

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 43

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

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2014

## Through-Sat., Nov. 1

• One Stop Voting at Highlands Rec Park. 9a-5p weekdays and 9a-1p Saturdays.

## Thurs., October 23

• At Hudson Library, READING Program starting.

## Sat., Oct. 25

• Hiker Jam Octoberfest: Fall Beer and Music Festival. 10a to 11p. General Admission and Beer Ticket \$25, VIP Admission, \$100. Tickets available at the Hiker Jam website <http://www.hikerjam.com/> or at the Highlands Chamber.

• At The Bascom, Spooky Raku with Frank Vicery. 10a to 4p. Call 787-2865

• At The Bascom, FREE Pumpkin Event, 10a to noon. Create Jack-o-lanterns. Pumpkins provided. Call 526-4949 to register.

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club will host a Pancake Breakfast at the Scaly Mountain Community Center at the Corner of NC 106 and Buck Knob Road from 7:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

• At Cabin Couture, a book-signing with author Terri Kennedy's newly published book, "Animus." 11a to 2p.

• At the Rec Park, Donkey Basketball. Game starts at 6:30. Dinner starts at 5p. \$5 dinner plates. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door. Available at Highlands School or the Rec Park.

## Sun., Oct. 26

• First Presbyterian Church will host an old fashioned Hymn Sing at 4pm on Sunday.

• The WCU Concert Choir will be singing during the 11 a.m. worship service at Highlands First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 26.

## Tues., Oct. 28

• At Hudson Library, "Life in Highlands" Film at 6p.

## Shearl wins latest appeal against town

*Case could be heard by Highlands Zoning Board of Adjustment again*

At the September and October Town Board meetings Town Attorney JK Coward met with the board in closed session to discuss the ongoing case John

Shearl v. The Town of Highlands.

This is a case that has plagued the town since August 2009 when the Highlands Zoning Board of Adjustment upheld the Zoning

Administrator's ruling that Shearl's J&J Lawn & Landscaping business activities were encroaching on the residential portion of his split-

• See SHEARL page 6

## Poster winners announced



At the Thursday, Oct. 16 Town Board meeting, Mayor Pat Taylor announced the winners of the Highlands Home Town Day poster contest. Winners were: 4th Grade: 1st Place Tristan Petrone; 2nd Place Madison Jolly. 5th Grade (Hedden): 1st Place Lawson Shuler; 2nd Place Angelique Wales. 5th Grade (Sanchez): 1st Place Emma Minton; 2nd Place Reese Brewer (Not Present). 6th Grade: 1st Place Abigail Vanderwiele; 2nd Place Hadley Templeton.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

## Mission's plans regarding HCH

The Community Building was filled to capacity during Monday night's Town Hall meeting to hear about the status of

the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

As a medical doctor and a business man, Dr. Ron Paulus, CEO of Mission Health explained

the hows and whys of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital's (HCH) recent affiliation with Mission Health

• See HCH page 14

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## Commission candidates for District 2 speak out

By Brittany Raby

With early voting starting today, Thursday, Oct. 23, there are just a few weeks left to get informed about the upcoming election. The Macon Board of Commissioners have a total of three seats up for grabs. There is one seat open in District I, the Highlands District of the board, and two seats vacant in District II, serving Franklin. Four candidates have filed for District II, and with two seats open, the top two vote-getters will be elected to office.

Macon County veteran and former educator, Gary Shields put his name on the November ballot in hopes of securing one of the two District II seats. A Macon County native, Shields was born and raised in the Cartoogechaye Community. He at-

• See CANDIDATES page 4

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### The town's storm chasers

With five inches of rain and high winds, Tuesday before last was a perfect storm for power outages. How did the town respond in battling multiple power outages? Here are a few observations.

The first battle occurred early that morning on US 64, north of the conference center. Quick decisions from Lamar Nix, our public works director, and his electrical crew were required throughout the day.

A large tree had fallen across US 64 taking down a major power line that serves multiple neighborhoods. The Highlands Police Department arrived and secured the area.

The electrical crews quickly assessed the problem and began their work. At the same time, additional outages were being reported. Yogi McCall, the head of the electrical department, knew that the storm was causing continuous outages, so he had to make an immediate decision: completely close US 64 and make the repair in about an hour, or remove part of the tree and have the police set up one lane traffic. The second option, while helping traffic, would have caused the repair process to go on for two to four hours. Unattended outages could jeopardize the entire grid, so Yogi decided to close the road and work fast as possible in order to expedite response to the mounting calls for service.

Five linemen and four tree trimmers comprise the electrical department. Crews from the road department are able to assist during emergency weather situations. Our workers are cross trained for such situations and several crews can be formed to handle problems throughout the town.

Staff at Town Hall, including myself, took many calls concerning power failures that day. A radio system in town hall is used to report outages to crews in the field.

Some callers asked how long would it be before their power was restored. That was difficult to answer given the magnitude of the storm. Outages from falling limbs and trees are routinely restored in 45 minutes. When power poles are damaged, an outage can last for hours. Fortunately, this storm did not destroy any poles.

A few people called to complain



about problems with an automated call system. Since Highlands doesn't use this type system, the staff had to inform these callers that they were Duke customers residing outside our service area. Some Duke subscribers waited 20 to 24 hours for service restoration. By late evening, when the storms had subsided, all of our residents had power. Nevertheless, spot outages continued into Wednesday morning.

Working in storms place electric crews and first responders in harm's way where accidents and mistakes can result in loss of life. Several years ago a lineman of an area utility was electrocuted working in a storm. Our town workers did their duty with dedicated resolve in a challenging situation.

• See MAYOR page 9

## • LETTERS •

### Dahlias benefit our history

After spending many years in Highlands, it never ceases to amaze people who witness the generosity of our citizens and businesses to our special place. The businesses do whatever they can to enhance the activities of our historical society. We are all so grateful that those who came before us got the idea to found this wonderful place.

The Dahlia festival this year was a fun and well attended event. Dahlias have traditionally done very well here and have been grown in the Highlands area throughout history. Years ago the Highlands Historical Society members decided to celebrate this reality by giving our citizens a chance to display those flowers to the community. Thanks to the creativity and enormous energy of Judy Taylor, Raya McArthur, Kitty Moore, Linda and Bill Edwards this year a patron party was held

as a fundraiser for HHS. This party raised the funds we need to enhance the Prince House and the historical documents

One of the society members, Bill Edwards, had the brilliant idea of presenting a loaded wheelbarrow for raffle. All were amazed at the quality and quantity of donations for that wheelbarrow. Sally Caffery, a real friend of HHS, walked the streets of Highlands to request donations of goods for the raffle. On one side of Main Street she solicited gifts from Park on Main, Reeves, Kilwin's, Highlands Kids, Appalachian Harvest, Stone Lantern, Mountain Fresh and Highlands Hiker; crossing the street she was gifted by Wit's End, Juliana's, Spice & Tea Exchange, J McLaughlin, Main Street Inn, Silver Eagle, Mountaintop Wine, Elevation for Women, Dutchman's Lulu Bleu, Sports Page, The Christmas Shop, Rosewood, The Bascom, and Bear Mountain Outfitters. Sally and others even went off Main Street to CK Swan, Sky Valley Golf Club and Paws on the Mountain, Animal Wellness Hospital, August Produce, Pescados, Highlands Lawn and Garden, Highlands Smokehouse, Mirror Lake Antiques, and Bryson's. There were other donations from "Friends of HHS" who also gave generously.

We also thank some wonderful patrons who clearly love our dahlias and our history:

An anonymous donor who gave \$2500 in memory of Ruth Leonard was especially appreciated. The generosity of these people is greatly appreciated: Virginia and Mike Campbell, Linda and James McMahan, Diane and Ray McPhail, Peggy Woodruff, Martin Andreas, Susan Duncan, Jimmy Evans, Joan and Clark Johnson, Brenda and Stewart Manning, Karon and Emmett Moore, Jack Sawyer and Bill Torres, Carolyn and Rhett Tanner, Dee and Gary Carnes, The Dunlap Cogswell Foundation, Sieglinde and John Gillfillan, Carol and Stiles Kellett, Cecile McCaul, Kitty and Pat Moore, Ann and Claude Sullivan and Judy and Tom Taylor.

All you dahlia growers and display people are the BEST!! May your garden increase in beauty with every passing year!

Thank you ALL, for not only enhancing Highlands' history but helping all who participated have a really grand time.

Glenda Bell  
Highlands

• See LETTERS page 8

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.

## Highlands Newspaper LLC

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# • OBITUARY •

## Eleanor McCarty Cheney



Eleanor McCarty Cheney died Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at her home in Highlands, NC. Eleanor is survived by her beloved husband of 62 years, William Henry Cheney and three children, Margaret Cheney Knox of Newnan, GA and Eleanor Frances Cheney of Highlands, NC and William Henry Cheney, Jr. of Delray Beach, FL. Eight grandchildren and two great-granddaughters also survive. Mrs. Cheney is preceded in death by one grandson, James Gilliam Cheatham, Jr.

Eleanor was born in New Orleans, LA on March 17, 1930 to John Brown McCarty and Margaret Lewis McCarty. Eleanor grew up in Dalton, GA. She attended Ward Belmont College in Nashville, TN for one year and completed her education at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, GA in 1951.

