

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 13, Number 40

Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com

Thurs., Oct. 6, 2016

WCU prognosticator:

Leaf color depends on temperature heading into fall

Leaf-lookers, stay tuned. The quality of the fall colors in Western North Carolina's mountains this year will depend on the temperatures recorded from September through the typical peak color weeks of October.

That's the word from Beverly Collins, Western Carolina University's new fall foliage forecaster.

Collins, a professor in WCU's Department of Biology, is taking over leaf prognostication duties from Kathy Mathews, a biology faculty member who had been evaluating

the leaf color potential for 11 years.

Whether it will be a really good year for leaf-looking, or a so-so year, remains to be seen as

•See COLOR page 3

Hipps and Davis vying for NC District 50 seat

With just over 30 days left until the election, candidates for all offices are ramping up public appearances and working to get in front of voters. On October 11, candidates for North Carolina Senate District 50 will face off in a debate at Southwestern Community College.

For the second time, Waynesville Democrat Jane Hipps is challenging incumbent Jim Davis, a Republican from Macon County. Davis narrowly beat Hipps in 2014 with 33,820 votes to Hipps' 28,974.

Hipps earned her master's degree in Nursing from Vanderbilt University. Her professional experience includes working as a vocational rehabilitation counselor, as a science consultant for the

•See DISTRICT 50 page 9



Families invited to unite in memory of children lost

What started as one family's request to remember and honor their son has blossomed into a way for all Highlands families who have suffered the loss of a child to memorialize them in a warm and communal way.

Chaz and Billie Cannon's son Michael died in late October 2015

and they wanted to remember him in a special way. A musician and songwriter, Michael was known as a wanderer and a troubadour, and could often be found around a campfire singing and strumming his guitar.

According to his parents, he loved the Pine Street park and even performed on stage there at least

once.

The idea was to remember him with a plaque somewhere in the park which has become a gathering place in Highlands. The trouble is only five plaques are allowed in the park and since their purpose is to raise funds, the cost is high.

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Highlands HS gets high marks for sportsmanship

Over the past several years, there has been an increase in unsporting behavior across the country in various arenas.

In North Carolina the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) has seen an upswing in the number of ejections from games but that is not the case at Highlands School.

"Highlands High School was awarded the NCHSAA banner for being ejection-free in athletics for the 2015-'16 school year. I am really proud of our coaches and athletes," said Highlands School Head Coach Brett Lamb.

The NCHSAA believes North Carolina can and must do better.

Education-based athletics is an extension of the classroom. It

•See SPORTSMANSHIP page 6

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

If it's not trash, it's roads and traffic

Two important issues during the fall season are roads and traffic.

At the last Town Board meeting I reported about DOT preliminary plans to improve NC 106, the Dillard Road, from the state line to Main Street Highlands. I am on the Transportation Advisory Committee for the Southwestern Rural Planning Commission. This proposed project is now on a priority list for Western Carolina.

The Town Board was unwilling to endorse the project without further information. What I could tell them last month was that DOT wanted to make improvements to the road such as straightening out some sharp curves and replacing the narrow bridge just beyond Scaly. Like the Gorge Road, there would be pull-offs where possible.

Since the meeting, I have discussed the project in more detail with the DOT Division 14 Project Development Engineer. He informed me that the project is now just in the conceptual stage. It could



Mayor Pat Taylor

be at least a decade away from construction. Before construction there will be extensive discussions and feedback from those living on the road. In Highlands the town government would be involved in the road design.

The DOT engineer told me the over-arching concept would be to bring NC 106 up to current design standards for a highway of its kind. The current 9-foot lanes would be widened to 12 feet, but it would remain a two-lane road. Also, where possible there would be 4-foot emergency side lanes. These lanes would also function as a lane for cyclists. In Highlands the plan would involve the addition of curbs, gutters and sidewalks.

So, that is all the information I have about the project. It's a long way from fruition and plans are fluid. There is a good possibility I won't be a part of the ribbon cutting ceremony way down this road.

Another item concerns that traffic monitoring sign the Highlands Police Department deploys daily. It is also a recording device. In a given period of time it will record the number of vehicles traveling on a road. Also, when it starts flashing with the slow down message, that indicates the vehicle is speeding. The number of speeding incidences is also recorded. Chief Harrell told me that if the data reveals a high incidence of speeding, the police increase patrols on that section of road.

The chief also stated that normally there is a very low percentage of speeders recorded by the device, although folks frequently report high rates on a particular road. The percentage is frequently around 3% to 5%. It is problematic to determine whether a vehicle is speeding without electronic devices. Police officers trained to make such determinations even have a challenge doing so. Variables such as size of the vehicle, tire size, rpm and engine noise all make folks think a vehicle is speeding when actually it is not.

We can all drive within the posted speed limit. If the traffic sign flashes to slow down, please take the message to heart.

• LETTER •

We must do better

Dear Editor,

As a part of trying to digest the information bombardment during this almost interminable election cycle I have come to the non-partisan conclusion that our country has lost its ethical rudder. Our affinity to defend our exceptionalism is arrogant, alienating and inhibits learning. There is a whole lot the USA does well, but there is a lot we could do better now and did better in earlier times. Some countries that borrowed our early commitment to the dignity and worth of all have taken our community based, compassionate attitudes, as articulated in the preamble to our constitution and used them to improve their own education, healthcare, work ethic, and justice systems. We have, in many aspects, lost our way in these realms.

We bomb and defame, are quick to fight and to blame, over incarcerate, build walls and fences and increase regulations rather than show compassion, or lead with curiosity about differences, whether in race, ethnicity, religion or political convictions or values. Our sense of community is fractured. We forget we are all in this together. That awareness surfaces briefly in tragedies or natural disasters, then recedes to hatreds as usual. We lose awareness that compassion heals and community matters.

So many in our country seem motivated by fear and desperation. Assuming good will on the part of others is NOT the common way. Kindness, remembering basic human decency, compassion for errors has taken a back seat to fear, endless competition and punitiveness. Is this what is meant by a declining civilization?

Many seem to be driven by a sense of never having enough or being enough...but of what? Money, power and things cannot fill this emptiness. It is fueled by deprivation of genuine connection with others built on compassion and the ability to appreciate what is good. We can and must do better. I sometimes fear that we will, as a culture, have to descend into chaos to reemerge as a moral, compassionate community. It is what happened in Germany and many other cultures throughout history.

Carole Light
Scaly Mountain

• THANK YOU •

In memory of Joanna

I would like to thank all the people of Highlands who have been so gracious to me since the passing of my wife, Joanna. Donations in her name for the construction of the residential facility at the foster home compound have exceeded \$30,000, allowing the mission to complete phase one and two over the next year and complete the project in two years rather than the three years in the original plan. Thank you all once again.

– John Baumrucker, MD

•See THANK YOU page 3

• WEEKEND WEATHER •



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Highlands Newspaper

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Locally owned and operated by

Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at

www.HighlandsInfo.com

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Highlands, N.C., 28741

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...MEMORY continued from page 1

But where there is a will there is a way.

As the story goes, developers Samuel Truman Kelsey and Clinton Carter Hutchinson, drew lines from Chicago to Savannah and from New Orleans to New York City and decided where they converged would be a great place to develop a town. So Highlands was born and the K-H Founders Park on Pine Street is named after them.

Each founder of Highlands will have a monument erected to them in the park – Kelsey's monument is a replica of the existing fireplace that was in his home which was behind the Falls on Main complex.

What better place to epitomize a communal gathering reminiscent of a campfire than around the Kelsey monument?

