written in 1969, and still extraordinarily funny today

The Highlands Cashiers Players are pleased to begin their 20th season with this witty comedy, on stage at the Highlands Performing Arts Center August 21-24, 28-31. The "red hot lover" in question is Barney Cashman, middle-age, married, a hardworking restaurateur, devoted to his wife, who decides to try a little fling and join the sexual revolution of the '60's before it's

too late. He arranges three liaisons, but each of his attempts at seduction prove more frustrating and hilarious than the last. Funny as it is, this comedy also reveals playwright Neil Simon's compassionate understanding of human nature. Critics have called "The Last of the Red Hot Lovers" a genuinely brilliant play.

Tickets are available on line, www.highlandscashiersplayers.org or at the box office which opens Thursday, August 14, 828-526-8084.

Bolivia Mission fundraiser at Wildcat Cliffs CC



On Aug. 11 a Bolivian mission auction at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. Fixed price table, silent auction and live auction featuring beautiful wooden bowls, jewelry, paintings, Alpaca woolen items, museum-quality textiles and more. Call 526-3605 for more information and reservations. \$123 per person which includes the sales and dinner.

Learn about Snakes at the Highlands Nature Center

Are snakes slimy? How do they feed? How can you tell if one is venomous? What species live around here? Come to the



Highlands Nature Center to find out! Approximately 15 species of snakes live in our region, but only two of these are venomous. Sadly, many harmless snakes are needlessly killed each year simply because people cannot identify them. In reality, snakes can be helpful to have around because they eat rats, insects, and other pests.

On Friday August 1 at 7:00 p.m. the Highlands Nature Center is offering an educational program about snakes. This presentation is being given by Patrick Brannon, herpetologist and director of the Nature Center. He will discuss the

biology and natural history of snakes, instruct visitors on the identification of regional species, and debunk many common snake myths. Visitors will also have the opportunity to see

and touch some live snakes!

Cost for this program is \$2 per person and is open to all ages. Advanced registration is not required, but please note that seating is limited. For those unable to attend the longer, more detailed presentation on Friday evening, the "Featured Creature" program Saturday at 11:30 am will also include snakes.

For additional information, please call the Nature Center at 828-526-2623 or visit www.highlandsbiological.org.

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

networking sessions. Tickets can be purchased online at sitedart.net/leadercast or in person at the Dnet office located at 189 East Palmer Street in Franklin. Call Site-dart at 1-877-790-7263.

• The Bright Forever – a one-act play portraying the life of Fanny Crosby who overcame her blindness, authored over 8,000 Christian hymns, and dedicated her life to the hungry and the homeless – at the Highlands United Methodist Church at 6 p.m. Free but donations accepted for The Gordon Center for Children. For more information, call 526-3376.

Thurs., Aug. 7

• The free Zahner lecture is "Swamp Monsters and Bone-Eating Snot Flowers: Poetry and the Nonhuman World" with Dr. Cath-

erine Carter's lecture on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Highlands Nature Center. Carter will talk about the different ways in which poets engage with and represent the nonhuman world.

Fri., Aug. 8

• Friday Night Live music in Town Square from 6-8. Featuring Fred Kopp.

Sat., Aug. 9

• Saturdays in Pine Street Park, live music from 6-8 p.m. Featuring Hi 5.

Sun., Aug. 10

• Most Reverend Doctor Foley T. Beach will be visiting Christ Anglican Church. Everyone is invited to hear the charismatic Archbishop speak at Christ Anglican Church on that day at 10:30am. The Beaches are eminently approachable as lov-

ers of Jesus Christ and there will be a reception in their honor immediately following the service.

Mon., Aug. 11

• A Bolivian mission auction at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. Fixed price table, silent auction and live auction featuring beautiful wooden bowls, jewelry, paintings, Alpaca

Wednesday Interlude to feature Mackenzie at First Pres.



At 2pm on Wednesday, August 6, the Interlude Concert Series sponsored by First Presbyterian Church and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation will feature Norman Mackenzie, Organist. The concert will take place at First Presbyterian Church

Mr. Mackenzie has been hailed by *The New York Times* as Robert Shaw's "designated successor." In his 14-year association with Shaw, he was principal keyboardist for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, principal accompanist for the ASO Choruses, and ultimately assistant choral conductor.

