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### Wed., Nov. 26, 2014

# **Town reacts to FERC application**

An application filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to revive the town's defunct hydroelectric plant on the Cullasaia River in the vicinity of Bridal Veil Falls brought citizens out Thursday night and has

prompted the Town Board to take has since been absorbed by Duke action.

The old hydroelectric plant was built in 1925 and supplied Highlands with power until 1969 when the town opted to buy power from Nantahala Power which

Power.

The town's FERC license was in effect until 1996 when it let it expire.

The applicant, Advanced Hv-• See FERC page 7

### Through Dec. 11

• Movie at The Playhouse: Hunger Games: Mockingiay Part I. Showtimes, Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon. & Thurs. 2d, 5d and 8d. No movies on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 27-28 · Macon County Public Libraries will be closed.

#### Thurs., Nov. 27

• The Highlands Civic Center will be closed.

#### Fri., Nov. 28

• At PAC the Friday after Thanksgiving, Jason D Williams. Enthusiastic, Reckless, Stormy... Rock & Roll in its natural state. Highlands PAC 507 Chestnut Street. 828-526-9047.www.highlandspac.org.

#### Sat., Nov. 29

 Holiday Artisan Market in Cafe 460, 10a to 4p.

• At the Toy Store, a booksigning of photographer, author's book "North Carolina - Unforgettable," from 2-4p.

• At the Summer House, a booksigning with author Row Henson and her rescue black lab from 11a to 3p.

· Annual Town Lighting and Carolling at 6:30p. Main Street will be closed to traffic from 5:30-8:30<sub>D</sub>.

 Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on the lawn of MountainTop Wine Shoppe for pictures and to hear Christmas wishes after the Tree Lighting

#### Wed., Dec. 3

 At the Center for Plastic Surgery with Dr. Bob Buchanan, Epionce Open House. Learn about their botanical skin care. 10 to 2p. Refreshments and door prizes. Special one-day pricing.



With a 3-2 vote, citizens rallving for a two-way Chowan Road got their way Thursday night.

About 300 feet of the road had been closed to two-way traffic for almost two years due to its width coupled with an unstable embankment from which vehicles have fallen to US 64 west.

A costly project, the town opted to keep the hazardous portion closed until it could be repaired properly but with materials and equipment from NC DOT and manpower provided by the town, the project is now finished - the embankment stabilized and railed and the roadway repaired.

Though some town officials and commissioners believe the fortified portion of Chowan, which is only 12 ft. to 16 ft. wide, should be one-way - opening to two-way before and after the area - property owners on the road want its two-way status returned. Commissioner Brian Stiehler,

• See CHOWAN page 18



Highlands Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carolling is Saturday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m. on Main Street. Following the lighting, children can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus on the front lawn of MountainTop Wine Shoppe next to the Main Street Inn. Photo by Kim Lewicki

### Tax revals now reporting a 14 percent decline

#### By Brittany Raby

In 2012, the Macon County Board of Commissioners followed the rest of the western counties of North Carolina in delaying the state-mandated property tax

revaluation. By dealying the revaluation, commissioners hoped that the economy would continue to rebuild after the recession and property values would improve.

#### • See REVALS page 4

• INSIDE • Letters 2 Obituary..... Tell Tales ..... Events..... 10-12 Shopping Pullout..... 14-17 RE Snapshots..... 19-23 Fire Report ..... 25 Classifieds..... 30

### Recreation projects and lawsuit discussed at TB mtg.

For now, renovations to the ball park are a go but the decision to move forward with enclosing the pool is pending.

At the Thurs., Nov. 20 Town Board meeting, Town Manager Bob Frye said that bids to renovate the ball park had come in higher than expected but once again Art Williams of the Old Edwards Hospitality Group has come to the rescue.

Since the ball park project was rebid due to a lack of bids. the town was legally allowed to open a bid from Warth Construction which was accepted.

The bid was originally \$386,689 but after some negotiating was trimmed by \$12,745 lowering the total to \$373,944.

Since this project wasn't in-

• See PROJECTS page 6



\$498,000 • MLS 80602



Mal Phillips, Broker-in-Charge 828-200-2642 email: TwigsRG@gmail.com

# THE PLATEAU'S POSITION

# MAYOR ON DUTY So much to be thankful for

I have been mayor for almost a year. Folks still ask me how I'm doing, and how I'm dealing with the pressures of public office. I reply, yes, there are times of stress and difficulty, but I really enjoy serving as Highlands' mayor.

Before being elected as mayor my wardrobe was rather informal, especially when I was working in my pottery studio. My wife was not im-

pressed with my large supply of blue jeans and cotton pullover shirts. When it comes to my dressing for my role as the mayor, I have taken a new direction by following the example of President Ronald Reagan. It was told that Reagan was so honored to be the President of the United States that he would never take off his coat while working in the Oval Office. He had a deep respect for the historical office of the presidency.

While I am not anywhere near the man, or fashion master, as was President Reagan, I do view serving you as mayor as an honor and privilege. I remember entering the mayor's office for the first time after being sworn in. I had a strong feeling of responsibility and realized appropriate dress was a part of the job. Now you won't see me with a coat and tie each day, but I do try to meet the modest standard of attire sometimes referred to in Highlands as "mountain casual." My clay covered blue jeans have been left back at my studio, although I admit my productivity in pottery has diminished in lieu of other important matters this past year.

During this Thanksgiving weekend I am thankful for the opportunity for public service. I am also thankful that I serve in a wonderful, giving and caring community where citizens are committed to creating a better life for all. While our town faces challenges in the future, like in our past we have the talent, creativity and resources to make



Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor

good decisions for the future.

I also am thankful for our town staff and all the community volunteers working so diligently in our many non-profit organizations. I am thankful we have had a vibrant local economy this year. There is a wonderful energy and warmth in our village community that make folks want to be here.

And like all of you, I am thankful for those vital family

ties that binds us all in love and affection for one another. So, my family and I will see you at the annual lighting of the Town Christmas Tree. I can't wait to see our wonderful new Christmas decorations all lit up.

Low: 27 \*F

High: 40 \*F

Dear Editor.

The Hudson Library would like to thank all who have participated in our Community Coffee this year, especially the people and organizations who have made Community Coffee's first year a success.

Next Mayor's Community Coffee is Friday, Jan. 30

How wonderful that our goal of becoming a hub of the community coincided with Mayor Patrick Taylor's desire to keep the people of Highlands abreast of the issues. The collaboration began in January with snow on the ground, hot coffee in the pot, "Water" on the agenda, and 10 people in the audience.

Pat has invested a great deal of time and effort in Community Coffee by furnishing the topic and/or the speaker while facilitating the discussion. In fact, he even brought the refreshments for that first snowy meeting.

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



High: 46 \*F

Next was the addition of a host organization (a different non-profit group each month) to furnish the refreshments for each meeting. The host organizations deserving a warm thank you are: Highlands Dialogue, Mountain Garden Club, Mountain Top Rotary, Highlands Rotary Club, Appalachian Humanist Group, Highlands RoadRunner's Club, Art Your Way Studio Artists, Highlands Plateau Audubon Society, and Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. Pat has introduced many Town Administrators to the community in this informal "Coffee" format, and we further thank Town Manager Bob Frye, Police Chief Bill Harrell, Public Works Director Lamar Nix, and Planning Administrator Josh Ward for taking time out of their busy schedules.

We would also like to thank the company Community Coffee and the associated Saurage family for an abundant supply of both coffee and coffee cups.

The Hudson Library looks forward to the second year of Community Coffee beginning January 30, the last Friday of the month from 11am-12pm, in which Mayor Taylor will introduce Recreation Director Lester Norris. Thank you and Happy Holidays from all of us at the Hudson Library.

### **Thanks and Giving**

Dear Editor,

This is about thanks and giving. As residents of Cashiers and Highlands, we have so much to be thankful for. We live in one of the most beautiful places in the world. This is attested to by the thousands who join our community for part of the year every season, both part time residents and weekend visitors.

We have to be thankful we live in a community with a standard of living far in excess of most areas of the country. Yet there are those in our community who exist at a barely subsistence level. There are those who need the help of those who can afford to help. No one asks that we give until it hurts. Only to give until it helps.

For the past 15 years, a local charitable

#### • See LETTERS page 27

Jennifer Crowley Librarian

### Atlanta teen found dead after walking away from Cashiers based camp

#### By Brittany Raby

After searching the remote forest around Trails Carolina Wilderness Therapy Program in Cashiers for Alec Lansing since November 10, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department called off the search on Saturday morning after finding a body in the forest near the camp.

Lansing, a 17-year-old teen from the Atlanta area, was at the Jackson County camp for at-risk teens at

the request of his mother Pamela. On November 10, authorities reported that Lansing had walked away from the camp. During the nearly two-week period Lansing was missing, temperatures plummeted in the rugged terrain surrounding the camp.

Despite reports of a sighting of the teen at the Exxon gas station in Cashiers, the only trace searchers found of the teen was a reflector vest the camp distributes to teens when they arrive. Law enforcement officers received numerous tips of possible sightings of the teen, even as far as Main Street in Franklin, but nothing was confirmed.

The teen's mother passed flyers around the Highlands area late last week, and gave Alec's descriptions to shop own-



ers. According to Pamela, the camp doesn't allow campers to carry cell phones as part of the therapy program.

As the search for Lansing continued into the second week, a 24-hour command center was established at the Cashiers fire department, but the number of active individuals searching decreased as the days continued. On Saturday, the Jackson County Sher-

iff's Department sent out a press release informing the public of a body, which is believed to be Lansing in the Nantahala National Forest.

"Today the Jackson County Sheriff's Office along with multiple volunteers coordinated by the Jackson County Emergency Management Office conducted further searching of the forest where Lansing was last seen," reads the press release. "The body was found in a remote portion of the forest by searchers. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office investigators along with investigators with the United States Forest Service Law Enforcement are working together to continue to investigate the death."

An autopsy has been requested by investigators to determine the cause of death.

### MC firefighter dies in house fire

Nantahala Volunteer Fire and Rescue was dispatched at 12:51 a.m., on Friday, Nov. 21 to a report of a structure fire at 600 Briartown Church Road in Topton, NC.

Firefighters arrived to find the house engulfed in flames. They quickly extinguished the flames and discovered the body of Stephen Bradley McCoy, 36, inside the structure.

McCoy was home with his wife and two children at the time of the incident. His nine-year old daughter was airlifted to the Augusta Burn

Center from the scene with severe injuries and two other family members received medical treatment at the scene. McCoy was a member of Nantahala Fire and Rescue Department.

The cause and origin of the fire is under investigation by the Macon County Sheriff's Office and fire investigators from the Macon County Fire Marshal's Office.

There was heavy fire damage to the structure and the family's personal belonging.

