

Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., June 23, 2016

HFW Festival to be held on private property this year

The Highlands Food & Wine Festival committee was supposed to return to the July Town Board meeting to solidify plans for the November festival but instead Mayor Pat Taylor read an email from the HFW commit-

tee at June's Town Board meeting last Thursday saying that plans as outlined at the May Town Board meeting would be put on hold at least for this year.

"On behalf of Jack Austin, Chairman of the Board, the Board

of Directors of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce, and our members, we wish to express our appreciation to the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners for their vote of confidence and support for an expanded

Highlands Food & Wine Festival (HFW) as it prepares to celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2016.

"The Chamber's ultimate goal is to focus this event in the immediate downtown business district

• See **FESTIVAL** page 6

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The Bascom is on Oak Street – access the campus off Oak or via the covered bridge on the Franklin Road (US 64 west).

Saturday is 'Family Day' at The Bascom

Family Day at The Bascom promises to be fun in the sun for all ages 10a to 2p this Saturday, June 25.

There will be Cherokee dancing with the warriors of Anikuhwa, live music with Zorki and Z, free food from El Azteca, creative movement with Ashby from Yoga Highlands, face paint-

ing, free popcorn, pottery and jewelry making, knitting, a bean bag toss, a photo booth, a gallery crawl, raffles, wood turning, disk golf and more.

The Bascom will also be collecting donated art supplies for its community outreach programs.

For more information, call Will Barclift at 828-787-2897.

Chamber reaches for new 'heights'

Over the last 18 months, the Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center has been working to develop a new logo and marketing direction for the organization. The efforts began in the first quarter of 2015 when the marketing committee was debating whether to expand into new publications, markets and other outlets given the increase in occupancy taxes generated by Highlands hospitality business over the past few years.

The Chamber of Visitors Center is charged with re-investing the occupancy tax to market Highlands, and the increase in visitors and tax dollars prompted more in-depth, strategic discussions about how best to accomplish this for the good of businesses and the community.

• See **CHAMBER** page 3



Highlands Hurricanes upset JC Swim Team

By **Debbie Kenter**

In a total team effort, on Thursday, June 16, the Highlands Hurricane Swim Team upset Jackson County Swim Team (JCST) in Sylva 433 to 368.

Twenty-eight Hurricane swimmers had 102 swims & brought back 55 blue ribbons. Seven swimmers set 23 team records and eight qualified for the Mountain Swim League All-star meet at the end of July in 16 events.

Qualifying for the All-star meet were Chase Kenter (100 Individual Medley, 50 Butterfly, 50

Breaststroke), Connor Hughes (100 IM, 50 Fly, 50 Breast), Mackenzie Conn (100 IM, 50 Backstroke, 50 Breast), Vivi Geren (50 Freestyle, 50 Back, 50 Fly), Anna McKibben (50 Free), Aniah McKim (25 Free), Peyton Kaylor (50 Back), & Finneas Garner (50 Free).

Setting team records were Elias McKim (50 Free, 100 Back, 100 Breast, 100 Free), Chase Kenter (50 Free, 25 Fly), Mackenzie Conn (100 IM, 50 Breast), Vivi Geren (50 Free, 50 Fly), Diane Dallman (100 Free, 100 Fly), Anna McKibben (50 Free), &

• See **SWIM** page 17

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Highlands isn't Mayberry

The tragic murder of 49 innocent people in Orlando made the country realize once again that there is no place free from senseless gun violence at the hands of deranged people, whether radical Islamic terrorist or other religious and political zealots. Even Highlands, the epitome of "Mayberry," is not exempt from potential violence and terror.

For us to embrace the notion it could never happen in our town would be a serious mistake. I admit we are an unlikely target, but other recent sites, such as the ones in South Carolina, California and Florida, were also unlikely targets.

Again, let me say we are not Mayberry, and Sheriff Andy and Barney are dead. While Highlands presents the Mayberry image of a simple and plain little mountain town, we are actually a rather complex, sophisticated community. Two police officers with one bullet is not adequate.

If you look at the police report in the newspaper, it is usually almost laughable as to the incidents reported, like a bear on a deck, or a barking dog. While Highlands



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

is by no stretch of the high crime area, we have had serious situations. Last Halloween there was a domestic hostage situation that resulted in gunfire and serious injury. Last summer there was a smash and grab at a local jewelry store by a regional gang of bandits. A couple of years ago we had a bank robbery where a sawed off shotgun was discharged. (Thankfully, those thugs are still in federal prison.)

We must have a fully staffed, around the clock, well trained, police force. Our cadre of 12 full-time officers meet the staffing level required by state regulatory agencies. Please don't call me to say we have too many police around town, and we should go back to the long past good old days of three or four officers. The bad criminal types need to feel that a cop might just be anywhere and everywhere.

Our police officers are well trained and armed to deal with any dangerous situation. They routinely conduct drills for active shooter scenarios such as in large venues like schools and public gatherings. Our police chief is in constant communication with area, state and national law enforcement agencies for warnings, alerts and advisories. Another level of security is the mutual aid agreement with the Macon County Sheriff's Department. The sheriff has a constant presence in the area, and both departments work closely and seamlessly together.

Each year we have several state and national officials discreetly visit the plateau. Folk have no idea they are here with security details. That is the way it should be. Federal and state security agencies depend on our police department to function as backup law enforcement for these visits. These agencies also expect our officers to know all the best security procedures, which they do. The last thing these agents want to hear is, "Sheriff Andy can I have my bullet now?"

While we all hope nothing will ever happen here in Highlands, I want to assure everyone law enforcement on the plateau is prepared.

• LETTERS •

Mayor's 'Keep Property Clean' proposal was right on

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest the mayor's proposal of a "Keep Property Clean" ordinance. As a real estate professional, I know how important it is for a seller to put his home's best foot forward as first impressions can only be had once.

As visitors to our beautiful town come in from all directions, it's important that property owners along the main roads into Highlands keep their properties looking good.

As a resident who drives in and out of Highlands on a regular basis, there are a few properties out there that always catch my eye...and not because of how spectacular they look.

As home to but a handful of year 'round residents, we are very dependent on tourism and our second homeowners. Let's show how much we care about our town by making a great first impression!

Chris Wardrep
Highlands

Thanks to all for great 'Motoring Festival'

Dear Editor,

The Highlands Motoring Foundation would like to express their thanks to everyone that made the Highlands Motoring Festival an enormous success. The level of comments from participants, visitors to the town, hotel owners, restaurateurs, retail shop owners and others were overwhelming. And, may I say, 100% positive. People from all over the Southeast came to Highlands for the first time, prompted by the publicity, of the Event. Numerous people made this their first time to Highlands, and needless to say, were very favorable of not only, the Festival, but the town and surrounding area.

But, this was a joint effort of the entire community. From the Town of Highlands town office and officials to the Highlands Motoring Festival and Literacy Council of Highlands volunteers. And especially the sponsors.

The weather was perfect for all events, Thursday through Sunday. Events, were well attended, from the Thursday party at the Ugly Dog, the Friday drive through our mountains, the Friday Gala at The Bascom, the Classic Car Show on Saturday, and the Cars and Coffee on Sunday.

The Festival brought a substantial number of visitors to Highlands. Some for just the day, but many for several days. I received comments from several saying that they were impressed that there was no price gouging that you often find when a major event is hosted in some other cities. Room and restaurant rate remained constant.

• See LETTERS page 6

• WEEKEND WEATHER •



For real-time weather and the extended forecast go to
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Highlands Newspaper

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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.

• OBITUARY •

William Barry Wallis



William Barry Wallis, of Sandy Springs, Ga and Highlands, NC died on Sunday, June 12, 2016 at the age of 71 due to a post-surgical complication while in recovery at Piedmont Hospital.

