

Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., July 7, 2016

County agrees to give all its libraries more money

Despite electronic media and cable TV, visits to libraries in Macon County reached 230,000 last year. The libraries, which include facilities in Highlands, Nantahala, and Franklin, are available to everyone in county

regardless of age, income, or education level. With digital services, Macon County residents are able to access library services 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

With an increase in usage and an increase in operating costs,

the Macon County Public Library system requested additional funds from the county during last week's special called meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners.

During the 2016-17 bud-

get planning process, the Macon County Public Library requested a 10 percent funding increase from the county, which would have increased its funds from \$1,016,990 to \$1,120,000.

•See LIBRARIES page 6

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Closing health insurance coverage gap could save babies' lives

More babies born in Macon County could survive their first year and live healthier lives if their mothers got health care before pregnancy through Medicaid expansion, according to a new report by NC Child.

The report finds one in

five women of reproductive age (19-44) statewide are uninsured, more than half of whom (about 175,000) fall in the health insurance coverage gap—their incomes are too high to qualify for Medicaid and too low to afford private health care.

Many factors contribute to infant mortality; the environmental, economic, and social conditions of the communities where parents live can play a big role, but we also know that women's health is a strong predictor of future birth outcomes.

Uninsured women are more likely to have unaddressed health issues including chronic conditions like diabetes, obesity, and hypertension that contribute to premature and low birthweight babies—the leading causes of infant mortality in North Carolina.

“Healthy births start with healthy moms,” said Michelle Hughes, executive director of NC Child. “If we want to reduce infant mortality, we need to do a better job providing their mothers with access to health insurance

•See HEALTH page 19

Wild things among us



Bear sightings usually take center stage in Highlands but creatures of a meeker ilk are about – this doe takes her breakfast and dinner in the back yards of residences in town on Oak Street.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

MC yellow school buses to be tracked with GPS

Parents may be able to rest a little easier this fall, as the Macon County Board of Education voted to approve GPS tracking on all yellow school buses in the district.

“You can see where the bus is on the route at all times,” said Macon County Schools consultant Terry Bell. “It refreshes every 10 seconds. If a parent gets home and their kid is not there yet, we can see exactly where the bus is and if it stopped at that house.”

Macon County will be able

•See GPS page 7

4th of July pile up



Just as the MAMA helicopter was circling to land at the ballfield on July 4th, there was a dramatic wreck at NC 28 and Many Road. Hearing the familiar whirring of helicopter blades, folks assumed there were casualties. Luckily no one was hurt when this pickup truck bounced off trees and landed on the parked silver car.

Photo by Roger Lee Wilson

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

About state involvement in local gov't.

The is a control state. One first notices it in the ABC system that controls every aspect of the alcohol business from where liquor can be sold to where it can be consumed. Like the ABC system, the North Carolina legislature controls and checks what municipalities do. It is similar to the federal government checking the constitutionality of state law. The founders of America implemented a system of checks and balances that permeates all levels of government.

Several actions taken in the recent short term of the NC Legislature underscore the control that the state has over towns. North Carolina towns are governed and controlled by the general statutes passed by the legislature.

For instance, a bill was passed this session to study the procedures for changing municipal elections to even years to coincide with state and federal elections. A bill will be introduced at the next session to implement this change in 2020. Now I could grandstand, and declare it is an egregious overreach of power and negation of "home rule" by Raleigh. Home rule is to



Highlands what states' rights is to Raleigh. Both are very convenient charges to counter what one governmental entity is imposing on another. But, it is not that simple.

Prior to 1971, towns and cities in North Carolina had a hodgepodge of election periods, some on even years, others on odd. The legislature studied the issue in 1971 and passed a bill standardizing the municipal elections to odd years beginning in 1973. It didn't matter what a town charter said, all municipal elections would occur in odd numbered years. Basically, all town charters were amended by the legislature to this standard.

Opinions differ. Some folks argue the odd-year election allows voters to focus more on local issues and avoids being overwhelmed by the long ballot of a state and national election. Others counter that odd-year elections guarantee low voter turnout. The NC League of Municipalities has gone on record opposing the change, warning the change may have unintentional consequences.

I would not like to see this change, because I do believe the town elections will be subsumed under the national and state races. But, I have to concede, the folks in Raleigh have the constitutional authority to make the change.

A second proposed bill in a related vein was the proposal to change how the Asheville city council is elected from the current at-large system to a district election plan. It was proposed by an outgoing legislator who had a small part of his district in Asheville. The bill did not pass. Several representatives asserted the people of Asheville should decide their council structure, not legislators in Raleigh.

One never knows the outcome of votes in the capital. Prior to this vote, a bill had been passed a few years ago taking the Asheville municipal water system away from city control and placing it under a water authority. The courts overturned the legislation since the City of Asheville would have been left with outstanding debt from a previous water system expansion without water revenue to service the debt.

The recently passed House Bill 2 regulating who can use which bathroom is another example of this battle between towns

• LETTERS •

Jobs well done; criticism unwarranted

Dear Editor,

Mr. More's letter published in the June 30 edition of your newspaper is a prime example of political correctness and identity politics run amok.

The Mayor's June 23 column did style the Orlando slaughter as a tragic murder and the victims as innocent people, and pious lamentation beyond that would have served no useful purpose. But in Mr. More's opinion, failure to gush constitutes insensitivity. He condemns the Mayor's letter because of a failure to bleed all over the page, express condolence, and offer prayers. With all due respect to Mr. More, it is not the function of a mayor to offer prayers. Indeed, had the Mayor done so, members of the militant atheist community as eager as Mr. More to express outrage would complain of a violation of the separation between civil authority and religion.

And for a mayor of a distant village in the mountains to offer condolences to people in Florida who would never read the paper would have been an empty gesture. Similarly, it would have been wholly inappropriate to offer condolence to a small subset of the population. Had the Mayor offered condolences to the homosexual or transgendered communities, persons of Hispanic descent would no doubt complain that members of that community were the majority of the victims, and that community deserved condolences as well.

The innocent victims of the Orlando attack were Americans, and it is the attack on Americans as Americans—not their plumbing or national origin—that sparks anger and fear among Highlanders, permanent residents and visitors alike, and the Mayor very properly sought to reassure us.

Mr. More then castigates the editor for failing to tell the Mayor what he should put into his column or commenting on it. But again, this is simply not the function of a small town newspaper.