About \$45,000 is needed to erect the

fireplace and the infrastructure associated with it – electricity, a buried propane tank, the stone plaza in front of it and the welcoming arm-type rock walls/benches that embrace it.

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.

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.

For more information, please contact Nick Bazan at nicholas.bazan@gmail.com.

– Kim Lewicki

...COLOR continued from page 1

weather observers monitor the climate to see if the generally warmer-than-normal conditions of 2016 continue through the fall, or if temperatures start dropping and follow the patterns of a “normal” year, Collins said.

The Asheville office of the National Centers for Environmental Information has reported that July was the 15th consecutive record warmest month globally. State climate officials say the monthly average temperatures recorded at the Asheville Regional Airport since mid-February have ranged from slightly above normal to almost seven degrees above normal.

“If our warmer-than-normal weather continues into fall, the colors will be later, more subdued and spottier,” Collins said.

Along with the heat, the summer months brought generally drier than normal conditions to many parts of the mountains, and dry weather in the spring and summer can produce bright fall colors, but only if the fall weather follows its historical and normal trend of increasingly cooler days and colder nights, Collins said. Some long-range forecasters are predicting a cold snap in mid-October, and that would be

good for producing colorful leaves, but “we can't predict October weather with 100 percent confidence,” she said.

Each fall, the region's fall colors emerge as chlorophyll in leaves breaks down, revealing yellow, orange and red pigments that were hidden by the green. Color appears first in the forest understory with the reds of shrubs and vines such as sumac, Virginia creeper and poison ivy. The yellow, orange and red of early-turning trees such as walnut, tulip poplar and maple show up next, and the season ends with the darker reds and browns of oaks, she said.

With elevations in Western North Carolina ranging from around 2,000 feet in the valley towns to more than 6,000 feet on the ridgetops, weather conditions in the region also vary greatly. That factor, combined with the rich diversity of tree species, can lead to a long and diverse color display, Collins said. The best bet for foliage fans is to plan on peak color the weekend of Oct. 15-16 for the highest elevations over 4,000 feet; the weekend of Oct. 22-23 for the middle elevations of 2,500 to 4,000 feet; and the remainder of October for lower elevations, she said.

...THANK YOU continued from page 2

...for honoring Buck

The family of Buck Trott would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Highlands community for the thoughtfulness, concern and kindness expressed during our time of loss and bereavement. We thank the staff and congregation of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation for their support in our time of need. The employees of the Town of Highlands paid a moving tribute to the former mayor that the family will always remember. We are grateful for the graveside ceremony that was made possible by the Highlands Fire, Police and Public Works Departments, the American Legion, the Franklin National Guard, the Boy Scouts, and the US Air Force. Buck would have been very pleased and proud

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M F G R O . C O M

...SPORTSMANSHIP continued from page 1

is difficult to learn the lessons expected through high school athletics in an environment that is lacking good behavior, sportsmanship and respect for all, say spokespersons.

"Highlands' student-athletes should be commended for the manner in which they represent their school and the Macon County School system," said Macon County School Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin. "I am thankful that the faculty, staff, and administration of Highlands School strongly promote good sportsmanship with our student-athletes."

According to its website, the NCHSAA expects student-athletes, coaches and game officials to conduct themselves in a respectful and courteous manner. Disrespectful behavior in the playing area or from the sidelines can result in an ejection. As has been the case in the past, profanity directed at players or officials is a penalty and an ejection as well.

The NCHSAA has empowered officials to step up their enforcement surrounding bad behavior and language. They have also requested the help of coaches in getting the message about behavioral expectations to their assistant coaches, players and fans.

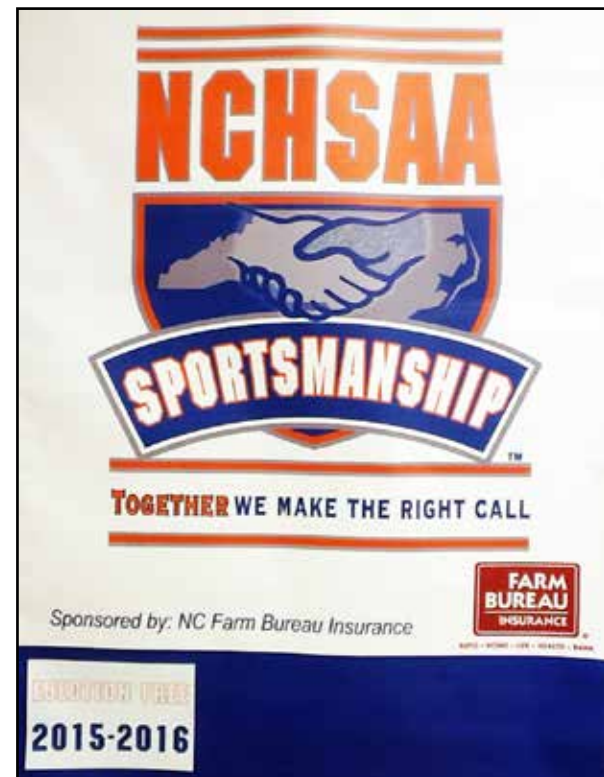
Coaches and administrators should exemplify role model excellence in their behavior on the sidelines. This year, in every NCHSAA sanctioned sport, there will be a strong emphasis on positive models of good behavior and professional conduct between coaches and game officials.

In many sports, there will be new procedures for questioning an official's call and stiffer penalties if those procedures are not followed.

The NCHSAA places this responsibility in the hands of each constituent members (players, coaches and officials) in an effort to curb the completely preventable actions that cause many of the ejections seen over the last several years.

"We know that if all players, coaches, officials and fans

work together towards a common goal of exhibiting good sportsmanship, we can truly make an impact on the lives of student-athletes," say spokespersons.



The banner that now hangs at Highlands School.

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• THE FREDSTER •

A different view of Whiteside Mountain

Way back when I was in my mid-fifties and in tip-top shape, a guy whose dad owned a local Highlands' grocery store stopped me in the store one morning and asked if I would like to see a different view of Whiteside Mountain. Knowing I was in the rappelling business, he knew I wouldn't refuse the offer.



Fred Wooldridge

three-foot-wide with sheer vertical granite off the opposite side. Piece of cake, I thought. "Thank God I'm not afraid of height," I said to my two friends.

Buddy went first and I went second. After about ten feet, Buddy's friend decided to crawl. As we inched along, careful not to look down, the granite path became more narrow. At this point, Buddy's friend said, "I want to turn around but can't 'cause I'm afraid I'll fall."

I looked down and wished I hadn't. It was at least another five hundred feet down to the next ledge which appeared to be about six feet wide. I couldn't see beyond that. As I inched along the path, I asked Buddy, "Are we almost to the end?"

Buddy laughed, "Nope, not yet."

Finally, the path widened to a point where sparse vegetation and small trees began to appear along the path. We walked about another five hundred feet and the path came to an abrupt end.

Buddy announced, "This is it, guys, end of the line. What da ya think? By the way, guys, I was out here alone once, sitting right here eating my lunch when a rappeller appeared from the top. He was stunned to see me out here wearing no rappelling or climbing equipment."

Buddy's friend said, "I don't think I can return. I may have to spend the rest of my life out here."

At the time the guy said that, I don't think he was kidding. But we did all make it back safely and what an experience it was.

PS - The following week, I applied for and received my sixth federal permit. It was to rappel the "nose" at Whiteside Mountain. It was our scariest rappel and only for advanced students. Now I get chills when I think I spent hours out on the very edge of that cliff helping students rappel off that ledge.

