

# Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., April 23, 2015

## Highlands' Hydro-plant in Rep. Meadows' sights

In an effort to protect and preserve the old power plant across from Bridal Veil Falls on US 64 west Mayor Pat Taylor and historian Ran Shaffner are suggesting letters be sent to Representative Mark Meadows, who is willing to look into the situation if enough folks in Highlands request his assistance.

At Thursday's Town Board

meeting, Mayor Taylor said Meadows also offered to look into trying to help Highlands with costs associated with the quality of its watershed. Taylor also suggested citizens send a letter to Meadows in that regard.

Concerning the Hydro-electric plant, Shaffner penned a letter to Meadows, outlining the importance of the Hydro-electric

power plant to Highlands, Macon County and even the state as an historic attraction on its Mountain Waters Scenic Byway.

"The Hydro-electric power plant that the Town of Highlands constructed on the Cullasaja River provided its citizens with electricity in 1927. There was a great sense of pride when residents of the town replaced kerosene lamps with

electric light bulbs. The power plant served the town for the next 40 years until it was shut down in 1967.

"The power plant was placed on the Study List for North Carolina Historic Structures in 1980 and qualifies for Nomination to the National Register of Historic Structures. The Cullasaja River

•See HYDRO-PLANT page 16

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## Town Board Tidbits

To clear up any misconceptions concerning the covered pool project, during the Mayor's Report at Thursday's Town Board meeting, Mayor Pat Taylor read a statement into the record.

"I would like to take this opportunity to clarify and correct any misconceptions of what took place at the last meeting concerning the pool construction schedule. It was never our intent to place blame, nor did we blame the contractor for the pool project, Lupoli Construction, for any potential delays in construction and opening of the pool," he said. "This has been a technically challenging project and both the town and Lupoli Construction entered into an area of uncertainties driven by suppliers, fabricators and subcontractors. Both parties are committed to completing the project as soon as possible and will work together to that end. Lupoli Construction is working within the schedule of the contract, and we appreciate John Lupoli's willingness to serve the community by taking on this

•See TOWN BOARD page 6

## Founders Coalition gets go-ahead for K-H Park

*Design, plaques and name change OK'd*

Following a preamble concerning the vision and mission of the park, at Thursday's Town Board meeting Nick Bazan and Skip Taylor of the Founders Park Coalition, re-presented the plans for the Kelsey-Hutchinson Park unveiled at the February retreat asking that the board accept the plans for phase 2.

Prior to the request, however, Bazan read a prepared statement alleging recent cover-

age in the papers – an article in The Highlander newspaper and a letter-to-the-editor in Highlands Newspaper, misconstrued the purpose of the park, particularly in regards to the seasonal ice rink which will be erected in the Founders Plaza portion of the park.

"It should be noted that the plan you see here tonight was developed without any thought to

•See FOUNDERS page 6

## King and Queen for the night



Highlands School seniors Jessica Tilson and Philip Murphy were crowned King and Queen at the 2015 Junior-Senior Prom held at OEI's The Farm Friday, April 17. For more pictures see pages 8 and 9.

## HS track/field redo a go

It's official. The track and softball field at Highlands School will be getting a complete overhaul this summer.

It all started with a \$150,000 donation from Art and Angela Williams, owners of Old Edwards Hospitality Group earlier

this year and with the county commissioners pledging \$50,000 toward the project on Tuesday night, renovations to Highlands' School sports fields are expected to be completed over the summer.

In an unanimous vote, MC

•See TRACK page 19

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

As a member of the League of Municipalities, Highlands receives action alerts concerning pending legislation in Raleigh. The League of Municipalities has growing concerns about mounting state laws that undercut localities rights to self-determination in making decisions that are best for their communities. In my article last week, I wrote about the further centralization of a top down governmental system emerging from Raleigh. I cited the proposed fair sales tax legislation as a case in point of a creeping centralization.

Here is another example concerning billboards. The excerpt posted below of the League's summary of HB 304/SB 320 is insightful. I am concerned about the limitations that this legislation places on Highlands and other towns' abilities to regulate billboards within city limits.

From the North Carolina League of Municipalities Update, April 17, 2015.

Please contact your legislators to express your opposition to HB 304/ SB 320 Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Laws. This bill would undermine local regulation



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

of billboards. Specific provisions would pre-empt local regulation when an existing billboard is altered or relocated, meaning that even grandfathered, non-conforming signs could be moved, enlarged, placed on a monopole or steel pole, or converted to lighted, digital technology. Although the 13-page bill contains numerous provisions, some of them continuing to refer to local zoning and other local regulation of billboards, it begins with a policy declaration calling for the establishment of a uniform system of billboard regulation throughout the state.

The legislation includes a provision that would relax vegetation-removal restrictions. Yet another provision, because it would force state and local government to pay for the future value of condemned signs rather than their replacement value, has the potential to significantly increase costs for municipalities when a billboard site must be condemned in order to move ahead with road or public building projects. Tell your legislators that this change amounts to creating a special class of property owners, and that if the same designation applied to all commercially-used property, including farmland, that road-building in the state would grind to a halt.

Because of the many complex provisions in the bill, and their different effects on each other, all of the implications of HB 304/SB 320 are not clear. Nonetheless, the previously mentioned provisions would undermine municipal authority and harm municipal taxpayers. . . . End.

If you do not want huge, flashing billboards on 4th Street and roads leading to Highlands, voice your concern Jim Davis, our state senator, and Roger West, our

## • MILESTONES •

### Students recognized at Town Board meeting



Two Highlands School students, Emma Minton and Eleuterio Flores, were chosen by the town for their depiction of Highlands in a contest in The Highlander newspaper. To recognize their efforts, the Town invited them to the board meeting Thursday, April 16, to receive certificates of appreciation for their artwork. Flores wasn't present at the meeting.

### Newest Eagle Scout is inducted

state representative. I assure you the outdoor advertising lobby of North Carolina has expressed to "our" representatives their support in favor of the bills.

Or just imagine, a new billboard mounted on a forty foot mono pole controlled by a computer and flashing a charming, yet constantly changing, message for all of Highlands to see. At one moment one sees, "Mayor Pat Taylor Welcomes You," the next moment, "All you can eat at Bubba's Catfish House on 64," followed by, "See Rock City."



At a ceremony on Sunday, April 19th, Highlands Boy Scout Troop 207 awarded Adam Schiffli his Eagle Scout Award. Adam lives in Highlands and is a sophomore at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School.

### Highlands Newspaper

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#### Letter Policy:

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.



# • OBITUARIES •

## Aaron Richard Goldstein

Aaron Richard Goldstein, 37, of Otto, died on Saturday, April 11, 2015.

Born in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, he was the son of Richard Seth Goldstein and Julia Ellen Mooring Goldstein of Otto. He was a US Navy veteran and part owner of Smoked on Rose Restaurant in Chicago, IL. Aaron enjoyed golf, cooking and all sports including baseball. He loved everyone he met and was loved by all who met him and he lived life to the fullest.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sister, Laura Ellen Heberling and husband Ed of Bluffton, SC; his brother, Kyle Mark Goldstein and wife Melissa of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; niece, Allyson Goldstein; uncle, Dr. Efraim Goldstein and wife Jeannie; two



aunts, Marsha Goldstein of Canada and Susan Mablesen of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; several cousins and many friends.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 17, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Pastor John Makinson and Dr. Efraim Goldstein officiated.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the family, who will determine where Aaron would want donations to go (Richard and Ellen Goldstein, 222 Whispering Woods Road, Otto, NC 28763).

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences can be made at [maconfuneralhome.com](http://maconfuneralhome.com)

## Virginia 'Kimbo' Cleaveland Bryson

Virginia "Kimbo" Cleaveland Bryson, age 70, of Highlands, NC, died April 15, 2015 at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She was a native Highlander, where she lived her entire life. She was the daughter of the late George and Louise Beale Cleaveland.

She was employed by the Town of Highlands for twenty-four years and retired in 1995. Most recently she was a resident of the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She is survived by three children and seven grandchildren. Jerry Nix (Gwen) of Charlotte, NC; Lanette Walsh (David) of Advance, NC; Clay Bryson of Cashiers, NC; one sister, Georgia Sanders of Highlands; grandchildren, Adam, Daniel and Sarah Nix, Bailey and Conner Walsh, Derick and Devin



Bryson; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Saturday, April 18 at Highlands United Methodist Church, with Rev. Paul Christy and Jennifer Forrester officiating. Burial was in Highlands Memorial Park Cemetery. Pallbearers were Ronnie Beale, Herb James, James Oberly, Adam Nix, Daniel

Nix and Bud Lamb.

