

Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., April 20, 2017

Without HB13, mandate for smaller classes could result in overcrowding in MC Schools

A power struggle in the General Assembly may result in North Carolina school districts facing millions of dollars in shortfalls this fall.

Two years ago, the North Carolina Senate passed legislation intended to reduce classroom sizes across the state. The legislation is set to go into effect

this fall, but comes with class size caps and no additional funding to implement the mandate.

A group of local citizens rallied at the Macon County Board

of Commissioners monthly meeting last week, urging commissioners to pass a resolution in support of House Bill 13 — legislation

• See HB13 page 18

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How President Trump's budget will affect MC

Part 4 of a series – The 'below the radar' things

Macon County's Department of Social Services Director Patrick Betancourt spoke to the Macon County Board of Commissioners last week to formally oppose the proposed federal budget cuts to the Senior Community Service Employment Program.

The federal program is one of many programs President Donald Trump identified as being cut or eliminated in order to increase spending on the nation's defense budget.

President Trump's budget includes a \$2.5 billion cut to the Department of Labor, which would jeopardize the Senior Community Service Employment Program. Betancourt informed commissioners that funding for that program locally translates to four employees right now.

"While that may not seem like a lot, we have used funding from the Senior Community Service Employment Program to fund as many as nine positions

at the senior service center," said Betancourt "The people employed through that program help the center run. They work the reception desk, they are in the kitchen serving warm meals. They do the same work and have the same responsibilities as our other employees."

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is a federal initiative that has provided employment training to low-income Americans over 55 years old for more than 40 years.

In 2015, Obama slashed the SCSEP's funding in his budget moving the program from the Labor Department to the Department of Health and Human Services, where other programs for senior Americans are housed. Jim Seith, a director at the nonprofit National Council on Aging, one of the grantees of the SCSEP, says that the program is the only labor programs targeted at seniors in poverty.

• See BUDGET page 6

Class of 2017 Val and Sal rise to the top



From left: Benjamin Miller is the Class of 2017 Valedictorian and John Murphy is the Salutatorian. Valedictorian Miller is going to UNC Charlotte to study biomedical engineering and Salutatorian John Murphy is going to Appalachian State University for religious studies.

Photo by Cathy McIntyre-Ross

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Highlands to celebrate 'Earth Day' with annual litter pick up

Hope to see you at the Highlands Chamber at 9 am Saturday morning for the Plateau Litter Pickup. Everyone will be given equipment and instructions before we attack litter on the major entryways to Highlands. A wonderful picnic lunch will follow at Cliffside.

The Highlands Plateau Pickup is in conjunction with the NC DOT Spring Litter Sweep. For those folks who miss the Highlands pickup, Macon County will be doing a countywide pickup on Saturday, April 29. The US Forest Service staff and the Highlands Sanitation Department will assist in removing the bags of trash and transporting them to disposal sites.

If you do not want to go on a highway, there are many streets and areas in town that need a pickup. Simply let me, or Jennifer Cunningham of the chamber, know where you will be picking up litter. If you have questions call me at (828) 506-3138, or the Chamber at 526-2112.

There is also a Highlands Town



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

Board meeting tonight at 7 pm at the Highlands Community Building.

Representatives from the US Postal Service will make a presentation on possible mail service to the downtown area. I encourage any business person interested in this issue to attend to hear the presentation. I do want to emphasize that discussion of this issue will not be a critique session concerning general postal service in town. The presentation and discussion will focus only on the possibility of downtown postal delivery.

The board will also do a final review and hopefully approval of the Verizon cell phone antenna contract for our Big Bear Pen tower. This new antenna will be another step in improving cell phone coverage for the town. There is a website that rates cell phone coverage in communities across the country. Currently, the rating for Highlands is not very high.

Representatives from the Highlands Food and Wine Festival will make a presentation concerning plans for this event that is scheduled for November. Plans call for the partial use of the park and a portion of Main Street. The organizers of the festival have been working with town staff for several months in coordinating the schedule and events with town requirements.