He is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Anne, his sons William Barry Wallis Jr. and John Brent Wallis (Christina), and his grandson Hayden Christopher Wallis, his sister Lee Anne Hearn, and his nieces and nephews Lauren Lovelady, McCalla Busman, Monica Wallis, Adam Wallis and Nathan Barton.

He was preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Earline Wallis, and brother James Rodney Wallis. Barry was the first child blessed to Earline and Clarence Wallis of Mayfield, KY, who instilled in Barry a strong sense of work ethic that inspired Barry to carry several paper routes on his bicycle as a very young boy. He continued his young endeavors by opening a company refurbishing and selling bicycles and, at the time, was the youngest person in The State of Kentucky to be issued a business license.

Barry earned Eagle rank in the Boy Scouts of America, excelled scholastically, being the recipient of all accolades in his high school, including National Honor Society and "Mr. Mayfield High School." Upon graduation he attended one of the top engineering schools in the nation, Georgia Institute of Technology, where he was initiated into Delta Tau Delta fraternity (eventually serving as President) and continued his stride for excellence and formed many lifelong friendships and bonds that he would carry forward with him as an active alumnus and contributor after his graduation in 1968.

Barry financed his education as a Georgia Tech co-op student through employment at Stephenson and Associates, an Atlanta mechanical engineering company.

...CHAMBER continued from page 1

The last major rebranding effort the Chamber was involved in came in 2005 when the tagline -- Above it All -- was developed. Without any market research on strategies for the Chamber in the last 11 years, Chamber leaders decided to move forward with developing a new strategy and brand for Highlands.

The Chamber hired a destination marketing agency out of Virginia Beach to

He began his professional career with the same organization, helping to build the company to prominence while obtaining ownership interest. He eventually acquired sole control and subsequently established W.B. Wallis and Company. He was with his beloved company for almost 50 years.

Throughout his long and successful career, Barry continued his role as a leader in various professional organizations, including The Mechanical Contractors Association of Georgia, for which he served as President three different years during his affiliation. In 2005, Barry and Anne purchased a vacation retreat in Highlands, NC where they enjoyed spending as much time as possible.

Barry loved restoring his antique cars, traveling, Pilates, golf, volunteering and all things involving his alma mater, Georgia Tech. He cherished a multitude of friends and associates stemming from his association with Georgia Tech, Dunwoody Country Club, professional affiliations, his home in Highlands, NC, and the many traveling companions with whom he and Anne shared numerous excursions all over the world.

Barry was a strong, loving and thoughtful figure and will be dearly missed by his family and friends. A funeral mass was celebrated on Friday, June 17th at St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church, 7171 Glenridge Drive, Sandy Springs, Ga. 30328.

In lieu of flowers the family would prefer for contributions be made in Barry's memory to Roll Call, The Georgia Tech Annual Fund, c/o The Georgia Tech Foundation, 760 Spring Street, Atlanta, GA 30308; or St. Jude The Apostle Church, at the above address; or The Circle for Children, directed to Mrs. Danielle Houret-Lam, 2993 Andrews Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30305; or Highlands Playhouse, P.O. Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.

conduct research and develop a fresh, relevant brand and marketing direction. The contract with BCF Agency cost the Chamber \$109,000 over the 18-month period. The agency visited Highlands during all four seasons of the year and learned what makes Highlands special in order to best develop a brand.

One of the key goals of the research

• See CHAMBER page 6

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...FESTIVAL continued from 1

with the dual purposes of promoting Highlands' economy and extending the busy fall season into the months of November and December.

"Our wish was and continues to be, that the proposed introduction of two new daytime signature events – a food truck rodeo and an oyster roast – could be held in the immediate downtown business district utilizing the beautiful Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park and a section of Main Street.

"Given the relatively short time the Chamber has remaining to finalize, promote and secure sponsors for the HFW program this year as well as the many logistical questions raised, we realize that the Chamber underestimated the time needed to receive town approval for use of the proposed public venues. In the best interest of all parties, the Chamber has decided to withdraw its request for the use of K-H Founders Park and Main Street for the upcoming event in November 2016. We do, however, ask that discussions between The Town and Chamber continue around the possibility of hosting such events in the proposed venues in 2017.

"Despite our disappointment at not being able to hold these events as proposed this year, it seems prudent for the Chamber to move ahead and relocate these events to private venues. We will strive to locate the events as close to downtown Highlands as possible to maximize the positive impact on our local businesses," read the email.

Mayor Taylor and Town Manager Bob Frye said they had met with the HFW committee the previous week to go over what is allowed as far as town property goes but nothing concrete was worked out.

"We will be communicating with the committee over the next year concerning next year's event but what they have been told repeatedly was that it was not up to the town to modify its policies to enable them to do what they wanted but rather it was up to them to modify their event(s) to comply with town policies," said Frye.

The committee did ask if banners could still be hung from light poles to advertise the event even though it will be held on private property this year. The board OK'd the request.

In other Town Board news, Commissioner Brian Stiehler said the Invasive Plant Coalition is eradicating knot-

weed. The old jail on Maple Street; Commissioner Amy Patterson reiterated her stance on requiring a permit prior to draining or lowering an impoundment so the town knows what's going on; Commissioner Eric Pierson said plans for a new or renovated fire department building is still in the works but it will be a long and tedious process; Town Manager Frye said two new Altitude workers have been hired so more people are getting hooked up and he said feedback indicates that citizens are happy with the prompt customer service; Frye also said a citizen has offered a live tree Christmas tree for K-H Founders Park but the town is still discussing options; after the public hearing the board passed the 2016-'17 budget; and a public hearing was set for the July Town Board meeting to amend portions of the Unified Development Ordinance.

– Kim Lewicki

...LETTERS from page 2

Finally, I want to acknowledge the support of our many sponsors. Harmony Motors of Asheville, BMW of Asheville, and Skyland Mercedes of Asheville, were our Platinum Sponsors. Additionally, I want to thank the other sponsors that provided financial or in-kind sponsorship. The Highlands Chamber of Commerce, WHLC, Passion Performance, Elevation Motorcars, Wilson Gas, Bryson's Food,, the Park on Main, Highlands Cove Realty, Highlands Automotive, Old Edwards Inn, Cashiers Printing, Bank of America, and the Ugly Dog Public House. Additionally, the support of the print media, specifically our two local papers, the Highlands Newspaper, The Highlander, and the Laurel Magazine for their many articles and news coverage increasing the exposure serving to make this year's event the largest on record.

The Literacy Council of Highlands is the sole beneficiary of the Festival, and we expect this year's revenue to substantially increase, thanks to all the support and efforts of those listed above. In closing, it should be noted that this success could not have been accomplished without the support of scores of volunteers from both the Literacy Council, and the Highlands Motoring Festival. Thanks to all

Steve Mehder
Highlands Motoring Festival

...CHAMBER from page 3

and resulting positing would be to "pre-qualify" visitors and prospective home owners in a way that would help ensure their expectations were met and exceeded when they arrive in town. Because Highlands is a small town on a plateau, the goal is to narrowly target the audience that appreciates what it has to offer, making visitors, business owners and everyone involved happier and more successful.

The research process revealed to Chamber members that Highlands needed something more than just a mountain getaway type branding. Recurring themes such as sense of discovery, relaxation, refined services and conveniences, and a feeling that stays with you after you leave Highlands, were ideas they wanted incorporated into a brand.

With the recurring themes pinpointed, the agency recommended that Highlands' brand would be ideal for content marketing, which markets Highlands in a way that causes people to feel like they discovered it for themselves and they are special for being a part of it.

To provide visual perceptually continually, the new

• See CHAMBER page 22

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•THE FREDSTER•

Here's the straight poop on having three bathrooms

The president and attorney general are going to be sooooo proud of me. I might even get invited to the Rose Garden for a beer... or not. Or even better, maybe a special citizen's award from our mayor, Pat Taylor. Hey, we do get along and see eye-to-eye on road paving and other stuff. (hint)

But wait, I'm getting ahead of myself. How could having three bathrooms in our Highlands' home get me anything but bowel and bladder relief? Well, fellow Highlanders, read on and allow me to show you the way.

