

Franklin man arrested for starting two small USFS fires

Major fires still under investigation

Since thousands of acres of National Forest lands have burned in and around Macon County since late October, authorities are sending a message to

those who may be involved The USFS and Macon County mean business and they made the first arrest in the case.

Last week, the Macon County

Sheriff's Office assisted the United States Forest Service in arresting Franklin Eugene Mann of Franklin

Mann has worked for Macon

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County since February of this year working as a convenience center attendant and prior to that he worked in the Town of Franklin's •See ARRESTED page 3

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H-C Land **Trust gets** Robert B. Dupree Award

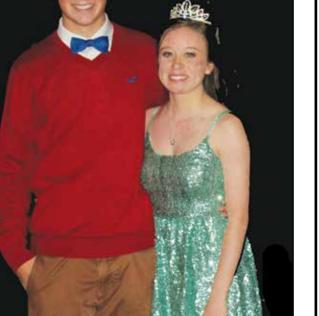
The Town of Highlands Chamber of Commerce at its Annual Event on October 27. 2016 honored the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust by awarding it the Robert B. Dupree Award for Outstanding Community Service. This award has been given 34 times since 1990. The award is given in honor of Robert B. Dupree to a deserving person or group for their religious, educational, or civic contributions to the town of Highlands.

The Land Trust, one of the oldest in the nation currently protects over 3,000 acres in more than 90 places; continues to play a supporting role in developing Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park; promotes environmental education; and continues to wisely

•See H-C LAND TRUST page 5

The SUMMINER HOUSIE 'Home Furnishing Center' Open Mon. through Sat. 9a-5p 2089 Highway 106 828-526-5577

Homecoming King & Queen



Highlands School seniors Benj Miller and Emily Crowe were crowned King and Queen at the Homecoming Dance Saturday night in Coleman Hall of the First Presbyterian Church. See more pictures on page 16. Photo by Katie McCall

Student researchers to present findings Dec. 14

This August the Highlands Biological Station (HBS) welcomed to its campus 10 students from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) for a semester-in-residence program where students live and learn on the HBS campus.

Now in its 16th year, the Highlands Field Site is a program offered by the UNC-CH Institute for the Environment. The coursework includes mountain biodiversity, landscape analysis (GIS), conservation biology, southern Appalachian culture, and an internship research experience. At the end of the semester, students present the results of their research at a public closing ceremony.

Research is a significant facet of the program. Each student conducts an internship project with mentors from other local conservation organizations who guide them in their research.

The projects are diverse. This year students are working with staff from Coweeta Hydrologic Lab. the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Highlands Nature Center and the Highlands Audubon Society, Mississippi State University, United States Forest Service, and staff at the Highlands Biological Station. As a group, the students also conduct a "Capstone" research project under the guidance of Steve Foster from Watershed Science Inc. in Franklin, North Carolina.

This year, the group studied the ecology and health of Whitewater River, a tributary of the Savannah River, in order to better understand how human activity in the uplands affects the Savannah River Basin.

The Highlands Biological Station cordially invites the public to hear the students present their research during their closing ceremony on Wednesday, December 14 from 2-4pm in the seminar room of the Coker Laboratory, 265 North Sixth Street,

•See RESEARCHERS page 21



• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Town Board to wrap up 2016

The final meeting of 2016 for the Highlands Town Board is tonight at 7 pm at the Highlands Conference Center next to the ball field. It will be an interesting session.

A main item on the agenda will be a report on the town audit by representatives from Martin and Starnes Certified Public Accounts. As in past years, they conducted an audit of all town finan-

cial transactions this fall. During the audit one could see their accountants in the town hall conference room going through stacks of papers and documents. The auditors had access to all town financial documents.

After they completed the audit Martin and Starnes sent a copy of the audit to the North Carolina Local Government Commission. The LGC will review the audit with their accountants. If the LGC sees problems, or has concerns, the town will be notified and required to correct any problem without delay.

Preliminary information from Martin and Starnes is that the town will have a clean audit again this year. One area of concern that they have pointed out is the need for the town to review and assess operating costs in the sanitation department. As a town business enterprise, the sanitation de-

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Mayor Pat Taylor

partment, like the water, sewer and electric departments, is expected to be self sustaining.

That leads to our next major item on the agenda, a report by Lamar Nix on costs to operate commercial garbage collection. As has been reported all this summer and fall, while the overall operation of the sanitation department has been solvent, there are projected shortfalls in the commer-

cial collection side. The town staff has been analyzing the problem for several months. They shared their preliminary findings with the board in October. The commissioners directed the staff to develop specific proposals to resolve the problem which will be presented tonight.

The board will now have a specific plan to review and possibly modify before final approval and implementation. A blanket rate increase in commercial trash collection is not part of the plan. Instead, the staff has developed a formula of service based on the amount of garbage a business generates and the number of weekly pickups required. The proposed plan calls for each customer's account to be carefully reviewed. For some accounts adjustments will be made to insure an adequate rate is applied. In some instances the amount of service versus the rate charged has gotten out of balance, and there lies the problem. The staff believes the proposed plan will generate over \$50,000 more in revenue yearly in the commercial side, thereby making it totally self-sustaining as required by the Local Government Commission.

The board will also go into closed session concerning the selection of a new town manager.

I anticipate that an announcement naming the new manager could be made after the closed session or shortly thereafter. I also believe the resolution and judge's order in the Shearl vs the Town of Highlands case will be made by the end of the month.

BURNING BAN

With the current rains I have modified the burning ban to be the same as the state and county requirements of no outside burning beyond 100' of an occupied dwelling.

I also recommend no open burning such as campfires, but rather in contained

•See MAYOR page 3

Silver linings & feel good moments

Dear Editor,

Recently I've needed some spirit, some grace, and a reminder of why I do what I do. When things feel daunting I try to find a silver lining and a feel good moment...

So that being said, I decided to focus on HANDS and our annual Christmas day dinner. I pull out my spiral notebook and inhale deeply as I begin the reservation process. Within the first few bookings I begin to hear all the familiar voices and am honored that they make that call again and again each year. I realize this is more than just a holiday meal, it is the coming together of over 350 people also showing their love and commitment to Highlands and our nonprofits. They smile, shake my hand and thank me. The thanks are why I'm baffled. I'm here because people want this, because it makes them feel good, because this is their tradition.

With that I have a feel good moment and see the silver lining.