I hope for a good turnout at tonight's meeting and/or at the Plateau Litter Pickup on Saturday, Earth Day.

Here is an update on paving plans for next week, weather permitting. Helen's Barn Ave. behind Wright's Square will be repaved. When town crews ran new water and power lines to businesses and residents at Wright Square, the pavement had to be removed. Also, a major road repair will occur on Spring Street right next to 4th Street. The massive and ever growing pothole that has been patched numerous times will be repaired and covered with a new section of paving.

Installation of the new Pine Street pavers in the park is nearing completion. The street should soon be open to traffic. Also, drop by the park and see the new water feature by the big maple.

• LEGISLATIVE UPDATE •

The summary below was written by the Congressional Research Service, which is a nonpartisan division of the Library of Congress, and was published on April 4, 2017.

H.J.Res. 83: Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Clarification of Employer's Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness."

This joint resolution nullifies the Department of Labor's rule that was published on December 19, 2016, about employers' ongoing obligation to make and maintain records of work-related injuries and illnesses.

Congressman Mark Meadows Yes
Office 202-225-6401
Email/Website: meadows.house.gov

Senior Senator Richard Burr Yes
Office: 202-224-3154
Email/Website: burr.senate.gov

Junior Senator Thom Tillis Yes
Office: 202-224-6342
Email/Website: tillis.senate.gov

• OBITUARIES •

Mary Dase Jenkins Baty

Mary Dase Jenkins Baty, 75, passed away Friday, March 24, 2017. Mary was born in Macon County February 11, 1942 to the late James "Jim" Jenkins and Ethel Lee Wilburn Jenkins. She was married to the late Roy Lee Baty who preceded her. She was a cook in the restaurant business for many years and she was of the Baptist faith. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.



Wallace Webb), Roy Eugene Baty, and Russell "Scott" Baty all of Highlands, NC; a sister, Phyllis Pierson of Salem, S.C., a brother, Donnie Jenkins of Highlands, NC; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by five sisters and four brothers.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Bryant-Grant Funeral

Home and Crematory is serving the Baty family.

Online condolences may be left at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

• See OBITUARIES page 3

Highlands Newspaper

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• WEEKEND WEATHER •



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

...OBITUARIES continued from page 2

Kathryn Sue Hopper Potts

Kathryn Sue Hopper Potts passed away peacefully on April 5, 2017 in the presence of her beloved family.

Daughter of Hattie Mae Baty Hopper and Charles Jasper Hopper, Kathryn Sue was born in the Buttermilk community of Highlands, NC on January 9, 1936.

Sue was preceded in death by her parents and stepfather George Pratt McClure and by brothers Don

D. Hopper, Bobbie Weaver Hopper and Roliver Gordon McClure. She is survived by brother, Colonel Mack Henry Hopper, and many nieces and nephews, as well as several beloved sisters-in-law.

In 1956, Sue married Richard Delano Potts, who preceded her in death. She is survived by daughter Katrina Dianne Potts Laverty (Tim), sons Richard Anthony (Terri), Phillip Jeffery, and Samuel Alan (Lin); grandchildren Terra Denise Potts, Jessica DeAnn Potts, Seth Michael Schmitt (Jenna), Kelsey Anne Schmitt Dockins (Travis) Carter Reece Potts, Christopher Nye (Sarah), and Kathryn Elizabeth Potts; great grandchildren Dillon and Reese Schmitt, Colton Ledbetter, Slade and Westyn Peek, and Micah Nye.

Sue will be cherished for her service to



others. A teacher at Highlands School for 30 years, Mrs. Potts was fourth grade teacher to hundreds of students and remembered by many as "favorite". For 15 years, she was owner and designer of Kanonah Florist, and had the pride and honor of preparing lovely floral arrangements for many special occasions including countless weddings, funerals, and proms. Sue was a founding member of the

Highlands Historical Society and passionate about protecting the history of the small mountain town.