Throughout her life she maintained a sweet and kind demeanor that won the trust and hearts of many, who even now

are being changed by her witness of constant nurturing love and faith. Even as a child, she possessed a contagious smile that remained her signature throughout life. Possessing a true servant's heart, Eleanor faithfully cared for family and friends. The heart of the Cheney Family, Eleanor shaped their spirituality by her tireless Christian example. Mrs. Cheney loved to dance, listen to music, read, pray, chat with friends and family, and travel. She had a true appreciation for the outdoors and all of God's beautiful creatures. She was a woman of strong faith, believing in power and strength of Jesus Christ's love and the beauty and peace that would await her after her passing.

Graveside services will be held at a later date at Highlands Memorial Park.

Bryant Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be made by visiting [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com)



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# Ronnie Beale

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### Committed to Highlands

- Worked to secure new soccer field at Highlands High School
- Supported the acquisition of property for future expansion of Zachary Park
- Instrumental in the agreement of Macon County and Hudson Library

I look forward to working on the many other important projects for the residents of Highlands.

I need your help and your vote in the upcoming general election. We must never take our freedom and liberty for granted. Exercise your constitutional right and together let's keep Macon County moving forward. I appreciate your past support and look forward to serving you, the citizens of Macon County, as your District 2 County Commissioner.

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## ...CANDIDATES from page 1

tended Franklin High School before moving to Walhalla, SC and then Waynesville, NC where he graduated from Waynesville Township High in June 1966.

Shields was drafted into the military right out of high school and assigned to a unit in Vietnam where he served with the 173rd Airborne Infantry Brigade from October 1967 - June 1969. After leaving the military, Shields attended Gardner-Webb College (University) and graduated Cum Laude in May 1973. He then went on to attend University of North Carolina-Charlotte at night to earn his MA Degree in School Administration and he attended WCU at night to earn a MA in Guidance and Counseling.

Shields began his career in education in Macon County 31 years ago when he was appointed the Principal of Union Academy in 1983. He went on to become the Principal of Franklin High School where he spent the bulk of his career, 21 years. Shields has been retired since

2010 and currently sits as a member of the Macon County Board of Education.

In addition to the board of education, Shields has dedicated his time to serving the community as a member of the Rotary Club, a sitting member of the Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees, Angel Medical Center Foundation Board, KIDS Place Board, Franklin Chamber of Commerce, and the Macon County Tourism Development Commission.

Shields noted that he wanted to join the county's commissioners to work for a better future for the community.

"I have the time, energy and want to," said Shields. "I care about Macon County; the people of Macon County and the youth of Macon County. I look with great interest to be a part of a decision making group for the betterment of Macon County. I am a Vietnam veteran and belong to the Vietnam Veterans of America organization and our

• See CANDIDATES page 8

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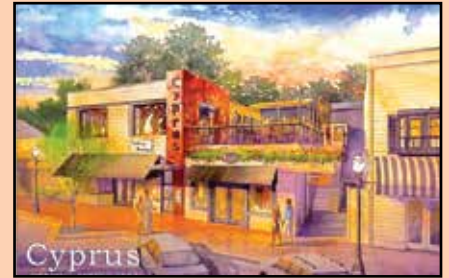
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## ...SHEARL continued from page 1

zoned property on NC 28 south.

On September 2, the NC Court of Appeals remanded the case to the Superior Court with instructions to order further proceedings before the Highlands Zoning Board of Adjustment.

My instructions are to try to settle the case, on terms favorable to the Town of Highlands. That is contingent on discussing the matter with opposing counsel," said Town Attorney JK Coward. "If it is not settled, it will be heard before the BOA.

This latest appeal and ruling responds to the Sept. 5, 2013 hearing in the Court of Appeals to which Judge James U. Downs May 22, 2014 judgment upheld the town's ruling in the zoning encroachment case.

The issue revolves around two Town of Highlands zoning maps -- one allegedly dated 1983 and one dated 1990.

The 1990 map reflects changes made to the zoning ordinance and subsequent map which amended the delineation of property lines from the center line of the adjacent road -- in this case, NC 28 south -- from the previous 230 feet to 150 feet. This was done to reduce strip commercial development along the corridors to Highlands. As a result, zoning categories changed and a new zoning map was adopted.

Though citizens remember the 1983 zoning map and the town admits one did exist, the map and all copies have been lost.

Shearl bought his property in 1993 when the now lost map was in existence and as such contends that his use of the property was "grandfathered" in.

He contends that the Superior Court erred by

concluding that the evidence established the existence of a zoning violation when the notice of violation was issued. He also contends, that the Superior Court erred by determining that he had the burden of proving that his nonconforming use was grandfathered in under the terms of the zoning ordinance given that the Town of Highlands has lost an official zoning map crucial to his defense.

However, the September 2 ruling says that the Town of Highlands bears the burden of proving that Shearl's zoning violation dates back to his 1993 purchase of the property. Because the burden was inappropriately placed on Shearl the court vacated the Superior Court's order and remands this matter for a new hearing.

Shearl has turned the entire matter over to his attorney Craig Justus of Van Winkle, Buck, Wall, Starnes and Davis but says he "will take this case wherever he has to take it."

Though the town holds that it and its representatives didn't err in delivering the zoning violation, proceedings such as this exemplify the need for all Zoning Board of Adjustment cases be held in a judicial manner with all I's dotted and T's crossed as well as all documents preserved because it is a quasi-judicial board and as such its proceedings must adhere to the strict letter of the law.

At October's Zoning Board meeting, Town Planner Josh Ward reminded the board of this necessity.

Also during the October Town Board meeting Closed Session, Coward was given instructions 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.



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# • THE FREDSTER •

## Why become a cop?



Fred Wooldridge

Note: Major Fred Wooldridge was a Miami Beach policeman for twenty-eight years. It was one of the most dangerous jobs in America, along with New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Detroit.

First, allow me to get a couple of things straight.

The last thing on my mind was to protect and serve and stupid stuff like that. And back then, I wasn't spending much time thinking that being a police officer would help preserve our nation's constitution. Fighting crime was the last thing on my mind. In reality, I was looking for clean work.

Sweat poured from my brow and dripped from the end of my nose. The sun was blistering. I looked over at a fellow worker and said, "Man, this is horrible. Look at that friggin' cop over there next to our water cooler. Why do we even need a cop here? He spends the entire day standing in the shade of our truck sipping water from our cooler. I hope there's enough left for us. He's doing absolutely nothing! He's worthless!"

It was the summer of 1960 and the company we worked for called us "grunts," I guess because we did a lot of grunting. We were hand digging a trench down the middle of a busy Miami Beach intersection. Well placed traffic cones meant the cop had nothing to do but lean against our water cooler and chit-chat with our foreman.

As late afternoon approached, we returned to our truck for water just in time to hear our foreman say to the cop, "Good job, Officer. I'll see you in the morning; same time, same place." They shook hands. I'll never forget that day. It's entrenched into my memory as if it happened yesterday. As I watched the cop walk to his brand new 1960 Pontiac convertible, I heard our foreman shout to us grunts, "Load up, grubbies. You're making me late and I have a date tonight."

As we climbed into our "bull" truck, ten grunts sitting on each side, the guy sitting next to me said, "You should become a cop, Fred. Sure beats sweating. I understand the pay is exactly the same, \$383.00 a month. I can't apply 'cause I have a criminal record." I stared at him, saying nothing. The seed was planted.

The li'l missus wasn't thrilled to learn I was thinking of becoming a cop but, as always, she didn't interfere. She worked for the FBI and had typed enough reports to know the Miami Beach Police had more than its share of corruption. Still, she didn't discourage me from joining, mostly because

she knew my heart was set on trying to find clean, less physical work.

And yes, I was surprised I came out in the top five on the written exam. I breezed through the physical portion of the test because I had muscles in places most guys didn't have places. Digging trenches had made me strong and tolerant to the blazing sun.

By the time the final applicants were picked for the oral interview, I had managed to stay in the top three. Eventually I was called before an oral board which consisted of big shots from the city including a scary stone faced police captain. He intimidated me with his icy look. The interview room was held on the top floor of city hall. The interviewers sat in commissioner chairs high above the straight back chair where applicants would sit. The room was dark except for a single spotlight shining down on the applicant.

From the lobby, we were taken, one by one, to the chamber room. It seemed like the longest elevator ride I had ever taken. The guy who took me up was unfriendly and never said a word. When those elevator doors opened and I saw the setting, my heart raced and I'm sure my blood pressure was over the top. I remember thinking, This is not an interview. It's an interrogation.

"I would like to present applicant Fred Wooldridge. Take a seat, please," the assistant said.

The first question out of the box was the one I dreaded most. The captain asked, "Tell us why you want to be a police officer, Mr. Wooldridge."

After a moment of hesitation, I decided to tell the truth. I said, "To be perfectly honest, sir, I'm looking for cleaner work and the pay is the same as where I currently work." I looked the interviewer in the eye even though I could barely see through the glare.

"Well, let me tell you that being a policeman may not be what you think," the captain responded. "We have a foot beat assignment that requires our officers to stand in the sun all day at a busy corner and help pedestrians across the street."

"Sir, that sounds pretty good to me. I've been digging trenches in the blistering sun at similar intersections and helping pedestrians across the street is something I could easily do," I responded.

I was stunned when the interview was suddenly over and the interviewers voted in my presence. After six "yeses," I was going to be a police officer and would start after my two week notice as a "grunt" had expired. Whodathunkit!