Silver linings are priceless these days. We should all be searching for them and when we find them rejoice and treasure them

Tis the season... I love my town, I love a good old fashion tradition and don't we all love a feel good moment.

For more information on HANDS and the Christmas day dinner, please call 828.526.9419.

Laura Huerta Director, HANDS & Owner, Lakeside Restaurant

Testing proctors are needed at Highlands School



End of Course testing for our high school students begins on December 16, 2016. The State of North Carolina requires that certain settings have proctors in addition to the administrator of the tests. Every year, we solicit volunteers to assist us with our testing schedule as proctors. Volunteers cannot proctor in their child's or a relative child's classroom. However, we have a number of test settings, so we will be able to use you somewhere.

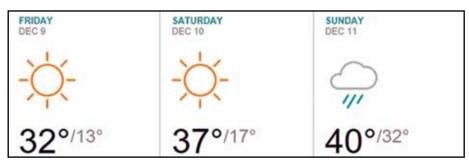
Generally tests begin at 8:00 AM and end about 11:45 most days. Some settings require longer sessions. If you are available to proctor regular settings or longer settings, please let us know.

Please check the dates below and contact us at 828-526-2147 or by email (see email addresses below) if you are able to assist us with our testing this year.

TESTING DATES: December 16 (Friday), December 19 (Monday), December 20 (Tuesday), December 21 (Wednesday).

Thank you for supporting our school! Nicole Lui (nicole.lui@macon.k12.nc.us) or Frances Beck frances.beck@macon.k12.nc.us).

•WEEKEND WEATHER•



For real-time weather and the extended forecast go to www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather

• OBITUARY • Jason Lee McCall

Jason Lee McCall, 41, of Cashiers passed away on Saturday, December 3, 2016. Born in Jackson County, he was the son of Stella Moss McCall of Cashiers and the late Ottis McCall.

Mr. McCall worked for McCall Property Management. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, and he enjoyed looking for artifacts, playing golf and

spending time with his family. He was a member of Living Redeemer Assembly of God Church where he was an Elder and Sunday school teacher as well as a leader in First Step Ministries.

In addition to his mother he is survived by his wife, Katie McCall; one daughter, Paige McCall of the home and one son, Dylan McCall of the home; his grandfather, James Moss of Cashiers; a sister,



Felecia Hinshaw of Knoxville, TN; two brothers, Tony McCall and Michael McCall both of Cashiers and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Friday, December 9, 2016 at 5 pm at Cashiers Baptist Church with Rev. Scottie Patrick, Rev. Nathan Moss, Rev. Scott Holland and Rev. Todd Moss officiating. The family will receive

friends Thursday, December 8th from 6-8 p.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Compassion International, Colorado Springs, CO 80997.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the McCall family. Online condolences are available at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

...ARRESTED continued from page 1

maintenance department. Based on interviews with authorities, Mann said that he started the fires using kitchen matches and did so because he was upset after his wife left him. Mann was quoted during interviews saying that he "wanted to see something burn," and started the fires because he "was bored."

Mann, 49, is charged with one count of destroying real property of the United States by means of fire. The charge carries a mandatory penalty of five years in prison and a maximum of 20 years in prison.

Mann appeared in Federal court on Monday, December 5 for a detention hearing. After appearing before U.S. magistrate Judge Dennie Howell, Mann was held without bond awaiting trail.

On Monday during his detention hearing, Mann waived his right to a detention hearing and the Court granted an indefinite continuance of the hearing for cause. Mann was remanded to the custody of the Attorney General for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal.

According to allegations in the affidavit filed with the criminal complaint, on October 27, 2016, a wildfire was reported on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Road 388, com-

•See ARRESTED page 7

...MAYOR continued from page 2

structures such as outdoor fireplaces, fire pits and grills. Given what happened in Gatlinburg, outside burning during high wind events should be avoided.

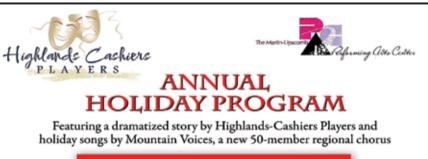
I am not rescinding my proclaimed

state of emergency. We are still not over the drought, and a change in the weather pattern could quickly put us back in the same serious situation.



The family of Allan Chastain would like to say thank you to all who called to ask how he was. We would like to say think you to the doctors and nurses who took care of him. We would like to say think you for the food that was brought and thanks especially for the prayers. Allan was a tremdous person wh loved the Lord.

The Chastain Family





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...H-C LAND TRUST continued from page 1

steward its lands.

The folks that did all the hard work to earn this award remain hidden behind the scenes and include 17 Board members, numerous retired Board members, four staff, one Americorps member, 17 Stewardship volunteers, and over 500 members. In a random act of transparency the responsible parties are named below.

Current HCLT Board Members: Walter Wingfield (President), Jeffrey Zahner (Vice President), Carlton King (Secretary), William Mauldin (Treasurer), Sandy Barrow, Bob Bryan, Gina Cogswell, Sharon Cole, Clare Ellis, John Manor, Alan Marsh, Kathie Marsh, Richard Melvin, Amy Patterson, Karen Patterson, Hillrie Quin, and Tom Tracy.

HCLT Staff: Gary Wein (Executive Director), Julie Schott (Development Director), Kyle Pursel (Stewardship Coordinator), and Sarah Pursel (Education Coordinator and Development Assistant).

Conservation Trust for North Carolina Americorps members: Paige Engelbrektsson and her merry gang of Stewardship Volunteers: John Akridge, Tammy Allman, Jim Chance, Lawrence Dimmitt, Tom Herbort, Michael Kettles, Susan Kettles, Michael Levine, Leila Marion, Nancy Mc-Crory, Amy McKenzie, Lynn Miller, Phil Miller, Kay Moore and family, Joe Pritchard, Marsha Shmalo, Glenda Zahner, and Brittney Lagasse.

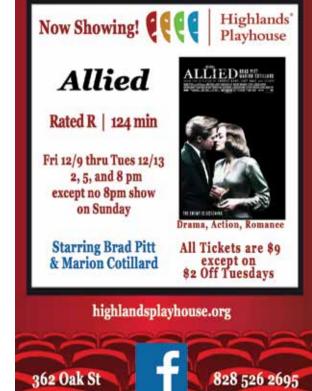
HCLT Members: too many to name here but you know who you are and if you aren't a member please join us in doing great things for the Town of Highlands and Cashiers. We depend on the generosity of grantors and individuals in our community and we need your support.

