

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 13, Number 39

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

Thurs., Sept. 29, 2016

2015-'16 Report Card:

Highlands School exceeds growth expectations; earns a "B"

North Carolina releases report cards for all 115 school districts in the state each year and tracks growth, performance, and improvement for each district as well as individual school sites. Ma-

con County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin presented members of the board of education with the 2015-'16 report cards, showing that Macon County stacks up well against other schools in the

district.

"All of our schools either met or exceeded their academic growth expectations with the exception of Franklin High School and Union Academy," said Dr. Baldwin.

Of the 115 school districts in North Carolina, the Macon County School District is the 71st largest based on average daily attendance, according to Dr. Baldwin.

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Cliff Ammons snapped this shot at a residence on Cobb Road.

VA man pleads guilty to selling Black Bear parts

Bears parts came from Western North Carolina bears

WASHINGTON—Last week Vu Johnnie Nguyen of Virginia Beach, VA, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Asheville, NC, to federal charges for unlawfully trafficking in American

black bear gall bladders and other American black bear parts, the Justice Department announced. The conviction arose from a year-long investigation into Nguyen's

•See BEAR page 6

Candidates for U.S. Rep District 11 face off

U.S. Representative Mark Meadows spent a Friday night debate at Western Carolina University defending his tenure in Congress while being challenged by Democratic congressional candidate Rick Bryson.

Bryson: Rick Bryson was raised in Swain County, where the county seat was named for his great-grandfather, who was a representative to the NC General Assembly. Politics run in Bryson's family as both his grandfather and father held a number of elected positions and Bryson's claim that he "was born and bred to politics" is based on being a 4th generation public servant.

Bryson has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from NC State University and developed a career as an industrial public relations writer in Ohio. In 2013, Bryson was elected to the Town

•See CANDIDATES page 8

Highlands School Varsity Volleyball



Kendra McCall, Brooke Reheimer, Analyse Crook, Abby Olvera, Katie McCall, Morgan Olvera, Hannah Holt, Alexis Healey, Maddie Lloyd, Megan Vinson, Madison Dalton and Jeslyn Head. Coach DeDe Head. Asst. Coach Erika Olvera.

— Photo by Kim Lewicki

Sept. Town Board tidbits

After paying tribute to Alan "Buck" Trott's passing at September's Town Board meeting, Mayor Pat Taylor discussed Sunday trash pickup in the commercial district.

He said he and staff had been

studying the subject considering the need and the fiscal ramifications. He said over the Labor Day weekend he requested that trash be picked up each day and reiterated

•See TIDBITS page 3

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

The many benefits of K-H Founders Park

Over the last decade, substantial money has been spent on developing Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park. While many folks view the park as a wonderful addition, I am sure there are still those who may see it as a waste of money, or at best excessive in costs.



Mayor Pat Taylor

Isabel Munson and Ed Krafcik recently wrote in The National League Cities blog an interesting article on municipal parks. The piece was entitled, "Five Ways Parks Provide a Return on Investment." After reading their article I realized that our community park will be a financial asset and community treasure in the decades to come.

The authors pointed out that when there is a well-run community park in an area, adjacent and surrounding property values remain high, or even increase. In some cases property values may rise as much as 22%.

Parks also help the surrounding environment with air pollution control and stormwater control. Our park, with an elaborate filter system just beneath the

ground and green space, is critical to stormwater control in that part of the downtown area.

Another benefit of municipal parks centers around improved health and fitness of residents. Parks enhance the likelihood of folks doing more exercise such as walking. I see folks walking to and through the park, frequently with their dog(s) in tow everyday. Our kids run and play in fountain and

grass.

Having a park in a central area of a town also has a positive effect for tourism, a critical industry for Highlands. As we enter the fall and winter seasons, the park will continue to draw folks to our downtown area.

This will be the second year that ice skating will be in the park plaza. Even with the delayed start and problems with warm weather, the skating operation was well attended last year. The new Christmas decorations at the park, the town lighting ceremony and the Christmas tree will add to the special holiday feeling as the skating rink opens the weekend after Thanksgiving.

A new park feature will be the historic chimney and fireplace that is being built by Friends of the Park. It is now under construction. Located next to the skating rink, there will be a functional fireplace where people can gather during those winter evenings of skating.

Finally, a community park builds social capital according to Munson and Krafcik. There is intrinsic value in having public spaces where people can meet and interact. Events this summer, like the Saturday concerts, the Highlands Market and road races promote public discourse and interaction.

So, I expect a return on the investment of this community resource. There will be direct financial benefits for Highlands in having a park, as well as quality of life benefits that may be harder to measure in financial terms.

I want to salute the Friends of the Park, the nonprofit organization that has done so much to support the park. Both taxpayer funds and private donations will sustain this community resource for years to come.

• MILESTONE •

His last parade



Members of the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department, the Highlands Police Department and the Highlands Town Crew, were honor guards and pallbearers at Buck Trott's funeral Thursday. After the funeral they loaded Buck's coffin onto a fire truck, adorned the truck with a Santa hat and proceeded through town for Buck's last parade. Members of the Town Crew stretched a line across US 64 east and hung a U.S. flag to commemorate Bucks' career in the U.S. Air Force and the love he had for his country and town. The processional drove under the flag on its way to the burial at Highlands Memorial Park.