As for Fred's column, it was vintage Fred, whose columns are a refreshing antidote to political correctness and continually point out what is risible in American politics. And the bathroom brouhaha is a prime example.

The most frequently cited estimate is that 700,000 people in the United States, or about two or three tenths of a percent of the population are transgendered, and the Obama Administration thinks it necessary to order schools throughout the nation to go to unimaginable expense and effort to allow people to use whatever bathroom fits their mood at the moment. But it is more than likely that at least that much of the population is sufficiently perverse or, in the case of teenage boys, burdened with an inappropriate sense of humor and/or raging hormones, to barge into bathrooms of the opposite sex falsely claiming the right to do so.

In short, the Mayor, the editor, and Fred all did their jobs, and Mr. More's criticism is unfounded.

John M. Capron
Highlands

• See LETTERS page 3

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Letter Policy:

We reserve the right to reject or edit letters-to-the-editor. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands Newspaper.

• See MAYOR page 7

• WEEKEND WEATHER •



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...LETTERS continued from page 2

Thanks to all for sell-out crowd at park event

Dear Editor,

What a wonderful evening everyone had at the recent low-country seafood boil held to raise funds to complete Phase II of Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park! It was as much fun for all the volunteers as it was for those who attended. A sell-out crowd of more than 200 people came out to support the park and enjoy a lovely cool evening in the new plaza.

While folks on the plaza were enjoying the great food provided by Hudson's Catering of Lexington, S.C., others were stretched out on quilts or sitting in camp chairs in front of the music pavilion listening to Goldie and the Screammers, the band that was part of the Saturdays on Pine concert series. Still others were playing soccer in the street, as a half dozen kids played enthusiastically in the interactive fountain. Thanks to the support from across our community, Founders Park has become a place of multiple venues, where more than one activity can be enjoyed simply by strolling about.

We hope the shrimp boil will become an annual event each summer, not only because of the funds it raises, but because of the fun had by all. We want to thank everyone who helped make this event possible, especially our sponsors and members of the local news media. Event sponsors were Bobby Haynes, Robert and Valerie Lennon, Wilson Gas, Lynn and Martha Howle, Ray and Diane McPhail, Greg Crawford, The Highlander Newspaper, Steve Lucas CPA, Highlands Newspaper, Main Street Nursery, Aery Chiropractic and Acupuncture, Al and Peachy Staley, The Vineyard @ 37 High Holly, WHLC Radio and The Ugly Dog Public House.

Successful as it was, raising approximately \$15,000, the shrimp boil was only the kickoff of an all-out push this summer to finish the park. Much more remains to be done, including the monuments for the town's founding fathers, a restorative water feature, raising the rest of Pine Street with matching pavers as far as Pine Street Alley, and much more greenery along Pine Street Alley and the lower section of Phase II. Several naming opportunities remain for those making major gifts.

• See LETTERS page 11



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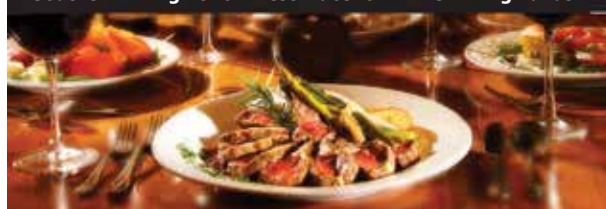
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M F G R O . C O M

• LESSONS FROM THE GAME OF GOLF •

Were your 'defeats' actually 'wins'?

While none of us can play a round of golf with Bobby Jones and only a few privileged individuals will ever play Augusta National, East Lake Golf Club or even Highlands Country Club, we can all benefit from the life he lived. Thanks to Jones's father, Colonel Robert Jones, Scott Hudson and later Mr. Albert S. Happoldt, everyone who visits the Highlands plateau has a connection to the late Bobby Jones. Even if the connection is only beating the summer heat or simply driving past Highlands Country Club; fortunately, there was more to Bobby Jones than the game of golf.

"Some people can learn only by having education drubbed into them; and I want to say right now that I never learned anything from a match that I won."

The above quote is from Jones's book *Down the Fairway* in 1927. This is three years before completing golf's greatest achievement, The Grand Slam. In one year, Jones won all four major golf titles. At the pinnacle of his golfing career, Bobby Jones retired from competitive golf at the age of 28 in 1930. You will hear some commentators and weekend golfers alike state, "Jones is still the greatest that ever played the game." But for him to walk away from golf at the height of achievement tells us there was more to Jones than the game of golf. This is where we can receive our "life lesson" from Jones.

In the game of golf, like life, you will have to deal with unfortunate circumstances. Some of these circumstances



Davis Picklesimer

are by your hand and some at the hands of others. Bobby Jones chose to learn, grow and share these unfortunate circumstances. He wasn't defined by them. Instead, Jones was able to see his story in the context of a larger story. For him, it was easier to write about his "drubbings" than his successes. How Jones viewed his "lean years" before he started winning prepared him to be a Champion both on and off the course. This summer as you enjoy the coolness of Highlands, take a moment to look back over your journey and see where some of your defeats became later

wins.

• *Davis Picklesimer, a Highlander returned home, is the new co-owner of the MountainTop Wine Shoppe and a Chaplain. From time to time, he will be writing words to think about.*

...LIBRARIES from page 1

While the county's budget did not reflect the increase for the new budget year, county officials did vote to allocate \$20,000 from the county's 2015-16 contingency for the library to use at their discretion.

Tuesday night's \$20,000 makes the second time in the same fiscal year the county approved additional funds for the library. In January, the county approved \$17,600 for the county to purchase 11 new electronic devices for the library system. The additional \$20,000 approved last week will be spent based on how library staff and their board of directors see fit.

The \$120,000 budget increase identified \$34,000 in personnel needs which reflected a projected 11 percent increase in employee health premiums and a modest cost of living adjustments for employees. Based on the library's request, compensation for library employees continues to be low, with many entry level salaries beginning at \$10 per hour.

The request also included \$22,000 for an increase in operating costs associated with all of the libraries in Macon County. Operating costs include telephone, telecommunications, security, equipment contracts/leases, repair and maintenance of equipment, supplies, vehicle costs and travel and training.

The request also includes an \$8,000 request for materials at the library with staff citing the need for more money for books, ebooks, magazines, and audiobooks. A \$43,000 request for AV and computer equipment was also included as well as \$13,000 for furnishings and fixture needs of libraries in the county.

The county's \$20,000 can be spent on any of those things, according to Commissioner Ronnie Beale who made the motion to allocate the funds out of the county's contingency budget.