Nantahala Fire and Rescue was assisted by West Macon Fire and Rescue and Valleytown Fire and Rescue.

Area Fire and Rescue departments in Macon

County are flying flags half mast as well as displaying the Fallen Firefighters flag known as "The Thin Red Line."



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### ...REVALS continued from page 1

After a more than two-year process, Richard Lightner, Macon County's long-time Tax Administrator, has worked with his department to finish the property tax revaluation.

During the appraisal process, Lightner and his office collected and reviewed sales, routing all 369 county maps, mapped property sales from 2013 and 2014, analyzed construction costs, developed land pricing models, developed a schedule of values, applied the schedule of values to properties, visited properties in the county, and reviewed sales to comparable properties. They then identified the specific areas of concern within the county. With that phase of the process completed, Lightner is finishing up the final step of correcting anything that needs to be fixed before sending notices of the value to property owners, which will occur in January after Lightner presents his findings to the board of commissioners in December.

According to Macon County Manager Derek Roland, after Lightner and his staff got a complete look of property values in Macon County, the estimated decline in property value is better than first anticipated.

### • OBITUARY • Jane P. Lewis

Jane P. Lewis, 88 of Highlands passed away Thursday, November 20, 2014 in a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She was born in Bibb County, GA October 19th, 1926. She was preceded in death by her mother, Sarah Ann Parks. She was a member of Athens United Methodist Church in Athens, GA where she had served as secretary. Mrs. Parks was a loving wife and mother. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, William G. Lewis, a daughter Wanda R. Moody of Watkinsville. GA one sister, Martha Walker of Franklin and one nephew, Terry Barnes and wife Rhonda of Franklin.

No services are planned at this time. Memorial contributions may be made to Highlands United Methodist Church, 315 Main Street, Highlands, NC 28741. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. "Revaluation results currently are showing around a 14 percent decline in property values in the aggregate," said Roland. "At the beginning of the budget year we were expecting this percentage to be as high as 20 percent, but as the economy has continued to recover, our tax base values have shown improvement as well."

After commissioners made the decision to delay the revaluation until 2015, Lightner told commissioners that the county as a whole would experience an estimated 20 percent decline in property value.

As it stands now, Macon County has the lowest property tax rate in the state, .27. With the adjustment in property values, and in order for commissioners to maintain a revenue neutral budget, the county's property tax rate would have to increase to .33 to bring in \$26 million in revenue to finance the current level county services.

While Lightner is expected to address commissioners in December, during his last update to commissioners, he informed the board that he and his team were wrapping up the revaluation in Highlands. "Highlands and Franklin are the two most diverse and valuable districts so we spend a considerable amount of time in both," explained Lightner. "This project did not just start, it in fact got into high gear in early 2012. With that said, we have been in Highlands many days over a long period of time."

New property bills will be distributed to taxpayers in January. Homeowners with questions or concerns about their new bill can contact the tax administrator's office for further information. After homeowners are notified of their new property taxes, those wanting to challenge the new findings can begin the appeal process.

"Our office will be giving the Macon County Board of Commissioners the update of specifics about the reassessment on December 9 during its regular meeting," said Lightner.

The following night, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m., at the Franklin Community Building he will be presenting the information to the public with a time for questions.

"Hopefully, these two meeting times will help explain what is about to happen," he said.





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'Our

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Year'

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# HIGHLANDS DINING



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beginning at 5:30p

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### ...PROJECTS continued from 1

cluded in the 2014-'15 budget Frye said it could be put in the 2015-'16 budget, with work finished early spring in time for 2016 sports at the complex. However, since this would delay the ice rink proposed by and funded by Williams until November 2016, he offered the town \$100,000 to ensure ball park renovations would be completed this spring rather than next.



Factoring in the Williams offer, cost to the town would be \$273,944 with monies allocated from the undesignated fund balance.

Commissioners voted unanimously to accept Williams' offer of \$100,000 for the ball park renovations and allocate money from the undesignated fund balance and to proceed with the project.

The project is expected to be completed early April 2015 with the ice rink to follow with a projected opening date of November 2015.

#### Pool Enclosure

Finding a company willing to enclose the new pool has proven to be nearly impossible. The job was bid twice; five contractors requested packages but none bid on the job.

Frye said contractors feel the \$800,000 project is too small, some don't want to work in Highlands over the winter, some aren't comfortable doing the type of work required.

But last week, at the request of OEI's Richard Delany, John Lupoli, of Lupoli Construction, bid on the job for \$1,211,259, which is close to the total amount the Williams' donated for recreation upgrades. In addition to enclosing the pool and upgrading the pool house the money was to be used to replace the gym floor and bleachers.

Frye said he has notified Delany and subsequently the Williams, that there is a possibility the pool enclosure project will not be moving forward at this time, he said.

Like the ball park project, since the pool enclosure job was bid twice it is legal for the town to enter into negotiations with whomever is interested.

Frye suggested, and the board agreed, to table the issue until the December meeting when more information will hopefully be available.

#### **Closed Session**

Following the closed session Thursday night, commissioners voted unanimously to file a complaint with the NC Bar Association against attorney Scott Neumann for filing a frivolous and vindictive lawsuit against the town in The Neumann Law Office PLLC v. The Town of Highlands (Macon County 14 CVS 594), and for questionable ethics resulting from statements he made in a letter-to-the-editor in the Oct. 30 edition of Highlands Newspaper.

#### The Back Story

During the October Town Board meeting Closed Session, commissioners instructed Town Attorney J.K. Coward to pursue payment for utilities in the The Neumann Law Office PLLC v. The Town of Highlands (Macon County 14 CVS 594).

Coward said this will be vigorously defended as meritless and retaliatory, since he hasn't paid his utility bill.

Frye said at this point, the board believes Neuman is behaving in a manner which in their opinion is exhibiting a level of ethics far below what one would expect from an officer of the court.

The complaint to the NC Bar Association was filed Monday.

"As our complaint states, we found it highly coincidental that a week after Mr. Neuman received a debt set-off letter for not paying utility bills, he files a law suit over an item that we thought had been dealt with back in February," Frye said.

According to Frye, though all his accounts are now paid in full, at one time Neumann had three accounts he had defaulted on. "As an officer of the court one expects a higher level of ethics," he said.

In his letter-to-the-editor Oct. 30, Neumann alleges the "...Town of Highlands cannot deliver safe power to its customers, it should get out of the electric business and leave it to the bigger utilities which properly maintain their equipment, and provide the same service for less money."

This is in reference to an incident that occurred around Feb. 7, 2014, when a temporary over-voltage at his law office on N. 4th Street caused his computers, phone system, lighting and his copier machine to fry.

According to Neumann, at that time in February, a neutral wire in a town transformer came loose and instead of providing his office with a steady flow of 110 votes the voltage was double, or approximately 220 volts.

Neumann claims this cost him \$10,000 and believes the town is liable for the damage.

However, in Mayor Pat Taylor's Mayor on Duty column in the Nov 6 edition of Highlands Newspaper, he said the main issue expressed by the writer [Neumann] was that a neutral wire on a town transformer had come loose and caused damage to his office equipment. He was distressed that insurance, both his and the town's policy, would not pay the claim. Taylor said insurers do not pay these types of claims if they determine no negligence was

• See PROJECTS page 7

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### ...PROJECTS continued from page 6

involved. In this case, insurers viewed the claim as an accident caused by the forces of nature. If the town electric department had made a mistake, like incorrectly wiring a customer's service, the town would

### ...FERC from page 1

dropower, Inc., of Clovis, CA, believes the land upon which the hydroelectric plant sits was transferred to the Forest Service upon expiration of the town's special use permit in 1996 as it lies entirely within the Nantahala National Forest,

However, according to Town Manager Bob Frye, no one know for sure who owns the property.

"We obviously have an interest in this but we don't have grounds to do anything about it," he said. "We can't say 'you can't use our property' if we can't find proof saying we own the property," he said.

Evidently, there aren't any records that give Highlands the legal right to stop the project on the grounds of property ownership.

"The question is, being proponents of green energy, should we stand in the way?" asked Frye.

But citizens in the audience said they didn't want this to happen citing the environmental impact to Highlands whose draw is nature.

With the cost of energy skyrocketing and the interest in "green energy" on the forefront, at the 2013 Town Board retreat, commissioners asked McGill Engineering to supply an estimate of what it would cost to augment Highlands' energy demands with hydropower generated at the old hydroelectric plant.

According to McGill is would cost about \$4.5 million which would presumably include about \$250,000 in study and permitting fees.

Understandably, the town did not include the project in the 2013-'14 budget which was the purpose of the January 2013 budget retreat.

However, on Oct. 1, 2014, a legal

• See FERC page 12

certainly have paid for damages.

According to Frye, there are a variety of things the NC Bar Association could do concerning Neumann.

"As the governing oversight board of

attorneys in NC, they could publicly censure Mr. Neumann for his behavior, they could put him on notice/probation that his behavior needed to change, or at the extreme end recommend his license to prac-

tice in NC be suspended or forfeited." Attorney Neumann was not available for comment by press time. – Kim Lewicki

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### About logic and reason ...

Supposedly by accident, Bob ran into Elmer Schmidlap again at the local watering hole.

Elmer was getting paranoid because Bob seemed to be tracking him.

"OK, sonny, sit down and have a brew with me. And don't give me that crap about being surprised to run into me. I know you are following me around. In addition to the diaper for dogs with weak bladders, maybe I should also invent a hat with rear view mirrors on it.

Did you have something in mind or did you just want me to buy you a beer?"

Well yes, Elmer, I was thinking about logic and reason.

"Sonny, there ain't no such thing, at least not that I can find. The only place it exists is in physics and I can assure you that physics obey the laws of logic and reason. The entire universe and even God herself must obey the laws of physics. There ain't no such thing as magic."

Yeah, but I'm talking about down to earth

stuff. The way people think.

"Oh, heck, you can forget that. People are influenced by so many different outside factors they can only obey one belief system at a time. No one ever bothers to look at the other side of a question. People just sort of pick one ideology and stick with that, afraid of anything that might mess with their belief system. Christians, for example, will tell you that a fetus

in the womb of a Muslim mother is going to hell unless it can somehow be become a Christian. The Muslims tell you just the opposite."

You're talking about compartmentalized thinking. Some folks just can't break out of the way they think. There are people who won't listen to Fox News and others who won't listen to MS-NBC. Political ideology blocks them from hearing another point of view.

"Of course it does. So does religious

theology. And as long as that goes on, we won't be able to find solutions to our problems. I've mentioned this before but just look at the damage Al Sharpton has done to black people teaching dependency instead of selfworth and valuing themselves."

But Al Sharpton does it for entirely different reasons, I would think. He's just looking for power and is willing to sell out his fellow blacks to maintain his power.