— Photos by Kim Lewicki



• WEEKEND WEATHER •

FRIDAY SEP 30	SATURDAY OCT 1	SUNDAY OCT 2
62°/41°	65°/44°	69°/46°
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Highlands Newspaper

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Locally owned and operated by

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Adobe PDF version at

www.HighlandsInfo.com

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Highlands, N.C., 28741

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Letter Policy:

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

• OBITUARY •

Donald Gary Houston

Donald Gary Houston, 65, of Highlands, passed away, Thursday, September 22, 2016

Born in Macon County, he was the son of the late Donald Gordon Houston and Mary Elizabeth Rogers Houston. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Billy Floyd Houston. Gary worked as a masonry contractor and was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting, fishing, camping and taxidermy.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Patty Genco Houston; daughter, Robin Chavez of Franklin; son, David Leffler of Highlands; three brothers, Robert Houston of SC, Jimmy Houston of Highlands and Wiley Houston of Franklin; four sisters, Shirley Murphy of OH, Betty Henry



of Highlands, Kathy McConnell of Franklin and Donna Houston of Highlands; two grandsons, Nicholas Parparian of Franklin and Hunter Leffler of Highlands and one great grandson, Walker Leffler of Highlands.

Memorial Service will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, September 29, at Highlands United Methodist Church. Rev. Dan Lyons, Rev. Jennifer Forrester and Rev. Randy Lucas will officiate. A reception will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Macon Funeral Home to help with funeral expenses.

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences can be made at maconfuneralhome.com

• THANK YOU •

The Family of Alan Lewis

We want to thank our many friends and neighbors for your prayers, cards, and loving concerns in the loss of Alan Lewis. Thanks also to Robbie Forrester and the EMTs who responded so quickly, to pastors Curtis Fussell and Emily Wilmarth at First Presbyterian Church, and to all of those who drove their old cars to the funeral as a tribute.

— The Alan Lewis Family

The Family of Fred Munger

The family would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest appreciation for the thoughtfulness presented to us and love we have been given during our time of bereavement.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you so much for whatever part.

We are blessed to have each and every person and we thank God for allowing us to have you in our lives.

— Madge, Gloria, Ricky, and Pat.

...TIDBITS continued from page 1

ated the request the next weekend as well.

He asked the board to consider continuing Sunday trash pickup in the commercial district until the October Town Board meeting when more facts and figures would be available. The board unanimously agreed.

Skatepark

The town received and accepted a \$3,000 donation from the Highlands Rotary Club for the development of a skate board park at the Rec Park.

Total Eclipse

The August 21, 2017 Total Eclipse event was discussed by both the mayor and President of the Chamber of Commerce Bob Kielyka.

Kielyka said the towns of Highlands and Franklin as well as the Macon County Commission are gearing up for the "once every 375-year event" which promises to be an "educational and metaphysical experience."

• See TIDBITS page 7

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M F G R O . C O M

...BEAR continued from page 1

unlawful purchase, sale and transportation of American black bear parts from the Western District of North Carolina. Bear gall bladders and paws are often used in Asian traditional medicine markets.

"The American Black Bear is a beautiful sight to behold by hikers and campers in the Blue Ridge Mountains and elsewhere in North America, and we will not allow their parts, such as gall bladders, to be taken and sold," said Assistant Attorney General John C. Cruden of the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division. "Black bears are a protected species under both U.S. and North Carolina laws and we will prosecute those who attempt to deal illegally in their parts."

"Nguyen repeatedly engaged in the illegal trafficking of American black bear gall bladders and other parts, a crime that is both reprehensible and a violation of federal and state laws," said U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina Jill Westmoreland Rose. "The abundance of American black bears in western North Carolina mountains often attracts the attention of traffickers looking for a steady source of supply of bear parts to satisfy the ever growing demand in domestic and foreign black markets. Nguyen's prosecution speaks to our commitment to protect our wildlife resources and to apply stringent punishment to those who ignore the law for profit."

"When we think of the victims of wildlife trafficking, it's elephants and rhinos in Africa, tigers in India and parrots in South America that usually come to mind; but there are many animals and plants here in the United States that are also repeatedly subjected to poaching for illegal international trade, including black bear," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe. "This case shows our continued commitment to bringing criminals who deprive

our children of the chance to see these magnificent creatures to justice."

Nguyen entered his guilty plea before U.S. District Court Judge Dennis Howell for the Western District of North Carolina — specifically, a felony charge under the Lacey Act. The Lacey Act is the federal law that makes it illegal to transport or sell wildlife taken, possessed, transported or sold in violation of state law. Animal parts, like American black bear gall bladders, paws, claws and meat are considered wildlife under both the Lacey Act and North Carolina law and under North Carolina law, it is illegal for anyone to possess for sale or buy any bear or bear parts.

According to the documents filed with the court, Nguyen illegally engaged in conduct that involved the sale and purchase and intent to sell 18 American black bear gall bladders, 16 American black bear claws, two American black bear paws and approximately 50 pounds of American black bear meat in 2014. Nguyen further admitted that on three separate occasions, Jan. 6, 2014, March 5, 2014, and Dec. 17, 2014, he knowingly transported or caused to be transported American black bear parts when he knew that they were sold in violation of North Carolina law.

Nguyen faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. As part of the agreement, he has agreed to publish a statement apologizing for his illegal conduct.

The case is prosecuted by the Justice Department's Environmental Crimes Section Trial Attorney Shennie Patel and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of North Carolina in Asheville. The case was investigated by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Law Enforcement and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Division of Law Enforcement.

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This black bear dad wandered onto Jim and Shirley Johnson's property on Naiad Terrace. They thought it was after a swan that hangs out near their dock, but there was no altercation.

•SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING•

Is Secularism Taking Over?