Macon County Manager Derek Roland said moving forward, capital needs of the library will be included in the budget planning process so contingency money won't be necessary.



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• THE FREDSTER •

Keep the Tasmanian Devil away from your virgin daughter

One of the great features about visiting Highlands is you'll never be attacked by a Tasmanian Devil who is, without a doubt, the most ferocious rodent on planet Earth. Write that down! Maybe we should add this to our list of wonderful things about this beautiful place. Highlands has no Tasmanian Devils. The Chamber of Commerce should sell t-shirts that say that.



Fred Wooldridge

I was inspired to write this column because years ago the li'l missus and I went to Tasmania to check out the Tasmanian folks and see what they were up to. We found them protecting themselves from this nasty, nasty rodent. Oh, while there, I bought a black t-shirt with the devil rodent embroidered on the front. The shirt turned out to be too small for my ever expanding muscular body. But that was years ago. Now I'm a weenie and my muscles are toast.

And here's another word of caution. Should you lose your mind and actually want to visit Tasmania, do not tent camp. This friggin' critter will chew through your tent's canvas, attack you first and chase you out so it can have the whole tent to itself. It will eat all your food, then vamp any leftover human females stranded inside.

The TD (short for Tasmanian Devil) grows to the size of a small dog and hates anything and everything that's breathing on planet Earth. The reason the TD has

become so important to me is I lost about 20 pounds over last winter and I'm now down to my fighting weight. The TD t-shirt now fits perfect for the first time in many years.

If you see me around Highlands wearing the devil rodent, stop and compliment me on how nice I look.... or not.

The good news is that the Tasmanian Devil is on the endangered species list because it has no friends (praise the Lord)

and will soon be in the same book with the prehistoric Tyrannosaurus Rex. Oh, and if the Forest Service wants a new way to thin out our Highlands' bears, bring in the Tasmanian Devils but don't do that until after I croak, probably in twenty years.

The preservationists are more than unhappy about the eventual end of this nasty critter. According to the Internet, the TD's are suffering from a deadly jaw disease. That's what happens when you bite everything that breathes on this planet.

And finally, seeing a Tasmanian Devil in Tasmania was one more thing I can scratch from my bucket list. And here's another word of caution. Never allow your bucket list to run out completely 'cause then it's time to croak.

Finally, go on line to the Amazon Book Store and look up two books I published. But if you're prim and proper, don't read "Deceived."

...MAYOR continued from page 2

and the capital. The cause of this legislation was not some growing problem across the state. The flashpoint was the Charlotte city council passing an ordinance concerning transgender people-use of bathrooms. Apparently many legislators and the governor felt this ordinance was an overreach by the Charlotte council and was not permitted by the general statutes.

House Bill 2 was an effort, in my option a very misguided one, to take corrective action at the state level. Like the Asheville water system bill, it looks like the courts will have the final say. When governmental entities collide, the courts are the arbiters of last resort, as we have seen in the recent rulings of the US Supreme Court.

In the long run, these conflicts between state and local governments will continue. It is a fundamental part of the system of checks and balances that protect us all.

...GPS continued from page 1

to track even more than just the location of the buses. According to Bell, the GPS tracking system will allow school officials to watch the speed, braking, doors opening and closing, lights turning on, fuel use and the stop arm being extended of each and every bus on the system.

Todd Gibbs, who took the role as the district's Transportation Director as of July 1, noted that the system will streamline things and allow the district to operate more efficiently. The more efficient the district is, the more money it gets from the state. One

• See GPS page 14

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*Beneath
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**JENNY
PRUITT**

with
**Anne
Severance**

Foreword by **CHARLES STANLEY**



• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

Furnished or Not Furnished

Living in a small town has many advantages and a few disadvantages. Being a real estate broker allows me to experience many things others don't. One has to do with furnished versus non-furnished home sales. And I have experienced it all!

When I list someone's home in Highlands or Cashiers, typically it is a second or third home. It has therefore been furnished, either with new furniture, or pieces from former homes, with care given to create a mountain

look. So upon listing, most sellers are willing to include the furniture or negotiate it into the sale. Sound easy enough? That usually is not the case.

Sellers will tell me, "I will leave the furniture with a few exclusions." This is where the complications begin. I ask for the exclusion list and am told they will send it. Meanwhile, potential buyers look at the home and want to know exclusions. I contact the seller, still waiting on the list. The potential buyer has seen the home and wants all the

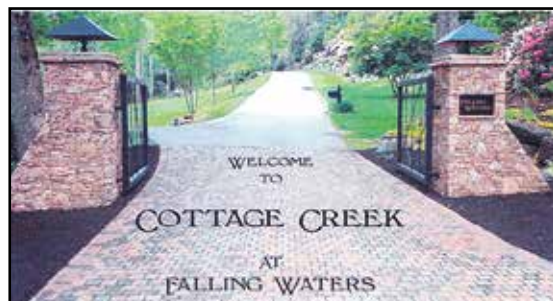
furniture. I get the list and it is long, excluding many more items than a "few personal things!" The buyer feels we have not been forthcoming and gets miffed. This should not happen.

To avoid this, the best advice is to remove any items you want to keep before listing. You are selling the home and property it sits upon but furniture can create havoc. I have experienced this over a bowl, a picture, a coffee table. It becomes a struggle for all—including brokers. We don't want to get in the middle of furniture inclusions or exclusions. Several times we have the exclusion list and the seller realizes at the last minute they forgot something that was in the family. This can cause a deal to fall through.

So my advice for an easy sale and closing...please be thorough when making your list. Staged homes sell quicker than empty homes. It is worth the time to walk room by room and make a thorough list of exclusions. But even better, remove what will not stay.



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FALLING WATERS

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There will be no movies until July 17th
so we can build the set for this show.

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Highlands to have an evening Rotary meeting

The Rotary Club of Highlands, Mountaintop is changing the time and date of their meetings to better accommodate the membership. Previously a breakfast club that met at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital cafeteria at 7:30 in the morning on Wednesdays, the club voted to change the meeting time to Monday at 5:30 pm. The first meeting will be held at the Crosby Center conference room on July 11, 2016 at 5:30. The board of directors of the club decided to change the time to be able to attract more members if the meetings were held at the evening hour.

The Mountaintop Rotary Club has been very active in local and international projects. The club has raised money for the Founders Park and the local food programs. It also supported the HEC's Christmas gift program for area children, and participated with other district clubs in the Stop Hunger Now food bagging program.