There is no admission charge for the Interlude concerts, which constitute a ministry in music to the community. Dress is casual – come as you are. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

woolen items, museum-quality textiles and more. Call 526-3605 for more information and reservations. \$123 per person which includes the sales and dinner.

Wed., Aug. 13

• Interlude Concert at the Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. featuring Sam Skelton, Saxophone; Tyrone Jackson, Piano.

Week six of H-C Chamber offerings



For its sixth week, the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival ends its 33rd season with a pair of unforgettable performances.

On Friday, August 1, and Saturday, August 2, the festival offers its "American Idols," a celebration of gorgeous American music. Violinist Timothy Fain and pianist William Ransom will perform Philip Glass' "Pendulum," Aaron Copland's "Sonata," Kevin Puts' "Partita," Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story," and Henri Vieuxtemps' "Souvenir D'Amerique."

After winning the Avery Fisher Career Grant, Fain performed on-screen and in the soundtrack of the movie "Black Swan" as well as ghost-playing for Richard Gere in the Fox Searchlight movie "Bee Season." In November 2006, Fain played a recital with accompanist Richard Bishop at the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City. In December 2007, Fain performed with conductor Marin Alsop and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in Aaron Jay Kernis's violin concerto "Lament and Prayer." With pianist Bruce Brubaker, Fain performed Philip Glass's "Pendulum," which he'll be reprising in Highlands and Cashiers, at the composer's 75th birthday party concert in New York at (Le) Poisson Rouge.[7]

Ransom, the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival's Artistic Director, is the Mary L. Emerson Professor of Piano and head of the piano faculty at Emory University in Atlanta. He is founder and Artistic Director of the Emory



Chamber Music Society of Atlanta and has collaborated with such artists as cellists Yo-Yo Ma and Steven Isserlis; clarinetist Richard Stoltzman; members of the Tokyo, Cleveland, St. Petersburg and Lark String Quartets; violinist Robert McDuffie; guitarist Eliot Fisk, and members of the Empire Brass Quintet and the percussion group Nexus, among many others.

The Festival will stage its Final Gala Concert and Dinner Party at 5 P.M. Sunday, August 3, at Highlands Performing Arts Center.

The Festival Chamber Orchestra will perform "Mendelssohn in the Mountains" – Mendelssohn's "Octet for Strings" and "Concerto for Violin, Piano, Strings." The orchestra is composed of violinists Tim Fain, Domenic Salerni, Helen Kim, Adda Kridler, Jessica Wu, Juan Ramirez, Georgia Ekonomou, Eleanor Kosek and Krystal Lo; violists Yinzi Kong, and Miles Hoffman, Cathy Lynn; cellists Charae Krueger, and Guang Wang; bassist Emory Clements; and pianist William Ransom.

Following the performance, a gala dinner will be staged at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

Friday's concert will be held at 6 P.M. at the Highlands Performing Arts Center; Saturday's will be held at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library.

For reservations or more information, call (828) 526-9060.

Bishop with local ties selected new national archbishop



The Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) has recently selected their new Archbishop. The Most Reverend Doctor Foley T. Beach, who has held jurisdiction over the Anglican Diocese of the South (ADOTS), which includes Christ Anglican Church (which serves Highlands—Cashiers area), has become the new head of the ACNA. Archbishop Beach will remain the bishop of ADOTS and intends to maintain offices in Loganville, GA as he leads the fledgling Anglican province.

Dr. Beach has many local connections in Macon and Jackson counties where they often retreat to visit friends.

In 2003, then Father Beach became something of a national sensation when he was featured in a lengthy article in Time Magazine. As rector of the Episcopal parish in Monroe, GA, he led a "burial liturgy" for the national church which attracted local, regional and national media attention.

In his estimation the denomination had once again turned their backs on the plain

truths of the Bible, Christian tradition and church history, to follow a more humanistic path. It was at that time that he left property, pension, and paycheck to establish Holy Cross Anglican, in Loganville, GA.