Memorials may be made to Highlands United Methodist Church, 315 Main Street, Highlands, NC 28741.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com).

## William Henry "Bill" Aaron, Jr.

William Henry "Bill" Aaron, Jr. 78, died Thursday, April 16, 2015. Mr. Aaron was born June 2, 1936 in Detroit, Michigan to the late William Henry Aaron and Evelyn Arnold Aaron.

Bill worked in radio for most of his career before coming to Highlands with his wife Nancy to open Southern Hands, an upscale craft store that was highly regarded for 20 years. He was a member of the Highlands Rotary Club, a Board member on the Chamber of Commerce and served on the Bascom Arts Center Board. Bill was also an active member of the Players Club of Detroit, and was a member of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

He was a graduate of the University of Michigan where he was a member of Phi



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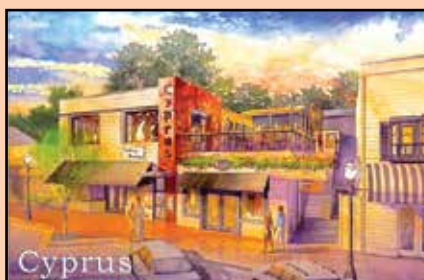
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## ...OBITUARIES continued from page 3

Sigma Kappa, and would later become National President of that fraternity. Bill enjoyed animals, the mountains and a good story, was a skilled woodworker and cook, and he loved volunteering at HealthTracks and with the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Gould-Aaron of the home; a daughter, Lyn Aaron Stille of Canton, Ga; two sons, Bill Aaron (Marti) and Ben Aaron (Rebecca) of Marietta, Ga; four grandchildren, Ruth Aaron, Will Aaron, Grayson Stille, and Emma Aaron; sister-in-law, Nola Miller (Richard)

of Winston-Salem, NC; and a nephew, Ben Miller of Dallas, TX.

A Celebration of Life Service was held Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation with the Rev. Bruce Walker and Rev. Howard L'Enfant officiating. A private Graveside service was held at Wednesday at the Horse Cove Cemetery.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home served the Aaron family.

Online condolences can be left at [www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com)

## Sandra Sherman Mackey

Sandra Sherman Mackey, a Middle East expert and author of six books and numerous articles, died on Sunday, April 19th. She was 77.

After graduating with a history degree from the University of Central Oklahoma, Sandra Mackey pursued a graduate degree in International Relations at the University of Virginia. She was in the first class of females to attend the graduate program at UVA.

In 1978, she moved with her family to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where she spent four years reporting on Saudi politics, economics, military affairs, and society. Her many articles on the Middle East have appeared in the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Christian Science Monitor, the Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune, the International Herald Tribune, the Guardian, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, USA Today, and The National Interest.

In 1987, she published her first of six books, *The Saudis: Inside the Desert Kingdom*. This was followed by *Lebanon: Death of a Nation*, a New York Times "Notable Book of 1989"; *Passion and Politics: The Turbulent World of the Arabs* (1992); *The Iranians: Persia, Islam, and the Soul of a Nation* (1996); *The Reckoning: Iraq and the Legacy of Saddam Hussein* (2002), which was featured on the cover of the New York Times Review of Books; and *Mirror of the Arab World: Lebanon in Conflict* (2008). In addition to her individual works, she also contributed a chapter on twentieth century politics to the National Geographic publication *Cradle and Crucible: History in Faith in the Middle East*.

A frequent commentator on the Middle East, Sandra appeared on CNN, MSNBC, Fox, Nightline, ABC Evening News, CBS Sunday Morning, C-Span, National Public Radio, Monitor Radio, the BBC, Canadian Broadcasting, Bill Mahr's Politically Incorrect and many local media outlets.

In researching her writing, Sandra traveled to Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Libya, and Morocco. In the years of 1992, 1993, and 1994, she traveled as an unaccompanied Western woman to Iran for six weeks at a time. She traveled to Iraq in 1998 and 1999, and returned in October of 2004 with the 1st Infantry Division.

From 2004-2010, she aided in preparing upper level officers in the U.S. Army who were rotating to Iraq.

Sandra Mackey was a masterful teacher. She taught history at Harding High School in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and St. Anne's School in Charlottesville, Virginia. She taught political science at Georgia State University and was a visiting scholar in the Woodrow Wilson Department of Government and Foreign Affairs at the University of Virginia.

As an active member of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Sandra shared her expertise in the Education Ministry by leading Sunday School classes and giving lectures to the con-

gregation and community of Atlanta in times of turmoil in the Middle East.

Sandra was politically active, volunteering in political campaigns and rallying for causes from Civil Rights to women's rights to gun control, including participating in the March on Washington in 1963.

She is survived by her loving husband and partner, Dan, her son, Colin, her daughter-in-law, Patty, and her cherished grandson, Adrian.

Services will be held on Thursday, April 23rd at 11am at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3003 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta 30327.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to support research at the Emory Parkinson's and Movement Disorders Program (Emory University, Attn: Katie Dozier, 1440 Clifton Road NE, Suite 170, Atlanta, GA 30322) or to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta (1275 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 500, Atlanta 30309).


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## ...FOUNDERS continued from page 1

the ice rink. It was incorporated into the plan only after the coalition was asked to see if it was feasible since the park would be a better spot for the rink. (It was previously planned for the ball-park infield.)

Bazan also made it clear that monetary donations made to the park didn't have strings attached.

"Not a penny of the money raised from public donations had a single string attached to it. The donations were given from the

heart and for the love and betterment of the town of Highlands," he said.

However, between \$450,000 and \$650,000 is needed to complete the park so the project doesn't linger and so it is ready for the ice rink in November.

On that note, he said there are a number of donors who are willing to write checks for \$100,000 or \$150,000 but they want some sort of recognition for themselves or their families.

That recognition would come in the form of a plaque of appreciation no larger than 11 inches by 14 inches and would be affixed to a particular feature in the park – fountain, benches, etc.

"Not everyone feels this way – Art and Angela Williams don't want a plaque or any recognition. Art said he is doing this because he loves Highlands," said Bazan. The Williamses donated \$390,000 for the first phase of the park, \$250,000 to buy the land for the 2nd phase and have pledged \$200,000-\$220,000 for the ice rink, equipment and storage.

A donors' wall is planned for the front of the restroom building and every single person who made a donation will be listed there. Individual plaques will be reserved for those who make hefty donations.

Commissioner John Dotson didn't like the idea of the plaques.

"I get the reason, and I know

you need to raise money for the park and it's a form of gratitude but it shouldn't be in that form in a public park," he said.

But Bazan said the gesture was needed.

"You have to give us the tools to generate the funds," he said. "Some people won't give money unless they are recognized so it ties our hands."

With large donations, the park could be finished relatively quickly. Without them, it could take a decade for the money to trickle in, he said.

Commissioners voted to allow the plaques with a 4 to 1 vote. Dotson voted no.

Next Bazan asked permission to change the name of the park from the Kelsey-Hutchinson Park to the K-H Founders Park.

Commissioners OK'd the request. Commissioner Amy Patterson said it made sense because

"more than two people founded Highlands."

Finally, the coalition asked that the town develop a timeline agreeable to all parties for the donation of the park to the Town of Highlands.

However, before a date is designated, Commissioner Donnie Calloway asked the town attorney to seek clarification regarding the Macon Bank property. Bazan said he had concerns about that issue, too.

The amphitheater portion of the park is on Macon Bank property and if the bank should ever decide to close and sell the property, commissioners and Bazan want assurances that the amphitheater portion will stay intact as part of the park.

Bazan suggested a 99-year lease.

– Kim Lewicki

## ...TOWN BOARD continued from pg 1

daunting project."

### Verizon Tower Extension

Back in February at the board retreat, commissioners learned that though Verizon has received the signed contract from the town regarding permission to extend the height of the cell tower on Little Bear Pen, Verizon hadn't signed the contract. In fact, commissioners learned that Verizon didn't intend to sign the contract at this

time because the Highlands project didn't make their "A" list so it is on the back burner.

With that news, the town began to seek another carrier in hopes of expanding coverage in the Highlands area.