The family of John Wayne McCall in Highlands would like to invite all friends and family to a drop-in reception at Goldmine Baptist Church, 3051 Dendy Orchard RD on **October 8th from 3 to 6 p.m. to celebrate his "60th" birthday! Please come by and help make his day special!"**



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or

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...DISTRICT 50

from page 1

Western Area Regional Alliance, as a school psychologist, teacher, program developer and as a nurse practitioner

"I am running for the State Senate because I believe that Western North Carolina deserves strong education, a clear plan for economic recovery, and increased access to quality healthcare," said Hipps.

Hipps is adamant that despite never holding a public office, her life experience has prepared her to be a voice for people in Western North Carolina.

"Although I have never held public office, I have been active in politics since I was six years old," said Hipps. "Growing up in a home with a father who was a Republican, and a mother who was a Democrat, I would come home as a first-grader not understanding why most of my fellow students favored Eisenhower instead of Stevenson."

Davis and his wife Judy live in Macon County and have raised two sons, Jeffrey and Joshua and

• See DISTRICT 50 page 12



Tuxedo and

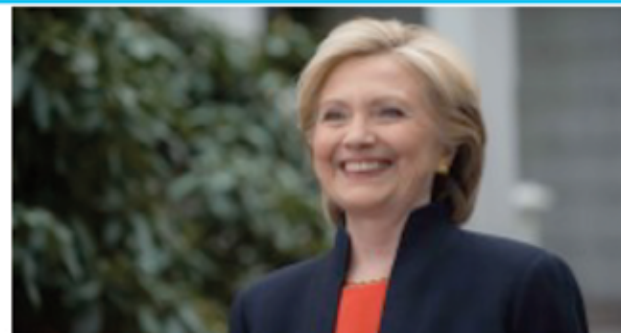
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"HOW HAS HILLARY CLINTON PREPARED FOR THE PRESIDENCY?"...



President of her High School Class

Member of Debating Team

Member National Honor Society

Received Social Science Award

Attended Wellesley College

Named Valedictorian of Class

Graduated in 1969 with honors in Political Science

First student in history to deliver commencement address at Wellesley

Began Yale Law School in 1969

Awarded a grant in 1970 to work at the Children's Defense Fund

In 1971 worked with Sen. Walter Mondale committee on migrant workers

Worked providing free legal service to the poor at New Haven Hospital

Graduated Yale 1973 and began post grad study Yale Child Study Center

Board of Editors Yale Law review

Served as staff attorney for Children's Defense Fund

Staff attorney Watergate impeachment

Became a faculty member at Univ. Ark. School of Law (one of 2 women)

1975 married Bill Clinton, moved to Little Rock, joined Rose Law firm

1978 made board member Legal Services Corporation

Became First Lady of Arkansas with election of Bill Clinton as Gov.

1979 first woman to be made full partner Rose Law firm

Chairperson Arkansas Educational Standards Committee

Chairperson Rural Health Advisory Committee

1983 named Arkansas Woman of the Year

1984 named Arkansas Mother of the Year

1988 & 1991 named to 100 most influential lawyers in America by The National Law Journal

Cofounder Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families

Board member Arkansas Children's Hospital & Children's Defense Fund

1985-92 served on Board of Directors of TCBY and Wal-Mart, Inc

1992 Bill Clinton elected President became First Lady

1993 Headed Task force on National Health Care Reform

1997 Initiated Children's Health Insurance Program

1997 initiated Adoption and Safe Families Act

Keynote speaker United Nations Int. Conference on Women, Beijing

Staunch supporter of Women's issues and Children around the world

2000 Elected Democratic Senator of New York State

Sits on five Senate Committees and nine subcommittee

2006 elected 2d term U.S. Senate 67% of vote

2009 Appointed Secretary of State-Instrumental in restoring United States Standing in the world.

Henry Kissinger said she "ran the State Department in the most effective way I've ever seen." She built a coalition against Iran that brought them to the negotiating table.

Brokered a cease fire between Israel and Hamas. She has been a champion for human rights, internet freedom, rights for women and young people around the world.

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Robert E. Smith, Chair

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

ONGOING

• Terry Johnson, owner of Estate Jewelers of Highlands - 360 Main Street, has merchandise from an anonymous individual whose sale will benefit the Hospice House Foundation of WNC. To date, this effort has raised roughly \$20,000 in support of HHFWNC. Johnson is waiving the consignment fee on the sale of this select merchandise.

Go into Estate Jewelers of Highlands and to see the merchandise.

• 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.

Daily

• At MountainTop Wine

Shoppe on Main Street, wine flights.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

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

Mon. & Wed.

• Zumba with Mary K. Barbour at the Rec Park from noon to 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 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

Third Tuesday

• The Macon County Poultry Club meets at 7pm at the cooperative extension office on Thomas Heights Road in Franklin. For more information call 828-369-3916.

Tuesday and Thursdays

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

• Pickle ball from 11:30a to

Highlands-Cashiers Players Sunshine Boys begins Oct. 13



From left: David Spivey and Jim Gordon

— Photo by Marty Boone

This brilliant Neil Simon comedy about two old vaudevillians who for 43 years were a tremendous comedy team onstage, but who irritated and eventually hated each other offstage is a gem of comedic acting and timing will be at the PAC October 13 to October 23, Thursdays through Sunday.

Based in fact on a pair of real vaudevillians who barely spoke to each other offstage, Simon has found another bickering Odd Couple with which to mine great humor. Willy Clark (Jim Gordon) is an irascible old coot that can't give up showbiz and has his poor harassed niece (Deb Likens) flogging up commercials etc. which he invariably messes up. He has not spoken to the other half of the

team Al Lewis (David Spivey) in years, still angry at perceived onstage slights and the fact that Lewis retired. The niece gets the idea to reunite them to do one of their classic routines on TV and that's when the insults begin to fly

One of HC's outstanding actors, Lance Trudel, makes his directing debut with this very funny show. Assisting him is another long-time resident and actor at HCP, Chris Hess.

The HCP box office, 828-526-8084, is open for season subscribers on Thursday and Friday, October 6 and 7; opening for general tickets beginning Saturday, October 8. Hours are 10 a.m. till 4:00. If phone is busy, leave a message for a call back. HCP website is highlandscashiersplayers.org.

WCU Faculty Concert comes to Highlands Oct. 9



Travis Bennett



Will Peebles



Lillian Pearson



Eldred Spell



Mario Gaetano



Ian Jeffress

The Music Committee of First Presbyterian Church and the Music Department of Western Carolina University will co-sponsor a faculty showcase concert on Sunday, October 9 at 4pm. The concert will take place in the church sanctuary. Featured will be Mario Gaetano, vibraphone; Ian Jeffress, saxophone; Eldred Spell, flute; Will Peebles, bassoon; Travis Bennett, horn; and Lillian Pearson, piano.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and enjoy this free concert. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Ip 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.

1st Wednesdays

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

3rd Wednesdays

• Recently released movies at Hudson Library at 2pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

Thursdays

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

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

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

• NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness: depression, bipolar, schizophrenia, etc., and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 – 8:15 pm. 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 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

• 99ers 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

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.

• 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., Oct. 6

• Bingo benefitting Highlands Cub Scout Pack 207 on Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building.

Fri.-Sun., Oct. 7-9

• Cashiers Valley Leaf Festival on the Village Green 10a to 5p each day. Live music, arts and craft and food. Children's activities, too, Friday night dance party from 6:30-9:30 with The Extraordinaires. Free admission. Donations accepted. Chairs and Coolers welcome. Food and Drinks will be available.