Keeping with the latest, our bathrooms are gender friendly. We have one for the male species, another for the female species and, are you holding on to something? (Ha!) Our third bathroom is for the transgender folks.

Now, before our gay Highlanders get their shorts in a wad and ask my editor to fire me, this is not about you or being gay. It's about keeping modern with our times and keeping our current administration happy. What's more important than keeping President Obama happy, right? That's a good thing, right? Here's how it works.

When you arrive at our home, bring your birth certificate. We'll have a printer at the front door and your birth certificate will be copied and filed. Then we'll show you the bathroom to use if there's a need. Should a friend arrive who is transgender, a special note will be placed on their certificate and they'll be escorted to our transgender bathroom.

All this is being done out of my respect for my Olympic hero, Bruce Jenner, aka Caitlyn Jenner. He was my hero in the '70s. On July 30, 1976 he won the gold in the decathlon.

Yes, I was disappointed when he decided to become Caitlyn ... that's a dad gum bummer. Currently, rumors are flying that Caitlyn is yearning to be Bruce again. While she...huh, I mean he denies this, I'm hoping it's true. And I'm sure this yearning is due to the fact that when he awakens in the morning, he misses having something to scratch. Oy!

And just in case, know that our transgender bathroom has both a commode and a urinal for those friends that sometimes feel more masculine or feminine while relieving themselves. And are you sitting down? Our bidet also subs as a water fountain. How cool is that?

And I know this is going to make you want to be my friend just so you can visit us at our home and see our operation. Allow me to caution you on that urge. If I sense you're not sincere in your friendship, you'll be escorted to our backyard's fourth bathroom in the woods. You're on your own.

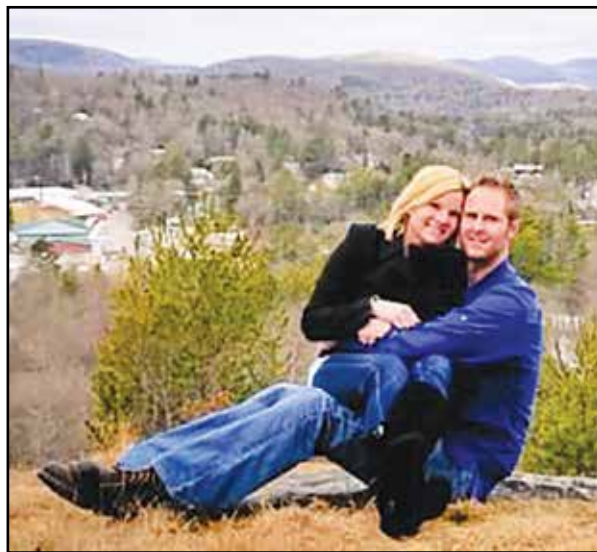
P.S. - I'm sorry my column was not in last week. My hard drive crashed and I had to get the computer man, James, to install a new hard drive. It was blank but thank the Lord for backup thumb nails. Ask me if I'm struggling.



Fred Wooldridge

•ENGAGEMENT•

Berson and Paradise



Alicyn J. Berson and David M. Paradise are pleased to announce their engagement. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Philip and Randee Berson of Gurnee, IL. She is employed by Product Resources in Gurnee, IL as Co-Owner.

The groom-to-be is the son of Lyle and Nadine Paradise of Highlands, NC and is a graduate of Western Carolina University of Cullowhee, NC. He is employed in Risk Management at AFN Logistics in Niles, IL.

The couple is planning a November 2016 wedding in Chicago and will reside in Lindenhurst, IL.

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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.

DINNERS 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

WINE MARKET & CRAFT BEER

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,
cookies and seasonal specialties.

BUTCHER SHOP

We sell only 100% Premium Angus
beef, hand-cut and ground in house.
Seasonal seafood, all natural chicken,
made-in-house sausage and more. See
out weekly ad for this week's pricing.

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Dozens of cheeses, tapenades, olives
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How Low Can You Go?

Those words were immortalized by Chubby Checker around 1962 - the song was Limbo Rock. (I highly advise you stop reading this for just a moment, and find it on YouTube or Pandora before finishing.)

It seems that's what we're doing in the real estate market these days. How low can we go? The answer? As low as it takes to get the property sold.

We're starting to see a trend of lower home prices among the majority of NEW listings in our MLS, and it's still pretty much a buyer's market; either one of those things should be sending



Jeannie Chambers
Chambers Realty &
Vacation Rentals

more buyers to the closing table.

(We interrupt this article for some boring stats to help fill the space between your ears) These stats are using residential (single family, town homes and condos) from the Highlands Township alone.

Don't be discouraged by these numbers; these are just 2-week periods in 2015 and 2016.

Same song, same line "How low can you go?"

We are seeing a little growth in the number of sales in our area, just not as fast as most would like to see. What does this mean? Are we in trouble again? Leaders in the real estate industry say "NO." We've gone through about 10 years of

real estate ups and downs; what we are experiencing now is sort of a return to typical real estate activity. Bank-owned properties are fewer these days, and we can finally hear

the hammers of new construction.

Do you know how slow time passes while you are waiting for a parade to start? You keep an ear out for drums; you keep stepping

out of line to crane your neck to see if anything is happening. Does it make the parade come faster? Not really. The buyers

• See **INVESTING** page 14

THE DRY SINK
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Come see our great insulated drinkware from S'well, Corkcicle & Tervis!

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*Just down from
Old Edwards Inn & Spa*

June 1-15, 2015			
# SOLD	Avg. Days on Market	Avg. List Price	Avg. Sales Price
6	286	548,666	484,375
June 1-15, 2016			
7	628	665,642	514,372
May 1-31, 2015			
11	521	563,727	515,000
May 1-31, 2016			
14	751	469,600	418,250

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• HIGHLANDS 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 Certified 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

CLE LECTURE: FBI – Post 9/11, Thursday, June 23 2-4 pm



Valerie Caproni

Former General Counsel of the FBI, Valerie Caproni will speak at the Center for Life Enrichment on Thursday, June 23 at 2:00 pm. Her topic will be the role of the FBI in protecting national security and combating terrorism against the United States. The FBI has long been the preeminent law enforcement agency in the United States. This lecture will discuss actions undertaken by the FBI after 9/11 to respond to the threat of international terrorism and policies and practices implemented to mitigate risks to civil rights and civil liberties.

Now a federal judge in New York City, Caproni served in the FBI from 2003 to 2011. In her capacity as FBI General Counsel, she was directly involved with Congress and the White House in addressing these concerns. Judge Caproni is a native of Columbus, GA and a 1979 graduate from the University of Georgia School of Law.

This presentation promises to be a very timely program given what just occurred in Orlando and Ms. Caproni's intimate knowledge of the FBI's anti-terrorism strategies.

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226 E. Palmer St.
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- Franklin and Jackson County
Chamber of Commerce

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 828.349.3200



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INFLATABLES FOR THE KIDS

• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

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 (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 Street, 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, we meet downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

Thurs., June 23

• See EVENTS page 12

Church of the Incarnation Invitation

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation will be opening the doors of the original Church and offering tours of the revitalized garden on Saturday, July 9, 2016 from 1-4 p.m. in celebration of 120 years of worship services and ministry. Join Isabel and Jeannie Chambers in the Sanctuary



pews are hand carved. The beautiful stained glass windows are dedicated to the memory of Highlands citizens who were actively involved in the life of the Church. These windows depict the stories from the Bible and feature many native plants and animals of the Highlands area.