From meager beginnings with borrowed resources and in rented space, God built a thriving parish in Loganville under now Archbishop Beach's capable leadership. They currently enjoy a 17-acre campus with multi-million dollar facilities, hosting hundreds of worshippers each week.

Archbishop Beach and his wife have two grown children and live in Monroe, GA. He and Allison will be visiting the WNC mountains on another pilgrimage to the area and for his official, annual episcopal visitation. Everyone is invited to hear the charismatic Archbishop speak at Christ Anglican Church on that day at 10:30am. The Beaches are eminently approachable as lovers of Jesus Christ and there will be a reception in their honor immediately following the service.

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AUTHENTIC THIN CRUST PIZZAS WITH FRESH
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RED MARGHERITA: FRESH MOZZARELLA, CRUSHED TOMATO &
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PANCETTA: PANCETTA, ROASTED RED PEPPERS, MUSHROOMS,
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GARLIC INFUSED EVVO, PECORINO, & FRESH ARUGULA
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OR MODERN INTERPRETATIONS:

FIG & PIG: FIGS, PANCETTA, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, CRUSHED
TOMATO, GORGONZOLA, TOPPED WITH ARUGULA TOSSED IN
EVVO.

BBQ CILANTRO CHICKEN: PULLED CHICKEN, BBQ SAUCE,
GRANDE MOZZARELLA, RED & GREEN ONION, FRESH
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CHOOSE UP TO 5 TOPPINGS:

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LEMON ROSEMARY SAUTÉED
CHICKEN, CRISPY CHICKEN
FRITTE, ITALIAN SAUSAGE OR
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ADD YOUR SAUCE:

POMODORO, PESTO BASIL,
ITALIAN WHITE CREAM,
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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Rotarians hear about American Revolution



The Rotary Club of Highlands held their weekly meeting on Tuesday, July 22nd at noon at the Highlands Community Building. The guest speaker was Tom Long, President of the Silas McDowell chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Long presented a moving and informative presentation of many little-known facts surrounding the founding of our country, and he also shared an initiative to identify and honor local gravesites of participants of the Revolutionary War. From left: Tom Long, President of the local chapter of SAR, Rotarian Kenton David, Past-President of SAR, and Highlands Rotarian Secretary Dave Jellison.

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Which home improvements net the best return in the resale of your home?

By Wanda Klodosky
Landmark Realty Group

To Renovate or Not Renovate? Each year *Remodeling Magazine* publishes a well-researched list of home remodeling projects and the addition those projects make to the resale value of a home. Remodeling is very generous with their data and this list is published each year in REALTOR® magazine for REALTOR®s to use and pass along to their clients. Whether you're considering selling your home or just want to spend wisely now to prepare for any contingencies in the future before you remodel, the following items should be considered.

While the net gain now is less than previous years, there are certain projects that consistently net a higher payback. This year, interestingly, the number one project in percentage of 'gain for pain' is replacing your front door. At a cost of a bit over \$1,000 for product and installation, that one item netted a bit over 100% in cost recouped. The main point we can come away with from this telling statistic is the importance of 'curb appeal'. In order to get a buyer to purchase your home, you must first get them into the home.

To further emphasize the importance of the exterior of the home, the next two highest items in percentage of return on investment are adding a wooden deck and replacing the garage door. Then, still on the exterior, we come to window replacement and siding replacement. These two items were further broken down to show that wooden replacement windows, while costing more, also netted a higher return. The same scenario with siding, fiber-cement replacement siding

netted a higher gain than the vinyl siding, but again, cost more. Those decisions would depend on the overall level of finishes of the home to determine the value to you as a potential home seller.

Interior remodels that netted over an 80% return include: Finishing an Attic Bedroom, Minor kitchen Remodeling (as opposed to a high end redo or remodel), Minor Bathroom Remodeling (once again not highest end finishes) and Basement Remodeling.

In conclusion, whenever you weigh the cost versus return on a home remodel project, take a few minutes to look at the research done yearly by *Remodeling Magazine* (can be found on line). These figures (broken down by areas of the country) will give you, not only a way to judge your potential return on investment, but also

an idea of how much the project should cost.