Fri., Oct. 7

• High Mountain Squares Harvest Day Dance at the MC Community Building on 441 south. 6:15 to 8:45 p.m.,

• "Motown Downtown," a concert of classic rock music, Fri-

day at 7 p.m., on Franklin's Town Square Gazebo, weather permitting. For details contact the Macon Council, 828-524-ARTS or arts4all@dnet.net.

Sat., Oct. 8

• Highlands Own Arts & Crafts show at 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Admission is free.

• Mission Health Career Fair 1-4 p.m. at the Mission Health SECU Cancer Center, 21 Hopsital Drive in Asheville.

• At PAC, Live at the MET via satellite at noon. Tristan und Isolde. 828-526-9047.

Sun., Oct. 9

• WCU concert at First Presbyterian Church at 4 p.m.

• LOUISIANA FLOOD RELIEF Music, Dancing, Eating, Sunday, 6-9 pm at Highlands United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Cost is your donation. Marce Lacouture singing traditional French ballads, Cajun dance lessons, Gumbo Ya-Ya Cajun Band and traditional Cajun food. Donations can also be mailed to: HUMC, PO Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741 Indicate for "LA Flood Relief" 100% of donations go to those who lost or have damaged homes.

Bingo for Scouts Thurs., Oct. 6



You, too, could be a BIG WINNER!

Come out to the Rotary Club of Highlands Bingo benefitting Highlands Cub Scout Pack 207 on Thursday October 6th, 6:30PM to 8:30PM at the Highlands Community Building. You're always a winner when you help support Scouting!

Bingo is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highlands and is licensed by the State of North Carolina.

Wed., Oct. 12

• Crossroad Fundraiser at the Cashiers Rec Park Ballfield.. Free all day family friendly concert to benefit Boys + Girls Club of the Plateau, Life Challenge and Teen-Mens Challenge of the Smokies. Music by Marjie Papajohn, Cashiers Gospel Blues Stars, the Breedlowve Brother plush special guests. Food and fun and games. Bring chairs and blankets. No pets or alcohol.

• At Hudson Library, Bascom photographer-in-residence Byron Tenesaca from 2-4 p.m. Lecture and demonstration.

Thurs.-Sun., Oct. 13-23

• HCP's play "The Sunshine Boys" at PAC. For tickets call 526-8084.

Thurs., Oct. 13

• At Drake's Diamond Gallery, Men's Night Out. 4:30-7:30 p.m. Great bar food and beverages. Jewelry door prizes just for men.

Sat., Oct. 15

• Bolivia Mission Lucheonn at HUMC from 11 a to 3p. Bake sale and salsa and jams made by Dr. Baumrucker. All proceeds will go to the foster home and other projects in Montero, Bolivia.

• Live via satellite at PAC

• See EVENTS page 14

LIVE via satellite: Tristan und Isolde Sat., Oct. 8 at PAC



Tristan und Isolde: Nina Stemme as Isolde

The Highlands Performing Arts Center will be screening the Live Via Satellite Series again this year: The MET Opera live from New York City, the Bolshoi Ballet live from Moscow and the National Theatre of London, all shown on our large theater screen. Saturday, October 8th, the first of the series will be the MET Opera's production of Tristan und Isolde by Wagner, beginning at 12 NOON. Tristan und Isolde is a story of unrequited love and intrigue. Saturday, October 15, 1pm the National Theatre of London will present an encore performance of their production of A View From the Bridge. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands

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TUES	IN-HOUSE MADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE LASAGNA WITH A LARGE SALAD	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
WED	CHICKEN OR STEAK POT PIE & A LARGE SALAD	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
THURS	ROASTED MEATLOAF WITH MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY AND A LARGE SALAD	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
FRI	WILD CAUGHT FRIED SHRIMP, BAKED POTATOES, HUSH PUPPIES, AND COLESLAW	\$24.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
SAT	IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ, COLESLAW, APPLE AND BACON BAKED BEANS, AND YEAST ROLLS	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>

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BAKED PENNE PASTA: ITALIAN SAUSAGE, ONION, BACON AND MUSHROOMS IN WHITE SAUCE. COMES WITH GARLIC BREAD AND SALAD \$21.95

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...DISTRICT 50 continued from page 9

also have two grandchildren. Davis has a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Southern Adventist University and went on to continue his education at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. He also attended graduate school at Loma Linda. Davis operates an orthodontics practice in Franklin.

According to Davis, he is running for office to "continue the progress in making our state fiscally sound including fully funding the pension and retiree healthcare benefit liabilities, enhance the business environment for job expansion and creation, adequately fund the legitimate functions of state government especially education, and continue to represent the interest of local governments, especially in my position as co-chair of state and local government."

Davis served as a commissioner in Macon County from 1996 until 2000 and then again from 2004 until 2010 at which point he was elected to the North Carolina Senate.

Hipps has spent her campaign focusing on public education and believes that her stance is what separates her from Davis.

"My opponent will tell you that average teacher pay in NC is over \$50,000 a year and he will tell you that we've increased education spending in North Carolina,"

said Hipps. "Well, how many teachers do you know that earn that kind of money? The teachers I know? They're reaching into their own pockets and spending their hard earned money on colored pencils and construction paper to make sure their students have the supplies they need to succeed. When you cut a half billion dollars from our local classrooms and give that money to the wealthiest citizens and special interests, there's no other phrase for it than a reverse Robin Hood! Public education in North Carolina is suffering and no amount of political spin can change that."

Finishing up his third term in office, Davis stands on his record in Raleigh and wants to continue the work he and his fellow legislators have started in terms of public education.

"The Republican led legislature has increased education funding every year it has been in leadership," Davis said. "State K-12 funding has increased by about 23% since 2011. Our efforts to appropriately fund education will continue to be a priority as our economy improves and our revenues increase. Beginning teachers have advanced in starting salary from \$30,800 to \$33,000

• See DISTRICT 50 page 13

Fall Colors Fine Art Show



Highlands Civic Center
Saturday & Sunday
October 15 - 16
10 - 5

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 want to
 miss this ...*

*Art League of
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...DISTRICT 50 continued from page 12

to \$35,000 per year. The average teacher salary will be greater than \$50,000 once the current policy is fully implemented. Benefits of about \$14,000 per year are in addition to increased salaries. Having high speed internet in every school is a high priority. Education spending is 56% of the state budget, 37% of that is K-12."

While Davis touts the work he has been a part of while in office, he believes more work can be accomplished.

"Improving current and adopting new policies that show progress and appropriately funding them," Davis said of how public education can be improved.

With North Carolina's economy being touted as one of the fastest growing economies in the country, both candidates took time to discuss their views for economic development in the state.


Hipps believes that the key to economic development lies in the state's infrastructure. With a commitment to infrastructure, Hipps believes the state should develop long term plans to address the needs of mountain communities instead of fixing problems when they arise. Broadband and internet connectivity in WNC is also a priority for Hipps and believes it something

that needs to be pursued fervently.

Davis views the role of economic development as being something that should be left to the private sector, as the state can only create public jobs, which he believes should only exist to efficiently satisfy the legitimate functions of government. To aid the private sector in job growth, Davis noted that the state should establish tax and regulatory policies that foster job growth and sustainability. He also believes that the state is responsible for ensuring that the workforce is trained and equipped sufficiently in order to adequately fill the available jobs.