Sue was a strong, independent, talented, intelligent and a fierce supporter of those she loved. She loved gardening, crocheting, reading, cooking, travel, puzzles and her famous "galax roses," but her greatest joy was spending time with her family. She loved and was greatly loved by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, extended family and church family and will be dearly missed.

A celebration of Sue's life will be held Sunday, April 23 at 3:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Highlands, NC (315 Main St, Highlands, NC 28741). The family will receive friends prior to the service beginning at 2 p.m. A private burial will be held at a later date.

Roger Owen 'Bootie' Sanders

Roger Owen "Bootie" Sanders, 69, passed away Wednesday, April 12, 2017.

Mr. Sanders was born November 23, 1947 in Macon County to the late Mack Owen Sanders and Edna Mae Brendle Sanders who survives. He was preceded in death by a son, Ryan Owen Sanders. Mr. Sanders was a founding member of Franklin Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #994

and also a member of American Legion Post #108 and Riverbend Baptist Church. He served in Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He had received numerous awards for his military service. His military service was an important part of his life as well as his family's life.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife of 47 years, Carol Ann Speed Sanders, two sons, Rodney Sanders and his wife Renee of Franklin, NC and



Russell Sanders and daughter-in-law Sara Beth Sanders of Sylva, NC; five grandchildren, Nathan, Katie, Nicholas, Luke and Emily Sanders; daughter in law, Laura Sanders; two sisters, Joyce Carpenter and Brenda Delgado (Sam); mother in law, Irene Speed of Franklin, NC and niece, Christie Stanfield (Mike).

One of his legacies that will live on is the deep sense of patriotism and love of country that he instilled in his children. To the Sanders, the National Guard was an extended family. There are so many fond memories that the children have growing up and participating in all of the activities and picnics on weekends with the 210th. The commitment to this way of life also saw the reality of deployment which happened twice after Vietnam. As any military family knows, these deployments create

• See OBITUARIES page 5

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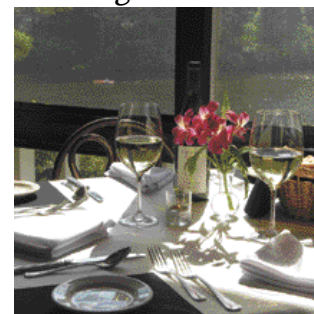


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...OBITUARIES continued from page 3

a unique situation for the family left behind. Our family was blessed to have Roger return safely home on multiple occasions. This intense patriotism was also passed to his grandchildren who saw papaw as a hero. The kids loved hearing his stories and going to the military parades with papaw.

Papaw was a title that he was proud to hold. The kids loved to hang out with him in "the building" next to the garden where he was always taking something apart, starting seeds, or redesigning his lawnmowers. He was also a proud father, husband, son, father in law and brother. He was always there for his family and friends anytime they needed him and always came through for them.

He loved to work in the yard, garden and he especially loved to mow to which his neighbors can surely attest. He loved to go to the Normandie in the mornings and socialize with friends. We never believed him when he told us that he just went to have coffee and didn't eat anything. Even a

trip to the VA could be fun for Roger. He always went with Jerry or another vet buddy and they enjoyed the trip often stopping for lunch. He enjoyed researching genealogy and was in the process of restoring his father's car. He could fix or build anything and was always in high demand. He will leave a void in so many lives.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, April 15th at 12:00 pm at Riverbend Baptist Church, with the Rev. Roy Lowe, Rev. Tommy Fouts, and Rev. Brian Holland officiating. Burial will be at Watauga Baptist Church Cemetery with full military rites. Franklin Vietnam Veterans of America will serve as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Franklin Vietnam Veterans of America, 203 Sloan Road, Franklin, NC 28734 or to Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675 8517.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 pm Friday evening at Bryant Grant Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences may be made at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com. Bryant Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Sanders family.

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...BUDGET continued from page 1

The Trump administration justified cutting the program by claiming that the SCSEP is ineffective on the grounds that only half of the program's participants successfully transition to unsubsidized employment. But given the participants' demographic — they're low-income senior citizens, some of whom were unemployed for long stretches before the program — experts like Seith say those numbers are good. He also highlights the fact that participants in the program provide some 40 million hours of volunteer time at public and nonprofit organizations.