Matt Shuler, MIS/GIS director said US Cellular was seeking permission to erect three small monopolies on town property in

• See TOWN BOARD page 11



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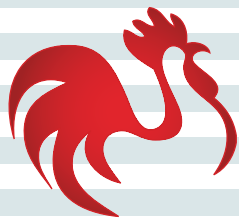
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**WEDNESDAY:** CHICKEN OR STEAK POT PIE AND A LARGE SALAD  
\$19.95 SERVES FOUR

**THURSDAY:** ROASTED MEATLOAF WITH MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY AND A LARGE SALAD  
\$19.95 SERVES FOUR

**FRIDAY:** WILD CAUGHT FRIED SHRIMP, BAKED POTATOES, HUSH PUPPIES AND COLESLAW  
\$22.95 SERVES FOUR

**SATURDAY:** IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ, COLESLAW, APPLE AND BACON BAKED BEANS, AND YEAST ROLLS  
\$19.95 SERVES FOUR

### WEEKDAY PIZZA SPECIAL:

16" NEW YORK STYLE PIZZA WITH UP TO FIVE TOPPINGS AND A LARGE HOUSE SALAD \$19.99 OR

BAKED PASTA, WITH GARLIC BREAD AND SALAD FOR 19.95 PASTA, TOMATO SAUCE, AND CHEESE WITH A CHOICE OF ITALIAN SAUSAGE, MEAT BALLS OR CRISPY CHICKEN.

AVAILABLE MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 4:30 TO CLOSE

### WINE MARKET

AN EXCELLENT, COMPREHENSIVE SELECTION OF WINE WITH THE BEST PRICES IN TOWN, AND RUN BY A KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF. BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE BY THE GLASS WHILE YOU SHOP AND DINE.

### BUTCHER

WE SELL ONLY 100% PREMIUM ANGUS BEEF, HAND CUT IN HOUSE. STOCK UP FOR THE WEEKEND EVERY THURSDAY WITH 35% ALL STEAKS AND GROUND BEEF. THEN STOP BY THE TAKE OUT CASE TO COMPLETE YOUR DINNER WITH TWICE BAKED POTATOES, FRESH SALADS AND MORE.

### ARTISAN OIL AND VINEGAR

OVER 40 EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OILS AND VINEGARS TO CHOOSE FROM - ALL AVAILABLE TO SAMPLE.

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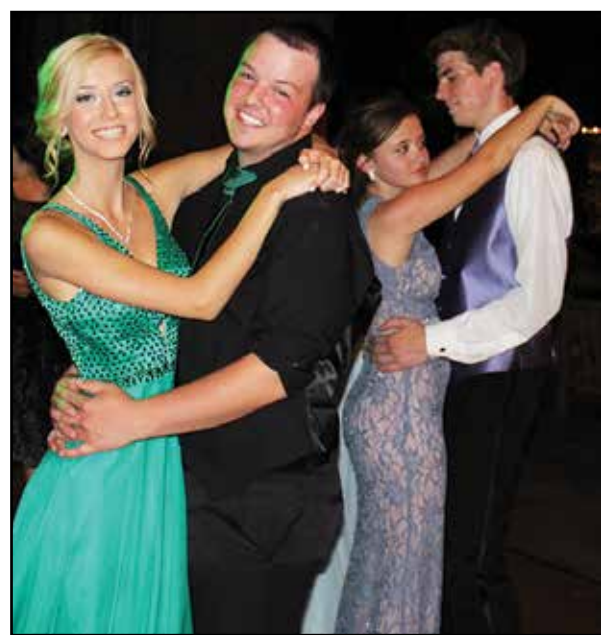
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## 'Time after Time' – Friday, April 17





# ***'Time after Time' – HS Junior/Senior Prom Friday, April 17 at The Farm***





# PIZZA & ITALIAN STREET FOOD AT MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY



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

## CHOOSE CLASSICS LIKE:

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

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

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

## OR MODERN INTERPRETATIONS:

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

**BBQ CILANTRO CHICKEN:** PULLED CHICKEN, BBQ SAUCE, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, RED & GREEN ONION, FRESH CILANTRO.

...OR BUILD YOUR OWN.

**N.Y. DECK OVEN PIZZAS**  
*10 INCH \$10.95 / 16 INCH \$19.95*

## CHOOSE YOUR SAUCE:

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

## CHOOSE UP TO 5 TOPPINGS:

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

**ITALIAN STREET FOOD \$10.95**

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

**ADD YOUR SAUCE:** POMODORO, PESTO BASIL, ITALIAN WHITE CREAM, CREAMY PESTO

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

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EVERY DAY**

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## • HS SPORTS •

### Girls Varsity Soccer

Tuesday, March 31, the Lady Highlanders traveled to Rabun Gap.

The Rabun Gap Eagles came out scoring first, but were quickly followed by a goal from Highlands' Aislinn Fitzpatrick to tie the score going into half-time.

Kirstyn Lamb come out in the second half to score a goal winning the game 2 to 1.

Tuesday, April 14, the team traveled to Tallulah Falls. They won 5 to 1 with Blakely Moore scoring one goal with two assists. Kirstyn Lamb scored four goals with an assist from Courtney Henry.

The team was scheduled to play Towns on April 15 but the game was cancelled due to weather. Due to calendar conflicts, the game will not be rescheduled.

## • FIRE REPORT •

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue  
Dept. log entries from April 17.**

### April 17

• At 6:51 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at the Cullasaja Club.

• At 8:50 a.m., the dept. provided traffic control at the site of a vehicle accident on US 64 west.

### April 20

• At 8:14 p.m. the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mack Wilson Road.

### April 21

• At 11:24 a.m., the dept. was responded to a fire alarm at the Cullasaja Club.

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# SPOTLIGHT ON...

**April 23, 24,  
25, & 26 2015**

Evening Performances:  
7:30pm  
Sunday matinee:  
2:30pm

Sponsored by a Grant from the  
Highlands & Cashiers  
Community Foundation of  
Western North Carolina

Two  
ONE ACT  
PLAYS

How to  
Capture &  
Keep a  
Husband  
A Game

Directed by  
Dr. Ronnie Spilton  
Starring Students from Highlands & Cashiers

**Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street Highlands**

**Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org)**

**or by calling: 828.526.9047**

Original Art By: Destiny Ferra - Martin



## ...TOWN BOARD continued from page 6

town, and might consider the Little Bear Pen tower site instead; particularly if Verizon wasn't going to move forward in the immediate future.

However, at Thursday's Town Board meeting, Shuler said that US Cellular wasn't interested and Verizon had changed its mind and was now willing to move forward.

Therefore, commissioners asked the town attorney to rescind the previous contract and generate a new one – this time with a start date not just a signature.

"I don't want to be left hanging with nothing we can do; basically at their mercy," said Commissioner Amy Patterson.

### Planning Dept. Matters

Planning Director Josh Ward presented amendments to the Noise Ordinance saying that the Land Use Committee had discussed changes to it due to several issues that occurred last season.

Basically, the amendments include the reduction of allowable decibel levels from 85 to 50 and 70 depending on whether in a residential or commercial zone and whether during daytime hours of 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., or nighttime hours of 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

In addition, permits would not be needed unless the potential sound – whether amplified or otherwise – will definitely exceed 70 decibels; however, 80 decibels is

the limit.

"Right now, the level is 85 decibels and that can be exceeded with a permit. We want to do away with that; 85 decibels is pretty loud," said Ward.

Mayor Taylor noted that none of the live music events at the K-H Park or Town Square have exceeded 85 decibels.

Commissioners OK'd the amendments.

Ward also presented an amended parking map. He said the town received a request from Sabrina Hawkins, owner of Highlands Inn, asking for five employee restricted parking spaces on N. 4th Street, adjacent to Highlands Inn and across from the Bryson's building under construction.

The Town Board OK'd the request.

Both the Planning Board and the Zoning Board have had vacancies for several months. The Planning Board needs one member and the Zoning Board needs an alternate member.

Ward recommended Dennis DeWolff for the Planning Board and Jerry Moore as alternate member of the Zoning Board.

Recently, the Town Board changed requirements for being on the Zoning Board from living in town to owning a property or a business in town. Jerry Moore lives outside of town but owns Kilwin's.

– Kim Lewicki

## Shear Elevations

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NC  
LMBT  
#1429

# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Live in HD at PAC, Sat., April 25



MET Opera Live in HD at the Highlands Performing Arts Center: Saturday, April 25 Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci. 12:30pm

Opera's most enduring tragic double bill returns in an evocative new production from Sir David McVicar, who sets the action across two time periods but in the same Sicilian village. Marcelo Álvarez rises to the challenge of playing the dual tenor roles of Turiddu in Cavalleria Rusticana and Canio in Pagliacci. Rae Smith (War Horse) has designed the moodily atmospheric 1900 village square setting of Cavalleria, which transforms to a 1948 truck stop for the doomed vaudeville troupe of Pagliacci. Eva-Maria Westbroek (Cav) and Patricia Racette (Pag) sing the unlucky heroines, and Met Principal Conductor Fabio Luisi is on the podium.