By Steve Kerhoulas
Christ Church of the Valley

I'm asked if religion (Christianity) is losing its place in the world being eclipsed by a more secular worldview? Well it depends upon whom you ask. Kind of like reading the poll numbers from CNN or Fox. If you ask a person without faith they will say, "Of course any thinking person knows religion is going the way of the Dodo bird." If you ask a religious person the same question you will hear a different answer. But who is telling the truth?

The question is; "Are we seeing a shift in culture towards a more secular worldview?" Are we? The fact is most people don't much care about facts. What we want is someone to come along side of us and champion our belief be it right or wrong. What we care the most about isn't the facts ...it's agreement. Do you agree?

Here is a fact the notion that the world is heading towards a more secular belief is wrong. Guess what? Religion is not only growing it is thriving and it is secularism that's being eclipsed. So to think secularism is replacing religion is wrong. The fact is secularism is declining while religion is not.

Prove it! OK. An important study on this question has already been done. The Pew Foundation, through extensive research, has determined over the long

term, the percentage of atheists, agnostics, and the religiously unaffiliated will slowly, and steadily decline. The 2015 Pew report projects the decline will be from the current level of 16.4 percent to 13.2 in just 20 years.

In the United States and Europe, liberal religious bodies (those that do not hold to a traditional view of scripture, deny the resurrection, miracles, etc.) will continue to lose members. But while this is occurring the opposite is taking place in traditional, orthodox bodies. Those churches are growing in numbers.

Think about this one. Last Sunday there were more Christians attending church in China than in Europe. By 2020 Christianity in China will increase from a low of 11.4 million in 1970 to a high of 171.1 million. In Africa, around 1910, only 12 million people claimed to be followers of Christ. By 2020, according to the Pew study, if things continue, the growth of religion in Africa will be from 9% to 49.3% or 630 million people. (Millions and millions)

Get this. A secular academic (Smart fellow) by the name of Eric Kaufmann, in his book, "Shall the Religious Inherit the Earth?" Great Question. On the last page of the book states an unequivocal fact...Yes! The religious will inherit the earth.

So are we becoming more secular? I guess it depends upon whom you ask.

...TIDBITS continued from page 3

In Highlands, dealing with the promotion and tourism aspects of the event is being handled by a subcommittee of the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Taylor said he envisions a "kind of 4th of July" event with viewing venues in the K-H Founders Park, at the Rec Park and at the ballfield.

Christmas Tree

The place for a permanent Christmas Tree is being readied at K-H Founders Park. The retaining wall is being built and the tree is expected to be delivered and planted soon.

Speed limit request

Residents on Little Bear Pen contacted NC DOT asking to repeal the 25 mph speed limit on US 64 (4th Street) from Pine

to Poplar streets and enact a speed limit of 25 mph from Pine Street to .225 miles northeast Little Bear Pen. Currently, the mph along the stretch moves from 25 to 35 to 40 mph.

Highlands Police Chief Harrell said initially he was for the change, but has since changed his mind and suggested more diligence on his department's part would keep motorists from speeding.

"There are things we can do from an enforcement standpoint to be effective rather than reducing the speed. Let my department do some things to see how effective they are before we change the speed limit," he said. "And I'm not talking about speed

• See TIDBITS page 15

Bryson's

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...SCHOOL continued from page 1

The school district ranks 65th in per pupil spending. Macon County ranks 46th in end-of-course/end-of-grade performance with the strongest grade level performances in 8th grade ranked 31st, third through eighth grade reading ranked 34th, and math I ranked 35th. English II scores in the school district moved up 29 spots to 44th in the state.

Highlands School was one of three schools in Macon County to score in the top 17 to 18 percent of the state in terms of grades after receiving a "B." Highlands, Macon Early College, and South Macon EL-

ementary school each scored a B. Highlands High School was also recognized for exceeding growth expectations, while Macon Early College and South Macon both met growth expectations.

One of the most significant improvements touted by Dr. Baldwin was the overall performance of Mountain View Elementary (MVI). For the 2015-'16 school year, the school, which was labeled a non-performing school based on low student performance in the 2014-'15 school year, improved its grade from a D to a C. MVI also improved its overall score by 14 points and exceeded growth



Highlands School 5th graders lead the Board of Education meeting held in Highlands last Tuesday in the Pledge of Allegiance.
— Photo by Kim Lewicki

expectations. MVI is only one of nine intermediate schools in the state and of the nine schools, MVI was highlighted as receiving the second highest growth index.

Dr. Baldwin said that the improvement is a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication of MVI staff.

"Mountain View Intermediate made a dramatic turnaround last year, much to the credit of the faculty and students," said Baldwin.

Faculty and staff at MVI implemented a school improvement plan which focused on giving students more support through use of tutors as well as teachers with targeted staff development.

Other than Highlands, Macon Early College, and South Macon Elementary school which each scored a B, the majority of schools in Macon County earned C grades on the state report card including Nantahala School, Cartoogechaye Elementary School, East Franklin Elementary School, Iotla Valley Elementary School,

Macon Middle School and Franklin High School.

Both Iotla Valley Elementary and Macon Middle School were noted as exceeding growth. Macon Middle School was one of only two middle schools to exceed growth in Western North Carolina. Cartoogechaye Elementary School, East Franklin Elementary, Macon Early College and Nantahala School met expected growth. Both Franklin High School and Union Academy did not meet growth expectations.

As a district, Macon County reflected a graduation rate of 92.6 percent, which according to Dr. Baldwin is the highest in Western North Carolina. The local high schools also received an 80.3 score for ACT WorkKeys, just slightly under the highest score of 80.8 in Western North Carolina.

