

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

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Thurs., Sept. 3, 2015

Traffic checkpoint enrages citizen; mayor and chief weigh in

There have been some traffic stops within the town limits of Highlands recently that have at least one citizen crying foul.

Both Mayor Pat Taylor and Police Chief Bill Harrell weighed in on the matter – a matter dis-

cussed in length in a letter-to-the-editor in this week's edition – both explaining that neither of them are in charge of traffic stops although outside agencies often request participation by the Highlands Police Department.

In his Mayor on Duty column this week, Mayor Taylor explains in detail the events that occurred last Saturday night when a citizen called him to complain about a traffic stop on US 64 east that occurred around 8:30 p.m.

The mayor told the caller he didn't control the law enforcement operations of the NC Highway Patrol and explained that it has jurisdiction on all public vehicular areas in the state of North Carolina and

•See CHECKPOINT page 6

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School districts across the state are waiting for state to pass 2015-'16 budget

A million-plus North Carolina public school students are back in school, but school districts across the state are still in the dark about staffing and classroom resources.

That's because state legislators have failed to pass a budget.

As of Monday, Aug. 24th, the budget was 55 days late, now it's more than two months late – the longest delay in 13 years.

This is affecting county governments as well as school systems.

Macon County School System Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin said the district has been juggling with state shortfalls for some time and has prepared for the Senate budget proposal.

"Third grade teacher assistants (TAs) were funded in 2014-'15 with non-recurring dollars. Therefore, this year we have had to reduce our number of state-paid TAs to 26 through attrition and transfer. We have 35 K-1 classrooms in the Macon County School system. We are covering

all kindergarten classrooms with a TA, and evenly distribute the remainder in our first-grade classrooms, however we won't have enough TAs to cover all of our first-grade classrooms and have had to hire part-time personnel to help fill these very important positions," he said.

Once the state budget is final – which could be as late as June 30, 2016, Baldwin said he will make personnel adjustments based upon the state budget.

"Fortunately for us, this means that we should be hiring additional employees, rather than reducing our workforce. If the House budget compromise is agreed upon, we will be hiring additional TAs. If the Senate budget is agreed upon, we will be hiring additional K-3 teachers."

Across the state:

• In Charlotte, 500 teaching assistants will lose their jobs on Sept 4. The state Senate's budget

•See BUDGET page 11



Japanese Knotweed in bloom.

Land Stewards urge town to continue to eradicate of Japanese Knotweed and Kudzu

At the August Town Board meeting, the subject of the dreaded Japanese Knotweed was brought up.

The town performed a knot-

weed eradication program in 2006 and 2007, but evidently the stuff is stronger than Round Up.

Town Manager Bob Fry said The Land Stewards have asked the

town to revive its eradication program and to now include Kudzu.

"We are unaware of Kudzu on any town roadsides or prop-

•See KNOTWEED page 9

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Please call, but don't hang up

My wife and I were watching a move about 9:10 p.m. this past Saturday night when my cell phone rang. I answered, and the caller was apologetic about calling at night. Nevertheless, he had a concern about the town.

The caller let me know that there was a road check point at the Highlands Conference Center on US 64. He informed me it was yet another example of police harassment, and that I needed to get control of it. I have heard the concern before, that these road checks create ill will for our visitors and guests.

I told the caller I was not aware of the road check. He told me about a half dozen state troopers were there.

I responded that I did not control the law enforcement operations of the NC Highway Patrol. I stated they had jurisdiction on all public vehicular areas in the state of North Carolina and frequently patrolled US 64 within Highlands. They, like the Macon County Sheriff's Department, have full enforcement powers within our city limits. I emphasized the mayor did not have the authority to supervise state troopers.

That last statement resulted in an intense rebuke from the caller. I was told that as mayor I needed to have more control and awareness about what was going on in my town. I was also chided for my passive, unacceptable attitude. Before I could respond, the caller hung up.

I took a deep breath, and asked my wife to please stop the movie, that I needed to look into a situation. I walked to the check point, which was less than a quarter of a mile from my house. Yes, there were several state trooper vehicles. A trooper asked me if he could help me. I told him I the mayor, and that someone had complained about their check point. The trooper politely told



Mayor Pat Taylor

me this was a statewide program, and that they were checking licenses and looking for drunk drivers. I thanked him and returned home.

I decided to call back the person making the complaint and provide an update. When he answered I told him it was the mayor. Suddenly the call disconnected!

Monday I contacted Chief Harrell of the Highlands Police to get further information. He said the road checks by the highway patrol was a part of the Governor's Highway Safety Initiative. Therefore, state troopers were conducting road checks throughout the region, and had just done one in the Franklin area. Troopers routinely conduct checks in Macon and Jackson Counties as holidays approach. The patrol does not announce their plans in advance, but they did ask assistance from the Highlands Police the night of the road check. The chief let me know that the road check netted two DWIs and six other violations. The DWI levels were in double digits. Seven state troopers operated the check point, and two Highlands officers assisted.

Now am sorry I disappointed the caller with my inaction and passivity. But, I am not the Commissar of Highlands, the incarnation of Chicago's Mayor Richard Daley. Nor am I "Boss Hog." I am a mayor of a North Carolina municipality with limited powers and authority. I do not command the highway patrol, the sheriff, nor the Highlands Police Department. While the town manager, the board and the mayor continually review the policies and overall practices of the police, the mayor is not their field commander. I leave the enforcement of laws to trained professionals.

Feel free to call me at (828) 506-3138 almost anytime, but please don't hang up on me.

Highlands Newspaper N.O.A.A. Weather Report For Highlands NC



• OBITUARY •

Jackson Williams Tarver Jr.

Jackson Williams Tarver Jr., husband of Loretta Thometz Tarver, died August 29, 2015 of complications from esophageal cancer. Born April 14, 1941 in Macon, GA, he was the son of Margaret Taylor Tarver and Jackson Williams Tarver Sr., who was a former editor and publisher of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Jack attended Northside High School in Atlanta, earned his Bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University, and graduated from University of Virginia Law School. He spent nine years at the law firm Troutman, Sanders, Lockerman, and Ashmore, where he became a partner before leaving to pursue a lifelong passion for the music industry.

A charismatic manager and promoter whose career spanned four decades, he was involved in the development of the original Underground Atlanta, and was owner of Muhlenbrink's Saloon. In the 1970s Jack became owner of the Great Southeast Music Hall, where he helped launch the careers of acts such as Jimmy Buffett, Billy Joel, and Linda Ronstadt, and for many years wrote a weekly music column in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution under the pen name J. Garland Pembroke. In the early nineties, Jack owned The Old Post Office, a popular live music venue on Hilton Head Island that often featured the early years of Hootie and the Blowfish, and Widespread Panic, to name a few. His lifelong passions included attending auctions and collecting antiques, particularly cars and Coca-Cola memorabilia, and supporting local dog rescue organizations.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son Jackson Williams Tarver, III, of Athens, Georgia; daughter Margaret-Allyn Gallerani (Jim) of Wellesley, Massachusetts; sister Margaret Tarver Jason, of Jacksonville, Florida; and grandsons Drew and Connor Gallerani. He was predeceased by his first wife, Harriet Lester Tarver.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Cashiers Highlands Humane Society, where Jack was proud to be a Board member. (CHHS, P.O. Box 638, Cashiers, NC 28717)

The memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at 11 AM at Arlington Memorial Park, 201 Mount Vernon Hwy, NW, Sandy Springs, Georgia 30328.

• LETTERS •

The need for traffic checks is suspicious

Dear Editor,

This letter has a two purposes. One is to ask what is going on with the police road-blocks in Highlands. I understand they have been taking place on Saturday nights on Highway 64 by the ballpark. We were stopped this past Saturday before 9 pm as we headed out of town. There were at least six state patrol cars(perhaps more) and probably 10 or more state troopers. They checked drivers for their license, checked everyone in the car by shining flashlight on them and inquired as to where we had been, etc. One of my neighbors was stopped at the same spot two Saturdays ago. Do we have a large unknown crime issue in town that would justify such actions? I'm sure this will have an immediate impact on the restaurant business in Highlands. We certainly won't be going while this is going onit is needless harassment especially before 9 in the evening. I might understand if there was a problem or if they were conducting this activity after 11 p.m. when there could be impaired drivers out....but around 8:30 in the evening....come on. And to have such a force seems unnecessary. Surely this is much about little and the effort could best be used elsewhere....where there is real crime taking place.

