

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 23

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

Thurs., June 5, 2014

## EVENTS

Thursday, June 5

• Taize service at 5:30p; at the Methodist Church

• At The Bascom, a FREE movie on the lawn. "E.T." Lawn opens at 7p and movie starts at 9p. Food and beverages will be for sale.

• At the Highlands Biological Station at 9 p.m., "Join the Dark Side: Studying the Fabulous Diversity of Local Moths to Understand Environmental Changes." Free.

Fri.-Sun., June 6-8

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

Sat., June 7

• The Highlands Motoring Festival at the Highlands Rec-Park.

• Audubon's weekly bird spotting trip. Carpool from the parking area behind the Highlands Town Hall at 7:30 AM.

• At the Historical Museum on S. 4th St., an exhibit of the plateau's botanical history from the ice ages to the present.

• The Farmers Market, 9a-1p in K-H Park.

Sun.-Mon., June 8-9

• HCP auditions for "Lost in Yonkers" at PAC on Chestnut Street. Parts for a grandmother, 2 adult men, 2 adult women, 2 boys ages 10-15. Scripts are at the MC libraries. Questions? Call 526-4904.

Tues., June 10

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

• Dr. Sue Aery of Aery Chiropractic & Acupuncture presents "The Myths and Facts about Gluten." How gluten affects your body. FREE lecture at Highlands Rec Park, Tuesday, 7:15-8:30 pm. Please RSVP 828-526-1022.

## State laws could weaken local ordinances

At the May 19 Planning Board meeting, as the board attempted to make final amendments to the town's tree ordinance, it learned its efforts regarding that ordinance and others involving the 'appearance' of projects in town may be moot.

Town Planner Josh Ward and Town Manager Bob Frye said there was legislation in the pipe line – legislation the Republican Senate is pushing for – that will weaken zoning ordinance restrictions state-wide.

Municipality and county

planning departments across the state are being kept abreast of such legislation by the American Planning Association of North Carolina (APA-NC) Legislative Committee.

Its recent update of the NC

• See STATE page 9

## Summer fun begins!



Frolicking in the area's rivers, waterfalls and swimming holes like this group at Bust Your Butt Falls on US 64 west, is a great way to cool off and enjoy nature, but the USFS and the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. reminds citizens and visitors, to be cautious while enjoying what Mother Nature has to offer because you really can "Bust Your Butt." This isn't Disney World.

Photo by Linda Barden

## MC Clerk's office launches credit card payments system

Submitted

For the first time in Macon County citizens can pay fines and related court costs using their Credit One debit card. The courthouse will now be able to accept

American Express®, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® cards along with a valid government-issued photo ID.

"We are pleased to offer expanded services to anyone need-

ing to pay court fines and fee," said Clerk of Superior Court Vic Perry. "Many people are unsure how much they will owe when they come to court to take care

• See PAYMENTS page 9

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## Raleigh Report: What the NC Senate budget proposal means for WNC

By Kirk Ross  
Carolina Public Press

Highlights of the NC Senate budget proposal include boosts to teacher pay, coal ash oversight, WNC crime lab construction funding and more.

State employees would see a \$1,000 raise and teachers who are willing to give up their due process rights would get an 11 percent bump in salary as part of a \$21.1 billion budget plan passed by the Senate just after midnight on Saturday.

The plan, which passed 32 to 10 with only one Democrat

• See RALEIGH page 11

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### The little economic engine that can

In my last article I discussed the Opt-In Strategic Plan for Western North Carolina. The plan is full of interesting data, and the maps, graphs and charts provides me a different perspective about Highlands.

One of the regional maps shows the municipal city limits of all the towns in the seven-county region. I was surprised to see that the Highlands town limits is larger than any town in the region except for Waynesville. Our geographical area is larger than the area of Franklin and Sylva.

That we have a large town area is ironic given we have only 940 permanent residents according to a graph of the 2010 census. But that population figure can be misleading. The town has over 3,000 utility accounts. While we are between 900 to a 1,000 residents in January, in July or October we may have a population ranging from 6,000 to 9,000. So while part of the year Highlands is a very small town, other times we have a comparable population to larger towns in the region. I have said before, Highlands is a "tale of two cities," depending on the time of year. Town government has to be prepared and geared up for the sudden population shifts. Yet, at the same time we also have to maintain that desirable village quality of Highlands, a beautiful and friendly community.

The other interesting observation that I gleaned from Opt-In was that Highlands is a significant economic engine in the region, especially for our size. We are, "the little economic engine that can."

On almost all measures of economic growth and future development we are in the top tier. Obviously we cannot be compared with towns like Waynesville and Sylva, but were are pretty close to them in many economic indicators. Our potential for further economic development is bright. The best days for Highlands may just be yet to come.

I know what some folks may be thinking that the mayor is going to push to cut all the trees down, proliferate asphalt parking lots, bring in the big boxes, put up huge cell towers on every peak and



build houses on every quarter acre of mountain property, all in the name of economic development. Not so.

Our economic development is directly linked to our efforts to preserve the natural environment and to sustain a strong sense of community. There is a balance, but sometimes as a community we must be willing to make changes and adjustments in order to main-

tain and preserve the core values of what we have.

Speaking of our beautiful community, I am still conducting the "Walks with the

• See MAYOR ON DUTY page 3

## • LETTERS •

### Town Board was right

I support the decision of the Town Board to cut off payment of utilities for the Highlands Playhouse primarily for a reason not yet discussed. That is, it is not the business of a municipality to support the arts. Town government exists traditionally and logically to provide for the safety and good health of ALL of its citizens, not just certain special interest groups. Safety and good health means provision of clean water, sewer systems, safe roads and law enforcement. Anything else is a luxury expense. Support of the arts, scholarships for high school graduates and stimulation of business in the community are all luxuries which the town giveth and the town can taketh away.

Instead of becoming hysterical over

the town's taketh away, the supporters should focus on the many years that the playhouse has received the town's gifts, done solely in its discretion. The arts, like other charities, should be supported by the citizens who care about them, not by every town taxpayer. In my opinion, the town reached a new high in making its utilities decision. I am proud to be a taxpayer for 36 years of a town that stays within its budget

**Griffin Bell**  
Highlands

### Playhouse Board should apologize to patrons

Dear Editor

The job of any non-profit's board is to manage the business and activities of its organization responsibly, conscientiously, ethically, and fiscally. It is also the board's responsibility to have a political literacy of the community and government that it operate within. Yes, literacy is the correct word, meaning "knowledge that relates to a specific subject." (ref. Merriam-Webster dictionary)

In June 2013 when the Highlands commissioners finalized the budget for the fiscal year of 2013/14, there was disagreement among the commissioners about giving free utilities to some non-profits. Because three commissioners were for it and only two opposed, it was included in the budget. Some citizens of the town were not happy with their government giving free utilities. Citizens spoke out at the town meeting, in letters to the editors, and conversations of disagreement with this decision were held in grocery store aisles, on sidewalks, and corner gasstations. Commissioners were questioned about the decision in their places of business.

It became even more apparent that the citizens were unhappy with free utilities for non-profits during the 2013 town elections of two commissioner chairs and the mayor's.

The Highlands Newspaper's final question for the candidates addressed the concerns of the citizens about giving free utilities to some non-profits, and specifically listed the non-profits involved including the Highlands Playhouse. In the published responses, four of the six candidates were opposed to giving free utili-

## 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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• See LETTERS page 3

# • MILESTONE •

## Chidsey on Dean's List

Liliane Carolina Chidsey from Highlands has been named to UNC-Asheville's Spring 2014 Dean's List.

The Dean's List is made up of full-time students who have achieved between 3.5 and 3.99 grade point average.

## ...MAYOR ON DUTY continued from page 2

Mayor" every Tuesday afternoon at 5 p.m. The walks begin in front of Town Hall. Everyone is welcomed, including dogs on leashes in tow of owners with doggie bags. Each walk is about a mile and a half. Any and all questions and ideas can be presented while we are walking.

— Mayor Pat Taylor

## ...LETTERS continued from page 2

ties. A fifth candidate was for free utilities. The sixth candidate declined to answer the questions.

