

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

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Thurs., Nov. 19, 2015

## Towns meet with county commissioners in combo mtg.

It's become a quarterly affair. Every four months the towns of Franklin and Highlands meet with the Macon County Commissioners to break bread and to casually discuss issues.

No business transpires – it's just a way to keep the lines of

communication open and is a practice started years ago by Highlands Mayor Don Mullen.

Every quarter the event is hosted by either the town of Franklin, the town of Highlands or the county. Monday, Nov. 16 it was Highlands' turn.

The site of the meeting was the Highlands Biological Station where following a meal provided by Mountain Fresh Grocery members of all the boards discussed a bit about what has been going on in their jurisdictions.

Franklin Mayor Bob Scott was

the first to speak. He was pleased to announce that Franklin was the recent recipient of a \$36,000 grant from the state with a 10% match from Franklin that will be used to develop a bike and pedestrian plan "So we can move people not just

•See COMBO page 2

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Jimbo Potts holds the plaque that will be affixed to the flag pole reading: This flag pole was generously donated to the Town of Highlands by Highlands American Legion Post 370 On November 11, 2015. Bidd Burton holds the certificate saying the flag flew over the U.S. Capitol on June 23, 2015.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

## American Legion Post 370 & Scout Troops 207 join forces to erect flag pole

Last Wednesday, Nov. 11, on a balmy Veterans Day, area veterans, boy scouts and cub scouts joined forces to leave a lasting memorial on the Highlands Community Building property next to the ballfield.

Through mutual collaboration, as well as help from town

crews, a new flag now flies from the new pole visible to all. The scouts and the town did the logistics and labor and the veterans from American Legion Post 370 supplied the funds.

"None of this would have been possible without the generous donation from Highlands

American Legion Post 370. On this day when we honor veterans let me take this time to not only thank you for this great new flag-pole, but to thank you for your service to our great country. We can never thank you enough for your service," said scout leader

•See FLAG page 6

## No-wake zone would mean safe water activities in Nantahala Lake for citizens

*Citizens and commissioners asking for State approval*

Nantahala Lake has 30 miles of shoreline and according to Mark Ray, and officer with the North Carolina Wildlife Commission, 90 percent of people who operate boats on the lake are individuals who do not operate water crafts regularly.

Because of concerns surrounding the large number of first-time or one-time boaters on Nantahala Lake, paired with a community who has been working for years to establish a recreation area at the lake for tourists and residents, Macon County Commissioners voted to submit an application to the state to designate Lakes End Cove on the lake as an official "no wake zone."

The application calls for the .67 miles of shoreline in the cove protected by a no wake zone, which means boats have to slow down, producing no wake, when in the designated area. The move has been something Nantahala com-

munity members have been fighting for for years.

Lakes End Mariana currently has one of the lakes three legal buoys, which require boaters to slow down 50 yards out from the pier. Residents have free access for swimming and other water lake activities from the pier, but even with a buoy sitting 50 yards out, boats often get dangerously close to swimmers before slowing down – according to Daniel Lopp member of the Nantahala community who has been working with commissioners to establish a recreation area along the lake.

The county's administration has been working since spring to develop maps of Nantahala Lake which clearly marks where the newly proposed no wake zone would begin. According to Jack Morgan, director of the county planning department, Lakes End

•See NO-WAKE page 15

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### A peek at tonight's TB agenda

The monthly Highlands Town Board Meeting will be held tonight at 7 pm. It will be at the Highlands Conference Center next to the ball field. The agenda is not long.

The first agenda item is the recognition of Blakely Moore, the new state 1A champion in cross country. Blakely is our first state champion from Highlands School. Her family, friends and coaches will be there to celebrate her achievement.

Representatives from Entegra Bank, formerly Macon Bank, will be donating a part of their existing bank property to become a part of the Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park. I appreciate the generosity and commitment to the community of Entegra Bank. Also, I am grateful to the Friends of the Park and Foster Surveying for their efforts in facilitating and supporting this important property transfer.

The board will also be asked to pass a resolution adopting the Macon County Animal Control Ordinance. Highlands has adopted the ordinance before, and this resolution is basically an update to reflect recent changes in the county ordi-



Mayor Pat Taylor

nance. The Macon County Animal Control Department does all enforcement activities within the town.

I am asking the board to set a policy for snow clearing of town streets. As you recall, last winter there was some controversy over the plowing of Monkey Hill on Chestnut Street, a popular sledding area. Such a policy should be in place prior to the winter snow season.

In previous communication I stated that the plan for bringing broadband to the town would be presented at the November board meeting. The town staff is very close to presenting specific information about how the town will provide broadband services to the community including a proposed pricing structure. The presentation will be delayed until the December meeting. A critical staff member has been ill for several weeks and certain key components still need to be resolved. Rather than partially revealing the plan, the Town Manager felt it best to postpone the presentation for a month so all aspects of the plan can be presented together.

Once the plan is presented and approved by the board, full implementation will get underway. Initial service in some areas should be operational early next year.

Let me cover a couple of other items before the Thanksgiving holiday. Town Hall will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and Friday. There will be no trash collection on Thanksgiving, but the trucks will run on Friday, collecting trash for both the Thursday and Friday pickup days.

The Christmas decorations have been going up -- they will be in place for the Christmas Town Lighting on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

•See MAYOR page 3

## Highlands Newspaper

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## • MILESTONE •

### It runs in the family



Photo by Carol Bowen

Tuesday morning, Highlands School Junior Blakely Moore signed with Lee University and accepted a track scholarship. Blakely is 1A Women's Cross Country State Champion. She recently beat 131 other girls to the finish line at Knersville, NC. Last year, when a senior at Highlands School, her brother Davis, placed 3rd in the NC State Cross Country race and also signed with Lee University and accepted a track scholarship. Pictured from left: Track Coach Ryan Kean, Kay Moore, Anne Marie Moore, Blakely Moore, James Moore, Morris Williams, Jerry Moore and HS Principal Brian Jetter.

## ...COMBO continued from page 1

vehicles," he said. Franklin was one of 10 cities in the state to get the grant.

He also discussed a collaboration with the Little Tennessee Land Trust stream restoration program to restore the Crawford Branch as well as restore the area behind the fire and police stations.

He said a new Toy Museum is in the works for Main Street in Franklin which means there will be five museums on the street which will help draw tourists.

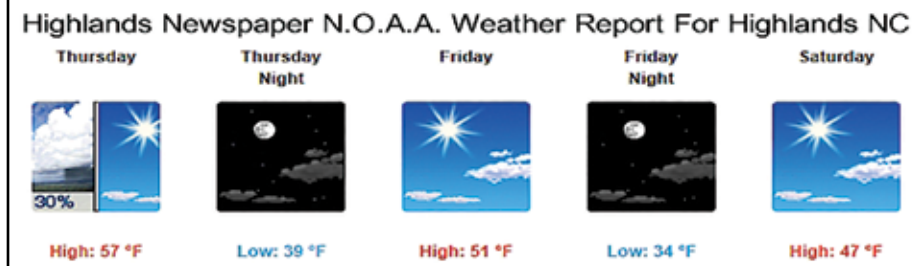
He also said Franklin was named "Best Small Town for Outdoor Activities" by Blue

Ridge Magazine.

Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor was next to speak and briefly discussed the positive changes in Highlands -- the enclosed year-round swimming pool, the development and expansion of the K-H Founders Park, including the donation of the Entegra Bank property to the park which has done away with the leasing agreement between the two entities.

He said due to weather and construction delays, the ice skating rink in the park will not be ready by Thanksgiving as originally planned but it's expected to be completed by the end of December or the beginning of January. Since that portion of the park isn't completed, the annual Christmas Tree lighting will take place -- probably for the last year -- on Main Street in front of the Highlands United Methodist Church. It's hoped that those activities will be moved to the park when it is completed.

•See COMBO page 9





# • OBITUARIES •

## Charles Vincent Sheehan, Jr

Charles Vincent Sheehan, Jr. of Indian River Shores died on Tuesday October 27, 2015 at his home in Highlands, NC.

He was born in London, England on Dec. 19, 1930 to Margaret Stokes Sheehan and Charles Vincent Sheehan.

Charles was a graduate of Canterbury School in Conn. and received a B.S. (SS) degree from Georgetown University and served in the United States Navy as a LT. J.G.

He had a long career with the General Electric Company spending the first ten years in Japan, Australia and Brazil.

He completed his tenure with Kidder, Peabody, and Co. an acquisition of GE.

Charles served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Indian River Medical Center and was instrumental in



developing the Heart Center program. From 2009-2015 he was Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Charles was a member of Quail Valley Golf Club, John's Island Club and Wildcat Cliffs CC in Highlands, NC.

He is survived by his wife, Susan of 53 years. He

also leaves behind six nephews and nieces and their children. He was preceded in death by his sister Patricia Dulles.

A mass Of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, November 16, 2015 at at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Vero Beach, FL. Burial was private.

Arrangements were by Strunk Funeral Home, Vero Beach, FL..

A guest book is available at [www.strunkfuneralhome.com](http://www.strunkfuneralhome.com)

## Janis Wilson

Janis Wilson died peacefully on Sunday, November 8, 2015.

She was a local and very much loved member of the Neville and Kathleen Wilson family including her husband, Terry and his son Corey, her brother-in-law Wade Wilson, and her sister-in-law Ethel Coffeen. She attended Highlands United Methodist Church.

Janis was born in Chelsea, MA to her late parents Frances Petrosino Robles and Joseph Robles.

She is survived by her close and car-



ing immediate family: sister Carol and her husband Jack Gagliardi, along with two nephews, Jon and Marc Gagliardi and a great-niece, Ana Maria Gagliardi.

Janis' wish would be that any remembrance of her would be directed to Oasis Shriners, 604 Doug Mayes PL, Charlotte, NC 28262.

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

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## ...MAYOR continued from page 2

The water intake project at the Lake Sequoyah Dam is almost complete. Last month the Town Board authorized funds to construct a berm in front of the new pump house and the planting of trees and shrubs on the berm and by the pump house. With a good series of growing seasons, the structure will be completely hidden from view.

# • THANKS •

## Pearl Lambert turns 96!

Pearl thanks her family and many friends who helped her celebrate a wonderful 96th birthday on Saturday, Nov. 14.



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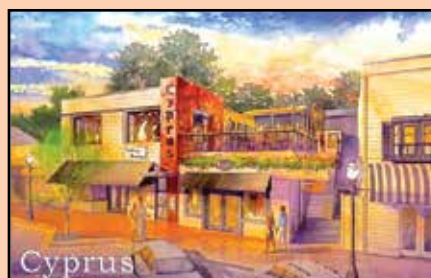
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...FLAG continued from page 1



**Boy and Cub Scout Troops 207 perform the flag ceremony at the new pole on the Community Building grounds next to the town ball field. The flag flew over the U.S. Capitol on June 23, 2015 and was supplied at the request of Congressman Mark Meadows.**

Phil Potts.

Potts said the project not only epitomized what it means to be a scout – to be helpful and generous – but it also shows what can happen when the older generation and the younger generation work together for a common goal.

It was a great project for the scouts to undertake with the veterans, he said.

"After all, said Potts, "veterans and the American Flag ... these two are synonymous!"

Potts thanked Tim Moseley from Warth Construction and the leader of Cub Scout Troop 207 for planting the idea of a new flagpole; to Rec Park Director Lester Norris for getting approval for the pole itself, the location and for getting the town crew's help to assist in the installation.

Potts gave a big thank you to the town's Electric Department crew: Craig (Yogi) McCall, Greg James, David Lefler, Clay Talley and Joe Allison as well as the Street Department's: Gene Ramey and Norman Houck.

"These gentlemen dug the hole -- there is only about a foot of soil then it is solid rock -- they helped set the flagpole,

provided fill dirt and cleaned up the extra rocks and dirt," he said.

He also thanked Scoutmaster Mike Murphy who organized the workday and scouts John Murphy, Carter Potts and David Bock for coming out on a rainy Saturday to pour the cement for the installation sleeve.

"You guys exemplify what it means when we say a scout is helpful and generous," he said.

The flag flew over the United States Capitol on June 23, 2015.

A certificate presented to the American Legion states: "At the request of the Honorable Mark Meadows, member of Congress, this flag is flown in honor of Highlands American Legion Post 370 members in recognition of their service to our country and for their continued service to the Highlands community."

The plaque which will be affixed to the flag pole states: This flag pole was generously donated to the Town of Highlands by Highlands American Legion Post 370 On November 11, 2015.

– Kim Lewicki



# •THE INK PEN•

## The Great Calico Hunter Redux

Puddin' is at it again. Can you picture her wearing a cat-sized pith helmet? Not only is she continuing the lizard hunt in the dining room, she's also going wild in the living room. We were spending a quiet evening in front of the TV, when she began leaping in the air and running around the furniture. Knowing there were no lizards to be found, I thought she was chasing a stink bug. We occasionally see them in the living room, but her best stink bug hunting ground is in my office, where she stalks them constantly.

This evening, though, she was on the prowl in the living room. She darted behind the entertainment center and seemed to be stuck. I pried her out from behind it and discovered she was chasing a stuffed fuzzy grey mouse that she'd inherited from her predecessor. Dancer, our last cat, had stopped playing with toy mice or anything else, for that matter, long before she went to kitty heaven at age 22.

I tossed the mouse out into the room and in the midst of that chase, Puddin' unearthed a small stuffed brown mouse. Next was a green sparkly toy. All of these items have been lying untouched in the toy basket near the easy chair for at least six months. If you've ever had cats, you know that they can make these tiny toys come alive by tossing them in the air and pounc-



Kathy Penn

ing on them non-stop. We were howling just watching her chase her toys around the coffee table.