Since our mayor has given out his phone number and encouraged people to call him when needing an answer or pointing out a problem, I did. Thus, the second purpose of my letter is to report the mayor's response. It did not seem not creditable. He said he didn't know about it and couldn't do anything about it. It doesn't seem reasonable that state police would be conducting road blocks within his town and he didn't know. If he didn't know, he should have and if he did, he shouldn't have told me he didn't. Both are wrong.

Something seem out of balance with such a massive state police action here in our town. I think answers to this situation are warranted.

James Riddle
Highlands

Park is little piece of heaven

Dear Editor,

We wanted to express our appreciation to the Town of Highlands, the Founders Park Coalition, and the donors who have made the new and improved Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park the beautiful place that it is today.

•See LETTERS page 7



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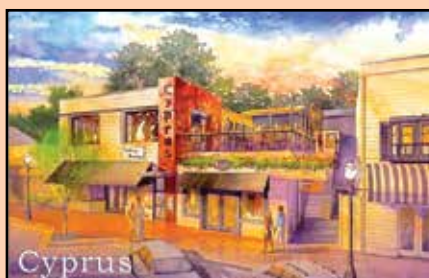
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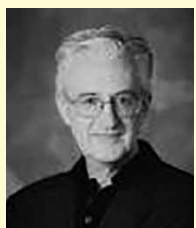
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UPCOMING EVENTS

"A curious mind knows no bounds"

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American Heiress Do the London Season Tue., Sept. 8 Time: 2-4 Cornelia Powell, author, wedding folklorist and costume historian, entertains audiences around the country with her Downton Abbey costume talks and PowerPoint presentations and is back to discuss the glitz and glamour of Downton Abbey's fictional countess Cora Crowley.

• **BEEKEEPING AND THE STORY OF**

MANUKA HONEY: Wed. Sept. 9 Time: 10-12 Mike Everly, President of Forest & Bees Native Honey is going share what the "buzz" is about regarding the importance of the honey bee and the health benefits Manuka honey is known to have.

• **TSUNAMIS, EARTHQUAKES, VOLCANOES:** The Titanic Forces of Nature Thur. Sept. 10 Time: 10-12 Natural disasters are extreme sudden events that cause damage to people and property. This lecture will look at some recent disasters and will discuss why they happened and to what extent they can be predicted. Dr. Helen Aves holds a Ph.D in Geology from Columbia.

• **IPAD SHORT COURSE:** Basic and Advanced Fri. Sept. 11/18 (2 Sessions) Time: 10:30-3:30 Cost \$125/\$140 This class taught by Nigel Sixsmith will teach you everything you need to know to get up and running with your iPad.

• **MEXICAN MISADVENTURE:** Emperor Maximillian of Mexico and the American-born Princess Who Tried to Save Him Sat. Sept. 12 Time: 10-12 Rick Hutto is back with us to share a story of romance, intrigue, and adventure! Hutto is former chairman for Georgia Council for the Arts and former White House Appointments Secretary to the Carter Family.

• **CLE ANNUAL MEETING AND PARTY** Monday, September 14 Time: 5-7 Location: Porch of the Peggy Crosby Center

**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*

...CHECKPOINT continued from page 1

frequently patrols US 64 within Highlands.

"They, like the Macon County Sheriff's Department, have full enforcement powers within our city limits, and I, as mayor, don't have the authority to supervise state troopers." (See his complete response in his column on page 2).

Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell spoke passionately about the subject of traffic stops, particularly in light of the recent attacks on law enforcement officers nationwide.

"Concerning the recent traffic checkpoints, I don't usually respond to inappropriate rants and raves, however, I feel compelled in light of recent tragedies within our nation, wherein public safety officers are being brutally shot and murdered, to respond as to why we conduct periodic investigative traffic checkpoints," he said.

"First off, I would like to commend and thank our officers, who worked in conjunction with the NC Highway Patrol, in conducting yet another successful checkpoint this past weekend. It isn't our purpose as public safety officers to

interrupt the evening of those driving home from dinner or to inconvenience citizens by making them wait in their vehicles for a few moments while we verify their information – instead our mission is to inconvenience the criminal elements who are driving without a license, without insurance, while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

"Our mission is to deter and reduce crime, and apprehend fugitives to ensure that all law-abiding citizens who happen to pass through these checkpoints arrive at their destinations as safely as possible. All of these aforementioned tasks have been accomplished here in Highlands. This provides peace of mind to our citizens as they travel to and from the many fine restaurants, shops and events that Highlands offers secure in the knowledge that their police department is doing all it can to ensure they don't encounter a drunk driver on their way home."

• See CHECKPOINT page 22

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• THE FREDSTER •

'Well, Hello there, Country Bumpkin'



Fred Wooldridge

Several years ago while shopping at Ingles in Cashiers I spotted a young man sporting a full, well groomed beard, lengthy hair, clean but worn bib overalls and tired-looking work boots. His dirty fingernails made me think he might be a farmer. He was with his wife and two small children.

I couldn't resist so I walked right up to him and asked, "Excuse me, sir, but are you a real bonafied mountain man or are you just faking it?" Realizing I might get punched, I cringed, waiting for his answer.

He shot back with a friendly smile and said, "No sir, I am not a fake. I am a real mountain man. I farm, hunt and fish to feed my family. We get money to buy staples here at Ingles from the sale of canned goods from our farm."

I couldn't believe it. I had, in fact, met a real mountain man so I stuck out my hand for a shake and said, "Well, let me introduce myself. I am a bonafied city slicker who spent most of my life in Miami and always in a city somewhere. I've never grown a vegetable but my li'l missus used to can blackberries from our hedge off Clear Creek Rd. but that's about it."

We shook hands and he said, "Well it's a pleasure to meet a bonafied city slicker and especially one who is willing to admit it. Lots of folks come to the area and try to fake being country but they really stick out."

We parted company and I figured that was the last I would see of him. But later, near the checkout line, he approached me and said, "I'll assume that when the shootin' starts we'll stand side my side against our attackers."

"Damn tootin' we will," I responded. "And I'm a pretty good shot for a city slicker."

• Fred is still carrying around a few of his books titled, "I'm Moving Back to Mars." Stop him and ask for an autographed copy.

...LETTERS from page 3

At the Village Square Art & Craft Show this past weekend, we heard quite a few compliments about the park. Shoppers and artisans alike expressed appreciation for the beauty, design and amenities as well as the pavers in the street.

What a wonderful venue for events and for families and groups to enjoy. There are parents with children playing in the park on a daily basis. Dulcimer players and other musicians can be found rehearsing there, and people doing yoga. People bring their lunches to eat in the shade, and hoards of people come out for the free concerts, craft shows and other events.

Highlands is indeed very fortunate to have this little piece of heaven.

We wanted to thank the Town Board for allowing us to use the park. Thanks also go to the police department and the great staff at the Rec Park for their assistance. These events bring a lot of people to Highlands, so the benefits get spread around to everyone. The K-H Founders Park is great for our little community!

Cynthia Strain, Show Coordinator
Pat Mennenger, President, MC Art Assn.

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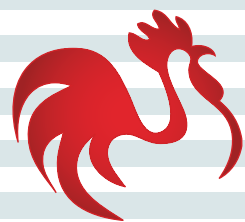
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• WEDDING •

Ben Zachary and Denise Keener were married Aug. 20, 2015 in Tennessee.





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TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM,
BISCUITS, MUFFINS, CROISSANTS
ESPRESSO BAR AND COFFEE ROASTED
IN-HOUSE

LUNCH

**GRILL - EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK
STARTING AT 11:00 UNTIL CLOSE**
FRESH ANGUS BURGERS, FRESH
NATURAL CHICKEN BREASTS, GRILLED
FISH, CHICKEN TENDERS, COOKED TO
ORDER HAND CUT FRIES, SALADS,
HOMEMADE SOUPS, DAILY SPECIALS,
SALAD BAR

DELI - SERVING ALL DAY

FRESH CUT NATURAL MEATS,
HOMEMADE DELI SALADS, PANINI
MELTS, HOMEMADE POTATO CHIPS,
DAILY SOUP SPECIALS

WOOD FIRE PIZZA OVEN -

EVERY DAY FROM 11:00 TO CLOSE
AUTHENTIC NEAPOLITAN PIZZA MADE
FROM SCRATCH, FRESH MOZZARELLA,
BASIL, CRUSHED TOMATOES,
HOMEMADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE,
PANCETTA, AND DAILY SPECIALS

SUNDAY SKILLET FRIED CHICKEN

**EVERY SUNDAY FROM 11:00AM
UNTIL WE SELL OUT**
FRESH ORGANIC HAND CUT, HAND
BREADED CHICKEN COOKED IN A CAST
IRON SKILLET. SERVED WITH GREEN
BEANS, MASHED POTATOES AND
GRAVY WITH A WARM HONEY
BISCUIT..\$9.99