There will be docents in the newly revitalized

as they relate the early history of Incarnation. Barbara Cusachs will be on hand to talk about the needlepoint kneelers and their historic significance. The Flower Guild will adorn the altar with special flowers to the glory of God.

The Church was built in 1896 from chestnut timbers, and a beautiful walnut-paneled reredos surrounds the altar. The

garden to identify plants and share their significance to the Church. A musical interlude in the garden will feature Brad Spaulding and friend on guitar and mandolin. Lemonade and cookies will be served. The event is free of charge and the public is invited to attend. Incarnation is located at the corner of Main Street and 5th Street.



ROTARY CLUB OF HIGHLANDS JULY 4 BARBECUE AT KELSEY-HUTCHINSON FOUNDERS PARK AT PINE STEET 11 AM TO 2 PM

(BBQ will also be sold at the town Baseball Field where the family events are held.)

BBQ Lunch \$8 per plate

Includes: pulled Pork or Chicken Sandwich with Slaw, Beans, Chips, Cookie and Drink

OTHER JULY 4TH EVENTS:

- Family Games at town Baseball Field – 9 AM (corner North 1st Street and Hickory Street)
 - Town Fire Department Ladder Truck
- MAMA Helicopter landing at Baseball Field at Noon
- Live Music from Blue Mountain Movement at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park 11 AM to 2 PM
 - Duck Derby – 3 PM (corner of North 1st Street and Spruce Street) \$10 per Duck with 3 cash prizes for winners!

Cash Prizes:

1st place: \$400, 2nd place: \$200, 3rd place: \$100

• Fireworks Minutes after Dark

All Proceeds benefit the programs and projects of the Rotary Club of Highlands.

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

- At CLE, FBI-Post 9/11 – 2 – 4 pm, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

- At CLE, Highlights of NC Museum of Art – 10 am – 12 noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. Contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

- Needlepoint exhibit at Chestnut Hill of Highlands from 4:30 - 6 pm. Refreshments.

Fri., June 24

- At Hudson Library, Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor in the library meeting room 11 a.m. 'til noon. Mayor Taylor will give an overview of the 2016-'17 budget.

- At CLE, The League of Nations: 2 – 4 pm, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

- Parents Night Out at the Episcopal Church in Jones Hall 5-8 p.m. This event is

free-of-charge and open to all in our community. Suggested ages are 2-12. Call our church office at 828-526-2968, or email Kirsten Huscusion at incarnation@incarnationwnc.org to reserve your spot by Wednesday, June 22, at 5 pm!

Sat., June 25

- At the Cashiers Library, come hear the Wayne Atcheson, the first Billy Graham Library Director as he recounts Billy Graham's history and story. at 2 PM in the Library Community Room. Sponsored by the Friends of the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library.

- Highlands Biological Foundation Annual Meeting and Open House in the Seminar Room of the Coker Laboratory at 3pm. Free

- The LIFE-Saving ministry is having its 4th Annual Bloomsma Barn Event. Mountain Faith Band from Sylva will be performing in Franklin's 1st ever Amphitheater Style Concert. They were Semifinalists on America's Got Talent this

past season. Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center has two free medical clinics serving WNC and upper NE GA.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will hold a Hike Leader Workshop for those interested in leading hikes. Lunch will be provided after the workshop and then a hike. Meet at the NHC Club House on Carl Slagle Rd. at 10:00 am. Contact Mary Stone, 369-7352, or mary23stone@yahoo.com, for reservations or information.

- At PAC, Guy Bavli, Master of the Mind at 8 p.m. Call 828-526-9047 for tickets.

- At CLE, James and Dolley Madison: Washington & Montpelier - 10 am – 12 noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Sun., -Thurs., June 26-30

- Highlands United Methodist Church invites all children to Surf Shack Vacation Bible School. Discover how to surf through life with God and others! The fun begins June 26th and ends June 30th from 5- 8pm at HUMC on 315 Main Street. To be a part of the excitement call Margie Potts at 200-5911 or visit the VBS website: <http://cokesburyvbs.com/humc1>

Mon. June 27

- Garden Tour: Wicked Plants in the Seminar Room of the Coker Laboratory from 10:30-11:30am. Free

- Mirror Lake Improvement Association

meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Current projects will be discussed and plans for future activities will be considered.

- At CLE, Legal Eagles or Donkeys and Elephants – 2 – 4 pm, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

Tues., June 28

- At CLE, Simply Succulent Gardening – 10 am – 12 noon, Peggy Crosby Center Porch. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

- Village Nature Series. Dig deeper and learn more about our natural and cultural heritage at these free family friendly programs, the final Tuesday of the month from May through September at The Village Green Commons in Cashiers. Programs begin at 5:30 PM, rain or shine. No reservations required, everyone welcome. If Fossils Could Talk- Discover the History of the Earth Through Fossils and Local Geology with Dr. Frank Forcino.

- Summer Reading for Kids at Hudson Library. Professor Whizzpop will present 'Going for the Gold' at 2:30pm on be sure to stop by and see the well-loved magician and balloon artist.

Wed., June 29

- At CLE, Building a Sacred Landscape – 10 am – 12 noon, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy

Mountain Artisans

Summertime

Art & Craft Show

100 Artisans

Live Music

Demonstrations



Wood Art by
Ron Thompson

June 25-26

10 AM - 5 PM each day

(WCU) Ramsey Center, Cullowhee, NC
\$4.50 Adults - Children under 12 free

www.MountainArtisans.net

A poster for the 'Mountains In Bloom' event. It features a large, colorful floral arrangement with pink and yellow flowers on the left, and a circular wreath made of brown twigs at the bottom. The text is in various fonts and colors, including green, orange, and red. The background is white with green and yellow horizontal stripes at the bottom.

Mountains In Bloom

July 15th & 16th

Garden Tours
Horticulture Show
Benefactor Packages

Featuring
Special Guest Speaker
Francis Shultz

TICKETS ON SALE AT
www.mountainsinbloom.com

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

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

• **Parents Night Out** at the Episcopal Church in Jones Hall 5-8 p.m. This event is free-of-charge and open to all in our community. Suggested ages are 2-12. Call our church office at 828-526-2968, or email Kirsten Huscouson at incarnation@incarnationwnc.org to reserve your spot.

Thurs. June 30

• At CLE, Past Perfect: Living with Heirlooms & Antiques – 10 am – 12 noon, CLE

Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

• At CLE, Mummies and Mysteries of the Peruvian Desert – 2 – 4 pm, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

• At CLE, Pioneer Potter, Walter B. Stephen (Sponsor: Bascom) – 4 – 5 pm, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. For more information, contact Sandy Carlton @ 828-526-8811.

BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN on June 25 to Benefit Pregnancy Care Center

One of Franklin's most popular settings for celebrations, The Bloomsma Barn LLC, will be the location for the Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center's (SMPCC) 4th Annual Event, Bluegrass at the Barn, set for Saturday, June 25, 2016, 4:00 – 8:30 PM. The community is invited to purchase tickets and come support this organization that helps so many people in western North Carolina and have a great time doing it.

Activities at Bluegrass at the Barn will be concentrated outdoors and include fun for all ages. The entertainment highlight will be the Mountain Faith Band from Sylva, NC, known across American after being semifinalists in 2015 on America's Got Talent. Jenny Golding, CEO of the SMPCC, said "One of Mountain Faith's songs, 'There is a God,' mentions finding the heartbeat on your baby's ultrasound, and that speaks directly to us at SMPCC. Through faithful, generous donors we have new ultrasound machines that allow our clients to do just that." Mountain Faith has taken their fresh sound of gospel, bluegrass, folk and more across North America, as well as having performed in the Persian Gulf for U.S. military personnel. Their performance in Franklin is part of their 2016 coast-to-coast tour.