All those antics inspired my husband to get out the "bird as he calls it. That's a wand with a string and feather attached to it. Puddin' will leap two feet in the air and do flips trying to catch it. By the time she ran out of steam and called it quits, she was panting and her little ears were hot. She hasn't gotten that worn out since she was a kitten. Not long after that, she headed upstairs to sack out on the dog's bed, and that's where she stayed until the next morning.

And you ask, "What was the 80 pound dog doing during all this activity? He was quietly lying on his bed in the living room, completely undisturbed and no doubt thinking the cat was crazy. Not much excites the boy. Well, he gets excited when he sees his leash or sees me put on my ball cap, thinking that a walk is in the offing, but get excited about the cat? No way.

There have been no further mouse or bird hunts since that evening, but Puddin' continues to don her pith helmet every morning and stake out the dining room in search of the lizard.

• *Kathy Manos Penn is a Sandy Springs, GA, resident who works in corporate America and writes for the Dunwoody Crier. Read more of her musing at TheInkPenn.blogspot.com.*

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## •INVESTING AT 4,118 FT.•

### How to Avoid Buyer's Remorse

If you've decided that now is the time to buy your mountain home, it's important to purchase the property that suits your needs. It is also important to do everything you can to make sure there is no "buyer's remorse" after the purchase.

Nationally, the most common reasons quoted for buyer's remorse are:

- The neighborhood and its proximity to other areas
- Transportation and parking



Wanda Klodosky  
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- Price: Did I pay too much?
- Hidden Costs such as pools, yards, renovations, heating, and cooling
- Bathrooms (not enough or wishing for a tub instead of a shower)

While some of these complaints do not apply to life on the Highlands Cashiers Plateau, one that is commonly heard by local Realtors pertains to hidden costs, especially unexpected repairs.

• See INVESTING page 10

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**Tuesday:** Made in-house Italian sausage lasagna and a large house salad.  
\$20.95 serves four

**Wednesday:** Chicken or steak pot pie and a large salad.  
\$20.95 serves four

**Thursday:** Roasted meatloaf with mashed potatoes, gravy and a large salad.  
\$20.95 serves four

**Friday:** Wild caught fried shrimp, baked potatoes, hush puppies & coleslaw.  
\$23.95 serves four

**Saturday:** In-house smoked bbq, coleslaw, apple and bacon-baked beans, and yeast rolls.  
\$20.95 serves four

### Weeknight Pizza Special:

**Monday through Thursday 4:30 to close**  
16 inch New York style pizza with up to 5 toppings or baked pasta with either italian sausage or chicken. Both come with garlic bread and salad.  
*Serves four for \$20.95*

## WINE MARKET

Browse our *Wine Spectator* award-winning selection of wines w/ the best pricing in town. Run by a friendly & knowledgeable staff. Beer & wine available by the glass while you dine & shop.

## BUTCHER

We sell only 100% premium angus beef, hand-cut in house. Stock up for the weekend every Thursday with 35% off all steaks and ground beef. Then stop by the take-out case to complete your dinner with twice baked potatoes, fresh salads and more!

## SPECIALTY CHEESES

Dozens of cheeses, tapenades, olives and specialty items to choose from including our made in-house crackers.

## BAKERY

Fresh loaves, baguettes, pastries, pies, layer and specialty cakes. Everything made from scratch.

STORE OPENS MONDAY- SATURDAY AT 7 AM & SUNDAY AT 8 AM  
Corner of Fifth & Main, Highlands NC • (828) 526-2400 • Visit us online at [www.mfgro.com](http://www.mfgro.com)



## ...COMBO continued from page 2



**Dr. Jim Costa, Director of the Highlands Biological Station told participants about the workings of the station**  
Photo by Kim Lewicki

"We expect the rink to draw people to the central business district during the off months," he said.

He mentioned the completion of the water intake project and the repairs to the Lake Sequoyah Dam and said the town is about to roll out its broadband project which will become a utility available to citizens soon.

"All homes and businesses will have access to high speed internet which will help with economic development in this 21st century," he said. "We have people who would consider living here year round if they could telecommute so this is what we are aiming for."

Commissioner Amy Patterson explained that the project isn't meant to compete with other such enterprises but maximum speeds are necessary for economic development.

"It's fiber, not co-axial cable so the upload and download is one-to-one with no loss of megabytes with the capacity of up to 100 megs," she said. "The upload speed is the main reason we are doing this."

Mayor Taylor said Highlands is too small and too seasonal for the big companies to bother with offering high upload capability but a lot of people who come to Highlands want to do telecommuting.

Town Manager Bob Frye said the main company bringing fiber to town is ERC and the town is also talking to a company in Georgia so there will be redundancy. In addition to the hard fiber which will be taken to each home or business and then attached to an Ethernet cable which will be attached to the router in the house, wireless will also be shooting from area towers.

At that Franklin Mayor Scott asked if Franklin could get it.

Commissioner Patterson said anyone including those outside the town limits

who is in the line of sight of the wireless signal could most probably get service.

Macon County Commission Chair Kevin Corbin spoke last ticking off county accomplishments this past year.

Parker Meadows Recreation Complex – a \$10 million project – was completed with \$3 million and has already hosted three events which have brought hundreds of thousands of dollars to the county which is good for all its environs.

He said so far 2015 Occupancy Tax collections is the highest on record and the 10-acre expansion of the landfill will make Macon County self-sustaining.

He said the two QZAB projects the county undertook – renovations to both Highlands School and Union School are almost complete – Union 80% complete and Highlands 90% complete. Both are expected to be finished by the end of December.

He said since 2008, the county has spent \$50 million on school capital projects – projects he said that have been in the pipeline for 20 years.