Hipps spoke to Macon County voters last month during a voters forum held by the League of Women Voters. LWV President Susan Ervin read a letter from Senator Jim Davis during the beginning of the forum that stated Davis would not be attending the LWV because his campaign made the decision to only participate in debates at SCC and WCU due to Davis' busy schedule.

Davis has since changed his mind and appeared at a forum for The Mountaineer. Davis and Hipps are scheduled to debate at SCC on Tuesday, October 11 at 7 p.m. in the Burrell Building Conference Center.



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the Sunshine Boys
Written by Neil Simon

Directed By
Lance Trudel

Assistant Director
Chris Hess

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Thursday-Sunday, October 20-23

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...EVENTS continued from page 11

the National Theater of London production a "View from the Bridge" at 1 p.m. For more info call 828-526-9047.

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

Oct. 27



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• 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 3-5 p.m. Euphoria by Lily King

Sat. Oct. 29

• At PAC, Bluegrass: Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper at 8 p.m. Call 828-526-9047.

Thurs.-Sun., Nov. 10-13

• Highlands Food & Wine. Thurs., 7p Grand Tasting at The Bascom; Fri., 11a to 3p, Truckin' Old Creek Circle, Highlands. 11a to 4p, Sip & Stroll at various retail locations; 6p Wine Dinners at various restaurants; Sun., 11a-12p, Gospel Brunch at 5th Street at Carolina Way; 6p, Rockwood Rocks at Rockwood Lodge. For ticket and festival information, visit www.highlandsfoodandwine.com

Scholarship Golf Tournament

Space is rapidly filling up for the 2016 Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament! 2016 is looking like it could be the most successful year ever!

On October 20, Wildcat Cliff Country Club will once again host the annual Scholarship Golf Classic. The Town of Highlands Scholarship fund began in 1975 thanks to a local businessman named Jack Taylor. His gift of \$5,000 was the initial funding for this scholarship program enabled by special legislation in the NC General Assembly making Highlands unique in the state with the ability to administer a fund for the benefit of Highlands School graduates who are committed to higher education through college, university or vocational training.

In succeeding years, Jack Brockway along with other prominent concerned citizens became increasingly involved in the development and promotion of the Town of Highlands Scholarship Endowment Fund which exceeds \$780,000.

Over the years, various clubs including Highlands Falls, Cullasaja, and now Wildcat Cliffs, have provided their golf course and clubhouse facilities for the annual one-day tournament. This generosity has been essential in building and sustaining the endowment fund whose goal is providing financial support to our young highland school graduates.

The event kicks off at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast and practice on the range tee and putting green. A 9 a.m. shotgun start is followed by cocktails, lunch and awards ceremony. The cost for the event is \$150 per player. For sponsorship information or to sign up, please contact event co-chairs, Brian Stiehler (787-2778) or Rebecca Shuler (526-2118).

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• REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS •

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Walk to town from this 4BD/2 1/2 BA home on almost one half acre with pond, gazebo and garden area. Offered at \$399,000. mls #84709



One bedroom studio sits on almost 4 acres. Good rental potential. Offered unfurnished at \$550,000. mls #84744



3BD/3BA home with Clear Creek in your backyard. Addition and garage. Offered at \$389,000. mls #84483



Vintage charm in this 3BD/2BA home. Great location within walking distance to town. Offered at \$389,000. mls #81852



2BD/2BA, open floor plan. Offered at \$185,000. mls #82165



Great in-town 3BR/3BA mountain style home! Offered at \$375,000. mls #84685



Postcard mountain retreat with both a main house and separate guest quarters on almost 5 acres. Offered at \$549,000. mls #84082



3/3 Log Cabin on 2.77 acres. Backed by USFS and adjoins Conservation Land. 3 miles from Main St. Offered at \$595,000. mls #84511



In town! 5BD/2BA. Frontage on Hwy 64. Ideal for home/office/retail. Offered at \$895,000. mls #77981



On the 5th Fairway HFCC. 3BD on main level with family room downstairs. Offered at \$575,000. mls #82562



Great log cabin in Rocky Knob. Offered at \$299,000. mls #83801



3 Bedroom, 1-1/2 Bath. Great starter home or quiet getaway. Needs some TLC but could be great starter home or retirement home. Offered at \$199,000. mls #74462



HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB - This lovely 3BD/3BA home has it all! Offered at \$895,000. mls #75598.



3BD/3BA with stupendous view of Whiteside Mountain and Cashiers Valley. Offered at \$1,275,000. mls #84533



This adorable 2BR/2BA cozy mountain cottage is priced to sell on 1.38 acres, close to town. Offered at \$160,000 mls# 82712



Trillium Place master on main. 2BD/1.5 BA.. This is a must see for walk to town living! Offered at \$389,000 mls #84281



Located in Historic Satulah Mountain 4BD/5BA, 2 half baths. Extra lot included for a total of 2.91 +/- acres. Offered at \$3,600,000. mls #84632



Designer finishes are evident throughout this charming 3BD/2.5BA plus a loft cottage. Offered at \$399,000. mls #79665



Over 4 acres on Satulah Mountain. Inside city limits. 2BD/2.5 BA. Offered at \$449,000. mls #68828



In town. 3BD/2.5 BA, one car garage. Offered at \$545,000. mls #83999



In town 4BD/3BA. Great location for year round living or great rental potential. Offered at \$350,000. mls #84767



3BD/2BA plus full basement. Cathedral ceiling with fireplace. Offered at \$349,000. mls #84595



Main house has 4BD/2.5 BA. Guest house has 2BD/2BA. 1880 Farmhouse on Bowery Road on over 10 acres. Spectacular views! Offered at \$1,995,000. mls #80904



3BD/3.5BA. Master bedroom on main. Furnished and move-in ready. Priced to sell \$599,000. mls #83479



Log cabin with 4BD/4.5 BA. Master on main with fireplace. Offered at \$575,000. mls #84827



Lovely 3br/3ba home overlooking 4th fairway of Highlands Falls Country Club plus mountain and 3rd fairway views. Cozy living room with wood floors and a stone fireplace and lower level family room. Club membership is optional. \$400,000. MLS #83403



This timeless and wonderful home was once owned by the renowned botanist Thomas Grant Harbison and is on the National Registry of Historic Places (see Wikipedia). This historic home features 5br/3ba and a sleeping porch on 3.29 acres! \$1,070,000. MLS #82122



Reduced \$100,000! Lovely 4br, 3 1/2ba home with beautiful mature landscaping located 1/2 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



This comfortable, livable, 2 br, 3 1/2 ba home with additional guest quarters is in a most desirable walk to town location. This home is great for entertaining! Great screened porch with fireplace, 2-car garage. \$519,000. MLS #83227



Highlands Falls Country Club. An amazing remodel of this 3br/3 1/2ba beautiful home. Every space was updated. 3 en suites plus a guesthouse, privately located, club membership optional. \$719,000. MLS #82523



Immaculately cared for 4br/4 1/2ba home in Highlands Falls Country Club. Great mountain view, very private and has a lovely water feature, 2 screened porches, wonderful office/den, high wood ceilings, 2 stone fireplaces. Club membership is optional. \$1,097,000. MLS #83833



Great view of pond and 11th fairway from this 2br/2ba condo in Highlands Falls. Upper unit with few steps to enter is light, bright and fully furnished. Club membership is optional. \$199,000. MLS #83619



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



One level living in this 3br/2 1/2ba home in Wildwood Mountain. Immaculate and move-in ready with lower level expansion area and attached garage. \$275,000. MLS #84018



In HIGHGATE one of the highest altitudes in Highlands. This 5br/6 1/2ba home is in this upscale private community within a 4 minute drive to downtown Highlands. Open floor plan, high ceilings and 5 en suites. \$1,275,000. MLS #83155A



Walk to town from this gentle home-site with 250 feet of road frontage and view of Mirror Lake! No one can build across the street City water and sewer is available. \$147,000. MLS #84287



Meticulously maintained home with tremendous mountain views! 3.46 acres for plenty of privacy. Kitchen features granite counter tops, new appliances, cabinets and flooring. \$500,000. MLS #80134



Lake Sequoyah access. Wow! Oozing with Old Highlands Charm! This adorable 3br/3ba cottage sits well back from the road. Wonderful family/sunroom with terraced gardens. \$599,000. MLS #81800.