Golding expects high attendance at Bluegrass at the Barn, and said, "People here are very supportive of our organization and share our mission. We know we can count on their help by giving financially, committing to volunteering, and keeping us in their prayers. They also love coming to our Barn events where the whole family can enjoy time together." Food vendors will be on hand with variety of meal options, attendees should bring lawn chairs or blankets for the amphitheater style outdoor concert, and a competitive spirit for the Silent Auction. The chil-

dren's play area will have a bounce house and other activities including Corn Hole for the family to play together.

Everyone will want to check out the Silent Auction with its growing list of exciting items, such as Disney One-Day Park Hopper Passes, 2 Passes to Dollywood, a five-day stay in a private home in Costa Rica, an FSU football signed by Coach Bobby Bowden, 4 golf passes to Apollo Beach Golf Club and a 2015 Cottonbowl Hat signed by Coach Nick Saban.

Tickets for Bluegrass at the Barn start at \$15 for children (ages 6-12) and \$25 for adults, also a family rate for parents with families of 4 or more \$75. Don't forget to bring cash for food vendors and those great items at the Silent Auction. Tickets are available at www.smpccpartners.com, at SMPCC's offices (226 E. Palmer St., Franklin, and 4699 Little Savannah Rd., Cullowhee) or stop by the Franklin and Jackson County Chambers of Commerce to pick up your tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door!

The Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving lives and protecting futures. They educate, empower, and encourage people throughout Macon, Jackson and surrounding counties to help choose life when faced with unexpected pregnancies. Their dedicated staff, board, and volunteers have a valuable and lasting effect on their clients and the entire community. Our staff support these clients before, during, and after their pregnancy, no matter their choices. Life is about CHOICES, we help clients make an INFORMED Choice! All our services are FREE and Confidential.

Come out for a festival atmosphere and fun time for all the family while supporting a great cause!

Fri., July 1

• At the Cashiers Library, "Hands On" Science Program created to provide insight into the lives, habits, and characteristics of reptiles, especially snakes! Bring your children to meet

some gentle reptiles in the Library Community Room on Friday at 10:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Friends of the Albert Carlton Library.

• See **EVENTS** page 14



Saturday
June 25 8pm
Come be AMAZED!
Guy Bavli
Master of the Mind
Star of Caesar's Palace
& NBC's Hit Series *Phenomenon*
Presented by Peter & Valerie Whitcup

Family Friendly



Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street
Tickets available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047




Canterbury Quartet Roman Kim

Come join the excitement as we celebrate our 35th Anniversary Season of World Class Music and Internationally Known Artists at the
Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival
June 26 – August 7, 2016
www.h-cmusicfestival.org
hccmf@frontier.com
(828) 526-9060






David Coucheron Emerson Quartet

...INVESTING from page 9

ARE the parade, and there are LOTS of people (Sellers) waiting for the parade to start.

How low can you go? We aren't suggesting you start a price war with your neighbor, but it may be time to talk with your Realtor to see if your property is priced right for today's market. If your property has been on the market for a year or more, it's time to re-evaluate the game plan. It doesn't matter if the asking price is at or a lower price than what you paid. (Well it definitely matters to YOU, doesn't it?)

It also doesn't mean that you paid too much for your home. What it means is that the real estate market changes; just like the stock market, the price of a gallon of gas or milk. If your property has been listed for 3-5 years for the same price, what are you waiting for? We all know by now the definition of insanity is doing the same old thing over and over, and doing it the same old way expecting a different result.

There used to be Sellers who would 'put a price' on their home with the notion 'if it sells - fine, and if it doesn't that's fine too.'

Why would a seller put a Broker through that? Those sellers are not flexible at all, they will not be able to go under the limbo stick. <Buzzzer sounds> disqualified. They're essentially out of the game.

Your home may be priced perfectly - it just may take time for the right person to come along - believe me, we hate saying that as much as hate hearing it, but it's true.

Now back to Chubby Checker's version. "Jack be nimble, Jack be quick, Jack go UNDER limbo stick." Translated for real estate: Do this today, don't wait, get yourself in position for the limbo stick to go lower. "All around the limbo block, Hey, let's do the limbo rock"

Sellers: Look around at the homes in your area listed for sale - what are the differences? It's time to make sure YOUR home stands out and get rockin'.

• See INVESTING pg 22

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

• At the Highlands Civic Center, Ron Cromer will present 'Snakes Alive' at 2:30pm at the Highlands Civic Center. This fun program includes a lecture dispelling common myths about snakes and the opportunity for attendees to hold snakes as well as other reptiles.

Sun., July 3

• At Cliffside Lake, Michael Skinner with Balsam Mountain Trust and live raptors at 11 a.m.

Mon., July 4

• Family Games at the ballfield beginning at 9 a.m.; Rotary BBQ, 11a-2p at K-H Founders Park on Pine Street; live music at K-H Founders Park from 11a to 2p; Duck Derby at

N. 1st St. and Spruce St. at 3 p.m. See ad on page 11 for all events.

• At Highlands First Presbyter-

ian Church, Patriotic Concert at 8pm featuring the Highlands Male Chorus led by Joe Powell and accompanied

Weekly Interlude Concerts begin July 6

The summer season of weekly Interlude concerts will begin on Wednesday, July 6. The series is in its 18th season.

The free concerts are sponsored by First Presbyterian Church and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, and are held on Wednesdays at 2pm. Dress is casual. The concerts provide a break from the hustle and bustle of everyday life - a time to meditate, relax, and enjoy a variety of music.

Visitors to Highlands are especially invited to join our members and friends at these concerts. This year's lineup includes:

• July 6: (Presbyterian Church) - Co-sponsored by Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival "The King of Instruments Meets the Instrument of Kings" Norman Mackenzie, Organist

and Yvonne Toll, Trumpeter

• July 13: (Episcopal Church) TBA

• July 20: (Presbyterian Church) The Trey Clegg Chamber Singers, Atlanta [Formerly St. Paul's Episcopal Chamber Choir]

• July 27: (Episcopal Church) Amy O'Dell, Piano and Toy Piano

• August 3: (Presbyterian Church) Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet [Internationally Known Group]

• August 10: (Episcopal Church) Steven McCluskey, Baritone, Robert Henry, Piano

• August 17: (Presbyterian Church) *An Afternoon of Classical and Operatic Arias* By Georgia State University Vocalists W. Dwight Coleman, Artistic Director.

• August 24: (Episcopal Church) Todd Skitch, Flutist, Robert Henry, Pianist

Dr. Joseph H. Wilbanks, D.D.S.

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Individual results may vary.

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www.PlasticSurgeryToday.com



Left: Yvonne Toll, trumpeter; Norman Mackenzie, Organist. Below: Trey Clegg Chamber Singers.



• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

by Carol Guise; Larry Black, Trumpeter; and Angie Jenkins, Pipe Organ.

Tues., July 5

• Guided adventures led by experts in their field. Reservations required. \$35 donation for new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on the trail and a one year membership to HCLT, \$10 for HCLT members. Contact Julie at julie.hitrust@earthlink.net or 526-1111. A Walk through Time, Sargent to Sunset. Visit the historic Sargent property, HCLT's first conservation easement and home to a number of rare plants then trek up to Sunset Rock, one of HCLT's oldest owned properties.

Wed., July 6

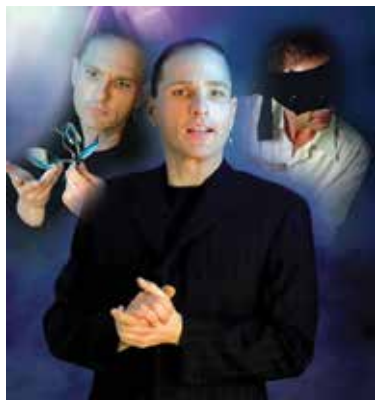
• Summer Interlude Concert at the Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. Co-sponsored by Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival "The King of Instruments Meets the Instrument of Kings" Norman Mackenzie, Organist and Yvonne Toll, Trumpeter.