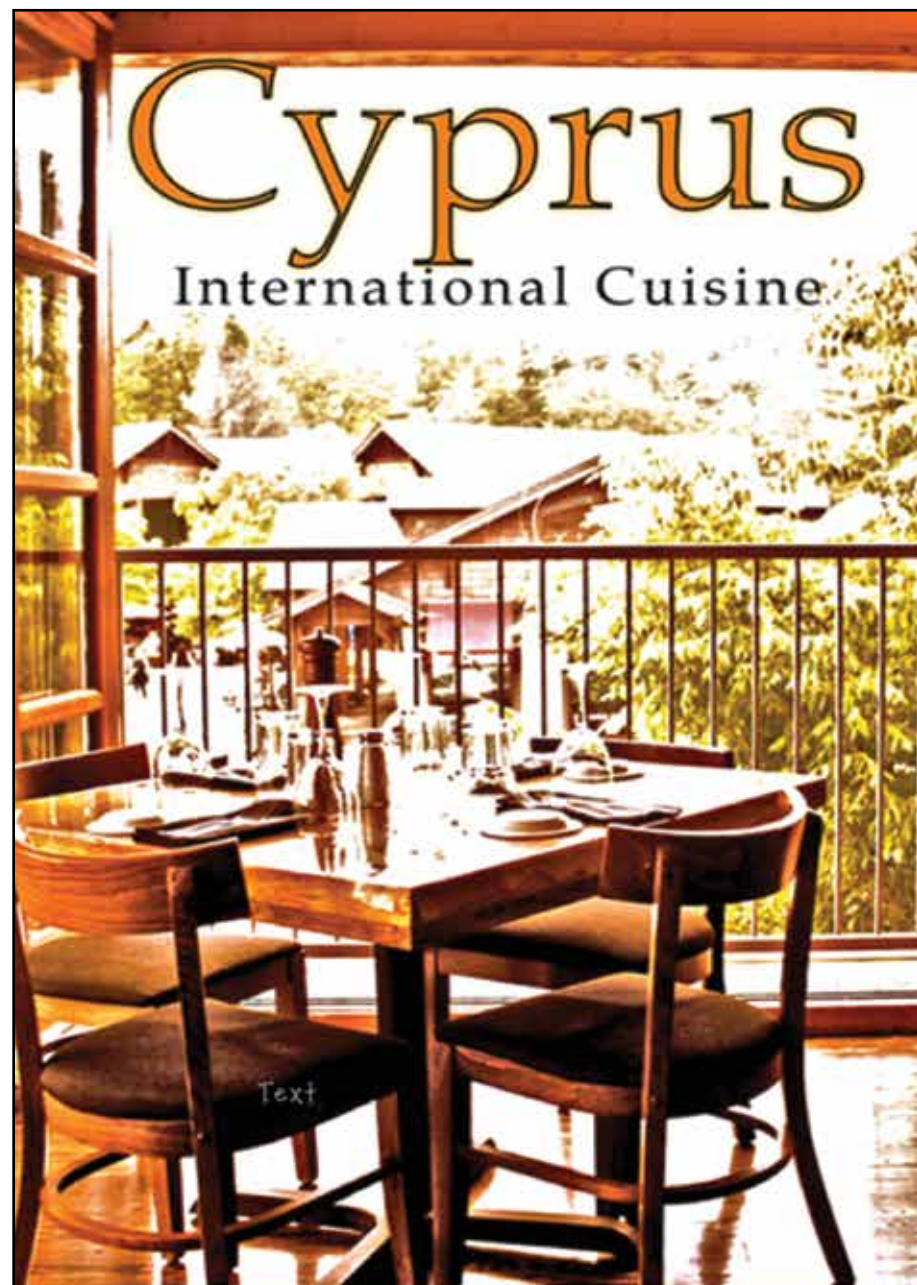
Corbin reminded those in attendance that Macon County is geographically challenged when it comes to its school district. He said Senator Jim Davis has introduced a bill to increase funding for the state's three K-12 schools. One is in Ocracoke and the other two are in Macon County – Highlands and Nantahala. The bill will be brought up in the next legislative short session.

"What the state doesn't understand is kids don't come in lots of 24 [which makes up a typical classroom]," he said.

Davis is asking for an extra \$1.5 million from the state for the Macon County School System saying that it costs the county more to run Highlands and Nantahala schools than others in the county.

County Manager Derek Roland said the county is implementing an IP – Internet

• See COMBO page 14



## Taste the World

*Cyprus International Cuisine - World Tour Menus  
The Most Exciting Dining Destination in Highlands*



**World Tour Menus Weekly  
Dog Friendly Sundeck  
Open 7 days a week for Dinner  
Lunch Served Weekends 11a to 4p**

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# • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## Highlands ABC Store disburses profits to area nonprofits



**Representative from Highlands-Cashiers hospital accepted two checks, one for rehabilitation for \$1617.92 and for the the foundation for \$6241.94.**

Monday evening, members of the Highlands ABC Board – Chairman Brenda Pierson, Leslie Cook, John Underwood, Rick Trevathan and ABC Store general manger Kevin Vinson distributed the stores profits to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, the Town of Highlands, the Town Scholarship Fund, the Highlands Police Department the Highlands Rec Park and the Counseling & Psychotherapy Group of Highlands. ABC Board member Harry Bears wasn't able to attend.

By NC law, after operational expenses are paid, any leftover profits are to be disbursed within the town.

**Photo by Kim Lewicki**



**Macon County School Board member Stephanie McCall accepted a check for \$6241.94 for the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund.**



**Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell accepted a check for \$2,061.32 for the D.A.R.E. Program.**



**Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor accepts a check in the amount of \$49,833.31 for the town's general fund.**



**Martha Porter accepts a check in the amount of \$1617.93 for the Counseling & Psychotherapy Group of Highlands.**



**Highlands Recreation Dept. Director Lester Norris accepts a check for \$7,133.64 for the Rec Dept.**

## ...INVESTING continued from page 7

The key to avoiding this issue is undertaking your due diligence. Have all of the inspections and due diligence items performed that you would normally, but remember that if the home you are purchasing is older or has not been used much recently, there could be problems that are not obvious. Consider having a contractor take a look at the home after the inspection is complete. This is not only to get a cost for the noted repairs, but also to see if there are other issues that a contractor might find that an inspector

could have overlooked. Do not rely on the seller's contractor for pricing and opinions; you should make sure to work with someone looking out for your interests.

While not a hidden cost another way to avoid Buyer's Remorse is by having a survey. Always have an up to date survey. A buyer should never purchase without complete knowledge of the property boundaries. This can help avoid pitfalls later.

Most "city dwellers" are unfamiliar with septic systems and might be surprised at the cost of repairing the problems that

could arise with them. Learning the condition of your potential new home's septic can aid you in making a more informed decision plus allow you to request repairs from the seller before the end of due diligence.

It's important to be realistic about the use of your mountain home. One situation is that a new buyer, and all of their friends and families want to be in the mountains and the home seems "too small" for their gatherings. The other scenario is that the home isn't used as much as the buyer predicted and the buyer ends up with too much house for such little usage.

Evaluating your life style and having inspections performed before your buy is the best way to make sure that you are happy with your real estate purchase. While there is no way to completely rule out unexpected issues when purchasing a new home, a local knowledgeable Realtor can guide you through the home buying process.

• *Wanda Klodosky is the Broker in Charge of Landmark Realty Group's Highlands office. Landmark also has offices in Cashiers and Burlingame providing the Highlands Cashiers Plateau with professional and friendly service. Visit their website at [www.Landmarkerg.com](http://www.Landmarkerg.com)*



# • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

## Mission Hospital Receives Get With The Guidelines-Stroke GOLD Plus and Stroke Elite Plus Awards

Mission Hospital has received the Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke GOLD-Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. The recognition demonstrates Mission Hospital's commitment to quality care for stroke patients. Mission Hospital also received the Elite Plus Target Stroke Honor Roll recognition (highest level of achievement in stroke) for meeting stroke quality measures that reduce the time between hospital arrival and treatment with the clot-buster tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke.