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**A LARGE SELECTION OF TAKE-AWAY
ITEMS FULLY PREPARED AND READY
TO TAKE HOME. GRILLED PORK LOINS,
HOMEMADE MAC & CHEESE, MASHED
POTATOES, HERB RUBBED CHICKEN,
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DELI SALADS & MUCH MORE.**

DINNERS TO GO

**A DIFFERENT FULL DINNER FOR TWO
EVERY NIGHT, MONDAY THROUGH
SATURDAY FROM 4.30 UNTIL WE SELL
OUT. CALL AHEAD TO RESERVE...**

MONDAY - LOW COUNTRY LOBSTER /
SHRIMP BOIL MAIN LOBSTER TAILS,
WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP, RED
BLISS POTATOES, SUMMER CORN,
HOUSE MADE SAUSAGE, ALL STEEPED
IN OUR SEASONING. SERVED WITH
DRAWN BUTTER AND COCKTAIL
SAUCE. **\$33.95 SERVES TWO**

TUESDAY - OVEN OFF NIGHT
TWO NATURAL CHICKEN BREASTS
GRILLED WITH OUR TUSCAN HERB
INFUSED OLIVE OIL, SERVED ON A
BED OF GREENS WITH STUFFED BRIE,
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ON THE SIDE WITH TWO CUPS OF
HOMEMADE GAZPACHO AND A
BAGUETTE FROM OUR BAKERY.
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COOKED MEDIUM RARE WITH RED
WINE AU JUS. TWO BAKED POTATOES
AND A LARGE CAESAR SALAD.
\$33.95 SERVES TWO**

**THURSDAY - TWO RACKS OF BABY
BACK RIBS - COOKED UNTIL
FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER. SERVED
WITH HOUSE MADE BACON/APPLE
BAKED BEANS AND POTATO SALAD.
\$25.95 SERVES TWO**

FRIDAY - WILD CAUGHT SHRIMP:
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NORTH CAROLINA SHRIMP EITHER
LIGHTLY BREADED IN OUR SEASONED
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BBQ. HAND RUBBED PORK BUTT,
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HAND PULLED TO ORDER. COMES
WITH COLESLAW, APPLE BACON
BAKED BEANS, AND YEAST ROLLS
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COMPLETE YOUR DINNER WITH
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...KNOTWEED continued from page 1

erty. However there is rampant growth on private properties next to town streets. It will spread and should be monitored for invasion as long as it persists," wrote Barbara Landwehr, Chair of the Land Stewards of the Highlands Plateau in her letter to the board.

In 2006 the town and the Land Stewards began eradicating Japanese Knotweed and Kudzu on town property and right-of-ways, including NCDOT right-of-ways within the town limits.

"We are requesting the town continue this effort until there is no new growth, that treated areas be monitored for several years, and that the herbicide glyphosate (Round Up) be used on Japanese Knotweed as was done in 2006," she wrote.

Over the years, the herbicide Tribune was used but according to experts, Tribune kills growth above ground, but not roots. Glyphosate kills both and is still the herbicide most often recommended and used.

"We urge the town to resume treatment with this herbicide," said Landwehr.

Japanese Knotweed plants were introduced from Japan first

into the U.K., then into North America in the 19th century as, a landscaping ornamental.

A common habitat for Japanese Knotweed is sunny, moist areas, including riverbanks, roadsides and, lawns and gardens.

According to landscape experts Japanese Knotweed is often spread via landfill – all it takes is one fragment of one root, furiously submerged within a pile of fill dumped onto an unsuspecting yard and, a burgeoning menace is gaining a toehold.

"Before you know it, all other plants are crowded out by this highly successful competitor for landscaping space, resulting in a monoculture," they say.

Japanese knotweed doesn't invade forested areas; rather, it prefers areas disturbed by humans; areas with not only ample sunlight but also friable soil for its invasive roots.

Total eradication requires

several seasons before satisfactory results are achieved.

"Think persistence not "silver bullet," say experts.

The Land Stewards concur.

"Complete eradication is extremely difficult and requires a multi-year effort. Knotweed has tremendous regenerative abilities and can grow from root and stem fragments as small as 1/2 inch," said Landwehr.

"In some cases roots have reached 10 feet deep and have run horizontally 65 feet from the parent plant giving rise to new plants along the way. The roots can invade pavement, sewer systems, and foundations.

"The environmental threat to our native plants and animals is enormous," said Landwehr. "Knotweed can form large colonies of near solid mass, crowding out all other growth and resulting in loss of food and shelter for our birds and other animals."

Even where treated years ago,

Knotweed has resprouted in several locations in Highlands but according to the Land Stewards most of the plants have not reached mature size of six to 10 feet.

"We feel that it is critical to gain control at this stage with a multi-year plan for eradication and monitoring," she said.

The original eradication program was undertaken in 2006 and 2007 by the town and the Land Stewards. The Land Stewards located the plants and the town applied glyphosate (Round-up) two times in the fall as recommended by Dr. Kenneth McCaskill, director of the NC Extension Service, Dr. Robert Wyatt, director of the Highlands Biological Station, and the late Dr. Bob Zahner, forester and nationally recognized conservationist.

In 2013 regrowth was noticed

and the Land Stewards, with the endorsements of Dr. Jim Costa, executive director of the Highlands Biological Station and Dr. Gary Wein, executive director of the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust, urged the town to resume these treatments.

Town Manager Frye said this isn't the first time this has come up and staff and he are looking into the best way to accomplish eradication.

"I hope to have a recommendation in time for the next Town Board meeting [Sept. 17].

He said the town may give the organization "seed" money so the Land Stewards can hire folks to help since town employees can't go on private property adjacent to town property where the plants have taken root."

— Kim Lewicki

Paoletti's Hospice House fundraiser moved to Wed. Sept. 30

Paoletti's Restaurant is having two charity functions for the Hospice House Foundation of WNC on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Cocktails and Casual Grazing - \$150/person (\$100 is tax deductible). A come-as-you-are social cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres and select wines.

At 7:30 p.m. it's Dining for Dignity - \$250/person (\$150 is tax deductible) This will be a relaxed dining experience where patrons choose from a decadent 4-course menu especially selected for the evening.

This dining venue is limited – early reservations are strongly recommended. Please call 828-526-4906.


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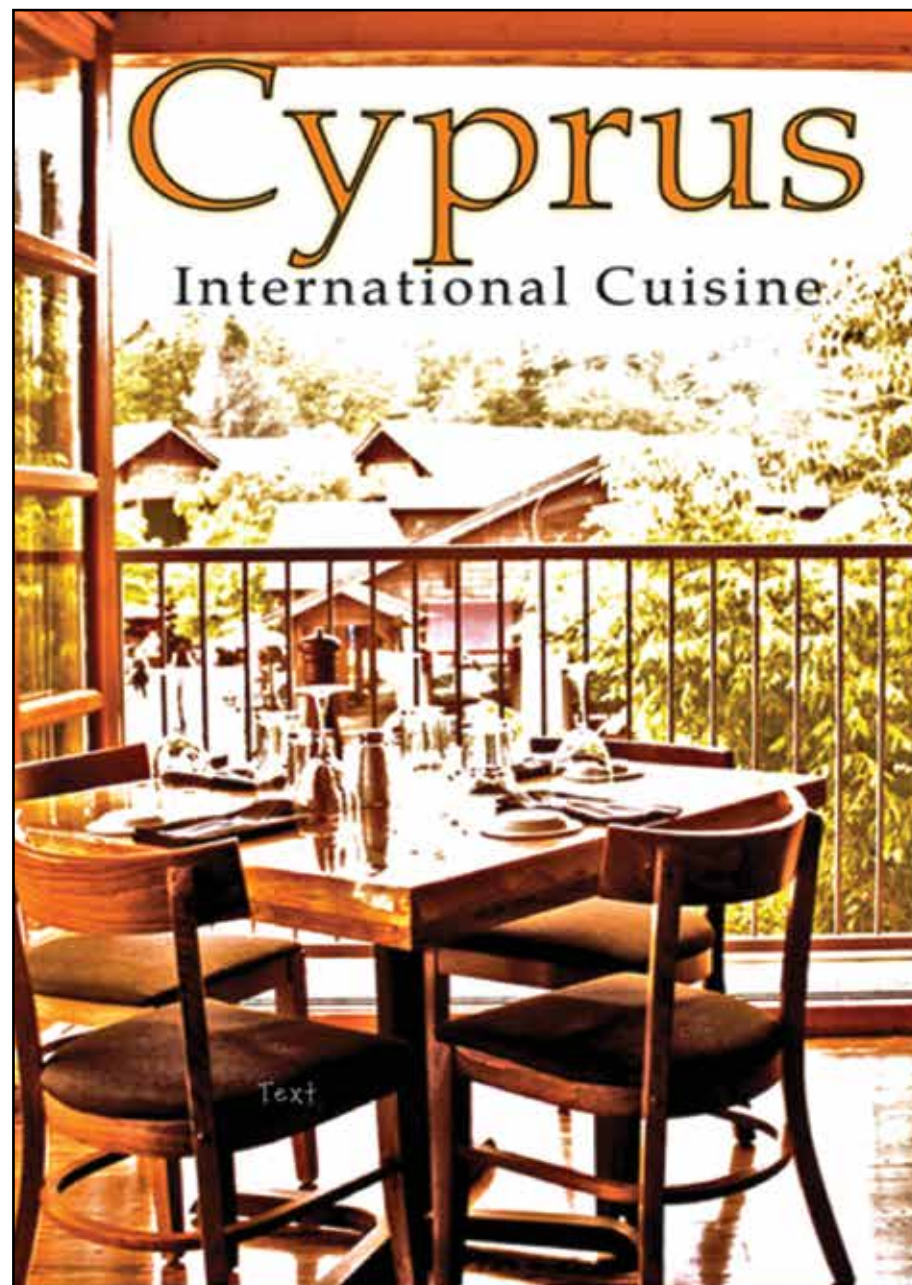
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Debutantes & Downton at CLE Sept. 8