The club is a 100% Paul Harris Fellow club and there's our RYLA camper this year. The club has sponsored water projects in Bolivia and has helped the Highlands Bolivian Mission.

The club gives out the hot dogs at the yearly Halloween Festival and this year will give away free books at Halloween to encourage literacy. The club also works with the Community Care Clinic and the free dental clinic in Cashiers to assure every child has good dental and medical care in the community. Anyone considering joining the club at its new time and location can come and see what Rotary is all about.

The Mountaintop Rotary was chartered in 2002.

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER • GRILL WOOD • FIRE PIZZA
COFFEE • BAKERY • ESPRESSO • WINE • CRAFT BEER
BUTCHER • ARTISAN CHEESE • OIL AND VINEGAR



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BREAKFAST

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Cage free eggs, waffles, French 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 cut natural meats, homemade deli
salads, specialty sandwiches, homemade
potato chips, daily soup specials.

Deli - Serving all day

Fresh cut natural meats, homemade deli
salads, specialty sandwiches, 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 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) biscuit... \$8.95

PREPARED FOODS

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,
made in house bbq, chicken salad, deli
salads & much more.

DINNER TO GO

A different full dinner for two every night,
Monday-Saturday from 4:30 until we sell
out. Call ahead to reserve...

Monday - Low Country Lobster / Shrimp

Boil - Maine 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. \$34.95 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,
spiced pecans, our extra virgin olive oil
and balsamic vinegar on the side with
two cups of homemade gazpacho and a
baguette from our bakery.
\$24.95 serves two

Wednesday - Prime Rib with Baked

Potatoes & Salad - Premium Angus
standing rib roast, cooked medium rare
w/ red wine au jus. Two baked potatoes
& a large Caesar salad. \$34.95 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.
\$27.95 serves two

Friday - Wild Caught Shrimp: fried or

steamed. Wild caught North Carolina
shrimp either lightly breaded in our
seasoned corn flour mixture, and then
properly fried in peanut oil & served w/
hush puppies; or steamed to order in our
low country seasoning. Both come with
coleslaw and rosemary sea salt broiled red
potatoes, tarter & cocktail sauce.
\$28.95 serves two

Saturday - In-House Smoked BBQ -
Hand rubbed pork butt, pit-smoked
over night and hand pulled to order.
Comes with coleslaw, apple bacon
baked beans, and yeast rolls
\$23.95 serves two

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An excellent, comprehensive selection
of wine with the best prices in town,
and run by a friendly knowledgeable
staff. Craft beer and wine available by
the glass while you shop and dine.

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Full service scratch bakery making
rolls, baguettes, sandwich breads,
pastries, birthday and wedding cakes,
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We sell only 100% Premium Angus
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Dozens of cheeses, tapenades, olives
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...LETTERS continued from page 3

Thanks to the generosity of Art and Angela Williams, donations to the park going forward will be matched up to 150 percent. This is a wonderful opportunity to finally finish the dream begun so many years ago when far-sighted community leaders began efforts to purchase the initial tract. Few could have envisioned what we have now. Anyone interested in contributing to our Finish the Park Now campaign, is invited to contact me at 828-371-2653 or by email at nicholas.bazan@gmail.com. More information on those parts of the park still to come will soon be available at the Friends website at fundersparkhighlands.org.

Nicholas Bazan,
President of The Friends of Founders Park

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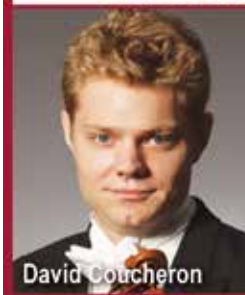
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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

NOTICE

• Summer Movies at the Highlands Playhouse: Sundays 5:30 and 8 pm; Mondays and Tuesdays, 2, 5, and 8pm;
• Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. To sign up contact Coach Steve Hott at 828-421-2121.

Daily

• At MountainTop Wine Shoppe on Main Street, wine flights.

Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men's Meeting at 7 pm first Mondays.
• High Cardio Zumba Fitness with Certi-

fied Instructor Tiffany Austin at 5:25 p.m.

Mon. & Wed.

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

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.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

First Tuesdays

• The monthly family support group for those with family members, friends, or loved ones living with the challenge of mental illness meets at 7 p.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Road, Franklin. For info call 828 369-7385.

Tuesdays

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

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

• The Beyond the Walls Book discussion group meets at 4 PM at The Ugly Dog Public House. Each week a short story discussed.

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 8:15 a.m. \$5.

• Pickle ball is played from 11:30a to 1p in the gym at the Rec Park.

Wednesdays

• 499ers Bridge Club at the Rec Park at 8:45 a.m. Be seated by 8:30.

• Open Duplicate Bridge at 1 p.m. Be seated by 12:45 a.m.

1st Wednesdays

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

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.

• Zahner Lecture Series at 6:30 p.m. at the Nature Center. Free

• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at 5 pm at Christ Church of the Valley 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. as First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street beside Bryant's Funnel Home and across the street from the Lazy Hiker Brewery Call Donita for more info

Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival – Week Two –

Week two of the Highlands-Chamber Music Festival features clarinetist Richard Stoltzman and the Cecilia String Quartet, along with violinist Scott St. John and pianists William Ransom and Julie Coucheron.

Two-time Grammy Award-winning clarinetist Richard Stoltzman is known as a captivating recitalist, chamber musician, and jazz performer, as well as a prolific recording artist.

He gave the first clarinet recitals in the histories of both the Hollywood Bowl and Carnegie Hall. In 1986, Stoltzman became the first wind player to be awarded the Avery Fisher Prize.

Recently he was awarded the prestigious Sanford Medal by the Yale School of Music. He has performed or recorded with such jazz and pop greats as the Canadian Brass, Chick Corea, Steve Gadd, Eddie Gomez, Keith Jarrett, Wayne Shorter, Mel Tormé, and Spyro Gyra founder Jeremy Wall.

The Cecilia String Quartet with Sarah Nematallah on violin, Caitlin Boyle



Cecilia String Quartet



Richard Stoltzman

on viola and Rachel Desoer on cello has been hailed for their “powerful” and “dauntingly perfect” performances. New this year to HCCMF, this Toronto based quartet has won numerous awards at several international competitions and their live concert recordings have been broadcast on more than a dozen international public radio networks. Their latest CD featuring works by Felix Mendelssohn has recently been nominated for a 2016 JUNO Award.