"In western North Carolina, we live in a part of the county referred to as the Stroke Belt. That means our community is at a higher risk for stroke and it remains the fourth most common cause of death and leading cause of disability among adults," said Jonathan Bailey, Vice President of Operations for Mission Health. "Mission Health carefully coordinates our stroke care through a team that is focused on pre-

vention, recognition, acute intervention and recovery. This recognition of our stroke program is a result of our commitment to our patients and to our community."

The Get With The Guidelines-Stroke program combines the expertise of the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association to work for hospitals nationwide, helping hospital care teams ensure that the care provided to stroke patients is aligned with the latest evidence-based guidelines.

The quick and efficient use of guideline procedures improves the quality of care for stroke patients, saves lives and reduces healthcare costs by lowering the recurrence of strokes.

For more information on the stroke program at Mission Hospital, please visit [www.mission-health.org/stroke](http://www.mission-health.org/stroke).



### Ted Keegan

Broadway Veteran

*Home for the Holidays*

Friday After Thanksgiving

November 27 8pm

Broadway: Sweeney Todd, Camelot,  
Cyrano: the Musical, Phantom of the Opera

Highlands Performing Arts Center  
507 Chestnut Street, Highlands

Tickets available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org)  
or by calling: 828.526.9047

## THE SUMMER HOUSE

ANNUAL STOREWIDE "FIRE SALE"

*We're not on fire this year  
but our sales are SMOKIN'!*

Join us Now through  
Saturday, December 6th

**TENT SALE opens Friday, Nov. 27 until it is empty!**  
**Great discounts throughout the store and warehouses!**

*This is a special time of year to offer our greatest savings to you – our most valued customers.*

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Is Almost Here!**



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peelers, potato ricers and other gadgets  
to make Thanksgiving great!

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Come shop with us after  
Thanksgiving too!

The Dry Sink Main Street Highlands, NC



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Winter Pool Schedule

Through May 27, 2016

### LAP SWIM – ADULTS ONLY

Monday thru Friday

7 – 10 am, 6 lanes

### AND Monday thru Thursday

5 – 6 pm, 1 or 2 lanes

Sharing pool with water

aerobics @ 5:15 on

Mondays, Tuesdays, and

Thursdays

### PUBLIC SWIM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

3 – 5 pm & 6 – 8 pm

Wednesday 3 – 5 pm

Saturday 11 am – 6 pm

Sunday 1 – 5 pm

### WATER AEROBICS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

10 – 11 am

Saturday 11:15 – noon

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

5:15 – 6 pm

(sharing pool with

lap swimmers)

Fee: \$4 per class or

\$30 for 12 classes

\*Beginning in January, we will

be adding Tuesday and

Thursday 10 – 11 am\*

### POOL PARTIES

Pool available on Fridays,

Saturdays, Sundays

### Ongoing

• Highlands Hurricanes

Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. To sign up contact Coach Steve Hott at 828-421-2121.

• Anyone interested in taking Adult, Child and Infant First Aid/CPR/AED certification class needs to contact the Highlands Recreation Department and get on the list for the class. You will learn how to respond to first aid, cardiac and breathing emergencies. Upon completion attendees receive certification from the American Red Cross. Please pre register we need a minimum of 6 for the class and a maximum class size of 16. Once we have enough signed up for a class we will schedule the class.

### Mon.-Sat.

• Nantahala Tennis Club

meets at 9a.m to noon each day. All visitors welcome.

**Mon. Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun.**

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

### 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.

• The Humanist Discussion Group meets every Monday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 in the Meeting Room in the back of Hudson Library. All are wel-

comed

### Mon. & Wed.

• Zumba with Mary K. Barbour at the Rec Park from noon to 1p. For more information, call 828.342.2498.

### Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class 8:30am-9:30am at the Rec Park.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

### First Tuesdays

• The monthly family support group for those with family members, friends, or loved ones living with the challenge of mental illness meets the first Tuesday

of each month, 7p.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Road, Franklin. This group is sponsored by the local affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). For info call 828 369-7385.

### Tuesdays

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

• The Beyond the Walls Book discussion group meets every Tuesday at 4 PM at The Ugly Dog Public House. Each week we read a short story and then discuss its insights for our lives and spiritual wisdom.

### 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

### Every 3rd Tuesday

• The Macon County Poultry club in Franklin North Carolina meets on the third Tuesday of each month 7 pm. Meetings are open to the public and are held at the Cooperative extension office on Thomas Heights rd. For more Information call 369-3916.

### Tuesday and Thursdays

• Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park 8:15 a.m. \$5.

• Pickle ball is played from 9:30-11a in the gym at the Rec Park.

### Wednesdays

• Donation Based Meditation Wednesday nights w Christopher Baxter at 6:30. Getting a little chilly for outside classes :) held at The Wellness Place. 468 Dillard Road Highlands 8285269698

### 1st Wednesdays

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

### 2nd Wednesdays

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

### Thursdays

• Storytimes with Miss Deanna at Hudson Library 10:40 am. 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.

### 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

### Fridays

• 99ers Bridge at the Rec Park 9a to noon.

### Every 3rd Friday

• Senior Dinners are held the third Friday of each month at 12 noon November through April. For any other information contact Lester Norris or Maxine Ramey at 828-526-3556.

### Last Fri. of each month

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

### Fridays and Saturdays:

• The Highlands Historical Museum is open every Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.. On display is a Botanical History of the Highlands Plateau, a gallery of local photographs by George Masa, and presentations of Mary Lapham's TB Sanatorium, the Moccasin War of 1885, Abraham Lincoln's alleged origins, Joe Webb's tools, and books and DVDs about Highlands history. For more information, email [highlandshistory@nctv.com](mailto:highlandshistory@nctv.com).



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will present the MET Opera Live in HD production of LULU by Berg on Saturday, November 21 at 12:30pm with the pre-opera discussion beginning at 12 noon. Lulu is irresistible to all who meet her and she wreaks havoc on the lives of all who can not resist her. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling: 828.526.9047



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Saturdays

• At the Rec Park, MMA Fitness Class is being offered Saturdays at 1:30pm with Moses Machida. NHB Pankration, Muay Thai, Boxing and BJJ combined into an hour long fast paced interactive class. The class combines plyometric, strength training, MMA techniques, explosive cardio and self-defense into one class. • At MountainTop Wine Shoppe on Main Street, free wine tasting from 1-3 p.m.

## Through Nov. 23

• Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Gifts for Children Drive. Drop Off at HUMC in Highlands on Main Street. For more information about how to participate in Operation Christmas Child e-mail: wncocc@yahoo.com. With a computer or mobile device, anyone can conveniently pack a personalized Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift on the Samaritan's Purse website. Go to [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ) to select toys and gift items, write a note of encouragement and "pack them in a shoebox. Using special tracking technology, participants can follow their box to discover where in the world their gift is delivered by using the donation form found at [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ). These gifts of hope will go to children in some of the hardest-to-reach countries.