This will be the last MET Opera Live in HD for this season. The new MET Live in HD season will start in October. The pre-opera discussion, lead by Beverly Pittman will begin at 12 noon. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047

## Dine out for AIDS at local restaurants on April 30

On Thursday, April 30th the AIDS Fundraiser "Dining Out for Life®" (DOFL) will be held. Here in Western North Carolina the event supports the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP). Since 1986 WNCAP has provided HIV/AIDS Outreach Education & Prevention programs and case management services to those affected by the disease in Macon and 17 other counties. DOFL is a vital fundraiser necessary for WNCAP to carry on critical services throughout our region. Last year the event raised \$165,000.

In the US there are currently over 1.2 million people living with AIDS. This number includes over 35,000 men, women and children in North Carolina.

According to the CDC over 50,000 new HIV infections occur annually in the US. Since HIV/AIDS was first identified as a global health threat, funding for testing, treatment and care in the US has never been enough to meet ongoing need. Because of current budget cuts there will be less money from government for treatment and prevention in NC and across the US. That is why support of WNCAP is so

important this year.

In Highlands Cyprus, On the Veranda, the Ugly Dog and the Dog House will be participating in this year's event. They will graciously contribute 20% of their sales that day to WNCAP. Please add your contribution by having a meal at one of these restaurants. Your participation is a win-win-win for everyone. You will have a great meal, the restaurant will have increased sales, and the clients of WNCAP and future generations will continue to benefit from the services offered.

• **NOTE:** The Recreation Department is now accepting application for Lifeguards for the Summer. We will be offering a Lifeguard course in late April and early May.

• **NOTE:** Anyone interested in putting together a softball team in the Highlands Spring League needs to contact Lester Norris at 828-526-3556 by Thursday, April 23rd before 4:30pm.

### Ongoing

• Church of the Incarnation and the First Presbyterian Church are collecting food items for the Highlands Emergency Council and the Food Pantry. Drop off boxes are in the Ravenel Room at First Presbyterian and in the downstairs lobby at the Church of the Incarnation. Monetary donations also accepted. Make checks out to Highlands MountainTop Rotary.

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

### Thurs.-Sun.

• Movies at the Playhouse: Thurs-Sunday, 2, 5 & 8 p.m. Call 526-2685 for weekly movie.

### Monday

• 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.

### First Tuesdays

• FAMILY and Caregiver Support Group Meets: for Individuals that have a friend, family member or loved one living with mental illness. Learn how peers deal with stress and emotional overload. First Tuesday of Every Month 7-8 pm. Call Ann for more info (828) 369-7385

### 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

• OccupyWNC meets at the Jackson County Justice Center. For more information, visit [www.occupywnc.org](http://www.occupywnc.org) or call 828.331.1524

Tuesdays  
• Free Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.  
• Zumba at the Rec Park at 8:05a. \$5.

### Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am-9:30am  
• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

• Zumba at the Rec Park at 9:05a. \$5

### 1st Wednesdays

• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:15pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

### 3rd Wednesdays

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

### Thursdays

• Yoga at the Rec Park 8:15 a.m. \$6 per class.

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

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

• NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness: depression, bipolar, schizophrenia, etc. and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 – 8:15 pm. Call Donita for more info (828) 526-9510.

### 2nd Thursdays

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

### 3rd Thursdays

• Kidney Smart Classes in Franklin: Every 3rd Thursday of month, 4:30pm-6pm, Angel Medical Center, Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 120 Riverview Street, Contact Majestic 828-369-9474

• Kidney Smart Classes in Sylva: Every 3rd Thursday of month, 7:30am-9am, DaVita Sylva Dialysis Center, 655 Asheville Highway, Contact Sue 828-631-0430

### Last Fri. of each month

• Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor from 11a to noon at The Hudson Library.

### Sundays

• At the Mountain Laurel Tennis Club at 4:30 pm. Multi-denominational, Interactive Bible Study and Fellowship.

### Thurs.-Sun., April 23-26

• PAC's Youth Theatre will present Spotlight on 2 One Acts: A Game and How to Capture & Keep a Husband. 7:30 p.m. in the evenings and 2:30 p.m., Sunday matinee. Adults are \$10 and students are \$5. Call 828-526-9047 for tickets.

### Thurs., April 23

• Kindergarten Orientation at Highlands School at 10 a.m.

### Fri., April 24

• Kindergarten Orientation at Lotla Valley Elementary at 8:30 a.m.

• Kindergarten Orientation at Cartoogechaye Elementary at 9 a.m.

• Community Coffee with Mayor Patrick Taylor is at the Hudson Library in the Meeting Room from 11a to noon. This month he will be discussing and answering questions about the budget. Coffee with the mayor is on the last Friday of each month.

• Waldo Baroque and Friends will perform a free concert at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands at 5 pm. A reception will follow the concert. An offering for the Diocese's work education at Ecole Bon Sauveur, an Episcopal School in Cange, Haiti will be collected.

### Sat. & Sun., April 25-26

• Fabulous Jewelry show at The Gallery of Gems, 2724 Georgia Road, Franklin from 11am to 6pm. Showcasing our stunning se-



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

lection of precious gemstones in jewelry, selected designer pieces & some fine estate jewelry pieces for purchase at amazing prices.

**Sat. April 25**

• Macon County Master Gardener Association will hold its 13th annual Plant Sale Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Environmental Resource Center, 1624 Lakeside Drive in Franklin (next to the Landfill). Offerings will include shrubs, bulb plants, vegetables, herbs and flowering plants. All proceeds go to the further development and maintenance of ERC. For information contact the Macon County Extension Office, (828) 349-2046

• At their booth at Greening Up the Mountain on Sylva's Main Street, will present new Jackson NAACP tee shirts and member-

• See **EVENTS** page 14

## Jewelry Show this weekend



Fabulous Jewelry show at The Gallery of Gems, 2724 Georgia Road, Franklin Saturday and Sunday, April 25-26 from 11am to 6pm. Showcasing our stunning selection of precious gemstones in jewelry, selected designer pieces & some fine estate jewelry pieces for purchase at amazing prices. For more information, call 828-342-3135, 828-524-8931 or 828-342-7340.

By Emily Compost

**Don't miss the Mountain Garden Club's 33rd plant sale** on Saturday, May 23. The Highlands ball field gates will open at 9:00 a.m., and many repeat and new customers will head directly to the dahlia tent at the rear of the field. Whether a seasoned dahlia grower, a beginner, or just thinking about it, you can get expert advice on choosing and growing this magnificent flower when you shop at the annual Mountain Garden Club plant sale.

Dahlia growing is becoming more and more popular among gardeners on the Highlands plateau. As a beginner, you tend to start small and the next thing you know, you are hooked. Your head can spin as you select your favorites, with so many sizes, colors, and varieties from which to choose.

Often referred to as the peonies of autumn, dahlias start putting on their best show around August. Their color range is endless and they are durable, holding up beautifully in outdoor and indoor party environments. When many of your summer blossoms fade, dahlias are just beginning their

show.

Dahlias require a site with good drainage and are partial to full sun with at least 6 hours of sunlight. Pots are also an increasingly popular way to grow dahlias. Potted dahlias can go directly into the ground when it has warmed and there is little chance of frost. You can start the tubers indoors in small pots, in good light, about a month before planting time. This year the ladies of the Mountain Garden Club have a wonderful selection of tubers and pre-potted dahlia plants for sale.

In addition to dahlias, you'll find hundreds of native plants and other perennials of many varieties at the sale. All plants have been carefully dug, potted, and tended with TLC from the club members.

The 33rd annual Mountain Garden Club plant sale is Saturday, May 23 from 9 a.m. until noon at the baseball park on Hwy. 64 E, corner of North 4th and Hickory Streets. If rained out on Saturday, the sale will be May 24, 1 until 4 p.m. Cash and checks only, please.

Proceeds go to benefit horticulture scholarships and community projects.