A gilded era and an American legacy—has come to life through the popularity of British costume drama Downton Abbey—brought the world such compelling personalities as Winston Churchill, Lady Diana Spencer and king-to-be Prince William. Using hundreds of beautiful images, Cornelia Powell tells an irresistible version of this glittering history through stories of sumptuous fashion, presentations at royal court, legendary tiaras and princely affairs—all with our favorite Downton characters in the backdrop!

Cornelia Powell, author, wedding folklorist and costume historian, entertains audiences around the country with her Downton Abbey costume talks and PowerPoint presentations.

On Sept. 8 from 2-4 p.m. she will present a “costume talk” as part of CLE’s Lecture series in its space in the Peggy Crosby Center. call 828-526-8811 for more details and reservations. Space is limited.

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...BUDGET continued from page 1

proposal would slash 8,500 teaching assistant positions across the state. This after nearly 1,000 teachers resigned from CMS in June, after Gov. Pat McCrory proposed a budget in which only one-third of North Carolina teachers would receive a raise.

- In Raleigh, Wake County Public Schools has ended drivers education classes for high school students. The Senate budget would end state funding for drivers education. Wake County opened this school year still in need of 100 teachers. The House budget would give teachers only a 2% pay raise while NC teacher pay ranks only 42nd in the nation.

In Greensboro, Guilford County Public Schools cut three work days from teaching assistants to save \$390K. Interestingly, the General Assembly has wasted \$1.3M in extra per diem costs to lawmakers in extra session days since they missed their July 1st budget deadline. Lawmakers also took a week's vacation after missing their July 1st deadline.

- In Winston-Salem, WS/Forsyth County Public Schools opened this year in need of 68 teachers. Meantime, the state Senate's budget proposal would give no raise to the state's most veteran teachers.

- In Asheville, Buncombe County Public Schools has cut teaching assistant hours from eight to seven per day.

- In Greenville, Pitt County Public Schools has cut 25 teaching assistant positions due to questions of the state budget.

"School systems across the state are feeling the pain from the negligence of

state lawmakers in Raleigh," said Gerick Brenner, executive director of ProgressNC. "When one party controls state government, claims a revenue surplus (445 million), and still cannot pass a budget in time for the first day of class, it's clear that our public schools are not a priority for this governor and those leading our legislature."

The NC General Assembly Continuing Budget Authority has been extended to September 18, 2015 by House Bill 18, S.L. 2015-233, signed by the Governor August 27, 2015.

— Kim Lewicki



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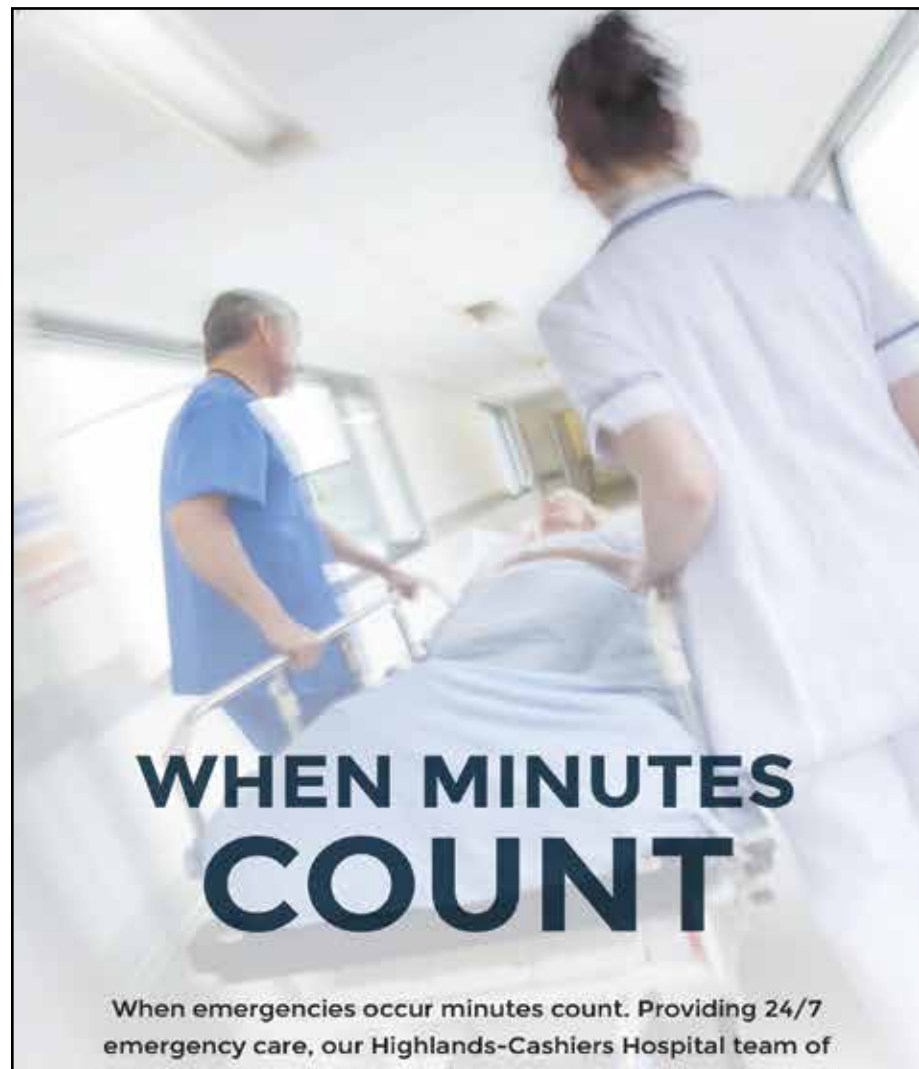
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Learn more at hchospital.org.



**HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS
HOSPITAL**

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Mon.-Sat.

• Nantahala Tennis Club meets at 9a.m to noon each day. All visitors welcome.

Sun. - Tues.

• 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.

Mon. & Wed.

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

• Donation Based Family Fitness Class at The Nature Center every Monday at noon and Wednesday at 7pm for Teens and Adults,

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am-9:30am

• 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 more information: Ann 828 369-7385

Tuesdays

• Growing Stronger Together - A support and learning group for women who have physical or mental difficulties including depression or high stress. \$5 per session. Meets weekly on Tuesdays through August 4 at the Peggy Crosby Center, Rm.203. Led by Bonnie Gramlich, LPC and sponsored by HUMC and the Counseling and Psychotherapy Center of Highlands. Call 828.342.0546 to register or for more info.

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

• FREE Yoga in the K-H Founders Park Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. Bring the whole family (along with a towel and a bottle of water) for a gentle, community stretch!

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

• OccupyWNC meets at the Jackson County Justice Center. For more information, visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524

Tuesday and Thursdays

• Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park will resume Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 8a. \$5.

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

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.

Wednesdays

• Children's Book of the Month Club and Story Hour with Nonnie (Diane McPhail) at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square at 11 a.m.

• Live music at Satulah Mountain Brew-

ing Company with Jimandi, a local duo, 7:30-10:30p.

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

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 9 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.