Fabulous non-traditional 3br/3ba mountain home in Highlands Falls was remodeled and designed by Darren Whatley. End of road privacy with forest service land on two sides. The terrace level features a large family room. Club membership is optional. \$698,000. MLS #67817



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



This 4 bedrooms and 4.5 baths sits on 1.49 acres of gated privacy with an amazing waterfall and views of Satulah and Little Yellow Mountains. Just 5 minutes from downtown. Paved access and loads of custom features. Three adjacent lots available to purchase. \$1,400,000. MLS #83796.



Lovely and immaculately maintained 3 br, a bonus guest room and four 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. MLS #84161



Cullasaja Club. This 5br/4ba/2hb home on the 6th fairway has mountain and lake views and large open spaces. This home offers extensive quality features and includes sunroom, 2 offices, wine room & cellar, billiards room, great outdoor decks, patio & firepit. \$1,390,000. MLS #83731



Lovingly maintained, immaculate 4br/5ba is the best value Highlands Country Club. Home is surrounded by natural landscaping with a sweet sitting area and a water feature plus numerous decks and porches off of most rooms. Open floor plan, 2 car garage, workshop space and lots of storage. \$949,000. MLS #81619



Exceptional long range views with 2br/2ba updated log cabin on over 10 acres. Drive to the top and see a 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



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Home Inspections...Myths & Facts



Lynn Kimball
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ble issue they can see in a home does not mean that the Seller is responsible for the repair. Many pre-owned homes have issues, but again the Buyer needs to understand they are not buying a new home. On the other hand... if the seller is happy with their Contract price, a Seller may want to consider ponying up some bucks for repairs.

"Are Home Inspectors using Scare Tactics?": Why on God's green earth would a Home Inspector want to use scare tactics such as suggesting to a buyer: hire a...structural engineer, an HVAC specialist, a septic system engineer, a well specialist, a roofer, an electrician, an environmental specialist??? As we have seen life move into such a litigious society, there is only one good reason in my opinion...they must cover themselves as they cannot be the professional regarding all things. And most of them have never been licensed contractors. Although the Buyer has every right to have any and all inspections during their Due Diligence Period, I have found that the majority of things on most Inspection Reports can be handled by a handyman. This however, is always decided by the Buyer and/or Seller.

Between a Buyer and Seller, the Inspection is usually where the rubber hits the road. However, it seems to make more sense to look at the whole picture. A likely sale price in our area is between \$300,000 up to \$2,000,000. I've seen Buyers and Sellers walk away from a sale for \$600.00 worth of repairs. What logic lies behind this? Many of us are emotional people, each afraid of being taken advantage of, but it's time for us to be free of this fear. We can be free by being willing to look at the issues collectively from the perspective of each individual involved. Just think...we can all be kinder

• See INVESTING page 25

Anyone purchasing a home today is a well advised to have a Professional Home Inspection. However, it is past time for Buyers and Sellers to use more perspective regarding the results of these Home Inspection Reports. The following questions and information may be of interest to you.

"Home Inspectors are for the Buyers?": This is true, especially when the buyer orders and pays for the inspection. Most Buyers understand that it is to their advantage to share the Report with the Sellers so they can also understand the issues. "For Sellers?": It is always helpful for a Seller to have an Inspection prior to putting their home on the market. This allows the Seller to repair serious issues if need be, instead of losing a sale later...or at least they can understand pricing their home in a price range comparable to their home's condition.

After the Inspection, "How Much Shall We Reduce our Offer?": Generally the offering price of a home is based on market value in its current condition, not in the condition of a new home. Please remember...you are not buying a new home. A professional Realtor can give you a good idea of the comparable sales regarding the location, age and condition of a home.

"Home Inspectors are too Nitpicky and Will Identify Every Little Problem in a Home?": Yes...but no. Home Inspectors in NC are required to be licensed and are expected to notice as much as possible. However, Buyers need to understand that the Inspector is only responsible for what is visible and in most cases they cannot predict the future.

"Is the Seller Responsible for Repairs?": Just because a reputable Home Inspector brings an Inspection showing every possi-

• REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS •

Panoramic Views in Gorgeous Neighborhood



With this lot, you have one of the most sought-after panoramic views in the Highlands-Cashiers area. The perfect place to build your vision of the perfect home. In the gorgeous Blue Valley Pointe neighborhood, this lot features very gentle topography, southern exposure, paved access, end-of-road privacy, and a shared well.

Offered at \$265,000, MLS #83389.
Contact Susie (828) 371-2079.

Rustic & Elegant Cabin with View



This 2BR/2.5 BA cabin is on .66 +/- acres close to town. It is in excellent condition and is move-in ready with a large, covered deck. The living room with cathedral ceilings features a stone, floor-to-ceiling, wood-burning fireplace. The spacious master is on the main level level with a jacuzzi sun room accessible from the deck. The upper level has a second bedroom and bath. Short drive to Main Street and beautiful Mirror Lake.

Offered at \$350,000, MLS #84129.
Contact Susie deVile (828) 371-2079.

Best Location In-Town



Short walk to town and Harris Lake with winter views of Sunset Rock, this house sits on .32 +/- acres. Yard is fenced and well manicured. With the rental market booming, this home is ideal for a great rental property. This 2BR/2BA could easily be converted to a 3BD. Lots of potential and the BEST location in town.

Offered at \$269,000, MLS #83123.
Contact Susie (828) 371-2079.

Sought-After Breathtaking Views



Reduced Price! First time on the market! This immaculate 3BR/2BA home (on 1.69 +/- acres) has the most sought-after, breathtaking views that will soothe your soul. Features include an open floor plan, tons of natural light, wood flooring, and stone fireplace with gas logs in the living room. Begin your mornings by soaking in the views from the master. You will want to spend hours outside on the open and covered decking and enjoy the views in front of the wood-burning fireplace.

Offered at \$559,000, MLS #84298.
Contact Susie deVile (828) 371-2079.



