

# Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., Sept. 24, 2015

## Highlands is holding out despite Duke Energy's demands

Anyone who attended the Sept. 17 Town Board meeting likely came away feeling confused, frustrated and annoyed in regards to Duke Energy's and Highlands' relationship.

Duke is seeking to amend its

contract with its wholesale clients so it can levy a cost recovery surcharge for costs associated with its coal ash dump issues. However, it refuses to spell out the specifics or what it will cost unless Confidentiality Agreements (CA) are signed

and all negotiations are conducted in closed session. In addition, it doesn't want the likely surcharge to appear on bills to customers.

"From day one, we have told them no," said Town Manager Bob Frye. "It's not to say we can't go

into closed session and talk about this – our problem is at some point we have to make what we did public and we don't want anyone to think that we did something behind closed doors that sold the

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## Highlands School Varsity Soccer – 2015



With Head Coach Chris Green and Assistant Coaches David Parrish and Kevin Vinson, are team members Harrison Renfro, Remy Adrian, Dylan Vinson, Colin Weller, Austin Nichols, Brandon Dorau, John Murphy, Benjamin Miller, Ryan Houser, Jody Thorke, Max Renfro, Jose Jimenez, Manuel Contreras, Freddie Lopez, Caden Smolarsky, Carson Talbert, Drew Chalker, Jared Shearl, Jake Billingsley, Destin Gerhart and Samuel Hawkins. Not pictured is Tucker Johnson. As of last night's conference game at home game against Murphy, Highlands has now 5 wins, 2 losses and 2 ties to its credit. They beat Murphy 6-1. The next game is away at Tallulah Falls on Friday, Sept. 25 and the Home Game is a conference game Wed., Sept. 30 against Swain. — Photo by Kim Lewicki

## NC budget comes through but falls short for public ed.

Nearly a month after the start of school, the NC General Assembly finalized the 2015-2017 budget which Governor McCrory signed into law on the same day.

Public Schools First NC, a group of citizens, parents, teachers, businesses and organizations joining together to advocate for a first-rate public education system for all North Carolinians, was disappointed.

They say the new biennial budget did not do more to restore public education funding since the 2013-'15 budget cuts reduced the number of teacher and teacher assistant positions and funding for classroom resources.

"With our economy improving and our revenues increasing, it is a good time to invest in public education to help us restore the losses of the last budget cycle," said Yevonne Brannon, Chair, Public Schools First NC. "Our economy shows signs of recovery, yet our state legislature didn't use this opportunity to invest in our teachers and their students and get us back on track to providing our

children with a world-class education. Instead, tax cuts are being handed out to the wealthy again while teachers and teacher assistants are struggling to make ends meet – with many either leaving the profession or going to neighboring states where they can earn a living wage. Instead of using the revenue increases to move ahead, we are just treading water."

Franklin High School history teacher and WNC NCAE Legislative Chair and NC Hope Street Group Fellow John deVillie agrees.

"What is most disturbing is the General Assembly's lowering of the corporate tax rate from 5% to 3% which the General Assembly's own budget office projects will cost the state about \$3.94 billion in lost revenue – that's a loss over five years of \$2.2 billion to public education," he said. "The General Assembly had the opportunity to clearly turn the corner back toward the 2007-2008 funding levels (which were already well down from 2001) but rather chose to barely maintain status quo

•See BUDGET page 6

## Tourney at Parker Meadows proves to be economic boon to county; area businesses

When Macon County commissioners first began considering the development of a new recreation complex at Parker Meadows, the economic benefit of such a park was touted as huge.

In January 2014, Macon County Economic Develop-

ment Director Tommy Jenkins presented commissioners with an impact study claiming that a 24-team tournament would provide an economic benefit to Macon County of \$259,500. Last weekend the first tournament was held at the park and the community at

large was able to see the economic impact in action first hand.

Last weekend's tournament featured 35 teams hailing from three states: North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. North Carolina teams came from as far

•See TOURNEY page 7

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### An update on several items ...

First, the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic is scheduled for Thursday, October 15 at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. All money will go to the scholarship fund that benefits our graduating high school students.

All qualified high school students seeking to further their education receive scholarship assistance. While pursuing an advanced degree students can apply for continued support. Last year 47 scholarships were awarded.

Folks can sign up for the golf event by calling town hall at 828-526-2118 or 828-2778, no later than September 30. Spaces are still available.

If you are not a golfer, like myself, please join me in supporting the scholarship fund by making a contribution. Simply make out a check to the Town of Highlands and designate it for the scholarship fund. Your contribution will be acknowledged and is tax deductible. As a retired educator, I believe in supporting young people in their full pursuit of education. Giving to the scholarship fund is an investment in everyone's future that helps our youth realize



Mayor Pat Taylor

their full potential.

Mayor John Cleaveland and other community leaders had the original vision to create the scholarship fund. Currently the scholarship fund is over \$880,000. Special state legislation was required for the town to administer the scholarship program. There lies the problem. Highlands was mandated by the legislation to put the principle in a standard, interest

based savings account. Before the recession of 2008, savings accounts yielded enough to fund the annual scholarships. Since then, saving account interest rates have been no more than 1%, therefore insufficient to fully fund scholarship needs. Rather than cut into the principle, proceeds from the golf and fishing tournaments have helped fund scholarships. Organizations, such as the Eastern Star and ABC Store, have also made important contributions.

Please join me in supporting this tremendous community program. Also, let me express my thanks to Commissioners Brian Stiehler and Donnie Calloway for all the hard work and leadership that they have given to this effort. We are also very grateful to Wildcat Cliffs Country Club in their ongoing hospitality and support of the event.

On another note, I have been briefed by our staff who attended a week-long conference for municipalities involved in building broad band networks for their communities. Highlands is not alone, but just a part of a movement by small, underserved communities across the nation. In the 1930s rural communities formed EMCs. Now small, rural communities are forming broadband organizations. Related to our broadband initiative will be the creation of a smart grid system. This connected grid will facilitate better management of our electrical grid and customer savings.

Finally, at last Thursday's board meeting an informative presentation and subsequent

•See MAYOR page 15

## • LETTERS •

### Let's meet at Sunset!

Dear Editor,

This is an unofficial invite to the first Super Moon/Harvest moon/Lunar Eclipse celebration in Highlands. This combination of events is as rare as chicken lips!

Between 9 p.m. and 12:30 a.m., on Saturday, Sept. 27, walk up to Sunset/Sunrise Rocks and enjoy the fellowship of your neighbors.

Bring seats, cushions, blankets, a thermos of something hot, flashlights, cameras, telescope and a friendly and generous attitude and be prepared to visit!

Hey, it's Highlands!

**Bruce Oliver  
Highlands**

### When will The Hospice House be ready?

Dear Editor,

To me this project is straight from heaven, it is so Godlike.

My point is that there will be none that will not be touched in some way by this beautiful house. It might not be you as a patient, but it might be you visiting a patient.

I like the idea that it looks like our part of the country - that the contractors didn't just come in with their overpowering equipment. It looks like a residence.

Everyone, no matter who you are, may be able to benefit from The Hospice House.

**Nancy Cox**

**Chestnut Hill of Highlands**

**P.S. Don't forget about the Hospice House fundraiser at Paoletti's Restaurant on Wed., Sept. 30. See Paoletti's ad on page 4 for details.**

## • OBITUARIES •

### George Joseph Jerry

George Joseph Jerry died Wednesday September 2, 2015 from complications of congestive heart failure.

