Volume 13, Number 42

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Thurs., Oct. 20, 2016

U.S. 'Charters of Freedom' to be displayed in the county

In the next few months, residents of Macon County won't have to travel to Washington, D.C. to get a glimpse of the nation's foundation documents, the Charters of Freedom. Last week, the Macon County Board of

Commissioners unanimously voted to accept a gift from Foundation Forward, a non-profit that builds monuments around the country to display replicas of the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

The Charters of Freedom are our country's founding documents. These three original documents, The Declaration of Independence, The United States Constitution and The Bill of Rights, are on display in the National Archives in

Washington, D.C. They are open to the public and free to view.

Perry Snider from Foundation Forward presented commissioners with the option to build a monument for the documents out of brick, at

•See FREEDOM page 12

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ABC board members, Brenda Pierson, John Underwood and Rick Trevathan and manager Kevin Vinson, join recipients of ABC proceeds for 2016.

Highlands benefits from liquor sales at ABC Store

On Monday, Oct. 17, representatives of the Highlands ABC Store distributed funds to six re-

Each year, per state statute, after operating expenses are met, the ABC stores in North Carolina must distribute any leftover monies to various organizations within their municipalities, includ-

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ing the police department and the municipality itself.

The police department uses the funds to educate youth about drug and alcohol abuse. The disbursement made to the town goes into the General Fund.

Mayor Pat Taylor accepted two checks -- one to the town for

•See ABC STORE page 12

Leatherman and Gillespie vie for District 2

With District II on the Macon County Board of Commissioners without an incumbent seeking election this November, two new candidates are vying for the open seat. Republican candidate Karl Gillespie is seeking his first term in office and his first political position while Charlie Leatherman, who is on the Democratic ticket, has previously served two terms on the commission, but served as a Republican then.

Karl Gillespie has owned a business in Macon County since 1999 when he started National Communications, Inc (NCI). A fifth generation Maconian, Gillespie is actively involved in civic organizations serving on the Macon County Planning Board and the Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees.

Gillespie is running for office as a way to give back to his •See VIE page 27 **Big Creek ablaze**



No matter the forecasts, autumn's bloom is always amazing.

One-Stop early voting opens in Franklin Oct. 20 and in Highlands Oct. 27

One-Stop Voting places-Macon County's early voting option is in Franklin and Highlands.

However, days and times are different at each location.

Franklin's One-Stop voting location is at the courthouse in

Franklin - 5 W. Main Street -- in the Board of Elections Office on the first floor basement level in room 127B. It opens Thursday, Oct. 20.

> It is open weekdays 8 a.m. to •See ONE-STOP page 27

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

Mayor on Duty

Important issues to be discussed tonight

The October Highlands Town Board meeting is scheduled for tonight, at the Highlands Community Building beginning at 7 pm. There are a couple of major agenda items.

Kevin O'Donnell, our Nova Energy consultant, will update the board on two items. First, there will be an increase in REP fees that are a part of each

monthly electric bill. Duke is required to generate a certain percentage of their power from green energy sources such as solar and wind. Customers are charged a fee for this program. The current 70 cent charge for residential customers will go to \$1.26, and for commercial customers the increase will be from \$4.60 to \$5.80. These fees apply to all Duke Energy customers throughout their system.

Kevin will also update the board on impending coal ash fees. As I noted earlier this year, we expected to learn about the proposed coal ash fees after the dust had settled in Raleigh. As anticipated the issue was resolved between Duke, the legislature and the governor at the end of the last legislative session this summer.



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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.



Mayor Pat Taylor

Now Duke is entering the phase of setting the fees. Kevin will advise us as to what options we have, if any. When these fees are imposed, they will be on a coal ash line of each customer's bill.

Another major item tonight will be the staff report on commercial garbage. In my last article I outlined some of the content of this carefully developed report. An annual deficit in the commer-

cial side of the sanitation department has been identified. The board will begin the process of addressing this deficit by discussing the related issues. The staff report makes several corrective recommendations. The board will carefully review, possibly modify and finally approve some or all of these recommendations. I do not expect any major action to come from this discussion tonight. I am certain the board will be very deliberate and examine all aspects of the problem before taking final action. The process may take several months before changes are made. Nevertheless, state officials who oversee our enterprise operations will not allow the town to continue to operate commercial trash collection with annual shortfalls. We have to operate commercial trash pickup as if it were a business, not just a town service.

The board will also go into closed session at the end of the meeting to begin a review of applicants who have applied for the town planner and town manager positions. After the applications have been screened and reviewed, interviews of the top candidates for each position will begin. Our personnel office has been advertising these two positions for a number of weeks in local, state and national outlets. As a result, we now have an adequate pool of applicants for the planner position and a substantial pool for town manager. I believe we will have a town planner on board very soon. The town manager position hopefully should be filled by the end of the year. Join us tonight.

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•THANK YOU•

A special tribute and thank you to Allen 'Buck' Trott

The Special Operations Warrior Foundation (SOWF) received a donation from the Special Operations Adventure Race (SOAR) Board of directors in memory of Allen "Buck" Trott. Our Special Operators keep faith with our nation by serving in dangerous and difficult places, enduring long family separations. When tragedy strikes, our Foundation keeps faith with them.

Buck was a wonderful person who served his country with distinction and honor. Following his military retirement his commitment to serve and outstanding leadership continued. Over the past 14 years Buck supported the surviving children of our fallen special operators. His compassion and heartwarming dedication to help others was ever present as he led the effort to establish the Special Operations Adventure Race (SOAR) organization to benefit SOWF. The SOAR events raised over \$600,000 and since 2002 celebrated the college graduation of 232 children. Additionally, 940 wounded special operators received financial assistance while recuperating from combat wounds.

Buck would be proud to know that 158 children are in college today. Buck made it possible for these children to now venture forward to make a difference in world! Another 700 children will have the opportunity to attend college when they graduate high school and hundreds of children, from kindergarten through senior year of college, receive in-home tutoring should they need academic assistance.

We thank you for allowing us to share these past 14 years with Buck. He was an inspiration to us all and changed the lives of over a thousand children. We will miss him

Steven L. McLeary Major, USAF (Ret) Special Operations Warrior Foundation Executive Director

Community turns out for 'Empty Bowls'

On October 2, over 200 people attended the sixth annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser at First Presbyterian Church. The Empty Bowls Project is an effort to raise funds and awareness concerning hunger in our community. Guests at a simple soup luncheon took home a hand-made bowl to keep as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. In Highlands, all proceeds benefitted The Food Pantry of Highlands, a collaborative project of the International Friendship Center and Highlands United Methodist Church.

Our local effort was initiated by the Bascom Center for the Arts in 2011. Each year they have provided hundreds of bowls for simultaneous events in Highlands and Cashiers. We are grateful to The Bascom for sponsoring this effort and for providing staff, space, and equipment to meet their goal of 250 bowls for this event. Special thanks to Frank Vickery, Ceramics Program Coordinator, who worked tirelessly to see that goals were met.

•See THANK YOU page 25

•Weekend Weather•



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

•OBITUARIES•

Martha Andrews

Martha Andrews, age 74, formally of Augusta, Georgia and Highlands, North Carolina died October 5, 2016 at Hospice of the Golden Isles in Brunswick, GA, after a long and dignified battle with Alzheimer's disease. A native of Brunswick, she was born December 2, 1942, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Roberta Asa Sapp of Glynn County.

A devoted Episcopalian, Martha was well read and traveled. She was beloved by all who knew her for her gentle smile and sweet nature. Martha loved and supported Georgia football, often greeting friends with "Go Dawgs!" Her accomplishments are numerous and diverse.

After graduating from Glynn Academy, she obtained a BA in English from Emory University in Atlanta, a Master's Degree from the University of Houston, followed by a Juris Doctorate where she practiced law for the firm Bell, Choate and Walker in Augusta. She later earned a Ph.D in English Education from the University of Georgia in 1995. After studying abroad in Oxford, England she taught AP English classes including creative writing and Shakespeare at Davidson Fine Arts School, Augusta. Martha was a Governor's Honors judge and a talented chef. She had assisted her friend Natalie Dupree in her culinary schools throughout the state.

Martha is survived by a son, Emory Andrews Fiveash of Augusta, a sister Bobbie S. Bagley and brother in-law Dr. George W. Bagley IV of Leslie, GA, a nephew George W. Bagley V, of Atlanta, a niece, Mimi Bagley Jennings (Phil) of Soperton, and lifelong friend Carol Page Ploeger (Paul) of St. Simons Island.