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



Big Pine Lodge is custom built 6BD/7 1/2 BA 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

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •



Volunteers build benches for gazebo

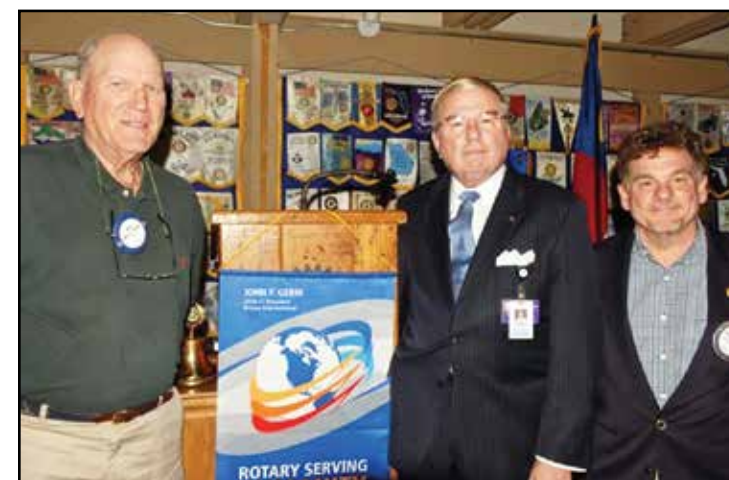
Greenway volunteers recently completed benches for the Trailhead Pavilion at 1st and Oak streets, where the public might rest and learn about trekking on the Greenway in Highlands. From left: Lynn and Phil Miller, Betty Wong, Julian Franklin, John Akridge, Richard Melvin, Kevin Gates, and Brian Egler. Not shown: Kent Nelson and Mike Levine.



Community turns out for Blessing of the Animals

At the annual Blessing of the Animals at K-H Founders Park, Chaplain Margaret Howell of Holy Family Lutheran Church and Rev. Rusty Goldsmith of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation did the honors on Sunday, Oct. 2

– Photo by Helen Moore



Cancer treatments and breakthroughs presented at Highlands Rotary meeting

Left: from left: Bill Edwards, Charles Thomas, M.D. and Hank Ross

At their September 13 meeting, Rotarians received an informative overview presentation about cancer by Radiation Oncologist, Charles Thomas, M.D. of Macon Cancer Center, a 21st Century Oncology facility.

Dr. Thomas discussed the various forms of cancer diseases. He described the different treatment methods including surgery, chemotherapy, hormonal and systemic therapies, radiation therapy and palliative care. While one in three people will experience some form of cancer, and it is the second leading cause of death, Dr. Thomas reported that he is seeing more cases that are less severe.

The evolution of technology and treatment methodologies have significantly improved over the past 10 years. Dr. Thomas strongly encourages everyone to obtain their screenings as he experiences first-hand how early detection positively affects successful cancer treatment outcomes.

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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

September's Highlands School students recognized at Rotary



Highlands Schools Students were recognized as September Students of the Month at the September 20th Rotary Club of Highlands meeting. Left to right: Hank Ross, President, Rotary Club of Highlands; 8th grader Tessa Wisniewski, 5th grader Alexis Turner, 12th grader Hayley Hawkins and Nicole Lui, Highlands School Guidance Counsellor.

Live in HD Series

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

People dying on the Plateau



By Dr. Gary Hewins
Community Bible Church

Our local funeral home in Highlands closed up recently but it seems to have had no effect on whether or not people in our community are dying. People are still dying on the plateau. As you know, death and taxes are fairly reliable. Ministers occasionally marry and they occasionally bury (same black suit, just different occasions). Officiating a funeral can be an incredible privilege.

I recently officiated a memorial service for a fascinating man and friend. Bill Pugsley died some weeks ago. Perhaps you knew him? I, and others watched Bill slowly die over a period of months. Actually, I saw Bill's body slowly deteriorate but I never did see Bill's attitude diminish much. Bill's faith never did die. His faith only seemed to grow stronger as his body only grew weaker.

Bill had a pretty colorful past like many of us have had. I guess one could say Bill's fancy motorcycle had lower mileage than its owner. It is safe to say that for many years, Bill Pugsley had little to no time and little to no desire for church, Christianity and Christ.

Colorful past aside, what mattered to Bill the most in the end, besides his wonderful wife Susan, was the spiritual condition of those he was leaving behind. We would meet at Sweet Treats for lunch and talk about some of the things we had in common concerning the party side of life. We would also talk about his travels and his experiences traversing the country. We talked about R.V.'s, knife making, jewelry, and what matters most in life.

It was in the fourth quarter of the game of life that Bill began to get a hold of the incredible love of God through Christ His Son. Bill "got saved" as they say. In the end, Bill wanted others to experience what he had experienced...not oxygen tanks and breathing aids, not medication and a fear of dying in the night...but the reality of knowing that Christ was good enough to make Bill good enough by faith to receive eternal life.

Some people talk a big game about Jesus and faith and how He and it are not for them. I used to be the same way. Big talkers should listen sometimes. There is a power in God that transforms. There is a compassion in Christ that bends our hearts toward his forgiveness. There is a patience in Christ that waits for us to willingly surrender to receive victory in Him. There is a demonstration of

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 25

Proverbs 3:5

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999
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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

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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
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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

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526-2968
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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: 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

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• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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 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

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Worship/Communion: 10:30

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

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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)
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Rev. Marty Kilby
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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
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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.

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Horse Cove - Kay Ward 743-5009
Old-Fashion hymn-sing Sunday 7-8p.

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Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

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

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Police log entries from Aug. 27. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Aug. 27

• At 3:05 p.m., officers responded to a shoplifting incident at Potpourri on Main Street where a gold necklace was taken.

Sept. 21

• At 2:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Spring Street.

Sept. 27

• At 8:30 p.m., William Landry Whitaker, 21, of Sylva, was arrested for DWI, possession of Methamphetamine and following too closely when he was pulled over on US 64 east.

Oct. 1

• At noon, officers responded to a call of vandalism at a residence on NC 106 where someone drove through the yard and damaged a county road sign. Damage to the yard is estimated at \$200 and damage to the sign is estimated to be \$200.

• At 2:30 a.m., Jacob Paul Van Weelden, 28 of Sapphire, was arrested for DWI, driving while license was revoked and various drug violations when he was pulled over on N. 4th Street at Laurel Street. His trial date is Nov. 7.

Oct. 2

• At 2:15 a.m., Adam Michael Starrett, 21, of Appleton, WI, was arrested for DWI when he was pulled over on Second

Street.

• At 4:10 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hummingbird Lane.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Sept. 28.

Sept. 28

• At 10:25 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Garnet Rock Trail.

• At 5:24 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance on US 64 east at Buck Creek Road.

Sept. 29

• At 7:41 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Buttermilk Lane.

Sept. 30

• At 12:29 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Rolling Acres.

• At 12:30 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cottage Row.

• At 6:31 p.m., the dept. stood-by at the hospital for the MAMA helicopter.

• At 9:15 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Clear Creek Road.

Oct. 1

• At 8:22 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street.

Oct. 2

• At 4:05 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on US 64 west.

• At 7:39 p.m., the dept. stood-by at Zachary Field for the MAMA helicopter.

...INVESTING continued from page 21

people and “what a wonderful world this would be”.

• Lynn Kimball has over 43 years of real estate experience, with 31 years serving the Highlands Cashiers area. She has gained Emeritus Status with the National Association of Realtors and previously served as a Director and Vice President for the Highlands Cashiers Board of Realtors. Whether you are interested in searching properties or comprehensive information about our area, you are invited to visit her user friendly website at www.signatureproperties-nc.com. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty has three locations, at 41 Church Street in the Old Edwards Inn complex, at 488 Main Street or visit Lynn at her 2334 Cashiers Road location across from Highlands Falls Country Club. Lynn Kimball may be reached at 828-421-8193 or by email at Lynn@MeadowsMtnRealty.com



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...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 24

love in Christ that speaks for itself. People who don't believe in the resurrection power of Christ are often searching for significance, mission, purpose, peace, acceptance, value and a huge bear hug. The irony of such a quest is that all of those very real wants and needs are found in a personal relationship with Christ. Eternal life is a reality. The question is where your eternal life will be spent. If you have a spiritual chip on your shoulder, just know that you are loved, wanted, and on the mind and heart of God. He only wants you to be mindful of Him to start a faith-based friendship. Talk to Him so that you can talk with Him. Ask Him to reveal Himself to you. Ask Him to place something of Himself in your heart. Ask Christ to pursue you as you pursue Him.