For more information on Macon County Schools visit the NC School Report Cards website at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org>

...CANDIDATES continued from page 1

Board of Aldermen in Bryson City. As an alderman, he has worked to upgrade the city's water system and pushed for his hometown's designation as a "Trout City."

Meadows: Mark Meadows is currently serving his second consecutive two-year term representing the 11th Congressional District. Meadows was first elected to Congress in 2012, after a 27-year career as a small business owner and lives in Jackson County. Congressman Meadows serves on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee where he Chairs the Subcommittee on Government Operations, which has oversight jurisdiction over federal agencies, the Executive Office of the President, the Postal Service, the Freedom of Information Act, and more. He also serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Bryson declared on Friday night that Meadows has done little to benefit western North Carolina.

"His fingerprints are on nothing in our district, not even a boat ramp," Bryson said.

Bryson questioned Meadows' ability to run his office, his role in the 2013 shut down of the federal government, and just about every other point the debate moderator presented the two candidates.

"When you really look at what is wrong in Washington, D.C., it's people that go to Washington, D.C., that go along to get along,"

In 2013, Congressman Meadows was part of a group of congressmen who voted against the federal budget and the Affordable Care Act. A letter signed by Meadows has since been used as an example of what

• See CANDIDATES page 16

Artisan's Market

OCTOBER
1
SATURDAY

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 9-10:30am
 \$2.00
Lunch
 11:30-1:30pm
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Grill

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

Pizza

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

Soup & Salad Bar

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

Weekday Lunch Special

Monday - Friday 11am to 2pm
Pizza, pasta, soup and salad bar
Continuous fresh pizza from our pizza
ovens, pastas, fresh breads from our
bakery, plus the entire soup and salad
bar... \$9.99 each (dine in) or
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SUNDAY SOUTHERN BRUNCH BAR

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

PREPARED FOODS

A large selection of take-away items
fully prepared, ready to take home
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rubbed chicken, made-in-house bbq,
chicken salad deli salads & much more!

DINNER TO GO

A different full dinner every night.
Serves four serving Monday through
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Call ahead to reserve.

Monday: choose either:

Four chicken and four cheese enchiladas,
refried beans, monterey rice, homemade
tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce,
tomatoes, sour cream.

Or...

24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken
tenders and hand cut fries.
\$21.95 serves four.

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

Weeknight Pizza Special:

Available Monday -Thursday 4:30 to close
16" NY style pizza with up to 5 toppings.
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• 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.occupy-wnc.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 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.

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., Sept 29

• At CLE, Electromagnetic Pulse - 10 AM - NOON, CLE Lecture Hall, Peggy Crosby Center. 828-526-8811.

• Warren Carpenter will exhibit turned bowls and wooden sculptures at Art on the Hill, Chestnut Hill Clubhouse, on Thursday at 4 - 5:30 pm. There will also be a wood turning demonstration on the Clubhouse veranda at 4:30.

• At CLE, Life and Times of Herbert Creecy, Artist - 4-5PM, Bascom. 828-526-8811.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2



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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

• Fun, creative Journaling workshop at The Conscious Connection Call Betty Holt for details: 828-526-5558.

Fri., Sept. 30

• Satulah-Bration. 7-8 a.m. free sunrise yoga. Call 526-1111, Hobson Park Dedication and free Eco-Tour. RSVP at 526-1111. Order Satulah Stew at Fressers and a portion of proceeds will go to HCLT. 1:30-4:30p, its Views and Brews. Meet at K-H Founders Park and hike to Satulah to the summit and toast with a brew from Satulah Mtn. Brewing Co. At 4:45p stop by the brewing company for Satulah Stories.

• The High Mountain Squares will host their "Hospice Dance," Friday night at the Macon County Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC from 6:15 to 8:45 PM. Ace McGee from Anderson, SC will be the caller. Rounds & Lines by Mike McDonald & Debbie McClain. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-342-1560, 828-332-0001

Sat., Oct. 1

• Highlands United Methodist Church is holding Octoberfest from 9a to 3:30p at the church. It's a fun filled day-long craft fair, with all handmade items to be sold as a fundraiser for the church's new Faith & Fellowship Center which will house the popular 9:09 Worship service and other community-based ministries offered throughout the week. Breakfast offerings, Grandma's kitchen, Pumpkin Patch, The Grille and Lemonade Stand, Gay's Garden Art & an Artisan's Market.

• Macon Tracs, Blue Jean Ball, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Macon County Fairgrounds. Rain or Shine. BBQ & Fixins, Live music, dancing, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, cake walk. Admission and dinner Adult is \$15 and Children and Take out is \$7. Tickets available at the door or by calling 349-6262 or gofundme/macontracs.org to donated.

• Rabies Clinic at Highlands Conference Center from 9-10:30 a.m. AND at the Scaly Mountain Post Office from 11-12:30 p.m. Cost is \$10. Pets should be kept in vehicles, on leashes or in carriers.

• Community Health Fair at First Baptist from 10a to 2p. Flu vaccines

(insured and non-insured), Blood pressure and Diabetes Screenings. Many other health related vendors and providers. First Baptist Church Highlands, on Main St.

• At PAC, Broadway: The Phat Pack GALA. Concert at 5 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m. at Highlands Country Club. Call 828-526-9047 for tickets.

• On Saturday night at 7, MIDDLETOWN, an acclaimed new play by the Obie winning playwright, Dan Clancy, that will receive a staged reading in the meeting room of the Cashiers library. Sponsored by Friends of the Albert Carlton Cashiers Library, there is no charge to attend the performance, but donations are most welcome. For more information, please call Ellen Greenwald at 828-743-1802.