An artist, auctioneer, carpenter, cook, friend, inventor, museum consultant, newspaper columnist, photographer, poet, political and financial pundit, property manager, technology enthusiast and raconteur, George was such a Renaissance man that his wife Jane eventually began introducing him as an "omniologist" when people asked her about his profession.

George was preceded in death by his parents Katherine (Tardie) and Richard Jerry, both of Berlin, NH. He is survived



by his cherished wife Jane (Pfeffer) Jerry, Highlands, NC; siblings Georgette Reardon, Pepperell, MA; Andrew (Carol) Jerry, Sanbornton, NH; Louise (Joe) Pirrotta, Danvers, MA and Richard (Lisa) Jerry, Leicester, MA; nephews and nieces: Wendy Bergquist Bastos, Nashua, NH; Dickie Bergquist, Berlin, NH; Marcia Blanchette, Danvers, MA; Karen (Freddie) Blanchette Hector, Lynn, MA; Curtis (Michelle) Jerry, Pembroke, MA; and Brittany Gentile Tommasone, Worcester, MA; great nephews and nieces: Adrianna Bastos, Nashua, NH; and Adonna and Dante Hector, Lynn, MA. George also leaves his two very dedicated caregivers: Rhonda Crisp, Franklin, NC, and Vicki Palmer, Scaly Mountain, NC.

George was born on October 23, 1947 in Barre, VT. He was a graduate of St. Johnsbury Academy (VT), Lyndon State College (NH), University of New Hampshire and the Boston College Carroll School of Management (MBA). Between

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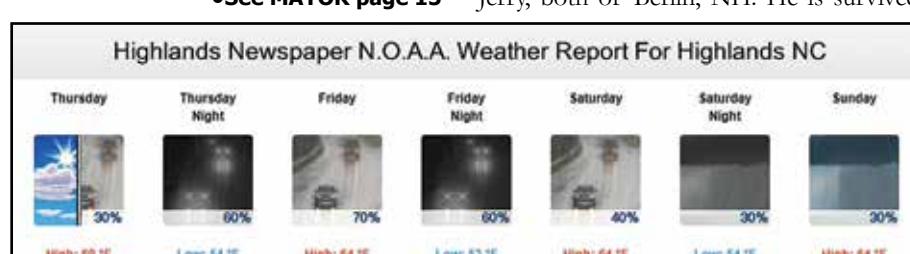
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#### Letter Policy:

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.



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# ...OBITUARIES continued from page 2

semesters he earned an Auctioneering Degree from the Reisch World Wide College of Auctioneering (Mason City, IA).

In early 2011, Jane moved to Highlands NC, to direct The Bascom Visual Arts Center. George took great pleasure in the natural beauty of the Highlands area.

A serious spinal cord injury in May 2012, slowed George down considerably yet he endured his 'new normal' with dignity, grace and unfailing good humor. His kaleidoscopic intellect and curiosity impressed everyone he met and insured there was always a circle of

friends willing to help, give transportation, watch football games, wager bets and kibitz about politics—in person or long distance on the phone.

A Memorial Poetry Reading will be held at The Bascom at 6 pm on Thurs. Oct 15.

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to The Bascom, 323 Franklin Rd., Highlands, NC 28741; the Hudson Library, 554 Main Street, Highlands, NC 28741; the Shepherd Rehabilitation Center, 220 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30309, or to the charity of your choice.

## Eliane Vanderplancke Baertsoen

Eliane Vanderplancke Baertsoen, 91, passed away at her residence on Friday, September 18, 2015. Mrs. Baertsoen was born June 6, 1924 in Rekkem Belgium to the late Jules and Julienne Lesage Vanderplancke. She was the wife of the late Daniel Baertsoen who preceded her in death. In Belgium she worked in the laundry business until she came to the United States where she was a caregiver. Elaine was a devout member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Detroit, MI. She was a loving wife and mother. She was known to many as a loving, kind, and gentle person. Her favorite thing to do was



to watch TV and see all her "stories".

Survivors include her son, Marc Baertsoen (Jeff) of Sapphire, NC. She was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Jacques Baertsoen, and a brother, Noel Vanderplancke.

A memorial service is planned for a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Friends for Life Forever Farm, P.O. Box 340 Sapphire, NC 28774.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is serving the Baertsoen Family. Online condolences may be made at [bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://bryantgrantfuneralhome.com)

## • BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT •

On July 8, 2015, Logan Rose Neely was born to James and Claire (Young) Neely, currently of Washington, D.C. She weighed 8lbs, 6oz and was 21 inches long. Logan is the granddaughter of King and Janet Young of Highlands and Jim and Roselle Neely of Amherst, NH.



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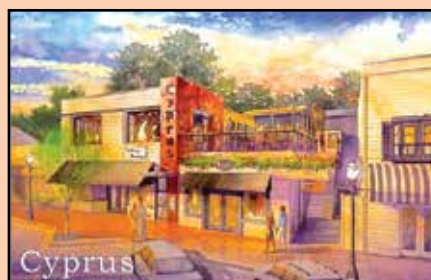
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## Hospice House Fundraiser at Paoletti's is Wed, Sept. 30!

Proceeds from a charity function will benefit the  
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\$250/person (\$150 is tax deductible) This will  
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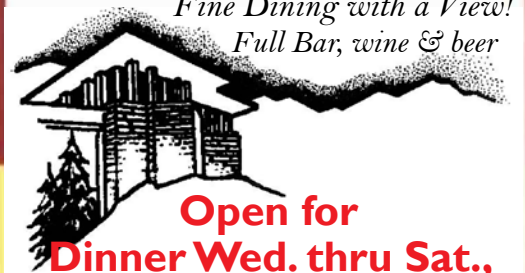
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**"A curious mind knows no bounds"**

• **A FUN GUIDE TO THE BEST APPS FOR IPAD AND IPHONE:** Thursday, Sept. 24, Time: 10:30a-3:30p. Cost \$70/\$80. Nigel Sixsmith has sifted through the over 100,000 apps available for iPads and iPhones and is going to share with you the free ones, the cool ones, and the most fun apps to add to the power of your iPad or iPhone.

• **HONORABLE TREACHERY:** Tuesday, Sept. 29. Time: 2-4p. The CIA, the FBI, the NSA, the DIA. All four of these names conjure James Bond spy type images, where top secret information is passed around like normal paperwork. The reality of these agencies is much more mundane but each share a common mission: To Protect the United States of America. Ira Cooperman, a former intelligence officer is going to share some background information on each of these agencies, how they work together toward this mission as well as their own individual missions and cultures.

• **NEWLY ADDED LECTURE - THE IMMIGRANT CRISIS:** Wednesday, Sept. 30. Time: 2-4p. In light of the crisis forcing Europe and the West caused by migrants fleeing Syria, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan, this talk will explain the legal process in place to address the crisis. The law applicable to most of Europe and the United States is based on the United Nations Convention on Refugees of 1951. The standards for being granted asylum and the process one goes through to obtain asylum and relocation to one of the signatories of the Convention, which include the United States and most of Europe, will be discussed. Presenter Bill Hoffman is Senior Counsel at the Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network. He will give examples of refugees he has represented from Syria, Iran, Crimea and Afghanistan in similar proceedings in U.S. Immigration Court. The concept of Temporary Protected States (TPS) as opposed to asylum will also be discussed.