## Stop in the name of Dahlias



## Playhouse Summer Children's Theater Camp coming up



Highlands Playhouse, in its 77th Season, is excited to announce the return of the Summer Children's Theatre Camps. Our Artistic Director and his chosen teachers together will challenge campers to discover, explore and develop every aspect of theatre—acting, singing and dancing. The camps will run consecutively from June 29-July 10.

The children's theatre camp is a two week session concluding with a free performance for family, friends and the community on Saturday, July 11th at 11 a.m. Class times are 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. for ages 6-10 and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for ages 11-14. Students are required to bring a short sleeved black shirt, black shorts or pants and black tennis shoes or black flats. This attire will be used for the performance day on Saturday.

Students may take one or both weeks. Week one is June 29-July 3 and week 2 is July 6-10. The cost for each week is \$250 for the first student and \$225 for each additional student in the family. Spaces are limited so be sure to sign up in advance to secure a place. Sign-up sheets can be found on our website, [highlandsplayhouse.org](http://highlandsplayhouse.org) under the Upcoming Events tab and scrolling down to Children's Theatre Camp.

## Highlands' Rising Stars

Looking for an evening of great food and entertainment? Join us on Thursday, April 30, at Highlands School for dinner and a show! The Highlands School PTO is sponsoring a talent showcase: Highlands' Rising Stars. Singing, dancing and instrumental acts will be performed by students and faculty. The show begins at 6:30pm in the Old Gym at Highlands School. Admission is \$3 per person. All proceeds collected from admissions will be used to fund the Accelerated Reader and Accelerated Math programs that benefit all students at Highlands School.

Before the show, be sure to

drop by the school cafeteria to enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner from 5pm until 6:30pm. Dinner plates are \$5 for children and \$7 for adults and include BBQ, slaw, chips, drink, and dessert. The dinner is a fundraiser for the Highlands School Varsity Cheerleaders. Also before the show, the Middle School Student Government Association will be holding a Silent Auction.

Come and show your Highlander Pride and support Highlands' Rising Stars Talent Show on Thursday, April 30, at Highlands School! Dinner and the Silent Auction begin at 5pm and the show starts at 6:30pm.

# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

ship forms for those who wish to join. The NAACP works for the equal rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

- Gorge Cleanup from 9:30a to 2p. This year's cleanup will be in honor of the late Jacpot who started the clean up many years ago. After the clean up there will be a cook out at Cliffside Lake. To volunteer call Jennifer Cunningham at the Highlands Visitor Center at 828-526-2112.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 9.5 mile hike, elevation change 1200 ft., to Palmer Creek in the Smoky Mtns. Park in the Cataloochee area, following the creek all the way up. Meet at Waynesville Ingles at 9am, drive 40 miles round trip from Waynesville. Call leader Keith Patton, 828-456-8895. Visitors wel-

come, no dogs please.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a very strenuous 10.6 mile hike, elevation change 2700 ft., to Cold Mountain in the Shining Rock Wilderness, part of the Dirty Dozen Wilderness Hike Challenge, beginning and returning to the Daniel Boone Boy Scout Camp. Meet in the old WalMart parking lot near KFC at 8 am. Drive 80 miles round trip. Call leaders Bill/Sharon Van Horn, 828-369-1983, for reservations. Limit of eight hikers. No dogs please.

## Sun., April 26

- The Dedication Service for Goldmine Baptist Church Fellowship Hall will be Sunday, April 26, 2015 at 10 am. All family and friends are welcome. Please bring a covered dish.

- Buckle up, Baby! at the Franklin Fun

Factory from 1:30 - 4p Free carseats and car-seat checks.

## Thurs., April 30

- Jo Clare Wilson, Community Educator for Four Seasons Hospice, will present "Having Your Own Say about Living and Dying: Getting the Care you Want" Thursday at 4:30 pm in the Clubhouse Dining Room at Chestnut Hill of Highlands. A graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Theology, Ms. Wilson has extensive experience in both pastoral care settings as well as in medical settings helping health care providers to become more sensitive to the end of life needs and concerns of their patients in such areas as pain management as well as other end of life issues. This talk will be especially valuable for those who question the relevance of having an advance care directive, and have not yet made one as well as those who have questions about an existing directive. For questions or directions to Chestnut Hill, contact Mary Bean at 828-787-2114.

- Highlands School "Rising Stars" Talent Show, and silent auction. Dinner and auction is from 5-6:30p and the show beings at 6:30p

in the old gym.

- Dining Out for Life Benefit Cyprus, On the Veranda, The Ugly Dog and the Doghouse will contribute 20% of your bill to support WNCAP, the AIDS Service organization for WNC.

## Through, Sat., May 8

- The Highlands Cub Scout Pack 207 will be collecting items for the Appalachian Animal Rescue Center. Drop items off at the Highlands United Methodist Church on Main Street. For a list of items needed, call 828-200-9753.

## Saturday, May 2

- Macon County Public Health will hold several Rabies Vaccination Clinics in the Highlands area on Saturday. Veterinarians will vaccinate dogs, cats, and ferrets over 4 months of age, as required by NC state law. The cost is \$10 (cash only) per pet and all pets should be kept in vehicles, on leashes, or in carriers. In Highlands: Highlands Conference Center 9am - 10:30 am Highlands Cashiers Animal Clinic. In Scalp Mountain: At the Post Office 11 am - noon Highlands Cashiers Animal Clinic.

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828-526-4949  
www.thebascom.org

## After School Art Adventure, Wednesdays

April 1 - June 3; 3:15 - 4:30 pm



## Kids' Creation Station, Saturdays

April 4 - May 30; 10 am - 12 pm

To register, please contact Anna Alig, Education Registrar, at  
aalig@thebascom.org or 828.787.2865.

## Tour of Kitchens Planned for August 22



Highlands' Laurel Garden Club is planning another fabulous tour of kitchens Saturday, August 22, 2015, from 9 - 3. Tickets go on sale May 1 at The Dry Sink, 450 Main Street in Highlands, and online at [www.laurelgardenclubhighlands.com](http://www.laurelgardenclubhighlands.com). Tickets are \$65 each. Put the date on your calendar for yet another knock out tour of mountain kitchens. The six kitchens range from historic to cutting edge urban, log cabin rustic to luxurious mountain chic. Laurel Garden Club has had two previous kitchen tours in 2011 and 2013 which have helped to raise over \$100,000 that has been distributed in grants to community organizations. For more information closer to the date, please consult the web site listed above.

Pictured above are Kitchen Tour Chair Glenda Bell, President Lila Howland, and Co-chair Libby Eustis wearing the trademark Laurel Garden Club aprons.



# • INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

## Has Your Home Been on the Market for a Long Time?

The real estate market changes from year to year and season to season and this year it looks as though our market is poised for a better year. Good news for sellers, but what about the home you've had listed for a while when the market wasn't so promising? Chances are your home may be perceived as flawed in some way or overpriced. You may be contemplating taking it off the market, giving it a rest and maybe a facelift, and relisting so that past negative perceptions will be forgotten.

Many people assume it's as easy as pulling your home off the market one day, relisting with the same agent or a new agent the next and having it appear as a new listing. It's not as easy as that since our local multiple listing service (MLS) has rules that determine what qualifies as a new listing and what does not. To qualify as a brand new listing showing no cumulative days on the market your home needs to be off the market 120 consecutive days. This stops the cumulative days on the market count so that when you do relist the days on the market count has been entirely reset. Relisting it sooner than 120 days will reset the current days on the market count but the total days on the market will still be shown. The past history of the home is still available, but not as obvious.

If you decide you don't want to take your home off the market for 120 days in order to reset the "days on the market" ticker, maybe it's time to rethink your property's image. Sit down with your agent and analyze why the home hasn't sold. It may be that you need to reconsider your listing price, but chances are that you also need to freshen up your listing so that it attracts the attention of potential buyers.

The importance of quality photographs can't be over emphasized. Were your original listing photos taken on a cloudy day and your home looks too dark? Did you have your pictures taken last fall and now it's summer? Photographs from last season automatically give the impression that your home has been lingering on the market. If you've updated the look of your home or staged it more attractively your photographs need to highlight those updates. Today's buyers typically start their search online so photos that are professional and stand out are crucial in sparking their initial interest. One good picture is worth a thousand words.

When considering pricing, small changes sometimes work wonders because



Wanda Klodosky  
Landmark  
Realty Group

you will reach more buyers. For example if your home is priced at \$356,000.00 you haven't been reaching prospective buyers who've set their search parameters at under \$350,000.00. Lowering the price by only \$6,000 brings your home to the attention of a larger segment of buyers. When you change your price it is the perfect time to update those photos.