At the public forum organized by the Leadership Highlands group held just before the election, the candidates were again asked about free utilities. All six candidates attended the forum. Citizens in the audience included the current treasurer of the Highlands Playhouse. The candidate answers were four against free utilities and two agreeing with free utilities. The three candidates elected in November were all opposed to free utilities. It is reasonable to think the voters would expect the issue of free utilities to be addressed in the next town budget cycle.

With so many obvious indicators pointing to the potential loss of free utilities - the June 27th 2013 board meeting where Commissioners Amy Patterson and John Dotson stated the topic needed to be revisited, the citizen's concern, the election pointing to a changing of the board majority concerning free utilities - I fail to see how the Playhouse board could miss the political current against free utilities. And that their financial officer did not "plan for the worst and hope for the best" by preparing a budget for its 2014 fiscal year that included the strong possibility of no free utilities after June 30th, 2014, the last day of the town's fiscal year.

The Playhouse board was not politically literate enough to realize that after the election the political tone of the Town Board would change. The Playhouse board did a disservice to its patrons. They owe them an apology.

**Cookie Patterson**  
Highlands, NC

## People should lighten up

Dear Editor,

A woman from Coral Gables and Cashiers whose letter to this newspaper ran in the May 29 edition, wrote to say she was offended by a column written by Fred Wooldridge. Although she states she has vacationed in the NC mountains for many years, I suspect she has not been a regular customer of the Highlands Newspaper, or she would have said so.

Fred Wooldridge has written satirical, political and humorous columns for many years and is himself a resident of South Florida and Highlands.

Sometimes poking fun at himself. Certainly much more clever and worldly than Ms. Coral Gables. When I read a hard copy or Internet copy I glance at the front page then go right to Fred's column for my laugh of the week. It is an asset to the paper.

The most disturbing thing about her snotty diatribe against Mr. Wooldridge is that she obviously knows nothing about him. Relax madam, get a life.

**Paul Thompson**  
Highlands, NC and Hilton Head, SC

## Just who should apologize?

Dear Editor,

Heavens! Was I at the same Town Board meeting as Wanda Drake was on May 22nd? I did not hear the Board insult the Playhouse representatives who were in attendance, nor did I hear Commissioner

• See LETTERS page 5

## Free movies on The Bascom lawn start Thurs., June 5

Bright Side of the Barn movie nights will be on The Bascom lawn every Thursday in June and July, with the exception of July 10. The lawn opens at 7 and the movie starts at 9, rain or shine. Admission is free, and food and drinks will be available for sale. Thursday it's hamburgers and hotdogs fresh off the grill and beer, wine, soda, popcorn, and candy. Bring blankets and/or chairs, and dogs are welcomed.



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June 12 *A Small Family Business*

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June 25 *La Rondine*

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**Just who should apologize?**

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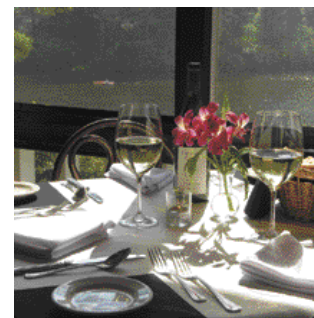
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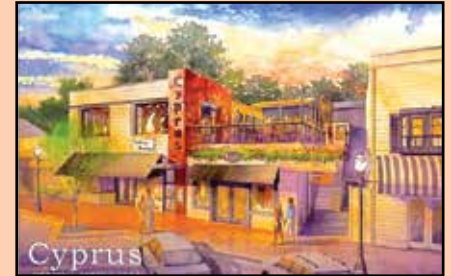
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## ...LETTERS continued from page 3

Patterson say they were "illiterate."

I did hear Ms. Drake, Ms. Hernandez and their colleagues excoriate the Town Board for considering the discontinuation of the free utility ride the Playhouse has been enjoying which, ironically, the Board was on the verge of agreeing to continue, only to be interrupted by Mr. Horst Winkler who first gave them a lecture on the importance of art and then proceeded to loudly and lengthily blow his own horn.

Who, exactly, should apologize to whom? Should Commissioner Patterson apologize for something she did not say, or should the Playhouse representatives perhaps apologize for their stunning sense of entitlement?

**Alice Nelson**  
Highlands

## Nonprofits should never rely on taxpayers' money

Dear Editor,

The Highlands Town Board recently decided to cease the forgiveness of utility charges for a few local nonprofit organizations. This decision was met with a great deal of concern and even outcry by the affected organizations, which now must find other means of obtaining the funds to pay their utility bills. This is as it should be, and frankly it's surprising the practice lasted as long as it did.

Town Board members are elected to represent all of the people and businesses that live and operate within town boundaries. All means all, and not just a chosen few. By

• See LETTERS page 6

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# • THE FREDSTER •

## He was too young to die

A true story

Last week, probably while you were still asleep, I was flicking through old down-loaded police files I've collected throughout the years and ran across this most unusual and unlikely event. The reason I'm driven to write about it is that I've been involved in similar scenarios many times during the four years I worked as an undercover narcotics officer. Why I'm still alive I'll never know. By the way, that's way too long for anyone to be in that assignment. My department has buried so many fine young officers

John (not his real name) had only been a policeman for four years when he was assigned to work in the narcotics unit. He was a handsome young man in his late twenties and had a beautiful wife and baby daughter. Since he had only been assigned to the narcotics unit for a short time, his post for this routine buy/walk drug deal was to sit in his car three miles away from the drug meeting and wait there just in case something went wrong. Well, something went wrong.

What our narcotics officers didn't know was that the drug dealer had his own surveillance team watching for suspicious activity from the top of nearby buildings. Shortly after the arrival of our undercover officer and his body guard, the drug dealer's surveillance people spotted our surveillance team and alerted the drug dealer by phone.

The dealer panicked, grabbed our money, drew his weapon and started shooting as he ran to his car. The undercover officer and his body guard returned fire. Several shots were exchanged but miraculously no one was hit. The drug dealer headed across a nearby causeway directly toward John, our backup.

As the dealer sped by, John picked up the chase. Our surveillance vehicles were also pursuing but John was on the guy's bumper, calling out his location. The dealer turned off the causeway and into a neighborhood he was not familiar with. The street was a dead end so the dealer jumped from his car and fired several shots at John, missing him. Then the dealer took off, running across a vacant field with John in pursuit. John was still radioing his location when the dealer suddenly turned and, without aiming, wildly fired one

round toward John. From over a hundred feet away, the bullet struck him directly between his eyes. He was dead before he fell to the ground.

Everyone was eventually captured and charged with first degree murder, attempted armed robbery, weapons violations and drug trafficking. They are currently serving life sentences without parole.

Sometimes when I sit on my back deck in the evening, I think of John and other

funerals I've attended where other young officers were killed. They all died too young. I wonder if their deaths are part of the reason I cherish the simple peace and quiet of Highlands.

• Note: Fred is a 28 year veteran of the Miami Beach Police Department



Fred Wooldridge

## ...LETTERS continued from 5

subsidizing the few, the town essentially punishes the other worthwhile charitable and cultural organizations that serve a sound purpose for their constituents. Who's to say that one entity is more worthy than another for taxpayer support? It's not something voters get to have a say in, and it puts the board in the uncomfortable position of defending itself whenever an organization not among the chosen stakes a similar claim.

There are ways a municipality such as Highlands can express its support for worthy charitable and arts organizations without specifically selecting those on whom to bestow taxpayer funds.

The town can set aside a pool of dollars and empanel a council of citizens to oversee a grant process open to ALL local nonprofits, be they arts and cultural or health and human service organizations. This way, there's no expectation of favored status and ALL eligible organizations can be encouraged to apply for either designated or undesignated operating or capital needs.

It was gratifying to see private citizens step up and provide assistance to at

• See LETTERS page 9

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**THURSDAY:** TWO RACKS OF BABY BACK RIBS - COOKED UNTIL FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER. SERVED WITH HOUSE MADE BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS AND POTATO SALAD. \$24.95 SERVES TWO

**FRIDAY:** WILD CAUGHT SHRIMP; FRIED OR STEAMED  
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WITH HUSH PUPPIES; OR STEAMED TO ORDER IN OUR LOW COUNTRY SEASONING. BOTH COME WITH COLESLAW AND ROSEMARY SEA SALT BROILED RED POTATOES, TARTAR AND COCKTAIL SAUCE.  
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# • TELL TALES •

## Case of the slippery mast

In the late 70's the Daytona Yacht Club established the "Trans At" sailboat race which began off Daytona and ran to Bermuda. At 990 miles, it was almost 400 miles longer than the famous Annapolis to Bermuda race, and took about 5 to 6 days to run the course.