• **EDWARD SNOWDEN AND THE NSA:** Thursday, Oct. 1. Time: 10a-12p. The NSA or National Security Agency describes itself as "America's cryptologic organization" that "coordinates, directs and performs highly specialized activities to protect U.S. government information systems and produce foreign signals intelligence information." Ira Cooperman is back with us to shed light on the NSA, Edward Snowden and the top-secret "Secrets" he revealed!

\*The cost for all lectures is \$25 members/\$35 non-members For more about classes at The Center for Life Enrichment stop by our office in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center at 348 S. 5th Street, call 828-526-8811 or visit [www.clehighlands.com](http://www.clehighlands.com)

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## ...BUDGET continued from page 1

spending \$63 per student more than last year in constant dollars while providing tax cuts to the super wealthy."

North Carolina's per-pupil expenditure ranks 46th in the nation and it is spending \$877 less than in 2008 and spending about half for textbooks as in 2009.

"We continue to rank only 42nd in the nation in teacher pay and nearly 70 percent of our experienced teachers will not get a raise in this two-year budget," said Brannon. "These current funding challenges are compounded by a steady annual increase in student enrollment while we see again this year significant tax dollars being diverted from public schools to private schools with a 129% funding increase for school vouchers."

DeVile said WNC NCAE was also deeply troubled by the continuing siphoning of taxpayer dollars to sectarian private schools which are essentially unaccountable through the voucher program.

"We are at a loss to understand how that policy is con-

servative and we are at a loss to understand how that diversion of essential funds from traditional classrooms helps public education in our state," he said.

However, DeVile said there is some good in the budget.

"We are happy to see the essential teacher assistants retained. We are glad the House rejected the proposal by the Senate to end the pension plan for all new state employees and thus crippling the existing model. We are happy that driver's education was maintained and that families were spared the extra expense and that all NC drivers were spared the likely increase in insurance premiums which would have occurred with the end of the program," he said.

Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin spoke more of the silver lining.

"There are still quite a few questions left to be answered regarding our actual allocations, but this budget is

• See BUDGET page 7

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# • THE FREDSTER •

## Black lives definitely don't matter

*Special note to readers: The owners of this newspaper, Kim and Jim Lewicki, discourage the writing of national political issues. I agree that a small town newspaper is not the proper venue for such serious topics but now is a time of exception and since this will be the last hot political topic I'll ever write for this paper, they have agreed to this one exception. Please forgive me but it's the policeman in me that drives me to write this.*

I didn't vote for President Obama, mostly because I had already fallen in love with a great American hero named John McCain. It had absolutely nothing to do with me being a seasoned police officer or the candidate being black. Now I find from Republican candidate, Donald Trump, that just getting captured and tortured for information the enemy wanted and needed is not enough to be called a hero. Even after McCain refused to use his high political connections to get released, he was still not a hero? In Trump's eyes, being tortured for over five years was still not enough to call him a hero. What was Trump thinking? John McCain is not running for political office and was not deserving of this vicious attack.

So after seven years of President Obama's leadership, I ask myself what has our president done for the black people's plight in America. I waited, and waited, and waited for our president to rally American blacks, ask them to pull up their pants, speak proper English and use the many tools and programs available to them so they could improve their lot in life and get a better education....or job. Instead, he gave them stuff and asked them for nothing. American blacks deserve better from this disappointing president.

## ...BUDGET continued from page 6

an improvement over recent years," he said. "We are grateful that the General Assembly and Governor have agreed to maintain funding for teacher assistants and Drivers Education. Raising the salaries of beginning teachers and providing for step increases are two other positives in the budget. There is also some indication that next year we will see a more substantial pay increase for all teachers. Based upon projections from the state budget, we also expect increases for e-books and instructional supplies."

He said the district will know more once it receives the county allocation for K-12 education from the state. By law, this must be released within 10 days of the Governor's signing of the budget.

But deVillie isn't as quick to give legislators a pass. "While we were glad to see the House force the Senate to come up a little in the funding of textbooks, we will still be in a position here in Macon County and across the state where students cannot take a book home at night. In addition, we are still significantly understaffed in Macon County classrooms and have lost or have weakened programs outside the core areas such as foreign languages," he said.

In a nutshell, he said WNC NCAE is thrilled that the most radical and reckless components of the NC Senate budget were rejected by the House and found consolation in the county commissioners agreeing with its assessment of the Senate budget and their agreement as to the further devastation the Senate budget will create in county class-



Fred Wooldridge

Race relations in America have never been worse, even if you go all the way back to Selma, AL. when the police were the aggressors and blacks were victimized. Currently blacks are the aggressors and the police are on the run. Be very afraid for America.

A black man, living in the slums of Detroit, had to stab a fellow black man in self-defense. He went on to become a renowned brain surgeon who is a candidate for the presidency in 2016. Early on, wouldn't you think our president would hold this man up as an example of what can be accomplished with perseverance? Instead, they are enemies.

I am stunned and appalled by the hypocrisy of black persons joining together in a march shouting, "Black lives matter, black lives matter" over and over. If black lives matter, why has no one from our black president right down the line to American mayors done anything to stop the nightly slaughter of black on black murders occurring in the ghettos of most major cities, including our president's home town of Chicago. The good people who are stuck in those neighborhoods live in constant fear of death as do their children.

And where are the police? you ask. They're in hiding, doing as little as possible not to become a race victim or lose their pension....or job....or life. In the interim, policemen are being picked off and murdered one by one. Can you blame them for hiding? Our president seldom, if ever, champions for the plight of police officers. Inviting a cop over for a beer in the Rose Garden just doesn't cut it!

If you remember nothing else from this column,

rooms.

"But we are disheartened at the lack of a clear, unequivocal commitment to returning NC public schools to their traditional place as number one in the southeast rather than being in last place where they currently stand," he said. "We stand ready to advocate for our children during the General Assembly's short session next spring"

— Kim Lewicki

## ...TOURNEY from page 1

east as Winston-Salem to participate in the tournament. The USSSA baseball tournament was for children ages 8-14 and was held over two days.

While the tournament was one of the smaller ones on the schedule for Parker Meadows this fall, the impact proved significant.

On Saturday, nearly every lodging accommodation in the Franklin area reported being full and the Westgate Shopping Plaza shops such as Ingles, Fat Buddies, Subway and Gondolas, had consistent, higher than average foot traffic throughout the weekend.

Macon County Commission Chair Kevin Corbin spoke to the potential economic impact of the park at the Grand Opening. "We have had a lot of naysayers who said that we couldn't complete this project for \$3.6 million and we have done just that," said Corbin. "And now that the park

• See TOURNEY page 14

remember that police officers, regardless of race or religion, are the last line of defense between you, the citizen, and those who would kill you and take all you have.

America is at the brink of chaos. Push yourself away from your cozy life in Highlands and watch what is happening to America. We are losing our Christianity, our moral values and our sense of what is right and wrong. And don't even get me started on the plight of our Jewish allies. Personally, it scares the hell out of me.

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Fri., Sept. 25

• Operation Christmas Child of Western North Carolina is having a Project Leader Gathering from 6-8 p.m. at the First Assembly of God Church, Fellowship Hall, 1150 E Main St., Franklin. A Project Leader is the person who promotes Operation Christmas Child for your church, school, community group, or business. There will be make-and-take crafts, patterns for making shoebox items, prayer, and lots more!