"You don't see him going to Chicago to lecture blacks who are killing each other by the dozen each month, of course not. He goes to Ferguson Missouri and raises hell over just one unfortunate death.

Could be he's afraid to venture into Chicago and fears for his own life.

"That's possible. But I just think his greed overpowers his ability to use reason and logic and he goes to Ferguson because he has an audience already there.

"Sonny, we're all guilty of ignoring reason and logic. The world is filled with people who are unable to think in a logical manner. For many of us, 2 plus 2 does not add up to 4.

"Some of it, of course, is just due to ignorance. The liberal Democrats believe that people shouldn't have to struggle in life but that idea is contrary to all scientific knowledge of how things work on this planet. I'm not sure what the heck the Republicans believe."

Elmer, it's funny how the environmentalists don't want the Keystone pipeline but are willing to risk shipments of oil from Canada by train. The pipeline is 50 times safer than the railroads. I guess it's simply that their agenda overrules any sense of logic from them.

"We could go on and on for days or even months discussing how illogical people are.

"The tribal regions of Africa and the

• SeeTELL TALES page 9





**Bob Wilson** 

# •HS Sports•



### Middle School Basketball

The Lady Highlanders travelled to Victory School where they came out strong and took the game with an impressive 33 to 5 win.

### High School Basketball

The Lady Highlanders travelled to Smoky Mountain, Robbinsville and AC Reynolds for scrimmage games. No score was kept.

The boys' team didn't play this past week.

- Sierra Nylund

### ...TELL TALES continued from page 8

Middle East are excellent examples of how ignorance plays a hand in arriving at illogical conclusions.

"If we were able to somehow improve the single parent problem for blacks, provide them better schools and send them on to schools that teach them something they can make a living at, their problem would disappear but that's too logical for most folks."

True, and it's too logical for the teachers' unions who control things. "And now of course, we're allowing millions of Latinos who entered the country illegally to stay and compete with black Americans for jobs in their own country. This isn't right.

"The money it will cost would be better spent on improving education for our black citizens.

"Gotta go, sonny, we'll talk again." *See you again, Elmer*.

"Yeah, sonny, I have no doubt you will."

### **MS Boys Basketball**

#2-Taj Roman, #3-Trey Gerrells, #4-Jordan Powell, #10-Pablo Jimenez, #12-Freddie Garcia, #14-Drew Chalker, #15-Dillon Schmitt, #21-Logan Houston, #22-Cadan Smolarsky, #23-Destin Gearhart, #25-Bert Zachary, #33-Jake Billingsley, #44-Mattson Gates, #45-Isiah Tucci-Caselli, Manager: J.J. Postell, Coaches: Bryan Dearth, Ryan Gearhart, Seth Schmitt



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# • Highlands Area Events •

### Annual Christmas Day Dinner at HCC's Hudson House



This annual affair raises money for various nonprofits in town and all proceeds benefit them. This year a match of up to \$30,000 in donations has been promised. The buffet dinner prepared by area chefs, is 11 am to 5pm. Reservations only. Please call 526-9419.

### **`Hard Candy Christmas' Art &** Craft Show at WCU Fri. & Sat.



The "Hard Candy Christmas" Art & Craft Show is a Mountain Christmas Tradition in this neck of the woods! It opens for its 27th year inside the Western Carolina University Ramsey Center in Cullowhee, N.C. November 28-29. The show is always held the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving. Hours are 10-5 each day with convenient free parking. Admission is Adults \$4, children under 12 free. At the ticket table, get a piece of peppermint candy and an apple from local Barber Orchard. You will catch the Christmas Spirit. For more information: www.mountainArtisans.net or djhunter@dnet.net 828 524 3405

### Ongoing

• The Cub and Boy Scouts of America have three drop offs for worn and tattered flags. They properly retire them. Drop offs at Highlands Doors and Windows 2242 Dillard Road, the Highlands Fire Station or Highlands United Methodist Church office. Contact Phil Potts for more information 828 526-3719

### Through Dec. 16

• Fruit sale by the HS Junior Class. Oranges, Small juice oranges, Grapefruit, Tangelos, and Tangerines.And it is \$20 per box. The pick up for the fruit will be Tuesday, December 16 at Highlands school between 3:30 and 5!

• 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

• Free Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.

• Zumba at the Rec Park at 8:05a. \$5.

#### Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

• Zumba at the Rec Park at 9:05a. \$5

### Mon.-Sat.

• Nantahala Tennis Club meets 9a-12 noon, at Highlands Civic Center, tennis courts. \$2 per person, and all visitors are welcome!

#### Wednesdays

• First Baptist Church is happy to present a new season of X-treme Games at the Highlands Rec. Park. The games will be held Wednesday nights from 6 to 7:15 pm. For more information or to pre-register your k - 6th grade child, please call 526-4153.

#### l st Wednesdays

• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:30pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

#### 3rd Wednesdays

• General Audience Movies at Hudson Library at 2pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

#### Ist & 3rd Thursdays

• Free local ongoing support group for caregivers. Are you involved with the care of a loved one who is physically or mentally facing challenges? Sponsored by The Counseling and Psychotherapy Center of Highlands and

# Santa sittings begin after the tree lighting ...



Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the MountainTop Wine Shoppe right after the Tree Lighting Saturday night, Friday, Nov. 28 from 10a to 4p, on Saturday Dec. 6 after the parade until 4p and from 10a to 4p on Saturdays Dec. 13, and 20. the Highlands United Methodist Church, this group meets at 4PM at Room 203 at the Peggy Crosby Center. Facilitated by Bonnie Gramlich, a licensed professional. Drop in or call for further info, 828.342.0546.

#### Thursdays

• Storytimes with Miss Carol at Hudson Library 10:40am. Open to the public.

• Highlands Writers' Group meets every Thursday from I-3:30 pm at Hudson Library. Writers of all genres welcome. For info call 526-8009 or 526-2295.

 NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)offers a peer support group for individuals that are dealing with depression, anxiety, PTSD, bipolar, schizophrenia, etc. and the family members or friends of loved ones dealing with these challenges. Join us in a safe, confidential environment to share concerns and gain insight. Join us for our Weekly Support Group from 7 – 8:15 pm @ 14 West Palmer Street in Franklin NC, email dcwithnami@yahoo.com, Donita (828) 526-9510.

### 2nd Thursdays

• Sapphire Valley Needlepoint Guild meets at the Highlands Rec Park at 10 a.m. Newcomers welcomed.

#### Last Fri. of each month

• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at 6pm at the Cashiers Community Center. Questions? Call Lisa 828-506-3555

#### Saturdays

• Free wine tastings at MountainTop Wine Shoppe from I-3p.

#### Sundays

• At Highlands Inn, Sequoyah Room at 4:30 pm. Multi-denominational, Interactive Bible Study and Fellowship. Open to all.

#### Through Dec. 6

• Macon County Youth Boys basketball registration. You can register at the Highlands Recreation Department, Macon County Community Building or on-line at www.maconcountyboysbasketball.com.

#### Through Dec. II

 Movie at The Playhouse: Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I. Showtimes, Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon. & Thurs. 2p, 5p and 8p. No movies on Tuesday and Wednesday. Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 27-28

• Macon County Public Libraries will be closed.

#### Thurs., Nov. 27

• The Highlands Civic Center will be closed.

#### Fri. & Sat., Nov. 28-29

• The annual Hard Candy Christmas Art & Craft Show inside WCU's Ramsey Center in Cullowhee, NC. 10a to 5p each day. Ticets are \$4 for Adults and children under 12 are free.

#### Fri., Nov. 28

• At PAC the Friday after Thanksgiving, Jason D Williams. Enthusiastic, Reckless, Stormy... Rock & Roll in its natural state. Call today, most of the concerts last year were sold out. Highlands PAC 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands www.highlandspac. org.

#### <sup>°</sup> Sat., Nov. 29

• Holiday Artisan Market in Cafe 460, 10a to 4p.• Annual Lightning of the town Christmas Tree, carolling and visits with Santa at 6:30p. Main Street will be closed to traffic from 5:30-8:30p.

• Annual Town Lighting and Carolling at 6:30p. Main Street will be dlosed to traffic from 5:30-8:30p.

• Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on the lawn of MountainTop Wine Shoppe after the Tree Lighting.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-tostrenuous 9.5-mile hike, elevation change 900 ft., to Cabin Flats in the Great Smoky Mountains, following Bradley Fork to an old logging camp. Meet at Oconaluftee Visitor Center in Cherokee at 9:00 am. Round trip from Visitor Center, 8 miles, from Franklin, 72 miles. Call leader Keith Patton, 828-456-8895, for reservations. Hike limited to 15 people.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 10mile hike, elevation change 700 ft., to Charlie's Bunion in the Great Smoky Park, starting at Newfound Gap on the Appalachian Trail for 4 miles to great view. Returning, the group may take the Boulevard Trail to the Jump Off for another spectacular view. Meet at Huddle House in Dillsboro at 7:30 am, drive 70 miles round trip. Call leader Don O'Neal, 828-586-5723 for reservations. Able visitors welcome.

#### Sun., Nov 30

• Walk with the Nantahala Hiking Club in the Franklin Christmas Parade and help hand out granola bars and pencils along the route. Pets on leash and families welcome! Pizza at Vitos after the parade. Phone leader Bill Van Horn 828-369-1983 for info on meeting place and time.

#### Wed., Dec. 3

• At the Center for Plastic Surgery with Dr. Bob Buchanan, Epionce Open House. Learn about their botanical skin care. 10 to 2p. Refreshments and door prizes. Special one-day pricing.

#### Thurs., Dec. 4

• Shop With a Cop Rotary Bingo at the Community Building by the ball field 6:30-8:30 p.m.

#### Sat., Dec. 6

• Holiday Artisan Market in Cafe 460 9a to 5p.

• Annual Christmas Parade on Main Street Highlands at 11a. Santa & Mrs. Claus will be at MountainTop Wine Shoppe to hear children's Christmas wishes...

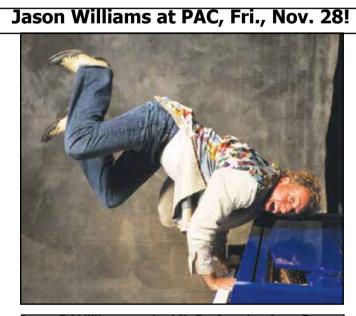
Christmas Carol Sing at

First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. Stell Huie will be song leader with Angie Jenkins at the organ. Come join us for a wonderful hour of singing in Christian fellowship.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike along Mud Creek with very little elevation change, to Mud Creek Falls, a beautiful clear creek and falls despite the name, near Sky Valley, GA. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. We will have an early supper at Mountain Man Restaurant in Dillard on the return. Call leader Joyce Jacques, 410-852-7510, for reservations or an alternate meeting place. Visitors welcome, no dogs please.