Graveside services were held Monday October 17, 2016 at Palmetto Cemetery. Due to the recent Hurricane, a Memorial service will be held at a later date at Christ Church Frederica, St. Simons Island, Ga.

The family request memorials be made to Christ Church Frederica, St. Simons Island Ga. or Church of the Wildwood, c/o Kay Ward, 167 Red Fox Ridge, Cashiers, North Carolina, 28717.

Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home, Brunswick GA, is in charge of arrangements. www.edomillerandsons.com

Col. Emmett Augustus Niblack, Jr

Col. Emmett Augustus Niblack, Jr. (Nib or Gus), US Air Force (Ret'd), age 86, of Highlands, NC, died on October 13, 2016, at the Wake Forest Baptist Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Care Center.

Nib Niblack was born on St. Patrick's Day, 1930, at Ft. Bragg, NC, to Capt. Emmett Augustus Niblack, Sr. and Ethel Reece Redding Niblack. He attended Biloxi



High School in Mississippi, the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and the United States Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1952. On June 7, 1952, he married the former Jolene Stanton of McMinnville, Tennessee. He received a Master's degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 1958. Col. Niblack served in the US Air

•See OBITUARIES page 6

Families invited to unite in memory of children lost

For Highlands families who donate in memory of a child lost too soon, the name of their child will be included on a plaque in the fireplace area at K-H Founders Park.

To make a tax deductible donation to remember the child, make checks payable to Friends of the Park and mail it to PO Box 1703, Highlands, NC, 28741. Please include the name of the child you would like to honor so it can be included on the plaque. Space is limited. Names will be listed as per donation received.



For more information, please contact Nick Bazan at nicholas.bazan@gmail.com. or 828-371-2653.

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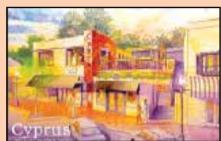






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M F G R O . C O M

...OBITUARIES continued from page 3

Force from 1952 to 1978. He was the recipient of seven combat decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and two Legions of Merit. He received a Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

Nib was an avid hunter and fisherman and was a Certified Gunsmith 1982-2004. He was an active member of the Rotary Club of Highlands, serving as President 1986-87, and District Lieutenant Governor 1987-89. He enjoyed membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the American Legion. He served as Senior Warden of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation 1995-97, and was

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most recently a member of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church congregation.

He is survived by his wife Jolene Stanton Niblack, his brother, Charles Redding Niblack and wife Yvonne Niblack (née Stewart) of Theodore, Alabama; sister, Nancy Alice Niblack Dantzler and husband Larry Dantzler of Panama City, Florida; daughter Terry Lee Niblack and husband Tim Rickard of Columbus, Ohio; son Mark Thomas Niblack and wife Margy (Pracchia) Niblack of Flagstaff, Arizona; daughter Elizabeth Alison Niblack Baumgarten and husband Doug Baumgarten of Aldie, Virginia; daughter Natalie Reece Niblack and husband Michael Heltsley of Mt. Vernon, Washington; grandchildren Mark Rickard, Frances Rickard, Sabra Starr, and Michael Starr; and great-grandson Dalton Lee Inman Rickard.

A memorial service will take place on October 27, 2016 at 2 P.M. at the Highlands First Presbyterian Church, officiated by the Rev. Nick Henderson. Interment will take place at the Salisbury National Cemetery in Salisbury, NC on October 28, 2016 at 1p.m..

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and/or the Wounded Warrior Project.

Online condolences may be sent to bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Niblack family.

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• Reflections •

Talking Politics

7hat I have taken calling Kaepernick Kerfuffle has highlighted, at least for me, the nature of discourse in 21st century American politics. Colin Kaepernick is the biracial quarterback of the NFL's San Francisco 49ers who recently protested the treatment of black Americans by police in America by refusing to stand during the playing of the national anthem at the start of a

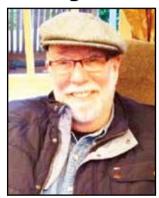
preseason football game. It was one person staging a protest in a highly public forum.

Certainly in America we have a long and storied history of dissent. Our nation began two and a half centuries ago in dissent writ very large. And change, whether one embraces it or not, typically flows from some form of dissent. We have both the Constitutional right and the historical responsibility to express dissent when we're so moved, and we have the obligation to acknowledge it when dissent presents to us in a peaceful manner. We also have the constitutionally guaranteed right to dissent against dissent, again, peacefully, when confronted by it.

While I may agree with Colin Kaepernick's underlying message that racism exists and, unfortunately, depending on your perspective, flourishes in our otherwise great nation, I do not agree that dishonoring the flag is necessarily the best or even the correct manner in which to deliver that message. That stated, the purpose of any message is to get attention and the quarterback has certainly succeeded in accomplishing that. The flag, and what it represents, gives Kaepernick the right to express his dissatisfaction, and gives those who disagree the right to do so as well. It's a manifestation of our constitutional system working.

The thing that strikes me about the whole affair is how it underscores the boisterous national conversation we're having in America. It seems to me global issues, such as healthcare, our economy, or intervention elsewhere in the world take a backseat before the national stage to matters involving individual liberty and how these highly personal discussions steal and then hold the spotlight in our society.

This year marks the thirteenth presidential election in which I'll be voting. It's the nastiest, most unpleasant such contest in my memory and thanks to more and



Bruce Katz

newer platforms of communication, I don't have confidence it will change in the future. But I live with the hope that it will, because elections are important and when the tone turns people off, the substance becomes the loser.

My mother, as with so many of her generation, warned against ever talking about either politics or religion when engaging in polite conversation. These days, I'm not sure there is such a

thing as polite conversation, especially when politics, or religion, or gender is the venue of the discussion. You have to be careful what you talk about, and with whom.

Years ago, I attended a political fundraiser for a friend/Congressman who was running for reelection. On one side of me at dinner sat a woman I knew but not well. On the other side sat a man who I knew a bit better. The seating arrangement, actually, was a tad prophetic.

Before our host introduced the candidate in order for him to do 'the ask,' with no foreplay or preliminary conversation, the woman to my right asked me if I would clearly articulate my position on abortion.

"OK" I said. "I don't like abortions but

"There are no buts!" she interrupted, emphatically.

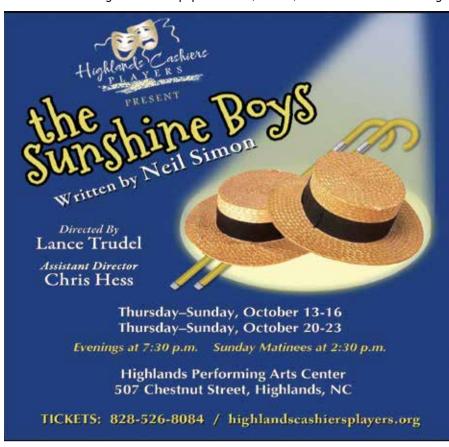
"But," I said, ignoring her interruption, "I honestly don't think I deserve an opinion on the subject because I have a Y chromosome and most likely therefore will never have to consider having one." I can be snarky sometimes when the spirit so directs me.

"Oh," she said. "You're one of those."
Careful, Bud, I said to myself. "One...
of...those...what, exactly?" I asked. It was
dinner so she had a knife in one hand and a
fork in the other. Sizing me up as if I were
seven, she put her weapons, er, utensils down
and said in a way too kindly voice, "One of
those fence-sitting mugwumps who won't
land in either one camp or the other."

I avoided the multiple redundancy issue and sat up straighter than I might have been sitting earlier.

"Look," I said, "I'm sincere about this. If anyone in my sphere were to ask my advice about getting an abortion I would probably counsel them not to. First, there are other options, such as adoption, and second,

• See REFLECTIONS page 9





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Tuesday: Made in-house Italian sausage lasagna and a large house salad.

\$21.95 serves four

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

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

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

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

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Baked Linguini: Meatballs, tomato sauce & cheese. Comes with garlic bread and salad \$21.95

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

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...REFLECTIONS continued from page 7

there are both physical and emotional health at least a chance of enjoying some success." considerations that can be pretty devastating."

"So, there you are," she said, with more triumph in her tone than the comment mer-

not something I have to decide for myself. And, I don't believe I have a right to tell you or any other woman what she ought to do about anything."