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## ...LETTERS from page 2

### Money raised for the Food Pantry

Dear Editor,

The fourth annual Empty Bowls soup luncheon was held October 12 at First Presbyterian Church. Once again the Highlands Community participation raised substantial funds to support the Food Pantry of Highlands during the Empty Bowls luncheon.

Empty Bowls is an international grass roots effort to fight hunger with the symbol of an empty bowl. Guests at a soup luncheon purchase a bowl created and donated by local potters and are then served soup and bread donated by local chefs. We would like to thank the many volunteers and donors who made this inspiring event possible and the many supporters who purchased bowls.

The Bascom Center for the Arts initiated these events in 2011. Since then they have made and donated over 1400 bowls to benefit the Food Pantry. We are grateful to Frank Vickery, Potter in Residence, his staff, and all the volunteer potters who contributed their time and talent. Fifteen beautiful bowls of exceptional merit were donated for a Silent Auction by professional

potters Frank Vickery, Pat Moore, Maura Hendry, and Pat Taylor.

First Presbyterian Church has graciously hosted all these events. Special thanks to Rev. Emily Wilmarth and Rev. Curtis Fussell for their support and to staff members Jennifer Cresswell, Steve Mehder, Kyle Clark, and Joel Porter their hard work in organizing the event. Ann Greenlee, Hillrie Quin, Sally Copeland, and Carol Marotti directed a large group of volunteers, including members of Mountaintop Rotary Club, who worked tirelessly before, during, and after the event.

Soups were donated by El Azteca, Fressers Express, The Ugly Dog, Wild Thyme, and Wolfgang's. Dusty's, The Kitchen Carry Away and Catering, Martha Porter, and Mountain Fresh Grocery donated cookies. Joel Porter prepared soup, bread, and cookies and kept the kitchen running smoothly.

The proceeds will be an enormous help to the Food Pantry in its effort to provide good, nutritious food for our clients. Our deep gratitude to everyone who contributed to and attended this benefit.

**Barbara Landwehr**  
**Co-Director, The Food Pantry**  
**• See LETTERS page 21**

## ...CANDIDATES continued from page 4

motto is "In Service To America". To have served our country and now to have the opportunity to serve our county gives me a sense of utmost pride."

During the League of Women Voters forum on fracking, Shields noted that although the issue is essentially a state decision, he is against the practice in western North Carolina and would support the commission passing a resolution proclaiming such. According to Shields, the county, and citizens of the state have no voice on the issue and have no input on the law. "There is not enough transparency in this and we don't have a say in this," said Shields. "Also, when I was growing up in a part of the Cartoogechaye Community where mica was mined, we did not own the mineral rights to our property, so I understand losing that property right."

Focusing on the specific needs of Highlands, Shields said a need to review the town's infrastructure is in order.

"Recently the media has reported on needed infrastructure improvements and I feel the discussion should continue," Shields said of what he thinks the biggest issue facing Highlands. "If elected, I would be a new county commissioner and I am aware of the "learning gap" in comparison to an incumbent. But knowing the candidates that are running for the

District I seat, I feel that either would be of considerable help in updating me on the pros and cons within the community. Also, I know a number of business people in the Highlands community and I feel each could give me a "community feel" on the infrastructure needs and options for financing. Highlands' economics is vital to the fiscal wellbeing of Macon County and provides much needed revenues for businesses and people who are not residents of Highlands. Investing in areas of our county that will show a fiscal return cannot be neglected or denied but must remain as a conversation piece."

The Macon County Planning Board recently recommended that the county explore infrastructure improvements that will benefit the county as a whole, not just those that are specific to the municipalities therein. Shields suggested he supported that move.

"My quick review from what I read in the media, I believe the Planning Board made the recommendation to the county commissioners regarding the Highlands project and the reason(s) surrounded the arena of county and town government tax expenditures," said Shields of the county's decision to not help fund the Highlands water and sewer expansion. "I think tax

**• See CANDIDATES page 12**

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THE BASCOM

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## FREE PUMPKIN EVENT!

**Saturday, October 25**  
**10 am to noon**

Come to The Bascom for a fun and free autumnal event for families and friends. We will provide the pumpkins; all participants have to do is transform them into jack-o-lanterns, painted faces, or exquisite works of art. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.



For more information, please contact Carley Haber, Youth and Outreach Manager, at 828-787-2879 or chaber@thebascom.org.



# • HS SPORTS •

## This week in sports

### VOLLEYBALL:

On October 14th, the Lady Highlanders traveled to Hiwassee Dam where the junior varsity lost the first game with a score of 25-10 and the second game with a score of 25-11.

Varsity lost the first game with a score of 25-11 as well as the second and third game with a score of 25-11 and 25-18 ending their regular season. This week the varsity volleyball team also traveled to North Moore Highschool in Robins, North Carolina to play in the first round of state playoffs. With a five and a half hour drive, the team stayed overnight and played Saturday the 18th. The first game ended with a score of 25-11 with North Moore taking the first game and the second and third game ended with a score of 25-17 and 25-19 with North-Moore also taking both games.

### GOLF:

Monday October 20th, Alexa Reese competed in the regional golf match at Glen Oaks Golf Course in Maiden, North Carolina.

### CROSS COUNTRY:

Wednesday the 15th, the High-school cross country team competed in the Smoky Mountain Conference Championship meet. On the girls side, sophomore Blakely Moore finished 2nd and on the boys side Senior Davis Moore finished 2nd. The cross country team will compete this Saturday the 22nd in Asheville.



Highlands School Golf Team members Alexa Reese and Montana McElroy with Coach Barbara Reese in the center.

### SOCCER:

Due to weather and bad field conditions, games were cancelled this week. They travel to Blue Ridge on Wednesday October 23rd and play Murphy at home on Thursday October 24th for their last regular season game. Details of those games will be available in next weeks issue.

### MS VOLLEYBALL & MS SOCCER

Middle school volleyball and soccer also wrapped up their season but details were not available at this time.

— Sierra Nylund

## ...MAYOR continued from page 2

Winter storms are just around the corner. Please call town hall at 526-2118 to report any utility problems. After business hours call 911. Dispatchers quickly report outages to our crews. A non-emergency alternative number is 526-4131.

## MOUNTAIN FINDINGS

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### Thursday

Mussels fra Diablo  
w/choice of salad

### Friday

Steak au poivre w/garlic mashed  
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### Saturday

Maple Pecan Crusted Trout  
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### Sunday Champagne Brunch noon-2p

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## **Mondays**

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

## **Tuesdays**

• 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, starting September 10th. For

more information or to pre-register your k - 6th grade child, please call 526-4153.

## **1st 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.

## **1st & 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 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 Writer's Group meets every Thursday from 1-3:30 pm at Hudson Library. Writers of all genres welcome. For info call 526-8009 or 526-2295.

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

• Free wine tastings from 5-7p at MountainTop Wine Shoppe.

• 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.

## **Fri.-Sun.**

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

## **Fri. & Sat.**

• The Historical Society Museum is open.

## **Saturdays**

• Fall Market Place in Highlands Village Square at the corner of Oak and 5th streets. Local produce, vendors and crafters. 9-1ish until weather goes south. For information, call Debbie at Fressers at 828-526-8847.

• Free wine tastings at MountainTop Wine Shoppe from 1-3p.

## **Sundays**

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

## **Through-Sat., Nov. 1**

• One Stop Voting begins at 9a-1p Saturdays and at the Highlands Rec Park 9a-5p weekdays and 9a-1p Saturdays and at the courthouse in Franklin 1a-6p weekdays.

## **Thurs., October 23**

• At Hudson Library, READING Paws Program starting.

• Republicans will meet on Thursday, at 7PM at the Qualla Community Building, 1891 Shoal Creek Loop in Whittier. All Republican mid-term election candidates for federal, state and county offices are expected to speak and answer voter questions. Food will be catered by Granny's Kitchen. For Jackson County GOP information, please call Ralph Slaughter @ 828 743-6491, email: jacksonctygop@yahoo.com.

## **Sat., Oct. 25**

• Hiker Jam Octoberfest: Fall Beer and Music Festival. 10a to 11p. General Admission and Beer Ticket \$25, VIP Admission, \$100. Tickets available at the Hiker Jam website <http://www.hikerjam.com/> or at Highlands or Cashiers chambers of commerce.

• At The Bascom, Spooky Raku with Frank Vicery. 10a to 4p. Call 787-2865

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club will host a Pancake Breakfast at the Scaly Mountain Community Center at the Corner of NC 106 and Buck Knob Road from 7:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. on Saturday. Adults \$5.50, and Children \$3.50. Proceeds benefit scholarships for area stu-

dents and human service's agencies.

• At Cabin Couture, a book-signing with author Terri Kennedy's newly published book, "Animus."

• At the Rec Park, Donkey Basketball. Game starts at 6:30. Dinner starts at 5p. \$5 dinner plates. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door. Available at Highlands School or the Rec Park.

## **Sun., Oct. 26**

• First Presbyterian Church will host an old fashioned Hymn Sing at 4pm on Sunday. Those attending may choose favorite hymns to sing from the 1938 Cokesbury hymnal. Song leader will be Stell Huie with Angie Jenkins at the pi-

## **Vignetts about life with HCP**

Come to the Highlands Cashiers Players production of "An Evening with David Ives" this weekend to see what everyone is talking about!

While director Bonnie Earman understands that audiences enjoy elaborate sets and costumes, she felt it was time to stage something a bit more unusual. Earman says, "Highlands is a sophisticated town and it's time to challenge any preconceived notions about theater."