#### Sat., Dec 7

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike, with two stream crossings, to Secret Falls, in Horse Cove near Highlands, with access to the top and bottom of the 60ft. fall and only a little incline coming back up. Meet at Bi-Lo parking lot at 11 am, drive 40 miles round trip. Call leaders Diana Otero/Rudolph Buchholz, 765-318-9981, for reservations. Families, children, and



Jason D Williams at the ML Performing Arts Center on Friday at 8pm. The Piano Man is reckless, enthusiastic, stormy...Rock and Roll in its natural state. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047. Check out highlandspac.org for a complete description and schedule. 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands NC

visitors welcome. No dogs please. Tues.-Wed., Dec. 9-10

• At The Highlands Playhouse, "The Vatican Museums." Transport yourself to the Vatican through the 35-ft. screen and immerse yourself in the timeless works of art. It's better than being there in person! **Sat. Dec 13** 

• Holiday Artisan Market in Cafe 460 10a to 4p.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous work and exploration hike, with elevation change of 800 ft., on Rocky Bald Ridge just off the Appalachian Trail at Wine Springs, a little used horse trail that the leader would like to clear. Distance depends on the amount of clearing. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9 am, drive 36 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman. 828-524-5298. for

• See EVENTS page 12

### Shop With a Cop Rotary Bingo



The Rotary Club of Highlands will partner for the seventh year with the Macon County Sheriff's Department and the Highlands Police Department on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> for Shop With a Cop Rotary Bingo from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Highlands Community Building next to the ball park.

Shop With a Cop provides Christmas to well over 200 Macon Country children who otherwise would have little or no Christmas. Each child is taken to Wal-Mart by a law enforcement officer and will have \$100 to spend with only a couple of conditions. First, they must buy something for themselves and second, something for someone else.

After fun and shopping with officers, children will have lunch and a Christmas Party where presents are wrapped after a visit with Santa Claus complete with photos. After the Party children are taken home by the officer.

Macon County Sheriff Robbie Holland points out that, "Many of the children come from difficult circumstances, where law enforcement officers are perceived as bad guys. Shop With a Cop works to change that image through friendship and participating in a Christmas that otherwise wouldn't happen."

Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell joins Sheriff Holland saying, "Shop With a Cop is a positive experience not only for the children involved but also for our officers."

Rotary Bingo will be an evening of fun, a lot of laughs and a chance to yell, "Bingo!" The cost to play is \$1 per card per game and there will be 15 games with the last game offering some serious money to a lucky winner. Refreshments are free and there will be a surprise visitor from the North Pole half way through the games. Half of the money paid to play Bingo goes to lucky winners and half goes to Shop With a Cop.

If you can't be at Shop With a Cop Rotary Bingo on Thursday, please make a donation to Highlands Rotary for Shop With a Cop and drop it off at Highlands Police Dept., the Rec Park desk or give it to any Highlands Rotarian - that small sound on Christmas morning may be a child saying thank you.

The Rotary Club of Highlands is licensed by the State of NC to operate bingo games.

### ... EVENTS continued from page 11

#### reservations and/or information.

#### Sun., Dec l 4

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 1.5 mile hike, elevation change 400 ft., on the Rufus Morgan Trail, (named for the founder of the Club), through the woods to a beautiful waterfall with one short steep section. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 2 pm, drive 24 miles round trip. Call leader Joyce Jacques, 410-852-7510, for reservations. Visitors welcome, no dogs please.

#### Mon.-Wed., Dec. 15-17

• At The Highlands Playhouse, "Gone with the Wind" in celebration of the movie's 75th anniversary.

#### Mon., Dec 15

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will

take a moderate-to-strenuous 9-mile hike, elevation gain 1300 ft., going north on the Appalachian Trail from Wayah Crest to Wayah Bald Lookout Tower, 5342 ft. elevation, with great views of the Franklin area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 8:30 am, drive 24 miles round trip. Call leaders Diana Otero/Rudolph Buchholz, 765-318-9981, for reservations. Visitors welcome, no dogs please.

#### Tues., Dec. 18

• This season the Holiday Program, presented annually by the Highlands Cashiers Players at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, is scheduled for Thursday evening, December 18, beginning at 7:00 P. M. This season a dramatic reading ofTruman Capote's touching story, "A Christmas Memory" from his childhood in rural





### 10 am to noon; 1 to 3 pm

Gingerbread designers will be given all the sweets and confections they need to create their own imaginative gingerbread houses. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Alabama will be featured. Also a group of area musicians, playing dulcimers, guitars, and fiddle will accompany singers for three songs interspersed in thereading. A reception downstairs in PAC will follow the reading with music by the "Mountain High Dulcimer Club." The program is the Players gift to the community and is free to all.

#### Sat., Dec 20

• Holiday Artisan Market in Cafe 460 10a to 4p.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate, up and down 3-mile hike to 60 ft. high Yellow Branch Falls, one of the most beautiful rocky waterfalls in western SC. If time allows, a stop can be made at nearby Stump TownTunnel. Meet at Cashiers Rec Park at 9 am, drive 50 miles round trip. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 828-743-1079, for reservations. Visitors welcome, no dogs please.

•The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 7-mile hike, elevation change 500 ft., on Chunky Gal Trail, off the Appalachian Trail from Deep Gap in Standing Indian area to Glade Gap on Hwy. US 64. Meet in Franklin at Westgate Plaza at 8:00 a.m., drive 45 miles round trip with car shuttle. Call leader Don O'Neal, 828-596-5723, for reservations.

#### Sun., Dec 21

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 1.5-mile hike in the

### ... FERC continued from page 7

notice in The Franklin Press, submitted by Advanced Hydropower, Inc. announced its application with FERC requesting a licensing permit to revive the hydroelectric plant.

Under their proposal, Advanced Hydropower would generate 775 KW at peak times, and make over \$200,000 a year by selling power and green energy credits back to Duke. The town would receive no money.

Mayor Pat Taylor said he learned of this quite by accident when on his weekly walk with citizens. Sam Green said he saw the announcement in The Franklin Press and wondered what Mayor Taylor thought about it.

At Thursday's Town Board meeting, Taylor said he was alarmed on several levels – one being that the notice didn't run in any Highlands newspapers since the project clearly involves Highlands, another was that as mayor he was not notified of the plan.

Highlands has only 10 days left to respond to the notice so as a stop gap measure, Taylor requested permission to send a letter to FERC outlining Highlands' concerns.

"As mayor I am asking the board to endorse me responding immediately to FERC Standing Indian area to see the **Wasilik Poplar Tree**, named for a former Wayah District Ranger, JohnWasilik. Second largest Yellow Poplar tree in the U.S with diameter of 8.4 ft., it stood 135 ft. tall before it was topped by Hurricane Opal in 1998. Meet in Franklin at Westgate Plaza at 2 p.m, drive 36 miles round trip. Call leaders Diana/ Rudolph, 765-318-9981, for reservations. Visitors, families and children welcome! No dogs please.

#### Thurs., Dec. 25

• Annual Christmas Day Dinner Buffet at HCC's Hudson House from 11a to 5p. Call 526-9419 for reservations.

#### Sat., Dec 27

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous7-mile hike, elevation change 1300 ft., on the Bradley Fork/Smokemont Loop in Smoky Mts. National Park, with a side trip to Chasteen Creek Cascade, then up and along Richland Ridge back to Smokemont Campground. Meet at Oconaluftee Visitor Center at 9:00 am., drive 72 miles round trip from Franklin, 8 miles more from Visitor Center. Call leader Keith Patton, 828-456-8895, for reservations. **Hike limited to 15 people**.

#### Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 19-22

• HCP's "Murder Not Prohibited at PAC.

#### Thurs.-Sun., Feb 27-March

• HCP's "Murder Not Prohibited at

on the following grounds.

1. We have recently explored resuming operations of the power plant, as late as 2013.

2. The legal notification by California Power did not appear in any Highlands newspapers, but instead in a newspaper located 20 miles away in another town, Franklin.

3. In the initial application, the mayor was listed as the representative of Highlands, a principal stakeholder, yet he was never contacted

4. Furthermore, the town has concerns with any project that will impact the Cullasaja River and change the natural environment and compromise a locally historic site.

5. As a major stakeholder in this process, the Town of Highlands expects to be informed and included in all aspects of this application process.

Though all agreed that a response was necessary ASAP, commissioners had various views on the subject.

Commissioner John Dotson said he was concerned about someone other than Highlands reviving the plant.

### ... FERC continued from page 12

Remnants of the old piping below the dam when the town used the hydroelectric plant further downstream to generate power.

> Photo by Jim Lewicki



"As a town we have a vested 'grandfathered' interest in this. If anyone does this, we should be the one who does it. I would love it if we were energy selfsufficient and would love to see the town off the grid especially if we could do it 100%. But even if we can't, we should still explore this amongst ourselves," he said. "I'm not sure the \$4.5 million price tag is a reason to let it go to someone else at this point."

According to Public Service Administrator Lamar Nix, it take 10-13 Megawatts to fully power the town, and the most the hydro plant could generate would be 1 megawatt.

"We should still put a bug in the government's ear to let it know this California company isn't the only horse in this race," said Dotson.

Frye said this could be 10-15 years down the road and there are numerous hurdles to be jumped by anyone interested in pursuing this.

Already the NC Wildlife Resource Commission has responded to the application: one motion to intervene and one to comment on the preliminary permit; the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance has filed a comment and a motion to intervene; and the US Dept. of Interior has filed a notice of intervention.

Commissioner Donnie Calloway suggested the town file a petition to revive the plant on its own behalf but Frye said FERC may look at that as Highlands' way to block it which would be looked at negatively.

Commissioner Amy Patterson said she didn't want to do that because filing it might look like "we are for it, when we might not be."

"An application from us might look like we think it's an OK thing to do. This could affect the entire town whose economy is based on its attractive environment," she said.

According to the application, the configuration of the project will be runof-the-river with no storage capacity and a constantly bypassed flow quantity operated solely in a run-of-the river configuration at all times. This diversion will be a small weir with a coanda-effect screened intake roughly 40-50 feet wide, 1-2 feet high above the stream bed and will be constructed of concrete. The diversion structure will also consist of a collecting basin below the coanda-effect screened intake, and a sluice gate located near the penstock connection portal located near the middle of the collecting basin.

It will have a new 36-inch diameter above ground penstock, approximately 2,000 feet in length with a tailrace overall dimension of about 10 feet wide at the powerhouse expanding to 40 feet wide at the end of the stilling basin portion of the tailrace approximately 30-40 feet downstream of the powerhouse

The project does not include any dams. The diversion structure will create a small pool of water upstream approximately 40- 50 feet wide and 1-2 feet deep at the upstream face of the weir. This weir will pool water approximately 30 feet upstream and result in a pool with a capacity of about 1,000 cubic feet. The elevation of the resulting pool is approximately 3,575 feet mean sea level which will be entirely within the Nantahala National Forest property and will not affect the normal operations of the Lake Sequoyah Dam or the Town of Highland's Waste Treatment Facility.