There was a pause while she showed me what she could do with a knife and fork on some red meat. Just to stay in the game. I showed her what I could do with mine on peas and tater tots.

"Exactly how dug in on this are you?" I asked her. "I know the Congressman's position but I also know that this is pretty much settled law. Women have the right to choose. Why fight a fight you can't win, legally?"

This time she kept the knife and fork at the ready when she turned to vell at ... er, talk to me.

said. I didn't remind her that as a mature adult, she probably wasn't going to have to deal with what amounts to a private, personal decision such as having or not having an abortion. I'm pretty sure that's why I'm still around to recount this event.

"So, no concerns about the economy." I said, "or about foreign relations, energy policy, national security ..."

"I contribute and I vote based solely of guns you own?" on a candidate's stance on abortion," she sniffed, adding, "from the top of the ticket, all the way down to the local level." She had a most satisfied look on her mature adult

"Wow," I said. "I guess it's good to be that focused. I kind of worry about all of it but I also prefer to pick arenas where I have

She exhaled in the manner of someone dismissing someone else and went back to her plate. Two more bites of London broil and she'd earn her dessert.

We didn't speak for a while. I ate my "No," I said, "Here I am, I'm a man, It's meal in silence, pondering the powerful single mindedness of my companion to the

> "Got your lunch eaten there, partner," the guy to my left said. His name was Charlie. I knew Charlie to be a kind of political schizophrenic, what some might call a moderate. He was a rock-ribbed conservative on some issues and a screaming liberal on oth-

> "Not true," I said, pointing at my gut. "Most of this, uh, dinner ended up right where it's supposed to."

> "You know what I mean," he said, jerking his head to the right. "Mother Mary over there. No sense getting into it with that one about that thing.

"She's entitled to her opinion," I said. "It's the only issue I care about," she Magnanimous is my middle name. "You can disagree without being disagreeable." Cliché is my other middle name.

> "Ah," he said, wiping something or other from the left corner of his mouth. "People who are that invested in something don't ever really cotton to an opposing view." Then, he threw me one from out in left field, or maybe it was right field.

"Let me ask you a question, what kind

Now, you have to understand, I knew that politics was going to be on the menu at a political fundraiser. I'd had my portion of abortion so I guess getting grilled on guns was also fair game.

"I don't own any guns," I said, adding as quickly as I could, "but I will defend

• See REFLECTIONS page 13



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• Highlands Area Events •

'Don Giovanni' Live via Satellite at PAC this Saturday



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will present Live via Satellite from NYC the MET Opera's production of Don Giovanni (Mozart). Saturday, October 22 at 12:55pm. "A winning cast sparks joy in Don Giovanni revival at the Met...a delightful performance that reminded us of the genius of Mozart's music that could bring revelation and excitement in the hands of professionals" — Bachtrack. The charismatic baritone Paul Appleby plays the title hero, opera's ultimate cad, who goes to hell in a dazzling coup de théâtre. The ensemble of great Mozartean singers includes Hibla Gerzmava, Malin Byström, Rolando Villazón, and Kwangchul Youn. Tickets available online: highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.8084. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands

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ONGOING

- Movies at the Highlands Playhouse: Friday Tuesday: 2, 5, and 8 pm:
- Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. Contact Coach Steve Hott at 828-421-2121.

Mon. & Thurs.

• The Joy Program at HUMC from I I:30a to I: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.

Tuesdays

- 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 from 11:30a to 1p in the gym at the Rec Park.

Wednesdays

- 49ers 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.

Ist Wednesdays

• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:30pm. Call 828-526-303 I 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.
- Żahner 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. at First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street beside Bryant's Funnel Home. Call Donita for more info (828) 526-9510.

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 Maiestic 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

- 99ers Bridge Club at the Rec Park at 9 a.m. Be seated by 8:45 a.m.
- Open Duplicate Bridge at I p.m. Be seated by 12:45 a.m.
- Friday Night Live, 6-8pm in Town Square. Live music. Free

Saturdays

- At MountainTop Wine Shoppe on Main Street, free wine tastings from I-3 p.m.
- At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.
- Highlands Marketplace at K-H Park 8a to noon.
- The Bascom Knitters on the Terrace at The Bascom from 10 am until noon. In event of cold/rain, meet downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

Thurs.-Sun., Oct. 20-23

• At PAC, HCP's "Sunshine Boys." ou can buy tickets are online at highlandscashiersplayers. org for Thursday – Sunday Oct 20-21. The HCP box office, 828-

Sky Valley, GA, Fall Festival is this Saturday



Sky Valley Fall Festival this Saturday, Oct 22 will feature arts & crafts, scarecrow row, music, food vendors and a car show. This year's car show "special" is registered with the national Vietnam Veterans 50th Commemoration Committee program. Tribute will be paid to all Vietnam era veterans and their families. Admission is free, and there is no registration fee. All antique, custom, collector cars & trucks are welcome.

Highlands Area Events

526-8084, is open from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m.. If phone is busy, leave a message for a call back.

Thurs., Oct. 20

- 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. Bearwallow Mountain Excursion
- Rotary Craft Beer Night at OEI's The Farm from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person and inlude light bites. Tickets are available at the dooir.
- Candidate Forum in Tartan
 Hall of the Presbyterian Church
 in Franklin. Macon County Commission candidates: Karl Gillespie,
 Charles Leatherman, Bobby Kupers and Paul Hidgon. Bring lunch.

Fri., Oct. 21

Celebrate Halloween the natural way

• The High Mountain Squares will host their annual "Halloween Dance." Bring your funniest face, Friday night, at the Macon County Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC. Our own Jim Duncan from Otto, NC will be the caller. Work/shop at 6:45 and the dance starts at 7:15. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels.

Sat., Oct. 22

- At PAC, Live via Satellite from NYC the MET Opera's production of Don Giovanni (Mozart). Saturday, October 22 at 12:55pm. Tickets available online: highland-spac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.8084. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands
- Sky Valley Fall Festival near the old clubhouse.

Sun., Oct. 23

• Hymn Sing at First Presbyterian Church at 4 p.m.

Oct. 27

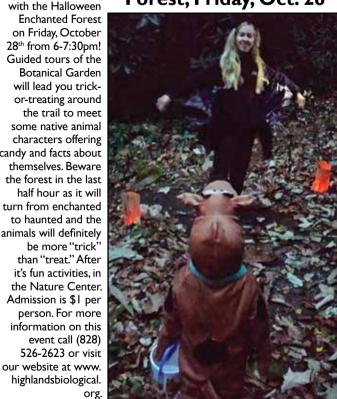
- The Bascom Book Club meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. Meetings are held in the downstairs conference area at the Bascom. The meeting time is 3–5p. .Euphoria by Lily King
- Art on the Hill at Chestnut Hill from 4-5:30 p.m. in the clubhouse. The photography of Peter Ray will be featured.

First Presbyterian to host Hymn Sing



First Presbyterian Church will host an old fashioned hymn sing at 4pm on Sunday, October 23. Those attending may choose a hymn they wish to sing from the 1938 Cokesbury Hymnal. Song leader will be Stell Huie with Angie Jenkins at the piano. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. The church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

Halloween Enchanted Forest, Friday, Oct. 28





Sunshine Boys opening night was well attended and well received. Jim Gordon turned in a stellar performance as the complaining, contentious Willie. He was ably supported by the HCP regular, David Spivey as his nemesis, Al Lewis. Deb Likens, gave Neil Simon's show a new twist as she played Willie's niece Kate, instead of the usual nephew Ben. You haven't seen Mary Adair Trumbly until you have seen her as the hot bimbo nurse. She gives everyone over 55 hope to age as beautifully. Robin Phillips turned in a sassy performance as Willie's nurse. You can buy tickets online at highlandscashiersplayers.org for Thursday — Sunday Oct 20-21. The HCP box office, 828-526-8084, is open from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m.. If phone is busy, leave a message for a call back.



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...FREEDOM continued from page 1



The monuments will resemble those in Sylva, NC.

a cost of about \$25,000. The monuments, if built in brick, will come at no cost to the county and will be constructed wherever Macon leaders decide. If county leaders decide to build the monuments out of granite or limestone, community dollars, not tax dollars, will be raised to cover the additional \$20,000 cost.

SERVES 4

SERVES 4

SERVES 4

Macon County Commissioner Gary Shields invited Snider to the monthly board meeting and supported bringing the monuments to the community.