Concerts in Highlands will be held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center Friday, July 8th at 6 P.M. and Sunday, July 10th at 5 P.M. Concerts in Cashiers will be held at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library Saturday, July

9th at 5 P.M. and Monday, July 11th also at 5 P.M.

For tickets and further information please call the Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival at 828-526-9060 or visit them online at H-CMusicFestival.org.

Zahner Thursday Night Lecture Series begins Thurs., July 7

Every summer the Highlands Nature Center hosts evening lectures focused on the theme of natural history and conservation, a tradition that began in the 1930s. Today, these lectures are known as the Zahner Conservation Lecture Series. This series serves to educate and inspire the public through a series of talks from well-known regional scientists, conservationists, artists, and writers.

The public is invited to participate in these free lectures, which will be held each Thursday evening at 6:30pm at the Highlands Nature Center at 930 Horse Cove Road in Highlands.

The first lecture of the season will be on July 7th and will focus on the fungi of the Highlands Plateau. The southern Appalachian Mountains are world-renowned for an incredibly rich diversity of fleshy fungi, especially mushrooms. In this lecture, sponsored by Mr. R.B. Haynes and given by Dr. Andrew Methven, you will be introduced to the natural history of the southern Appalachian Mountains, major forest types, and some of the common and unusual fungi that can be encountered on a walk through the woods in the vicinity of Highlands. We'll examine fungi that parasitize other organisms (insects

and plants as well as other fungi), fungi that carry out important ecological roles in the forest, and interesting modes of spore dispersal. Attendees are encouraged to bring mushrooms for identification before or after the lecture.



• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

(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: 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

Fridays - Tuesdays

• Movies at The Highlands Playhouse, 3 and 7 p.m.

Fridays

• 199ers Bridge Club at the Rec Park at 9 a.m. Be seated by 8:45 a.m.

• Open Duplicate Bridge at 1 p.m. Be seated by 12:45 a.m.

• Friday Night Live, 6-8pm in Town Square. Live music. Free

Every 3rd Friday

• Senior Dinners are at noon November through April.

Every 2nd Saturday

• A group meets every 2nd Saturday of the month at Highlands Hudson Library at 10am. There are speakers, videos, recipes, health tips, and more to educate people about any health issues. Group is a non-profit. Contact Kelly Woods 828-421-3520 or live4above@aol.com

Saturdays

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

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

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

• All knitters, crocheters and other needle craft artists are invited to join The Bascom Knitters on the Terrace at The Bascom from 10 am until noon. In event of cold/rain, meet downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

Thurs., July 7

• Wellness Fair at Chestnut Hill, 10a - noon. Hand massage, healthy treat, blood pressure check, and free lunch in the Clubhouse afterwards. Dr. Bayard Miller, neurologist, will speak on "How to Keep an Aging Brain Healthy." Call 526-5251 for lunch reservations.

• Zahner Lecture: Fungi of the Highlands Plateau at The Nature Center at the Highlands Biological Station at 6:30pm. Free

• What are we to Make of Harper Lee's New Novel? - 10a - Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

• Tea and Spice and Everything Nice - 2 - 4p, Peggy Crosby Center Porch. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-

526-8811.

Fri., July 8

• At Hudson Library, at 2:30pm, get ready to learn all about Monarch butterflies and create fun crafts presented by Balsam Mountain Trust.

• Tour of Langford Garden - 10a - 12 noon. Event location: Highlands Falls Country Club. Meet and Carpool from CLE offices. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Sat., July 9

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 5-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike, elevation change 500 ft., to Whiteside Mountain and Devil's Courthouse between Highlands and Cashiers with dramatic views from the mountain top and Courthouse rock ledge. Meet at Cashiers Rec. Park at 10am, drive 10 miles round trip. Call leader Mike Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

• Highlands Plateau Greenway's Highlands Art Tour hike begin at 9:30 a.m. at K-H Founders Park. You will walk Main Street to the Bascom Art Gallery for a tour and then see the Bascom trail to Oak Lane back through the Rec Park to the Highlands Historical Society and K-H Founders Park. To sign up please call Hillrie Quin at 828 526-2385 Your leader will be Sallie Taylor of the Bascom. To sign up please call Hillrie Quin at 828 526-2385 or email hillriemquin@gmail.com. Sign up early.\$25 and will include the hikes, lunch and a year's membership in the Highlands Plateau Greenway

• Highlands Plateau Greenway's Highlands Botanical Tour begin at 9:30 a.m. at K-H Founders Park. You will walk to the Highlands Biological Station and Gardens, up to Sunset Rock and back to Kelsey Hutchinson - Founders Park. Your leader will be Sonya Carpenter, Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Foundation. To sign up please call Hillrie Quin at 828 526-2385 or email hillriemquin@gmail.com. Sign up early.\$25 and will include the hikes, lunch and a year's membership in the Highlands Plateau Greenway

• Highlands Plateau Greenway's Historic Highlands Tour begin at 9:30 a.m. at K-H Founders Park. You will tour the Highlands Historical Museum and walk through the Rec Park greenway trails, including the new Oak Lane and Sled Run trails, guided by local historian Ran Shaffner. To sign up please call Hillrie Quin at 828 526-2385 or email hillriemquin@gmail.com. Sign up early.\$25 and will include the hikes, lunch and a year's membership in the Highlands Plateau Greenway

• Highlands Plateau Greenway's Satulah Summit Tour begin at 9:30 a.m. at K-H Founders Park. You will walk from Kelsey Hutchinson - Founders Park to the summit of Satulah and back to the park. Your group will discuss the unique biological features of Satulah and the status of access. Your leader will be Dr. Gary Wein, Executive Director of the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust. To sign up please call Hillrie Quin at 828 526-2385 or email hillriemquin@gmail.com. Sign up early.\$25 and will include

the hikes, lunch and a year's membership in the Highlands Plateau Greenway

• Coro Vocati (Choral Ensemble) will perform in concert at 7pm on Saturday at Highlands First Presbyterian Church. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

• Titans of Chamber Music: Haydn and Beethoven - 10a - Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Sun., July 10

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3-mile easy hike, elevation change 300 ft., on Jones Creek Trail, a Forest Service road along the creek to a small waterfall with wild flowers along the way. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 2 pm. Call leader Jean Hunnicutt, 524-5234, for reservations.