She was introduced to the wacky world of David Ives by renowned actress and director, Collin Wilcox Paxton at The Instant Theatre Company "An Evening with David Ives" is black box theater at its most exciting.

In this show the players present four different scenes depicting a broad cross section of the human condition.

In "Mere Mortals" we see three iron workers high above the city contemplating the difference between how the



From left: Ellen Agee, Lance Trudel, Michael Lanzilotta.

Photo by Cynthia Strain.

world sees us and how we see ourselves. In "Sure Thing," set in a coffee shop, two strangers meet and endlessly rewind conversations in the hopes of making a connection.

"Dr. Fritz: Or The Forces of Light" is a crazy mix of vaudeville, faith and self-reflection. Set in an unidentified foreign country, an ailing tourist finds himself seeking the help of a rather un-

conventional professional.

The final scene, "A Captive Audience," is part The Dick Van Dyke Show and part The Twilight Zone as Rob and Laura realize just how intrusive television can be.

All performances are held at Highlands PAC on Chestnut Street and tickets may be purchased by calling the HCP box office: 828-526-8084.

## **Halloween 'Enchanted Forest' Trail at Highlands Nature Center**



The "Enchanted Forest" Nature Trail is set for the evening of Thursday, October 30.

Nature Center staff and volunteers will lead small groups on an evening stroll through the Botanical Garden. Bring your flashlights and enjoy early trick-or-treating along the trails where you will encounter a variety of friendly forest creatures, portrayed by students from the UNC Institute for the Environment Program at the Highlands Biological Station. Learn about wildlife as each animal you meet shares entertaining and interesting nature facts about themselves!

Group tours will leave the Nature Center every 15 minutes from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Each tour will last approximately one-half hour. This event is not scary and is appropriate for all ages. Admission is only \$1 per person. For more information, please call 526-2623 or visit [highlandsbiological.org](http://highlandsbiological.org).



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

ano. Also featured will be the FPC Men's Quartet singing several old favorites. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. The church is located at the corner of Main and 5th Streets.

• The Western Carolina University Concert Choir will be singing during the 11 a.m. worship service at Highlands First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 26. The group is conducted by Dr. Michael Lancaster who also serves as Director of Worship/Music at the church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the service.

## **Tues., Oct. 28**

• At Hudson Library, "Life in Highlands" Film at 6p.

## **Wed., Oct. 29**

• Iotla Baptist Church will be hosting a "Trunk or Treat" event on Wednesday from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a safe and fun-filled evening of going "trunk to trunk" in the parking lot to receive candy and treats. Each child will also receive a goody bag. There will be games, a hayride and a free hotdog supper! Everyone is Welcome!

## **Thurs., Oct. 30**

• NC SENATE 50 debate at 7p at SCC between Senator Jim Davis and challenger Jane Hipps in the Burrell Conference Center

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

## **Fri., Oct. 31**

• Annual Highlands Trick or Treating on Main Street, 6-8 p.

## **Starting Tues., Nov. 4**

• At Hudson Library, Tuesday Night Movie Series starting November 4th

## **Tues., Nov. 4**

• Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30a. Subject: Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here."

## **Thurs.-Sun., Nov. 6-9**

• The Culinary Weekend Website is up and running and tickets are on sale! Visit [www.highlandsculinaryweekend.com](http://www.highlandsculinaryweekend.com) for all the details and links to purchase tickets.

## **Tues., Nov. 18**

• Highlands Dialogue at the Hudson Library from 10-11:30a. Subject: Pan by Knut Hamsun.

## **Fri., Nov. 28**

• At PAC the Friday after Thanksgiving, Jason D Williams. Enthusiastic, Reckless, Stormy...Rock & Roll in its natural state. Call to-

day, most of the concerts last year were sold out. Highlands PAC 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org).

## **Sat., Nov. 29**

• Annual Lightning of the town, Christmas Carolling and visits with Santa.

## **Sat., Dec. 6**

• Annual Christmas Parade on Main Street Highlands.

## This Sunday at First Presbyterian



The Western Carolina University Concert Choir will be singing during the 11 a.m. worship service at Highlands First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 26. The group is conducted by Dr. Michael Lancaster who also serves as Director of Worship/Music at the church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the service.



....and at 4 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church will host an old fashioned Hymn Sing at 4pm on Sunday, October 26. Those attending may choose favorite hymns to sing from the 1938 Cokesbury hymnal. Song leader will be Stell Huie with Angie Jenkins at the piano. Also featured will be the FPC Men's Quartet singing several old favorites. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. The church is located at the corner of Main and 5th Streets. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.



The Highlands Playhouse presents  
3 Halloween movies for family fun!

October 25th - Frankweenie at 11:00AM

October 28th - Monster House at 5:00PM

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## An Evening With David Ives

Directed By

**Bonnie Cushman Earman**

Four of Mr. Ives' funniest one act plays:

**Mere Mortals, Sure Thing,**

**Dr. Fritz, and Captive Audience**

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PLAYERS



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<b>TUES</b>	<b>IN-HOUSE MADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE LASAGNA WITH A LARGE SALAD</b>	<b>\$19.95</b> serves 4
<b>WED</b>	<b>CHICKEN OR STEAK POT PIE AND A LARGE SALAD</b>	<b>\$19.95</b> serves 4
<b>THURS</b>	<b>ROASTED MEATLOAF WITH MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY AND A LARGE SALAD</b>	<b>\$19.95</b> serves 4
<b>FRI</b>	<b>WILD CAUGHT FRIED SHRIMP, BAKED POTATOES, HUSH PUPPIES, AND COLESLAW</b>	<b>\$22.95</b> serves 4
<b>SAT</b>	<b>IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ, COLESLAW, APPLE AND BACON BAKED BEANS, AND YEAST ROLLS</b>	<b>\$19.95</b> serves 4

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## ...CANDIDATES continued from page 8

use conversations should continue to be a topic for further discussion between the county commissioners and Highlands. I believe the county and both municipalities (Highlands and Franklin) have different tax revenues with different policies and legal interpretations that provide a guide on how the governing body can use the tax revenues."

Ronnie Beale graduated from Franklin High School in 1973 and has been a lifelong resident of Macon County. Since 1980, Beale has been a local business owner, owning and operating Beale Construction.

Beale was first elected to the board of commissioners in 2006 and ran a successful re-election campaign in 2010 giving him eight years as a commissioner in Macon County. Beale was elected 2nd Vice President of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in 2011 and was elected President in August of 2014.

In addition to the commission, Beale serves on the Macon Bank Board of Directors, Macon County Fair Board of Directors, liaison to county departments, and Smoky Mountain LME Board of Directors.

In hopes of securing his third term on the board, Beale said his reason for wanting to serve the citizens of Macon County has not changed. "The reason I ran for county commissioner in 2006 is still the

same reason I am running in 2014," said Beale. "That is to be an advocate for Macon County and to improve the quality of life for all Maconians."

Beale explained his stance against fracking as being driven by the law's language surrounding compulsory pooling, which would mean despite being against the practice on their own property, landowners can be forced to allow fracking if their neighbors approve of it.

According to Beale, there are two main issues facing Highlands residents. The first being the impending property revaluation.

"I think as commissioners we need to be mindful, that like other areas of the county, residents in Highlands stand to be significantly impacted by the current revaluation. Some good and unfortunately some bad, be we need to be aware of these impacts. The other issue is the roads throughout Highlands. We need to continue to work on improvements to the roads throughout and surrounding Highlands. The current board has been working closely with the DOT in working to get the roads in Macon County prioritized and placed on a list to get much needed improvements made."

In regards to the recent Planning Board recommendation to not pursue infrastructure improvements in the municipi-

• See CANDIDATES page 13



# Shiraz

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## ...CANDIDATES continued from page 12



**Gary Shields**



**Ronnie Beale**



**John Martin**



**Ron Haven**

"Many people are experiencing tough times and the people don't need or want higher taxes with more government regulation in their lives. I am running to give people a real choice in the county commissioner race."

With fracking as an issue at the LWV forum, Martin explained that he opposes the legislation for numerous reasons including the compulsory pooling. "I oppose fracking for a number of rea-

sons and one of those is the ability to force people, to allow the MEC (Mining and Energy Commission, to force people to allow fracking on their land."

Commissioner Ron Haven, who is seeking re-election for his second term, was first elected to the board in 2010. Haven, a Macon County native, graduated from Franklin High School in 1975 and has since worked in the county in the accommodation industry and managing real estate properties for over 25 years. Haven is the owner of Haven's Budget Inn on East Palmer Street, The Sapphire Inn on East Main St. Franklin and the Budget Inn of Hiwassee in Georgia.

Haven explained that he is seeking a second term to keep Macon County on a fiscally responsible path. "Our national debt is nearing 18 trillion dollars, Macon County has around 35,000 citizens," said Haven. "The commissioners have spent around \$400 million tax dollars in the past eight years. This is caused by the majority of hands going into the air when they shouldn't. From Macon County to Washington, DC we are going to have to bring spending under control. I feel we could have just as much on several million tax dollars less per year if we worked at it."

When asked what he views as being the greatest issue facing Highlands, Haven noted the needed for infrastructure im-

• See CANDIDATES page 25

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## ...HCH continued from page 1

out of Asheville and it basically all comes down to money.

In this day and age it's just about impossible for an independent hospital – especially hospitals in rural and seasonal towns like Highlands and Cashiers – to not only be sustainable but to have the resources to keep up with new technology

and equipment and to recruit and retain doctors when the “work” just isn't here, said Paulus.