Foundation Forward is a project devoted to providing access to and education about American government, and was spearheaded by Vance Patterson, founder of the nonprofit Foundation Forward Inc., which has installed Charters of Freedom monuments in communities in North Carolina, Illinois, South Carolina, and Indiana.

The monument also will include a time capsule to be opened on Sept. 17, 2087, the 300th anniversary of the writing of the Constitution. The capsule will be opened on the same day as capsules included in Charters of Freedom monuments around the country and will include letters and artifacts from the present-day community.

Foundation Forward's most recent monuments were constructed in Jackson County and were built using brick.

Foundation Forward was created by Patterson after he and his wife Mary Jo visited the monuments in Washington D.C. Patterson was so moved by his experience viewing the documents that he wanted to replicate the experience for communities across the country.

The first Charters of Freedom Monuments were erected in Morganton, North Carolina on July 2, 2014 and have since been gifted to communities across the US

Funds to construct the monuments are raised through donations from private individuals, community organizations, and businesses. No grants or government funds are used for the projects.

According to Snider, the organization works with county officials to contract the construction of the monuments with local businesses and after the monuments are completed, the county will be responsible for maintenance and upkeep.

Commissioner Shields said he would like to see the monuments in front of the courthouse while Commissioner Ronnie Beale noted that the Veterans Memorial Park along the Georgia Road would be a good location.

Macon County agreed to accept the gift from the foundation and will continue discussions to decide where the monument will be constructed and what material - brick, limestone, or granite – will be used.

...ABC STORE continued from page 1

\$41,163 and one the Highlands Police Department in the amount of \$4,240.

Highlands Recreation Department Director Lester Norris accepted a check in the amount of \$9,259.

Cindy Pierson, Clinical Operations Manager at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital accepted a check for \$8,101.

Store Manager Kevin Vinson stood in for school board member Stephanie McCall accepting a check for the Highlands School Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$8,101.

Tommie Jackson - Pastoral Psycho-

therapist at Highlands United Methodist Church accepted a check for \$4,886 for its Counseling Subsidiary Fund.

This disbursement is part of the mandatory Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation distribution required by the state.

Mayor Taylor said it's important people know that all the money spent on liquor sold at the Highlands ABC Store goes directly back into Highlands.

A total of \$75,750 was distributed.

- Kim Lewicki

...REFLECTIONS continued from page 9

passionately your right to own as many as you'd care to." Mugwumps of the world, unite!

He looked at me with a mask of curiosity such as one might see on the face of a cat checking out a very timid mouse.

"Why," he said, pausing for emphasis, "don't you own any guns?"

I'd never studied on why I don't own any guns. I had nothing for him.

"I don't know," I said. "Maybe because I prefer to spend my money on nice vacations and comfortable shoes?"

"Let me get this straight, Bud," he said. "You are in favor of the second amendment but you don't own any guns?" Charlie, as I discovered, was not at all schizophrenic, at least not on this particular issue.

I nodded and nodded again. "I'm actually in favor of pretty much all the articles and amendments in our Constitution. Charlie." The imp on my left shoulder whispered for me to cut my losses on this discussion but the one on my right, the one with the pitchfork, told me to jump right in and go for it. I'm a natural jumper.

"I don't see any conflict," I said, "between supporting a right for you to own guns and my right not to. I do think you ought to register your guns, just in case you lose one. Or in case a dozen or so of them get stolen."

"Yep," he said. "THAT, my friend, is the camel's nose under the ... whatever it is camels stick their noses under. First, registration, then, confiscation."

As I said, Charlie was liberal on a number of issues, like abortion, marijuana, feeding the hungry and housing the homeless, but on this one he definitely had his NRA talking points down pat.

"You know," I said, knowing sure as shooting that I was heading straight down a dangerous rabbit hole, "nobody in any real position of authority wants to confiscate your or anyone else's guns, right? Like I told what's-her-name over there it's really settled law."

"Hah," he said. "I'll bet you actually believe that."

"No, really," I said. "I feel like I can be personally uncomfortable with someone's position without wanting to legislate against that position just because I don't like it. I mean, who really likes abortion? No one does, right? But who am I to tell her or anyone else that they can't have a choice in the matter?"

"Yeah, yeah, yeah," he said, "but we're talking about guns right now. I have a constitutional right to own as many guns as I want to!"

"You do and you should," I said, "but

does that mean that I have to? And, why would it be so bad if there were some better background checks and some local or state registry just on the off chance one or some of those guns got misplaced, lost, or stolen and then used in a crime?"

"Well," Charlie said, "our pal the Congressman and I are in lockstep on this issue, although I'm not sure we have a whole lot else in common."

Our chocolate lava cake desserts arrived.

"I gotta ask you, man," he said. "What are you doing here? You know where the Congressman stands on these issues, right? If you disagree with him, why the heck are you even here? He's not going to support abortion in any circumstance, and he's not going to support any restrictions on gun ownership. That's just how he rolls."

"Thank you," the woman to my right chimed in. Turned out her name actually was Mary. "This is to help elect someone with whom we agree, to each of us, a very important issue. The Congressman is Pro-Life, capital P, capital L. He's not a little pro life and not pro life, except, or wishy-washy, like some people are. If you know how the Congressman feels about these issues, and he feels differently than you, then why are you even here? Who invited you?"

I exhaled, secure in the knowledge that the program would begin right after dessert. I put my fork down, took a sip on my still-half-full glass of Cabernet Sauvignon, and, in my own head, at least, did my best Henry V. 'Once more into the breach, dear friends, once more.'

"The Congressman himself invited me," I old them. "We've known one another for over thirty years." Then, I asked my companions if they remembered a state Senator, well-known and well-respected on both sides of the political spectrum, who'd retired some years earlier and was now enjoying chocolate lava cake with the angels and saints. They both allowed as how they knew and fondly remembered the Senator.

"We were together, along with a whole bunch of other people at a charity event for an organization in which we were both deeply, personally invested," I said.

Mary took a forkful of chocolate lava cake. Charlie sat back and crossed his arms.

"A group of, let's call them motorcycle enthusiasts wearing different forms of black leather came into the venue to drop off a sizable contribution to the charity we all were supporting. They corralled the Senator and demanded that in the upcoming legislative session he oppose any law that would require them to wear helmets while

• See REFLECTIONS page 14

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...REFLECTIONS continued from page 13

cavorting over the highways and byways on their hogs, rice-burners or whatever the heck else they drove"

"They ought to be able to wear a helmet or not wear a helmet," my friend to the left said. Charlie's pretty liberal on this issue.

"I don't know about that," Mary chimed in, having devoured her lava cake and looking lasciviously at my as yet uneaten portion. I smiled and slid it over to her.

"You know," she said, "helmets are a safety issue and have been proven to save lives in motorcycle accidents."

"Maybe," Charlie said, but Mary wasn't quite done.

"And," she said, "wouldn't not wearing helmets drive up all of our insurance rates?"

I smiled at her. "That was the Senator's initial response," I said.

Ignoring that completely, she went on to gild her own lily. "I believe, if you're going to be pro life, you need to be pro life," she said. "If helmets save lives, then they should be mandatory, just like seatbelts."

I nodded, momentarily considering whether or not I should ask about her view on capital punishment. Discretion allegedly being the better part of valor, I held my tongue.

"Well, the boys in black leather didn't buy either of those issues," I said. "They didn't express any concern about their own safety and they laughed at the notion of insurance rates going up." Now, I'm only guessing here, but for those particular guys, insurance may not have been a consideration at all. Then, they upped the ante.

"And just so you know, Senator," one of them said, wagging a meaty finger in front of his face, if we can't get your commitment on this, we may just hang on to this donation and then give it to your reelection opponent."

Now, while the Senator was a diminutive gent, he was not easily or often pushed around.

"Then," I said to Charlie and Mary and whoever else might have suddenly become entranced overhearing our conversation, "the Senator said this, and it applies to your question as to why I'm here tonight."

"I understand gentlemen,' he said, 'but I'm going to be voting on at least 60 bills that have already been pre-filed by my colleagues. Many of them are going to impact your lives, probably more than the upcoming mandatory helmet law vote. You're probably going to agree with my vote on maybe 80 or 90% of those bills."