• The Ubuntu Choir, directed by Tom Tyre, will perform a concert of music from around the world on Sunday at 3 p.m., in the First Presbyterian Chapel in Franklin.

Mon.-Fri., July 11-15

• First Baptist Church Vacation Bible School 9a-noon. During "Ocean Commotion" kids will learn about how Noah stood for God during the time of the Great Flood as they enjoy songs, crafts, games, goodies, and dramas.

Mon., July 11 - Mon., Aug. 1

• Bridge: Thinking Bridge II - (4 Sessions) - 9:30-11:30a, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center.

• See EVENTS page 14

Coro Vocati to perform at First Pres Sat. and Sun., July 9 & 10



Coro Vocati (Choral Ensemble) will perform in concert at 7pm on Saturday, July 9th at Highlands First Presbyterian Church. The concert performance is entitled *Mysticism in Myth, Metaphor, and Miracle* - and is free to the community. This 24 member professional chamber choir was founded in 2009 by Dr. John Dickson, now Director of Choral Studies at LSU School of Music. The ensemble was formed to showcase the rich talent and choral legacy of the Atlanta area. In 2014, Coro Vocati completed their first recording project, *Sweetheart of the Sun*. The group will also sing during the July 10, 11a worship service at First Presbyterian Church. The church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

...EVENTS continued from page 13

by Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Mon., July 11

• The Battle of Sugartown Chapter of the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), will hold its monthly meeting at 11:30a 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.

• Great Smoky Mountains National Park – 2-4p, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact San-

dy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Tues., July 12

• HCCMF presents a FREE Children's Concert and Ice Cream Social, Peter & the Wolf featuring Four-Hands Piano. Narrated by Lois Reitzes at 3 p.m. at Highlands First Presbyterian Church at 5th & Main streets.

• Mountain High Republican Women's Club Luncheon Meeting at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club at 11:30 AM. The featured speaker is Supreme Court Justice Bob Edmunds whose topic is "Our Judicial System." The MHRWC includes women in Jackson, Macon and Transylvania Counties. Members and others interested are invited to attend

The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival

Presents a Children's Concert

& Ice Cream Social:

Peter & the Wolf

featuring:

Four-Hands Piano

with Elena Cholakova & William Ransom

Narrated by Lois Reitzes, the legendary voice of classical radio in Atlanta

Tuesday, July 12 • 3:00 pm

Highlands First Presbyterian Church—5th & Main Street



After the concert...ICE CREAM!
In Coleman Hall, provided and served by Kilwin's

Come join us! No admission fee!

the luncheon meetings held the 2nd Tuesday each month June through October. For luncheon reservations and information and to join please call 828 743-1658.

• Migrants, Movies and Tourism – 10a – Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

• The Best Apps for iPad/iPhone – 10:30a – 3:30p, CLE Classroom, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Wed., July 13

Wed., July 13

• Summer Interlude Concert at the Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. Program to be announced.

• Food, Sex and the Scrambled Scriptures – 10a – Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Wed. & Fri., July 13 & 15

• iPad Second Steps Long Course – 10:30a– 3:30p, CLE Classroom, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Thurs., July 14

• Civil War and Revolution in Central America – 10a – Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

• At Hudson Library, in honor of its summer reading theme – Wellness, Fitness, and Sports – the library will have a Game Day on July 14th, at 2:30pm. Registration is required.

• Zahner Lecture: The Florida Wildlife Corridor: Protecting and Conserving Existing Natural Pathways at The Nature Center at the Highlands Biological Station at 6:30pm. Free

• The July meeting of the Western North Carolina Woodturners Club, Inc. will be at 6 p.m. at the Blue Ridge School in Glenville, NC.

Fri., July 15

• On the front lawn of First Baptist Church a free VBS carnival from 6-8 pm on the front lawn!

• How Bright is South Africa's Future? – 10a – Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

• "Let's Get Acquainted with our Birds" walk led by Russell Regnery, President of the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society. 24 different species of birds, including Eastern Phoebe, Red-winged Blackbird, Blue-headed Vireo, Chipping and Swamp Sparrow are often seen in this area. Meet at 9 AM Friday, July 15, at the Cashiers Recreation Center parking lot (downtown Cashiers). Bring binoculars (the Audubon Society will have extras). Lasts 1 1/2 to 2 hours.

• King Creek Falls and Walhalla Fish Hatchery. Good family hike, an easy 30-minute hike to a picturesque waterfall where King Creek topples over a tiered rock face that slants backwards, making the falls seem much higher than 70-feet. The fairly level trail runs through a mixture of hardwoods, rhododen-

dron and mountain laurel. A hiking stick is recommended to negotiate a stream crossing below the falls. Meet at the Sapphire Valley Community Center at 9:30 AM on Friday, July 15. You will need to sign a release form there. Bring a lunch, water, raingear and comfortable shoes. Transportation will leave promptly at 10 AM to the Walhalla Fish Hatchery for a quick tour there; then departing to the King Creek Falls trailhead five minutes down the road.

• Chattooga East Fork Trail and Walhalla Fish Hatchery. This mostly flat 2.5-mile trail runs along the East Fork gorge, filled with hemlocks, mountain laurels, winterberries, sweet pepper bushes and unusually large white pines. The trail ends at the "Forty Thousand Dollar Bridge" where the East Fork Trail meets the Chattooga River Trail, site of a picnic area where we'll have lunch. You'll finish your outdoor adventure at the Walhalla Fish Hatchery, a must-see attraction after your hike. Meet at the Sapphire Valley Community Center at 9:30 AM on Friday, July 15. You will need to sign a release form there. Bring a lunch, water, raingear and comfortable shoes. A hiking stick is suggested. There will likely be two or three separate groups for this hike. Bus transportation to the trailhead will be available, but carpooling may also be necessary.

Sat., July 16

• Author, Jenny Pruitt booksigning of "Beneath His Wings, at Highlands Sotheby's International Realty 114 N. 4th St., Highlands from 2-4 p.m.

• Titans of Chamber Music: Schubert – 10a – Noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

...GPS continued from page 7

problem Macon County noticed while using a pilot program on a few buses was the amount of time school buses were idling, especially in the mornings during winter months.

The tracking devices will record that information and according to Bell and Gibbs, the reduction in the amount of time busses idle will save the district more than what the system cost to install the GPS devices.

The GPS System's will be installed through Synovia Solutions out of Indianapolis, Indiana at a cost of \$36 per yellow school bus. Macon County will install and manage the devices on 57 school buses beginning the first day of school.