For you landlubbers who don't know what the title "Tell Tale" refers to, it is simply a string or ribbon we attach to the rigging which tells us the apparent wind in relation to the boat's movement. Our boat, a 45' sloop, the Midnight Express, was race equipped and had been raced in a number of shorter races. Each sailboat in the race was different and to compensate, each boat was given a handicap using a complex system of measurements and mathematics. Sometimes, with the handicap, the first boat to finish was not the winner.

I was captain and my wife was the required celestial navigator and the rest

of the crew were an odd assortment of sailing folk who dared venture forth on a long trip, a total of eight in all.

A local banker, born in Bermuda, joined our crew, hoping to make a grand entrance to visit his family.

The rules required a celestial navigator as GPS had yet to arrive on the scene, although we did have Loran.

It was the 1980 race that put us across the starting line off Daytona with the tradewind out of the southeast. Still on soundings, it was choppy and within the first hours, just about everyone got seasick. Once out in deeper water, things smoothed out.

Each crew section stood 4-hour watches and it was the job of each duty watch to keep the boat moving as fast as possible and the off watch could do



Bob Wilson

whatever they wanted. Just swap lies with crew mates and drink coffee. You can't even begin to imagine how many stars show up at night away from light pollution. Fresh crews kept the sails trimmed for maximum speed. To make my point here, we missed second place in the race by 11 minutes and some seconds so you can see that every second counted and over five or six days those seconds added up.

Some of our crew had never been far offshore. We had one fellow show up at dockside lugging a 4' by 8' slab of plywood. "What the heck are you going to do with that," I asked. This fellow worked for NASA and his job was to foresee any possible problems that might

come up when they launched a rocket. He thought that seas would be rougher offshore but actually, it was quite the opposite and I quickly told him what he could do with his 4' by 8' sheet of plywood. Never did figure out what he had in mind for that piece of plywood.

We were three or four days into the race when we had a bit of a blow hit us and we trounced through 8' to 10' seas. With a stronger wind, we were moving fast and were heeled over maybe 30 degrees. I had hit one of the upper bunks on the lee side to sneak a few winks, wedged in between the bunk and the side of the boat, when I heard some really loud cussing and howling.

Our cook, normally an unflappable genteel lady, was shouting at something on the floor. I leaned over to see what was going on, but all I saw was her with one foot on a bunk and the other on the floor.

From that angle I couldn't see what the problem was but I could see she had a kitchen knife and was stabbing away at something. Did we have a rat on board? Every time the bow lifted in the swells, she would lunge forward and every time the bow fell off, she would lunge at something between her outstretched legs. Whatever it was, she cussed and stabbed and finally, I managed to see what it was. Somehow, a roast she had had in the oven had popped out and being greasy, it slid fore and aft. After several minutes of this she managed to stab it solidly and put the wayward roast to rest, followed up by tying some string to it and washing it in the ocean, somewhat pre-sliced. Good food is important to crew morale and helps win races, even with a slightly worn wayward roast.

**Bob Wilson**  
Otto, NC

### About Bob Wilson

Bob Wilson's early education in life was as an Army brat who spent much too much time doing nothing except for playing the "one armed bandits" in the Officers Club. Demonstrating no talent as a musician, he opted to learn a new trade which eventually led him into the field of aviation, establishing a marine insurance company and a sailing association. He and his wife retired to 18 acres in Otto about 20 years ago and sometimes manage to grow some good tomatoes and flies radio control model airplanes.

Bob will be will occasionally be writing columns.



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Does Obamacare Violate Religious Freedoms: Understanding the ACA Contraceptive Mandate Fri., June 6, 10-12, \$25/\$35

Alone in the Universe? Mon., June 9, 10-12 \$25/\$35

Animal Communication: Tales of Sex & Violence from the Swamp Tue., June 10, 12-2 \$25/\$35

The Life & Works of William Faulkner Tuesdays, June 10,17,24 and July 1 (Session 1: 3-5pm) or (Session 2: 5:30-8:30pm) \$95/\$110

Antony & Cleopatra (4 Sessions) June 11,12,18,19 Wednesdays & Thursdays, 2-4 \$75/\$90

Catastrophic Japan Thurs., June 12, 10-12 \$25/\$35

People on the Move in Asia Fri., June 13, 10-12 \$25/\$35


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## ...PAYMENTS continued from page 1

of a case. Now when their case is completed, they are able to take care of their fines and court costs without having to leave the building to get the cash, cashier's check or money order."

The credit card payments system provides immediate benefits to citizens, as well as to court officials and staff. While it provides a more convenient payment option for citizens, the system also allows faster end-of-day register close-out procedures for clerks with less time spent counting cash drawers. As of May 20, the new system has processed nearly 24,000 transactions statewide totaling more than \$4 million. Macon County went live on the system on May 19.

"The credit card payments system is a win-win service," says Judge John W. Smith, NCAOC director. "Accepting credit and debit cards is more convenient for the public and more efficient for the state."

cient for the state."

The system has been implemented in all 100 counties throughout the state as of May 2014, ahead of the statute mandate of January 2015. Credit I debit card payments must be \$1,000 or less, and can be applied to criminal, civil and other fees - with the exception of alimony, bond forfeiture, cash bonds, child support purge payments, civil judgments, condemnation awards, disputed funds, rent bonds, trusts and upset bids. These categories are exempt because of the increased financial risk involved with these types of payments.

A convenience fee is charged at the time of each credit / debit card payment and is remitted to a third-party company. Except for the convenience fee, most monies received do not stay with the courts but instead go to other state and local government agencies.

## ...LETTERS continued from page 6

least one of the defunded organizations. This demonstrates that PRIVATE nonprofit organizations can obtain necessary support from PRIVATE funding sources, which, to be blunt, is exactly as it should be.

Public entities, be they towns, cities, counties, states and even the federal government are not honey pots to be dipped into by favored or well-connected individuals or organizations. They are there to allocate tax dollars, obtained from their respective citizens, to provide necessary and essential services for the common good. Town leaders can certainly determine, in bountiful times, that support of arts, culture, health and human service organizations are part of that common good, but no private organization should ever claim entitlement of taxpayer dollars on an ad infinitum basis.

Having been a board member and sometimes chair of more than a dozen nonprofit organizations over the

years I've come to understand a single and most important truth. Nonprofit is a tax status and not a business model. I have always advocated for a budget process that balances the revenue side of things between appropriate earned income and private donations without ever relying on either a specific funding source, be it a donor or a government entity. The winds of change are too capricious and undependable. And expenses should be strictly controlled by staff and overseen by a board of directors, among which should be at least a business-minded few who are not emotionally attached to the organization.

Part of the health and vitality of a community, even a small one like Highlands, includes a strong and well-supported nonprofit sector. Because nonprofits are private, tax-exempt organizations, they should never come to expect and rely on taxpayer support, no matter how worthy their focus of service might be.

**Bud Katz  
Highlands**

Continuing on the technology success of NCAOC's PayNC-ticket program since 2010, the credit card payments system is another convenient E-Pay technology making it easier for citizens to do business with the courts.

•About the N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC)

The N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts is the administrative agency of the N.C. Judicial Branch. Among the many programs and services that it provides to courts statewide, NCAOC uses technology to improve the delivery of services to the public and to provide greater and more convenient access to court personnel.

## ...STATE continued from page 1

General Assembly Legislation involves tree ordinances, appearance standards for residential developments, gravel as a pervious material and more.

A draft bill from the Agriculture and Forestry Awareness Study Commission includes recommended changes to Sections 153A-452 and 160A-458.5 of the General Statutes that bars cities and counties from adopting or enforcing any regulation affecting "The removal, replacement, and

preservation of trees on private property within its jurisdiction."

During the mid-1980s when Highlands was experiencing a "development boom" at the urging of citizens, the town of Highlands adopted a tree ordinance to ensure that the natural environment of the plateau would be protected.