To learn more about the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust check out our website at www.hicashlt.org or call us at 828-526-1111. Together we are saving our most treasured places for ours and future generations.



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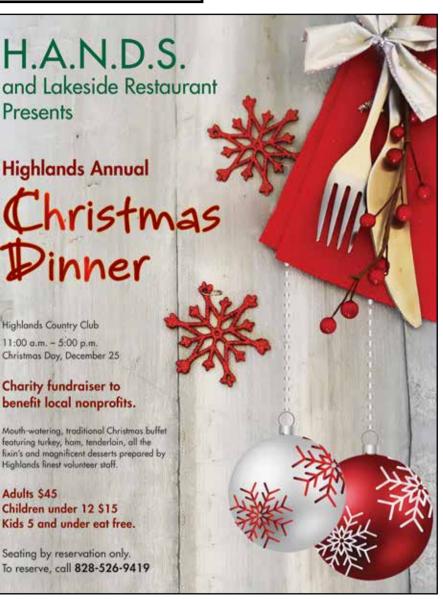


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• The Ink Penn •

Christmas Cats

Kathy Manos Penn

Tive had a few cats through the years, starting with Baggins and Swoop. We were in our Lord of the Rings phase when we named them – long before there were Lord of the Rings movies. Both cats liked to sit on the window sill and bat ornaments off the tree.

Cleo was next, inherited when she attempted to climb my Mom's custom drapes the day after she was given to Mom as a Christmas gift. At my house, she too took to batting

ornaments off the tree. Fortunately, most of my ornaments back then were handmade—crocheted and cross-stitched—and not breakable.

We soon added Moocher to the mix, named for Minnie the Moocher, sung by Cab Calloway in The Blues Brothers. Moocher's Christmas claim to fame was climbing straight up the trunk of the Christmas tree without knocking it over. I reached in and pulled her out of the tree without disturbing the lights or a single ornament.

Dancer, my little white cat, innocently curled up beneath the tree, where she stealthily batted the ornaments off the lower limbs. She never ventured any higher hunting ornaments and lost interest in the tree as she aged. Eventually, she was only interested in the heat from the wood burning stove, and she stayed curled up near or beneath it most of the winter. Dancer was 22 when she went to Kitty Heaven in mid-December one year, and I had the first catfree Christmas of my adult life.

The next year, along came Puddin', who was fairly nonchalant about her first tree. She spent plenty of time looking picture perfect on the tree skirt but didn't attack the ornaments. On the other hand, she was especially intrigued by the containers of sugared peanuts being prepared for friends.

This year is another story. She seems to consider the tree skirt her personal hide-

away, from which she launches attacks. She hunkers down behind a package, thinking I'm sure, that we can't see her. Or, she darts across packages and around the tree as though running an obstacle course. She's also decided that the tree stand is her new water bowl. Despite all the time she spends beneath the real tree as "camo kitty," she still hasn't paid much attention to the ornaments. She's fascinated, however, by the old glass Woolworth's ornaments on our

small artificial tree, and insists on chewing the tree limbs.

Those ornaments, which belonged to my mom, are easily 40-45 years old, and so far, she has only gently nudged them. That doesn't mean all the Christmas decorations are intact, though. I was upstairs in my office on a phone call one day when I heard a loud thud. My husband came upstairs to mouth, "Puddin' made a mess," and he says that when she knocked the eight-inch snow globe off the table, she stood stock still with her eyes wide before taking flight. We didn't see her for several hours after the snow globe burst into pieces.

There's only two-and-a-half weeks remaining until Christmas when Puddin' will have paper and ribbons to attack, so I'm hopeful that she's been suitably subdued by the snow globe incident and we'll remain accident-free until the decorations come down. And you cat lovers out there are thinking, "Sure, you can tell yourself that..."

**>

Kathy Manos Penn is a Sandy Springs resident now happily retired from a corporate career in communications. Find her book, "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday," locally at The Molly Grace or on Kathy's website at www.theinkpenn.com. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com.



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...ARRESTED continued from page 3

monly referred to as Board Tree Road. which is in Macon Co., and within the Nantahala National Forest. The fire was named "Grape Cove." Court documents allege that the initial investigation of the fire determined that it was set intentionally. Additional investigation revealed that five other fires had been set in close proximity to the Grape Cove Fire, however they appeared to have gone out on their own. As alleged in court documents, over the course of the investigation of these small fires, law enforcement located several wooden stem matches. USFS firefighters conducted suppression of the wildfire, which burned approximately 15 acres.

According to allegations contained in filed court documents, on November 22, 2016, a wildfire was reported at the end of U.S. Forest Service Road 763, commonly referred to as Jones Creek Road, by someone who identified himself as "Keith Mann." USFS firefighters responded to the fire and took immediate suppression action. The fire was contained at approximately one acre and was named "Jones Creek." As alleged in the criminal complaint, law enforcement became aware that a suspicious vehicle, identified as a mid-sized Chevrolet pickup, had been observed in the area.

According to allegations in the complaint, on November 23, 2016, law enforcement returned to the fire site. While there, law enforcement observed a small cardboard box located at the origin of the fire, with numerous burned wooden stemmed matches next to the box. According to allegations in the charging document, on the same day, law enforcement identified the caller who placed the call to Macon County 911 to report the second fire as the defendant, Keith Mann. Law enforcement made contact with Mann who admitted to setting the fires both on Board Tree Road and on Jones Creek Road.

Mann is responsible for damage to 16 acres of forest fires, but authorities are still searching for additional information on the other fires that caused significant damage in Macon County. The fires remain under investigation and arson is still expected in most cases.

While an arrest has been made in two of the smaller fires that have caused damage to Macon County, ongoing rain throughout the weekend has provided another form of hope and comfort for residents. Both Macon County and the town of Franklin have lifted their burn bans due to the significant rainfall. Highlands is keeping the ban on man- made fires beyond 100 feet of an occupied residence.

On Monday, in his last act as a Macon County Commissioner, Chair Kevin Corbin signed a resolution lifting the state of emergency, a sign that conditions are continuing to improve and things are getting back to business as usual.

New BOE officers were sworn in Monday



Monday, Dec. 5, the Macon County Board of Education held a special called meeting to administer the oath of office to returning board members, Jim Breedlove, Stephanie McCall and Melissa Evans. Vic Perry, Macon County Clerk of Court administered the oath. Following the oath of office, a board chairman and vice-chairman were elected. Jim Breedlove was elected Chairman and Tommy Cabe was elected Vice-Chairman. In addition, Joint Facilities Review Committee Liaisons were appointed. They are Cabe and Fred Goldsmith.