Fridays

• Live music in Town Square from 6-8p. (Through Oct. 23, weather permitting)



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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Saturdays

• Highlands Marketplace in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street from 9a to 2p.
• Children's Story Hour with Nonnie (Diane McPhail) at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square at 11 a.m.

• At MountainTop Wine Shoppe on Main Street, free wine tasting from 1-3 p.m.

• Music in the K-H Founders Park from 6-8p. Bring a picnic. (Next and last one is Labor Day weekend.)

Thurs., Sept. 3

• The final Zahner Conservation lecture at 6:30 p.m. at the Nature Center will discuss Monarch Butterflies.

Sat., Sept. 5

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will host a beginner's walk around the Old Ranger Station on Flat Mt. Rd. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in Highlands. Russ Regnery will lead with Bill Peavey assisting. No experience is necessary. Binoculars and birding guidance are provided.

Sat & Sun., Sept. 5-6

• Fall Arts & Crafts Show at the Village Green in Cashiers. 10am - 5pm (Rain or Shine). More than 70 exhibiting artisans and good food. Admission is free but donations will be accepted to benefit area non-profits. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cashiers Valley.

Sat., Sept. 5

• At Cliffside Lake, Live Birds of Prey with Michael Skinner with the Balsam Mountain Trust at 11 a.m. Program on the patio at Cliffside Lake. No pets allowed. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to program. Free by \$4/vehicle admission to recreation area.

• At Scudders, an auction of a string of pearls and a hand carved wooden bowl from Bolivia at 8 p.m. to benefit The Highlands Bolivian Mission on this Saturday, September 5 at 8PM.

Sun., Sept. 6

• The High Mountain Squares will host their 13th Annual "Greenway Dancem" Sun-

day from 2-4:30 p.m. Jim Duncan from Otto NC will be the caller. It will be at the Macon County Rec Park Pavilion on Allman Dr, off GA Rd (441 South), Franklin NC We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday, Sept. 10

• The WNC Woodturners meeting at 6 p.m. at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville, N.C.

• Dahlia Festival Patron Party. 6:30 p.m. at the Hudson House, Highlands Country Club. Mexican Fiesta with Live Mariachi Band. Tickets \$125. For more details, go to www.highlandshistory.com or call the Highlands Historical Society at (828) 787-1050. Proceeds raised by the Festival underwrite the upkeep of the Prince House, the oldest home within the town of Highlands.

• Rotary Craft Beer Night at The Farm from 7-11 p.m. at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn. Local and Regional Craft Breweries, and Lite Bites from area restaurants. Great rockin' country music by Timeless Highway with Tommy Dodd. \$50 per person, or sponsor a table! Tickets are available on line at rotarycraftbeer.eventbrite.com, or email rotarycraftbeer@yahoo.com for details. All proceeds benefit the projects and programs of The Rotary Club of Highlands.

Sat., Sept. 12

• Highlands' 5th Annual Dahlia Festival. 1-5 p.m. at the Highlands Rec Park & Civic Center. All dahlia enthusiasts are urged to join in the competition. Prizes will be presented in multiple categories. It is to celebrate the beauty and enjoyment of these gorgeous flowers that grow so well in our beautiful mountains. Come and bring your blooms to share with other dahlia lovers. Public admission \$5 at the door.. Exhibitor fee \$10. Live Music (Dulcimer players 2 - 3:30 p.m.) Refreshments and Actors in Period Costumes at the Highland Historical Museum.

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will host the annual Charlie Davis Memorial Blue Ridge Parkway Outing as we search for

migrating warblers, vireos, thrushes and raptors on the Blue Ridge Parkway. We leave at 7 a.m. from Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in Highlands. Please pack a light lunch as we will stop at a scenic spot for a picnic and more birding before returning mid-afternoon. Bring water and your camera. The Parkway in autumn provides spectacular views and interesting birds even in less than perfect weather. Please contact Romney Bathurst (828-526-1939) or Brock Hutchins (828-787-1387) to sign up.

Sun., Sept. 13

• The 23rd Annual Bel Canto Recital will


again present a quartet of renowned singers from the world of opera - Jennifer Black, Audrey Babcock, mezzo-soprano, Jonathan Burton, tenor, and Mark Walters, baritone. Don't miss this year's performance! If you have any questions, please call us at 828 526 5213 or email at highlandsbelcanto@gmail.com.

Mon., Sept. 14

• Jamie Harrelson, current Highlands Plateau Audubon Society grant recipient for her Master's research underway at Western Carolina Univ., will present her results on the

• See EVENTS page 14

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...EVENTS continued from 13

threatened Golden-winged Warbler. We meet at the Hudson Library in Highlands at 7 p.m. for conversation and refreshments with the program beginning at 7:30 p.m. Please enter

through the back door of the Library.

Tues., Sept. 15

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will host a "Birds & Beer" social at the Ugly Dog

Pub in Highlands. Enjoy a favorite beverage, "Pub Grub" and bird talk with Audubon members and guests. We start at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 17

• Eco Tour: "Bald Rock." Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust on

this special access hike to the summit of "Old Bald" through Camp Merrie-Woode. Learn about a number of rare plants from your botanist guide and be rewarded with a grand view from above. \$35 new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on

the trail and a year membership to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust! HCLT members: \$10. Reservations required: Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net, 526-1111. Together we are saving mountains: www.hicashlt.org.



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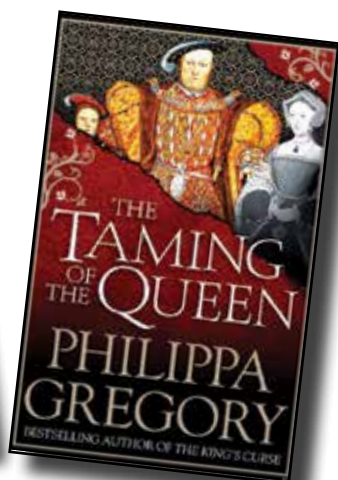
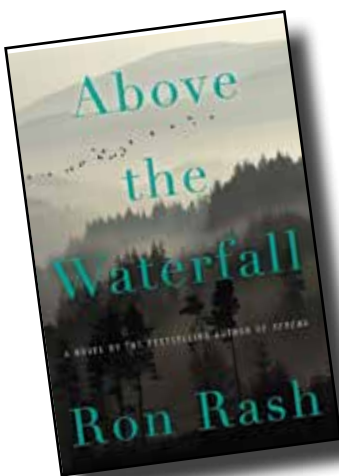
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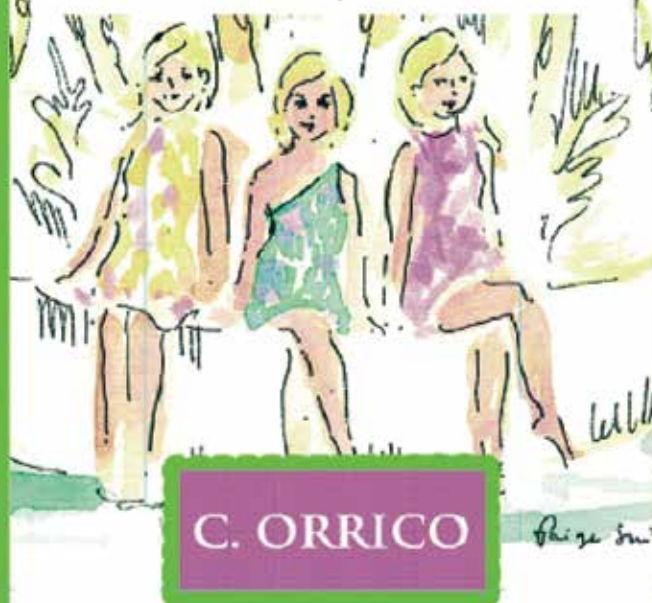
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Performing Arts Center presents FALL Concert Series

The Fall Concert Season begins on Saturday, September 19 with bluegrass at its finest featuring John McEuen with John Carter Cash. Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's John McEuen (a founding member) opens the evening with their story: a bunch of young 1960's 'west-coast longhair hippies' trying to make it. Through live mu-

sic, historic photos and film, the audience finds out how this iconic California band's rocky past led to successes and Nashville. In this multi-media concert McEuen's enthusiastic storytelling and music, coinciding with what is on the screen, all lead up to the story of that incredible week in August, 1971.

This unique show then celebrates Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's landmark 'Circle' album (initiated by McEuen in 1971), and shows the audience how Carter Family music and Mother Maybelle Carter, Earl Scruggs, Roy Acuff, Doc Watson, Vassar Clements, Merle Travis, Jimmy Martin... and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (NGDB)

came together for the historic sessions.