"I think it is very important to have a commercial tree ordinance for Highlands," said Ward. "The town thought it was

important years ago when they requested and were granted legislation in order to adopt a tree ordinance for Highlands."

He said that's also why the Planning Board is taking steps to increase the penalties for removal of trees without a permit as well as adding a tree replacement requirement.

The Town of Franklin Planner Justin Setser agrees.

"The proposed ordinance lessening the power of planning

• See xxx page 10

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<b>TUES</b>	<b>OVEN OFF NIGHT 2 FRESH CHICKEN BREASTS, GRILLED WITH ROSEMARY INFUSED OLIVE OIL. SERVED ON A BED OF MIXED GREENS, WITH STUFFED BRIE, SPICY/SWEET PECANS, MOUNTAIN FRESH OIL AND VINEGAR ON THE SIDE AND TWO CUPS OF HOUSE MADE GAZPACHO, WITH A MOUNTAIN FRESH BAKERY FRENCH BAGUETTE</b>	<b>\$23.95</b> SERVES TWO
<b>WED</b>	<b>PRIME RIB WITH BAKED POTATOES &amp; SALAD PREMIUM ANGUS STANDING RIB ROAST, COOKED MEDIUM RARE WITH RED WINE AU JUS, TWO BAKED POTATOES AND A LARGE CAESAR SALAD.</b>	<b>\$32.95</b> SERVES TWO
<b>THURS</b>	<b>BABY BACK RIBS COOKED FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER. SERVED WITH HOUSE MADE BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS, AND POTATO SALAD.</b>	<b>\$24.95</b> SERVES TWO
<b>FRI</b>	<b>SHRIMP; FRIED OR STEAMED WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP EITHER LIGHTLY BREADED IN OUR SEASONED CORN FLOUR MIXTURE, AND THEN PROP- ERLY FRIED IN PEANUT OIL AND SERVED WITH HUSH PUPPIES; OR STEAMED TO ORDER IN OUR LOW COUNTRY SEASON- ING. BOTH COME WITH COLESLAW AND ROSEMARY SEA SALT BROILED RED POTATOES, TARTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE.</b>	<b>\$25.95</b> SERVES TWO
<b>SAT</b>	<b>IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ SERVED WITH COLESLAW BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS AND YEAST ROLLS.</b>	<b>\$22.95</b> SERVES TWO

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## ...STATE continued from page 9

departments will be great for developers so they can save money on building costs. But not good for cities and counties across the state that want to preserve the beauty and harmony of neighborhoods," he said. "As the Town Planner of the Town of Franklin, I don't want to see this bill passed. The state isn't looking out for the wellbeing of the citizens of the state; they are looking out for big business."

The Town of Franklin's ordinance concerning trees which is built into its Unified Development Ordinance only applies to landscaping for vehicular use areas.

152.178 Landscaping for Vehicular Use Areas. Trees and shrubs are required in and around vehicular use areas with more than six spaces to provide attractive views from roads and adjacent properties, provide shade to reduce the heat generated by impervious surfaces, reduce glare from vehicular use areas, and to help filter exhaust from vehicles.

Macon County Planner Matt Mason said that the tree legislation would not affect the county because they have no such regulation.

Raleigh and Wilmington have publically stated their opposition to the bill (as has Representative Samuelson from Charlotte). The League of Municipalities is working on a survey of its members to establish some baseline information of the number of jurisdictions who have tree ordinance provisions.

The other bill – SB 139 (HB150) Design Controls: which is in the Senate Rules Committee for further consideration (it has already passed the House) bars cities and municipalities from placing restrictions on the "appearance" of privately owned residential developments within their jurisdiction.

Planning Board member Tony Potts noted that such a bill would have affected the design and layout of the RiverWalk development on US 64 east.

Ward said currently, the Planning Board reviews the appearance of commercial developments and conditional zoning developments, such as Town Place. The board suggests colors and materials as well as landscaping components.

"From what I understand, the proposed bill is to remove the ability for a county or municipality to review the appearance of residential buildings. That would not affect the commercial building

projects, but would affect the multifamily developments such as Town Place," he said.

The third bill that is of interest to planning departments is SB 738/H1166, Clarify Gravel: gravel removed from definition of built-upon area.

It seeks to amend Section 143-214.7(b2) of the General Statutes to remove gravel from the definition of "built-upon area." This could have the effect of treating gravel as a pervious surface rather than an impervious surface which affects "built-upon" ratios which is paramount in area watersheds.

Ward said in planning circles, the addition of gravel as a pervious surface has been discussed heavily over the past year.

"At this point, the proposed bill would once again remove gravel from the exempt material of the definition (require gravel to be calculated as impervious surface) and would require the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) to study the issue and present a recommendation at a later date," said Ward. "The temporary definition that the EMC recommended earlier in the year, was approved as a temporary amendment until the end of the year. The definition is very specific and includes specific types and sizes of stone."

If gravel is permanently defined and approved as a pervious surface. Ward said Highlands, with its multitude of small lots, would benefit from this,

Nevertheless, if the State Legislature does permanently approve gravel and the EMC recommendation, the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners would have the option to amend the Unified Development Ordinance to include gravel (as defined) as a pervious material.

"If all goes as legislators' plan, the tree ordinance would probably go away, along with the right to review the appearance of multifamily developments," said Ward. "As far as the gravel issue, we can usually be more strict than the State, but the State could mandate the change for all counties and municipalities."

The Legislative Committee of the APA will continue to monitor the General Assembly and the status of the bills and says it will keep county and municipality planning departments in the loop.

– Kim Lewicki

## Movies at The Highlands Playhouse

Highlands Playhouse theater productions will be Tuesdays-Saturdays at 8PM and Sundays at 2PM. Movies will air during the "dark" times, Sundays at 5:30PM and 8PM and Mondays at 1PM, 4PM, and 7PM. There will be no movies for two weeks during the summer, June 29th and 30th and July 20th and 21st.



## ...RALEIGH continued from page 1

voting for it, would swap cuts to the education budget, including elimination of state support for about 7,400 teaching assistants, to help pay for the raises, which would cost roughly \$465 million.

About 57,000 veteran teachers would be required to give up their tenure rights in order to qualify for the pay raise.

Cuts over the past two years have dropped North Carolina teacher pay to 46th in the nation. The proposal would propel the state back to the middle of the pack.

Sen. Ralph Hise, co-chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, explains part of the budget in a meeting last week at the legislature. Kirk Ross/Carolina Public Press

But the plan has drawn fire from teacher organizations, over the career status provisions, which teacher groups say prevent administrators from firing teachers without cause. Last week, North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) President Rodney Ellis called the

Senate plan "a vindictive and cynical attempt" to take advantage of teachers who have not had a substantial raise since 2007.

But Sen. Ralph Hise, R-Mitchell, told Carolina Public Press that the push back he's heard has come from the organizations and not the teachers themselves.

Hise is one of the state Senate's chief budget writers.

"Most teachers I've had conversations with are very excited," Hise said.

Members of the NCAE and other teacher organizations, he said, are "finding anything they can about it to be upset about."

"They want to hold on to their tenure more than they want the raises," he added.

Western Crime Lab, coal ash monitoring included

Hise also said he was particularly pleased to see the money for the Western Crime Lab in the budget.

The Senate plan provides annual debt service for up \$15.4 million in bonds to cover the cost of construction of a new lab at

the North Carolina Justice Academy in Edneyville in Henderson County.

Hise said he thinks there will be support for the plan once the state House takes up the budget, which is expected to happen this week.

He said the WNC law enforcement community has rallied around the idea because of the need in WNC for faster turnaround of tests, including the processing of DWI (Driving While Impaired) toxicology reports.

The budget also contains a substantial boost in funding for the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, adding \$1.75 million annually for monitoring coal ash ponds and developing closure plans for each of 14 sites in the state. That includes the ponds at Duke Energy's Asheville power plant, which are among the state's four high priority sites.

Most of the new positions created in the plan will be in DENR's Division of Water Resources for inspections and groundwater monitoring and the

development of closure plans.