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BREAKFAST

Full breakfast made to order every morning until 11:00 am Cage-free eggs, waffles, french toast, sausage, ham, homemade biscuits, muffins, croissants. Espresso bar and coffee roasted in-house.

LUNCH & DINNER

Grill

Every day from 11:00am - close Fresh angus burgers, fresh Natural chicken breasts, fish or chicken tenders, cooked to order, hand-cut fries, salads, homemade soups, daily specials. See our website for more info.

Pizza

Every day from 11:00am - close Authentic Neapolitan and NY deck oven pizzas made from scratch. Pasta bowls, daily specials and weeknight dinner specials. See our website for more info.

Soup & Salad Bar Mon-Sat 11:00am – close Fresh salads, homemade dressings, soups, chili and more. \$9.99 each (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)

Weekday Lunch Special Monday – Friday 11am to 2pm Pizza, pasta, soup and salad bar Continuous fresh pizza from our pizza ovens, pastas, fresh breads from our bakery, plus the entire soup and salad bar... \$9.99 each (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)

SUNDAY SOUTHERN BRUNCH BAR

Every Sunday from 11am – 3pm Skillet fried chicken, country angus steak, skillet corn, biscuits & preserves, mashed potatoes, veggies, cobbler, plus the entire soup & salad bar. \$11.99 (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)

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Monday: choose either: Four chicken and four cheese enchiladas, refried beans, monterey rice, homemade tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream. Ór... 24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken tenders and hand cut fries.

\$21.95 serves four.

Tuesday: Made in-house Italian sausage laságna and a large house salad. \$21.95 serves four

Wednesday: Chicken or steak pot pie and a large salad. \$21.95 serves four

Thursday: Roasted meatloaf with mashed potátoes, gravy and a large salad. \$21.95 serves four

Friday: Wild caught fried shrimp, baked potatoes, hush puppies & coleslaw. \$24.95 serves four

Saturday: In-house smoked bbg, coleslaw, apple and bacon-baked beans, and yeast rolls. \$21.95 serves 4

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Baked Penne Pasta: Italian sausage, onion, bacon and mushrooms in white sauce. Comes with garlic bread & salad \$21.95

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Elected officials sworn in Monday night at MC **Commission meeting**



At Monday's continued MC Board of Commission meeting. Senior Resident Superior Court Judge William H. Coward and his assistant Jane Capman administered the oaths of office to Commissioner Paul Higdon and newly elected Commissioner Karl Gillespie. That night Commissioner lim Tate was unanimously elected Chairman of the MC Board of Commission and Commissioner Ronnie Beale was elected Vice-Chair. The vote for Beale wasn't unanimous. however, Commissioner Paul Higdon voted no.





Highlands Rec Park

Dinner 4-30-6:30pm

Auction

6-30-10-00er

Pasta Buffet

4:30pm-6:30pm

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7/plate and Peter Wood

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Saturday, December 17th Highlands Rec Park

• Highlands Area Events •

Live via Satellite the MET Opera's L'Amour De Loin at PAC



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will present Live via Satellite the MET Opera's L'Amour De Loin on Saturday, December 10 at 12:55pm. Aquitaine, 12th century. Jaufré Rudel, Prince of Blaye, yearns for a distant love but is convinced he will never find it. A Pilgrim from overseas asserts that the woman he seeks does exist. Jaufré can no longer think of anything but her. Back in the East, the Pilgrim meets the Countess of Tripoli, Clémence, and tells her that a prince-troubadour celebrates her in his songs as his "love from afar." Offended at first, she later begins to dream of this strange and distant lover. And the story continues. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street Highlands

Highlands Community Christian Chorale Concerts



Everyone is cordially invited to attend the Highlands Community Christian Chorale Christmas concerts which will take place at Highlands First Presbyterian Church at 5pm on Saturday, December 10 and Sunday, December 11. Dr. Michael Lancaster, conductor of the Asheville Symphony Chorus, is serving as the Artistic Director for this year's concerts. Dr. Lancaster also serves as Director of Worship/ Music at First Presbyterian Church. The concerts will be accompanied by a 16-piece orchestra. Pianist Bryan Heller is serving as chorale accompanist. A reception will follow the Sunday, December 11 concert. The church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

First Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men's Meeting at 7 pm

Mondays

• The Food Pantry of Highlands is located behind Highlands United Methodist Church and is open 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Donations may be dropped off in the drop box at the Methodist Church (Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

•At the Rec Park, High Cardio Zumba Fitness with Certified Instructor Tiffany Austin at 5:25 p.m.

Mon. & Wed.

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

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Mon. & Thurs.

• The Joy Program at HUMC from 11:30a to 1:30p. Includes a free lunch and a variety of programs and games. All seniors are welcome. For more information, call Tricia Smith at 828-338-8167.

Tuesdays

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

• The Humanist Discussion Group meets every Tuesday morning from 10:30-11:30a in the Meeting Room in the back of Hudson Library.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

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

Third Tuesday

• The Macon County Poultry Club meets in Franklin on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Meetings are open to the public of all ages. The meetings are held at the NC Cooperative extension office located at 193 Thomas Heights rd. For informa-

tion call 828-369-3916.

• 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. at First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street beside Bryant's Funnel Home. Call Donita for more info (828) 526-9510.

Ist Wednesdays

• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:30pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

Tuesday and Thursdays

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

• Pickle ball from 11:30a to Ip in the gym at the Rec Park.

3rd Wednesdays

• Recently released movies

at Hudson Library at 2pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

Thursdays

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

• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at 5 pm at Christ Church of the Valley. Call Lisa 828-506-3555.

2nd Thursdays

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

3rd Thursdays

• Kidney Smart Classes in Franklin: from 4:30-6pm, Angel Medical Center, Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 120 Riverview St. Contact Majestic 828-369-9474

• Kidney Smart Classes in Sylva: from, 7:30am-9am, DaVita Sylva Dialysis Center, 655 Asheville Highway, Contact Sue 828-631-0430

Friday-Tuesday

• Movies at Highlands Playhouse, 2, 5, 8 p.m. SUNDAYS, 2 & 5 ONLY.

Fridays

• Open Duplicate Bridge at I p.m. Be seated by 12:45 a.m.