• Beatlemania Celebration at The Bascom 6-10 p.m. Music begins at 7 p.m. \$50 per person Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and Black Bird Cash Bar. For tickets call 828-526-4949.

## Sat., Sept. 26

• Scaly Mountain Fun Day, 10a to 4p at the Sky Valley-Scaly Mtn Fire House on Hale Ridge Road in Scaly. Pancake breakfast in the Old Scaly School House from 7:30-10:30a.;

Indoor Yard Sale. Fire House Open House with firetruck rides and tours from noon to 2p.m.; Facepainting, Chili Cookoff; Bake Sale and the filling of a time capsule to be opened in 2025. Bring photos, predictions, etc. Also, music, food and beverages.

\* Health Fair at the Highlands First Baptist Church, from 10a-2p. Free flu vaccines for uninsured (Insurance will also be filed), blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol and weight and BMI info. Vendors and organizations will also be there. For more information, call Carrie at 828-526-4153.

• A Gala Fundraiser for PAC. Concert featuring 3 Tenors and a Diva is at 5p at PAC and the Gala begins at 7p at Highlands Falls CC. For tickets call 828-526-9047.

## Sun., Sept. 27

• Family Hiking Day from 2 – 5 pm at Standing Indian Campground Picnic Shelter in

Franklin. There will be nature-themed fun activities and organized hikes (varied lengths for all abilities). All ages are welcome. Refreshments served after the hike. Campground Picnic Shelter in Franklin Registration required - please call Paul Dyer at 828-347-6052.

• At the Church of the Good Shepherd, a piano and organ concert at 4 p.m., with pianist Sandra Davis and organist Dr. Jack. W. Jones.

## Mon., Sept. 28

• The Jackson County Republican party  
• See **EVENTS** page 10



Yesterday & Today:  
The Interactive  
Beatles Experience

Friday, October 2 8pm

Presented by Dan & Beth Riley

.....

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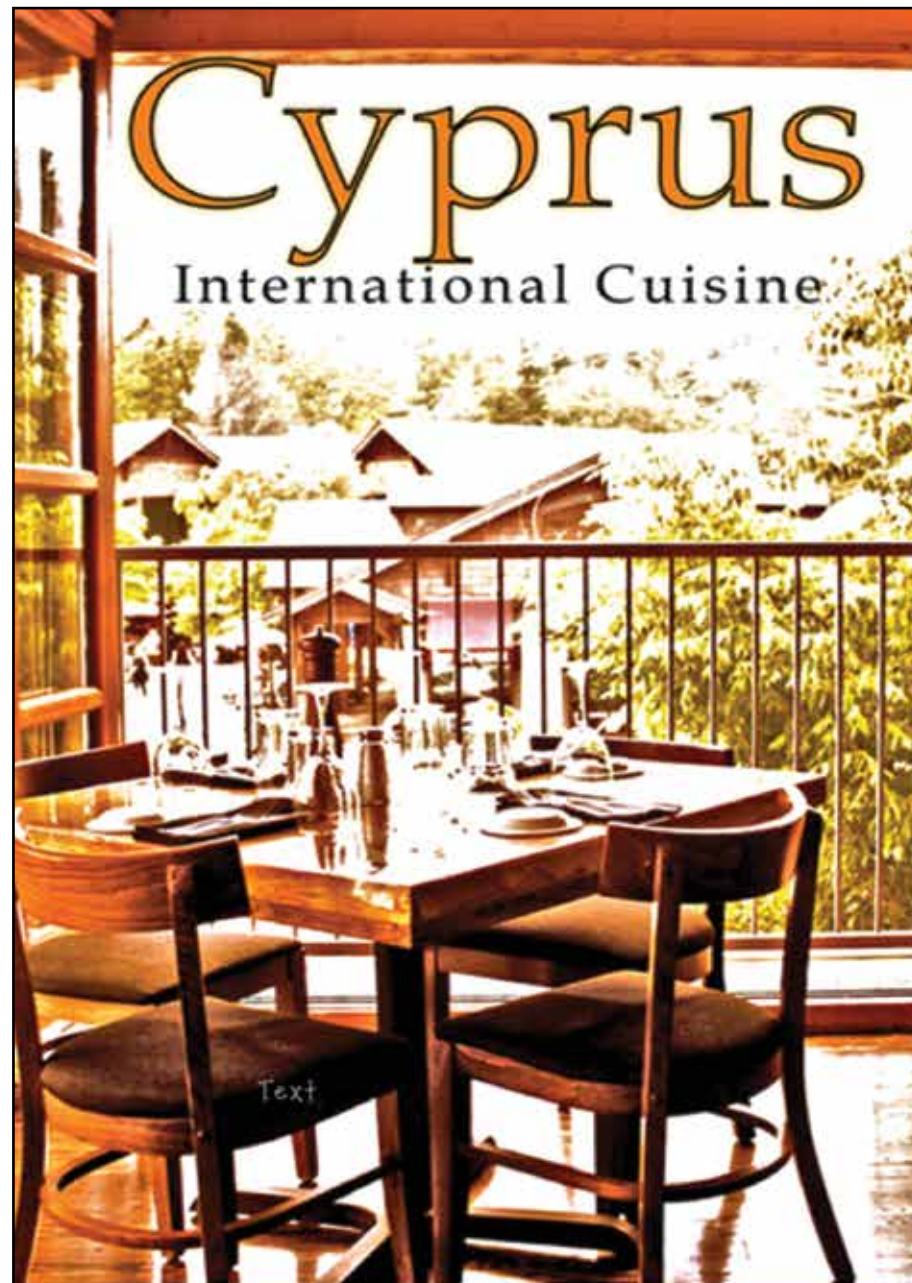

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## ...EVENTS continued from page 9



# Cyprus

## International Cuisine

will meet on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Ryan's in Sylva. Come earlier to eat. The guest speaker is Deon Dunn, who will speak for presidential candidate Senator Ted Cruz, For Jackson County GOP information, please call Ralph Slaughter @ 828 743-6491.

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society Annual Meeting will be followed by a presentation by William McReynolds entitled "Social Behavior in Birds: Murder, Dissimulation and Exaltation in the Avian World." Highlands Civic Center for refreshments at 7 p.m.; program begins at 7:30.

### Tuesday, Sept. 29

- Village Nature Series: "Sheepnoses & Timbertwigs" – all about heritage apples with Dana Holden at The Village Green Commons in Cashiers. No reservations; rain or shine. Programs begin at 5:30 PM.

### Wed., Sept. 30

- Highlands-Cashiers Hospital community health screening on Wednesday on the 1st floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus. Men requesting a PSA check will need to bring a physician's order for this screening.



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Complimentary flu shots will be available at the screening. Appointments are limited so please call Sheralee Norris at (828) 526-1498 for your appointment.

- Paoletti's Restaurant is having a charity dinner for the Hospice House Foundation of WNC at 7:30 p.m. it's Dining for Dignity - \$250/person (\$150 if tax deductible) This will be a relaxed dining experience where patrons choose from a decadent 4-course menu especially selected for the evening. Silent Auction, too! For reservations are strongly recommended. Please call 828-526-4906.

### Thurs., Oct. 1

- Life Chain at 1:30p in front of the First Baptist Church of Highlands. Prayer hour is 2-3p. LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

### Fri., Oct. 2

- The Macon County Public Library, Nantahala Community Library and Hudson Library will be closed for staff training.