The budget also funds two new positions to address stormwater permitting, inspection and compliance; two new positions in the Division of Waste Management to handle permitting of industrial landfills for the ash;

five new positions dedicated to dam inspection and safety evaluations at the ash ponds; and up to six new "reserve" positions in the secretary's office to support management of the coal ash plan.

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## Gardening workshop for kids at the Highlands Botanical Garden

The Highlands Botanical Garden is hosting a gardening workshop for kids, Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. The workshop is for kids age seven to 10 and will be held each day from 10:30am until 12:30pm. It is designed to get kids excited about the amazing world of plants and to teach them that they can have fun gardening in their own backyards. A hands-on camp, kids will get to practice what they learn each day and bring projects home to enjoy throughout the summer.

For more information about this workshop, including a gear list, visit [www.highlandsbiological.org/botanical-garden/](http://www.highlandsbiological.org/botanical-garden/), call (828) 526-0188, or e-mail [keldermonar@gmail.com](mailto:keldermonar@gmail.com). Kelder Monar, one of the horticulturists at the Highlands Botanical Garden, will instruct the workshop. The cost is only \$30 per child, or \$20 for Salamembers.

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Ongoing

• Artists wanted for Oct. 4 show featuring historic sites in Macon County. The moveable show will begin in Franklin and move to Highlands and Nantahala. There is a \$35 fee. To register, contact Barbara McRae at mcbbarbara@frontier.com

## 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.

## Saturdays

• 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, which you might find fascinating. It covers our plateau's botanical history from the ice ages to the present. Please visit the Museum on Saturdays to see the display. You are also invited

## King Lear direct from the National Theatre, London, Live in HD tonight at the Highlands PAC



Academy Award®-winner Sam Mendes (James Bond: Skyfall, American Beauty) returns to the National Theatre to direct Simon Russell Beale in the title role of Shakespeare's tragedy.

King Lear, an aged king decides to divide his kingdom between his three daughters, according to which of them is most eloquent in praising him. His favorite, Cordelia, says nothing. Lear's world descends into chaos.

Sam Mendes, Director Known for his Films: Skyfall, Away We Go, Revolutionary Road, American Beauty, Jarhead, Road to Perdition. And his Theatre: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Theatre Royal), As You Like It, The Tempest, The Winter's Tale, The Cherry Orchard (all Old Vic and Brooklyn Academy of Music), Oliver! (London Palladium), Gypsy (Broadway) Cabaret, The Blue Room, Assassins (Donmar Warehouse), The Rise and Fall of Little Voice

Simon Russell Beale (King Lear) Known for his films: My Week with Marilyn, The Deep Blue Sea, The Gathering, Alice in Wonderland, An Ideal Husband. And TV roles: The Hollow Crown: Henry IV parts 1 & 2, The Young Visitors, Great Historians: Gibbon, A Dance to the Music of Time, Persuasion and The Mushroom Pickers. And of course, Theatre: Timon of Athens, Collaborators, London Assurance, Major Barbara, Much Ado About Nothing, Hamlet, Candide, Othello, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Adrian Scarborough (The Fool)

Next week: Thursday, June 12, A Small Family Business, National Theatre, London Live in HD, 7pm.

King Lear Live in HD will be shown at 7pm on Thursday (tonight) June 5 at the Highlands PAC. Tickets: \$18 Available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

to a reception for the exhibit on June 6th from 3:00 - 5:00 PM.

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

## Thursday, June 5

• Taize service at Highlands United Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m.

• At the Highlands Biological Station at 9 p.m., Join the Dark Side: Studying the Fabulous Diversity of Local Moths to Understand Environmental Changes."This event is free and

## Howell to perform for 'Haiti'



Atlanta vocalist Maria Howell will perform June 22 at 6 pm at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands to benefit Highlands Friends of Haiti, the church's mission in Haiti's Central Plateau. The event will begin with wine and hors d'oeuvres followed by a short live auction and Maria's performance.

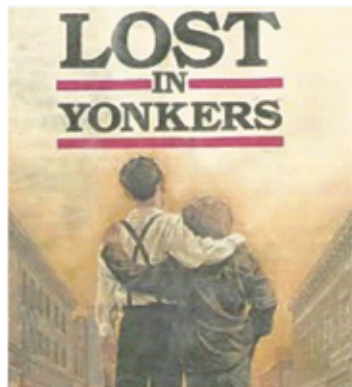
For Maria singing and entertaining are skills that come from as far back as she can remember. She recalls at six years old knowing that her destiny was clear. That destiny became a reality as she wowed audiences as the opening act for the legendary Ray Charles. Performing in front of the likes of Nancy Wilson, Marvin Hamlisch, Will Downing, and George Benson, became her comfort zone. Anyone who swings with the Cab Calloway Orchestra, croons with Baby Face and rearranges the scale with Jeffrey Osborne cannot be boxed into one musical art form.

She is also a talented actress who has appeared in numerous TV shows and movies. Her film credits include "The Color Purple," "The Blind Side" and most recently she played Seeder, one of the contestants in "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire.". She has also been a regular cast member on the NBC TV series "Revolution."

Tickets are \$100 and may be purchased at the Church of the Incarnation, 520 Main Street, Highlands, NC or online at the incarnationwnc.org. For more information call 526-2968.



## AUDITIONS



By Neil Simon

Sunday, June 8, 2014 - 3 p.m.

Monday, June 9, 2014 - 5 p.m.

Highlands Performing Arts Center, Chestnut Street

**Parts for: Grandmother, 2 adult men, 2 adult women, 2 boys, ages 10-15**

**Performance dates August 21-24, 28-31**

**Script in Hudson, Cashiers, Macon Co. libraries**

**Information: Director Virginia Talbot, 526-4904**



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

open to the public. For more information about this and other events, please visit [www.highlandsbiological.org](http://www.highlandsbiological.org) or call (828) 526-2221.

## Friday, June 6

- 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. Please visit the Museum on Saturdays to see the display. You are also invited to a reception for the exhibit from 3- 5 PM.

## Sat., June 7

- The Highlands Motoring Festival at to the Highlands Rec-Park.

- Audubon's weekly bird spotting trip. Carpool from the parking area behind the Highlands Town Hall, unless otherwise noted. All walks will start at 7:30 AM. Call Brock Hutchins leading. If questions, call Michelle at 828-743-9670.

- Blood drive at the Otto Community Center from 8a to 12:30p. Call Phyllis at 524-9307 to make an appointment. Walk in welcome. Photo ID required.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike, elevation change 800 ft., on the Appalachian Trail from Wayah Crest to Siler Bald, an open area with tremendous views. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9 am, drive 25 miles round trip. Call leader Mary Stone, 369-7352, for reservations. Visitors welcome, but no pets please.

- Celebrating 50 years of the Wilderness Act, the Nantahala Hiking Club will take Wilderness Hike #3, a moderate-to-strenuous five-mile hike with elevation change of 1400 ft. and a possible stream crossing with boots off, beginning at Deep Gap trail head, descending to the Tallulah River trail head. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9 am, drive 40 miles round trip. Call leaders Bill and Sharon Van Horn, 369-

1983, for reservations. Visitors, older children, and dogs (on leash) are welcome.

## Sun.-Thurs., June 8-12

- Vacation Bible School at lotla Baptist Church. Agency D3: Discover, Decide, Defend. Dinner at 5:30. VBS 6:15 – 8:30 pm. Classes for all kids! Everyone Welcome. 1537 lotla Church Road

## Village Square Art & Craft Show in Highlands, NC June 14 & 15



Where do color and creativity meet up with talent and skill? At the Village Square Art & Craft Show in downtown Highlands. Throw in some good food and music, and you have the makings of a memorable experience.

You will find it all the weekend of June 14 & 15 at Kelsey-Hutchinson Park on Pine Street and neighboring Highlands Village Square, just one block from Main Street shopping and dining.

Sponsored by the Macon County Art Association, there will be many fine art originals and prints to choose from. With over 70 local and regional artisans in all, you will also find jewelry, baskets, pottery, birdhouses, metalwork, woodwork and other high quality crafts for the home and garden.

The fair is FREE and family/dog friendly, and runs from 10a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

A wide selection of great food and drink will be available in the park and at Fressers Courtyard Café. There will also be live music in the gazebo both days.