John Carter (son of Johnny Cash and June Carter) takes the helm to relate the Carter Family story. This leads to how NGDB joined the icons of Country Music for a magic Nashville week in August of 1971 to create the classic multi-platinum album - Will the Circle Be Unbroken. Presented by Ray & Diane McPhail.

Saturday, September 26 brings Three Tenors & a Diva to the Performing Arts Center for a GALA evening beginning at 5pm with a concert and then moving to the Highlands Falls Country Club for a GALA dinner and cocktails. Antonio Buono, James Gaffen & Thomas Bethman have so much to offer on their own, that together they surpass all expectations. Their careers have reached every continent and touched thousands of international audiences from New York's Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall to premier international venues such as La Scala. They will steal your hearts with heroic arias and the Italian heritage will ring through.

Broadway's greatest music is woven in throughout the concert with "Phantom," "West Side Story," "Man of La Mancha," and many more. As a finale, they often sing the Andrea Bocelli hit "Time to Say Goodbye". But what good is a tenor lover without a Diva? Donna Bounauro tames these three. She is a beautiful soprano weaving her voice in operatic solos, duets and production numbers. A true night of magic is guaranteed. The concert is presented by Victor & Bertie Fransen and Sandy Cohn & Ruth Gershon. The GALA is presented by Jane Webb & David LaCagnina, Nancy & Lyle Nichols, Faye & Irwin Siegel, Cindy & Rick Treva-tham and Anne Watkins.

The Beatles landed in America in 1964. For the past year venues across America have been celebrating 50 years of the Beatles' music. On Friday, October 2nd Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience comes to the Performing Arts Center. What's your favorite Beatles song? When asked this question, people don't just tell you the name of the

• See **CONCERTS** page 19



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Gone Flâneuring



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"The crowd is his element, as the air is that of birds and water of fishes. His passion and his profession are to become one flesh with the crowd. For the perfect flâneur, for the passionate spectator, it is an immense joy to set up house in the heart of the multitude, amid the ebb and flow of movement, in the midst of the fugitive and the infinite. To be away from home and yet to feel oneself everywhere at home; to see the world, to be at the centre of the world, and yet to remain hidden from the world—impartial natures which the tongue can but clumsily define."

—Charles Baudelaire, *The Painter of Modern Life*

In the 1860s, Charles Baudelaire presented the above portrait of the flâneur – an individual who strolls, ambles, and wanders amongst the delicious array of sights, sounds, and smells in his or her surroundings. The flâneur has no timetable, agenda, or plans. Truly experiencing the world is his or her only aim.

How often do we gift ourselves such deep, rejuvenating pleasure? In our modern age, we are both blessed and cursed with ubiquitous access to technology. Technology promised to save us time, but ended up owning it.

I'm heading to Italy with a friend to soak up all the joyous art, food, wine, coffee, gelato, and shopping. But more importantly,

...CONCERTS from page 18

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. The show becomes a therapeutic musical session with laughter and tears

my intention is to get lost on purpose. To go flâneuring. To regain my ability to truly see, to see with the eyes of a traveler, and to discover and engage deeply in the Italian culture.

In addition to some books, some sturdy walking shoes, a camera, and my passport, I'll be bringing along my journals and sketching supplies. A "dumb" flip phone is making the trip for emergency purposes only. Items that connect me to the Internet and my daily life will stay in a drawer in Highlands.

I have no idea what all we will see and do. No real plans. No head down looking at a phone. There will be paper maps and the heart of an explorer. Conversation. And eyes wide open.

The Highlands-Cashiers plateau is a wonderful place to go flâneuring and escape every day life. Our healing and nurturing mountains provide the perfect backdrop to explore, unwind, and inhale deeply. Let your shoulders and heart rate drop. Experience a quiet mind.

You can take an afternoon, a day, or an entire week to walk trails lined with lush trees and shrubs. You can discover waterfalls, majestic vistas, and native flora and fauna. You can choose to turn off your phone (but carry it with you for safety) and look up. For goodness sake, look up.

Here's to your journey ... wherever you may be flâneuring in

and personal stories that connect the audience, band and performers in a way that no other show can.

The performance 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. As audience members come into the theatre, they are invited to go to the Song Request table. To make requests, people fill

• See **CONCERTS** page 23

your life.

• Susie deVille, ME, ABR, SFR, is Owner/Broker-in-Charge of White Oak Realty Group. Her areas of expertise include real estate investments, niche marketing,

social media, and strategic property positioning. An expert in entrepreneurship and anthropology, Susie applies her acumen in human behavior toward negotiating and advocating on behalf of her

clients. White Oak Realty Group's sales office is located at 125 South Fourth Street in the heart of the retail district in Highlands. For more information, visit WhiteOakRG.com or call (828) 526-8118.

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On the 5th Fairway, this great family home has an open floor plan and updated finishes. 3 bedrooms on main level and additional family room and two bedrooms downstairs. Covered porch. Excellent value in HFCC. Attached double garage. Offered at \$575,000. mls #82562



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



Great highway frontage, live and work with retail upstairs and apartment on the lower level. Great location near the Bascom art center. Offered at \$415,000. mls #80640



Looking for that in town location with a flat building site and walk to town...Well this is it. Has a historical house to restore or just start over. Sidewalk in front and only 4 blocks to downtown. Offered at \$450,000. mls #78627



Cottage with the Pickle House guest cottage. The main house has two bedrooms, a bath, wood floors, screened porch, deck and a beautiful stone fireplace. Offered at \$239,000. MLS # 81860



On 2.55 acres, the property fronts Shortoff Road, and is quiet and private. A one story 2BR/2BA cottage with woodburning fireplace, large covered deck, and a studio/playhouse. Home is being sold FURNISHED including the dishes! \$249,000 MLS# 78133



Civilized yet private compound of 7-plus acres off Flat Mountain Road. High quality finishes great scales and exceptional taste, 1BD/2BA. Offered at \$895,000. mls #80371



Charming cottage in the trees on East View Drive. 3BD/2.5BA plus a loft. Custom kitchen with stainless and granite, Propane range. Formal dining room, Large living room with fireplace. Great fenced yard. Offered at \$445,000. mls #79665



A unique high-end motor coach RV park for Class A Motor homes. Gorgeous landscaping, RV pad and added coach house with living area and kitchen with refrigerator, sink and full bath. Walk to town Offered at \$225,000. mls #79918



Updated mountain home. 3BD, den and a huge multipurpose room in the main house plus a guest room and full bath above the 2 car garage. Large deck and covered porch. View of distant mountains. Offered at \$875,000. mls #73201



Great log cabin with rock fireplace. Open great room, dining room, kitchen, hardwood floors and split floor plan. Large open back deck with winter view of Rabun Bald Mountain and front covered deck for rockers. One car garage. 17-acre community lake Osage. MLS# 67737, Offered at \$299,000.



A total of 79.93 acres! Formerly a thriving cattle ranch with 2 homes, 2 barns, tractor and camper sheds and a garage/workshop. Hay producing grounds, large garden spots, timber, 2 creeks and numerous natural springs. Long range mountain and pastoral views. Asking \$975,000. mls #82477 & #82525



Exquisite home on gentle usable lot. Living room with fireplace, large deck and screened porch. Master suite on main level with ensuite bath with stained glass window. Den/office, 2 car garage. Upstairs has 2 bedrooms, Gallery/media room and area for expansion. \$695,000. mls #79670



2BD/2BA. Old Highlands charm in town. Log cabin built in 1947. Old wood floors and walls. Upgraded kitchen and new large covered screened porch with ridgeline view. Walk to Mirror Lake and town. Offered at \$369,000. MLS#76874



3BD/2BA on Elm Court. Main level living room with super mountain view. Large deck. Cheery kitchen, 2 master bedrooms with baths. Terrace level has deck, bedroom, bath, family room Large 2 car garage. Offered at \$350,000. mls #80386



Park-like 23 acres is unrestricted, has over 1000' of Clear Creek flowing through it and is just 5 minutes from downtown Highlands! Tall trees and native shrubs surround the entire property providing total privacy. Furnished guest house, and a 3BR/2BA one-level older home with sunroom and large playroom. Offered at \$1,000,000 MLS#82493



Great price on this walk to town cottage built in 2002. 3BD/2.1BA Stone Fireplace, great room open to kitchen and dining. Master suite on main with 2 guests upstairs. Offered at \$298,000. MLS # 81145



In town. Excellent rental potential. Walk to town, Bascom, Mirror Lake. Split floor plan excellent for two family vacations. All Hardwood flooring. Granite. Stainless. New large propane for extended winter use. Stack Stone fireplace. Outdoor campfire pit. \$349,000. mls #69499



4BD/4.5 BA on a large lot. Designer finishes throughout, with great room spaces and a huge dressing area and walk-in closet. Huge covered screened porch with tree house feel. A workshop and 2 car garage. Furnishings are negotiable. Offered at \$1,695,000. mls #80040



End of the road privacy with wonderful grounds. 3BD/3.5BA plus room for expansion with unfinished room over garage, loft and terrace level family room. Covered deck off back which overlooks a large waterfall and wading pond. Offered at \$1,100,000. mls #82514

HCP's 'VANYA ...' runs through Sept. 6 at PAC

An accomplished cast of six local actors has been earning many laughs at Highlands Performing Arts Center (PAAC) in the Highlands Cashiers Players production of "Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike," winner of the 2013 Tony for Best Play.