For a decade, HCH has been losing about \$4 million a year and Paulus said he would be happy if through the affiliation with Mission Health and by adhering to its mission, HCH could break even.

“Hospitals like Highlands-Cashiers must integrate with a larger system because they can't make it otherwise,” he said.

Since 2013, 29 hospitals in the US have closed and 23 of those are in states that opted out of the Medicaid Expansion program. One reason behind expanding Medicaid eligibility which is part of the Affordable Care Act, was to decrease Emergency Room visits by people without insurance or Medicare who use the ER as “their doctor.”

In both Macon and Jackson counties at least 20% of citizens are not insured. This means people show up at the Emergency Room.

“We have to treat everyone who steps over the threshold whether they can pay or not,” said Paulus. “It's the law.”

Many of these ER visits are written off as bad debt because usually people who can't afford to go to the doctor, go to the ER because they know they must be treated.

These include people with employer offered health insurance packages with such high deductibles, they opt for the ER rather than a doctor's visit.

North Carolina is the 38th least healthy state in the union and people in Western NC die more frequently from diseases than in the state as a whole.

Why? Western NC has an older population – about 15% of Jackson County's population is 65+; Macon and Transylvania counties hover near 25%. And since Western NC has more people without health insurance than elsewhere in the state, healthcare often comes too late.

Therefore, Mission's mission is to improve the health of the people of Western NC on the front lines by working to increase the number of primary care physicians in the system.

“We just don't have enough doctors in Western NC,” said Paulus. “The US has 27 physicians per 10,000 people; North Carolina has 21; Macon County has 19 and Jackson County has 21. And we have too few primary care physicians in the 18 Western

NC counties.

The assault on the nation's healthcare system has really been felt in the rural healthcare category because according to Paulus, there has been a loss of champions for people, a strong fiscal conservative “reduce spending at all cost movement,” and a growing negative attitude toward CAHs by those in power in the state and federal governments who just don't understand the importance of Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) in rural communities, he said.

Like many rural hospitals, HCH is a CAH.

A CAH is a hospital certified under a set of Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoP), which are structured differently than acute care hospitals.

Some of the requirements for CAH certification include having no more than 25 inpatient beds; maintaining an annual average length of stay of no more than 96 hours for acute inpatient care; offering 24-hour, 7-day-a-week emergency care; and being located in a rural area, at least 35 miles drive away from any other hospital or CAH (fewer in some circumstances).

The limited size and short stay length allowed to CAHs encourage a focus on providing care for common conditions and outpatient care, while referring other conditions to larger hospitals. Certification allows CAHs to receive cost-based reimbursement from Medicare, instead of standard fixed reimbursement rates. This reimbursement has been shown to enhance the financial performance of small rural hospitals that were losing money prior to CAH conversion and thus reduce hospital closures.

**What now for HCH and its patients?**

Under the Mission Health umbrella, patients in Highlands and Cashiers who need care at a hospital will still go to HCH where they could either be transferred to Mission (if needed and only after consul-

• See HCH page 15

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## ...HCH continued from page 14

tation) where specialists could be involved with the case through "telemedicine" from any of the six hospitals in the 18-county region; or patients could stay at HCH where a specialist could be involved from anywhere in the system by the same means.

For instance HCH's TeleStroke machine enables an off-site specialist to be involved from the get-go interpreting the case and authorizing treatment. Paulus said the same idea can be done for almost anything.

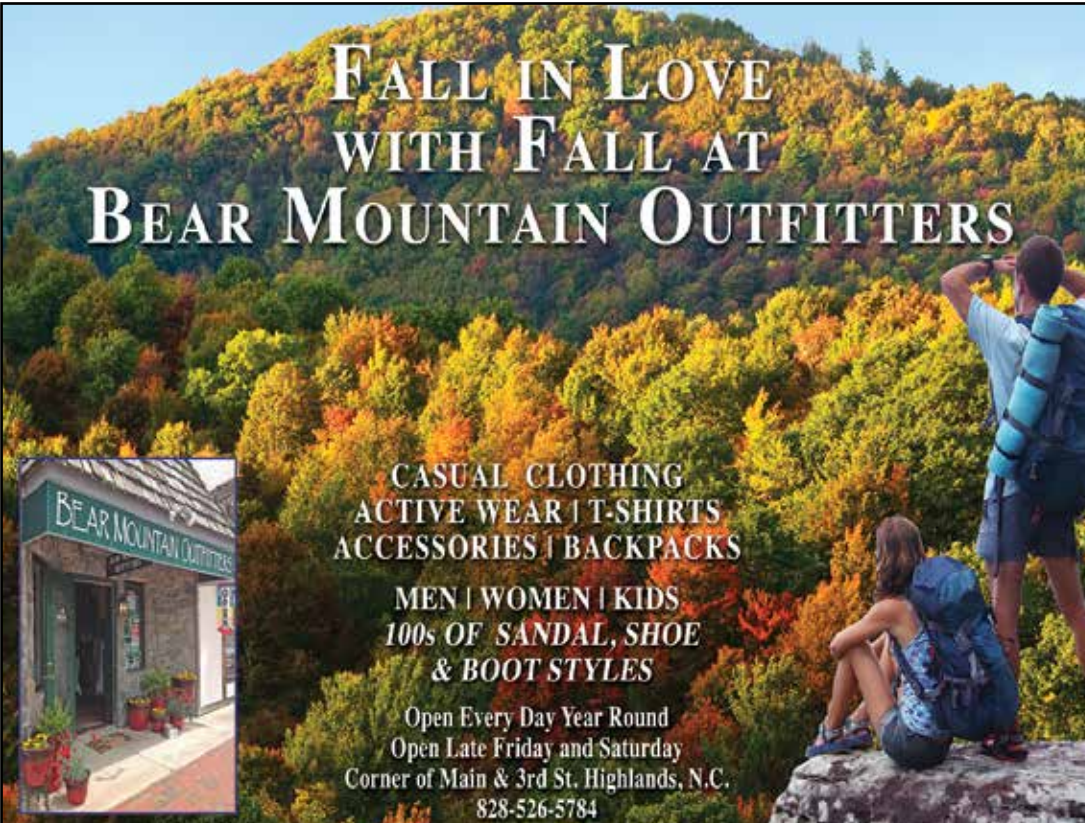
**What is HCH going to look like?**

"This hospital is going to stay," said Paulus. "There will be an ER. There will be a robust ambulatory outpatient service, outpatient surgery, outpatient counseling and coaching, laboratory testing, doctor visits, etc.

Paulus explained that inpatient care and outpatient care are different. Though patients may be in a hospital bed, if released within 48 hours the stay is considered out-patient which costs less all the way around compared to

• See HCH page 22

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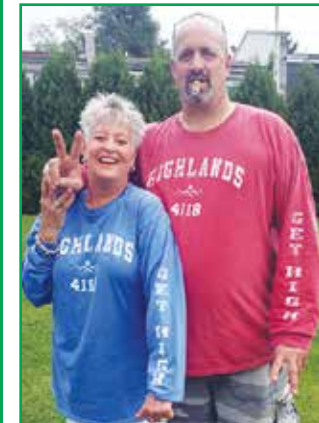
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One of a kind custom 3br/3.5ba home with Whiteside Mountain view in Highlands Falls Country Club. Viking kitchen, high ceilings and more. \$897,000. MLS#75205



\$45,000 price reduction on this free standing 3br/2ba Golf Villa in Highlands Falls Country Club. Exceptional value! \$249,999. MLS# 78712



Old Highlands Charm with a mountain view. Vaulted living room ceiling with pine walls - opens to screened porch and sun room. 4/4 MLS#71520 \$699,000



COMPLETELY remodeled in 2005. Truly a hidden gem. New kitchen, luxury master suite w/ his and her baths. All 6 bedroom have private baths. 4 fireplaces. Beautifully landscaped grounds incl stream & pond. Guesthouse. MLS #76459 \$1,100,000



Commercial and/or residential on the Franklin Road across from The Bascom. 3br/3ba home, separate office/shop space plus an apartment. \$759,000. MLS# 80215



Dramatic price reduction on this 4br/2ba/2hba private estate with pond, waterfall and incredible Blue Valley view. \$747,000. MLS# 77015



Where do you live when in the mountains?? Outside on the deck of course. This 3/2 home has a fabulous deck complete with fireplace, perfect for enjoying the beautiful mountain views. The kitchen and both baths have been completely remodeled. MLS #76783 \$720,000



Perfect for a large family, this home has a golf course and mountain view in Highlands Falls. Plenty of room for all with a bunk room, family room with game and media area. Large covered decks, screened porch, sun room 5/6 1/2 \$1,350,000 MLS#76033



Flat Mountain Estates. 3br, 4.5ba mountain home with cathedral ceiling, floor to ceiling fireplace, wood walls and floors. Excellent condition. \$489,000. MLS #79177



New listing in Highlands Falls Country Club with 3br, 3ba, guest apartment with full kitchen and family room. \$730,000. MLS# 80446



Located at the end of a cul de sac in HFCC with National Forest on two sides. 3/3 with beautiful, easy care landscaping. MLS#67817 \$725,000



Located in Highgate with a great mountain view, this home is the epitome of a mountain home. Beautifully landscaped, large covered deck w/fireplace. 5/5 1/2 in main house. There is also an amazing guest cabin with 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2. \$2,175,000. MLS#77222.