My dinner companions were

both nodding their heads. In politics, it should never be just about one thing, even when to one person it is

"Now I don't want these children to lose out on your very. very generous donation," he told them, 'And frankly, I haven't seen the final draft of the helmet law legislation vet. There might be fatal flaws in it that would nullify the need for a vote. It may not get out of the House, because there's quite a bit of opposition to it in that chamber. But the larger point is, if your donation to these children is contingent upon my promising to vote against something I haven't even read vet, then I suggest you take your money and you head on down the road, because that's just not going to happen here today.""

"It was one of the best examples of politics under pressure I'd ever seen," I said, "and it's why I'm here. If we expect the Congressman to vote according to what every one of his donors and supporters wants, he's in an impossible place. We elect representatives to represent us! We expect them to do, not just what we want, but what they believe is right. We need to trust that they know more than we do about the dozens or, in the Congressman's case, hundreds

• See REFLECTIONS page

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...REFLECTIONS from page 14

of bills that may cross his desk."

Mary was shoveling the rest of my chocolate lava cake into her mouth so she was, for the moment, silent.

"Did that really happen," Charlie asked me. "Because you know, he's dead, the Senator, and there's no way to check out this little story of yours." I laughed at him and shook my head.

"Yeah," I said. "I was there and it went down just that way. But the point of the story is that I will agree with maybe 80 or 90% of how the Congressman votes. There will probably be one, or two, or even a few votes he makes that I won't agree with, but am I going to sacrifice my support for someone I know and trust on the chance that he and I aren't 100% in lockstep on all of the issues? No," I said, "and neither should you."

"Did the children get the money?" Mary asked.

"They did, and the organization still gets contributions from motorcycle gangs, er, enthusiasts," I said. "Just because they're big and look mean doesn't mean they're stupid."

My companions and I sat back as our host introduced the Congressman. He thanked us for coming, spoke for about ten minutes about his record and the lack of record on the part of his opponent, and then asked us to reach into our hearts, and our pockets, to help send him back to Washington for another two years.

Long story short, the Congressman got money from all of us and handily won reelection for the eighth time to one of the safest seats in the entire U.S. Congress.

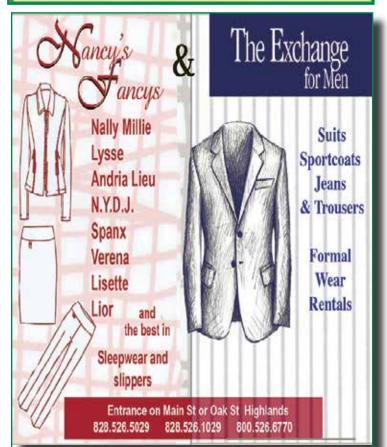
Abortion, guns, motorcycle helmets ... all issues involving individual rights. Just like Colin Kaepernick's decision to exercise his individual right to sit or kneel during the National Anthem in order to protest, in his view, the mistreatment of black people in America. The principle of con-

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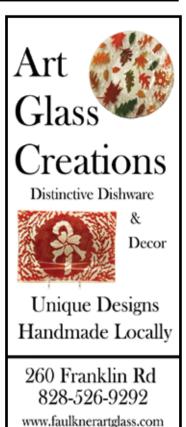


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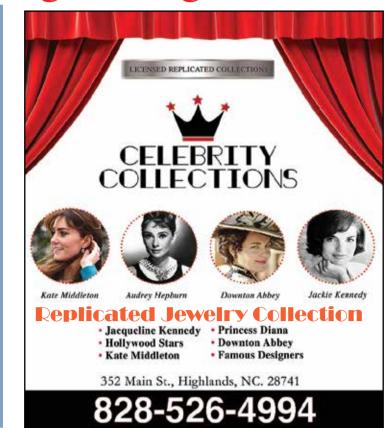


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2016: It's Not How you START-It's How you FINISH!

be used to describe the real estate market on The Plateau this year than the old Proverb: "It's not how you start-It's how you finish that matters."

On June 30, 2016, the overall real estate market in all

categories was down 13.71% per the Highlands/Cashiers MLS which covers Macon, Jackson and



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Transvlvania counties from the same date in 2015. Residential sales were down 6.81%. vacant land down 54.87% and condos down 32.28%.

However. comparing the time period from Iuly 1, 2016 to October 15, 2016 to the same time period in 2015, residential sales are up 38.16%, vacant land up 86.67% and condos

• See INVESTING page 21



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This architectural beauty was designed to focus on the breathtaking mountain views and glorious sunsets. Four large bedrooms -2 on the main level -an open floor plan with a massive stone fireplace, dream kitchen, master bedroom with fireplace. lavish bath and huge closet, sun room with fireplace and 3-car garage make for perfect mountain living. Pristine in every way and beautifully furnished! Offered for \$2,250,000, MLS 84599



In the Heart of Mirror Lake

This charming cottage is located in a great walking area of Mirror Lake. Desirable one level with 3 bedrooms and a split floor plan allow privacy with no stairs to climb! An updated kitchen opens to the dining room and the great room with stone fireplace. The large garage and easy to finish full basement make this a rare find and a desirable home. Reduced and now offered for \$400,000! MLS 84008



One Level Living w/Golf CourseViews!

This charming home features a great view of the golf course, mountains and lake and is only a few minutes to downtown Highlands. Main level living, hardwood floors, granite and stainless, vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace, large windows, a large covered porch with fireplace and a newly finished lower level. The large master suite with huge closet and lovely bath opens to a deck with a great view. Offered for \$499,000. MLS 84650



The BEST value in VZ TOP!

Million dollar views and cool mountain breezes every single day and night. Great windows and light for exposing the fantastic mountain views!! Gated privacy and close to Highlands Country Club! Imagine morning coffee to afternoon wine among the clouds with mountain ranges changing minute by minute. Very rentable and an INCRED-IBLE BUY! Offered for \$169,000. MLS 84790



Iulie Osborn **Broker** Cell: 828-200-6165 jajosborn@gmail.com

Pat Allen REALTY GROUP

www.patallenrealtygroup.com 828-526-8784

295 Dillard Road, Highlands



Pat Allen Broker-in-charge Cell: 828-200-9 179 pat.f.allen@gmail.com

4 BR/2.5 baths \$459,000 • MLS# 79371

BOUTIQUE

FORMALWEAR TUXEDOS

24 E. Main St. Franklin, NC 828-369-7300



Located on one very large acre, this home lives like a small gentleman's estate. Custom wood features throughout, workshop/ hobby room, partially fenced yard, walnut trees, producing apple tree, full house generator, and more. Inspections DONE This home isn't a 'drive by'- make an appointment to really SEE this home. Seller financing is an option.

3BD/2BA \$325,000 • MLS #81327



f you have been looking for peace and quiet IN the treetops- you've found it here! This home sits atop of Moon Mountain (Moon Mountain is located next to the entrance of Glen Falls and the Chinquapin hiking trail) This home was custom built home purposefully set to allow minimum exposure to the outside world, yet only about 10 easy minutes to Main Street.



Tucker & Jeannie Chambers Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals 828-526-3717



Reduced \$100,000! Lovely 4br, 3 I/2ba home with beautiful mature landscaping located I/2 mile from Downtown Highlands. Wood floors in the main living area and vaulted ceilings and expands to the lower level with a family room & 2nd full kitchen & bedrooms. \$495,000. MLS # 84361



Woodland Hills. Well maintained mountain home close to town, 5br/3 ba. Large open deck off main level, lower level covered deck and a wonderful rear yard. Walk to community lake. \$495.000. MLS #84874



Flat Mountain with long mountain views from this 3br/2ba home featuring floor to ceiling stone fireplace, vaulted ceilings and a private setting. \$494,500. MLS #84634



Highlands Mountain Club with great mountain view. Spacious 3br/2ba bath spacious condo. Enjoy the pool, tennis, and clubhouse. Fully furnished at \$229,000. MLS #82270



This updated 4 bedroom, 3 bath villa style home located at the end of a cul-de-sac in Highlands Falls Country Club offers amazing views of the golf course, lake, mountains & National Forest. There are 2 complete living areas. Club membership is optional. \$349,000. MLS #83450



Sophistication and style with FOR-EVER VIEWS! This 4br/4ba home has an open floor plan design, vaulted ceilings and an office on the main level. Only a four minute drive to downtown Highlands. \$950,000. MLS #83166



Close to town this 3br/3ba home with decks and porches galore and a hot tub. There are three master suites and a Summer kitchen on lower porch. \$475,000. MLS #84133