- At PAC, Fifty Years of the Beatles Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience at 8pm. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047. Presented by Dan & Beth Riley. This show takes the incredible music of The Beatles and personalizes it with the stories and perspectives of audience members. Depending on the audience's participation, the show will last 2 1/2 to 3 hours.

### Sat., Oct 3

- Highlands School Fall Festival at the Rec Park from 5-9p.

- At PAC, Live in HD Series. At 12:55p Il Trovatore and at 7p, The Audience. For tickets call 828-526-9047.

### Sun., Oct. 4

- Empty Bowls, 11:30a - 1:30p at the First Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$20 and includes hand-potterered bowl, soup, bread, des-

• See EVENTS page 11

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**...EVENTS continued from page 10**

sert and a drink. Proceeds go to the Food Pantry of Highlands.

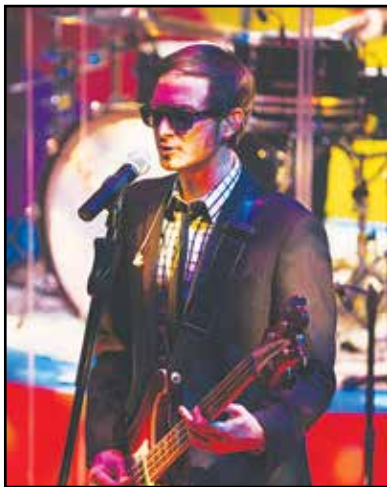
•“Highlands on the Half-Shell” the Highlands Biological Station. Oysters, gumbo, jazz & Bloody Mary bar. 12:30-3:30p. Tickets are \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. To purchase tickets, visit [www.highlandsbiological.org/half-shell/](http://www.highlandsbiological.org/half-shell/).

**Fifty Years of the Beatles**

*Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience*

*at the Highlands Performing Arts Center on Friday, October 2 at 8 p.m.*

What's your favorite Beatles song? When asked this question, people don't just tell you the name of the song. They tell you a story associated with that song – about a first love, a first kiss or a touching story about a parent or the loss of a loved one. Simply put, The Beatles music is the soundtrack to our lives. Yesterday and Today gets to the heart of that. This show takes the incredible music of



The Beatles and personalizes it with the stories and perspectives of audience members.

As audience members come into the theatre, they are invited to go to the Song Request table. To make requests, people fill out a card giving their names, the songs they are requesting and the reason they have chosen those songs. Every Yesterday and Today performance is driven by its unique audience, each performance is different and personal. The concert consists of 2.5

to 3 hours of music, depending on the voracity of audience interaction. The set list contains songs chosen by audience members prior to the show and again at intermission. Audience members' stories will be told throughout the concert capturing the importance of The Beatles music and how it touches all of us individually. Yesterday and Today is a unique Beatles tribute show. The Yesterday and To-

day cast does not dress as The Beatles, nor attempt to execute “Liverpudlian” accents. The concentration is on presenting the music in a personal, giving, exciting, and well-executed manner

Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience, Friday, October 2 at 8pm. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047. Presented by Dan & Beth Riley.



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# Fall Home Improvement Easy Interior Upgrades to Add Beauty to Your Home

(StatePoint) Making home upgrades? Why not make style a priority? There are many easy ways to add beauty to your home in the most unlikely spaces.

## Striking Bathroom

Performance and aesthetics can intersect when making bathroom changes. Upgrade water-hogging appliances with modern, efficient models that are stylish and easily maintained.

These choices can save you money on water bills and time on cleaning day.

Some designs, such as the Cascade high efficiency toilet (HET) from Mansfield Plumbing, even promote health. Its rimless design eliminates the germs and bacteria that hide in difficult-to-access areas. Both the round front bowl and elongated SmartHeight bowl design are approved to meet EPA standards for water efficiency, using just 1.28 gallons per flush -- a savings of 20 percent more water than older models.

If you have young children at home, consider adding a stylish Elementary juvenile toilet to a bathroom. Less than a foot high, the child-sized toilet makes potty training much more fun and successful.

## Quick Design Elements

Installing decorative polyurethane millwork pieces makes for a fast, easy project, even for novice do-it-yourselfers. Only have an

hour? Use out-of-the-box-and-onto-the-house pieces from a brand like Fypon, which come pre-primed and ready for installation. Try these five transformative projects:

- Surround your foyer entryway with pilasters and a crosshead. While you're at it, surround room dividers with pilasters and a crosshead to make transitioning between rooms a unique experience.

- Add a two-piece ceiling medallion around the top of a light fixture or ceiling fan in less than 10 minutes. Interlocking pieces snap together quickly.

- For a bathroom upgrade, install moisture-resistant pilasters on both sides of your shower stall and a door crosshead overhead.

- Give tops of bathroom and kitchen cabinets style with corbels. Accent a boring kitchen island with decorative brackets or corbels.

- Add a large sunburst

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# Fall Home Improvement

window pediment half round above a bed to serve as a decorative headboard.

## Add Style Anywhere

Even your most utilitarian spaces deserve a style makeover. And windows are a good place to start. Whether your home is modern, contemporary or traditional, say goodbye to plain panes and consider something more interesting and elegant.

Acrylic block, glass block or decorative glass windows in any room -- even a closet -- add privacy and light. And brands like Hy-Lite offer vinyl-framed decorative glass windows with silk screened designs. Their Home Designer Collection features a range of styles, including baroque, prairie, mission and metro, to complement any home.

Tired of slinking down into your tub so that neighbors can't see you? Replacing your standard bathroom windows with privacy windows (including those that open to allow in fresh air) can make your bathing

experience more enjoyable --- and private.

Make a house a home with projects that improve the look and performance

## Make Your Home's Exterior Pop with Color

(StatePoint) Color is a fundamental component of curb appeal and can make your home either stand out from the pack or blend in nicely with its environment. But you're not alone if you're unsure how to incorporate color to make your home look its best.

### The Roof

Color is critical to personality expression, so it makes sense for homeowners to select their roof color.

Consider opting for colors that complement the home's architectural style or give a nod to a particular era in design.

A blend of two to eight colors is a great way to shake things up. And certain roofing companies, such as DaVinci Roofscapes, offer a range to choose from. Their 50 standard colors include diverse hues like dark amber, smokey gray and light violet, and the brand even allows homeowners to customize. To sample potential custom blends, check out the DaVinci Color Designer Tool at [davinciroofscapes.com/color/designer](http://davinciroofscapes.com/color/designer).

### Front Entry

Are you an introvert with an orange front door? If so, you're sending mixed messages to friends and neighbors. The front door is the home feature offering the most flexibility in color choice, and a great place to let your personality shine.

Try installing smooth fiberglass paintable doors, which makes it easy to update your home's exterior now and in the future.

Here's a look at what paint colors on entry doors of a home say about the occupants inside:

• Red: This bright color says I'm not afraid of standing out or saying what's on my mind.

• White: Says that I prefer things organized, neat and clean. Even if my home isn't always this way, I wish it were.

• Green: Tells the world you have traditional values and enjoy being a member of the community.

• Black: Says I'm consistent, conservative and reserved and my design style is timeless rather than trendy.

• Blue: Tells people you're naturally at ease and people are attracted to your easygoing personality.

• Yellow: A personality similar to green but a bit less traditional, yellow says you're most likely a group leader.

• Purple: Reveals a free-spirit, comfortable taking risks, thinking differently and dreaming big.