Frye said the FERC application by Advanced Hydropower and the town's response is the first step in a 50-step process that could take years.

– Kim Lewicki

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

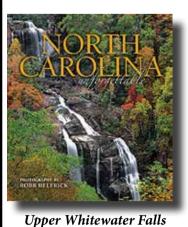
PIZZA AVAILABLE FROM 11AM UNTIL CLOSE EVERY DAY STORE HOURS: 7AM-8PM MON - THURS, FRI & SAT 7AM-9PM, 8AM-6PM SUNDAY Page 14 - Highlands Newspaper - Wed., Nov. 26, 2014 - 828-200-1371

# Thanksgiving! Shop Local

**Book Signing** ... at the Book Nook in The Toy Store Saturday, Nov. 29 • 2-4p

The Toy Store • 365 Main Street

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feet photographer, Robb Helfrick. author of 13 coffee table books, and get your personalized mountain keepsake book.

Robb's works have appeared in Audubon, Atlanta Magazine, National Geographic, Sierra, Sky, Travel Holiday and National Parks

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Highlands

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Happy Thanksgiving! Shop Local



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# Happy Thanksgiving! Shop Local!



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### ...CHOWAN continued from page 1

who lives on Chowan, agreed with citizens saying that the narrow width of Chowan at that point is no different than areas along Wyanoak and numerous other roads in Highlands where drivers routinely pull over or into driveways to let oncoming traffic pass.

"We should listen to the folks who live there," he said.

However, Commissioner Donnie Calloway, who sits on the Public Safety Committee disagreed.



"Lamar and I went up there and he came from one direction and I came from another and when he came around the curve we couldn't pass, in fact I couldn't even back up, he had to," he said. "I am on the Public Safety Committee not the Public Convenience Committee. I don't think it's safe to make it two-way."

But Stiehler said a lot of roads in Highlands should probably be one-way but are two-way.

"There are several roads in Highlands where you pull into someone's driveway to let them pass or where you have to back up," said one Chowan Road homeowner. "In the 22 years I've lived there, there have only been three occasions when I had to back up."

Commissioner Eric Pierson, who also sits on the Public Safety Committee, said opening that portion of the road to two-way traffic was a liability issue because when the road was repaired and the embankment fortified and railed, the town had to make the road even more narrow.

Commissioner John Dotson, a Realtor, said he agreed with Stiehler, saying people bought their property on a two-way road and it wasn't in their best interest to make it one-way.

He suggested signage at both ends warning to proceed with caution would do the trick.

"Driving with caution is clearly required on many town roads – many fall into this category and are narrow and impassable for two vehicles in places," he said.

Commissioner Amy Patterson agreed saying Chowan Road shouldn't be taken out of context since there are a lot of roads like Chowan.

"We have to look at the big picture and we can't choose to make this road one-way over others because it's no more dangerous than in other places," she said.

Plus she said everyone who lives there has the option to use the road as a one-way road if they so choose. "They live there and know what's going on," she said.

In the end the board voted 3 to 2, with Calloway and Pierson voting no, to keep it two-way with signage to proceed with caution.

- Kim Lewicki



### INVESTING AT 4.118 FT

### Thank You for Investing in **Highlands!**

ccording the

Highlands/ Cashiers Multiple Listing Service Comparison Report, residential sales in the Highlands area including in-town

Highlands are up

29% in unit sales

in volume.

and 41% in volume amount.

are up 86% in unit sales and 140% in volume amount.

are down 9% in units and 10%

in volume and commercial is

down 20% in units and 78%

are up 27 % in units and 34%

in volume. Congratulations to

everyone who participated in

these investments and to those

of us who continue to enjoy

is that homes over two million doubled in volume amount

this year on the Highlands/

invested in homes listed for

over \$2 million and this year,

\$50 million was invested in this

price range. The robust stock

market may be contributing

to this trend as well as the

fact that for the first time in

recent memory, lenders are

offering well-heeled buyers

large "jumbo" mortgages at the same - or even better -

interest rates as smaller loans.

a resurgence at the high end of

the real estate market across

the country and is validated

by our area.

This trend has helped fuel

Another interesting trend

In 2013, \$22 million was

this magical area.

Cashiers Plateau.

Townhouse/Condo sales

Conversely, sales of lots

Overall, real estate sales

Jody Lovell Highlands Sotheby's 828-526-4104 highlandssir.com



the future, with 66 percent of firms expecting to see profit increase in the next year.

"Despite continued

The National

Association of Realtors reports that

most residential real

estate firms have

a positive view of

challenges, real estate firms expect market growth in tandem with the ongoing recovery," said NAR President Steve Brown.

This sentiment is certainly shared by Highlands Sotheby's International Realty.

This year has been an incredible year for Highlands Sotheby's, and we thank all of our clients and friends for their support in making this happen.

In addition to selling over 48 million dollars in real estate, we added eight top-producing brokers to our company bringing our total broker count to 19 professionals.

We all have many reasons to be thankful this Thanksgiving, and we hope that you and yours enjoy good health, happiness and love this holiday season.

· Jody Lovell and her husband, Wood, own Highlands Sotheby's International Realty which has been a leader in sales on the Plateau for the last fourteen years. Jody has been the top producing broker on the entire MLS for the last six years. With two locations: one at The Old Edwards Inn Complex and one at the gate of Cullasaja Club, they are ready to serve all of your real estate. Call them at 828 526 4104.

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Great family home priced just right! This 3BR/2BA home sits on 1.16 +/- acres and is move-in ready. Hardwood floors, slate flooring in the kitchen with tile in the bathrooms. Includes a hot tub on the back deck. A full basement features washer & dryer, bathroom, and an ability to finish. An additional shed/workshop sits on the property. Seller is the original owner and home has been lovingly maintained. This home has wonderful upgrade potential!

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Offered at \$749,000. MLS #79511. Contact Shervl Wilson (828) 337-0706.



Susie deVille, Broker-in-Charge (828) 371-2079

### Adorable Updated Cottage

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NAPSH



You will LOVE this adorable, updated 2BR/2.5BA cottage in the Mirror Lake area! Situated on Netsi Place, a paved road lined with rhododendron, this sweet home features great living spaces, with fireplaces in the living room and the master bedroom, wood floors, and a single garage. Enjoy some quiet time and relaxation in the private courtyard and sitting area behind the home. Sold mostly furnished with a few exclusions. EXCELLENT buy and value!

Offered at \$349,000. MLS #80713. Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Commercial Zoned B-3 with 1/1 Apt.



Excellent opportunity to own commercial property in downtown Highlands. Zoned B-3 commercial. Commercial/retail/professional space on the main level w/office area, storage space, and half bathroom. Upper level is a newly-renovated, charming, one bedroom, one bath apartment with hardwood floors throughout. Garage may be used for extra storage space. Gas log fireplace on both levels.

Offered at \$395,000. MLS #69631. Contact Susie deVille at (828) 371-2079. Adorable Commercial Cottage!



Adorable 1940's cottage, known as Rosebay Cottage, with granite fireplace, original pine paneling and oak floors. Great road visibility on Highway 64 East (Cashiers Rd.) Plans for possible expansion on file.

> Offered at \$145,000. MLS #80141. Contact Shervl Wilson (828) 337-0706.





Sheryl Wilson, Broker (828) 337-0706

### **Highlands NC Realty** Office: 828.524-5420 • www.HighlandsNC.info

Tammy Mobley, CCIM

6 Rentals!

Sustom Mtn. Home

Broker in Charge

Cell: 770-337-1000



Breze & Bearv

Steve Sheppard Cell: 404-219-1349

### Hwy 64 east • Highlands

N. 4th St./Hwy 64 E, Highlands. 6 rental units on 1.49 ac w/Highlands Falls CC course & pond views. Reduced to \$945.000!

851 Cowee Ridge • Highlands Cowee Ridge gated S/D - 4 BR/4 BA & private. Only \$597.000. Mountain views. Open floor plan, vaulted ceiling. Hardwood floors. HOA only \$850/yr!

#### 60 Owl Pine Lane **Highlands**

Adorable, like new, 3 BR/2BA furnished chalet. Hardwood & Tile floors, T&G ceiling. 2 mi from Main St. Was \$249,000! **Little Hog Back Mountain** 

### **Highlands**

Off Buck Creek. Charming, private 1/1 & furnished, fireplace, I acre Large screened porch. Garden areas. Only \$129,900!

### 8 Carl Chastain Clayton, GA

Blue Valley NC/GA line. Private 2/1 farmhouse on 5+ acres, Large unfinished basement. Barns and creek. Now \$239.000.

#### 1134 Old Lake Russell, Habersham, GA

N GA, Habersham Co Mtn home, Custom 3/2.5 on 3 acres. Walk to Lake Russell. Private & adjacent to Nat'l Forest. 2 Gar, large Kit, Master & fam room w/Fireplace. Reduced to \$287,000!

# BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

### Highlands Sotheby's welcomes new agents



Ted Meier and Gail Knight (Office Managers), Molly Leonard, Cathy Garren, Jeannette Gurganus, Bert Mobley, lody Lovell

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!

### Welcome...Come Visit.

GPS Address: 78 Black Bear Trace Highlands, NC 28741 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. www.highlandsnchomesites.com Contact (onsite owner) or your broker for plats, prices & a guided tour.

828-508-9952.

### Strong sales and expansion drive **Highlands** Sotheby's growth

Highlands Sotheby's International Realty announced the addition of six experienced former Harry Norman brokers joining their team bringing the number of brokers to 19. "2014 has proven to be a very strong year for Highlands Sotheby's with over 48 million in sales, more than any other firm in Highlands per the Highlands-Cashiers Multiple Listing Service. With the addition of these established producers, 2015 could be one of the best years in our fifteen year history," said Wood Lovell, who owns Highlands Sotheby's with his wife, Jody. The six new brokers and office manager coming on board include:

Cathy Garren has a previous career in banking as a Mortgage Loan Offer and Trust and Estate









### ...SOTHEBY'S continued from page 20

Officer with First Union National Bank for ten years. For the past fifteen years, Cathy has been extremely active and successful in the Highlands/Cashiers real estate market and has devoted countless hours to the local Board of Realtors. She recognized the incredible marketing advantages that the Sotheby's brand offers her clients.

Bert Mobley moved to Highlands in 2003 following a life-long desire to live in the mountains. Previously a high school teacher at Marist in Atlanta, he has a strong following from his students and parents. Bert's energy, enthusiasm and extensive knowledge of the marketplace make him a perfect fit with the Sotheby's brand.