Sun. Oct 2

• Empty Bowl Project at First Presbyterian Church from 11:30a to 1:30p. The cost is \$20 per bowl and includes a simple lunch of bread and soup and you get to keep the bowl. All proceeds go to the Food Pantry of Highlands.

• Life Chain. Meet at 1:30p in front of the First Baptist Church of Highlands. Prayer hour is 2-3 p.m.

• The annual blessing of Animals will take place on Sunday at 2 p.m. in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street.

• Empty Bowl Project at The Orchard Restaurant from noon to 2 p.m. The cost is \$20 per bowl and includes a simple lunch of bread and soup and you get to keep the bowl. All proceeds go to the Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry in Cashiers.

Mon., Oct. 3

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will meet at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Library in Cashiers, NC. Informal gathering at 6 PM with the speaker's presentation at 7 PM. After the presentation a raffle of a custom, handmade fly rod.

Tues., Oct. 4

• The October meeting of the Western North Carolina Woodturners Club, Inc. will be on Tuesday at 6PM at the Alternative School in Sylva, N.C. The school is located on Skyland Drive, Sylva NC. Drive to the back of the school to the wood working shop. Visitors are always welcome. The club meets in Sylva the first Tuesday of every month.

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.

Sat., Oct. 8

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

Sun., Oct. 9

• LOUISIANA FLOOD RELIEF Music, Dancing, Eating, Sunday, October 9, 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.

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Fall Home Improvement

Tips to Upgrade Your Home's Exterior for Curb Appeal

(StatePoint) Curb appeal is important in setting a welcoming tone. And if your home is for sale, an attractive exterior becomes crucial.

"Realtors tell us that potential home buyers make a 'street decision' in less than 12 seconds on whether or not to view a home," says Niki Decker of Fypon, a leader in the synthetic millwork industry. "That's a very short time to make a good impression."

August marks the first National Curb Appeal Month, a great time to focus on ways to add value and design appeal to your home's exterior, whether or not you have plans to sell.

The experts at Fypon are offering their top exterior upgrade tips:

- Swap a rotting wooden porch system with a new structural synthetic balustrade system that includes porch posts, top and bottom rails, balusters and all

the other pieces essential to create a weather-resistant porch.

- Trim out exterior windows. Use crossheads for over a window and top with a solid, decorative or recessed panel keystone accent piece. On the sides and below the window, use moulding pieces with plinth blocks in the corners to eliminate miter cuts.

- Replace older, rotting wooden louvers with low-maintenance polyurethane louvers. Such functional louvers should have a non-corrosive fiberglass screen backing to keep insects out while allowing maximum airflow and ventilation to enter an attic.

- A conventional older wooden door may be inefficient, worn out or plain ugly. Consider replacing your old wooden door with a solid fiberglass door, which is up to four times more energy efficient and resistant to rot, rust, dings and weather. Constructed as a complete system of components, Therma-Tru fiberglass doors, for example, are engineered to work together for lasting performance, security and energy efficiency.

Throughout August, homeowners can enter the online "Door Do-Over Sweepstakes" for the chance

to win a new Therma-Tru fiberglass entry door. To enter the sweepstakes, visit www.TodaysHomeowner.com/DoorDoOver.

- Make smart upgrades with a proven return on investment. For example, adding energy-efficient vinyl windows, like those from Simonton Windows, as a mid-range project to a home can have a cost recoup value of 78.7 percent, while adding vinyl siding can have a 78.2 percent recoup rate, according to the 2014 Cost Versus Value Study conducted by Remodeling magazine.

- Add "top down" color to the home by starting with the roof. Polymer slate and shake roofs, like those from DaVinci Roofscapes, come in 49 standard colors and unlimited custom colors.

- Color plays a major role in creating curb appeal. Add and maintain colorful shrubbery and planters to give your exterior a natural burst of color. Look to the front door, your shutters and trim to add pops of color additions that complement the rest of the exterior.

For more tips, visit www.fypon.com for detailed curb appeal ideas and color advice.

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Fall Home Improvement

Some Home Improvements Can Improve Your Health

(StatePoint) Small changes to your surroundings can have a strong impact on mood and overall health, say experts. A relatively new movement in design and construction, called “designing for health,” aims to make homes and communities have positive impacts on the way people live, work and play.

“Encouraging movement, social interaction and physical health can address problems like obesity and our increasingly sedentary lifestyles. Thoughtful design and home improvements can solve these issues,” says Cyril Stewart, President at Cyril Stewart, LLC and member of the American Institute of Architects’ (AIA) Design and Health Leadership Group.

Spaces that promote movement -- walkable and livable communities -- are an idea gaining steam, as noted by the AIA’s most recent Home Design Trends Survey. Increasingly, designers and developers are creating pedestrian-friendly communities with access to recreational activities.

Want to foster healthy, active spaces in your own home and community? Stewart is offering a few tips:

Extend the Home

Adding porches, patios

or balconies improves access to the outside world. This provides great health benefits, ranging from maximizing natural light to extending living spaces.

“Many people retrofit homes with these amenities, to allow for more space and fresh air and improve ventilation,” says Stewart.

Add Strategic Seating

Strategic seating is another interesting trend design professionals are employing to encourage movement in and around a home or community.

For example, public seating in the middle of spaces that mix residential, dining and entertainment establishments ensure people need to get up and walk to those services before enjoying them. In other communities, areas designated for more quiet activities, like reading, are on the rise.

Sleep-Friendly Bedrooms

Ensure your bedroom promotes healthy sleep by making it a tranquil place.



If possible, avoid sleeping in a room that is along a busy street.