The next show will be Aug. 23 & 24. For information call (828) 787-2021. And be sure to visit MCAA's Uptown Gallery in downtown Franklin when you are in the area.

## Sun.-Mon., June 8-9

- HCP auditions for "Lost in Yonkers" at PAC on Chestnut Street. Parts for a grandmother, 2 adult men, 2 adult women, 2 boys ages 10-15. Performance dates are August 21-24 and 28-31. Scripts are at the Hudson, Cashiers and Franklin libraries. For information, call Director Virginia Talbot at 526-4904.

## Monday, June 9

- The Battle of Sugartown Chapter of the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), will hold its monthly luncheon meeting at the Boiler Room Restaurant at 1024 Georgia Road in Franklin. All DAR members and prospective members are welcome. For further information, please contact 369-3136 or 542-2673

## Tues., June 10

- Dr. Sue Aery of Aery Chiropractic & Acupuncture presents "The Myths and Facts about Gluten", what you need to know about the perils of Gluten and how it affects your body.

• See EVENTS page 15

## Village Square Art & Craft Show

June 14/15 and  
New Dates Aug. 23/24  
10 to 5

Downtown  
Highlands, NC

Kelsey Hutchinson Park  
(Pine St)



FREE

Regional  
Artisans

Live Music

Food FUN!

Art and crafts  
for home and  
garden



For info call C. Strain (828) 787-2021

## Highlands Motoring Festival is this weekend



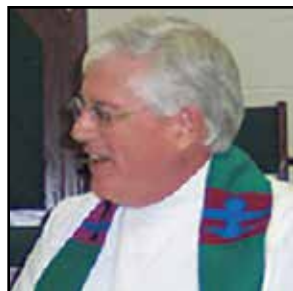
BMW will showcase the i3 electric vehicle this weekend at the Highlands Motoring Festival. at the Rec Park, Sat., June 7

The i3 is the most revolutionary BMW in two generations. Everything about this electric vehicle is groundbreaking from the wind powered factory producing it to the renewable components used in its construction. Five years ago BMW set out to re-invent personal transportation and came up with a whole new mobility life style. This year's co-sponsor of the festival, BMW of Asheville, will be on hand with a factory demonstration vehicle and trained engineers to give lots of details. Do not miss this rare opportunity.



# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## CO-EXIST... A recommendation unto disaster



Father Jim Murphy  
Christ Anglican Church

Everyone has probably seen one. It's a rather messy looking bumper-sticker, a bit difficult to read, that stylistically recommends that we all just, "COEXIST." It is spelled out by way of a hodge-podge of religious and quasi-religious symbols, white pseudo-lettering on a blue background.

When I spot one of these stickers, I feel bound to pray for whoever it is that believes in such an insipid message. I'm bound to pray because the sentiment thereon expressed is not simply pure drivel, but a dangerous recommendation unto disaster—physical, mental, and spiritual disaster.

Why? Because the message or philosophy thereon expressed is based upon the premise that all truth (Truth) is relative. In essence, it says that truth doesn't matter, that truth is or may be different for everyone and that we all should, as Rodney King opined years ago, "...just get along." I'm sorry to burst the COEXIST bubble but that cannot and will not happen—ever. And that's the Truth of the matter.

God created 1+1=2. It cannot and will not equal something else just because some prophet proclaims it so. In like manner, God's Son, Jesus Christ, has proven to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life. By definition there can only be one Way. There can only be one Truth. There can only be one Life. And it's all by the Spirit, through the Son, to the Father. Multiple truths, multiple gods can only lead to division and disaster.

In a very telling prayer, on the evening that Jesus was betrayed, the Lord of all creation prayed for those who "got it." He prayed for the disciples who had come to believe, who understood the Word, Jesus to be the Truth. These disciples came to realize that there was only one single, solitary, solid-Rock truth that could unite it's adherents in the peace and love that is the longing of every human heart. They understood that Jesus himself was the only way of escape from the everlasting and chaotic merry-go-round of disunity, division and hatred.

Jesus specifically excluded the unbelievers from his prayer because they were still deluded that they could all "just get along" somehow. In his prayer the Savior of mankind exposed the reality that neither he nor his followers, those who "got it," were any longer connected to the world, even though that is where they found themselves to be physically. Jesus prayed on the basis of the truth that they were bound together eternally, that they were unified in the Truth. Implicitly, the world with its myriad of pseudo-truths found itself to be in a boiling cauldron of disunity and would continue in such a state eternally with their competing opinions.

Jesus could pray thusly because He was already and eternally connected to the Truth, the Father, just as the

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 15

## Proverbs 3:5

## • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

## John 3:16

### BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546

Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor

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

### GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship

242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers

www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814

Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm

Catered dinner - Wed. 6pm

### CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.; Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

Sun.: 8:30a Traditional (said) 1928 Service, including

Communion; 9:30a Christian Education; 10:30a Faithful,

Family Service w/ Music & Communion.

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.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School

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

10: 45am: Worship Service

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

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 A.M.

Testimony Meeting: 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wed

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968

Sundays: Education and choir rehearsal, 9 am, Holy

Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30

Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

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

Lee Bowman, Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship: 8:30 & 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

Monday: 8 a.m.: Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays: Choir: 7

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd) • Rev. Carson Gibson

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

Bible Study: 6 pm

### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N • Glensville, Nc • 743-2729

Pastor Nathan Johnson

Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor

828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street • Sundays: Worship: 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)

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; 6; 7:15: children, youth, & adults studies;

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

Women's Bible Study (nursery)

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road: 526-9741

Sundays: Sunday School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;

Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

### MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Troy Nicholson, (828) 526-8425

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11, Choir: 6 p.m.

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

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church, 4224 Big

Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC

CHURCH

Parish office: 526-2418

Mass: Sun: 10:30 a.m.; Thurs & Fri.: 9a.; Sat., 4p, 6p

### SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dwight Loggins

Sundays: School -10 a.m.; Worship -11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor 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.

### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Youth 8th - 12th grade meets 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30 p.m

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

### BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.



## ...EVENTS continued from page 13

FREE Lectures: Highlands Rec Park, Tuesday, 7:15-8:30 pm. Please RSVP 828-526-1022.

### Thurs., June 12

• "A Bug's Life." 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 available for sale. Bring blankets and/or chairs.

• The annual Owl Prowl in cooperation with the Highlands Nature Center starts at 7:30 pm. Donations to the Carolina Raptor Rehab Center will be appreciated but not required. Bring a flashlight and plan to stay after

dark as we hunt for owls in the area. If questions, call Michelle at 828-743-9670.

• The June meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet at 6 PM at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville, N.C. Located at 95 Bobcat Drive, Cashiers, N.C. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors welcome.

### Fri.-Sat., Jun 13-14

• At The Bascom, a two-day course in hammered copper by Cullowhee metalsmith

• See EVENTS page 17

## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

### Northland Communications completes system upgrade

Brings the most advanced technology to the Highlands and Cashiers areas

Northland Communications announced the completion of a DOCSIS 3.0 upgrade to its system, bringing faster internet speeds and the most advanced technology to the Highlands, Cashiers, and Sapphire areas.

"Northland invested thousands of dollars in this project in order to give area residents and businesses access to faster internet speeds; up to 24 Mbps. With this upgrade, we were able to increase our speeds by twice our previously available offering," said Jerry Blackburn, area sales manager for Northland. "Our focus continues to be on bringing the best products to the communities we service and reinvesting in the technology that allows us to remain the Highlands, Cashiers, and Sapphire areas best option for video, high speed internet, and phone services."

Northland has been the leading local communications provider for over 25 years. Its services include digital High Definition television, high-speed Internet, home phone, DVR, TV Everywhere, and Roku®. The recent upgrade expanded these services, allowing for increased bandwidth, faster speeds, and better reliability.

Northland continually invests in the Highlands, Cashiers, and Sapphire communities, employs local residents, and strives to provide excellent customer service to their customers with 24/7 local service and support.

Please call your local Northland Communications office at (828) 526-5675 if you have questions about Northland's recent upgrade or about any of the services

they provide.