Wanda Klodosky is very active in local organizations and has been a great addition to The Landmark Team. Make sure Wanda is on the top of your list of contacts when making real estate decisions. Wanda purchased her Highlands home as a second home/rental in 1998 before moving here full-time in 2009.

Landmark Realty Group is a leading real estate company on the Highlands-Cashiers plateau. Established in 2004, it has focused on providing high quality service for all its clients. Landmark has recently added both Brian Renfro and David Levine to our professional team of REALTORS®.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Weeds and Flowers

Rev S Bruce Walker

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Sorry, to be redundant, but we “live in a beautiful place.” Seems I start all of my columns this way and for good reason – Highlands is beautiful! It is a place where even the weeds look like flowers and I can’t always tell the difference.

I suppose one of the benefits of not knowing is that no one asks me to weed their garden. They wouldn’t want to take the risk of having their flowers pulled up.

On the one hand, my lack of knowledge is a liability, on the other an asset. Not that I am totally ignorant. I can identify most weeds, but I don’t always get it right. I am not the most qualified and I have taken out a flower or two in my day!

Someone once said the way you tell the difference between a flower and a weed is that when you pull a flower, it comes out of the ground much easier than a weed. Of course, once you make that discovery, it’s a little too late for the flower.

In the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus tells a parable that seems, at first glance, to be about wheat and weeds.

A landowner sows good seed in his field. His enemy sows bad seed. The bad seed/weeds are also known as “tares.” Just so you know, tares are members of the wheat family and they look a lot like wheat as they grow. But when full grown, they are noxious and capable of causing illness ... even death.

You might remember from the story that Jesus has the owner of the field tell the servants not to separate the wheat from the tares as they grow.

The servants are anxious to do a little weeding, but instead they are told to “keep their hands off!” The owner says, “Let the weeds grow along with the wheat.” Then God adds, “I’ll take care of things at the harvest.”

Isn’t it just like humans to want to jump in and fix things? Isn’t it just human nature to want to sift, sort out and separate? We instinctively want to thin out the garden.

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 17

Proverbs 3:5

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Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

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

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

Wednesdays - 7 p.m.

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10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Child. Program, 10:45am: Worship Service

Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC University

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Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

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Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

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Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am

Wed.: Men’s Bible Study 8:30 am; Prayer Mtg 6:15 pm; Choir 5 pm

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Mondays: 8 a.m.: Men’s Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays: Choir: 7

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Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

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Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45 a., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 8:30, 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p.

Wed: Supper; 5:15; 7:15: children, youth, & adults studies;

6:15: Adult choir (nursery provided) Thurs: 12:30:

Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

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Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.: 7 p.m.

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore • 526-3212

Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

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...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from 16

Life is easier when you know who are the bad guys and good guys.

Problem is, for most of us, we can't always tell the difference between the two. Sometimes it is obvious, most of the time it is not. If left to our own devices, there is no telling what havoc we might create.

So we are told very clearly in the parable, by the owner of the field (which in this case represents God), not to do it!

The question we need to ask ourselves is, "Do I really want to go through this garden called Earth, and make those kinds of decisions about who is in and who is out?"

This is the lesson. Isn't it true that no matter where we are in life, there is still room for us to grow?

Isn't it true that although we may think we are a weed and others may share that sentiment, that given God's mercy and love we are so much more?

We are so much more than we imagine! We are more than others imagine!

So who wants to do the weeding now? Not me, I will leave that up to someone infinitely more qualified.

...PARK from page 1

Scaly Mountain-Sky Valley Fire and Rescue was first-responders to the 9-1-1 call and upon arrival at the park took over administering CPR until Highlands Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrived at which time they took over.

"The call came in at 4:29 p.m. and we were advised that a 52-year-old man was in cardiac arrest and CPR was being performed," said Director of Macon County EMS Warren Cabe. "When we got there, the patient had been placed on the ground; we took over and continued treatment."

The EMS crew continued CPR en route to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital but the man died, said Cabe.

"A guest appeared to have a medical event and lost consciousness in the middle of our zip line. We are a state-of-the-art outdoor adventure park and safety is our top priority," said owner George Powell. "There was no equipment malfunction and our team members complied with all safety protocols. We understand he passed away on the way to the hospital, but we do not have further details."