Install soundproof windows and use drapes. And leave the entertainment center out of your bedroom. It’s hard to get quality sleep alongside the lights and sound of the television.

Breathe Quality Air

An easy, but often overlooked solution for ensuring better health, is keeping air quality high. Fresh air aids sleep and lessens the occurrence of diseases like asthma. Simple ways to improve air quality include:

- Finding the optimum setup to promote fresh air flow and ventilation in a building
- Regularly replacing

and cleaning filters on air conditioners and heating systems


• Confirming radon and carbon monoxide detectors are present and in working order



These are just a few examples of how design can affect health. For help implementing these ideas or to find recommendations for your home or community, an architect can help you decide what would work best. To find an architect in your area, visit <http://ArchitectFinder.aia.org>.

When it comes to home upgrades and interior decorating decisions, you can make your health a top consideration alongside visual appeal and functionality.

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Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous

Remember the reality show, "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous?" Robin Leach brought celebrities into our homes and showed us opulent residences and glamorous lifestyles. Many of the locations featured were vacation destinations in which Leach or the narrator (David Perry) would directly reference high-end areas that may have led to more consumer traffic in those places. The show ran for more than 10 years. America just couldn't get enough.

Follow the money. Just as the rats (and then the children) of Hamelin followed the Pied Piper, we eagerly follow the money. If you think you don't fall into the follower category, have you ever bought a product endorsed by a celebrity? There's a reason for that. Celebrity endorsements date back to the 1760s with the Wedgewood company and there's no sign of that slowing up.

The recent celebrity sightings in High-



Jeannie Chambers
Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals

lands and Cashiers included Barbara Streisand, James Brolin and his son, Josh Brolin. Turns out they were in town for Josh's wedding to model Kathryn Boyd. The wedding took place in Cashiers, and pictures can be seen using the hashtag #jkbkstucktogether on Facebook and Twitter. I posted the question on Facebook "Anyone know of other celebrities in our area?" Here's some of the answers I got: Usher, Jackie Chan, Keith Ur-

ban, Nicole Kidman, Maurice Gibb (of the Bee Gees), Burt Reynolds, Loni Anderson, Sally Field, Larry Hagman, James Garner, Sandra Brown, Adam Levine, Pat Conroy, Cassandra King, Oprah, Tiger Woods' ex, Clint Eastwood, Gerald McRaney, Delta Burke, Benicio Del Toro, President Jimmy Carter, President George H.W. Bush, Winston Groom, Kenny Rogers, John Denver,

• See **INVESTING** page 15

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smpccpartners.com website.*



...INVESTING continued from page 14

Hume Cronin, Jessica Tandy, Colin Wilcox (Paxton), Rex Reed, Andy Rodick, Brooklyn Decker, Kate Jackson, Patty Loveless, Old Crow Medicine Show, Robert Redford, Paul Giamatti, Alan Alda, maybe Huey Lewis, Robin Meade. Bruce Hornsby will be here performing during the Highlands Food & Wine Festival. Are there any others you know of?

Here's the thing, yes, it's exciting to find out that we've been discovered by the elite, celebs, etc. But, what if the tables turned? What if the REAL celebrity is Highlands herself? That's right. Our town is the attraction; the destination. Whether or not it becomes "the place" to be seen will continue to unfold. For more than 140 years, Highlands has been a place to retreat, revive and relax. Can it be both a resort destination AND a place to hide and heal? I think so. I will welcome anyone, including celebrities – especially if they give Highlands the respect she deserves. In turn, we will continue to respect the privacy of those who visit our little town.

What I'd like for any visitor and newcomer to know about Highlands is that it has been here a pretty long time without them, and we're glad they chose to be here. I want them to enjoy the natural beauty of the mountains, the air, our streams, rivers and waterfalls. Our shops and restaurants begin on Main Street and spread out in all directions -- some of the best in the world! (Don't take my word for it; I've heard this from many that actually have traveled the world over).

This year, our real estate market presents properties in prices ranging from \$124,900 - \$5,500,000. (Homes, townhomes, and condos -- just in the 28741 zip

code). Practically something for everyone! Will the recent celebrities tell all their friends about Highlands? Will we see an influx of buyers, renters, and day-trippers because of the celebrities? That's doubtful. People are going to come to Highlands due to the merits of Highlands. If a few celebrities decide to make the move here, they'll probably be more likely to NOT tell all their friends. Everyone needs to have a place to just kick back and relax. For many that IS Highlands.

• Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are owners of Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals located at 401 N. Fifth Street in Highlands. Come see us and let us put a STAR on your door, because we think our buyers, sellers, renters and rental owners are ALL celebrities! www.chambers-realty.com, getit@chambersagency.net

...TIDBITS from page 7

traps. I think being more visible will make a difference." He said due to the lay of the road "you can't even coast at 25 mph."

Golden Clipper

The two suspects in the Golden Clipper robbery, Jeremy McSweeney and Gregory Brian Gobble have been indicted by the grand jury.

They haven't gone to trial yet, nor is it known if they will be tried together.

"They are both also facing charges from other areas in-state and out of state," said Chief Harrell. "This could possibly go federal and we're currently working that angle."

Highlands wasn't the team's first heist, but the Highlands Police Department recovered the most evidence and was the only agency to apprehend a suspect, said Harrell.

— Kim Lewicki

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Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street

Tickets available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047

...CANDIDATES continued from page 8



Candidates Incumbent Mark Meadows and Rick Bryson debate at WCU's Public Policy Institute and Department of Political Science and Public Affairs debate Friday.

caused the federal government shutdown, which according to Bryson, cost voters in the 11th District \$23 million.