Third Fridays

•The Senior Dinners are held the third Friday of each month at 12 noon through April.

Saturdays

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

• At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.

• Highlands Marketplace at K-H Park 8a to noon.

• The Bascom Knitters at The Bascom from 10 am until noondownstairs in The Bascom Library.

Thurs., Dec. 8

• The Macon County Can-

HCP Players Annual 'gift' to the community is Thurs., Dec. 15

It definitely is "beginning to look a lot like Christmas" and the Highlands Cashiers Players are welcoming the season with their traditional Holiday Program of music and drama on Thursday evening, December 15, 7 p.m. at Highlands Performing Arts Center, an additional sponsor of the event.

The 40-voice regional chorus, "Mountain Voices," who performed last year for the Players' Holiday Program, have been invited to return by popular acclaim and will present several holiday songs, both sacred and popular, from their annual Christmas program.

It wouldn't be an HCP event if something theatrical was not involved, so this year actors will present a dramatized reading of "The Loudest Voice," a humorous and touching Christmas story about a young girl who is chosen to narrate the school's Christmas pageant and achieves tremendous success in spite of her family's initial objections to her participation.

Afterwards, the audience is invited to enjoy refreshments downstairs in PAC's reception room. This is the 20th year of the Highlands Cashiers Players holiday presentation which is free to all, a Christmas gift to the community from the Players and Highlands Performing Arts Center.

• Highlands Area Events •

cer Support Group will have its annual Christmas Party, Thursdayat 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Angel Medical Center, Riverview Street, Franklin. Please bring your favorite finger food and an inexpensive gift to exchange. Everyone is welcome.

Friday Dec. 9

• At Hudson Library, Nationally know "Gold Star Mother" Susan Price, Spokeperson for VAF Veterans ARE Foundation, will talk about the her son Fallen Hero Marine Gunnery Sgt. Aaron M. Keneflick his Bravery and her healing process through her work with VAF and now "Camp Healing," Lake of the Ozark. Missouri It is from 7-8:30 p.m. and is the first of several VAF's Veterans Villages planned for Missouri, N.C. and Fla. Veterans are the Foundation of our Freedoms.

Sat., Dec. 10

• At PAC, The Metropolitan Opera Live via Satellite. L'Amour De Loin at 12:55 p.m. Adults \$26, Members \$22. For tickets call 828-526-9047.

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 10-11

• The Highlands Community Christian Chorale Concert is at Highlands First Presbyterian Church at 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. Dr. Michael Lancaster, conductor of the Asheville Symphony Chorus, is serving as the Artistic Director for this year's concerts. panist. A reception will follow.

Mon., Dec. 12

• The Battle of Sugartown Chapter of the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), will hold its monthly meeting at 11:30 on Sunday in the Boiler Room Restaurant at 1024 Georgia Road in Franklin. All DAR members and prospective members are welcome. For further information, please contact 828-524-2673.

Tues., Dec. 13

• Yoga Highlands Studio is holding an Open House on Tuesday from 5:30 until 7:30pm. Ease into the holidays with this FREE gentle yoga and meditation class focused on stress release. Join us for a toast to celebrate community and to learn more about our winter class offerings. 828-526-8880. 464 Carolina Way

Wed. Dec. 14

• UNC-Chapel Hill student researchers to present findings from 2-4 p.m. at the Highlands Biological Center's Coker Laboratory at 265 N. South Street.

Thurs., Dec. 15

• The H-C Players welcome in the Christmas season with its annual Holiday program of music and drama at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Refreshments will follow downstairs.

Sat., Dec. 16

• Join the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society for this important annual activity. The morning begins at the Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 a.m. Binoculars and expert guidance will be provided. A chili lunch will be provided from 12 noon to 3 pm in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library in Highlands. Email Brock Hutchins at brockhutchins@bellsouth.net for more information.

Sat., Dec. 17

• A benefit for the Smolarsky Family at the Highlands Rec Park. Pasta Buffect 4:30-6:30 p.m., Benefit Auction 6:30-10 p.m. Raffle prices. For more informations,





Santa is ready to hear wishes in his hut in K-H Founders Park. He will be there on Sat., Dec. 10 from 10a to 3p and on Sat. Dec. 17 from 10a to 3p. It's \$5 per shot.

Skate through the holidays at the town's ice rink at K-H Park



The Ice Rink at the K-H Founders Park is open Thurs.-Monday.Thurs.: I-8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. I-10 p.m., Sun., I-5 p.m., Monday is Ice Hockey ONLY from 5-8 p.m. The cost is \$5 but includes skates if you don't have them.. Hot chocolate is also available.

call 828-347-0345 Sun.. Dec. 25

• Highlands Annual Christmas Dinner at the Hudson House at the Highlands Country Club, IIa to 5p. Charity fundraiser for area nonprofits. Adults \$45 and children under 12 \$15. Kids 5 and under are free. Call 828-526-9419 to make a reservation.

Public invited to participate in Audubon's Annual Christmas Bird Count

D e cember is a count month for Audubon. On Friday, D e c e m b e r 16, members and guests of the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will conduct its Christmas



Every winter since 1900 the National Audubon Society has sponsored the Christmas Bird Count. Today, CBCs take place across the U.S., Canada, Latin America, and beyond. The CBC mobilizes over 2400 counting groups including over 60,000 individuals whose counts total upwards of 70 million birds. These yearly bird counts become part of what is one of the largest citizen science databases in the world.

The cumulative bird counts are being used to specify winter bird distributions and the "climate space" in which many of our bird species exist. National Audubon has released "The Audubon Report" focusing on 588 North American bird species and the likely impact of rising temperatures. A shocking 126 North American bird species are projected to lose 50% of their existing ranges to climate change by 2050; another 188 birds could lose half their current range 2080. by Like the canary in the mine, bird data from the CBC are being used to foretell

our collective future. This individual citizen's science initiative is central to this larger ongoing effort.

Last year, a group of 22 counters fanned out in all directions and saw or heard 1139 birds. The species count was 38. These totals were consistent with CBCs in years past given the larger number of observers this year. Some species were present in abundance: 384 Dark-eyed Junco were sighted. Other multiple sightings were made of the American Robin (129), American Crow (112) and Carolina Chickadee (68). Seventy-five Wild Turkey, the bird Benjamin Franklin praised, were seen. Other notable sightings include the American Goldfinch (51), Mallard (46), Northern Cardinal (38), Tufted Titmouse (29) and Song Sparrow (28).