There is only one thing that changes when you see Christ for who He really is—that one thing is everything. Spirituality, AA meetings, hard work, money, status and even philanthropy are no replacement for Christ. Reach out to Him. Bill Pugsley knows the reality of a life full of the love of God through Jesus Christ and because of that his memorial service was a celebration. Will your funeral warrant any celebration?

Here is a verse of scripture written by the Apostle Paul, a former jerk and royal pain in the neck who hated Christ. Perhaps this verse of scripture can be your heart-felt prayer today: I want to know Christ—and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:10-11).

Death is approaching all of us. Let's be sure to keep it real.

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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •



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Community celebrates with new owner of Drake's Diamond Gallery

A combined Chambers After Hours and ribbon cutting was held at Jannie Bean's Drake's Gallery on Thursday, September 22. A great crowd of about 65 people attended and it was a beautiful evening full of fellowship and great food. A special 3-day event is planned for Thurs.-Sat., Oct. 13-15 where all are invited to see the VERGANO Italian 18 KT fine gold jewelry collection. Many pieces are set with colored gemstones. There will be cocktails and bistro food. On Thursday, Oct. 13 it's a Men's Only affair from 4:30-7:30 p.m.



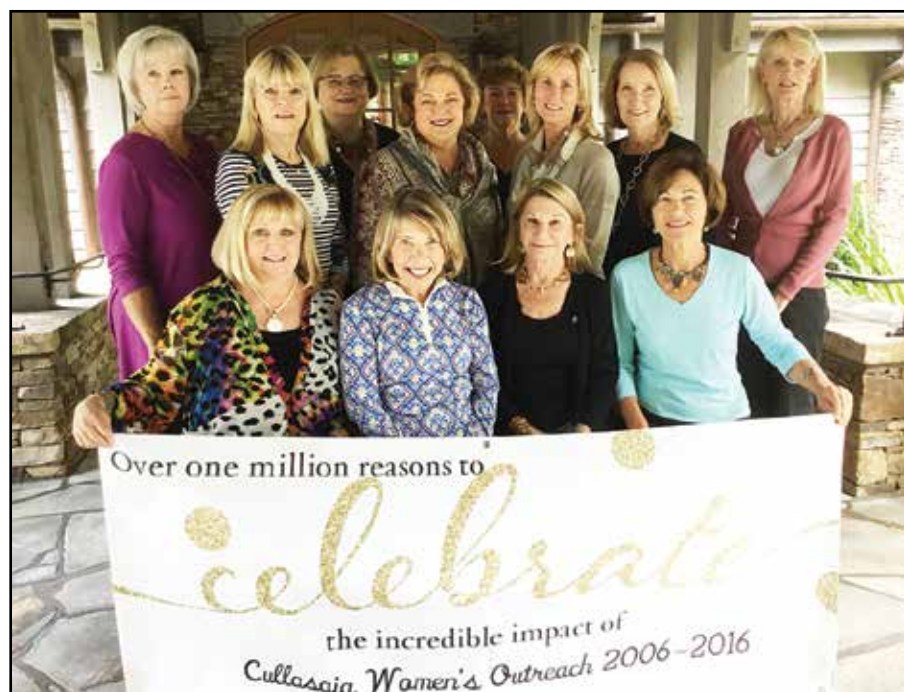
Novice Dahlia grower wins big

Novice grower Clyde Howell poses with one of his ribbon winners from The American Dahlia Society's 50th National Show, which was held in Asheville on September 17-18. Clyde and his mother, Beverly Howell, grew these dahlias in her garden in Highlands. Clyde and Beverly won seven blue ribbons and four red ribbons.

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Cullasaja Women's Outreach tops the million-dollar mark – donates an additional \$177,850 for the benefit of community!

Local women's organization has donated over \$1,030,000 to Highlands-Cashiers Not-for-Profits since 2006.



Cullasaja Women's Outreach (CWO) announced the results of its 2016 fund-raising efforts. This independent collective of women raised a record \$177,850, which is being invested solely to advance the projects, works and efforts of Highlands and Cashiers area not-for-profit organizations. Since its founding in 2006, this grassroots collective of women has invested over \$1,030,000 in the Highlands and Cashiers community—a considerable accomplishment for a group of about 80 women from the Cullasaja Club community.

Funds raised this year are being awarded to 22 organizations in the Highlands-Cashiers area through a sophisticated grants process led by CWO Grant Co-Chairs Joy Abney and Lindy Colson. Individual awards range from \$2500 to \$10,000. This year's grant recipients include: Blue Ridge School's music program (through its educational foundation); Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic; Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau; Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society; the Center for Life Enrichment; Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers; Counseling & Psychotherapy Center of Highlands; Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry; Friends of Founders Park; The Gathering Table, Inc.; Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music;

Highlands Community Child Development Center; Highlands Emergency Council; Highlands Historical Society; Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust; Highlands Playhouse; Hudson Library; International Friendship Center Food Pantry; Literacy Council of Highlands, Inc.; Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center; The Peggy Crosby Service Center; and the Summit Charter School.

"Over the past ten years, Cullasaja Women's Outreach has taken the time to listen and respond to the voices of need around us, providing food, warmth and healthcare," noted Executive Director Frazer McCrorey. "Our dollars have brought the joy of music, the empowerment of literacy, and the appreciation of nature and our local history to many." "Moreover," added Lindy Colson, "We have invested in organizations that make a difference in children's lives today—encouraging their studies and expanding their dreams, so that they can see what is possible tomorrow." Her co-chair partner Joy Abney expanded, "We strive to make each grant dollar count. Not to build our own legacy, but instead to have a meaningful and positive impact on the lives of those around us."

"There are many needs here on the plateau. Many we simply cannot see," noted Executive Director Margaret Eichman. "Importantly, there are many, many charitable,

civic and cultural organizations that work—not for profit, but to strengthen the community. Cullasaja Women's Outreach strives to connect with these wonderful people, to use our resources locally, to make a better world, by focusing first, within our own backyard."

Partnering with the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, CWO established a CFWNC-CWO Charities fund, which enables the group to raise funds each summer and award them through a judicious

grants process to make a meaningful difference in the local community. To date, Cullasaja Women's Outreach has assisted thirty-four local not-for-profit and charitable organizations in their efforts to enhance the community.

• *Cullasaja Women's Outreach is an independent collective of women, who believe in reaching out to each other and to local organizations through philanthropy, volunteerism and friendship to build a stronger community.*

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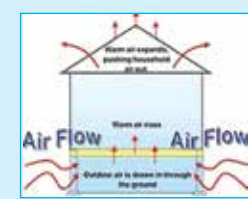


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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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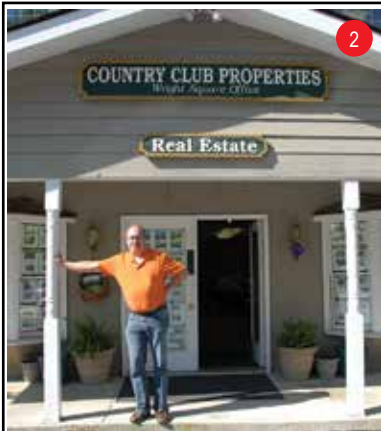
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