Meadows noted during the debate that rather than costing the district \$23 million, during the period of the federal shutdown, records show that Western North Carolina businesses were actually more profitable and generated more revenues than during the same period in previous years. Meadows also argued that as a freshman Congressman, he had only served in Congress in January of that year and didn't have the clout to cause a government shutdown.

"It's amazing that I get the reputation after eight months that I'm able to shut down the entire federal government on my own," he said. "We are going to make news tonight with this," Meadows said when asked if he believes the government should be shutdown. "I think it's a bad idea generally to shut down the government, and the consequences of that are tremendous."

He said he and another congressman will introduce a measure this week to keep the government running into January if no federal budget is passed this year.

While Bryson argued that Meadows has done little for Western North Carolina, Meadows noted that he was instrumental in winning a grant for the Bryson City fire department and that he has worked cooperatively with people in the region to win millions of dollars in federal funds for projects like greenway and other transportation improvements in Asheville's River Arts District and a new runway at Asheville Regional Airport. Since being elected to office, Meadows has also followed in former Democratic Congressman Heath Shuler's footsteps in being an advocate for PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) which means hundreds of thousands of dollars for the 11th Congressional District. For Swain County alone, which has the fourth largest percentage of federal lands east of the Mississippi and has an operating budget of around \$13 million, PILT funding nears \$570,000 annually.

Meadows has made headlines for the way he handled his former Chief-of-Staff, Kenny West. The House Ethics Committee is investigating whether Meadows violated House rules by paying West his full salary through 2015 when he was barred from Meadows' offices due to sexual harassment allegations but was performing limited duties.

According to Bryson, Meadows was aware that West had tendencies toward sexual harassment before West ever became his first chief of staff in January 2013.

• See CANDIDATES page 17

Proverbs 3:5

PLACES TO WORSHIP

John 3:16

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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Sundays: 10 a.m.: Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

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

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Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

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

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

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

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

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Testimony Meeting 3rd Wednesday at 5 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.

Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School

10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Child. Program,

10:45am: Worship Service

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

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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

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Bible Study: 6 pm

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Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

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

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

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

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

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

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MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

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4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

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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

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 6 p.m.

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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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WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Police log entries from Sept. 18. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Sept. 18

• At 10:20 p.m., Evaristo A. Romero, 42, of Myrtle Beach, SC, was arrested for DWI and driving without a license on NC 106.

Sept. 21

• At noon, officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

Sept. 23

• At 10:10 a.m., officers responded to a call about a lock being broken off a door at a residence on Gibson Street.

At 11:08 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street near 2nd Street.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Sept. 15.

Sept. 15

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm on Spring Street.

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Main Street.

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

Sept. 17

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.

Sept. 18

• The dept. was first-responders to a residence on Jack Wilcox Road.

Sept. 22

At 11:55 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Cabe Place.

Sept. 24

• At 8:48 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road.

• At 9:20 a.m., the dept. stood by at the hospital for the MAMA helicopter.

• At 11:32 a.m., the dept. responded to a

fire alarm at a residence on Garnet Rock Trail.

Sept. 25

• At 2:24 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Ring Road.

Sept. 26

• At 11:57 a.m., the dept. was first-responder to a residence on Pierson Drive.

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Monday, October 3

America: Shaped by War, 10am-12pm

History of Espionage, 2pm-4pm

Tuesday, October 4

Science, Technology and Social Tipping Points, 10am-12pm

History of Four Pinches, 2pm-4pm

Wednesday, October 5

Codes: Caesar to the 21st Century, 10am-12pm

Moving to More Joyful Expression, 2pm-4pm

Thursday, October 6

Surprise Attacks: (Pearl Harbor, 9/11), 10am-12pm

What is Chautauque?: Panel Discussion, 2pm-4pm

Friday, October 7

Hollywood and Washington: Politics in Film, 10am-12pm



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828-526-8811 • clehighlands@yahoo.com

Lectures \$25 members
\$35 non members



THE CURIOUS MIND
KNOWS NO BOUNDS

...CANDIDATES continued from page 16

Meadows denied the claims and said that the day he was informed of West's actions, West was removed from his position and Meadows reported himself to the Ethics Committee to eliminate and perceived conflict of interest.

"If the Ethics Committee says that I made a mistake, I will make it right, both personally with an apology but also financially for anything I didn't do properly," Meadows said. "I acted in good faith in a difficult situation."

Both candidates have differing views on the government's role in job creation and economic development.

"The federal government doesn't

create any job that is lasting ... so what they can do (is) get out of the way" and let entrepreneurs build businesses that add jobs, Meadows said.

Bryson disagreed and argued that as a member of Congress, he would advocate for federal funds to finance small business startups in the region to create jobs in WNC, specifically in Robbinsville.

Friday night's debate at WCU's Public Policy Institute and Department of Political Science and Public Affairs was the first in a series of debates that will feature NC House and Senate candidates in the coming weeks.

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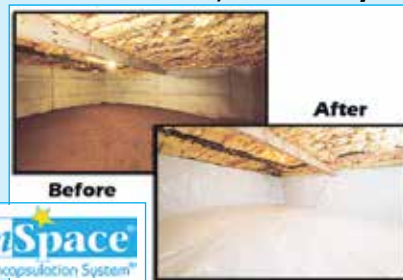
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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Highlands PD officer Ronnie Castle waits tables for 'Shop with a Cop'



Last Thursday, residents waited a little longer for dinner at Motor Company Grill as they lined up to support the Macon County Sheriff's Office Shop with a Cop Program. For the second year, law enrichment officers from Highlands Police Department teamed with the sheriff's office and Franklin Police Department to wait tables at dinner to earn tips for Shop with a Cop. This year's event raised \$3,000 which will support 30 kids in the program. Through fundraisers like Tip a Cop and community donations, last year, the MCSO's Shop with a Cop program was able to serve 400 kids in the community.