This delightfully funny comedy, directed by Virginia Talbot, continues this week, Thursday through Sunday, September 3—6 at PAC. The plot concerns the relationships of three siblings—Vanya, played by Michael Lanzilotta, and Sonia (Lauretta Payne), who live in the family home, and glamorous Masha (Adair Simon), who returns with her boy-toy Spike (Chris Hess), planning to sell the house. The strange housekeeper Cassandra (Frannie Oates) uses her voodoo skills to help thwart Masha's plans as Nina (Raina Trent), the lovely young girl next door, catches Spike's wandering eye. And who is Hootie Pie?



Cassandra (played by Frannie Oates).

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike," directed by Virginia Talbot, runs Thursdays through Sundays, August 27 through September 6 at the Highlands Performing Arts Center. Reservations and/or season subscriptions are available at the HCP box office, 828-526-8084.



Charming, cottage style home, conveniently located a short four miles from downtown Highlands. Nestled in a beautiful natural setting with a circular drive. Lovely 3/2 with bonus loft, meticulously maintained and featuring a large back deck, a balcony off the loft and two wood burning fireplaces. This great value is a perfect summer home or year-round residence. **Just reduced to \$379,000!!**

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Reduced! Offered for \$765,000. MLS80561.

Picturesque In-Town Mountain Cottage!



Talk about a charming cottage! White fence, one level living, lovely perennial grounds and a path to the stream! Hardwood floors, glass door knobs and built-in china cabinets but modernized with custom cabinets, lovely kitchen and baths. Screened porch and wonderful living room with a huge skylight!

Offered for \$520,000, MLS82496

Beautiful and Pristine Mountain Cottage!



This charming mountain cottage is pristine in every way! Expansive screened porch, vaulted great room with stone fireplace and Cypress floors. Tuscan-style kitchen with marble countertops, custom cabinets and stainless appliances. The master suite has a new luxury bath with an antique vanity, jetted tub and glass shower and designer tile! Separate guest quarters are adorable.

Offered for \$697,000. MLS82532.

Desirable Satulah Mountain



Sit atop downtown Highlands and be mesmerized by mountain views! New designer kitchen, light and bright rooms, vaulted ceilings, gleaming hardwood floors, lots of windows and an open floor plan. Decks overlook mountain views. Over an acre with paths and a fire pit. Near the conservatory and Sunset Rock.

Offered for \$1,475,000. MLS82267



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...CHECKPOINT from page 6

This most recent checkpoint, conducted in the early evening, Saturday, Aug. 29 by two Highlands Police Officers and seven State Troopers, resulted in multiple DWI arrests. Other recent checkpoints with multiple agencies working together netted numerous traffic violations, including driving without a license or insurance, as well as DWIs.

"These guilty individuals were on the road, during day light hours, waiting in the same line, at the same checkpoint as everyone else – criminals work around the clock, and so do we," said Chief Harrell.

"Unfortunately, we live in a world where criminal activity is not something limited to shadow or late-night escapades; criminals do not rob stores, break into homes, or drive while impaired during a certain time-frame. Impaired drivers do not restrict themselves to operating a vehicle after midnight, someone without insurance or hiding stolen property within their vehicle, does not restrict themselves to operating a vehicle after 11 p.m. I have personally encountered thousands of such criminals during my career, and can attest first-hand, that these encounters are omnipresent," he said.

While Chief Harrell agrees that these checkpoints temporarily disrupt people's evenings, the purpose is to permanently disrupt and deter the mind set of criminals who threaten public safety.

"Oftentimes, we are able to locate wanted individuals for crimes committed in our community and abroad," he said. "For this reason, we cannot notify residents when these checkpoints will occur as that would be counterproductive. Nor can we, or should we, have such measures authorized by elected officials, as this would be a conflict of interest. We serve, unbiasedly, ethically, and with only the best of intentions for our residents."

Chief Harrell said public safety servants are tasked with protecting citizens 24/7 during a time when police are being shot and killed all over the world.

"We often do this without a 'thank you' or recognition, because at the end of the day, our job is to ensure that citizens get home, even when we know there's a possibility that we might not. So, allow me to say, thank you to all of our public safety servants and those who appreciate all we do, and even to those few who are naïve – you're welcome!

"Remember, that five-minute delay in an evening just may have saved a life," he said.

–Kim Lewicki

...CONCERT from page 19

out a card giving their names, the songs they are requesting and the reason they have chosen those songs. Audience members' stories will be told throughout an evening that captures the importance of The Beatles music and how it touches all of us individually. Yesterday and Today is a unique Beatles tribute show.

The Billy McGuigan Band knows and performs every Beatles' song ever written the way it was originally written. Billy McGuigan and his brothers are Air Force brats; when their Dad, a Tech Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, was home from duty, he entertained the boys with his guitar – and his love of the Beatles. They inherited that same love and share it with all of us who have lived our lives with the music of the Beatle. Presented by Beth & Dan Riley.

Tickets are available for these concerts online: highlandspac.org or by calling the box office: 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands

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Andrea Gabbard - Owner/Broker 828-200-6742



"TEXT me for more information about these properties or any properties in the area."

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Christ is the answer

By Candi Kerhoulas

Christ Church of the Valley

More than 2,600 years ago, a man named Isaiah, was compelled by God Almighty to speak to the people of Israel. God's heart had been broken and offended by the conduct of those whom He deeply loved. As a loving Father, He could not let His "kids get away with murder." Isaiah's task was to speak frankly and let the people of Israel know what was on God's mind.

I don't think I would have wanted his job! In a moment you will see why!

He told Isaiah to tell them that:

1) They had rebelled against God Almighty. 1:2

2) They did not know Him, or understand that He alone was their Father. 1:3

3) As a nation, they were sinners. They were weighed down by so much sin! They had abandoned and despised their Holy God. This nation was utterly alienated from God. 1:4

4) God disciplined them, and wondered why they continued in their rebellion. 1:5

5) God compared Israel to Sodom and Gomorrah. 1:10

6) God declared that He was "sick" of their religious activity! He said that their hypocritical ritualism was an abomination to Him. 1:11-14

7) God did not mince words when He told them that He would not answer their prayers, because their hands were full of blood.

When I read this section of the Old Testament, I could not help but think of our beloved U.S.A.!

We, too, are rebels.

We love other things more than God. We do not truly know Him. We masquerade with meaningless religious goings on, while our hearts are far away from Him.

We have committed heinous deeds: Murder, abortions, hatred, racism, greed, love of amassing money, adultery and premarital sex, divorce for any reason, drunkenness and drug abuse, pornography, rape, sexual slavery, and child abuse!

We are unjust and acquit the guilty and punish the innocent. We harbor unforgiveness and seek vengeance.

Unbending pride may be the root cause of most of these! Life has become about #1-ME! We, too, are weighed down with what God calls sin.

God's solution is made known through Isaiah in chapter 1:16-18.

1) quit doing evil!

2) learn to do good.

But how? These changes would be difficult for the nation as well as the individual!

God invites people to COME TO HIM and reason together. He wants a heart-to-heart with us. We need to listen! We need to speak to Him, also. He alone offers a new start. God our Father will erase our sin. It can be blotted out!

"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool." Isaiah 1:18

How can this happen? Our just and Holy God always has a plan!

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 25

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

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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

9814

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

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

John 3:16

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p.

Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell

rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided);

7pm Intercessory Prayer Ministry

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;

Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Troy Nicholson, (828) 526-8425

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11, Choir: 6 p.m.

Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.: 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-524-9463

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,

4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

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Parish office (Father Francis): 526-2418

Mass: Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat. at 4p

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Jerry David Hall • 526-3212

Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359

Rev. Douglas E. Remer

Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a Rite II, 10:30

June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a

Nursery available for Rite II services

Sept 6-Oct 25- Informal Evening Eucharist- 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

Beginning Memorial Day weekend

Horse Cove - Kay Ward 743-5009

Old-Fashion hymn-sing Sunday 7-8p.