Highlands Country Club with long range mountain views. Timeless mountain estate with 6br/7 1/2ba featured in House Beautiful. This country French retreat has magnificent grounds with endless gardens, stone paths, waterfall & pond. \$3,950,000. MLS #84860



Wildwood Mountain beauty! Well maintained 3br/3ba home in a popular neighborhood with hardwood floors, granite countertops and large covered and screened back deck. \$439.000. MLS #84283



Highlands Country Club with Expanded and architecturally redesigned by acclaimed Atlanta architect, Norman Askins. This 4br/4ba home features wrap around decks and mountain views! \$895,000. MLS #84686



Highlands Falls Country Club located along the 4th fairway. Great one level home with 3br/3ba (two master suites plus another guest room). Remodeled and stylish. \$449,000. MLS #84601



Highlands Falls Country Club 3br/3ba condo with a great fairway view and in great condition. Two master suites, stone fireplace, sunroom and vaulted ceilings. \$295,000. MLS #73808



Exceptional long range views with 2br/2ba updated log cabin on over 10 acres. Drive to the top and see wonderful flat building sites with even better long range views. Enjoy the extreme privacy or develop additional homesites. Short drive to town. \$700.000. MLS #84525



Big Bearpen Mountain in Highlands City limits with 3 br/3ba. Meticulously maintained log home offers all the warmth of Old Highlands Charm, yet it is bright and open bringing in natural sun light. \$850.000. MLS # 83797



Whiteside Estates. This furnished 4br/3ba home features beautiful hardwood floors and pine wood walls with vaulted ceilings, attached garage with an office/bonus room above. \$299,500. MLS #82461



Cullasaja Club. Great view of Whiteside Mountain from the 5 br/5ba and remodeled throughout with new kitchen and baths. \$1,050,000. MLS #79794



Lovely and immaculately maintained 3 br, a bonus guest room and 4 baths located in Highlands Falls Country Club. Wood floors in the main living area and vaulted ceilings. Lower level family room with gas fireplace, and 2nd full kitchen....great for guests or mother-in-law suite. \$590,000.



Flat Mountain beauty with 3br/3ba plus 2 half baths. Mountain views, lots of glass, outdoor fireplace, two master suites with lower level family room with fireplace, garage has guest quarters. \$795.000. MLS #81533



Rocky Knob with long range mountain views. 3br/2ba with guest kitchenette in a great gated community with a private 17 acre lake. \$355,000. MLS #81329



Highlands Falls Country Club. Very attractive private 3br/3 1/2ba with raised ceilings in the upstairs living areas, a 3 car garage plus golf cart storage and the possibility of a great golf course view make this a fantastic opportunity. \$777,000. MLS #81880



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HomeServices

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41 Church Street 2334 Cashiers Road 488 Main Street Highlands NC 28741

(828) 526-1717 (828) 526-4101

(828) 526-1762 www.MeadowsMtnRealty.com

...INVESTING continued from page 19

are up 3.48% for an overall increase in the market for the entire vear of 9.64%

This is quite shocking for a presidential election year since historically over the last 16 years that we have been selling real estate here on the Plateau, these election years are flat to negative. Interestingly as well, sales of homes over \$750,000 are up dramatically.

Real estate is an art not a science, but everyone always wants to analyze the reasons why a real estate market behaves a certain way. Why would sales this year reject history and trends and finish on a wildly positive note? Here are some theories:

- 1. The low interest rate for home mortgages is threatening to increase which encourages even the wealthiest of individuals to move forward to lock in an appealing rate now:
- 2. The crime and violence in cities is forcing the fortunate folks who can think about living in a safer environment to search and move to these safe havens which this area certainly qualifies;
- 3. The presidential election this year defies all "reasonable

person" standards, so many people have decided to live their lives in the present and not in fear of the

- 4. As prices have vet climbed to the pre-recession prices, it is still a Buyers' market with many good opportunities available;
- 5. Nothing has spoiled this pristine area with its natural beauty, cultural amenities and incredibly nice people.

Country clubs in the area are doing better than they have in the last eight years as evidenced by the following statistics from the Highlands/Cashiers MLS:

- Cullasaja Club: 14 homes/ 2 lots sold-7 homes pending*;
- Highlands Country Club: 5 homes/1 condo sold-4 homes/1 condo pending:
- Highlands Cove: 4 homes/4 condos/2 lots sold-2 condos pending;
- Highlands Falls: 11 homes/3 condos sold-6 homes/1 condo nending;
- Mountaintop: 3 homes/17 lots sold-2 homes/4 lots pending;
- Wade Hampton: 11 homes/5 lots sold-nothing pending;

Wildcat Cliffs Country Club:

• See INVESTING page 23

Highlands Newspaper - Thurs., Oct.. 20, 2016 - 828-200-1371 - Page 21

Fantastic Highway Frontage



Fantastic highway frontage (over Wonderful opportunity to invest in a Highlands. in-town, commercial property. Zoned B-4. This property is also zoned residential and includes a 5BR/2BA house. Perfect for office space or retail, this property adjoins the Bascom Campus.

Offered at \$850,000, MLS #82406. Contact Susie (828) 371-2079.

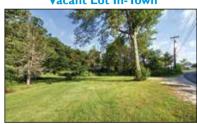
Absolutely GORGEOUS



Nearly level, commercial property (may be used for residential), fronting on Hwy 64 E and East Over Drive. 30.51 +/- acres. Numerous streams throughout the acreage with lush, native plants and shrubs. Easy access off Hwy 64 and East Over Drive, with an old road bed in place. Multiple building site options and possibilities!

Offered at \$1,500,000. MLS #80851 & 80842. Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Vacant Lot In-Town



Incredible opportunity for vacant commercial land in town. Excellent access and visibility from Hwy 64W and Oak Street. Adjoins the Bascom Campus. Zoned B-4, multiple uses are permitted at this .39 +/- acre

> Offered at \$375,000. MLS #82405. Contact Susie (828) 371-2079.

> > In-Town, Lakefront Acreage



Estate on 10.88 +/- acres. Only a few minutes to Main St. Take a short stroll on a wooded trail to the stunning, clear, 3+ acre lake ringed by lush rhododendron. Charming pavilion for enjoying a picnic, great book, or evening wine. Fish from the bank or from your canoe; ice skate in the winter or swim in the summer. Gentle topography, walking trails, and barn. Several choice building sites, and subdividing is possible. Tremendous investment potential!

Offered at \$2,495,000. MLS #83866. Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.



145 River Road, Franklin, NC • 828-349-1600 Kay's Place

> Dishes, vintage China, crystal glassware and glasses. Vintage items, small antiques, and custom made small furniture pieces

828-421-3879



Susie deVille **Broker-in-Charge** (828) 371-2079

Vhite ይak

REALTY GROUP

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Big Pine Lodge • Reduced to \$1,999,999 • MLS #82905



Big Pine Lodge is custom built 6BD/7 1/2BA log home on 5.85 acres with GREAT Whiteside Mountain Views. The home boasts a wine room, exercise room, loft overlooking the expansive great room, rock patio, outside built in BBQ, 2 rock fireplaces, sauna room, butler's pantry, and individual private decks for each of the 6 bedrooms. Home features all the details you would expect in a structure of this stature. The home is being sold furnished. Access to private common lake pavilion for lake access and boat storage on Lake Sequoyah. Terrific value!

Call Cathy Garren • 828-226-5870 • Highlands Sotheby's International Realty • www.highlandssir.com

REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS

Main Street COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES Mtn. Fresh

Wright Sq. 828-526-2520 | www.ccphighlandsnc.com | ccp4info@frontier.com



Stunning and spacious home boasts the finest quality Materials and workmanship. 2-car garage. Offered at \$1.575.000. mls #81664



3BD/2BA single level home with terraced flower garden. Lower level potential expansion. Offered at \$419,000. mls #77660.



3BD/2BA. One level home with 2-car garage with community pond, tennis courts and picnic area. Offered at \$305,000. mls #78785



12.06 ACRES on the top of a flat knoll. Views of Little Yellow and Whiteside Mountain. Offered at \$995,000. mls #72885



Minutes to downtown, gentle lot with ridge views. 3BD/2 1/2 BA on the main level, with utility room and 2-car garage. Offered at \$555,000. mls #81022



Close to town, in the woods, charming with three bedrooms with fire-place in the master bedroom. MLS# 63260. Offered at \$374.500.