Molly Leonard has real estate in her blood, as her mother was a successful agent in Atlanta for many years before Molly continued the family tradition in Highlands. Having visited Highlands all of her life before calling it home gives Molly history and knowledge of the Highlands area that benefits her clients. Her desire is to find her clients the right property and make sure the process is positive.

Jeannette Gurganus previously worked as a Realty Specialist for the United States Forest Service buying and exchanging land. This background provides deep knowledge of the local owners and their parcels. Jeannette has over twenty years of real estate experience, twelve of which have been on the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau. Jeannette is excited to give her clients a "world class Sotheby's experience" whether buying or selling property.

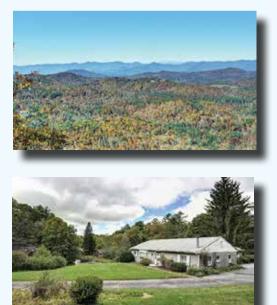
Frank Scudder is an important pillar of the Highlands community and has been since 1976 when his family opened Scudder's Auction House in Highlands. He meets people from all over the world who visit Highlands and enjoys helping



Residential Sales, Commercial Sales & Leasing & Sales of Undeveloped Properties with Integrity, Outrageous Customer Service, Hard Work & Just Plain Fun. Its not a marketing approach. It's Who..We..Are!



Mal Phillips • Broker-in-Charge 828-200-2642 email: TwigsRG@gmail.com



### Commercial Dream...Greystone \$1,180,000 • MLS# 80526

One block from Highlands' Main Street & sitting across the pond from Mitchell's Lodge, Greystone gets its name from the locally quarried granite used to construct it. Sitting on 2.376 acres and commercially zoned B-3, the possibilities are endless. A family home for generations, the original matriarch thought it would one day make a great restaurant!



### Profitable Oasis for 75 Years! \$3,480,000 • MLS# 80525

Mitchell's Lodge is "Highlands" for the many who return to it year after year! Walk to Main, profitable, and updated, this bit of paradise is located on 4.617 acres with 28 unique accommodations (Almost 70% have fireplaces) ranging from 1 and 2 bedroom "mountain" cabins to 1 bedroom suites with kitchenettes to the original 9 classic bedrooms that helped build the success story year after year! Come, sit, BUY!

### Gated, guarded, dreamy • \$498,000 • MLS 80602

The cachet of Old Edwards Club & Highlands Cove, an elevation of 4500 & views of which most simply dream. Long/multi-range mountains, peekaboo glimpse of emerald green fairways and frosty-white traps of the Old Edwards Club make this lot beyond special. On a cul-de-sac with renown Ogilvie estate, beautiful gardens & grounds, make for prestige & complete escape. Gated, guarded, dreamy.



### The Pride of Highlands \$12,800,000 • MLS# 80527

Highlands Plaza, the original shopping center for the plateau, is the destination for meeting the area's basic shopping/restaurant needs. Not an "old dog." Instead, this treasure has been beautifully maintained, with the most recent improvement the restructuring and re-landscaping of the parking area (240+ spaces.) 9.6 acres acres, almost 54,000 approximate, rentable sq. ft., further development possible. With the largest grocery store, the only ABC store, dry cleaners, car wash, traditional Mexican, Chinese & Subway restaurants on the plateau, you can't come to Highlands w/out going to the Plaza!



### Long Range Views Plus Shadow of the Bear! \$348,000 • MLS # 80662

Many lots in Highlands have multi-ranged, long, panoramic views. Few include two famous natural phenomena: Whiteside Mountain and "Shadow of the Bear!" Well this one does. Shadow of the Bear" is a bear's shadow cast as the sun shines across Whiteside mountain, visible mid-October through early November. This, combined with two acres, an easy building site, power to the lot line, previous septic approval and spectacular views of the Cashiers Valley make this lot beyond just special. Unique really.



### Beats Money in the Bank! \$724,000 • MLS 80237

An opportunity to invest in a commercial property on Highlands' Rodeo Drive on S. 4th Street a short block from Main St. Across from Old Edwards Inn resort & spa. Great street presence with 27.15 ft of road frontage. In pristine condition & leased to a great tenant. Real estate investments of this caliber don't come up often. Grab it!



### Location & Pristine! MLS# 80695 • \$1,188,00

In the heart of the Highlands business district on S. 4th Street, the "Rodeo Drive" of Highlands. 2-story with 2,620 sq. ft.; a luxury 2BR/2BA apt. upstairs and commercial space downstairs. Completely gutted and remodeled in 2014. Fixtures, furniture and equipment are included – some exclusions in apt. A turnkey opportunity!



Holt Knob. Just what everyone wants! Walk to town with great mountain view. 3br/2.5 furnished with a large deck. \$565,000. MLS# 76583



Highlands Falls Country Club Golf Villa. 3br/2ba, lovely mountain view, vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace and golf cart garage, fully furnished. \$285,500. MLS# 79071



Adorable 3/2 cottage includes extra lot plus a strip of deeded land across the street on Lake Sequoyah with a dock. Terraced gardens with multiple seating areas. \$650.000 MLS #79846



COMPLETELY remodeled in 2005. New kitchen, luxury master suite w/his and her baths. Large covered decks with fireplace room to use in cold weather. Beautiful grounds incl stream & pond. Guesthouse. \$1,100,000 MLS #74659



Wildcat Ridge home with 3br/4ba, family room, spacious decks, water feature and private gate at driveway. Bright and airy on 1.6+/acres. \$695.000. MLS# 80661



Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. Fully remodeled 4br/4ba home with open living spaces, large kitchen, rustic details and quality finishes. Great rental history!!! \$695,000. MLS #80111



4/4 home on the Atlanta side of Highlands with a 360 degree mountain view plus a dead on view of a beautiful waterfall. Horizontal wood plank walls and beautiful heart pine floors. Reclaimed antique doors and hardware plus antique light fixtures. \$897,000 MLS #7903 I



Located at the top of Highlands Falls CC with a commanding view of both Whiteside and Shortoff Mountains, this sophisticated home is packed with design features.. 5/6/1 \$2,500,000 MLS #79125



King Mountain Club 3 br/3ba with wonderful mountain view, sunroom and office. Needs TLC. You won't believe the price! REDUCED! \$179,900. MLS# 78789



Holt Cottage. Cute cottage with private setting, 2 master suites, loft, stone fireplace and screened porch. \$387,900. MLS# 79299



Beautiful lake frontage contemporary cottage home in Cold Springs Saddle and Tennis Club. National Forest on one side w/lots of privacy. Great lake view from deck, and studio/guest quarters above the garage with full bath and kitchenette. \$1,100,000 MLS #79848



Great value in Highlands Falls. 5/5 family home with a mountain view. Cathedral & beamed ceilings, hardwood floors & beautiful built-in cabinetry give the great room a grand feel. Secret wine cellar for the wine aficionado. \$737,000 MLS #71104



Highlands Falls Country Club maintenance free living in this freestanding 3br/3ba furnished condo with a great golf course view! \$357,000. MLS # 73808



Lake Sequoyah frontage from this 1.29 acre lot with a gentle slope and community water in upscale Sequoyah Point. \$397,000. MLS# 77522



Mirror Lake. 3/2 Wood floors & ceilings, remodeled kitchen & baths, fresh paint and new roof. Just bring your toothbrush as this is furnished and ready to enjoy. Good mountain views. \$299,000 MLS #75048



Old Highlands Charm at the top of Big Bearpen Mtn with a spectacular view of Whiteside & Chimney Top. Vintage 3BR/3BA home with a lovely porch on the back of the home. \$995,000 MLS # 79622



Cullasaja Club furnished cottage with extensive waterfall feature. 3br/3ba beautifully remodeled with granite kitchen and baths. \$675,000. MLS# 79896



Cullasaja Club awesome lakefront property. Beautifully furnished with plenty of bedrooms and baths plus a private guest quarters. \$2,135,000. MLS# 79741



Exceptional opportunity to own a commercial building w/easy access off NC 106. Perfect fandscaping; countertop and cabinetry fabrication; storage; furniture making; and construction. Plus a small 2/2 house that can be rented out or used by the owner. \$396,000 MLS #80316



A private sanctuary of comfort & charm, with open-plan living & dining area. 4/3 with hardwood flooring, stained pine ceilings & two-sided fireplace. Close to the all the amenities that Trillium has to offer. \$350,000 MLS #74443



41 Church Street & 2334 Cashiers Road • Highlands NC 28741 (828) 526-1717 • 526-4101 www.MeadowsMtnRealty.com

Model Open

Monday-Saturday

10a-5p

Off Hickory Street in Highlands

# • REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS

OLD?

DWARDS

CLUB





Private compound of 9+ acres off Flat Mountain Road. Walk to Randall Lake, private deck with fireplace and ridgeline view. IBR/2BA, a perfect cozy getaway! Large shop building could easily become a guest house. The property is developable. Offered at \$995,000, mls #80371

Historic home built around 1940 on 5 acres of terraced gardens with stunning views of Blue Valley. Rabun Bald, and SC and GA, Large windows, main floor bedroom and bath with 2 guest bedrooms upstairs. Garage. Additional View lots possible. \$1,200,000. mls #78884



**Country Club Properties** 



RARE opportunity for land with just under 500 ft. of BIG CREEK frontage. Beautiful wooded peninsula. Imagine your Mountain retreat atop this pretty knoll. Enjoy the privacy and views up and down Big Creek.

MLS #80442 Offered at newly reduced price of \$299,000. Ellie Hogan, Broker Country Club Properties • 363 Main Street Office Cell: 828-200-0488 • Office: 828-526-5010

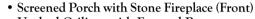
Ellie4highlands@gmail.com



- 3 BD/3.5 BA or 4BA/3.5BA
  - (with optional Lower Level)

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- Covered Outdoor Deck (Rear)



- Vaulted Ceilings with Exposed Beams
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Julie Osborn **Broker** Associate Cell: 828-200-6165 Office: 828-526-8784



Casual Mountain Elegance Featuring Rustic Textures, Native Stone and Reclaimed Timbers.

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

### HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN REALTY

**Elberton Way** 



Picturesque English cottage style, 10' ceilings on main floor, garage, 3/4 BR, 3.5 Baths. Great view property. Pre construction pricing \$1,945,000



Andréa Gabbard 828-200-6742 andreagabbard@gmail.com

**Rustic Elegance** 

Office, 2 car garage, studio, 3 BR, walk out basement, deeded lake access, direct access to National Forest hiking trails. \$473,000 Broker/ Owner MLS 79354



• Spiritually Speaking •

### **Contentment and Thankfulness**

#### By Pastor Mark Ford

#### First Baptist Church of Highlands

I think I can safely say, and most of you will concur, that our nation suffers from a restless devotion to "The Next Big Thing." We are alert to the new and the faddish, and don't rest easy if we fall behind the "in the know" curve. And because of the kind of world we live in, we stay in a turmoil of discontent and anxiety if we don't have cutting edge technology, drive the newest car, wear the latest fashion, and know the most recent news. We want to be relevant, contemporary and in touch. This worldly spirit impacts our everyday lives, our culture, and sadly our churches. Because we don't want to be or appear to be out of touch or old fashioned, we anxiously labor to stay in step with our world and its break-neck speed of change and fashions. The problem is that all of this creates a pervasive and perverse discontent.