Macon County Board of Education member Jim Breedlove asked about the possibility of extending the GPS tracking system to include white activity buses as well.

• See GPS page 17

HIGHGATE TOUR OF HOMES

JULY 9TH • 1:00 TO 4:00PM



Perched at 4,200 feet with long range views of the blue ridge mountains, yet located just two miles from downtown Highlands, lies the premier, gated community of Highgate. The homes and landscapes in Highgate have been thoughtfully designed by renowned architects and builders to blend with the natural beauty of their surroundings.

With homes ranging from \$1-\$2.2 million open to tour as well as homesites available should you want to build your custom mountain retreat, please join us to discover this upscale mountaintop oasis.

From downtown Highlands, go towards Dillard on Hwy 106. Go past Highlands Country Club and take a right on Mountain Laurel Drive. Continue straight beyond the Mountain Laurel Tennis Club, through the gate, and up the hill. Follow signs from there.

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• BIZ/ORG. NEWS •

Highlands Community Fund Re-Releases announcement of \$58,445 in grants

Last December, the Highlands Community Fund announced \$40,000 in People in Need grants made in partnership with The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina (CFWNC). These grants supported local nonprofit organizations providing critical services for economically disadvantaged people. In addition, GIFT Fund grants, totaling \$18,445, supported programs benefitting the Highlands region.

The People in Need grants were funded by the Highlands Community Fund, the Janirve Legacy Fund and CFWNC fundholders. They included:

- **\$20,000** to the **Gordon Center for Children, Inc.** to offer enrichment programs and supervision for children enrolled in the early child care program and the afterschool program.

- **\$20,000** to **Literacy Council of Highlands, Inc.** to continue its literacy programs, which include GED, ESL, Adult Literacy, Primary ESL, Study Hall, After School Enrichment, Mobilizing Literacy, summer day camp, Dolly Parton Imagination Library and computer lab with language software.

The GIFT Fund grants from the Highlands Community Fund were:

- **\$3,000** to the **Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers** to fund retinal exams for clinic patients as part of a comprehensive program to treat diabetics.

- **\$5,000** to the **Friends of Founders Park** for improvements planned for the Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in 2016.

- **\$5,000** to the **Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust** to support the Kids in Nature program that provides quality outdoor programming to youth from afterschool groups, clubs, camps and other community agencies.

- **\$1,445** to the **Peggy Crosby Community Service Center** for a project to use native plants to enhance landscaping.

- **\$4,000** to **The Bascom** for a new electric kiln to be used by ceramic classes for high school students, several community youth programs and the Empty Bowls projects benefitting local food pantries.

"Supporting nonprofits that help individuals and families in times of need is the most important part of our work," said Advisory Board Chair Sid Nurkin. "Through our partnership with CFWNC and the support of generous donors who care about Highlands, we are able to help provide access to literacy programs, child services, health care, educational programming and more."

The Highlands Community Fund, an affiliate of The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, is a permanently endowed fund to meet local needs.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the Fund, donate online at www.HighlandsCommunityFund.org or by mail to the Highlands Community Fund, P.O. Box 1150, Highlands, NC 28741-1150. Contributions of any size are welcome and will enable the Fund to support more programs with local dollars.

The local volunteer Advisory Board works to raise awareness of the Highlands Community Fund and to build assets for the future.

For additional information about the Highlands Community Fund, contact Advisory Board Chair Sid Nurkin at 404-261-8634 or visit www.HighlandsCommunityFund.org.

Proverbs 3:5

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

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Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

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Sundays: 10 a.m.: Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/ Communion

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464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

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

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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.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 a.m.

Testimony Meeting 3rd Wednesday at 5 p.m.

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

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10:45am: Worship Service

Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC U.

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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

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Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

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• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pastor Nathan Johnson

Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor 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

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

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• POLICE REPORT •

The Highlands Police log entries from June 1. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

June 20

• At 1 a.m., officers received a report of a patron at Bryson's Food Store writing a check on a closed account.

June 22

• At 2:35 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Hudson Library parking lot.
• A little past midnight, Bonnie

Earman, 67, of Highlands, was arrested for a harassing phone call and repeatedly sending electronic mail. She was issued a \$250 unsecured bond. Her court date is Aug. 10.

• A little past midnight, Katherine Evans, 65, of Highlands, was arrested for simple assault. She was issued a \$250 unsecured bond. Her court date is Aug. 10.

June 24

• At 5:25 p.m., officers learned of a larceny and vandalism from a storage facility on Pierson Drive. Various guns, gun stocks, and gun scopes were taken -- valued at \$7,000.

June 25

• At 12:55 p.m., shoplifting of various bars of soap was reported at The Christmas Tree in Highlands.

June 26

• At 3:25 p.m., a breaking and entering at storage units on Pierson Drive was reported.

July 1

• At 2:40 a.m., officers responded to a noise violation at a home on Wyanoak Road.

July 2

• At 11:20 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west.

• At 11:50 p.m., officers received a report of a breaking and entering at a residence on Picklesimer Road where guitars and personal items valued at more than \$8,000 were taken.

July 3

• At 9:11 p.m., Alexis Sade Hall, 19, of Franklin, was arrested for sim-

ple assault. She was issued a \$750 unsecured bond. Her court date is Aug. 23.

• At 9:11 p.m., Tyler Grant Converse, 23, of Highlands, was arrested for assault on a female, and damage to property. He was not issued a bond. His court date is Aug.

...GPS continued from page 14

According to Bell, as it stands, Macon County has the funds within the district's state transportation allotment to fund the tracking system on the yellow school buses, which are funded through state dollars. White activity buses would fall under the local budget and would have to be funded using local dollars.

Breedlove, along with the rest of the board asked Gibbs

and Bell to get a quote for how much it would cost to fully outfit Macon Schools' fleet, including white buses.

Macon County Board member Fred Goldsmith noted that the tracking system would have come in handy a few years ago when an activity bus full of students had to detour significantly to get back to Franklin during flooding. The device would have increased com-

munication and would have kept parents in the loop about where the children were and how they were getting home.

Macon County is late to the game in terms of GPS tracking systems and according to Verizon, who provides the telecommunication services for Synovia more than half of the districts in the state have installed the system on school buses.

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• BIZ/ORG. NEWS •



Art League makes donation to The Bascom

At its June 27 meeting, the Art League of Highlands-Cashiers donated \$1,000 to the Bascom in support of its various programs that bring art to area children. The Art League has for many years co-sponsored with the Bascom the Summer Children's Art Camp at the Recreation Park. Several Art League members also volunteer in various areas at the Bascom. Pictured are Art League President, Patty Calderone (left) and Teresa Osborn, the Bascom's Executive Director.