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

POLICE & FIRE REPORTS

The Highlands Police log entries from Aug. 16. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Aug. 16

• At 1:30 a.m., Robert Arthur Cauley, 57, of Franklin, was arrested for DWI and for injury to property with a saw/cutting tool.

• At 8:20 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint about amplified music from The Bascom.

Aug. 18

• At 8:50 officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on U.S. 64 east.

Aug. 19

• A little after midnight, Julia Kirsten Henson, 41, of Franklin, was arrested for DWI and for driving without a license when she was stopped on US 64 west.

• At 3 p.m., officers responded to a call about larceny of property at Cullasaja Drive and Mirror Lake Road where a paddle and boat line were taken from a canoe.

Aug. 21

• At 11:30 p.m., officers responded to a call about vandalism and a fight at a residence on Azalea Circle where a domestic argument ended with the suspect breaking a windshield.

Aug. 22

• At 1:04 a.m., officers were called about a fight outside of the

Ugly Dog Pub.

• At 8:50 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

• At 9 a.m., officers responded to a call about illegal dumping on Satulah Ridge Road.

• At 4:38 p.m., officers responded to a call about shoplifting at Potpourri on Main Street where a pair of Costa Del Mar sunglasses valued

at \$160 were taken.

• At 9:20 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Horse Cove Road.

• A little past midnight, Anthony Michael Tiddick, 36, of Franklin, was arrested for vandalism.

Aug. 23

• At noon, officers responded to a call about jewelry valued at \$86,500 being taken from a resi-

dence on Worley Road.

• At 9:25 p.m., Steven Allen Schulz, 63, of Cashiers, was arrested on Horse Cove Road for making an unsafe movement, DWI and failure to comply with license restrictions.

Aug. 24

• At 9:47 p.m., Samantha Heller, 23, of Franklin, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Aug. 26.

Aug. 26

• At 1:21 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cullasaja Club Drive.

• At 2:09 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on N. 4th Street.

• At 10:26 p.m., the dept. responded to a CO2 alarm at a residence on Hickory Knut Gap.

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**...SPIRITUALLY
SPEAKING from
page 24**

Isaiah 53:5-6 says, "But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

Hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, Jesus' death was predicted as the remedy for our sins! Each one of us needs to have our sins washed clean. As a nation, we need to experience forgiveness. It is found in CHRIST ALONE!

His invitation is to all men and women: COME!



Fall 2015



**Rotary Craft Beer Night
at OEI's The Farm
Thurs., September 10th
7-11 p.m.**

Local and Regional Craft
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With John Carter Cash
Will the Circle Be Unbroken

John McEuen
Saturday September 19
8pm
Presented by Ray & Diane McPhail

Three Tenors & a Diva GALA



Saturday
September 26
Presented by
Victor & Bertie Fransen
Sandy Cohn &
Ruth Gershon

Concert: 5pm PAC
GALA: Highlands Falls Country Club
7pm

Billy McGuigen Band



Yesterday & Today:
The Interactive Beatles
Experience
Friday, October 2 8pm
Presented by Dan & Beth Riley

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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.highlandsn.org. Resumes are accepted in addition to a completed application. The Town of Highlands is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (9/24)

Highlands In-Town Open House

Saturday, September 5 | 1:00-4:00pm
628 5th Street



Stop by to see this beautiful home! Spacious, open, light-filled living areas, HUGE storage spaces, an RV garage plus 3-car garage, and so much more. Multiple porches and decks to enjoy the sounds of adjacent Mill Creek, and a large, just updated separate apartment. Incredible detail - definitely a "must see!" MLS# 81518. Offered for \$1,500,000. DIRECTIONS: From Main Street Highlands, turn left on 5th St. (light before Mountain Fresh). Home is on the left between Laurel St. and Chestnut St.



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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5. 590 View Point Road- off Flat Mtn. Rd. By art collectors/ curator/ gallery owner. Great southern pottery, fine art (paintings, works on paper, photography) glass, jewelry, furniture, woodturnings, antique china & crystal, kitchen, lighting, garden, books. Beverages & snacks! More info at facebook.com/chivaree. 828-526-0566

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-- Cherry Dining Room Table, 60 inches round with 20-inch extension leaf (pads included). One armed chair and 7 side chairs. Cherry China Cabinet. Natural finish Armoire for clothes storage. Cherry Computer Desk. 828-526-3048. (st. 8/20)

LOST

JEWELRY POUCH

lost in Wildwood Mtn. subdivision Monday, Aug. 24. \$1,000 reward. Call 270-952-2499.

HELP WANTED



SALES POSITIONS FOR

BARDO, A RETAIL FURNITURE & home accessory store. Full & part time positions are available. Send resume to Bardo49nc@gmail.com or apply in person 460 Main Street Highlands NC. MUST be able to work weekends. & or Friday & Saturday nights. Also able to lift over 50 lb. (st. 7/23)

AFTER SCHOOL CHILD

CARE PROGRAM ASSISTANT needed. Approximately 3-3.5 hrs. Mon.- Fri. Call 828-482-0326. (st. 9/3)

PART-TIME HOUSE

CLEANER—Highlands area. Night-time hours 5:30 or 6 to 9:30 or 10 p.m. some days PRN. Non smoker. 828-421-3934. Must be dependable and have cell phone. (9/3)

BOX OFFICE STAFF

NEEDED. The Highlands Playhouse is looking for part time box office staff to assist with movies. Must be personable, mathematically

inclined and have reliable transportation. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Stop in the box office to pick up an application. Call 828-526-2695 with any questions. (st. 8/20)

HORSE HELP NEEDED

2-3 days per week in Blue Valley area for 2 horses. Must have prior horse experience. 526-2296. (st. 8/20)

ALTITUDES AT SKYLINE

looking for Waitstaff. Call Eric at 828-526-2121. (st. 8/20)

ALL LEVELS OF CARPENTERS NEEDED.

Looking for long-term employment. Labor to trim carpentry. Must have reliable transportation and tools. Pay based upon experience. Benefits offered. Transients need not apply. References will be checked. Call 828-526-4929. (8/20)

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

WANTED for full-time in fast paced office. Duties include but not limited to: answering phones, dog

walking, bookkeeping and cleaning up literal and figurative messes. Qualifications: Computer literate and looking for long-term employment. Requirements: Highly motivated, high tolerance level for bs and sense of humor Benefits offered, will train, pay based on experience. Background checks will be performed on all applicants. 828-526-4929. (8/20)

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 828-526-2262 or email resume to store@TJBmen.com. (st. 8/13)

NOW HIRING 2 housekeepers, Waitstaff, Cook, C.N.A. and Med Aide. Please apply at Chestnut Hill in Highlands NC, (828)526-5251. (st. 8/13)

PART-TIME CLERK/

BOOKKEEPER POSITION with Quickbooks experience 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 HighlandsBBQCompany@gmail.com (st. 7/2)

HIGHLANDS UNITED

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

SKYLINE LODGE needs a housekeeper. Drop by or call Janet at 828-526-2121 (st. 8/13.)

THE DRY SINK on Main is hiring for a sales floor position through end of year. Positive, energetic, customer service oriented

person needed to work in busy retail environment. Full time including weekends needed. Apply in person or email: contact_us@thedrysink.com

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Must have experience. Good hours, good pay. Call 828-384-1260. (st. 6/25)

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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)

MAIN STREET INN AND BISTRO

now hiring servers, hostess, bussers and line cooks, experience required. Please call Robbie @ 828-526-2590. (st. 4/30)

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 29

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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)

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RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE

HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN HOME for sale. Approx 3,000 sq ft. rustic country style 20 min from town. \$359K Call 813-253-2899. (8/13)

CABINS FOR SALE/RENT. Located

on Sawmill Road in Clear Creek. 4.63 acres. Call 828-526-2720. Price Negotiable. (7/27)



LAKE HOUSE IN HEATHERSTONE. Seven miles from Highlands. 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Large Rec Room plus Bonus Room. Health Forces Sale. \$199,000. By Owner. Call 706-746-3046.

2BED/2BATH 1.20AC. Fantastic views & Privacy \$88,999. Call 842.2050 706.782.9728. Cypresslanesale@facebook.com (st. 8/7)

ITEMS FOR SALE

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STEINBACH NUTCRACKERS - Christmas Carol Series Original boxes, some signed. \$125 each. 828-526-4717 or 772-284-3283. (9/10)

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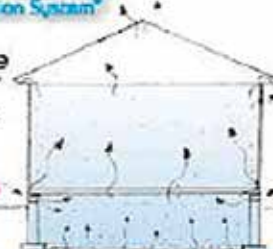
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