What might go a long way toward relieving our modern day stresses and despair would be a renewed sense of contentment embellished with thankfulness for what we already have – which is abundantly more than most people in the world possess. We are told constantly that in our part of the world, most of us are in the top 5% of the world's wealthiest people. But contentment is not something we can generate in and of ourselves. Contentment has to have an object – someone or something that is so satisfying we can echo Paul's word in Philippians 4:11, 13, 19, where he says, "I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am...I can do all things through Him who strengthens me...And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Simply, Paul found all he needed in his relationship to God and the riches he found in the Lord Jesus Christ.

If affluence and material things could make us happy, Americans should be the happiest people in the world. But Tim Kasser in his book *The High Price of Materialism* concluded that affluent cultures and individuals are not on average happier than others. In fact, those in the United

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 25

### Cut N Patch Quilt Shop 160 Strawberry Lane Highlands, 526-9743

Fabric and quilting supplies. Quilts ready to go. Please call for hours



Large Lap size quilts Several to choose from Great for snuggling When the weather turns cold or displaying on the wall Starting at \$175 This one is Browns, tans and gray

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

#### BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Oliver Rice. Pastor (706) 782-3965

Sunday: School:10 a.m., Worship:11 Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7 Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting:7 p.m. **BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH** 828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor Sundays: School:10 a.m.; Worship:11 **CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY** 

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999 Sundays: 10 a.m.:Worship Holy Communion Ist 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.; 9:15a Christian Education at Buck's Coffee Cashiers Crossroads; 10:30a Faithful, Family Service w/ Music &

Communion.

Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m. **CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS** Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470 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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968

Sundays: Eucharist Rite I 8a in chapel; 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

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

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors 526-3175 • fpchighlands.org Sun.:Worship: 11 a.m.; School: 9:30 Mondays: 8 a.m.:Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast Wednesdays:Choir:5:30p

GOLDMINE BÁPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd) • Rev. Carson Gibson Sunday School:10 am, Worship Service:11 am

Bible Study:6 pm GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship 242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814

Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

John 3:16 HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729 Pastor Nathan Johnson Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship I Ia & 7p, Bible Study 6p Wed. Kidsquest 6p.;Worship 7p. HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD Randy Reed, Pastor828-421-9172 • 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 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p. Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided ) HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH:ELCA Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741 Sun: 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 Sun: 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 (Father Francis): 526-2418 Mass: Sun: II a.m.; Sat. at 4p SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Marty Kilby Sundays: School -10 a.m.; Worship -11 a.m. & 7 Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.:7 p.m. SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD 290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor 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 **THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD** 1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359 Rev. Dr.Virginia Monroe Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a Rite II, 10:30 June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a Nursery available for Rite II services Sept 7- Oct 26-Informal Evening Eucharist-5:30 p.m. Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist. **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP** 85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777 Sunday Worship - 11 a.m. Child Care - 10:30a - 12:30p Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Youth 8th - 12th grade meets 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30p **WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** 

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School:10 am, Worship Service:11 am

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# • Fire Reports •

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Nov. 9.

#### Nov. 9

• At 12:44 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Buckberry Road.

### Nov. 10

•At 11:20 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Falcon Ridge Road.

• At 12:40 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Spring Street.

### Nov. 11

• At 2:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a brush fire on Queen Mountain.

• At 3:43 p.m., the dept. responded to a brush fire on Buck Creek Road.

• At 5:09 p.m., the dept. responded to a brush fire on Holly Tree Road.

Nov. 12

• At 6:12 a.m, the dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Mountain Fire Dept. on Rabbit Hill Road.

Nov. 13

• At 11:38 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Scaly Mtn. Fire Dept., but the call was cancelled en route.

• At 2:38 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Hicks Road.

Nov. 14

• At 4:14 a.m., the dept. was called to assist with a brush fire in Satolah, but it was cancelled.

• At 6:39 a.m., the dept. was called to S. 4th Street about a fire caused by a downed power line.

• At 8:40 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

• At 8:40 a.m., the dept.

was first responders to a residence on Big Bear Pen Road. Nov. 15

• At 7:02 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Magnolia Drive. Nov. 19

• At 8:04 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident at Main and 5th streets.

• At 6:13 p.m., the dept. was called to Mirror Lake and Billy Cabin roads about an unattended fire.

Nov. 20

• At 8:20 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Harris Drive.

• At 11:03 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

Nov. 23

• At 6:17 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cherokee Drive.

### ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 24

States who identified themselves as "very happy" has declined from 35 to 29 percent in the last few decades. He observes that consumer cultures like ours breed a narcissistic personality by constantly focusing us on the glorification of consumption and the denouement of obsoleteness that drives us constantly toward the "Next Big Thing." And I would say that nothing will make us more discontent and less thankful than a focus on our selves.

Contentment and thankfulness go hand-in-hand. In discontent we accuse God of being negligent toward us, and fail to acknowledge His abundant blessings on us now. Thankfulness catalogues His goodness toward us, and gives Him proper praise and recognition for His gifts while building in us contentment and satisfaction. Paul said in I Thessalonians 5:18 that "in everything give thanks, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." It is Thanksgiving this week. Let us do as the Psalmist said and

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and bless His name" (100:4). I believe that with a real spirit of thankfulness toward God for all He has done for us and all that we have, we will discover the joy of contentment in a world of discontent. And we won't have to look for the "Next Big Thing" for we already have the biggest and best there ever will be – we have the Lord, and what more could we want?



Local Apples, NC Sweet Potatoes, Mtn. Cabbage, Pie Pumpkins, Candy Roasters, Local Collard and Turnip Greens, Rutabaga, Turnips, Eggs, Country Ham, Side Meat, Amish Butter, New Crop mixed Nuts, Pecans, Large Variety of Cider, James and Jellies, Local Honey, Fritters, Cinnamon Pecan Bread, Large assortment candy, Gift Baskets, Fresh Frazier Fir Christmas Trees and much more. **Hope to see you soon!** 

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Wednesday, December 3 10:00am to 2:00pm Center for Plastic Surgery 209 Hospital Dr. 526-3783

Refreshments and Door Prizes Special One Day Pricing

### ...SOTHEBY'S continued from page 21

them find the perfect match in real estate as well as antiques or other treasures. Sotheby's is a synergistic partner for Frank across the spectrum of his interests.

Lizzie Salzarulo, the previous owner of Harry Norman, is coming on board after a well-deserved respite over the holidays. Lizzie and her fellow brokers will bring to Sotheby's all their many Harry Norman contacts in metro Atlanta, which will only strengthen the Atlanta pipeline for Buyers and Sellers and further add to the large client base Highlands Sotheby's International Realty already services.

Gail Knight will be the Office Manager at Sotheby's Old Edwards Inn location. Gail has a thirty-year history with Bell South and applied her organizational skills in real estate over the last nine years managing real estate offices.

Earlier this year, two top-producing brokers joined the company: Carole Oxford and Pat Buchanan.

"We are so grateful to our wonderful clients and friends for their referrals and business. We are very excited to have new brokers with so much experience join our Highlands Sotheby's family which will provide better exposure for our Sellers and deeper knowledge for our Buyers" said Jody Lovell. "With two locations: one at the entrance of Cullasaja Club and one in The Old Edwards' Inn Complex, we are ready to help with your real estate needs. Call us at 828-526-4104 or 526-8300."

# Tree of Lights

### **This December At Highlands-Cashiers Hospital**

Place an ornament on the Haspital Christmas Tree in memory of, or in honor of , a family member or friend with a gift of \$10.00 or more. These bells ( in honor of) and stars (in memory of) will display the name of your friend or loved one. Your tax-deductable donation will go toward nursing scholarships offered by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Given by:			
Address			
Amount donated \$			_
	owledgement to:		_
	\$\$		
	A donation in the amount of \$		
	0.12449-0445-044500		

# BIZ/ORG NEWS

### **HS Scholars noted at Rotary**



The Rotary Club of Highlands honored the November Highlands School Scholars of the Month at its November 18 meeting. Pictured with Nicole Lui, School Counselor, and Peter Ray, club President, are: Brooke Fogarty, elementary school winner, Eli Kennedy, middle school winner and Rachael Foster, high school winner.

# Fresh, made-in-house, bakery products now available at Mountain Fresh Grocery



From left: Head Breadmaker Jocelyn Thacker and Bakery Manager Cristina Vives display an array of fresh donuts. Items include Stollen Bread, baguettes ciabatta, fruit, pecan and pumpkin pies, cakes for birthdays, weddings and anniversaries, layer cakes, dinner rolls, brownies, lemon bars, cookies, pound cake, capcakes and macaroons daily in Mountain Fresh Grocery's bakery. – Photo by Jim Lewicki

# BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS



### 'Holiday Artisan Market' is open weekends through December 20

The market, which is an offshoot of the Farmers Market that was in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park this past summer and fall, has reinvented itself and is now set up in Cafe 460. Hours are Friday, Nov. 28 from 10a to 4p, Sat., Nov. 29 from 10a to 4p, Sat., Dec. 6 from 9a to 5p, Sat., Dec. 13 from 10a to 4p, and Sat., Dec. 20 from 10a to 4p.

– Photo by Jim Lewicki

After

### Help feed the hungry!

MountainTop Rotary Club is helping the hungry in Highlands and wants your help! Purchase a meal or gift card to share with the community during the holiday season. Bryson's Gift Cards are available for \$20. Dinner meal certificates are available from Mountain Fresh Grocery for \$19.95 each. All donations will be shared between the Highlands Emergency Council and the local food bank.

### ...LETTERS continued from page 2

organization, H.A.N.D.S., the Highlands Area Nonprofit Donation Sharing, has held a community Christmas Dinner to raise funds to give back to the community. Last year, the Dinner raised \$36,000 for local charities. The majority of these funds are not raised by the \$40 charged for the Dinner, but from local businesses and residents who donate their time and money. Who among us cannot afford to donate something, no matter how large or how small, for the benefit of our community? That's the "giving" part of Thanksgiving. Please join me in opening your checkbooks for this worthwhile, local, charitable effort. I am thankful to be part of this community. I will match each donation! Let's give 'til it helps. Need more information? Call 526-5102

A Friend of the Community

### • MILESTONE • Dolinta named to honor society

Ana Maria Dolinta, of Highlands and a student at Southwest Community College, was named to the National Technical Honor Society at Southwestern Community College.