Betancourt noted that the program provides adults with much more than training; it provides a sense of responsibility and

belonging that is often lost at that stage in life. It also helps older adults keep up with changes in the workforce such as technological advances. If programs like the SCSEP are eliminated, pundits believe that those adults will have fewer options and will turn to government assistance to make ends meet.

The SCSEP is just one of many community centered programs targeted as casualties in the President's budget. Commissioner Ronnie Beale said federal cuts that would impact local residents include proposed cuts to the Community Block Grants (CDBG), the Weatherization Assistance Program, and the low-income home energy assistance program.

"The programs that have been identified to be cut are going to negatively affect our oldest citizens and our lowest income citizens -- two groups that need help the most because of their limited resources," said Beale.

CDBG is a series of block grants made to states and municipalities. Local organizations parcel out the funds, which are integral to the operation of many community-based non-profits. They include local groups that provide meals to seniors, daycare centers for people of low income (many local Head Start programs, for example), network revitalization, economic development, infrastructure and public services, and more. According to Beale, much of rural Western North Carolina will feel the impact of the cuts because everything from feeding seniors to economic development in the region are supported through community block grants.

The Weatherization Assistance Program, or WAP, a grant program housed under the Department of Energy that helps

states improve the energy efficiency of the homes of low-income families. was first established in 1976 and has been used to aid more than seven million families since. The "weatherization" process generally involves making basic improvements to homes that cut down on their energy use — for instance, sealing up holes in walls and windows, adding insulation or replacing heating and cooling equipment.

Commissioner Beale recognized that Trump's budget is just the beginning and Congress will soon be releasing its budget proposals, which according to Congressman Mark Meadows, will include an increase in funding for the country's defense budget and to build a wall around the border of Mexico, but won't hurt rural America as much as being projected.

• To read parts 1, 2, and 3 of this series, go to www.highlandsinfo.com, click on Local News and scroll down to the March 30, April 6 and April 13 editions.



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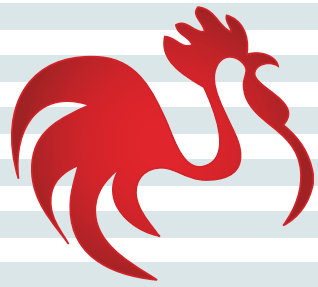


The Rotary Club of Highlands welcomed Nick Bazan, Chairman of Friends of Founders Park, to the April 11, 2017 meeting. Nick gave a wonderful overview of the history of Founders Park. What started as an idea in 1994 is now an asset of Highlands for its residents and guests to enjoy for generations to come. Nick thanked the individuals, organizations, the Town of Highlands and Macon County for all the support over the years that made Founders Park become a reality. Pictured from left are Nick Bazan and Rotary President Hank Ross.

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Easter in Highlands



Photos by Wiley Sloan
and Kim Lewicki



Have dinner at On The Verandah on April 27 and 20% of your bill will be donated to the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) which provides vital services to those living with AIDS and HIV in our community.

Doug Helms, Pam Nellis, and Carl Romberg — all from Landmark Realty Group in Highlands — are ambassadors for this event. They hope to see you there!

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Wednesday - Prime Rib with Baked Potatoes & Salad

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Thursday - Two Racks of Baby Back Ribs

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•HIGHLANDS EVENTS•



Sharing our Passion for Compassion – A Charity Dining Event!

Canyon Kitchen in Cashiers, NC will be the venue for a fundraiser benefiting Hospice House Foundation of WNC.

The rustic elegance of Canyon Kitchen, coupled with the menu created and presented by award-winning Executive Chef Adam Hayes, will insure an exquisite fine-dining experience for event guests. A highlight of the evening will be guest speaker and author, Hattie Bryant, who will share her wisdom about “taking control of end-of-life decisions” (the sub-title of Hattie’s book, I’ll Have it My Way). Hattie’s passionate and energetic presentation will leave guests inspired to take action now! The evening will be complemented with soulful jazz music by Tyler Kittle Quartet and a silent auction of fabulous items, including assortments of distinguished wines, trips, specialty dining experiences...all in the name of charity. Event guests will receive a complimentary copy of Hattie’s book, I’ll Have it My Way.