Powell said he and his staff express their deepest condolences to the family and loved ones, but can't comment further about the incident without the risk of violating privacy issues or venturing into areas of speculation.

- Kim Lewicki

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Gone Fishin'...



Residents of the Eckerd Living Center (ELC) at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital (HCH) have Gone Fishin' enjoying a day under bright, blue, sunny skies and proudly catching sixteen fish at a local area pond on Thursday, July 17, 2014.

Spots available for Special Ops Golf Tourney



There is still time to clean up the golf clubs and enter Monday, August the 4th's golf tournament to benefit the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.

Mountaintop Rotary Club of Highlands and the organizers of the Special Operations Adventure Race are holding the benefit tournament at Sky Valley Country Club and the shotgun start will be at 9:30 a.m.

The format will be a best ball scramble and unlimited Mulligans will be sold for \$5 each. Organizers will match up individuals to make foursomes. The cost is \$150 per person.

Anyone interested in playing or who would like more information should contact Bill Zoellner at (828) 787-2323 or call toll free at 888-489-2323, or forms may be mailed to P.O. Box 2584, Highlands, NC 28741. He can also be reached by email at bill.zoellner@wfadvisors.com.

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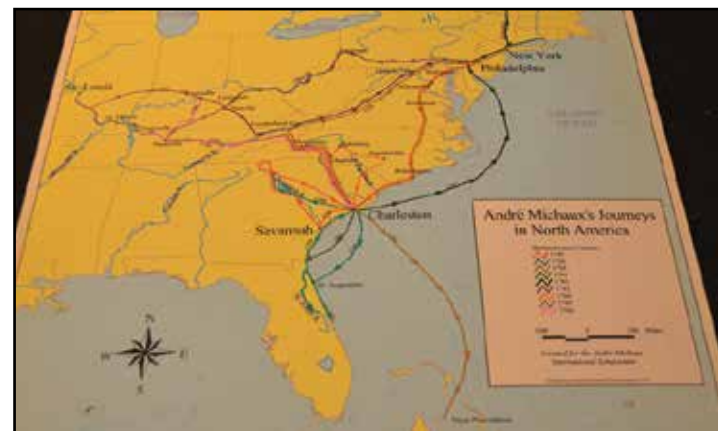
• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Garden clubs hear presentation on Andre Michaux



On July 14, members of Laurel Garden Club and Mountain Garden Club held a joint meeting at Community Bible Church. The ladies enjoyed a program on 18th Century French Botanist, Andre' Michaux. Portrayed by Charlie Williams, Monsieur Michaux spoke of his travels which brought him to Highlands in 1787, where he discovered and named many plants. He also wrote the first book on the flora of North America. Mr. Williams performs as Michaux in period costume, speaking in the first person about his adventures.

Photos by Bill Rethorst



Local grown Chef Scott Alderson comes home

The culinary career of Scott Alderson began right here on the plateau and has come full circle 25 years later. A Franklin High graduate and alumni of Panther Bill's Storehouse and The Frog and Owl Cafe, Scott received his

culinary degree at AB-Tech while completing his apprenticeship at The Market Place. This led him to Cashiers with his first executive chef job launching the kitchen at Wade Hampton Golf Club in 1989 and then mov-

ing next door to The Chattooga Club the following season. A quarter century later Mr Alderson has returned to his favorite place on earth. A life of adventure has taken him from these precious mountains to San Francisco,

Chicago, Nashville, the Florida panhandle of Seaside, Grayton Beach and Destin and most recently 4 years of island life in Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas. Until Scott can get his next restaurant project up and running he

is operating a chef consulting business on a nationwide scale while offering private chef service by cooking for distinctive dinner parties in your home. His website can be seen at nativeprivatechef.com

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• CORRECTION •

In last week's article entitled "A new year for those who protect and serve," job descriptions of officers were incorrect. We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight.

Chief Bill Harrell

Avid sports fan Chief Bill Harrell has been working in law enforcement for over 21 years and has been serving as Chief of the Highlands Police Department for over nine years. Chief Harrell graduated Magna Cum Laude in Police Sciences from Western Carolina University and is currently pursuing his Master's degree in justice administration.