## Thurs., Nov. 19

• Macon County Economic Development Commission will meet this Thursday, at 5:30 pm at SCC-Macon. Ryan Sherby, of the Southwestern Commission, will be updating the EDC on the Mountain West Community Revitalization Plan.

• Opening night for the new Hunger Games movie Mockingjay Part 2 is Thursday. From 6:30-7:30p stars of the show, Maine Coone cats Rion and Josh will be at the Playhouse for photos and any donations will go to the Cashiers Highlands Animal

Shelter.

## Fri. & Sat., Nov. 20-21

• • At TJ Bailey for Men, a trunk show of MAC, the best denim from Germany to Highlands. Opening party with wine, hors d'oeuvres and exclusive deals is Friday at 5 p.m.

## Fri., Nov. 20

• At the Rec Park, Senior Dinner at noon. November will be the traditional Thanksgiving meal with Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Roll and Pumpkin Pie for dessert. For any other information contact Lester Norris or Maxine Ramey at 828-526-3556.

## Sat. Nov. 21

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway will conduct its monthly work day from 9a – noon this Saturday. If you are interested in participating, please email Ran Shaffner at [highlandsgreenway@nctv.com](mailto:highlandsgreenway@nctv.com) or leave a message at 828-482-1451. We'll meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) in the Recreation Park at 9 AM for a brief orientation session, and you will be furnished with the necessary tools and safety equipment.

• At the Playhouse, on Saturday the Hunger Games star cats will be on hand from noon to 2p with a Stop and Adopt before the movie.

## Sun., Nov. 22

• David Holt's "State of Music Live coming to WCU Based on the PBS TV series featuring David Holt. Featured artists include breakout sensation Rhannon Giddens of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, African American gospel torch-bearers The Branchettes, Haywood County bluegrass supergroup Balsam Range and multi-talented musician and ballad singer Josh Goforth. Sponsored by Harrah's Cherokee Casino. TICKETS - \$45 orchestra; \$35 club, balcony

## Mon., Nov., 23

• The Jackson County Republican Party will meet on Monday, November 23rd, 6:30 PM at Ryan's in Sylva. Come earlier to

eat. Expected speakers are NC Senator Jim Davis, Mickey Luker who will be seeking the District 4 Commission seat to replace Democrat Mark Jones and candidates for the NC House Aaron Littlefield and Mike Clampitt. Final plans will be announced for the GOP Annual Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, December 5th at Ryans. Republicans, unaffiliated voters and others interested are invited to attend all GOP meetings and events. For Jackson County GOP information, please call Ralph Slaughter @ 828 743-6491 or email: [jacksonctygp@yahoo.com](mailto:jacksonctygp@yahoo.com). Like us on Facebook at Jackson County Republican Party

## Tues., Nov. 24

• The Highlands community of churches will sponsor a Community Thanksgiving Meal at the Rec Park at 6 p.m.

## Fri. & Sat., Nov. 27-28

• Hard Candy Christmas Art & Craft Show at WCU Ramsey Center. 10a to 5p both days.

## Fri., Nov. 27

• The Highlands Performing Arts Center will present the MET Opera Live in HD production of LULU by Berg on Saturday at 12:30pm with the pre-opera discussion beginning at 12 noon. Lulu is irresistible to all who meet her and she wreaks havoc on the lives of all who can not resist her. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling: 828.526.9047

• At PAC, "Home for the Holidays" with Ted Keegan the Friday after Thanksgiving at 8 p.m. Ted Keegan is a Broadway Tenor,

having performed as the 12th Phantom in Phantom of the Opera on Broadway. And later in Phantom, the Las Vegas Spectacular and has the distinction of being the actor who has sung the role in front of the largest audience ever, when he made a spectacular flying entrance from the dome of Madison Square Garden singing "The Phantom of the Opera" during the half-time show of the NBA All-Star Game. Home for the Holidays will include Christmas and Holiday music ...and music from Broadway. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047.

• At The Bascom, Black Friday Pottery Sale, 10a to 5p at the Dave Drake Studio Barn.

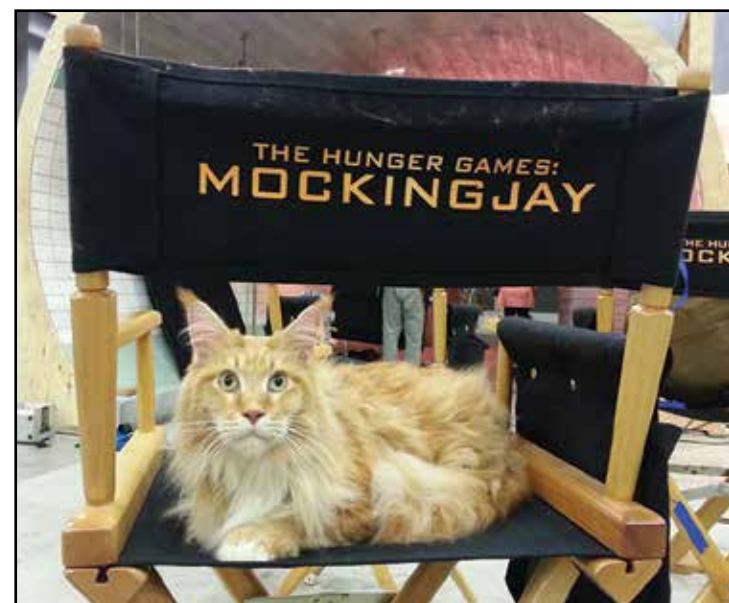
• At PAC, "Home for the Holidays with Ted Keegan at 8 p.m.

## Sat., Nov. 28

• Highlands Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. on Main Street in front of the Methodist Church.



On Friday, Nov. 27, at PAC, "Home for the Holidays" with Ted Keegan the Friday after Thanksgiving Ted Keegan is a Broadway Tenor, having performed as the 12th Phantom in Phantom of the Opera on Broadway. And later in Phantom, the Las Vegas Spectacular and has the distinction of being the actor who has sung the role in front of the largest audience ever, when he made a spectacular flying entrance from the dome of Madison Square Garden singing "The Phantom of the Opera" during the half-time show of the NBA All-Star Game. Home for the Holidays will include Christmas and Holiday music ...and music from Broadway. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047.



Thursday, Nov. 19 is opening night for the new Hunger Games movie Mockingjay Part 2 at The Playhouse from 6:30-7:30p. Cat stars of the show Maine Coon cats Rion and Josh will be at the Playhouse for photos and any donations will go to the Cashiers Highlands Animal Shelter. The cats will also be at The Playhouse, Saturday, Nov. 21 from noon to 2p for photos and a Stop and Adopt before the movie.





## MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY

*presents the*

### SOUP & SALAD BAR

• **Monday – Saturday 11 to close** •

Fresh Salad, with all the Toppings, Homemade Dressings, Homemade Soups & Chili.  
\$9.99 each (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)



### WEEKDAY HOT BAR SPECIAL

*Monday-Friday 11am to 2pm*

Pizza, Pasta, Soup & Salad Bar

Continuous fresh pizza from our pizza ovens, pastas, fresh breads from our bakery.

Plus the entire soup and salad bar.

\$9.99 Dine in only.



### SUNDAY CLASSIC LUNCH BAR

*Sunday 11am – 3pm*

Featuring Southern Classic Cuisine such as Skillet Fried Chicken, Country Angus Steak, Skillet Corn, Biscuits, Veggies, Cobbler, plus the entire Soup & Salad Bar

\$11.99 each (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)

*Breakfast made to order every day,  
open until 11am.*

*The grill, pizza & deli are open  
every day until close.*

STORE OPENS MON - SAT  
AT 7 AM & SUNDAY AT 8 AM

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## ...COMBO continued from page 9

Phone System – which will save the county \$100,000 a year on its phone bill and it has expanded its EMS Department including personnel and ambulances.

“We now have four ambulances running 24/7 in Macon County – we used to have three,” he said.

Roland said he is ready to hear from the commissioners on where to go in FY 2016-’17. “Our Fund Balance is at 35%, our debt is decreasing and we have one of the most competitive tax rates in the state,” he said.

Following the briefing by the town and county representatives Dr. Jim Costa, director of the Highlands Biological Station told participants about the station’s 89-year history.

It was founded in 1927, became a part of the University of North Carolina in 1976 and has been administrated by Western Carolina University since 1987.

The 25-acre campus includes 12 acres of gardens. The station is considered a Field Station and Marine Lab (FSML) where students and researchers come year round to study flora and fauna.

Like its sister facility down the mountain, Coweeta Lab, the Highlands Biological

Station has been named a National Science base camp – an off-campus facility for biologists.

Highlands is the second wettest region in America – second to Northwest United States – and of course is known as Salamander Central due to the diversity of the species here, he said.

“It was the hope of founder Clark Howell Foreman, for whom the Nature Center is named, that this would become a Mountain Biological Research Station where students and researchers could immerse themselves in their subject,” said Costa. “It’s all about immersion and both basic and applied research.”

He said the goal at the station is to provide an understanding and love of the natural world by inspiring a love of nature.

“We have been taking the pulse of the plateau through teaching, training and researching since 1927,” he said.

The next quarterly meeting of the three entities will be in early 2016 in Franklin hosted by either the town of Franklin or the county.

– Kim Lewicki



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# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**The Highlands Police log entries from November 2. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

## Nov. 2

• At 9:30 a.m., numerous tools valued at \$1,744 were stolen from a job site at a residence on Worlel Road.

• At 2:40 p.m., officers responded to one-vehicle accident on Big Bearpen Road near Chestnut Street.

## Nov. 3

• At 2 p.m., a charity jar with \$100 in it was taken from the Farmers Market counter.

• At 3:05 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Spring Street near 4th and 5th streets.

## Nov. 4

• At 10 p.m., a Highlander Newspaper box valued at \$400 was reported taken from the Highlands BBQ Company on US 64 west.

## Nov. 5

• At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on SR 1603.

## Nov. 6

• At 7:30 a.m., gas was reportedly siphoned from a vehicle parked at a residence on Memorial Park Drive.

## Nov. 7

• At 4:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Highlands Plaza

parking lot.

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Nov. 10.**

## Nov. 10

• At 5:34 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cheyenne Circle.

## Nov. 11

• At 1:3 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Hicks Road.

## Nov. 13

• At 1:34 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co<sup>2</sup> alarm at a residence on Hickory Knutt Gap.

• At 9:35 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Fire and Rescue for a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.

• At 11 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Pierson Drive.

• At 11:51 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Cullasaja Fire & Rescue for a motor vehicle accident but it was cancelled en route.

• At 1:29 p.m., the dept. was first-responders for a medical alarm at a residence on Keener Road.

## Nov. 14

• At 3:56 p.m., the dept. stood by at the Hospital for the MAMA helicopter.

• At 5:56 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a fire on Queen Mountain but it was a controlled burn.

• At 7:47 p.m., the dept. responded to a miscellaneous fire on Red Bird Lane.

## ...NO-WAKE continued from page 1

Cove bottlenecks, and at the tip of the cove, .67 miles of shore, the county is proposing a no-wake buoy and signage 500 feet across to make the entire cove a no-wake zone.

Residents who own homes in Lakes End Cove as well as the manager of Lakes End Mariana spoke to commissioners last Tuesday night in support of designating the area a no-wake zone in the interest of safety and to provide the community with a recreation area so citizens can enjoy the lake.

According to Ray, a no-wake zone would mean watercraft could not travel at any speed faster than idle speed.

"This would slow all watercraft down to a crawl and they would not be able to blast into and out of the cove, and of course this would make it safer for all who use this area for swimming," said Ray. "We would be able to enforce it and would work with boaters to educate them about the area and the safe way to operate within the cove."

Chester Jones, legal counsel for Macon County said that even though commissioners voted to submit an application to the state asking for a legal designation on the

lake, the process is still considerably lengthy. The state will review the application before determining whether or not it will be approved for enforcement. If it gets state approval, the county would then be responsible for erecting and maintaining proper signage.

• *Note: Nantahala Lake is in far west Macon County. The lake is regulated and maintained by Duke Power and is a major source of hydro-electric power to the region. Nantahala is located at 3,000 feet in the Nantahala National Forest. The lake was created in 1942 by Nantahala Power to provide electricity for war efforts. With 30 miles of shoreline, the lake offers recreational opportunities at Nantahala that include swimming, boating, skiing, and many other activities. Fishing is another popular activity. Aficionados will find largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, trout, salmon, catfish, and many different species of panfish. The lake water is very clear; there is almost no dissolved silt/clay. However, when daytime waves stir up the lake bed along the shoreline, the water within the first several feet of shore can become temporarily cloudy. Most of the shoreline plunges steeply into and beneath the water, limiting this effect.*



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# • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



From left: Buz Dotson, Dr. Jim Costa, Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Station, and Christy Kelly, President, Rotary Club of Highlands. Most Highlanders have taken their children or grandchildren to the Highlands Nature Center...and many have explored the beautiful paths and enjoyed the rich collection of native plants at the Botanical Garden. But are Highlanders as aware of the significant activities that take place at the third – and oldest -- branch of the Biological Station: the research Laboratory? Dr. Costa's presentation at the Nov. 10 meeting of the Rotary Club of Highlands addressed role of the Laboratory in furthering the mission of the Biological Station: "to foster research and education focused on the rich natural heritage of the southern Appalachian Mountains." The Station annually hosts students, faculty and researchers for immersive study utilizing its extensive laboratories that are complemented by residential facilities for 44 people, library and biological collections. To date over 150 graduate theses and PhD dissertations have been earned here, extending the long tradition of place-based teaching, learning and investigation that is encouraged and nourished at the Highlands Biological Station.