Wednesday, May 10

6:30pm Cocktails

7:30pm Dinner

\$175/person

(includes tax and gratuity - \$75 is tax deductible)

This fundraiser was thoughtfully planned by a committee comprised of five Cashiers residents: Sharon Bissell, Carol Hunter, Peter Keck, Bill Trotter, and Hospice House Board member, Tania Duncombe.

Hospice House Foundation of WNC is a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to raise funds for a hospice inpatient facility for the far western region of North Carolina (including the counties of Macon, Jackson, Swain, Graham, Clay, and Cherokee) and northeast Georgia. Western North Carolina’s demographics speak volumes of the need for a hospice inpa-



Hattie Bryant

tient facility...roughly 25% of our area’s population is 65 or older; yet the closest hospice houses are over an hour’s drive for most people. The proposed hospice house will help ensure life’s final journey is one of compassion, comfort and dignity for the people of our mountain region.

Hospice House Foundation of WNC has raised \$2.7 million towards its \$5 million goal for its Capital project (including \$1.3 million in challenge grants). Contingent on fundraising success, the new Hospice House in Franklin could begin serving patients as early as 2019.

To learn more about Hospice House Foundation of WNC or their May 10th dining event, visit www.hhf-wnc.org. You may also call Phyllis Racine for reservations and information - 828-524-8261. Donations in support of the Foundation’s important initiative may be in the form of cash, 3-5 year pledges, stock/bonds, or planned gifts (bequests). For cash gifts, make checks payable to: Hospice House Foundation of WNC, P.O. Box 815, Franklin, NC 28744. Donations may also be made on line at www.hhf-wnc.org.

NOTICE:

• Highlands School: Due to the loss of instructional time from inclement weather delays, May 5, 2017 will now be a regular day of school instead of a teacher work day

Ongoing

• Movies at the Highlands Playhouse: Friday - Tuesday: 2, 5, and 8 pm.

• Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. Contact Coach Steve Hott at 828-421-2121.

Mondays, May 29, July 3, and Aug. 7

• Botanical Garden Tour: 10:30 am - 11:30 am • Free. All ages. At the Highlands Botanical Garden. Learn to identify and remove non-native invasive species from your garden and the surrounding forest.

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 Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30-9:30am. Contact Janet Avery at 828-200-7508 for more information. • Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Mon.-Fri.

• Lap Swim Monday-Friday 7am-10am 6 lanes and Monday -Thursday 5pm-6pm 1 or 2 lanes. Sharing pool with Water Aerobics @ 5:15.

• Water Aerobics Monday-Friday 10:15am-11:15am and Monday-Thursday 5:15pm-6pm (sharing pool with lap swimmers) and Saturday mornings from 11:15-noon.

Tuesdays

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

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

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

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.

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 in Franklin on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Meetings are open to the public of all ages. The meetings are held at the NC Cooperative extension office located at 193 Thomas Heights rd. For 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.

• Exercise Class with Tina Rogers are held Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15p.m. This will be a combination class with many different styles of exercise.

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.

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

• Indivisible Highlands, a non-partisan activist group meets weekly at the Hudson Library at 5p. For more information call 770-823-0601

• NAMI Support Group for indi-

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

viduals 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

• 49ers 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

Third Fridays

• Senior Dinners are held on the third Friday of each month from November through April at noon in the Rec Park.

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.

• 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.

Fri., April 21

• Eco-Tours: "Laughing Earth Garden Tour" Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The earth laughs in flowers." What better way to celebrate Earth Day than a guided walk through Dan Pittillo's wildflower garden in Cullowhee on this easy to moderate hike. Co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green. Reservations required. \$35 donation for new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on the trail and a one year membership to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, \$10 for HCLT members. To reserve: info.hitrust@earthlink.net or 526-1111.