### Larry Rogers Construction Company, Inc.

Excavating • Grading • Trucking Trackhoe Backhoe • Blasting • Utilities (828) 526-2874





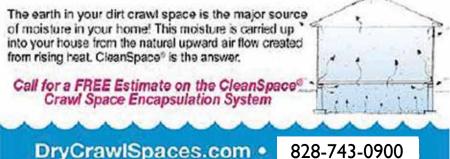
There are three things that destroy materials in general and wood in particular: water, heat, and ultra-violat radiation, of these, water is by far the most destructive!

Before

### Protect your home from:

- Mold
- Bugs
- Structural Damage
- Smells & Odors
- Loss of Storage Space Radon Gas
- Rising Energy Costs





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### SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS \$17/wk BW weekly

\$22/wk/color weekly

### CLASSIFIED ADS

\$6 for 10 words, 20 cents per word thereafter weekly (\$2 extra for yellow highlight)

### RGANIZATION NEWS • BUSINESS





LANDM RK A ROYAL SHELL COMPANY **BRIAN RENFRO** 828-226-0118 brianrenfro@gmail.com www.brianrenfro.com



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### **H-C Hospital** hosts clergy **`Meet and Greet'**

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital's (HCH) chaplain, Ralph Campbell, hosted a meet and greet for new clergy to meet their fellow clergy serving our communities and patients at HCH. In total, 22 clergy and spouses attended the "Low Country Boil and Bluegrass Jam" on October 23 at the HCH dining room and patio. Shown here is Steve Kerhoulas, pastor of Christ Church of the Valley, as he enjoys some of the delicious food that was served.

### **Living Center** veterans participate in Veteran's Day celebration

The Eckerd Living Center (ELC) at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital (HCH) participated in the Veteran's Day Celebration hosted by the Town of Franklin for the 2nd year in a row. The ELC Veterans enjoyed a full day of festivities beginning with a cheering crowd of onlookers on Main Street in downtown Franklin during the Veteran's Day Parade then onto lunch at the local VFW Club and a tour of the Veteran's Memorial Park.

Local Members of the Battle of Sugartown Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) volunteered to assist with the ELC Veteran's during the day's festivities. Sincere Thanks to both local chapters for their help during this wonderful day.

The Eckerd Living Center is an 80-Bed Skilled Nursing Facility physically attached to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital in Highlands, NC.

For more information on spiritual care at **Highlands-Cashiers** Hospital, please call the chaplain at 828-526-1305.

but don't forget we are also NC REAL ESTATE BROKERS You can count on us every step of the way to get you to the finish line. We train hard for races, and we will work equally hard for you. Richard Betz 828-526-5213 Martha Betz 828-200-1411 Country Club Properties betzrealtor@gmail.com

Highlands-Cashiers

Fidelia Eckerd Living Center

US 64 Between Highlands & Cashiers, NC

Positions Now Available

**ER and Acute Registered Nurses** 

MDS Coordinator

Annual Gift Officer

Maior Gift Officer

Unit Clerk

**Certified Nursing Assistant** 

**Pharmacy Tech** 

Administrative Assistant.

Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of fall-time employment.

Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources,

828-526-1376, or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

You know us as **RUNNERS**.



### CLASSIFIEDS •

### **HELP WANTED**

PART TIME - CO-DIRECTOR FOR AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM. Call 526-3175 or 482-0326 for more information. (st. 11/26)

MAIN STREET INN is looking for a winter innkeeper that is available to live on site. Email info@ mainstreet-inn.com or call 828-526-2590. (st. 11/6)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY IN HIGH-LANDS is hiring full-time for positions on the grill. Contact Don at 828.526.2400

PART-TIME BOOK-KEEPER POSITION with Quickbooks experience needed at the Highlands ABC Store. Applications are available at the store in Highlands Plaza. 828-526-5470. (st. 10/9)

EXPERIENCED ELECTRICIAN NEEDED. Edwards Electrical Services. 828-526-5147. (st. 10/2)

**EARLY CHILD-HOOD EDUCATOR** needed at Highlands Community Child Development Center. Must have NC credentials. Mail resume to PO Box 648, Highlands, NC 28741. (st. 10/2)

**LEAD LINE COOK** & DISHWASHER needed at casual fine dining, up to \$13/hour or salary B.O.E. jasoncancilla2012@gmail. com (st. 6/19)

PART TIME SEA-SONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AVAIL-ABLE. Prior wait staff experience required. 20 - 30 hours with weekend availability. Call 803-389-0199. (st. 6/12)

**CNA, NURSES, CAREGIVERS** needed for Home Care Agency serving Older Adults in Macon, Jackson and Transylvania counties. Call 828-200-9000. (st. 5/15)

SALES ASSOCIATE FOR HIGH END RETAIL CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS, NC. full time. part-time and seasonal. Must be available to work weekends. Retail clothing sales experience preferred. Please call 828-200-1703. (st. 3/13)

#### RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

**1BR/1BA APART-MENT.** All utilities included. No pets. 828-200-2061. (st. 11/26)

HIGHLANDS CREEK VILLAGE. 460 DILLARD ROAD. Live or/and work, units available. Please Call 828-787-1923 for tour. (12/18)

TWO BEDROOM AND THREE BEDROOM THREE BATH HOUSES AVAILABLE. Just 3 miles from Main St. Freshly painted and Propane Heat. 6-12 month lease available. Call 828-421-4681. (st. 11/20)

2 BR APT. IN TOWN. Walk to work, shop, eat. Unfurnished. \$675 + utilities. Cynthia (828) 526-9227. (st. 10/30)

**SAPPHIRE NC.** Partitioned Home for lease" - 2 Bedroom (mountain views) with 2-car Garage. Easy access Sapphire NC. 561-346-6400 (11/20)

### **VACATION RENTAL**

DAYTONA 500 OCEANFRONT W/BAL-CONY-2/15/15-2/22-15. Sleeps 4, full kitchen, w/d and all amenities. Beside the Oceanwalk Shoppes and restaurants. \$2,100 (828) 349-1135. Spacious, (12/18)

CLEAN 2/2 COT-TAGE IN SKY VALLEY. \$540 weekly. \$1900 monthly. Furnished, utilities included, carport/ extra parking. Call: 706-746-3593. (st. 9/4)

### RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

**CABINS FOR SALE/ RENT.** Located on Sawmill Road in Clear Creek. 4.63 acres. Call 828-526-2720. Price Negotiable. (11/6)

**2BED/2BATH 1.20 AC.** Fantastic views & Privacy \$88,999.00. Call 482.2050 706.782.9728. Cypresslanesale@facebook. (st. 8/7)

**2BR/IBA HOME.** Clear Creek Road. New exterior paint, inside paint, Brand new appliances, new flooring throughout. \$165,000. (828) 526 2288/ (828)482-2385. (st. 9/25)

SECLUDED, BUT JUST MINUTES TO TOWN, Adorable two Bedroom home with great views and outdoor living spaces. Call 828-421-4681. (st. 5/29)

### LOTS/LAND FOR SALE

**<u>I.23 ACRES. SEPTIC</u> <u>SYSTEM.</u>** Located off Sassafras Gap to Hidden Springs Road. Call 828-526-2720. Price Negotiable. (11/20)

LAND FOR SALE IN CLEAR CREEK: 2.18 acre parcel has road frontage on Mack Wilson Rd. \$17,000.Any reasonable offers will be considered. Call 828-526-2874. (st. 10/23)

FOR SALE BY OWN-ER – 3 building lots in the gated community of Rustic Falls. Macon County tax records value at \$51,000 each. Must sell due to health reasons.Asking \$15,000 each. Call owner at 803-640-6004. (St. 5/1)

MUST SELL 6+ acres at Lake Glenville. Lake and mountain views. \$130,000 or Best Offer. Call 706-348-3208.

### l, (st. 2/20)

ITEMS FOR SALE WINTER GREET-INGS EVERYDAY CHINA BY LENOX. 17 plates, 13 salad plates, 14 mugs, 1 platter. perfect condition. \$550. 828-200-9777. (st. 11/20)

5TH-WHEEL MO-TOR HOME. Wanderer by Thor. 27ft. w/10ft. slideout. 2ft. repair needed. \$2,500. 828-200-9143. (st. 10/30)

PIANOS FOR SALE -2 consoles, I spinet, I upright, I electric organ, \$150 each, all 5 for \$500. Call 526 4818 (st. 10/23)

**FURNITURE.** Lodge pole pine pedestal dining/ breakfast table with stump base and 2 single/2 double half log benches; handcrafted in Franklin, NC; in excellent condition; slab is 45 1/4" x 36" x 3 1/4". Estimated retail value is \$2,000 and asking \$1,200. Please call 229-221-4080 or email janwadams49@gmail. com (10/30)

**WORMY CHESTNUT FOR SALE:** Approximately 300 square feet of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" wormy chestnut wainscot milled and finished. Board length 36"; width varies from 4" to 8". \$2800 lot price.404-944-5298 (st. 3/20)

### **SERVICES**

HIGHLANDS RESI-DENT PROVIDES LO-CAL HOUSE AND PET SITTING, errands, food delivery Rita 526-4249 (11/13)

HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN VINSON: scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing. Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208. (st. 10/23)

MARK'S SEDAN SER-VICE – Airport transportation, winter-fall tours. Call or Text 239-292-3623. Mark9398@aol.com (st. 9/11)

HANDYMAN SER-VICE – Electrical, plumbing, pressure cleaning, painting, carpentry, yardwork. References. Call Al Edgar at cell: 332-7271 or 369-6245. (11/30)

THOROUGH CLEAN – General, spring, construction References available 706-982-1504. (st. 8/7)

**I PAY TOP DOLLAR** for premium low mileage automobiles 828-347-6600. (st. 6/5)

HIGHLANDS-CA-SHIERS HANDYMAN: Repairs, remodeling, painting, pressure washing, minor plumbing and electric, decks and additions. Free Estimates. Insured. Call 421-4667. (10/23)

HIGHLANDS TAXI & SHUTTLE: Let Charlie Dasher handle your transportation whether it's to the airport, a special event, or just around town. Van service for weddings. Licensed and insured. 526-8645. (st. 7/18/13)

MOLDAND MUSTY SMELL INYOUR HOME? Call for free inspection. 828-743-0900.

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES: Complete Landscaping Company, Design, Installation and Maintenance. Also featuring Plants, Trees, Hardscapes, Water Features, Rockwork, Fencing, Drainage, Erosion Control and RR-Tie work. Serving the Highlands/Cashiers area since 1988. 828-526-2251.

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