About Northland Communications:

Northland Communications ([www.yournorthland.com](http://www.yournorthland.com)) is a leading provider of communications services. Northland owns and manages smaller-market cable systems in Alabama, California, Georgia, Idaho, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Washington. Northland is headquartered in Seattle, Washington. Northland offers the sharpest Digital and True High Definition TV, the fastest High-Speed Internet, and the clearest Digital Home Phone services to individuals and businesses in the communities it serves.



Carrying a wide variety of natural products for your Mind, Body & Home.



Organic Fresh Juices & Smoothies and Salads To Go!

526-5999

Corner of Foreman Road & Hwy 64 east  
Mon-Sat 10a to 5:30p

## ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from 14

disciple-believers now were. He prayed that they "may be one as we (he and the Father) are." (John 17:11, NKJV) He didn't pray that they could COEXIST for he knew that to be a nonsensical impossibility. One plus one could not equal nineteen. Instead, he prayed that they (those who "got it") would experience the unity in the Truth that originated and exists in the singularly true God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

There is not an infinite number of parallel dimensions with an unending pantheon of truths. There can be, there is only one way, truth, and life, one dimension. The philosophy of COEXISTing has brought us to the brink of disaster with

new wars and mayhem popping up all the time. COEXISTing has brought us the currently vogue "politics of division," as it encourages just "getting along" and respecting the pseudo-fact that 1+1=4, or 7, or 13, or 19 or even, 2. That is a definition of and recommendation unto insanity and disaster.

Instead of buying into the insanity of COEXISTing, let us instead bind ourselves together in he who is the Truth. There is still time and hope in the world for the God who is Love and Peace to be the basis of our lives. In God alone can we EXIST in true unity.



Rowe Furniture & Robin Bruce

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Custom Rowe Furniture. Change the Fabric.  
It Won't Change the Price.



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CASUAL LIVING STORES

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342 Main St. Highlands, NC  
[www.dutchmansdesigns.com](http://www.dutchmansdesigns.com)





# **PIZZA & ITALIAN STREET FOOD AT MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY**

## NEAPOLITAN PIZZAS

**AUTHENTIC THIN CRUST PIZZAS WITH FRESH  
HAND-CUT INGREDIENTS \$11.95**

### CHOOSE CLASSICS LIKE:

**RED MARGHERITA:** FRESH MOZZARELLA, CRUSHED TOMATO & FRESH BASIL

**PANCETTA:** PANCETTA, ROASTED RED PEPPERS, MUSHROOMS, CRUSHED TOMATO & GRANDE MOZZARELLA

**PROSCIUTTO ARUGULA:** PROSCIUTTO DE PARMA, MUSHROOMS, GARLIC INFUSED EVVO, PECORINO, & FRESH ARUGULA TOSSED WITH EVVO

### 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 CILANTRO.

...OR BUILD YOUR OWN.

## N.Y. DECK OVEN PIZZAS

**10 INCH \$10.95 / 16 INCH \$19.95**

### CHOOSE YOUR SAUCE:

ITALIAN RED TOMATO, ITALIAN WHITE CREAM, PESTO BASIL, OR BARBECUE

### CHOOSE UP TO 5 TOPPINGS:

PEPPERONI, ITALIAN SAUSAGE, GROUND BEEF, HAM, BACON, CHICKEN, CARAMELIZED ONION, FRESH ONION, ROASTED RED PEPPERS, GREEN PEPPERS, BANANA PEPPERS, OLIVES, MUSHROOMS, PINEAPPLE, SPINACH, EGGPLANT, ARTICHOKE, ANCHOVIES, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, GORGONZOLA, PROVOLONE, FETA, AND PARMESAN

## ITALIAN STREET FOOD \$10.95

LEMON ROSEMARY SAUTÉED CHICKEN, CRISPY CHICKEN FRITTE, ITALIAN SAUSAGE OR MEDITERRANEAN STEAK

### ADD YOUR SAUCE:

POMODORO, PESTO BASIL, ITALIAN WHITE CREAM, CREAMY PESTO

THEN IT'S ALL SAUTÉED WITH FRESH ANGEL HAIR PASTA, TOPPED WITH PARMAGIANO & SERVED WITH FRESH BAKED PIADINA



**PIZZA AVAILABLE FROM 11AM TO 9PM MONDAY -  
SATURDAY, SUNDAYS 11AM TO 6PM.**

**STORE HOURS: 7AM-8PM MON - SAT, 8AM-6PM SUNDAY**

**CORNER OF FIFTH & MAIN, HIGHLANDS NC • 828.526.2400**

# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands PD log entries from April 1**  
**Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.**

## April 1

• At noon, a woman called officers about receiving harassing phone calls at her residence on Harris Drive.

## April 19

• At 5 p.m., an incident of shoplifting was reported at Bryson's Food Store where \$25 worth of alcoholic beverages were taken.

## April 24

• At noon, a woman called officers about receiving harassing phone calls at her home on N. 4th. Street.

## May 1

• At 11:35 p.m., officers were called about an argument between two people in a parking lot on NC 28 south.

May 16  
• At 6:42 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 106.

## May 18

• At 10 a.m., officers responded to a call of a burglary with forced entry at a residence on N. 4th Street. where a screen was removed.

## May 19

• At 1:14 p.m., officers received a call about vandalism when trees and debris were thrown about property on Hicks Road causing a window to break.

## May 20

• At 2 p.m., officers were called about someone contaminating the public water supply when they dumped gas into a storm drain on NC 106. The damage to the Town Of Highlands' water source is estimated at \$1,000.

## May 23

• At noon, officers were called about a person yelling at the owner of Tokyo on Main Street.

## May 24

• At 4:45 p.m., Hugo Vargas Ramirez, 23, of Cullowhee, was arrested for driving without a license and alcohol by 19/20 when he was pulled over on Cullasaja Drive. He was held on a \$750 secured bond. His court date was May 28.

• At 10:50 a.m., a noise ordinance violation was reported on Worley Road.

## May 25

• At 9:34 a.m., a noise ordinance violation was reported at 200 Main.

## May 26

• At 2:20 a.m., Kent A. Korb, 30, of Sapphire, NC, was arrested for driving

while his license was revoked, speeding and DWI when he was stopped on US. 64 east. He was taken to the MC Detention Center. His trial date is June 11.

## May 27

• At 3:37 a.m., Melyrida Hensley, 30, of Mountain City, GA, was arrested drunk and disruptive behavior at Trillium Circle. She was issued a \$1,000 unsecured bond. Her trial date is June 12.

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from May 25.**

## May 25

• At 9:04 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Jasmine Lane.

## May 26

• At 5:17 a.m., the dept. was responded to a vehicle accident on Horse Cove Road.

• At 7:43 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Horse Cove Road.

• At 11:23 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident on NC 106.

## May 28

• At 2:15 p.m., the dept. was called the Glenn Falls about a possible fire.

## May 29

• At 9:42 a.m., the dept. responded to a medical call at a residence on Overlook Road.

• At 2:51 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Mirror Lake Road.

• At 9:09 p.m. the department's dive team provided mutual aid to Clay County on Lake Chatuge.

• At 10:07 p.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident at Hickory Hill ^ US 64 east.

## May 30

• At 8 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hickory Knut Lane.

• At 5:43 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Spring Street.

## June 1

• At 1:20 p.m., the dept. responded to a motorcycle accident on Horse Cove Road.

## June 2

• At 11:41 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Church Street.

• At 11:58 a.m., the dept. stood by for MAMA at the hospital.

## June 3

• At 9:08 a.m., the dept. responded to a medical alarm at a residence on Wyanoak Road.



# • INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

## WOW! Real Estate is Hot!

I'm amazed at the activity this early in the season! Buyers and sellers are here! I'm starting to feel like it is pre-2008. Where is this coming from, you might wonder.

More potential buyers are now internet savvy and contact brokers at all hours day and night from listings that catch their eye on websites where your home is featured. As brokers we can usually "weed out" the serious versus nonserious buyers and proceed with more information to generate a showing.

Sellers seem more inclined to listen to our suggestions of repairs,, clean up and fix up. If a potential buyer sees a small

amount of neglect they feel the whole house has not been maintained and move on. It's sort of like buying at Nordstrom versus Walmart. Our buyers are affluent and will pay for quality if it's there and our inventory is still too large to be left out due to a small amount of work and expense. When it's your own personal property it's sometimes hard to see it through a broker's eyes. You hired us to evaluate and negotiate to sell your home so our advice is critical to take your home from "for sale" to "SOLD!"