Join the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society for this important annual activity. The morning begins at the Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 a.m. on December the 16th. Binoculars and expert guidance will be provided. A chili lunch will be provided from 12 noon to 3 pm in the rear meeting room of the Hudson Library in Highlands. Email Brock Hutchins at brockhutchins@bellsouth.net for more information or to join the effort. Page 12 - Highlands Newspaper - Thurs., Dec. 8, 2016 - 828-200-1371

Shop Holiday Savings in Highlands!





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Tribal firefighter pleads guilty to setting fire on Indian lands between 2010 and 2014

ASHEVILLE, N.C. – Raymond Neal Swayney, 31, of Cherokee, N.C., appeared in federal court in Asheville Monday and pleaded guilty to intentionally setting fires on Indian lands, announced Jill Westmoreland Rose, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina. U.S. Magistrate Judge Dennis Howell presided over today's plea hearing.

According to information contained in filed court documents, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has the authority to hire temporary Administratively Determined (AD) Firefighters for emergencies in progress within the boundaries of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) to cope with unexpected emergencies caused by fire or extreme fire potential. The hiring of an AD Firefighter is of uncertain, temporary duration.

Once a fire is assigned a fire code, AD firefighters are paid based upon the number of hours they worked in support of that fire code, which includes not only payment for actual firefighting but also post-fire maintenance of equipment, cleaning trucks, etc.

According to court documents, because AD firefighters are only compensated when they are called in for an active fire code. Swavney and others willfully set several wildland fires on the EBCI reservation, and received compensation for fighting the fires. According to court documents, between March 5, 2010 and February 25, 2014, Swayney and others intentionally set seven fires, which destroyed more than 420 acres of tribal lands and cost over \$106,661.98 in BIA funds to extinguish.

Swayney pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to set timber afire and to defraud the United States. The charge carries a maximum prison term of five years and a \$250,000 fine. Swayney is being held pending sentencing. A sentencing date has not been set yet. In making the announcement, U.S. Attorney Rose thanked the United States Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General, for leading the investigation and the Cherokee Indian Police Department, the Swain County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for their assistance with the case.

Assistant United States Attorney John Pritchard, of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Asheville, is prosecuting the case.

Advertising in Highlands Newspaper and online at www.highlandsinfo. com WORKS. For information, call 828-200-1371 or email: highlandseditor@aol.com



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Highlands Annual Christmas Parade – Saturday, Dec. 3





Photos by Kim Lewicki









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Highlands Annual Christmas Parade – Saturday, Dec. 3











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Highlands School Homecoming Dance – Sat., Dec 3 at Coleman Hall







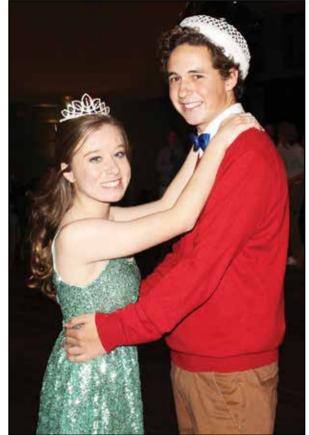




Photos by Sunset Yerbook Staff











BIZ/ORG NEWS

Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices Meadows Mountain Realty Brokers attend special training to build expertise in luxury home market

Judy Michaud, Lynn Kimball, Bill Peavey, Mitzi Rauers, David Bee and Andrea Gabbard with Berkshire Hathaway Home-Services Meadows Mountain Realty recently completed a luxury home marketing training course offered by The Institute for Luxury Home Marketing.

The course - which covered such topics as demographics of the affluent, lifestyle segmentation, trends and amenities in today's luxury home product, and creating a marketing plan for the multimillion dollar property – was taught by Laurie Moore-Moore, President of the Dallasbased Institute for Luxury Home Marketing and author of the book, Rich Buyer, Rich Seller! The Real Estate Agents' Guide to Marketing Luxury Homes.

"The course is a step to-



wards earning the prestigious Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist (CLHMS) designation which The Institute awards internationally to sales professionals who meet performance standards in the upper-tier residential market," said Moore-Moore. These six brokers have over 100 years of combined experience in the Highlands-Cashiers area and work hard to hone the special skills and competencies necessary to provide exceptional service in the fine homes and estates marketplace."

"The training provided new insight about the upper-tier market, helped us polish our skills, and provided valuable networking contacts with other agents across the country who specialize in luxury properties," said Michaud, President of BHHS Meadows Mountain Realty. "In addition, we discovered new and creative tools for promoting expensive homes and estates and new resources for finding buyer prospects. Home buyers and sellers will benefit from our new knowledge."

For insights into the current state of the luxury market, contact any of these fine brokers at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty or email them at info@meadowsmtnrealty.com.



Plan now for 2017! Email for advertising rates: highlandseditor@aol.com



for Men 322 Main St. & Oak St. 526-5029 or 526-1029



SMALL, Dancing LIGHT An Evening of Advent and Christmas Music

Conducted by Dr. Michael Lancaster Accompanied by Bryan Heller, Pianist, and Orchestra



5:00 pm Saturday, December 10 5:00 pm Sunday, December 11 Reception Following

Highlands First Presbyterian Church



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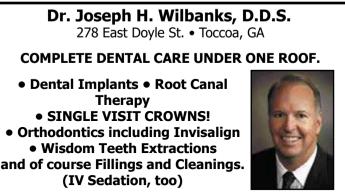


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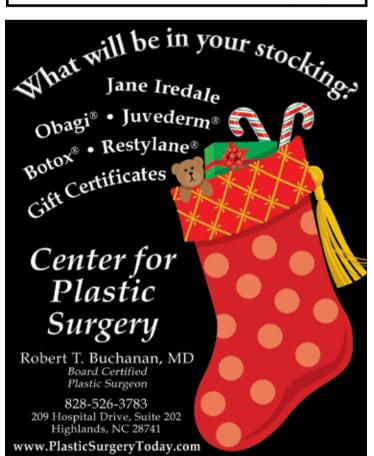


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Penn, you'll find gentle humor and the occasional insight in columns covering a range of topics—pets, holidays, family, patriotism, and the changing seasons. Consider The Ink Penn your looking glass, where you too can catch a glimpse of the magic in life's everyday moments.

Born in New York City and transplanted to the South in high school, Kathy Manos Penn lives with her husband and her four-

Rotary Bingo benefits 'Shop with a Cop'



On Thursday, December 1, the Rotary Club of Highlands partnered with the Highlands police department and the Macon County Sheriff's department to sponsor Bingo.