Never forget that even with a profes-

sional Realtor working with you to sell your home, there are many things you can and should do to help make your home more attractive to the market. Let your Realtor know when you've cleaned the home up for the spring and added new plants so that new photos of the home at its best can be taken. Never forget that you and your Realtor are working as a team to get your home sold.

Wanda Klodosky is the Broker in Charge of Landmark Realty Group's Highlands' office. Landmark Realty has offices at 225 Main St Highlands, Cashiers (Crossroads & Frank Allen Rd) and Burlingame. Landmark's Brokers are committed to the highest level of professional real estate service and welcome everyone to visit our website at [www.landmarkrg.com](http://www.landmarkrg.com) to learn more about our company and the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau.

## Have you Fixed Your Dirt Crawl Space?

### Dry Crawl Spaces Crawl Space Encapsulation System®

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

#### Protect your home from:

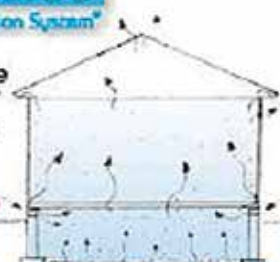
- ✓ Mold
- ✓ Bugs
- ✓ Structural Damage
- ✓ Smells & Odors
- ✓ Loss of Storage Space
- ✓ Radon Gas
- ✓ Rising Energy Costs



**CleanSpace®**  
Crawl Space Encapsulation System®

The earth in your dirt crawl space is the major source of moisture in your home! This moisture is carried up into your house from the natural upward air flow created from rising heat. CleanSpace® is the answer.

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## Falling Waters



**Falling Waters...** is a newer well maintained 52 acre community just 2.8 miles from Main St. Highlands. Secluded but not remote, no road noise, no thru traffic...peaceful, quiet and private.



The land is well forested and gentle, easy building sites and a pleasant place to walk. Two waterfalls and several creeks add charm and interest to many home sites. Paved roads, Underground utilities & Gated.

#### Would love to build BUT.....

Neil & Paula Van Hoogen (the developers) can help. We are knowledgeable, experienced and love the building process. We can assist with the many decisions, choices and options. In your absence, we will be your eyes and ears watching out for your best interest. Let's explore the possibilities!

#### Welcome...Come Visit.

##### GPS Address:

**78 Black Bear Trace  
Highlands, NC 28741**

From Main St. take NC 106 toward Dillard. 1.8 miles turn R on Mt. Laurel Dr., 3 tenths mile, turn L on Moonlight.

Entrance is on the R  
[highlandsnchomesites.com](http://highlandsnchomesites.com)  
[www.highlandsnchomesites.com](http://www.highlandsnchomesites.com)

**828-508-9952**



# ...HYDRO-PLANT from page 1

was designated by the U.S. Forest Service as a National Scenic Byway because of its numerous waterfalls, including Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls, Quarry Falls, and Lower Cullasaja Falls, to which might be added the lesser known Kalakalaski Falls just above the power plant.

"The structure itself is located across from Bridal Veil Falls along

the combined route of U.S. 64 and N.C. 28 at the headwaters of the Cullasaja Gorge, which is mostly protected as part of the Nantahala National Forest.

"Except for the roof, windows, and doors, which need repair, the gabled granite block walls are as solid as when they were originally constructed at a cost of \$100,000 over a basement that acts as a boathouse opening onto the river. The structure is associated with the electrification of Macon County and of North Carolina in the early twentieth-century and is representative of industrial architecture of the time. Its historical importance also relates to engineering activity in the mountain region of the State. It would make a welcome addition to the attractions of this Mountain Waters Scenic Byway in Macon County.

"Thank you in advance for any actions you might take to help protect and preserve this hydro-electric power plant. As a significant artifact, it has as much value to Macon County and the State of North Carolina as it does to the developmental history of the resort Town of Highlands," reads the letter.

Why all the fuss?

Because now an outside company wants to use the plant to generate green energy credits and has applied for and received

permission to pursue the granting of a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license to resurrect the plant.

With the plant abandoned and the town's FERC license allowed to expire in 1996, Highlands basically relinquished "ownership" of the structure and its environs. According to Mayor Taylor, the town can't find any record of ever owning the plant property but understands it was given permission by the USFS to use the property to build both the Lake Sequoyah Dam and the hydroelectric plant in 1925.

Highlands' forefathers had a quit claim deed drawn up to ensure clear title to the Sequoyah Dam property, but unfortunately nothing was done to protect the powerhouse property. Now the town is scrambling to protect it and to call it its own.

With green energy the hot topic, Advanced Hydropower, a company from Peachtree City, GA applied for and in late 2014 received permission to pursue a FERC license to resurrect the plant for the purposes of selling the 3/4 megawatts of energy it could generate back to the Duke Power grid to the tune of \$225,000 to \$250,000 a year.

In 2013 the town considered resurrecting the plant for the same reason - with the profits going to the town - but learned it would take \$4-\$5 million to get it up and running and likely 20 years to

service and pay off the loan before a clear profit was realized.

Last November, when the Town Board learned of Advanced Hydropower's plans, commissioners were taken by surprise. On one hand they said they didn't know if they wanted to make the long-term investment themselves, but on the other hand, they weren't too keen on the idea of an "outsider" coming into town and reaping the benefits.

Though Advanced Hydropower's FERC application was accepted, the town of Highlands and about 22 other organizations are stakeholders in the project and will all have a say along the five-year trek prior to Advanced Hydropower's project coming to fruition. There is also the chance that after submitting all the required permits and completing the required studies, Advanced Hydropower may decide not to proceed.

So far the Town Board hasn't expressed interest in resurrecting the plant to generate green energy but there is an interest in jumping the hurdles to make the plant an historic/educational/recreation site.

Even if the town pursues the historical angle it's not known if that will affect the FERC process in the works.

According to Annie Laurie McDonald, Preservation Specialist with the State Historic Preservation Office in Asheville, which is part of the NC Department of Cultural Resources, both the Lake Sequoyah Dam and the hydroelectric plant on the Cullasaja River have been in the National Registry's sights.

"In 1989 both the dam and the powerplant were put on the National Register study list which is the first step in getting listed on the National Register," she said. "In 1990, it was determined that both structures were potentially - not formally - but potentially eligible for National Register status."

However, she also said if Advanced Hydropower isn't going to change the structure in any way then listing on the National Register may not hinder its plans particularly if it isn't going to impact an historical resource.

"If it's a project that requires federal permits and if they are going to change the structure in

an adverse way, we can mitigate the impact," she said. "That procedure doesn't absolutely protect the structure but it ensures an accounting of the impact on the resource."

Now there is a chance that friends in high places (Rep. Mark Meadows) can tread where others can't and perhaps intervene on Highlands' behalf and help preserve the site.

According to Taylor and Shaffner, if Meadows hears from enough citizens to warrant his intervention, he will consider the move.

- Kim Lewicki

An example of a simple letter to Meadows follows:

The Honorable  
Mark Meadows  
United States House of  
Representatives  
11th District-North  
Carolina  
1024 Longworth Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative  
Meadows:

I would like to add my voice to the others in Highlands requesting your help in preserving and protecting the old hydro-electric power house on the Cullasaja River.

Its construction and location are unique, and it's a treasured part of the history of our town and county.

Sincerely,  
Jim & Kim Lewicki

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**Saturday, April 25**  
**12:30pm**  
Pre-Opera Discussion  
12:00pm  
Lead by Beverly Pittman

**Cavalleria Rusticana**  
&  
**Pagliacci**

Adults: \$24  
Members \$20.40

Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street  
Tickets available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047

**The Dedication  
Service for  
Goldmine Baptist  
Church Fellowship  
Hall will be  
Sunday, April 26  
at 10 am.  
All family and  
friends are  
welcome.  
Please bring a  
covered dish.**



# Cockman completes 600-mile run across North Carolina

By Richard Betz

As reported in the April 9 edition of Highlands Newspaper, a 57-year old runner named Dave Cockman ran his way through Highlands on Easter Sunday, April 5, completing the second leg of a planned 12-day run across the state of North Carolina.

Dave started his historic run at the Tennessee border just west of Murphy on April 4, and he planned to finish at Jennette's Pier in Nags Head, averaging 50 miles per day. He was doing the run to raise funds and bring awareness to the work of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, helping wounded veterans returning from conflict.