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.

Shaking Things UP: Something New & Different From Las Vegas to Highlands Guy Bavli, Master of the Mind: Saturday, June 25 at 8pm, at Highlands PAC

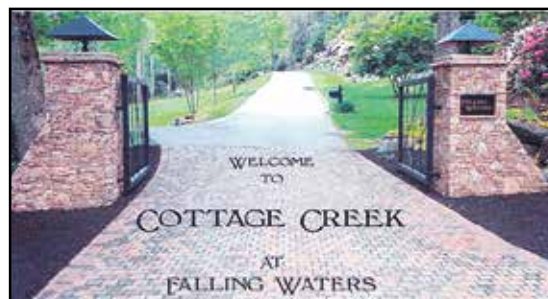
The concept of Guy Bavli – Master of the Mind is to make the audience the star of the show. He delights audiences with interactive entertainment that delivers a unique combination of mystery, humor, psychology and suspense showcased in an amazing multi-media production of sound, lights, and video. He is truly an “un-BAVLI-able” experience.



Bavli...Destined For The Stage... As a child Guy was fascinated with mystery and magic. At the age of five, he began displaying signs of his destiny – successfully entertaining and having the extraordinary ability to charm people while he performed magical illusions. Recognizing his unique talent that captivated audiences, Bavli's family provided him the opportunity to perform his first paid performance at a country club at the young age of eight. The show became a weekly hit for nearly a year! While most kids his age were out playing ball games, Guy was mastering his unique skills and perfecting his performances that earned him the reputation of a child prodigy star.

Making Headlines Across the Globe: Publicity and corporate events have become one of Bavli's known specialties leading to astounding performances in many countries in Europe and the United States. One publicity stunt he performed as part of a marketing campaign for a company in Germany (JAGUAR) involved Bavli driving a car while blindfolded leaving witnesses speechless and creating media frenzy.

Guy Bavli: Master of the Mind. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands



FALLING WATERS

Home sites \$139,000 - \$379,000

DIRECTIONS

From the corner of Main and Hwy 106 (Dillard Road) turn west, and go 1.8 miles, turn right on Mountain Laurel Drive. Go 3/10 of a mile, turn left on Moonlight. Entrance is on the right.



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David Bee | Broker in Charge

davidkbee@gmail.com | 828-421-6607

www.highlandsncrealty.com

Living Outside:

The Power of a Deck

The addition of any amount of usable square footage to a property increases its value and customized decks are a hot trend in home upgrades while personalizing your yard. Experts agree that multi-level decks—a series of deck levels connected by stairways or walkways—are a very popular option. While wood decks are the most popular, they also require more upkeep. So, people are considering composite materials as a viable option. They may cost more up front, but ultimately last longer and require less maintenance. By designing your deck with accents, lights and unique accessories, you can transform your backyard and make a sizeable impression on potential buyers

Home Selling Tips:

Hardwood Floors Make an Impression

Hardwood flooring enhances the look of any room and creates a classic ambiance. Real estate agents agree that those homes hold their value better, sell faster and attract higher prices. Hardwood floors are always a draw and they impart warmth, depth and richness that can't be matched by carpeting, tile or vinyl flooring.

Restoring hardwood flooring in the home is one of the best long-term investments one can make. And 90% said these homes sell for more money. In addition, an EPA study found that pesticides used in gardens and homes can gather on floors and other surfaces in the home. Wood floors don't trap or harbor dust mites or molds like carpet. Though wood floors will probably need to be refinished at some point, when properly taken care of they are much easier to maintain than other floor surfaces. Hardwood floors could make the difference between a sale or watching a potential buyer walk out the door.

Showing Your Home:

Pets Can Be a Factor

Sellers are advised to create the illusion that everything is new and fresh in their homes. But with pets, it's not always easy to keep things that way: They could scare away a potential buyer from stepping foot in the house; Many are worried about dogs or freaked out by birds; Allergies can also be a factor; A dog that barks or jumps on people is not good

So, it's best to relocate the pet for a showing. That can be to a friend or family member or a pet daycare facility.

If pets must be in the home: Put them in a carrier and attach a note warning buyers not to disturb them; Clean the litter box and keep it out of sight; Put food and water dishes away after feeding; Consider hiring professionals to remove pet stains

To some, pets are smelly, noisy and damaging to a property. Don't let that be the reason you don't sell your home.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

I hate to say good-bye!

By Paul Christy
Highlands United Methodist Church

I write to you this week for the very last time as a member of this beautiful community. And for me this is a sad thing. I hope all of you know this is a perhaps the greatest place to live in all of God's creation. So instead of saying goodbye to all of you, I wanted to tell you why I love this place called Highlands.

I love this community because I have seen people helping people. By this I mean that I have seen personally, folks helping others out in powerful ways. If there is a need, you as a community rise to the occasion. If someone is hurting you don't just say, "I am going to pray for you" but you go visit and you take food to people who are hurting. You write notes and you ask how someone is doing and you wait for their answer. That doesn't happen everywhere, and that is why I love this place. You care and love others and I want to thank you for that lesson in life you as a community have taught me.

I want to thank you for teaching me how to slow down and be present in a conversation and truly listen to what is going on in your lives. I have been in a hurry before and walked out of the church to be in a hurry to get somewhere only to be stopped on Main Street and what I thought was being held up was a beautiful delay. But in that delay I found that I was where I needed to be at that time. There is something powerful about being present in a moment. This community has taught me that lesson. I want to thank you for that. I see you visit on the street, I see you taking an hour and half lunch break, and I see you stopping on the street to hold up traffic to say hello and ignore the line of cars behind you. That is a lesson in being present.

So it is with a sense of sadness and gratitude that I write to you this week because as of Tuesday June 28th I will no longer be a resident of the greatest town in the world, Highlands. Instead, I will be a resident of Hickory serving at a church from which my dad retired in 1997. My mom and dad loved Hickory as much as we have loved Highlands so maybe there is a lesson in that as well.

We love our communities because of people. There will be good people in Hickory just as there are here in Highlands; the difference is that we haven't lived there yet. And it also matters that we will move from these beautiful mountains. My prayer for you all is to continue to love one another. Continue to be a place that people feel comfortable visiting and continue to show your patience with all you meet. Thank you as a community for teaching me some valuable life lessons and for being patient with me as one of the preachers in this community.

Every Sunday morning I rode around the community to get ready to preach and listened to the greatest singer and song writer James Taylor, and I rode down the Dillard Road and stopped at the Blue Valley Overlook. I would stop and look out over the hills and think of that great Psalm which starts like this: "I will lift my eyes to the hills, from where does my help come? It comes through the Lord who made heaven and earth." I will think of that every Sunday for the rest of my life but I want to leave you with this thought.

We are all blessed because we have a God who loves us and cares for us and we have a God who loves the world so

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 22

Proverbs 3:5

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.; Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

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

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

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

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

Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470

Sun. 10:45am, S.S. 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

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

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

Education and choir rehearsal, 9 am,

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

Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist Rite II. Prayers for healing,

(chapel), 10 am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

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

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

Choir 5 pm

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship: 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

Mondays: 8 a.m.: Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd) • Rev. Carson Gibson

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

Bible Study: 6 pm

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814

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

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

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

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

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

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

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

Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Pastor Troy Nicholson, (828) 526-8425

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

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

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

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359

Rev. Rob Wood

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

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

Nursery available for Rite II services

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

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

Beginning Memorial Day weekend

Horse Cove - Kay Ward 743-5009

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

• POLICE REPORT •

The Highlands Police log entries from May 31. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

May 31

- At 8 p.m., officers received a report of

someone driving on US 64 with a revoked tag, a false tag and no insurance.

June 8

- At 3:28 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

June 7

...SWIM continued from page 1

Connor Hughes (25 Breast).