All net proceeds benefit the Shop With A Cop program which provides holiday gifts for the less fortunate children in our area.

The photo shows Rotarian Bill Edwards with Macon County Sheriff Robbie Holland and the final Super Bingo game winners Doris Long, Highlands police Chief Bill Harrell, and Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor.

Plan now for 2017! Email for advertising rates: highlandseditor@aol.com

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS • Columnist Kathy Manos Penn announces the release of her book `The Ink Penn Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday'

Columnist and blogger by pu Kathy Manos Penn celebrates her 5 year anniversary as weekly columnist for the Dunwoody Crier tion fr

by publishing a collection of her favorite columns. you use a peaceful moyou use a peaceful mo-

Are you looking for a distraction from the nightly news or the Could ful moe? This ist the c lives, p pause ch less reflect.

legged office staff in Dunwoody, Georgia. She taught high school English before embarking on a three-decade career in banking, where, it seemed, she always ended up writing.

While still working in the corporate world, she began a side job as a columnist for the local newspaper. She is

now happily retired from banking but has no plans to retire from the joyful job of writing.

Find her blog and her columns for the Dunwoody Crier, the Highlands Newspaper and Beaufort County Now at theinkpenn.com.

Available in Dunwoody, Georgia shops, at The Molly Grace in Highlands, NC and online at BookLogix.com, Amazon. com and theinkpenn.com

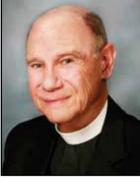
Wed. Kidsquest 6p.: Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

• Spiritually Speaking •

Preparing to celebrate the real reason for the season



By Rev. Dr. Maurice "Rusty" Goldsmith Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Beginning the day after Thanksgiving each year, on the bottom of the front page of The Birmingham News, was a small one-column box that counted down the number of shopping days remaining until Christmas. I made certain that my parents were kept aware of the number, so that they would have plenty of time to buy the Lionel electric train set that I wanted with all my heart and soul.

Many years later I discovered that the Church has done much the same thing since the 6th century. The season of Advent, observed to some degree by two out of every three Christians around the world, (The word "advent" is from a Latin word that means "coming.") reminds us, not of how many shopping days there are until Christmas, but of how many preparation days we have to ready our hearts and souls to receive the Christ Child more fully into our lives, and to prepare for his return as our gracious Judge.

About 10 years ago a group of ministers began a movement that today is known as The Advent Conspiracy. (Check out their website.) It is an attempt to rescue Christmas from the grasp of the secular world, and restore it to a spiritual holy day. They suggest four practices: 1. Worship fully. 2. Spend less. 3. Give more (of yourself). 4. Love all. Their objective is to have us experience Christmas as the life changing, world transforming miracle that it is.

That is of course the intention of the One whose birth we observe with such grand celebration. Those are the primary reasons Jesus came among us in the first place – to give us new life, and to transform the world into the Kingdom of his Father. And it all begins with Christmas.

It took me several years of watchful waiting and loud proclaiming to get my parent's attention, or perhaps their action – not as long as it took the prophets of Israel, or John the Baptist, and of course for entirely different reasons, but long enough. The day finally arrived when I got what I had wanted with all my heart and soul, smoke pouring from the little locomotive as the train circled our Christmas tree.

The day is surely coming when we too will receive the Gift we all have wanted for so long – wanted with all our hearts and souls. I pray that for you these next few days before Christmas – the remainder of this short season we call Advent – will find you worshipping fully, spending less, giving more, and loving all, so that your Christmas will be a time of hope, peace and love, and your life a light to this often dark world.

May our Lord Jesus Christ bless us, and give us all the most glorious Christmas ever.

Proverbs 3:5 • PLACES TO WORSHIP • John 3:16

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965 Sundays: School: 10 a.m., Worship: 11 Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7 Wednesdays: Mid-week praver 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/Communion CHRIST ANGLĬCAN CHURCH Rector: lim Murphy, 252-671-4011 464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers Sun.; 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship 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: 1 la.m. Ist & 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 U. **EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION** The Rev. Dr. Maurice L. Goldsmith, Interim Rector 526-2968 Sundays: Education and choir rehearsal. 9 am. Holy Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30, nursery available Thursdays: Holy Eucharist Rite II. 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: II 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) Sunday School:10 am, Worship Service:11 am GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship 242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814 Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729 Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

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: Praver Service, 6:30 p. HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor Randy Lucas 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 Praver 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 SYNAGOĞUĖ 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. OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH Parish office (Father Francis): 526-2418 Mass: Sun: II 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 a.m. Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study:6 p.m. THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD 1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359 Rev. Rob Wood Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a Rite II, 10:30 June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 1 la 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 Nov. 7 Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Nov. 7

• At 5 p.m., officers responded to a call about a computer being stolen out of a car parked in the Methodist church parking lot on Church Street.

Nov. 21

• At 10 a.m., officers responded to one-vehicle accident on Spring Street.

Nov. 29

• At 2:29 p.m., officers were called to The Pizza Place where a man was communicating threats.

Nov. 30

• At noon, officers were notified of larceny of a credit card and the attemped fraudulent use of it at an ATM.

Dec. I

• At 10:52 a.m., officers were called to The Molly Grace involving a verbal argument between a man and a woman.

• At 2 p.m., officers were called to Entegra Bank where someone was attempting to deposit checks with a forged signature.

Dec. 4

• At 7:30 a.m., officers responded to a call of larceny of firearms, damage to property and larceny at The Lost Hiker where guns and a briefcase with important information was taken from a vandalized vehicle. Damage to the Toyota 4 Runner is estimated at 1,200. Various firearms valued at 1,800 were taken as well as office items including blank checks all valued at 150 were also taken from the briefcase.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Dec. 2. **Dec. 2**

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road.

Dec.3

• The dept. was first-responders to a residence on Big View Drive.

• The dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street.

• The dept. responded to a call of smoke in the vicinity of Satulah Falls Lane.

Dec.4

• The dept. responded to a miscellaneous fire at residence on Cullasaja Club Drive.

Dec. 5

• The dept. responded to a miscellaneous fire at a residence on Dog Mountain Road.

Note:

• The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. would like to remind residents to use caution when cleaning out fireplaces. Ashes should be placed in metal buckets, watered down and placed away from any structures.

...RESEARCHERS continued from page 1



in Highlands.