Mayor Taylor and several members of the Highlands Roadrunners Club met him at the Town Limits and escorted him into Town late on Sunday night, the end of a tough two days in the mountains. The Mayor had arranged for complimentary accommodations at Old Edwards Inn and a dinner at the Ugly Dog Pub. The next morning, the Mayor issued a Proclamation in support of his cause and ran with him to the Town Limits. Dave told me later that "the Mayor literally ran me out of Town!" Throughout the rest of his journey, he received support and encouragement from small towns and big cities, running clubs, and ordinary people who found out about his record-setting journey and the cause for which he was running.

My daughter Katy was on her way to visit us at the Outer Banks on April 17, and I told her to watch for a man running by himself on US-64 somewhere east of Williamston. She told me she had just passed him on a lonely stretch of road, looking upbeat, with two small flags stuck in his backpack. That was the sight many motorists saw as they passed him on his journey.

On April 18 in Nags Heads, a little before sunset, Martha and I waited for Dave at Jennette's Pier with a group of 20 or so other runners and friends who had followed his progress day by day. We were scheduled to run the Flying Pirate Half Marathon the next morning, and as veteran marathon runners ourselves, it was simply astonishing for us to consider that this man had run 644.44 miles in 14 days 11 hours and 28 minutes – the equivalent of a little over 49 half-marathons, back-to-back, day after day.

Dave arrived on time and I had the honor of running the last quarter-mile of his journey



Highlands Roadrunners Club President with the record-setting Dave Cockman at the end of his long journey. Photo by Martha Betz

with him and several friends to the end of the pier. He instantly knew who I was – we had only communicated by e-mail and Facebook until then – and he said to tell the Mayor and other members of the Highlands Roadrunners Club and the folks at Old Edwards Inn how much he appreciated their hospitality two weeks earlier. "They treated me like royalty," he said.

Although he said he lost 25 pounds over the course of his run, Dave appeared to be in very good physical condition, without a single black toenail or blister on his feet. He was in remarkably good spirits, too, and I had trouble keeping up with him as we sprinted the last hundred yards down the pier. As photos were being snapped on the end of the

pier, he told some of the many inspiring stories about total strangers who had helped him.

"I want to send out another big thank you," he wrote on his Facebook page, "to everyone who has supported me in this grand experiment of seeing if I could run across the entire state of North Carolina. Somehow by the grace of God and a lot of good wishes and encouragement from each of you, I kept going day after day until I reached the ocean. There were a number of days when I would get into my hotel at 3 am or later, only to have to get up in 2 or 3 hours and do it all over again. Believe me, those were tough days."

But it was an inspiring journey, too. He said that he could literally not count the number of times people searched him out on the road, rolled down their window, and handed him money and thanked him for what he was doing. "I think one of the enduring memories I will have is of all the thousands of people who drove by and waved back at me. I wish I had a video of each and every wave. THANK YOU, North Carolina. You have provided me with one fantastic journey. Now I must go and research all the places I took pictures of and the people I met and report back to you all on what I have seen. But first, I think I'll just go get a good night's sleep!"

Dave says he ended up raising over \$7,000 for the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, and he will be glad to receive additional donations. Those who are interested can go to the links on his website, [www.murphytomanteo.org/](http://www.murphytomanteo.org/) or simply make a check out to "Dave Cockman" or "Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund" and mail them to: Dave Cockman, P. O. Box 3152, Cary, NC 27519



## MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY DINNERS-TO-GO SUMMER MENU 2015

**MON**

**JAMES BEARD AWARD-WINNING CHEF, LOUIS OSTEEN'S LOW COUNTRY LOBSTER/SHRIMP BOIL FOR TWO**  
LOBSTER TAILS, WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP, RED BLISS POTATOES, SUMMER CORN, HOUSE MADE SAUSAGE, ALL STEEPED IN LOUIS'S PROPRIETARY SEASONING. SERVED WITH DRAWN BUTTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE.

**\$33.95**  
SERVES TWO

**TUES**

**OVEN OFF NIGHT**  
2 FRESH CHICKEN BREASTS, GRILLED WITH ROSEMARY INFUSED OLIVE OIL. SERVED ON A BED OF MIXED GREENS, WITH STUFFED BRIE, SPICY/SWEET PECANS, MOUNTAIN FRESH OIL AND VINEGAR ON THE SIDE AND TWO CUPS OF HOUSE MADE GAZPACHO, WITH A MOUNTAIN FRESH BAKERY FRENCH BAGUETTE

**\$23.95**  
SERVES TWO

**WED**

**PRIME RIB WITH BAKED POTATOES & SALAD**  
PREMIUM ANGUS STANDING RIB ROAST, COOKED MEDIUM RARE WITH RED WINE AU JUS, TWO BAKED POTATOES AND A LARGE CAESAR SALAD.

**\$33.95**  
SERVES TWO

**THURS**

**BABY BACK RIBS**  
COOKED FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER. SERVED WITH HOUSE MADE BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS, AND POTATO SALAD.

**\$25.95**  
SERVES TWO

**FRI**

**SHRIMP; FRIED OR STEAMED**  
WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP EITHER LIGHTLY BREADED IN OUR SEASONED CORN FLOUR MIXTURE, AND THEN PROPERLY FRIED IN PEANUT OIL AND SERVED WITH HUSH PUPPIES; OR STEAMED TO ORDER IN OUR LOW COUNTRY SEASONING. BOTH COME WITH COLESLAW AND ROSEMARY SEA SALT BROILED RED POTATOES, TARTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE.

**\$26.95**  
SERVES TWO

**SAT**

**IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ**  
SERVED WITH COLESLAW BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS AND YEAST ROLLS.

**\$22.95**  
SERVES TWO

**COME BY OR CALL IN YOUR DINNER ORDER!**  
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# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## A simple answer to a complex issue

By Pastor Dan Robinson

Highlands Central Baptist Church

Although it may sound arrogant, presumptuous or even self-righteous to you, I hope you will continue reading. So much is at stake. More, frankly, than we can comprehend. Surely sounding extremist and overly dramatic, that which is at stake is our great nation of constitutional rights and U.S. Military Forces fought-and-died-for freedoms. Ironically, minority voices are changing and setting the standards for the majority. Once regarded as the envy of the rest of the world, the United States is now mocked by that same world....really only a shadow of our former self. There is no question that government bears its own responsibility in this matter. It is documented to be one of/ by and for the people. Some have lost sight of that. It may surprise you, however, to hear that the greater responsibility rests on the Church.

The Bible puts it like this in 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Does this sound like fantasy to you? Like the musings of the unenlightened? To put it another way, someone has said: "As the family goes, so goes the Church. As the Church goes, so goes the Nation." What about you, fellow Pastor? Are you fulfilling your prophetic, as well as priestly, role? May I ask you more pointedly: Are you preaching only "fiddlin' sermons" while Rome burns? When your people hear you open your mouth, do they recognize that you've been with a Holy God and are speaking His Words on His behalf?"

Spiritual Revival and Awakening can and should begin in the pulpit. However, if not so, then God is pleased to start such a work in the pew. Church history bears this out. Revival in the Church has always affected the surrounding culture and society. You see, the conclusion which may sound arrogant, presumptuous or even self-righteous to you is this: The Church in America is in desperate need of Revival. Like the frog in the kettle...instead of being alarmed that we're slowly dying, we are rather enjoying the warm bath. Realization of our desperate need will result in desperate prayer. That's not the case in many churches now. In fact, one of the surest ways to insure low-to-no attendance is to announce a special time for Revival prayer. Desperate praying will certainly gain the attention and help of Heaven. No one can say precisely how God will heal our land when we pray. Yet He always keeps His promises and how He answers is for our good and His Glory.

So, my question: Are you listening? Is Washington listening? Do you have friends in high places? Do you know how to get this article on the President's desk as well as on your Pastor's? Can you imagine our President saying something like: "Our great nation needs the help of Almighty God. I humble myself and call on His name. I ask you to do the same."

Our times are critical... more than ever before. Yet, we may count on a loving and gracious God to intervene and help. He will respond to the prayers of His people. May God bless you as you respond to this article and may God bless America.

## Proverbs 3:5

### 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.: 9:15a Christian Education at Buck's Coffee Cashiers

Crossroads; 10:30a Faithful, Family Service w/ Music & Communion.

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

### CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470

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

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.