There seems to be a new energy and excitement in the air this year. Perhaps so many posi-



Pat Allen  
Pat Allen Realty Group  
Broker-in-charge  
Cell: 828-200-9179  
Office: 828-526-8784

tive changes in downtown Highlands with the renovation of the old Mountain High Lodge – now 200 Main - owned by Art and Angela Williams of the Old Ed-

wards Inn and Hospitality Group and transformed with works of magic by John Lupoli once again! Cyprus Restaurant with creative chef, Nicholas Figel, has moved to Main Street and will be open for lunch and dinner with a deck overlooking Main Street. Meritage has opened in the old Wild Thyme location with a sophisticated Mediterranean menu and Lakeside Restaurant changed owners but has the same great food and Wolfgang's is still the favorite Bistro and gathering place.

Cashiers has new shops and restaurants opening as well and the tradition of the High Hampton remains intact. The Farmers Market at the crossroads contin-

ues with local produce and the BEST barbeque this side of Jackson, Georgia!

At Pat Allen Realty Group we too are keeping up with the times and are excited to be opening a new office at 295 Dillard Road –next door to Lupoli Construction and across from Highlands Paint and Decorating. This is a charming, older building, completely renovated with private offices, a conference room and plenty of parking! We also have a rocking chair front porch! We plan to move in the week of June 15 so we would love for you to stop by! Life is good in the mountains and we welcome you back!

## ...EVENTS from page 15

William Rogers, Friday and Saturday, 1 to 5 pm. Class participants will make a copper pendant or badge that can be worn, using methods practiced by prehistoric Americans to form copper panels and gorgets. Contact the Bascom at 828-526-4949 to register.

### Fri., June 13

- At the Center for Plastic Surgery, an Open House featuring 20% off Obagi Products from 10a to 4p.

- Friday Night Live music in Town Square from 6-8. Featuring the Johnny Webb Band.

### Sat. & Sun. June 14 & 15

- Highlands Village Square Arts & Craft Show 10a to 5p. in Kelsey-Huethcinson Park on Pine Street. Rain or shine.

### Sat., June 14

- Audubon's weekly bird spotting trip. Bring binoculars if you have them, good walking shoes, a water bottle, and wet weather gear. Back by popular demand, an outing to Lonesome Valley in Sapphire, with Romney Bathurst leading. Carpool from the parking area of the new Cashiers Rec. Center at 7:30 AM sharp. Questions, call Michelle at 828-743-9670.

- Highlands School Graduation at 7p in the new gym.

**Falling Waters** is a 52 acre community just 2.5 miles from Main St. Secluded but not remote; peaceful, quiet and private. Mature hardwoods, giant Rhodies, Mountain Laurel and a plethora of wild flowers that take turns showing off thru the seasons. Two waterfalls & several creeks add charm & interest. Paved roads, underground utilities, newer homes built after 2000, no road noise, well maintained, a great place to take a walk!



Two lots sold this winter and a year round home is being built ... New cottage section opening soon!

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From Main St., take Hwy. 106 (The Dillard Road) 1.8 miles just past the Glen Falls sign, turn right on Mt. Laurel Dr., go 3 tenths of a mile turn left on Moonlight. The entrance is on the right.

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Contact (onsite owner) or your broker for plats, prices & a guided tour.  
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# • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## County officials meet in Raleigh for County Assembly Day

Last week, more than 250 county officials from across North Carolina met in Raleigh for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' annual County Assembly Day.

Commissioners heard from Speaker of the House Thom Tillis in the morning and spent the afternoon walking the halls of the General Assembly and advocating for county legislative priorities with legislators.

N.C. Counties' top legislative priority for the 2014 Short Session was to increase the appropriation of lottery funds to counties for school construction needs and to restore the statutes that designate a portion of lottery proceeds for that purpose.

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) is the official voice of all 100 counties on issues being considered by the General Assembly, Congress and federal and state agencies. Founded in 1908, the Association provides expertise to counties in the areas of lobbying, fiscal and legal research, communications, intergovernmental relations, information technology, field visits and risk management services.



NCACC President-elect MC Commissioner Ronnie Beale, with Commissioner Ron Haven, Rep. Roger West, MC Commission Chair Kevin Corbin and MC County Manager Derek Roland.

Photo by Chris Baucom/N.C. Association of County Commissioners.

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## Grant from Community Foundation of WNC makes credited theater class a reality for Highlands School students



PAC Youth Theater Program High School Class, Theater 101. This year, thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of WNC the Highlands PAC in collaboration with Highlands High School started a Theater Class. Dr. Ronnie Spilton taught the class and the teacher of record, Kelly Pla. Three days a week the students came to PAC for the class and the other two days were taught at the school. The program was started as an outgrowth of the PAC Youth Theater Program, now in its seventh year. Up until this year there were no theater arts taught in our area schools. The Highlands High School students received credit on their transcripts for this class. As in public education, this class was offered free of charge to the students. Shown here are the students rehearsing, A Tale of Ancient India for the performance to be given for the students K-2 this week at the school. Pictured L-R: Sierra Nyland, Elizabeth Houston, Shannon Welch, Stella Wilson, Victor Lopez, Johnny Perez, McKinley Moseley, (seated) McKayla Hensley and Javier Montaivo.



# • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

## Creative Concepts has a new home



Creative Concepts Salon is still upstairs at The Falls on Main but it has moved across the bridge and is now above Cabin Casuals. The space is bigger, brighter and tanning is now an option. Go visit Lacey and the crew. Call 526-3939 for more information.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

## Literacy Council gets \$7,250 grant from Dollar General Literacy Foundation

This week, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation awarded The Literacy Council of Highlands a \$7,250 grant to support adult literacy.

"We are pleased and humbled to have been selected to receive this grant. With the funding, we will upgrade our computer lab with current technology needed to run software and websites used in our GED and ESL programs," said Tonya Hensley, executive director, Literacy Council of Highlands. "The new technology will have a lasting impact throughout the Literacy Council as it will also be utilized in other programs and for individual use for years to come. The Dollar General Literacy Foundation's commitment to literacy is widespread and impressive and we are so grateful to be included in their efforts."

Rick Dreiling, Dollar General's chairman and CEO said Dollar General is passionate about its mission of serving others throughout the communities it serves.

"It's exciting to see the Dollar General Literacy Foundation's outreach in action as we partner with organizations to further education and literacy and make a real difference in people's lives," he said.

The Literacy Council provides free programming in the greater Highlands community with participants as far away as Cashiers, Scaly Mountain, Franklin, Otto,

Topton, Dillard, and Clayton.

Adult literacy programming includes GED and ESL programs, individual tutoring and instruction in all subjects, and access to our computer lab. Children's programming consists of individual tutoring in all subjects, after school enrichment, primary ESL, ESL study hall, kindergarten remediation, Mobilizing Literacy, Dolly Parton Imagination Library, local book distributions, and various special programs offered in conjunction with the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Bascom.

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$92 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than five million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education.

About The Literacy Council of Highlands

Since its inception in 1992, the Literacy Council has grown from an after school tutoring program serving a few students, to a multi-service organization serving over 1,500 individuals through 15+ programs annually. For more information, visit [www.highlandsliteracy.com](http://www.highlandsliteracy.com).



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**SERVERS AND LINE COOKS** needed at new restaurant in Highlands. Call 828-421-4681. (st. 5/15)

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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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# • CLASSIFIEDS •

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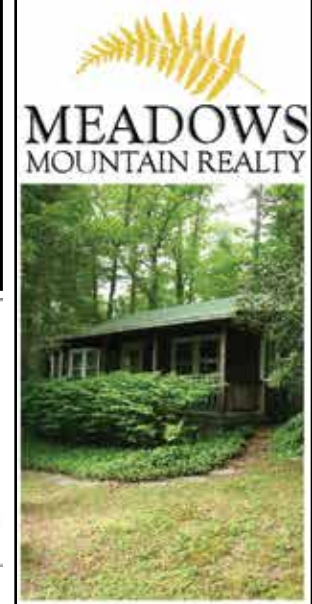
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