*Make your home your own.*

*Spruce up the exterior with dashes of color to showcase your personality and complement your home's style.*

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## ...TOURNEY continued from page 7

is opened and we have a full schedule of games planned this fall, I am confident that the biggest complaint that we are going to see is that we do not have enough hotels to accommodate the people coming here for the park, and that is where private enterprise will need to step in."

By the October meeting of the Franklin Tourism Development agency, room occupancy collections for September 2015 are expected to be available to give some comparison of the actual impact.

In 2014, Franklin collected \$9,523.55 in room occupancy tax. Because September is typically a down time for the tax collection due to school beginning and the lull before leaf season, the added traffic due to the tournaments should be reflected in an increase.

"With our first tournament finished, we have seen what is going to work and how we can make things better," said Macon County Recreation Director Seth Adams, who was at the park all weekend. "We have heard a lot of great things from coaches and parents and are excited about the response we have gotten so far."

Some of the changes Adams referenced include the park use-agreement approved by commissioners during their September board meeting. The use-agreement is an agreement with the county and tour-

nament directors that outlines the dos and don'ts for tournaments. When approved by commissioners, Adams and the board agreed that as tournaments started to happen, things can be changed as circumstances arise.

The use-agreement outlines event fees, which includes \$15 per team participating in a tournament, as well as a \$25 per day for each ball field being used. For the first tournament, \$825 was paid to the county by USSSA.

"These event fees are intended to be competitive with other facilities and is not where we expect to see an economic boost from the park," said Corbin. "We know we are not going to rush on the fees and we don't want to. We want to get teams here and see them spend money at local businesses. We will see the economic benefit from the increase in sales taxes from having them here."

Obviously with extra funds filling the county's coffers the funding of county responsibilities ought to come easier in years to come.

Due to \$7,000 pulled in at the concession stand this past weekend, County Manager Roland said he will be hiring a part-time person, so the Parker Meadows Recreation Complex is turning out to be a job creator, too.

## ...DUKE continued from page 1

town out."

Instead, Highlands told Duke it wasn't signing the CA and it would allow its liaison, Kevin O'Donnell with NOVA Energy Consultants, to represent Highlands as a disinterested third party and Duke could discuss confidential issues with him. He could then come back and discuss only the issues that pertained to Highlands.

To do that, O'Donnell had to sign a CA with Duke.

Though Commissioner John Dotson suggested that act was a conflict of interest, O'Donnell said he had no choice.

"I guess Duke thought we [wholesalers also represented by O'Donnell] would gang together and share information," said Frye.

In March of this year, after the Dan River issue, Duke representatives visited with Highlands administrators and told them they would be seeking some kind of cost recovery.

"They gave us some figures, but the sheets with the figures on them couldn't leave the room and in fact they took them with them when they left," said Frye.

Thursday's Town Board meeting was just as inconclusive. Duke's representative Richard Knight, said nothing concerning particulars. In addition, O'Donnell had to carefully navigate questions and answers as Knight looked on making sure he didn't violate the CA he had signed with Duke.

Using figures that are public information, O'Donnell has computed that Duke will want \$900,000 over the next 15 years from Highlands – amortized it would be \$60,000/year or \$21/year to the typical homeowner based on using 12 kwh/month though it would be more for commercial users. He also said the monthly cost to consumers would be higher in the early years and lower in the later years but true figures won't be available without signing the CA.

But whatever the figures, they are not solid. They are based on what Duke says it will cost Western North Carolina consumers which is \$1.8 billion based on today's rates – half of the \$3.6 billion Duke has budgeted for cleanup of its coal ash dumps outside of Dan River and across the state.

"But what you don't know is the cost of remediation which is basically open ended," said Frye. "You won't know until you are in it. If there is ground water contamination, that's an open checkbook."

On May 14, 2015, Duke Energy pleaded guilty to nine violations of the Clean Water Act due to coal ash dumps and was fined \$102 million – the largest such penalty in North Carolina history. Stockholders paid the fine and Duke began cleaning up the Dan River.

On Sept., 2014, the NC Legislature –

at the urging of the Sierra Club and other influential environmental groups – passed the Coal Ash Management Act (CAMA) that required the closure of existing coal ash ponds as well as conversion from wet ash to dry ash handling.

This was the first such coal ash management law in the US. Now basins at four Duke plants must be closed by 2019; in intermediate risk plant basins must be closed by 2024 and low risk basins must be closed by 2029.

Duke began cleaning up the Dan River in 2015 to the tune of \$100 million and now wants to recoup some of that money in addition to having consumers foot the bill for it to come into compliance with CAMA.

"A significant portion of the money spent in 2015 is in that \$3.6 billion figure. They are trying to get cost recovery up front for that before they even get to the next dumps," said Frye.

The issue? To pull this off, it has to amend contracts with its wholesale utility providers like Highlands but they won't divulge what the amendment would entail without the CA.

Several of Duke's wholesalers, and several of O'Donnell's clients, have signed the CA.

Highlands is holding out to see how the dice roll.

"Duke's way of striking back at the environmentalists and the CAMA regs is to pass all these subsequent costs onto everyone else," said Frye. "The other issue that Duke and Kevin disagree on – about which we agree with Kevin – is that nowhere in the CAMA regs does it specifically say that Duke has the authority or the right to do cost recovery at the expense of its customers, retail or wholesale."

Duke is telling everyone that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will rule in its favor and will give them permission to amend contracts and attach any figure it wants. Those who believe that have signed the CAs. Those who don't, are holding out.

"The truth is, Duke knows this is going to be litigated," said Frye. "We think what they are trying to do – which is the reason for demanding the CA – is to get everyone to sign the CA before the issue is litigated. Then if the courts say, 'No, you can't pass this cost on to the consumer, it won't matter because their wholesalers will have already agreed to their terms by signing the CAs.'"

Frye says the Sierra Club and other environmental groups are heavy hitters and Duke is scared of them. "Duke is afraid

• See DUKE page 15



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## ...DUKE continued from page 14

there is going to be an injunction or some kind of legal action taken against them so they are trying to get the CAs so the environmental groups will have nothing they can use to file against them," he said.

Frye said the board's stance is to wait and see — it doesn't want to obligate Highlands to pay for something when it may not have to.

"We aren't signing the CA, and we don't see a rush to settle with Duke. We will wait to see what Kevin says at the October Town Board meeting — Duke may be ready to offer a carrot instead of a stick to those holding out. Or, we continue to sit back and see what FERC says on the matter," said Frye. "This is a complex issue and it's not over by any means. If need be, we will go to FERC and fight. But I don't think we have to. Our advantage is to sit back and wait. There is no rush. Duke wants us to settle, but what are we settling? What are we negotiating? And what is Highlands getting out of it if we settle? Nothing. But what Duke gets out of it is stopping this before it litigates."

Thursday night, O'Donnell said it's very possible FERC and the NC Public Utilities Commission will require Duke to pay all or a portion of the cost recovery themselves.

"Everyone knows they were negligent. Two of their engineers requested funds to send a camera through two pipes. They were denied the funds and the pipes failed and at that point they were in the environmentalists' sights which lead to CAMA and new regulations regarding its operation, hence the expense," said Frye. "Duke was using the cheap-

## ...MAYOR from page 2

discussion took place concerning the Duke Confidentiality Agreement related to coal ash cleanup surcharges. In summary, the Town of Highlands will not sign the agreement. Our representative, Kevin O'Donnell will give the board an update and provide possible options at the October 15th meeting.

est method possible to dispose of the coal ash. They've known for years they were going to have to do this. They didn't want to because

they knew it was going to be expensive. They have made their own problems."