Beautifully maintained old Highlands charmer! 4 br/2ba, wood floors, new kitchen, 2 car garage and lovely yard. \$387,000. MLS# 79149



VZ Top Condo like you've never seen before! 2br/2ba with floor plan modification, new kitchen and baths, all new windows and doors. \$275,000. MLS# 80358



Custom built home completed December 2004. Spacious great room/dining room with vaulted pine ceilings & exposed beams. 3/2 1/2 plus a bonus room, Screened porch with mountain view. \$795,000 MLS#77180



Hard to find - walk to town on multiple acres. This historic property includes a playhouse, a badminton court; a gazebo and a pond. Backs up to Biological Station with trails to Lindenwood Lake. Sunset Rocks trail is directly across the street. 6/7 MLS #79675 \$2,200,000



Custom 3br/ba timber peg home in popular Cold Springs Saddle and Tennis Club, offering lake access, horse pastures, stables, tennis courts and trails. \$377,900. MLS# 79598



Newer, upscale home adjacent to Highlands Falls Country Club. 3br/3ba on the main level, 2 guest suites and family room on lower level, granite countertops, wood floors. \$627,000. MLS #76569



This home is in like-new condition. Two master suites on the main floor, plus two guest suites upstairs with a bonus loft area. The large covered deck overlooks a rushing stream. Lower family room plus an additional guest area and great storage. \$797,000 MLS#77880



In Mountain Top. Designed by Keith Summerour on 1.8 acres adjacent to a conservation easement of 6 acres. 5/4.5 with 3 fireplaces. MLS# 68782 \$2,295,000

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like so much in the mountains is our lush tree coverage. During the fall, these lovely leaves fall and can if not removed block the normal water paths around your home. This can cause the water that would normally flow around your home to run into the house. This can be

in through a door, garage, or into your crawl space so keeping the leaves removed is a very important part of water management.

4. We have very few flat, level home-sites so a second line of defense is quite often needed to protect your home. Sump pumps, French drains and interior drains are some of the ways to move water either away from or out from under your home. Check them regularly to make sure they are in working order and that the water that flows to them is clear from debris.

5. Take a look at your homeowner's insurance. There are options to have coverage for 'sudden water damage'. If you don't have this rider, check on its availability from your carrier.

In short, the old 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure' adage is applicable to your home's longevity. The maintenance of your home today will repay you in the long run should you decide to sell your home in the future. Buyers are very savvy and very wary of homes with water problems. Keep your home and investment in good repair for you and for future owners.

We live in one of the most beautiful places around and a leading cause for that lush greenery during the spring and summer is our higher than normal rainfall amounts. For those of us who were here on Tuesday, October 14, the idea of an ark was tossed around!

While many are heading to warmer climates for the winter months, your investment is here with our rain, snow and cold. Below are some ideas you should consider to help protect your mountain investment. Remember, it is much easier and less expensive to do maintenance than repairs. Water management is a year round responsibility but becomes even more important when you are away and are not around to see the problems water might be causing.

Some things to check into and watch out for include:

1. Constantly check all water entry points and make sure they are working the way they should be. These include the roofs, windows and doors, gutters and downspouts, etc. Have a qualified contractor who understands these and have them check your home regularly. Repeating problems are clogged gutters and downspouts, roof shingles blown off during a high wind or window and doors glazing drying out and cracking. Additionally you should keep an eye out for any cracks in your foundations, walls or basement floors. It is important then to have a contractor that you trust to fix anything that is noticed before water starts coming in.

2. Check after every major storm to make certain that no trees or limbs have fallen on or around your home. A limb lying on the ground may have hit the house causing a roof or gutter leak, so always check for additional damage.

3. One of the things we



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Stunning commercial building, designed by Red Fifer and built by Ronnie Beale. Soaring ceilings, light & bright, hardwood floors throughout, gas log fireplace, and situated on a gorgeous lot with rushing stream. Multiple uses: retail, professional service, and/or office space. Outstanding visibility from the highway on the ATL side of town. Finish the lower level for residential use. Stubbed out for bathroom and laundry; light, bright, high ceilings, and decking overlooking the stream. Priced to SELL! Furnishings are negotiable. This property is also available for rent at \$1,500 per month, excluding utilities.

Offered at \$499,000. MLS #73176.



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An estate boasting an unparalleled combination of the best in mountain views, super craftsmanship, and custom design. Situated on 2.55 +/- gentle acres, this elegant home features 4BR/4.5BA, gourmet kitchen with custom cabinetry, soaring ceilings with fireplaces, heated travertine tile in the bathrooms, luxurious office/den, and long-range views of Whiteside Mountain and beyond. Expansive Carolina Porch with built-in Viking grill, stone fireplace, and easy access to kitchen/dining areas.

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Laurel Falls at Skyline. Great cottage sits on the upper side of the road and features a huge wrap around porch. 3BD/3BA. Loft, master bedroom with en-suite bath. Lower level has family room with guest room and bath. one-car garage. \$575,000.00. mls #77615



Stunning Whiteside Mountain view. Charming cabin needs some love but is comfortable and functional with 4BD/3BA. Good parking and woodburning fireplace. Offered at \$885,000. mls #78695



WALK TO TOWN! Fabulous Laurel Street location with a level lot! 3BD/3BA a large open deck, covered porch and screened porch; two living areas with fireplaces and a large family kitchen. Many upgrades have been added over the years. \$435,000. mls #77937



Great views. Located above the Highlands Country Club close to town, 2BD/2BA upper level flat that is all one level. Beautiful wood floors and custom finishes. Offered completely turn key with just a few exceptions. Wonderful long range Blue Valley views and total southern exposure and great sunsets. Offered at \$295,000. mls #77489



Mountain contemporary with privacy on two lots in HFCC. Main level opens into a soaring greatroom with Brazilian cherry floors, granite surround fireplace. Dining room and spacious custom kitchen. Sliding doors open onto stone floored porch with views of the extensive gardens, stream, 16th green, and Big Bearpen. 3-car garage. Offered at \$1,595,000. mls #79440



Atop Moon Mountain this 3BD/3BA home has a lovely screened porch with a nice mountain view. Completely furnished. Ready for you to move right in. Offered at \$389,000. mls #78606



3BR/2BA private year-round home with 180 degree mountain view on low maintenance lot. One level living and three screened porches Mature landscaping and all hemlocks have been treated and are in beautiful condition. Some upgrades needed, but otherwise a solid house. Offered at \$129,000. mls #79176



Exquisite home on gentle lot. High scales, huge rooms Living room with fireplace, opens on to a large deck and screened porch. Master suite on main level with ensuite bath. Den/office, 2 car garage. Upstairs has 2 bedrooms and more. Move in condition. \$825,000. mls #79670



This 10 plus acres has private drive, easy access, 2BD/2BA guest cottage is in place, Flat building site with a spectacular mountain View of the layers of Blue Valley and distant points to the south. Offered at \$995,000. mls #78135



Turn of the century farm house on 4.7 acres bordering USFS. View, Frog pond, stream and mature perennial gardens embrace Main and detached Guest-house. Main has 3+bds/2.5ba, w/1 car gr. Guest house is 1bd/1ba, w/2car gr. Large master suite in main, fireplace, wood floors, newer kitchen w/ granite counter tops. \$100,000 PRICE REDUCTION! 480winfield.com MLS# 79932 Offered at \$559,000.



5BD/5BA home with extensive landscaping, recirculating water feature with small pond. Quality finishes. Large rooms. Three living areas, 2 kitchens, 5 fireplaces. Offered at \$999,500. MLS #76828



Income property with a nice private home located on a large private lot off of Hickory Hill Road. 2, 1BD/1BA income producing apartments. Great lot and mountain charm. Offered at \$179,000. mls #75668



On a private lane in Cold Springs. Large rooms open plan, great deck, two fireplaces and walk to the lake! Main Floor 2BD/2BA lower level family room with fireplace, bedroom, bath and large workshop. Offered at \$399,900. MLS#69909



3BD/2BA easy living in good condition. This one level home with 2 car garage is in a quiet neighborhood with community pond, tennis courts and picnic area. The home has been well maintained. Offered at \$335,000. mls #78785



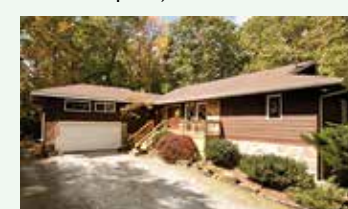
Cozy 3BD/2BA home. Well maintained. Furnished. Owner will finance with 10% down. Great lot with 2-car garage and nice decks. Offered at \$349,000. MLS #75653



Distinctively elegant, this 8D/8.5BA home is a perfect family retreat. Blue Valley view in back and Whiteside Mountain in front. Elevator services all three floors. 6 fireplaces, spacious custom kitchen. Main living area has sitting room, a keeping room, dining, kitchen, master bedroom with fireplace and an office. Also attached guest house at ground level. Membership at Highlands Country Club available subject to approval. Offered at \$3,900,000. MLS# 65882



Darling log cabin is on a large private lot on Blackberry Lane. Move in condition. 2BD/2BA, loft, workshop. Glassed in porch overlooks private wooded area. More storage downstairs and room for a workshop. Offered mostly furnished at \$399,000. mls #76607



RV parking and 50 amp. service. Close to Main St. on over an acre of nearly level land. Winter views of Shortoff and surrounding mountains. Open kitchen, DR, LR create flowing spaces. Parcel in a private setting w/city water. 4000+ sq. ft. MLS 79469 Offered for \$595,000.