4 BR/4.5BA home with 2 bonus rooms. Offered at \$1,485,000. mls #83724



4BD/3BA. Woodburning fireplace. Walls of glass. Mountain and valley view. Offered at \$885,000. mls #78695



Webbmont community. 3BD/3BA Offered at \$375,000 on .87 +/- acres. mls #83330



5BD/4BA. Unique with heavy logs, lots of stone and wood. Lovingly restored with central heat and air and meticulously maintained. Offered at \$875,000. mls #81152



Renovated 4BD/3BA on 1.75 acres with waterfall and abuts USFS lands. Offered at \$599,000, mls #83894



Close to downtown, over 3 acres with a ridgeline view. 3BD/4BA, office, family room, and outdoor living room. Offered at \$895,000. mls #82990



4BD/3BA 3 lots totaling about 1.59 acres and end of the road privacy. Offered at \$759,000. mls #82538



5BD/5 I/2 BA. This upscale designers delight is being offered fully furnished for \$1,395,000 - MLS # 82407



Home sits on the 5th green at HCC 3BD/4BA and upstairs 2BD guest quarters and guest house. Offered at \$1,380,000. mls #83670



Custom built home on almost 5 acres with a spectacular view. 4BD/4BA. Offered at \$395,000. mls #82560



Whiteside Mountain view. 3BD/4 1/2 BA plus loft. Open floor plan with lovely covered porch. Additional building lot with golf cart garage. Offered at \$1,925,000. mls #83627



In town with waterfall on over 20 acres with a quality main house on the water. Offered at \$4,695,000 MLS#84502



Split level 3 BR has great room with wall of glass. Heavily wooded lot. Cathedral ceilings, 2 car garage. Offered at \$685,000. mls# 83763



3BD/2 I/2BA. Move in condition and a do not miss for in town living! \$575,000. mls #79670



3BD/2BA cottage style home, a short 4 miles from downtown Highlands. Offered at \$328,000. mls #83304



Main house has 3+BR/2.5 Bath with I-car attached garage. Guest house has I BR/IBA with 2-car garage. Offered at \$749,000. mls#82465



3BD/2BA with a level yard, good view of the mountains and Turtle Pond creek at the property line. Offered at \$349.000 MLS #84316



Overlooks a waterfall. 3BF/3 I/2 BA plus room for expansion Offered at \$1,098,000. mls #825 I 4



3/3 Log Cabin on 2.77 acre atop a gentle knoll. Outstanding entry. Offered at \$595.000. mls #84511

• Biz/Org News •

Highlands Newspaper hooks up with town's Altitude Broadband



From left: John McCardle, Ethan Garrett and Richard Reynolds with the town's Altitude Broadband.. Competent, courteous and fast – as is the connection! They got the job done right and in a timely manner.

— Photo by Kim Lewicki



...INVESTING continued from page 21

10 homes sold/4 homes pending.

*(Pending includes those transactions still in due diligence.)

"All we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about." Charles Kingsley

The numbers above show more and more people become enthusiastic about our wonderful area each and every year! Happy

Fa11

• Jody and Wood Lovell own Highlands Sotheby's International Realty, the top producing real estate firm in Highlands. Please visit their three locations: the corner of Main Street and Highway 64, at the gate of Cullasaja Club and opening soon across from Cornucopia in Cashiers on Highway 107 South. Call them for all of your real estate needs at (828) 526 4104.





OCTOBER SALE!

Western art, bronzes, paintings, furnishings, collectibles, antiques & more!

828-526-4818 • 228 S. 3rd Street (Corner of 3rd and Spring behind the Methodist Church)

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Spirituality of Light: Scientific and Biblical **Aspects**



Rev. Dr. Francis Xavier Arockiasamy, Ph.D. (physics). B.Th.. Administrator, Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, Highlands.

ight plays a vital role in our daily lives. We could not survive without light. It is essential for living things to get energy. In Physics, light is a form of energy and it is a part of the electromagnetic radiation spectrum. It also can be defined as all portions of electromagnetic waves. The electromagnetic waves can be explained by their wavelength, energy and frequency. The main source of light on Earth is the Sun. Sun light provides the energy that plants use to create sugars in the form of starches which release energy into living things. There are many sources of light.

In the theory of light, according to Newton, light was composed of Corpuscles (particles of matter) which were emitted in all directions from a source. According to Plank, light energy is known as "quanta." Albert Einstein used the idea of light, quanta, to explain the photo electric effect.

In the Bible, we know the creation event in the Book of Genesis. In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. (Genesis 1:1-4) From this passage, God knows the importance of light for living things. God knows that light is essential for living beings to get energy.

God also knows about the sources of light. He also created the sun, moon and stars. In the passages of the Book of Genesis 1:14-16, God said, "Let there be light in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars.

In the New Testament, we learn that Jesus himself becomes the light of the world. The Gospel according to John 8:12, Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Since Jesus is the Son of God, He compares himself with the creator, who is the author of light and life.

The spirituality of light is leading the people from the darkness to light.

The role of God is creating the source of light for

the benefit of human beings, plants, and animals and also leading the people towards the light of life which

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

BLUEVALLEY 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: |im Murphy, 252-671-4011 464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

Sun.; 8:30a Traditional (Quiet) 1928 Prayer Book Service; 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Family Service w/ Music Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470 Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching. Tues, Guys study 8am, Gals 10am,

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11a.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 Thursdays: Holy Eucharist Rite II.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 am; Prayer Mtg 6:15 pm; Choir 5 pm

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org Sun.:Worship: II a.m.; School: 9:30

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

Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

GOLDMINE BÁPTIST 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

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship 242 Hwy 107N, I/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814 Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor828-421-9172 • 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

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 SYNAGOĞUE

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 828-524-9463

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church, 4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC **CHURCH**

Parish office (Father Francis): 526-2418 Mass: Sun: II a.m.; Sat. at 4p

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

Sundays: School –10 a.m.; Worship –11 a.m. & 7 Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Jerry David Hall • 526-3212 Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m. Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study:6 p.m.

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359

Rev. Rob Wood Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a Rite II, 10:30

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

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

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

LITTLÉ 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 - II a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 25

POLICE & FIRE I

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

Oct. I

• At 12:30 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 106.

Oct. 10

• At 12:30 p.m., a breaking and entering of a motor vehicle parked on Church Street was reported numerous items were taken: an lpod, money, and iewelry.

Oct. 11

this benefit.

• At 7:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Big Bear Pen Road.

Oct. 12

•At 12:36 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 106.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Oct. 13.

Oct. 13

• The dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

Oct. 14

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cobb Road.
- The dept. was first-responders to a residence on Raoul Road.
 - The dept. was first-responders toa

residence on Mack Wilson Road.

Oct. 15

- The dept. was first-responders to a residence on White Clover Lane.
- The dept. provided mutual aid at a fire in Cashiers.

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly FD at a motor vehicle accident.

• The dept, provided mutual aid to Scaly and stoodby for the MAMA helicopter.



Upstairs and Across the Walkway

Owner/Stylist: Lacy Jane Vilardo

Nail Tech: Jenna Schmitt

Hair • Nails • Waxing • Tanning • Eyelash Extensions • Walk-ins Welcome!

at "Falls on Main" Highlands (828) 526-3939

OPENING AT 9A, TUESDAY - SATURDAY

Stylists: Heather D. Escandon, Maggie Barden, Bri Field

...THANK YOU continued from page 2

We deeply appreciate the contributions of the potters who produced beautiful soup bowls and the special bowls intended for silent auction.

First Presbyterian Church has hosted the event for all six years. Guests were invited to a delicious soup luncheon donated by local chefs. Soups were prepared by The Kitchen Carryaway and Catering, Fresser's Courtyard, Mountain Fresh Grocery, Wild Thyme, Cyprus, and Marty Rosenfield. Cookies were donated by Bake My Day, Dusty's and Martha Porter. We are grateful to the staff and membership at First Presbyterian Church who make this event possible each year. Many thanks also to the many volunteers who contributed a tremendous amount of time and effort.

The proceeds will help the Food Pantry in its efforts to provide good, nutritious food for our clients. Our deep gratitude to everyone who contributed to and attended

> Marty Rosenfield, Director, the Food Pantry of Highlands. Andrea Smith, Director of the International Friendship Center

...REFLECTIONS continued from page 15

stitutionally protected, conscientious and peacefully exercised disagreement, it seems to me, outweigh the individual disagreements themselves.