## FBLA COLOR RUN

**WHEN**  
November 28th  
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Children's Race: 11:00am

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# • HS MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAMS •

## Middle School Boys Basketball



Taj Roman, Isiah Tucci-Caselli, Dillon Schmitt, Ethan Tate, Logan Petrone, William Creswell, Garrison Chalker, Eli Kennedy, Brent Sleight, Trevor Reese, Jeffrey Olvera, Davis Ingate, Lawson Shuler and Griffin Green. Not pictured are Coach Josh Smith and Assistant Coach Seth Schmitt.

## Middle School Girls Basketball



Morgan Olvera, Chela Green, Gracie Forrester, Kedra McCall, Sayla Roman, Brooklyn Houston, Olivia Lewis, Savannah Shaheen, Tessa Wisniewski, Stephanie Barnes, Rylee Johnson, Ava Schmitt, Reese Schmitt and Brandy Zagal-Damian. Managers: Madison Webb, Kaylee Oakley. Not pictured are Coach Jenna Schmitt and Assistant Coach Missy Barnes.



# • HS VARSITY TEAMS •

## Varsity Boys Basketball



Dylan Vinson, Colin Weller, Cole Drummuds, Jose Jimenez, Johnny Lupoli, Jackson Hall, Drew Chalker, Wes Hedden, Jake Billingsley, Zoran Nastasic, Caden Smolarsky, Remy Adrian, Destin Gearhart, Mattson Gates, Samuel Hawkins, and John Murphy. Not pictured are Head Coach Brett Lamb and Assistant Coaches, Jeremy Dooley, Bryan Dearth and Ryan Gearhart.

## Varsity Girls Basketball



Grace Crowe, Abby Lovera, Amber Reese, Hannah Holt, Madison Lloyd, Courtney Henry, Tristan Castro, Whitney Billingsley, Emily Crowe, Alexis Healey, Emily Mathis, Danielle Mathis, Bethany Shuler and Assistant Coach Crystal Gustin. Not pictured is Head Coach Brett Lamb and Assistant Coach Jeremy Dooley.

Photos by Kim Lewicki

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Last Name	Grade	Last Name	Grade
A		AB	
May Gomez, Claudia M	3	Billingsley, David Nolan	5
Fox, Anna Elizabeth	3	Earp, James Augustus	5
AB		McCall, Gracie Mae	5
Burrell, Caleb Michael	3	Postell, Jamison Carlyle	5
Calderon Molina, Natalia C	3	Wilson, Ashlynn Faith	5
Chastain, Alicia Evonne	3	A	
Craig, Emily Rose	3	Coen, Madalynne Mae	6
Espinal, Alyssa Marie	3	Olvera Lopez, Jeffrey Loul	6
Forrester, Carson Edward	3	AB	
Pearson, Madison Paige	3	Barnes, Stephanie Jasmine	6
Ruiz Sanchez, Gael S	3	Dalton, Russell Alan	6
Turner, Seth Devon	3	Ingate, Davis Matthew	6
Wyatt Luck, Aislynn Russell	3	Moss, Brandon Todd	6
A		Reese, Trevor Brandon	6
Buck, Allison Walker	4	Sleight, Brent Nicholas	6
Fogarty, Brooke Lauren	4	Torres-Zamudio, Luis Angel	6
Gates, Philip Harrison	4	Minton, Emma Phares	6
McMullen, Aidan Tate	4	AB	
Templeton, Darby Catherine	4	Zagal Damian, Brandy B	6
AB		A	
Hughes, Ansley Jaden	4	Gomez Espinoza, Maria del Carmen	7
McDonald, Sara Renee	4	Tate, James Ethan	7
Naron, Peyton Garrett	4	Wisniewski, Tessa Rae	7
Oakley, Jasmine Brook	4	AB	
Silverthorn, Annamaria Rose	4	Chastain, William Christopher	
Turner, Alexis Faith	4	Creswell, William Regner	7
A		Houston, Brooklynn Don	7
Figel, Sydney	5	Jimenez Reyes, Joana	7
Stiehler, Anna Elizabeth	5	Kennedy, Elijah Isaiah	7
Tate, Mary Eliza	5	Lewis, Olivia Kathrynne	7
Holt, Jacob Steven	5		

**To Be Continued Next Week.**

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## • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

### What happened?

Steve Kerhoulas, Pastor

Christ Church of the Valley, Cashiers

**W**hat happened? When did it happen? And can anything be done about it? Are three questions I'm asked all the time. What caused the sea change in our culture? When did it occur and what, if anything, can we do about it? Big questions!

The answers, of course depend upon one's viewpoint. I say this because a lot of you applaud the cultural shift and believe things are heading in the right direction. I have thought a great deal about whether or not the culture is heading into safe waters and have concluded we have veered way off course. And here is why.

When America was discovered and founded many held to the belief that the God of the Bible was at the wheel of the great ship and we were being guided by divine providence. From Columbus to Washington, men and women, believed in the sovereignty of God over this nation. For a long period of time America set its course based upon the instructions found in the Bible. This belief held strong for the first hundred and seventy five years of our Independence. But things started to change.

Oddly, and it is odd to me, the sea change, although ever so slightly, started after America's victory in 1945. God was asked, politely mind you, to step aside to allow another captain to steer the great ship. "America stood at the helm and gave direction to the great vessel. The idea of "America with God as its guiding force gave way to something new, an "America without much of God in it. America, itself began to set the direction for America and things started changing. Case in point in 1962 prayer was no longer legal in the public school, in 1973 abortion was legalized and in 2015 marriage was redefined. Ask yourself this question; "in what areas of government, law, or education is God directly involved? When was the last time anything of major importance was decided by a head of state citing a Biblical reference or teaching? You can't think of one can you because we have expelled God from almost every part of the "American "story?

We were a nation with God in it! That's how I see it anyway. So what can we do to change things? As a minority in America, Christians could leave and perhaps discover some new place to start over. Or we can stay on board and wait for the ship to sink. Because it will sink! We are taking on water right now. Can we be saved? Is America salvageable? Only if we step aside, understanding what will take place should we fail. America is no longer what it once was, "One nation under God. I can't assume you feel as I do about this, but I'm convinced if we are to become strong and good again we must set our course by the Word of God letting Jesus Christ take control of the wheel. Will we? I have my doubts. What about you?

## Proverbs 3:5

## • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

## John 3:16

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## • CLASSIFIEDS •

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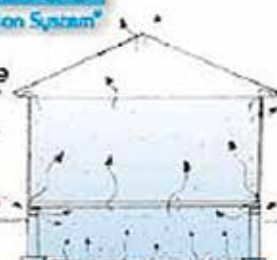
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