Captain RL Forrester

Captain RL Forrester Patrol Supervisor. The Macon County lifer has spent the entirety of his career in law enforcement (over 27 years) valiantly serving the people of Highlands.

Lieutenant Ronnie Castle

Lieutenant/D.A.R.E. Ronnie Castle is a Macon County Native has been serving for over 28 years and has been working for the Highlands Police Department since 2005.

Master Officer Thomas Parker

Master Officer Thomas Parker has been the canine handler for 6-yr.-old veteran Ruby. A Macon/Jackson County native, Master Officer Parker has been serving since 2003 and has been working at the Highlands Police Department since 2006.

Master Officer Andrea (Sissy) Holland

Master Officer Andrea (Sissy) Holland was promoted to detective. Master Officer Holland has been working in law enforcement since 2004, and has been serving the people of Highlands since 2010.

Master Officer Jonathan Phillips

Master Officer Jonathan Phillips is a patrol supervisor. Originally from Tennessee, Master Officer Phillips has been a Macon County resident for nearly a decade and has been serving for 5 years.

Officer Kyle Kinsland

Officer Kyle Kinsland was recently hired as a new officer with the department.

Master Officer Mike Jolly

Master Office Mike Jolly made a lateral transfer to Patrol Supervisor. Originally from Sarasota, Florida, Master Officer Jolly has been serving since 1996, and serving the town of Highlands since 2006. Jolly is a Navy veteran and is attending SCC.

Josh Greenley

Master Officer Josh Greenley is a lateral transfer from the Gwinett County Police Department where he served for 5 years. He is the new SRO at Highlands School. A WCU graduate, Officer Greenley was described by Chief Harrell as "personable and knowledgeable – perfect for his new position on the Highlands Police force."

Officer Derek Stamey

Officer Derek Stamey is originally from Macon County and serves as a Patrol Officer.

Officer Eden White

Macon County native Officer Eden White is a Patrol Officer. Officer White is an Appalachian State University graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice.

Officer Timothy Broughton

Officer Timothy Broughton is a double major graduate Southwestern Community College in Forensic Sciences and Criminal Justice. He is Macon County native. He has served for a year.

• POLICE REPORT •

Highlands Police Log entries from July 7. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officers have been used. July 7

• At noon, a resident at Pinebrook Apts., called police about a scam where a person called her to say \$500 had been wired to her account.

July 15

• At 10:32 p.m., Jose Juan Martinez-Radilla, 45, of Highlands, was arrested for driving with a revoked license. He was issued a \$500 secured bond. His trial date is Aug. 20.

July 16

• At 11:50 p.m., officers received a call about disorderly conduct and an argument

where threats were communicated at the HCC employee dorms on Cottage Walk.

July 18

• At 7:30 a.m., officers received a bear complaint from a resident on Worley Road where a bear had broken into a vehicle.

July 20

• At 9:25 a.m., officers received a bear complaint from a resident on Worley Road where a bear had torn shingles off the side of the house.

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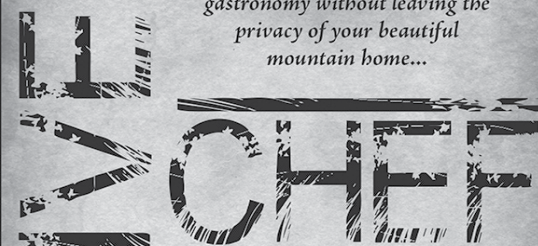


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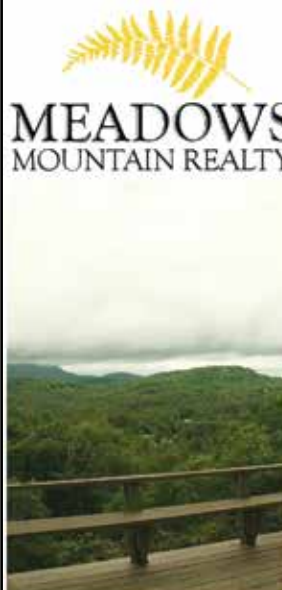
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