Bringing home blue ribbons for the Highlands Hurricanes were 25 swimmers:

Mia Kaylor (Free Relay), Madison Conn (Medley Relay), Rylee K. Watson (Medley Relay, 25 Free, 25 Fly), Lydia Hughes (Medley Relay, 25 Back, Free Relay), Vivian Kennedy (Free Relay), Sadie Green (Medley Relay, 25 Free, Free Relay, 50 Free), Ansley Hughes (Medley Relay, Free Relay, 100 Free), Mackenzie Conn (Medley Relay, 100 IM, Free Relay), Vivi Geren (Medley Relay, 50 Back, Free Relay), La-Donna Dallman (Medley Relay, Free Relay), Madison Jolly (50 Free, 50 Back, 100 Free), Diane Dallman (100 fly),

Blake Kenter (25 Free), Rowan McQuade (Free Relay), Jayden Hughes (Free

Relay), Francisco Gooch (Free Relay), Barrette Neil (Medley Relay), Aniah McKim (Medley Relay, 25 Free, 25 Back, Free Relay, 50 Free), Chase Kenter (Medley Relay, 100 IM, 25 Fly), Connor Hughes (Medley Relay, 50 Back, 25 Breast), Peyton Kaylor (Medley Relay, Free Relay), Finneaus Garner (Medley Relay, Free Relay), Landon Green (Medley Relay, Free Relay), Brady Jolly (Medley Relay, Free Relay, 100 Free), & Elias McKim (100 Back, 100 Free).

Also swimming and scoring for the Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team were Ryan Neil (Medley Relay, 50 Free, 50 Back), Jehlena McKim (Medley Relay, 50 Free, 100 IM, Free Relay, 50 Breast), Anna McKibben (Medley Relay, 50 Free, 50 Back, Free Relay, 100 Free), and Gavin Clark (50 Free).

• At 11:24 a.m., Ruben Jimenez-Lopez, 34, of Glenville, NC, was arrested on N. 4th Street in Highlands for DWI and driving without a license.

• At 6:59 p.m., officers received a noise complaint about the volume on outside speakers be too loud at a home on Chowan Drive.

June 10

• At 7:05 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Sunset Road.

• At 9:30 a.m., officers received a report of a storage unit being broken into on Brooks Road. The lock was broken and items were taken.

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Here's what's hot at the Center for Life Enrichment

ARTS & ARCHITECTURE

Africa: A Photojournalist's View - Tues., 7/5

BRIDGE:

Thinking Bridge II - Mon., 7/11, 18, 25 & 8/1

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY:

iPad Beginners - Wed., 7/6 & Fri., 7/8

iPad/iPhone: Best Applications - Tues., 7/12

iPad: Second Steps - Wed., 7/13 & Fri., 7/15

Apple Basics - Tues., 7/19 & Thurs., 7/21

Apple Advanced - Tues., 7/26 & Thurs., 7/28

Smart Phone Photography Workshop - Wed., 7/27

CULINARY:

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

CURRENT AFFAIRS:

Bonfires to Breaking News - Fri., 7/1

Africa: Political & Economic - Tues., 7/5

Investigations for Int'l War Crimes - Wed., 7/6

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

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

The Art of Japanese Flower Arranging - Tues., 7/12

Miniature Garden Workshop: All Ages - Mon., 7/25

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

MUSIC:

A Brief History of Jazz - Sat. 7/2

Titans of Chamber Music: every Saturday in July

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION:

Food, Sex & the Scrambled Scriptures - Wed., 7/13

SCIENCE:

Great Discoveries in Astronomy - Thurs., 7/21

TRIPS:

Story of Sunburst Trout Farm & Day Trip - Tues., 7/26

Chocolate & Orchids: An Exploration on Botany, Foods

& Culture of Mexico - November 12-20, 2016.

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Nail Tech: Jenna Schmitt

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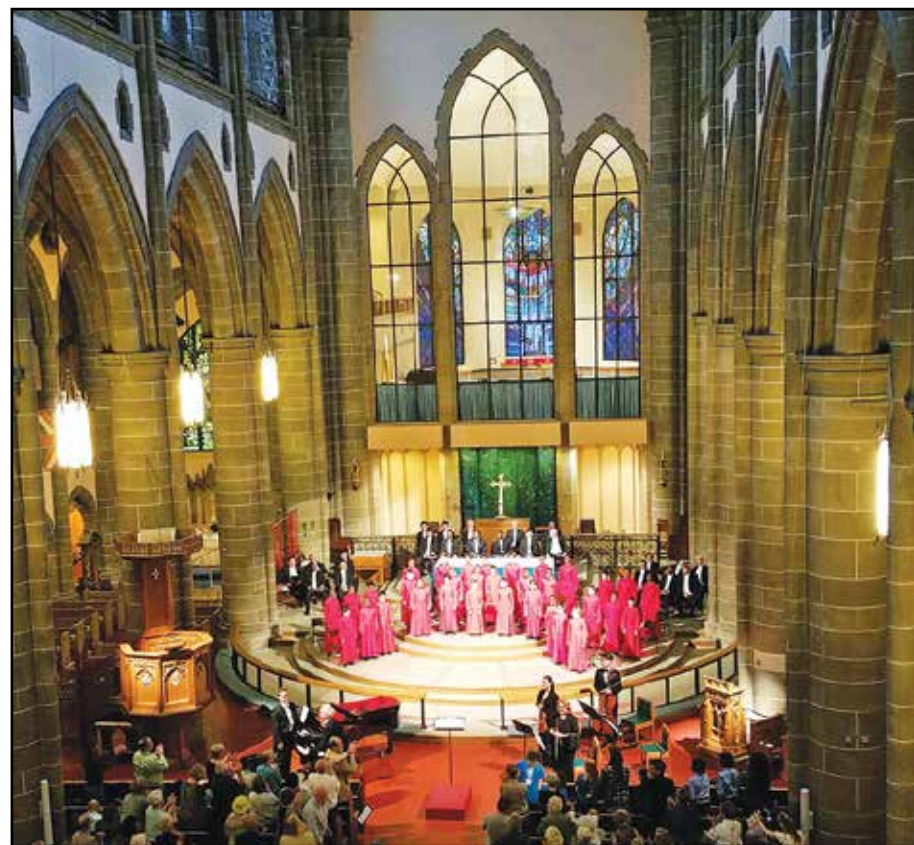
Owner/Stylist: Lisa L. Shearon; **Stylist:** Jane B. Earp;

Stylist/Nail Tech: Kristi Billingsley; **Nail Tech:** Katie Baker Passmore

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Call for an
appointment
TODAY

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •



US Choir Thrills Canadian Audiences

The world famous Atlanta Boy Choir has just returned from having appeared in concerts throughout British Columbia, Canada. The Choir, now in its 60th year, was greeted by overflow crowds for each of their performances and was given standing ovations. The 35 boys and 25 men who make up this Grammy Award Winning choir have sung throughout the world under the direction of its Founder Maestro Fletcher Wolfe, but have seldom encountered such enthusiastic audiences.

One of their listeners, the renowned English organist and composer, Pete Orme, traveled many miles to hear a second performance and said he was captivated by such beautiful music.

The Choir, now being noticed for their performance in the film Captain America, appeared in Highlands at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation several weeks prior to this tour and was acclaimed by many of the listeners as being one of their greatest musical experiences.

Featured at each of their performances in Canada, Maestro Wolfe introduced his accompanist Dr. Robert Henry as America's finest pianist and called him to play a solo for them. After his brilliant and beautiful playing the audience once again rose to their feet for an applause lasting five minutes. Also appearing on the concerts were the extraordinary instrumentalists who accompany the Choir.

It is of great interest that over the years many Highlanders have had sons who are now alumni of this choir.