Wednesdays - Supper at 6 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

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968

Sundays: Education and choir rehearsal, 9 am, Holy

Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30

Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

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

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

Choir 5 pm

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

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

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

Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

### GOLDMINE 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

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship

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

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

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

## John 3:16

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

### 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);

7pm Intercessory Prayer Ministry

### 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

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-524-3962

### 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 Jerry David Hall • 526-3212

Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 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. Douglas E. Remer

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 6-Oct 25- 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.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am



## ...TRACK continued from page 1

commissioners voted to budget \$50,000 of the school district's capital outlay fund next fiscal year to be specifically allocated toward the project. With the county's funds, the entire \$400,000 needed to upgrade the school's track and softball field will be secured.

The school board prioritized capital outlay requests and sent a budget request of about \$400,000 to the board of commissioners earlier this year. That is a \$200,000 increase over what the district was allocated last year. According to Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin, after seeing the Highlands community step up to raise \$350,000 to improve the rec facility at the school, he would support the county if the \$50,000 was taken out of the already requested budget items. MC Commissioner Chair Kevin Corbin said that while the \$50,000 will be a capital outlay item for next year, during the budget process they will decide whether it will be part of the already submitted request, or if it will be a supplement.

After private monetary and in-kind donations, \$50,000 was needed from the county. The original request was for \$93,000 but a hefty private donation decreased that amount.

In-kind donations include: \$35,000 from John Lupoli, owner of Lupoli Construction, Jeff Weller of Summit Architecture and Hank Ross of Ross Landscaping Architecture, who are do-

nating design and drawing services equivalent to \$35,000. County Commissioner Jim Tate of Tate Landscaping Services, is donating landscape construction and sodding materials worth \$35,000.

The cost for equipment, landscaping and signage will be paid for through private donors who have pledged \$40,000. The Rotary Club of Highlands has donated \$8,600.

Renovations and additions include a maintenance building and dugouts, demo track, structures, fences, additional drainage, a new four-lane track, prep, paving and striping, soil prep and sod, high jump pad area, fencing, electrical conduits and wiring, permits, temporary facilities, mobilization, long and triple jump pit.

Commissioner Tate said now that the funds for the project have been secured, work will be done over the summer months while students are on break with a completion date expected by the fall.

The \$50,000 pledged by commissioners for the project will also serve as part of the 10 percent in-kind match needed to apply for a \$2.9 million QZAB (Qualified Zone Academy Bonds) loan from the state.

The loan, which will be given to the county at a zero percent interest rate, requires that the applicant produce a 10 percent in-kind match from the local community. According to County Manager Derek Roland, when applying for the loan, the entire Highlands

Sports Recreation Facility project will be offered to the state as the in-kind match.

Commissioners voted to move forward with applying for the \$2.9 million QZAB funds to complete needed upgrades to both Highlands School and Union Academy.

Based on the school board's renovation cost estimate, at \$85 per square foot, it would cost \$1.2 million to renovate Union Academy's 14,931 sq. ft. facility. With only 13,654 sq. ft. at Highlands, the cost weighs in at \$1.1 million.

The application process for the QZAB loan is extensive and to get the bulk of the work done over the summer while students are on break, commissioners had to act fast.

County Attorney Chester Jones said the best case scenario would be for the county to receive dollars from the loan by July, right about the time major portions of the project would be occurring. Because issues such as a new HVAC unit and windows at Highlands, and asbestos removal at Union Academy, are things that have to be completed while students are not occupying the building, Jones recommended that commissioners set aside existing county monies to cover the cost of those projects in case the QZAB funds are delayed.

For those projects, as well as money to pay for the architectural fees to lay out the project, commissioners voted to transfer \$682,643 from the county's Fund 46 (school

capital outlay fund) to be used to pay for that portion of the project if the QZAB loan is not in the bank by the time checks need to be written. While the county may be paying for that portion of the project up front out of existing funds, once QZAB monies are added to the budget, the county can reimburse itself.

Commissioner Ronnie Beale expressed his concern about spending existing taxpayer dollars, and said the county shouldn't have to front the money. However, Jones assured him that the money would be reimbursed in the unlikely case that it is spent at all.

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## • POLICE REPORT •

**The Highlands Police log entries from April 5. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

#### April 5

• At 5:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Mountain Brook Suites parking lot.

#### April 7

• At 3:15 p.m., officers responded to a report of a breaking and entering at a residence on NC 106.

#### April 8

• At 9:10 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 106 near Munger Road.

#### April 12

• At midnight, officers responded

to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 west.

#### April 13

• At 7 p.m., officers responded to a report of someone possessing and concealing a weapon at the 200 Main motel.

#### April 15

• At 9 a.m., officers responded to a report of damage to property, breaking and entering and larceny from buildings at Edwards Court. Tools valued at about \$2,000 were taken.

#### April 17

• At 1:42 p.m., Anita Lynn Pistolis, 49, of Highlands, was arrested for failure to appear in court and for resisting arrest at the intersection of Pierson Dr. and Wahoo Trail.

#### THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

CRIMINAL CASE NO. 2:13-cr-00006-MR

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff

vs.

NINIAN ULYSSES BOND II, Defendant.

FRAUD BY WIRE, RADIO, OR TELEVISION

April 16, 2015 - Verdict for Nin Bond

3 years probation - \$10,000 fine and Dept. of Justice forfeiture of property money judgment of \$149,697.89

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# • BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## Rep. Mark Meadows visits Highlands Rotary



Despite difficult times, the people of western North Carolina gather together and give generously, said guest speaker Congressman Mark Meadows. Looking to the federal government to solve all societal problems is not the answer. What we need, said Meadows, is to define ways to empower people to solve problems. Rotary is an example of the value added by groups finding solutions to a host of issues. For western North Carolina, Congressman Meadows intends to focus on providing the infrastructure for high speed internet. He encouraged all citizens of the 11th District to call his office with ideas as well as complaints. His staff takes note of these calls and he also sets aside four hours for answering the phone himself. Contact the congressman at: <https://meadows.house.gov>. Pictured from left: Rotary President Peter Ray, Rotarian Gary Warren and Congressman Mark Meadows.

## State of the county subject of Highlands Rotary meeting



A graduate of Franklin High School with a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Western Carolina University, Macon County Manager Derrick Roland was the guest speaker at the April 14th meeting. Overseeing a 45 million dollar budget and more than 400 employees, Derrick presented an informative "State of the County" report. Among the topics featured in the presentation included the challenge of a potential state-mandated redistribution of sales tax collections, and the continuing discussions with Jackson County regarding the "service area" for communities near the county boundary. For more information, please visit the Rotary Club of Highlands website at [highlandsrotary.org](http://highlandsrotary.org).

Pictured from left: Rotarian and Macon County Commissioner James Tate, guest speaker Derrick Roland and Rotary President Peter Ray

## Satulah access discussed at Highlands Rotary



Ran Shaffner presented a great program on the history of public access to Satulah Mountain back from the days when native Americans called it "Big Rumbler." Since 1909 when the Highlands Improvement Society purchased the top of the mountain as public property, access has been an issue. Foot traffic has always been allowed but vehicular traffic has been a problem because all of the roads to the top pass through private property. While different solutions for the problem of access have been sought, at the moment, no clear resolution is in sight. For more information, please visit the Rotary Club of Highlands website at [highlandsrotary.org](http://highlandsrotary.org).

Pictured from left: Ronnie Waller, Ran Shaffner and Rotary President Peter Ray.

## Highlands School Junior Marshals for Class of 2015



Photo by Ann Porter

Chief Marshal - Colin Weller; Assistant Chief Marshal - Delany Keith, Harrison Renfro, Austin Nichols, Remy Adrian, Whitney Billingsley, McKayla Hensley, and Cole Drummonds



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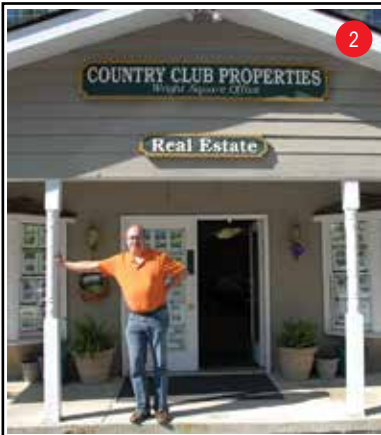
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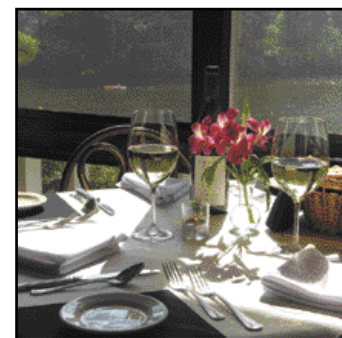
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