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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •



Hank Ross inducted as president of Rotary Club of Highlands

From left: Cathryn McIntyre-Ross (Mrs. Henry Ross); Henry Ross (Hank), 2017 President and Christy Kelly, 2016 President of the Rotary Club of Highlands. Before passing the gavel to Ross, Kelly gave him "the gift of time" – a mask that will enable him to attend multiple committee meetings simultaneously, thus allowing him to "multi-mask" all year long. (Photo by Mike Hunter)

...HEALTH continued from page 1

before they get pregnant."

In Macon County, 39 percent of women of child-bearing age are uninsured and many of them fall in the health insurance coverage gap.

In 2014, 8.4 percent of Macon babies were born at a low birthweight, and 12.3 percent were born premature, putting them at risk for long-term health challenges and infant mortality.

Over the past two decades, North Carolina's infant mortality rate has dropped by more than 40 percent as a result of improved clinical practices and smart public policy. But North Carolina's progress has plateaued and lags behind the rest of the nation, ranking 42nd for infant mortality. For every 1,000 babies born alive in North Carolina, seven die in their first year of life.

Moreover, a baby born in North Carolina is less likely to live to celebrate her first birthday than one born in the neighboring states of South Carolina, Virginia, or Tennessee.

The report shows stark racial and ethnic disparities. African American and American Indian babies in North Carolina are more likely to die before reaching their first birthday than White babies. Although

overall infant mortality rates have declined, the infant death gap between African American, Hispanic and White babies in North Carolina is wider today than in 1988.

Closing the health insurance coverage gap would provide about 175,000 women of reproductive age with health insurance, which would allow them to get early treatment for chronic conditions that have a negative impact on their babies' health.

The health insurance coverage gap was created when Governor McCrory and the legislature refused to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. This decision left a lack of coverage among people whose incomes are too high to qualify for Medicaid and too low to qualify for federal subsidies. Most people in the coverage gap are working, but they cannot afford to buy health insurance on the prevailing wages in industries such as retail, construction, or food service.

• NC Child advances public policies that improve the lives of North Carolina's children. We work statewide to ensure that all children are healthy, safe, well-educated, and economically secure by engaging communities, and informing and influencing decision-makers. Visit www.ncchild.org to learn more.



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Smart Phone Photography Workshop – Wed., 7/27

CULINARY:

Teas and Spices & Everything Nice – Thurs., 7/7

CURRENT AFFAIRS:

Migrants, Movies & Tourism – Tues., 7/12
How Bright is South Africa's Future? – Fri., 7/15
Pacific Power – Tues., 7/19
Mr. College Football Tony Barnhart – Fri., 7/29

MUSIC:

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HISTORY:

Great Smoky Mountains National Park – Mon., 7/11
Civil War & Revolution in Central America – Thurs., 7/14
Cherokee Culture: Past & Present – Thurs., 7/21

HOME, GARDEN AND NATURE:

Tour of Langford Garden – Fri, 7/8

LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE:

Harper Lee's Novel, "Go Set a Watchman?" – Thurs., 7/7
Author's Series: Rise & Shine – Tues., 7/19
Publishing "Our State" Magazine – Thurs., 7/28

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION:

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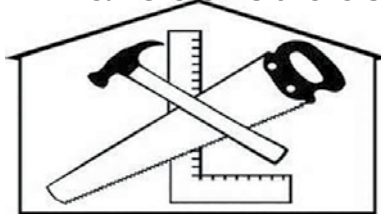
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OPENING SOON: HIGHLANDS THRIFT STORE. Now hiring. Also, now accepting donation. Call Patti at 421-7316. (st. 6/23)

SKYLINE LODGE IS HIRING HOSTESS, SERVERS & PART-TIME BARTENDER AND HOUSEKEEPERS. Experience an asset but not required. Download applications at skylinelodge.com. 828-526-2121. (st. 6/30)

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HIGHLANDS INN LODGE now hiring Front desk and housekeeping personnel. Stop by for application at 96 Log Cabin Lane or email sales@highlandsinnlodge.com. (st. 5/26)

FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS available at Nancy's Fancys. Saturdays a must. Come by 322 Main Street, Highlands. (st. 4/28)

PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT First Presbyterian Church of Highlands is accepting applications for a part-time Administrative Assistant. Knowledge of Publisher and Microsoft Office a requirement. Please contact Jennifer at 828-526-3175. (st. 4/28)

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY NOW HIRING A DRIVER WITH NC DRIVERS LICENSE. For more details, call 828-526-9719 or 828-200-0191. (4/28)

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY IN THE BUTCHER DEPARTMENT. Salary/pay will be commensurate with ability and/or experience. Contact Don at 828-526-2400 or jobs828@gmail.com

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WAITSTAFF NEEDED FOR CHESTNUT HILL OF HIGHLANDS. Please apply at 24 Clubhouse trail, Highlands, NC (828)526-5251. (st. 3/31)

POTPOURRI STORES IN HIGHLANDS looking for part to full time sales people. Must be able to work weekends, retail experience with women's clothing and accessories preferred. Eyewear sales experience a plus. Stop by Potpourri 2 to apply or email your resume to potpourrihighlands@yahoo.com (st. 3/10)

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

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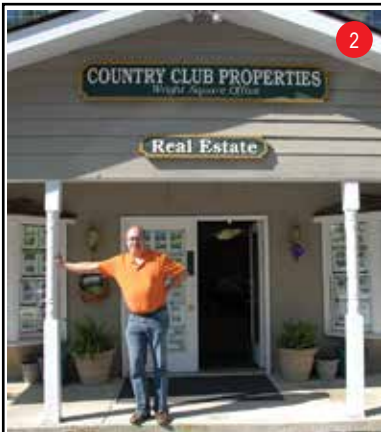


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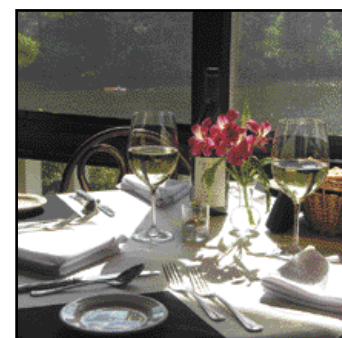
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