Mountain Findings donates \$87,700 in 2016

For 47 years, Mountain Findings has been a vital part of the Highlands Community. With the thrift store's donations in 2016 of \$ 87,700, the total donations made to a wide number of organizations in our community total \$1,766,400 over these many years

The store's success is because of the donations of gently-used items and the

people who buy them! We also have a band of volunteers who give freely of their time and energy to staff the store. This cooperative effort makes it possible for Mountain Findings to positively impact the lives of people in our community.

Donations this year were made to 41 area organizations including: B.E.A.R. Task Force; Big Brothers/Big Sisters; Cashiers Free Dental Clinic; Community Care Clinic; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Friends for Life; Glenville-Cashiers Fire Department; Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad; HCCDC Scholarship Fund; Highlands Biological Foundation; Highlands Boy Scouts; Highlands Cemetery Fund; Highlands Cub Scouts; Highlands Emergency Council; Highlands Endowment Scholarship Fund; Highlands Fire & Rescue; Highlands Historical Society; Highlands Plateau Greenway; Highlands Playhouse; Highlands School PTO; H-C Chamber Music; H-C Community Players; H-C Hospital Foundation; H-C Humane Society; H-C Land Trust; Hudson Library; Macon County Human Society; Nature Center; NCIPM; Performing Arts Center; Performing Arts Center Youth Theater Program; R.E.A.C.H.; Satolah Fire Department; Scaly/Sky Valley Fire Department; Sonshine After School Program; The Bascom; The Food Pantry; The Gordon Center for Children; The Literacy Council; and The Mountain Retreat.

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The Phat Pack as seen in Las Vegas.

Can you imagine three Broadway Tenors, from Phantom of the Opera on the same stage, at the same time? This Saturday night, October 1 at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, 5pm, the Tenors will take the stage. Following the concert a GALA Dinner will be held at the Highlands Falls Country Club. Broadway Performers (formerly with PHANTOM in Las Vegas) sing the great music of Broadway, American Standards, as well as fun, exciting original comedy material AND share stories from their personal lives and careers! THE PHAT PACK tips its hat to an era of elegance and entertainment in their own tribute to the Entertainment Capital of the World, Las Vegas!

The Phat (Phantom) Pack GALA, Saturday, October 1. Concert 5pm at the Highlands Performing Arts Center; GALA Dinner 7pm at the Highlands Falls Country. A few tickets are still available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047. 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands NC

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Silent Auction in progress for Taurus Sel



Highlands Newspaper - Thurs., Sept. 29, 2016 - 828-200-1371 - Page 21

Franklin Ford has donated a 2006 Taurus Sel, with leather seats & sunroof, 158,000 miles to be auctioned via SILENT Auction this coming week.

To see the car and place a bid go to the driveway of the Corey James Gallery at the corner of 3rd & Spring Streets. A bid sheet is located in the car.

Corey James will be glad to show folks the car and answer questions.

BIDS can be made for the next few days. The WINNING BIDDER will be determined at the end of the Octoberfest celebration next Saturday, 10/1/16. At 3 P.M.

Proceeds from this silent auction will go to help pay for the new Faith & Fellowship Center that is currently under construction.

T.A. Anderson

Goldsmith in Wright Square

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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/DOQ. 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.highlandscnc.org. The Town of Highlands is an EOE. (st. Sept. 29)

HIGHLANDS PLAYHOUSE is now hiring. Must be 18 years or older, and be available to work nights and weekends. Requirements; Basic computer and telephone skills and friendly customer service. Come by and fill out an application, 362 Oak St. Highlands NC. Open Monday-Friday 10am to 5pm. (st. 9/1)

RESTAURANT MANAGER

needed for a very busy lunch and dinner restaurant in Highlands, NC. Experience Required. Send resume to info@mainstreet-inn.com (st. 9/1)

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

WILDTHYME GOURMET Now hiring experienced wait staff, hostess and busser. Please call at 526-4035 or apply in person. (st. 8/11)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HIGHLANDS, NC. is seeking a part-

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

SKYLINE LODGE IS HIRING FRONT DESK, HOSTESS, HOUSE-KEEPERS & WAITSTAFF. Experience an asset but not required. Applications available at the front desk. 828-526-2121. (st. 6/30)

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

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

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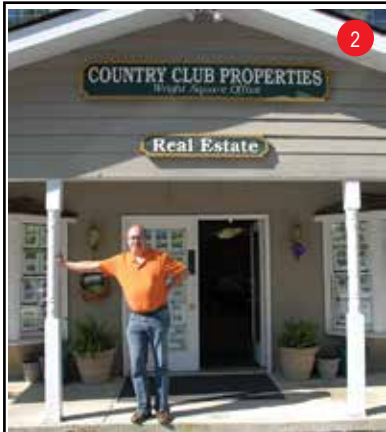
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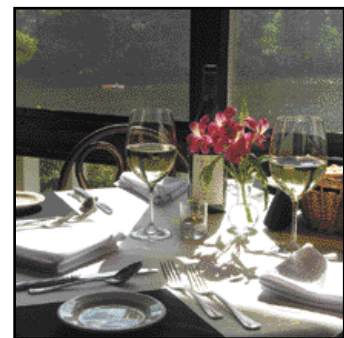
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