— Kim Lewicki

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# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## God's Love



Rev. Dr. Francis Xavier  
Arockiasamy, Ph.D. Physics.  
Our Lady of the  
Mountains Catholic  
Church.

The nature of our human structure is a physical body, fused with a soul. When we relate with a fellow human being, we express a lot of feelings. It may be psychological, social, biological, sexual, political, cultural, moral, economical or spiritual. Love is the base of our human life and it has multiple dimensions in different contexts.

In general, love would be classified as either impersonal love or interpersonal love. A love for an object, principle or goal is said to be impersonal love, but interpersonal love refers to love between human beings. In Greek Philosophy, there are six kinds of love. Namely: (1) EROS. i.e. Sexual passion and desire. (2) PHILEO. i.e. deep friendship. (3) LUDUS - Playful love like dancing. (4) AGAPAO - selfless love (5) PRAGMA - Longstanding love and (6) PHILANTIA - self-love.

Let us reflect on love in different contexts. In biology, love is sexual. In psychology, love has a cognate and social aspect. In physics, love is attraction and repulsion. In religion, love is considered the greatest commandment in life. In society, love exists in a family context, as there is parental love and brotherly love. In morality, love is restricted on the basis of moral law.

Now I would like to reflect on love as the basis of Christianity. In the Old Testament of the bible, we know that God promised to send His son as redeemer of the world. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ who is the Son of God gave His life on the cross through His passion and death. It is the climax of God's love. Jesus teaches us that Love is the greatest commandment. "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34).

Our Christian life is a call to live as a witness for God's love. St. Paul writes in the letter to the Corinthians about God's love. "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing . . . So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Cor.13: 4-13).

Jesus also speaks that the climax of love is to lay

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 17

## 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.: 8:30a Traditional (Quiet) 1928 Prayer Book Service;

9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Family Service w/ Music

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: Holy Eucharist (chapel) at 8 a.m.

Education and choir rehearsal, 9 am,

Holy Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30

Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

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

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

Choir 5 pm

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship: 8:30a and 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

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## John 3:16

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### 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

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### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

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4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

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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



## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

### OEI joins Relais & Chateaux

Old Edwards Inn and Spa is honored to be joining the exclusive Relais & Châteaux collection of hotels and restaurants. Relais & Châteaux hand selects independent properties around the world for their unique character and dedication to top quality amenities, outstanding fine dining and their own particular ideas about the Art of Living.

Patrick O'Connell, President of Relais & Châteaux North America and Chef/Proprietor of The Inn at Little Washington, says, "Relais & Châteaux is an association of outstanding hotels and restaurants in 52 nations around the world. Each year we add new members to our ranks who reflect the high standards that have come to embody our organization. We are honoured that Old Edwards Inn is joining the R&C family and look forward to introducing our loyal and discerning guests to the unique charms of this property."

Richard Delany, President and Managing Director of Old Edwards Inn and Spa, says, "As a European-style hotel with a local, sustainable culinary program in a unique mountain location, we have realized for some time that Old Edwards and Relais & Châteaux share the same mission and values. We are truly honoured that R&C views Old Edwards as a fit with their venerable collection. Our team looks forward to welcoming the members into our family and sharing The Art of Fine Living at Old Edwards, Madison's Restaurant and Highlands, North Carolina."

For information about Old Edwards Inn & Spa visit [www.oldedwardsinn.com](http://www.oldedwardsinn.com).

### ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 16

down one's life of one's friends. Jesus invites us to love our enemies. This is the way in which Jesus asks us to practice love. Love of God is essential for the human relationship. Where there is love, there is no enemy. Where there is love, there is no violence. Where there is love, there is no discrimination. Where there is love, there is peace. Love of God is the foundation from which we receive grace and blessings so that we are able to love our fellow man. It is our duty not only as Christians, but also as people to promote the virtue of love in our life.

## • POLICE & FIRE •

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

#### Sept. 5

- At 7 p.m., officers responded to a call of a larceny at a residence on Holt Circle where a driveway lantern was taken.

#### Sept. 6

- At 1:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 106.

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

#### Sept. 10

- At 5:29 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Hummingbird Lane.

- At 6:14 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on US 64 east.

#### Sept. 11

- A little past midnight, the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Harris Drive.

- At 4:35 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a business on Main Street.

#### Sept. 12

- At 1:41 p.m., the dept. responded to a call about a bicycle accident on NC 106.

#### Sept. 13

- At 11:26 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hummingbird Circle.

#### Sept. 14

- At 7:24 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road.

- At 11:33 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hummingbird Circle.

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#### **Wednesday: Serves 4 ... \$20.95**

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# • INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

## So Many Buyers...So Little Time

No complaints here! It's as if someone opened a gate and buyers have decided it is time to invest in our little piece of paradise. Every broker I know is much busier and a lot happier this year than last.

I did a comparison of year-to-date from January 1 until September 22 for 2014 and 2015. Here is a short synopsis of home sales. The areas I used are Highlands, Cashiers, Sapphire, Scaly Mountain, Glenville and Toxaway.

- In 2014 YTD, we sold 271 homes and had 2 pending.
- In 2015 YTD, we have sold 329 homes and have 26 pending.
- In 2014 YTD, we sold 46 in Highlands.
- In 2015 YTD, we have sold 58 in Highlands with 8 pending.
- In 2014 YTD, we sold 14 homes in

Cashiers.

- In 2015 YTD, we have sold 23 in Cashiers.

So you see that consumer confidence is definitely up – in our area anyway. There is new construction and custom homes and townhomes going up.

Walk-to-town has become very popular. When I first became a broker 14 years ago, the criteria was mountain view or golf course when working with buyers. I feel that



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

now with the majority of our buyers being “baby boomers” and many having knee and hip problems resulting in mobility issues, the trend will remain in or close to town.

I have had several buyers this year wanting to move here full time –also a new trend. We are also seeing an increase in the number of younger buyers who have discovered our area.

As we who live or visit here know there is no place quite like Highlands! Award-winning restaurants, playhouses with superb talent, boutique shopping, culinary events, garden tours, gorgeous scenery, art galleries, and wonderful weather, it is a place that we are delighted to call home!

Invite your friends...they will fall in love!

• Pat Allen is owner and broker-in-charge of Pat Allen Realty Group. Visit its webpage at [www.patallenrealtygroup.com](http://www.patallenrealtygroup.com) or call Pat's cell at 828-200-9179 or the office at 828-526-8784.

## Public invited to Art League presentation at The Bascom



The speaker at the September 28 meeting of the Art league of Highlands-Cashiers will be Norma Boosey Hendrix at The Bascom atrium beginning at 4:30 p.m. Its free and open to the public.

Her presentation will be based on her journal, “A Thousand Mornings,” which will include selected mixed media paintings that resulted from those drawings.

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## Town of Highlands

### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOB OPENING

Performs complex professional and administrative work directing the activities of the Planning & Development Dept.; facilitates the meetings of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board; and works closely with the Town's Land Use Committee, under the direct supervision of the Town Manager. Responsible for planning, zoning, watershed, floodplain, code enforcement, and all other related development and land use programs for the Town.