I suppose a side note is that political discourse doesn't have to be ugly, enemycentered or personal. Issues are issues and we're always going to have disagreement. The system needs to be challenged and tested in order for this part of our experiment in democracy to stay both flexible and consistent. What it doesn't need is a

constant stream of ad hominem attacks on people supposedly of good will who happen to disagree.

I hope with all my heart that after this current chapter is finally over we can all take a deep breath and maybe step back to a less personally contentious, more issuefocused and civilly-conducted conversation about the future of our society and our great nation. I'm really concerned for that future if we can't re-learn to talk with one another instead of shouting at one another.

..SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 24

symbolizes doing good. God is the source of energy and power. He says in the Book of Revelation 1:6, "Who has made us a kingdom, Priests for his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen."

Spirituality gives meaning to our lives. God is the creator of life. So the spirituality of light is showing God's glory, who is the almighty power. We see from the Gospel according to John 1: 3-5, "All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." So it is our obligation to imitate God who is the source of the light of life, and regulate our life on earth towards doing good which is the spirituality of light.

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Business/Organization News

Pamela Kolber Joins White Oak Realty Group

Susie deVille, Owner/Broker-in-Charge, has announced that Pam Kolber has joined White Oak Realty Group as the firm's Operations Manager.

Pam Kolber, a native of Port Charlotte.



FL, moved to Highlands this past summer with her husband, Chet. No stranger to the area, Pam has spent time in Highlands every summer since her childhood. Pam graduated from the University of South

Florida in Tampa with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration/Marketing.

Most recently, Pam was the major accounts advertising manager at a daily newspaper in southwest Florida for over 7 years, and also owned and operated a gift and collectibles shop for 10 year prior to joining the paper. Pam and Chet live in Highlands with their two dogs, Rufus and Roxy.

"I am eager to take on the challenging role of Operations Manager and being of service to our clients, our agents, as well as our colleagues in other offices in the community. As a former busi-

ness owner I fully understand the importance of having an entrepreneurial mindset in every aspect of your daily work."

"Pam brings deep business and marketing experience to us as well, and she has a kind and calm demeanor that remains unflappable even when the office is in high gear with multiple demands on her time and attention," said Susie deVille, Owner and Brokerin-Charge of White Oak Realty Group.

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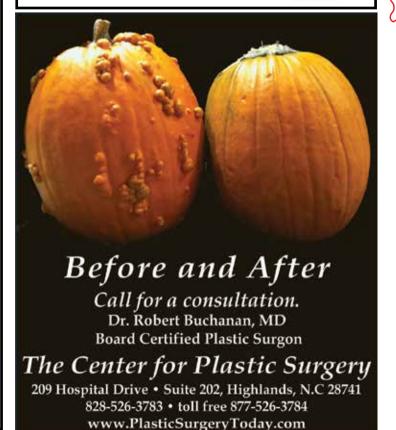
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...VIE continued from page 1

community.

A United States Army veteran, Charlie Leatherman served three tours of duty overseas before working in the Macon County School system. After retiring as a teacher, Leatherman, who graduated from Western Carolina University, also worked for the Macon County Department of Social Service, Mars Hill College and currently owns Leatherman Tax Service while also working for Drake Enterprise.

Leatherman's political experience is extensive and in addition to serving two terms on the Macon County Board of Commissioners, Leatherman has received several recognition for his work as commissioner and has represented North Carolina on the national level through the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

"Macon County is almost half owned by the government, which may always provide for open space for people to enjoy nature. But it also means we need to be careful to eb able to provide for the level of services we now deliver to our citizens and hopefully preserve the cultural heritage we have so much of in Macon County. I am not coming in with an "I'll get this done attitude" because past experience has proven that the board of county commissioners is a group; a group whom people have entrusted to make the best decisions for their wellbeing while in office. A group that should have the same common objectives and be flexible enough to understand the real art of politics is found in conciliation for the best solution for the greater good of the populace.'

A county's economy dictates so much of everyday life, and ensuring a strong economy is vital for a high quality of life. Both Gillespie and Leatherman have differing views on how to ensure Macon County's economy continues moving forward.

"The secondary housing market will improve only when the national economy improves," said Leatherman. "So county officials need to understand housing will not be the economic engine it once was. Internet companies, both wireless and high speed fiber install and place their services by population density and use for a profit as business is designed to be. The western end of the state is largely government owned. Our local legislative delegation should research ways of getting internet/high speed service to our area as a necessary feature for business growth and entrepreneurial opportunities. Hardships exists where economic development suffers from the lack of government support to grow and held expand businesses.

County government fostering growth and identifying potential areas such as tourism is a step Gillespie believes needs to be taken first.

"Our economy is heavy dependent on tourism and construction for this to change Economic Development should be a collaborative process that takes into consideration our strong points to attract business and encourage expansion coupled with a strong educational back bone that can provide skilled employees," said Gillespie.

While focusing on the county's infrastructure as a starting point for economic development, another focus Leatherman and Gillespie believes needs ultimate attention is public education.

"While we face different challenges today than when my great grandmother was a teacher in a two room school house here in Macon County, we met those challenges and I am confident that we will continue to do so," said Gillespie.

Touting the local government's commitment to public education, Gillespie noted that with fewer teachers and decreasing per-pupil costs over the last five years, the cuts have created an extra burden on county budgets.

Leatherman believes that while the responsibility is shifting from state to local government to fund public education, its a necessary evil because under state law, the school board could sue county government for funding, which has occurred across the state.

"This is just an example of how state government hands down mandates to counties when the state should be funding it," said Leatherman.

...ONE-STOP continued from page 1

5 p.m. and on Saturdays Oct. 22, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Highlands' One-Stop voting starts Thursday, Oct. 27 at the Civic Center (Rec Park) at 600 N. 4th Street in Meeting Room 1.

One-Stop voting in Highlands is open weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays Oct. 29 and Nov 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

One-Stop voting ends at both locations, Saturday, Nov. 5 at 1 p.m. Any registered voter of Macon County may vote at either One-Stop voting location.

Remember, the PROPOSED NC Voter ID requirements are NOT in effect. If you are registered to vote, you DO NOT need special identification to exercise your right to

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County

Commissioner Charlie Leatherman

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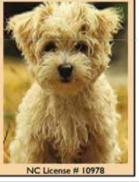
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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 30

CLASSIFIEDS •

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THE TOWN OF HIGH-LANDS invites candidates to apply for the position of Town Manager. The Town Manager is charged with the responsibility of administering the day to day management of operations, programs and policies established by Board of Commissioners, Town Charter and various federal and state laws. rules, and regulations. The Town Manager ensures that the Town operates as a smoothly functioning organization, which provides a high level of service to its citizens. Minimum qualifications for the position include graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration or related field: a Master's Degree is desired; with demonstrable municipal or county management experience. The salary for the position is negotiable DOE/DOO. Residency is required within a negotiated period of time. This position will be open until filled. To review the full recruitment posting for the position and download an employment application, visit our website www.highlandsnc.org. The Town of Highlands is an EOE. (st. Sept. 29)

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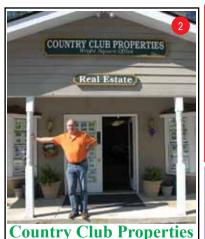
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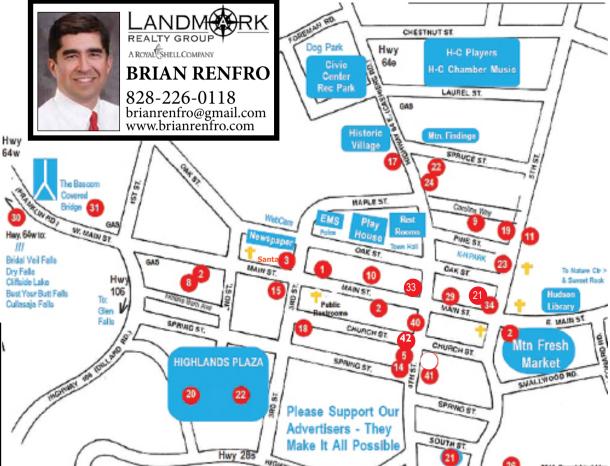


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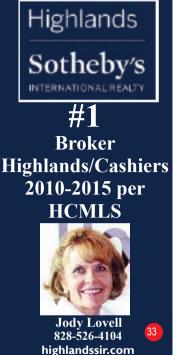




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