Cute cabin on the Atlanta side of Highlands. Bedroom wing design with master and guest bedrooms on main level, Living room, kitchen, and dining in a greatroom design. Large deck overlooks a beautiful mountain vista and a low maintenance acre lot. Offered at \$210,000. mls #78847



Golf villa in WCC. Open floorplan. 2BD/2BA. Fireplace in Greatroom and double glass doors that open on to a covered porch with spectacular views of the club lake, golf course, and mountains in the distance. \$385,000. mls #79439



... **LETTERS** from  
page 8

## We all believe in the 'Golden Rule'

Dear Editor,

Most of us learned as children the Golden Rule: That we do unto to others as we would have them do unto us. In my Bible course at Davidson College and in Seminary, I was told that all major religions of the world also taught a version of the Golden Rule. Now 60 years later I happened to come across support for this contention and think others might find this of interest.

Hindu or Brahmanism: "This is the sum of duty. Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you" (Mahabharata, 5, 1517).

Buddhism: "Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful" (Udana-Varga, 5, 18).

Christianity: "All things whatsoever ye would that man should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 7, 12).

Confucianism: "Is there one maxim which ought to be acted upon throughout one's whole life? Surely it is the maxim of loving-kindness: Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you." (Analects 15, 23).

Islam: "No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself" (Sunnah)

Judaism: "What is hateful to you, do not to your fellowman. That is the entire law; all the rest is commentary" (Talmud, Shabbat 31d).

Taoism: "Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss" (T'ai Shang Kan Ying Pien)

Jain scriptures: "The essence of right conduct is not to injure anyone."

**Creighton Peden**  
**Highlands**



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### Classic Highlands Charmer • NOW \$388,000 • MLS# 80236



Reduced from \$418,000! Beautifully maintained, lightly updated, this quintessential Highlands cottage has 4 bdrms/two ba, a classic stone fireplace that begs to be lit, large rooms, including the kitchen, that flow beautifully, all in an oasis garden setting that includes grassy space where croquet has been played for years - no white ever allowed! Garage & gardening shed complete the peaceful existence enjoyed from generation to generation. A short walk to Mirror Lake completes the experience of old world Highlands!



### The Pride of Highlands

**\$12,800,000 • MLS# 80527**

Highlands Plaza, the original shopping center for the plateau, remains the destination for meeting the areas basic shopping/restaurant needs. Not an "old dog" but instead, this treasure has been beautifully maintained, with the most recent improvement being the restructuring and re-landscaping of the parking area (240+ spaces.) 9.6 acres, almost 54,000 approximate, rentable square feet, 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 without going to the Plaza!



### Beats Money in the Bank!

**\$724,000 • MLS 80237**

Don't miss this opportunity to invest in a commercial property on Highland's Rodeo Drive! Located on S. 4th Street, within a short block of Main St & within Highlands main business district. Across from Old Edwards Inn, a 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!

### Commercial Dream...Greystone

**\$1,180,000 • MLS# 80526**

Located 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. Indeed it would!



### 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% of which 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!



**\$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, peek-a-boo 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.



## ...HCH continued from page 15

inpatient care. However, the plan is to continue to offer inpatient care if needed, while juggling staffing requirements.

He said a lot of patients in hospitals today are actually outpatients by definition of Medicare – they stay overnight, they are getting meals – but it doesn't mean they are inpatient.

The HCH Board made the decision to close inpatient surgery – not outpatient surgery.

“Of all the surgeries that occurred at HCH over the last two years, only 36 of those were inpatient. Hundreds were outpatients. Those hundreds are not changing. There will still be outpatient surgery, he said.

“Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will continue to perform ambulatory outpatient procedures such as endoscopy and gastroenterology procedures.” concurred HCH CEO Craig James.

“The HCH you are going to see three years from now will be more vibrant, more robust with more patients and doctors than you have now,” said Paulus.

There are no plans to change HealthTracks which has a clinical cardiac rehab program and a fitness program; there has been a renewed focus on the Fidelia-Eckerd Home that is actually growing and will be a place people can come to from throughout the system.

Though inpatient surgeries will no longer take place at HCH, ambulatory options by air and ground will increase so that patients can be transported easily within the system.

### ACA and Medicaid

Paulus made a point of not being political concerning the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or Medicaid Expansion – which is a key component of the ACA – but did say that North Carolina's leaders did the state's healthcare institutions a disservice when they opted out of Medicaid Expansion and thereby reimbursement. This ultimately affected the state's bottom line which translated to across the board budget cuts in North Carolina.

“The federal government was shocked when some states opted out, because for the first

three years the federal government paid 100% of the cost of new Medicaid enrollees,” he said. “Under the new criteria, a person must be 100% to 138% of the federal poverty level to access Medicaid. People who fall below 100% come under the old Medicaid guidelines which is a two-thirds, one-third scenario – federal government pays two-thirds and the states pay one-third.”

After the first three years, instead of being 100% federally funded it drops to 90%. Paulus said the 90% federal funding will likely stay forever.

### How will healthcare look in the future?

According to Paulus, hospitals are going to be deemphasized over time. Even now, most surgeries are outpatient not inpatient. New technology makes that

more safe and effective. It's going to continue to go in that direction.

“The health system is beyond the hospital,” he said. “Hospitals will always be important but they will only be for the sickest people.

“The whole landscape is changing. If we do it right, we will move the numbers. There will be fewer people with chronic disease, they will have less consequences of chronic disease, so that even though you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure hopefully you won't have a heart attack or a stroke and that all starts first and foremost with primary care. Physicians will be part of a team – that's what we are committed to – a multidisciplinary team model with a primary care physician as a cornerstone.

“And that's why it needs to be the basis of everything we need to do. There will always be

a place for specialists but those needs will be done for a lot less money,” he said.

**If regional hospitals like HCH are losing millions of**

**dollars a year why take them over if not for money?**

“Because Mission Health is a mission-oriented organization

• See HCH page 27

Look for the Red Roof and the Covered Wagon.

## Shearl Produce



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## • REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS •

**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](http://www.highlandsnchomesites.com)

Contact (onsite owner) or your broker for plats, prices & a guided tour.

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# • REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS •



## Adorable Cottage Done to Perfection!

3BR/4BA English-style cottage with vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, arches, large stone fireplace, wet bar with antique shutters for doors, large screened porch with outdoor fireplace, sitting & dining area beside a water feature. One level living featuring master suite No-maintenance yard! Offered for \$799,000, fully furnished. This is a hidden treasure close to Highlands Country Club! MLS80143.



## Bank Owned

## Lovely and Well-Maintained Home on Biscuit Rock!

Charming 4BR/3BA home with hardwood floors, granite and stainless kitchen, large wood-burning fireplace, sun room with master on main, large deck and cleared walkway to the lake! Over an acre of low maintenance natural yard. BEST BUY in neighborhood of million dollar homes! Offered for \$629,000. MLS#80475



## Fish From Your Dock!

Beautifully renovated home with expansive windows that showcase gorgeous views of Lake Sequoyah and terraced yard. Open floor plan with soaring ceilings, huge stone fireplace, hardwood floors, granite kitchen and finished terrace level with In-Law Suite. Huge master suite allows for stargazing nights. Fish from your own dock on Lake Sequoyah! Offered for \$975,000. MLS78549.

OLD EDWARDS CLUB



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- Old Edwards Club Membership
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295 Dillard Road, Highlands



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



## Turnkey Living in Walk to Town Location!

Beautifully designed home featuring gorgeous hardwood floors, open floor plan with stainless and granite kitchen, large master on main suite. Expansive enclosed sun porch. Offered for \$495,000. MLS80227.



## Whiteside Mountain Theatre!

Dramatic views of Whiteside Mountain from every room. Home is light and bright with large rooms that flow perfectly from inside to out. Huge master suite, guest rooms upstairs. Two-car garage and carport. Offered for \$1,299,000. MLS 80553.



## Luxurious Living/Walk to Town

This 3BR/3BA gorgeous unit has hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, open floor plan, soaring ceilings, chef's kitchen, master suite with screened porch in quaint, gated Town Place! Mountain elegance Offered for \$775,000. MLS80167.



## Gorgeous Mountain Views in HFCC!

Exceptional location on a cul-de-sac of only 4 homes. New hardwood floors on main level and granite in kitchen. Well maintained with 5 bedrooms, 3 on the main level. Master suite with fireplace, huge closet and bath. Fabulous covered porch with dramatic views and sounds of the waterfall below. Offered for \$875,000. MLS77734.



## The Last Great Parcel in Highlands!

20+ ACRES of Natural beauty that abounds in every direction! Undisturbed old growth flora and fauna, moss covered rocks, huge overhangs perfect for hiking your own land. Enjoy a picnic beside the 2 streams, enjoy sharing true nature with your friends and family. Subdivide or build your mansion and family compound. Value priced at \$850,000! Don't let this get away! MLS79144.



## Bring All Offers!

## Grand Estate on Lake Ravenel in Cullasaja Club!

This grand home has a spacious great room with wood-burning fireplace and vaulted ceilings. Wrap-around porch, great views, arches, plantation shutters, and custom finishes throughout. A screened pavilion and dock on the lake. A must see home! REDUCED. NOW OFFERED FOR \$1,300,000. MLS#79645.



# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Do you read this column?

By Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

Christ Church of the Valley, Cashiers

I have wondered if anyone reads this section of the paper. I would like to know so I've decided to include, along with my article, a brief survey. If you read the Spiritually Speaking column, please email a resounding "YES" I read the column or "No" don't read the column. Send your response to the HighlandsEditor@aol.com. Thanks!

In a few weeks we will be voting. The candidates could not be more opposite. This makes it easier to consider one from the other. Can you remember a time when our great nation had been so divided? Sure the Civil War certainly split us and almost brought about an end. But in modern times, do you recall a day when we were so divided? America is fractured and coming apart. So we ask the question; what is to blame? Some point to the far left and others to the far right. But really what has caused this deep rift in our nation? Can I be so bold as to suggest: it's our belief that character, and integrity are less important than political party and agenda. A belief that "ethics" no longer matter has taken root in our nation's soul. And yes, it is found in both parties. It is because of this we are in the condition that we find ourselves today.

So back to my opening remark "In a few weeks we will be voting." Your participation in this year's mid-term election just might be the most important in this century. Stopping "them," those men and woman who do not represent our values and beliefs, as a follower of Jesus Christ which is what is needed right now. We must not let our past mistakes keep us from voting for the right candidate.

Hey, whoever said: "politics and religion don't mix," probably voted for the wrong persons! The Bible says: "Faith without works is dead" I guess this means without faith we are as good as dead. Something to think about when we are voting in November.



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# Proverbs 3:5

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

# John 3:16

## BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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

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

## 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 1st Sunday of the month

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

## CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

Sun.: 8:30a Traditional (said) 1928 Service, including Communion; 9:30a Christian Education; 10:30a Faithful, Family Service w/ Music & Communion.

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

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

## CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 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 University

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 a.m.; Testimony Mg: 5 p.m. on 3rd Wed

## 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

## 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: 8:30 & 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

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

Wednesdays: Choir: 7

## GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

Bible Study: 6 pm

## GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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

## HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

## HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

Sundays: Worship: 11

## HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

## HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 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: 11 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



# • FIRE REPORTS •

## The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Oct. 15.

### Oct. 15

• At 9:42 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Split Rail Row.

### Oct. 16

• At 3:13 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hi Ami Lane.

### Oct. 17

• At 9:30 a.m., the dept. investigated a call at a residence on the Cashiers Road.

• At 9:34 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Wingina Place.

• At 1:06 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cobb Road.

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

### Oct. 18

• At 3:03 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Main Street.

• At 1:04 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on S. 4th Street.

### Oct. 19

• At 4:30 p.m., the dept. stood by for MAMA at the hospital.

• At 1:23 a.m., the dept.

responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hickory Knut Gap.

• At 2:47 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Center Drive.

### Oct. 20

• At 6:49 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to Holly Tree Lane.

• At 7:51 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a resi-

dence on Clear Creek Road.

### Oct. 21

• At 7:03 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Church Street.

• At 1:06 p.m., the dept. investigated the source of smoke at a residence on Buck Creek Road.

**Note:** when burning yard debris, please have a hose nearby.

## Dr. Joseph H. Wilbanks, D.D.S.

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## ...CANDIDATES from page 13

provements, despite the price tag that may be attached.

"At some point in the near future I would love to see county wide water and sewer," said Haven. "I realize it is going to be very expensive, but I feel it can be done in affordable stages. Highlands and Nantahala are both equally important to me. In the last four years I have voted to do as much as we can afford. I am not for borrowing money and paying interest until we get some of the county debt load paid down. I am not for spending money on special interest that all of Macon County cannot benefit from."

This year there are no straight ticket options on the ballot. Each candidate must be voted for separately.

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Cabin Casuals has been known as a place to go for a dose of Life is Good attitude. Now they've added a new line of products all their own: Cabin Casuals Get High 4118.

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"We took a risk and now offer our customers a fun set of accessories that is open for interpretation and laughs. It is in that spirit we created a line of custom shirts and goodies that have led to some satisfied customers and collectors of good humored funniness," they said.



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# • BUSINESS NEWS •

## Pat Allen Realty Group welcomes new agents

Pat Allen is delighted to announce the addition of 3 new brokers to her firm. "When we relocated to our new office at 295 Dillard Road we were ready for expansion", says Pat Allen, owner and broker-in-charge.

Sherman Pope is originally from West Palm Beach, having traveled to the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau for ten years before making Cashiers his home twenty years ago. His love of nature and the beauty that surrounds Cashiers, Sapphire Valley and Lake Glenville makes him a source of knowledge and guidance for buyers looking to purchase in those areas. He has worked as a full time broker in the past and is aware of property values and represents sellers well.

Cy Timmons, Highlands' favorite entertainer, performs at the Hummingbird Lounge at the Old Edwards Inn on weekends, and has lived full-time in the Highlands area for 20 years. Many Atlantans know him from Café Erehwon where he was the owner/entertainer. He previously worked under Pat Allen at a different firm and is thrilled to be a part of her firm. Cy is a multi-million dollar producer and according to Pat, "You are assured of a fun adventure searching for properties with Cy."

Jim Kinard began his career in Highlands at the Highlands Country Club and was one of the original brokers there. He started as a bell hop as a young man when the Country Club was a hotel! After he served in the Navy, Highlands beckoned him home. Upon his return he worked his way up and became the manager of Highlands Country Club and then became a founding broker of the original real estate firm there. "Jim has so many stories to tell about the old club and you will be delighted to sit and chat with him," says Allen.

In addition to Pat, Sherman, Cy, and Jim is Julie Osborn, Pat's daughter, who joined the firm in November 2013. "We are so excited about our new brokers and invite everyone to stop by our new location at 295 Dillard Road in Highlands. We offer unsurpassed customer service and pride ourselves on serving all of our client's real estate needs." Pat Allen Realty Group's number is 828-526-8784 and website is Patallenrealtygroup.co.



Sherman Pope



Cy Timmons



Jim Kinard

## ...HCH from page 22

tion, a not-for-profit. We exist to serve the community and we take that very seriously.

"Besides the healthcare it offers, I know how dependent the 18-county region is on Mission Health. We generate \$2 billion to economic activity – one out of 26 jobs in the 18-counties is tied to Mission Health. If we screw this up, people are going to suffer," said Paulus.


**What does Western NC's healthcare system need specifically?**

"Western North Carolina is a place where a difference needs to be made in the healthcare system and that's what we are trying to do," he said.

"We need to recruit nurses, nurse practitioners and primary care physicians.

"We need to collaborate across the staff especially over the peaks and valleys. For instance, Highlands-Cashiers has a

• See HCH page 30



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# • CLASSIFIEDS •

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## ...HCH continued from page 27

massive influx of people in the nice months, but we can't just staff up for that and say 'I'll pay you for six months but I can't pay you for the other six.' So we need to have flexibility in how we support and rotate people through different places so certain skills can be maintained and talents can be shared," he said.

**What causes the revolving door of physicians in HCH and what can be done to retain them?**

"First of all the revolving door isn't unique here. There aren't enough primary care physicians in the country because they are dramatically underpaid compared to specialists. So they get signing bonuses. Many times when the bonus money runs out in 18 months or so, they move on. Or the work they expected to

do is not the work they are doing or there are problems within the system.

"It's important to make sure a primary care physician knows what he or she is getting into - that they know what kind of community they are coming to and they make a proactive choice for being in that community.

"We are using the Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) to train, recruit and retain nurses and doctors in Western NC," he said.

MAHEC provides healthcare education, information, training, and services in Western NC. We have invested heavily in this residency program in hopes that those doctors and nurses will populate our region.

"So one benefit of this training program is these people have

chosen Western NC because they like the environment. We need to try to align the right people with what WNC has to offer as a lifestyle, rather than looking for a body to fill a position.

"Once we have them, the number one thing we can do is make sure they don't leave. The good thing is once you have a few of them, they attract others like them," he said.

**Will donations to HCH stay at HCH?**

"Money benefactors give to HCH will stay at HCH, or go into the bigger Mission system, if that's what they want. There are three areas hospitals' foundation offices are focusing on - primary care, emergency care and diagnostics. The donor decides what happens to the money.

"I would like to get as close to break even, so the necessity of raising money every year just

to pay staff and keep the doors open is diminished. I'd like to see money raised to expand services or do other things here at HCH. I want to create something that is self-sufficient. To do that we have to decrease operating losses so donations don't have to be used to keep the doors open," he said.

With an eye on the future, Paulus highlighted the goals as they pertain to the system as a whole and HCH.

Mission Health 2014-'18 strategy for overall success is a five-point plan: Hardwire Mission Health's position as the safest, highest quality, best experience provider nationally; Achieve Medicare break-even operation performance, grow, become a great place to work and practice and to manage population risk by 2016.

Since June 2009 through June 2012, patient satisfaction scores

for overall quality care in the Mission Health system has increased from 70% to 90%.

According to 2013 statistics, (HCH wasn't part of the Mission Health system until 2014) since 2010, 550 fewer people receiving care in the Mission Health system have died.

"It's important that we listen carefully to the community and staff; keep the public informed about what Mission is doing and why; maintain a relentless focus on quality, safety and patient experience; maintain ongoing support for critical access, including inpatient care (but operating losses must be reduced to remain viable); emphasize primary care, emergency care, imaging and ambulatory services including increased helicopter options; and when needed, coordinate care at other sites," said Paulus.

-Kim Lewicki



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