Job requirements are: Thorough knowledge of North Carolina's General Statutes and Planning Law; graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Planning or closely related field with a Master's Degree being a plus; currently certified or has the ability to obtain certification by the NC Association of Zoning Officials; 6 to 9 years of experience in planning, zoning, and code enforcement, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities; must be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel software; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with Town employees, elected and appointed officials, other agencies, and the general public.

Open until filled. Applications and complete job description are available at the Town Hall or on our website at [www.highlandscnc.org](http://www.highlandscnc.org). Resumes are accepted in addition to a completed application. The Town of Highlands is an Equal Opportunity Employer.(9/24)





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## • CLASSIFIEDS •

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**DIRECTOR, NON-PROFIT** that provides year-round support to the international and national population of Highlands and the surrounding Western NC area to nurture community and citizenship integration and self-sufficiency. The organization also operates a Food Pantry and coordinates with other service agencies. Duties include interacting with resources to help meet client needs; working independently and as a team member with the Board, other organizations, volunteers and Food Pantry Director; fund raising; grant proposals; marketing; media relations; website and social media development; budgeting; financial record keeping; database maintenance; publicity and informational materials; general office needs. Personal characteristics required are to understand and focus on client needs, demonstrate creative leadership abilities and engage in cooperative relationships. Experience in the non-profit sector plus Spanish/English conversational fluency is required. Proficiency in Windows OS, Quickbooks and database maintenance required. Flexible weekday 25-40 hrs is expected, with the ability to work occasional special events. Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits include paid holidays and vacation. Please apply by cover letter with interest statement and resume to the International Friendship Center, c/o Faviola Olvera via email centrodeamigos@nctv.com, fax 828.526.0066 or USPS at International Friendship Center, 348 S. 5th St, Highlands, NC 28741. General inquiries and resumes are welcome to Ms. Olvera via email through December 15. (10/1)

**YEAR-ROUND, FULL-TIME RETAIL POSITION AT TJ BAILEY STORE FOR MEN** in Highlands and Cashiers. Must have own transportation, flexible hours and excellent people skills. Sales experience is a plus. Call 828-

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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# CLASSIFIEDS

526-2262 or email resume to store@TJBmen.com. (st. 8/13)

**PART-TIME CLERK/BOOKKEEPER POSITION** needed at the Highlands ABC Store. Applications are available at the store in Highlands Plaza. 828-526-5470. (st. 7/23)

**THE HIGHLANDS BBQ CO.** Is seeking Servers, Hosts, Bartenders and Line Cooks. If Interested, Please call 828-200-1500 or Send a Resume to HighlandsBBQ-Company@Gmail.com (st. 7/2)

**HIGHLANDS UNITED METH-ODIST CHURCH** now hiring at part-time organist/pianist. Send resume to HUMC, PO Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741 or email to 49PMAM@gmail.com

**SALES ASSOCIATE FOR HIGH END CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS,** NC full time "with benefits." part time and seasonal. Must be available to work weekends. Retail clothing sales experience preferred. Please call 828-200-0928. (st. 4/30)

**MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY** in Highlands is hiring full-time for:

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## LOTS/LAND FOR SALE



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6742 (st. 6/18)

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**LOT. 10 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN HIGHLANDS.** 2.01 acres with Mountain Ridge and Meadow Views between Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls & Cullasaja Falls, Gorge. Lot cleared, driveway and new septic system. Tax Value is \$89,410., Quick Sale at \$49,900. Firm. 828-200-0949. (st. 9/3)

**WOODED LOT W/ STREAM FOR SALE - MIRRORMONT AREA.** Berit Ln., 1.45 acres, 4-BR septic permit, walk-to-town, Priced to sell. 770-861-4249. (st. 7/23)

**ACRE LOT HIGHLANDS, NC** Corner Lot Highlands Glen, level with some gentle slopes excavation and foundation expenses would be reasonable, underground power installed. Stream runs year round could be configured to make a small pond, good water sources for well. Space for outbuildings or RV, boat storage. 6 Miles to downtown. \$27,000 possible owner financing 828-507-2066 (st. 7/2)

**LAND FOR SALE IN CLEAR CREEK:** 2.18 acre parcel has road frontage on Mack Wilson Rd. \$15,900. Any reasonable offers will be considered. Call 828-526-2874. (st. 4/23)

**RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT WALK TO DOWNTOWN HIGHLANDS LUXURY CONDO.** Three bedrooms, 3 baths, Viking kitchen, large master, 2 fireplaces. 828-200-9179. Pat Allen. (st. 8/27)

**RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE CABINS FOR SALE/RENT.** Located on Sawmill Road in Clear Creek. 4.63 acres. Call 828-526-2720. Price Negotiable. (7/27)

**2BED/2BATH 1.20AC.** Fantastic views & Privacy \$88,999. Call 482.2050 706.782.9728. Cypresslanesale@facebook. (st. 8/7)

**ITEMS FOR SALE ANTIQUE SLANT TOP DUTCH 19TH CENTURY DESK.** Floral marquetry inlaid wood top, front and sides. 3 drawer bombe form base, ogee feet, 8 drawer/1 center door inside. 36"x20x40" high \$750. Call 828 787 1515 for info or emailed pics. (9/24)

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# BIZ/ORG NEWS

## New executive team at The Bascom

Mike Campbell, Board Chair of The Bascom, announced today the appointment of Teresa Osborn as Executive Director. The appointment of Osborn marks the completion of a year-long reorganization and development process that The Bascom has undergone with careful planning and consideration from The Board.

"It was Teresa's history of developing both long- and short-term goals and of achieving them that made her stand out," Campbell stated. "She is noted for building consensus among the many communities that make up an organization like The Bascom."

The Executive Team is comprised of Teresa Osborn as Executive Director; Tracy Gihl, Chief Financial Officer; Tom Roberson, who was appointed last month to the position of Chief Development Officer; Sallie Taylor, who previously served as Interim Executive Director and has accepted the position of Chief Exhibitions Officer.

"The combination of these four executives creates the strongest leadership team The Bascom has ever had," said Campbell. "We will have Teresa's leadership, Tracy's expertise, Tom's experience, and Sallie's creativity. This is a dynamite team and we could not be more excited."

As the newly appointed Chief Exhibitions Officer, Sallie Taylor stated, "Although I have thoroughly enjoyed my responsibilities and opportunities while serving as Interim Executive Director, I am eager to assume hands-on responsibility for the dynamic exhibitions which are the backbone of The Bascom's mission and presence here. I look forward to working with Teresa."

Osborn comes to The Bascom from The Hudgens Center for the Arts where she has served as Executive Director since 2008. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia and furthered her studies at Vanderbilt University and Western Kentucky University's Studies Abroad Program. Teresa and her husband, Jim, are thrilled to be moving to the Highlands/Cashiers area.

"The first time I saw The Bascom I was completely blown away," said Osborn.

"There is a huge growth potential for The Bascom and I can't wait to start working with The Bascom staff. I am looking forward to being surrounded by the warm and welcoming people who live here and the beauty of Western North Carolina



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**Hwy 28s**

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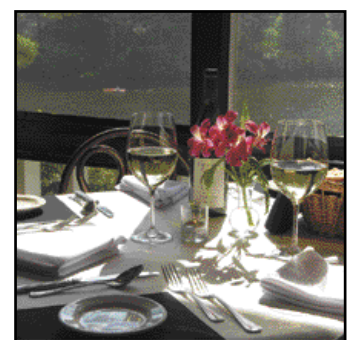
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