Some of these include Mr. and Mrs. John Maddox – two sons, Dr. and Mrs. William Stiefel – three sons (two of those pursued music careers), Mr. and Mrs. Robbie Roberts' son, Brent, was a longtime member and Mr. and Mrs. John Jones' son, TV Personality Brennan Robison. Other Alumni of interest include Pulitzer prize winner, Taylor Branch, TV's Mad Men Producer, Dwayne Shattuck, Tony Award winner, Schuler Hensley and European orchestra conductor, Mark Stringer just to name a few.

Each of these consider Maestro Wolfe and their Choir experiences to have been a catalyst for their success.

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Kinard and Lines join Preferred Properties of Highlands

From left: Jim Kinard and
Rayfield Lines



Preferred Properties of Highlands Inc. is honored to announce the affiliation of two long-standing Highlands real estate agents, James (Jim) Kinard and Rayfield E. Lines.

Jim Kinard, a graduate of Georgia College and long known for his in-depth knowledge of local real estate says he is "excited to be with Preferred Properties." His scope of experience and grasp of the real estate industry, going back to 1979 at Highlands Country Club, is virtually unsurpassed in Highlands.

Rayfield, a Georgia Southern University man, has been a Highlands resident and Real Estate Broker for well over 20 years. With a vast knowledge of area real estate, property renovation and property management, he can "spot the good ones." Anyone familiar with some of the finest home renovations in Highlands knows the name - Rayfield Lines.

John Dotson, Broker at Preferred Properties is "thrilled to have the addition of such experienced, talented and honest folks on our team." "If you are interested in good quality business dealings, call one these guys."

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Hard work recognized



The Highlands Plateau Greenway recognized Kevin Gates as the Trail Worker of the Year for 2015 / 2016 today. Presenting the President's award is Vice President Hillrie Quin (left). Kevin has been a devoted volunteer for many years.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

TOWN OF HIGHLANDS JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Position Title: Pool Director

Salary Pay Range: \$28,113 - \$42,169

The Town of Highlands is accepting applications for the position of Pool Director. This position manages and administers the operations of the Town's pool operations, staff and activities. Work in this class includes planning pool activities; training and supervising staff; administering pool operations; enforcing rules and regulations pertaining to the protection of facilities, equipment and patrons. Full job description is available on our website at www.highlandsn.org or at the Town Hall.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. The Town of Highlands provides a competitive benefits package. The successful applicant is subject to a criminal background check, a pre-employment drug screening and passing a physical examination.

Applications are available at Town Hall or may be downloaded from the Town's website at www.highlandsn.org under Employment. Resumes may be submitted in addition to applications. All completed and signed employment applications may be submitted in person to Sonjia Gibson, HR Director, at the Town Hall, 210 N. Fourth Street, Highlands, NC, by email to sonjia.gibson@highlandsn.org, by fax to 828-526-2595 or by U.S. Mail to the attention of Sonjia Gibson, HR Director, PO Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. The Town of Highlands is an Equal Opportunity/Drug-Free Employer. This position has a closing date of 07/01/2016, and applications will be reviewed as received.

(6/23)

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 21

Have you Fixed Your Dirt Crawl Space?

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- ✖ Loss of Storage Space
- ✖ Radon Gas
- ✖ Rising Energy Costs



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...CLASSIFIEDS continued from page 19

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MOVING/YARD/ESTATE SALE

MULTIFAMILY PORCH SALE – Fri. 6/24 (10-4), Sat. 6/25 (9-4), Sun. 6/26 (12-4) – Peggy Crosby Center back porch, 348 S. 5th Street, Highlands (Please access through driveway on right side and not through bldg.) Household

goods, sectional sofa, oriental rug, side chair, art, Christmas items, etc. We are emptying our storage units! Most things half price on Sunday. (6/23)

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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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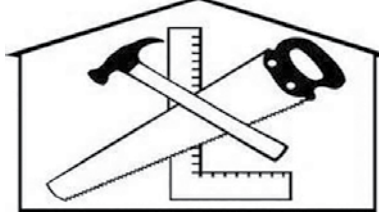
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WHOLE LIFE MARKET & NECTAR JUICE BAR now accepting applications! Stop by to pick up an application or send resume to wholelife@frontier.com. (st. 6/2)

PART-TIME, YEAR-ROUND POSITION. w/holiday pay. 3-11 p.m., Sat., and Sun. Dependable and multi-taskers only please and thank you. Call 828-526-2203. (st. 5/26)

4TH STREET MARKET OPENING THIS SUMMER. Immediate openings for Mgrs & Assocs, FT&PT, AM&PM, 7days/wk. Send resume & references to MaryBeth@4thStMarket.com (st. 5/26)

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)

YEAR ROUND PART-TIME SALES ASSOCIATE POSITION -- available at Highland's newest boutique, Celebrity Collections. If you are an experienced professional, highly motivated self-starter and eager to learn a unique business, please send a resume to Celebrity Collections, PO Box 2368, Highlands, NC, 28741 or apply in person at 352 Main Street, Highlands. Contact Nancy at 828-526-4994. (st. 5/11)

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)

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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)

SCALY MOUNTAIN NURSERY & LANDSCAPING is now hiring for landscape division. Call 828-526-9269 or Matt at 828-371-2474. (st. 3/17)

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 potpourri-highlands@yahoo.com (st. 3/10)

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...CHAMBER continued from page 6

logo is designed to echo the theme of the town logo and works to capture the fact that Highlands is an arts town, with representation of the hemlock in a stylized fashion.

The new logo and tagline "Elevation 4,118: The Height of Happiness" along

...INVESTING from 14

Real estate is a funny business to be in sometimes. Not funny, Ha Ha, but funny as in strange. You can ask anything you want for your property, but until it is recorded at the courthouse under a different name, it's still yours. No one gets paid until it's sold.

Finally, a word for BUYERS: There is more variety in our area's real estate than I've ever seen. In the Highlands Township, there are 420 residential/town homes/condo listings ranging from \$75,000 all the way up to \$4,999,000.

Now get those limbo real estate legs going, and see how low you can go. If it's TOO low, you're not necessarily disqualified from the game; the Seller may just have to raise the limbo stick a little with a counter-offer.

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with research findings and market strategy recommendations will now be used to execute a campaign that is highly relevant to a targeted market, and that will result in success for visitors and businesses alike, says the Chamber board of directors.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 16

much that God sent His Son to show and teach us how to be in relationships, and all who believe in Him should have ever lasting life. And God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world but to love the world.

The way I understand that scripture is that we are to love one another. You have taught me to love community in the schools, in the town and in your churches. Thank you. A dear friend of mine here in Highlands said this to me, "Once Highlands gets in your blood you will always want to come back." I will be back.

May God bless you and keep you all and may God grant you grace. Thank you for eight of the most wonderful years of my life. You have blessed me and my family.

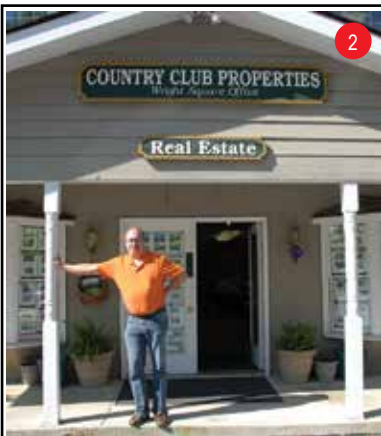


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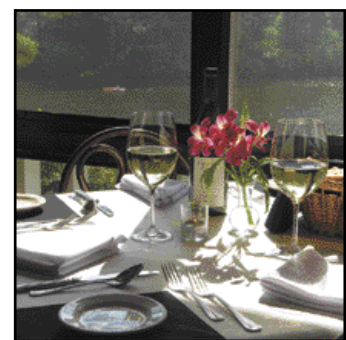
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