This will be the students' last academic day in Highlands. Refreshments will be provided. If you would like to know more about the program and read the presentation titles, or if you know of a college-level student who would be interested in the program, please visit www.highlandsbiological.org/unc-ie/.

The application deadline for enrollment in the IE Program at HBS is in February 2017.

The mission of the Highlands Biological Station is to foster research and education focused on the rich natural heritage of the Highlands Plateau. For more information visit www.highlandsbiological.org, call (828) 526-2602 or visit us at 265 North Sixth Street.

Plan now for 2017! Email for advertising rates: highlandseditor@aol.com

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BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS

November Rotary Students of the Month

At its November 29 meeting the Rotary Club of Highlands honored the November Highlands School Students of the Month. Pictured with club Sergeant-at-Arms, Chris Wilkes and school Counselor, Nicole Lui Ross are middle school winner, Calvin Barloga, high school winner, John Murphy and elementary school winner, Evangelina Silverthorn.



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• CLASSIFIEDS •

ITEMS FOR SALE

TOOLS. Table Saw, Wet Saw, Miter Saw, Oscillating Sanders, drills, pressure washer, etc. 828-482-0318. (11/23)

FIREWOOD: Premium seasoned hardwood. Cord, 1/2 cord or 1/4 cord or Rik. Call Matt at 828-482-2214. (st. Oct. 20).

MAHOGANY DINING TABLE W/6 CHAIRS - \$350, OBO, 828 526-4818. (st. 8/4)

ALL FURNITURE, home décor, carpets & more. Sky Valley, GA 561 304-9786 or 706 746-7451. (st. 8/4)

MAYTAG GAS DRYER, \$100. Office furniture by Cashiers Custom Furniture. 2 desks, bookcase, file cabinet. Call 828-226-2083. (st. 7/28) KOBALT DIAMOND SHIELD REGULARTRUCK BED TOOLBOX. Deep low profile full size. 17"x69"x19" fits most full size trucks OBO. Call Frank in Scaly Mountain 828-526-1953. (st. 5/11)

HELP WANTED

PIANIST WANTED FOR SUN-DAY SERVICES AT HOLY FAM-ILY LUTHERAN CHURCH, HIGH-LANDS. One service per week, easy liturgy and 3 hymns, piano only. No choir, so no extra rehearsals. (keyboard available). \$85 per week. Please contact Pastor Margaret Howell at 704-516-7893. Students welcome! (st. 12/1)

EXPERIENCED ELECTRICIANS NEEDED. Call 828-526-5147. (st. 11/22) HAVE OPENINGS FOR WAIT-

Larry Rogers Construction Company, Inc.

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

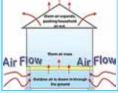
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STAFF AND COOK for Clubhouse dining. Also hiring for C.N.A. for Assisted Living. Apply at Chestnut Hill of Highlands, 24 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands NC. (828)526-5251. (12/24)

CHURCH OF THE INCARNA-TION IN HIGHLANDS is looking for a Nursery Attendant for the 10:30AM Sunday Service three Sundays a month for approximately 2.5 hours. Experience working with children 0-5years old is required. Please contact the church office by phone 828-526-2968 or email at incarnation@ incarnationwnc.org (st. 8/25)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HIGHLANDS, NC, is seeking a parttime director of music, salary DOE. Musical training and experience required. Resumes, including references, may be sent to FBC Highlands, POB 625, Highlands, NC 28741 or emailed to info@fbchighlands.org. 828-526-4153 (st. 8/4)

DEVELOPMENT FOR SALE



Builders/Developers Highlands Investor Opportunity Go to: fallingwatersnc.com (st. 12/8)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT FURNISHED HOME FOR RENT.

2/1.Mt.Lori Dr.Quiet street with no through traffic.Minutes to town.Very well kept with nice furniture and pretty yeard.Wood burning fireplace, open kitchen, deck in back, hardwood floors, garage.\$1,200/mth.Does not include utilities.904-403-8090. (st. 12/8) **3/3 FURNISHED OLDER HOME**, walk to town, fuel oil heat, for year-round rental. \$1050/month. 828-526-5558. (st. 12/1)

ONE/BED ONE BATH, furnished. all utilities paid. Available Dec. 1. Call 828-371-0829. (st. Nov 23)

CASHIERS/SAPPHIRE: 2/2 unf. Condo,SV amenities,pets ok w/approval, 850.+utilities, available now 843-816-4553

CASHIERS/SAPPHIRE - Furnished Split level 3 Bed/ 3 Bath home. Year round Mountain Views. Yearly lease 1,850 per month.Will consider renting 2 Bed/2 Bath level for \$1,250. (561) 346-6400. (12/1)

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT 1575 SQ FT OF COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE Jan 5 at The Shops at Kattle Book \$950 per month For inqui

SPACE AVAILABLE Jan 5 at The Shops at Kettle Rock. \$950 per month. For inquiries call 828-526-9948. (12/1)

APPROXIMATELY 900 S/FAND RECENTLY UPDATED. Ideal for retail/ professional/service. Plenty of parking + excellent visibility for \$1,750/ month. Contact Susie deVille at White Oak Realty Group for details, (828) 371-2079. (st. 7/29)

LOTS/LAND/FOR SALE

LOT 3.4 MILES FROM HIGH-LANDS. 2 acres, beautiful mountain ridge and meadow view with small pond and spring. Off of 64 between Dry Falls and Cullasaja Falls on Turtle Pond Road. Commission offered to agents. \$59,900. (828) 200-0949. (st. 10/6)

VACATION RENTALS



TOWN PLACE 3 bed/3 ba, walk to town condo. Book now! \$2300 week. https://www.vrbo.com/489341. (12/30)

SERVICES

MR. HAULAWAY. Got a cluttered basement, crawl space, attic, garage or shed? Call us today and we'll hawul it away! 828-371-2519 (12/1)

ALL AROUND OFFICE SOLU-TIONS – Bookkeeping Services, Payroll Prep, Payroll Tax Prep, Billing Services, Virtual Assistant, Data Base Management, Administrative Services, Research Assistance, Quickbooks Set-up and Training. Call Mary James at 828-421-0002 or email mjames@allaroundofficesolutions.com (st. 1/15)

HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/ KEVINVINSON: scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing.Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208. (st. 11/17

MOLD AND MUSTY SMELL IN YOUR HOME? Call for free inspection. 828-743-0900.





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