• "Stay Wild" benefit at Chattooga Belle Farm The Chattooga Conservancy will host its "Stay Wild" celebration and

fundraiser at the Chattooga Belle Farm in Long Creek, SC on Friday. The event starts at 6 p.m. and will have local live music, a barbeque supper with vegetarian option, beer, wine and non-alcoholic drinks, raffles and a silent auction. The live music features well-known musicians from Rabun County who have come together under the name "Group Therapy," that consists of Brad Barrett, Lisa Looks Twice, Filmer Kilby and Mike Hamilton, playing country, blues and folk tunes. In addition, SC singer-songwriter Jennifer Goree will perform folk, bluegrass and "countrified pop." Guarantee your entry and meal by buying a ticket in advance at www.chattoogariver.org. For more info, contact 706-782-6097 or info@chattoogariver.org.

Fri., April 21

• The High Mountain Squares will host their "Spring Fling Dance", Friday night at the Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Rd, Franklin NC from 6:15 to 8:45 PM. Richard Smith from Gainesville GA will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-342-1560, 828-332-0001.

Sat., April 22

• Plateau Pick Up 2017 on Earth Day. Help clean up our beautiful mountains and roadways. After each section has been picked up, come to Cliffside Lake for a thank you cookout and sit back a relax with your fellow volunteers. You will also receive a T-shirt for volunteering. To Register click the link below or call Jennifer Cunningham at 828-526-2112 or email visitor@highlandschamber.org.

• At the Nature Center, Earth Day Festivities - All Ages. 11:30 am – 4:30 pm. Free. Celebrate our planet and learn what you can do to conserve its resources! Interact with local conservation organizations, learn more about our native wildlife, and participate in animal feeding programs. For info, call 828-526-2623.

• Safety Town Franklin, 10a to 4p in the Robert C. Carpenter Recreation Building on Hwy 441 South. Exhibits, fire safety, bus safety, family fun. More than 20 booths with children's activities, games and giveaways.

Thurs., April 27

• Dine Out, Fight AIDS at ...on the Verandah, 5:30-9 p.m. 20% of your bill will be donated to the WNC AIDS Project which provides vital services to those living with AIDS and HIV in our community. For res-

ervations, call 828-526-2338.

Fri., April 28

• Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor at Hudson Library 11a until noon. Subject: Broadband RFP & Communications in Highlands.

Fri. & Sat., May 5 & 6

• At the Nature Center, Wildflower Whimsy - Friday, May 5, 5 – 8pm. Cost: \$75 members; 828-526-2623

Sat., May 6

• At the Highlands Biological Station, 10am – 2pm. \$100 non-members Join us for Wildflower Whimsy to learn more about plants' diminutive world. All proceeds support the Highlands Biological Foundation. Speaker: Gary Kauffman, NC Fish and Wildlife Service

Wed., May 10

• A Charity Dining Out Event to benefit the WNC Hospice House Foundation at Canyon Kitchn in Cashiers. Cocktails at

6:30p; dinner at 7:30p. \$175 per person which includes tax and gratuity. \$75 is tax deductible. For reservations, call 828-524-8261.

Thurs., May 11

• "Blue Valley Overflow Trek" Join us as we partner with Chattooga River Conservancy on this easy walk through the Overflow Creek Wilderness Area. Co-hosted by H-C Land Trust and The Village Green. Reservations required. \$35 donation for new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on the trail and a one year membership to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, \$10 for HCLT members. To reserve: info.hitrust@earthlink.net.

• Lakeside Restaurant will donate 20% of their gross proceeds to the Highlands Methodist Church for the completion of its Family & Fellowship Hall.

Fri., May 12

• See EVENTS page 14

At PAC, live via satellite MET Opera: Eugene Onegin



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will present Live via Satellite the MET Opera's production of Eugene Onegin by Tchaikovsky on Saturday, April 22 at 12:55pm. Beverly Wichman will lead a pre-opera discussion beginning at 12:30pm. Anna Netrebko reprises one of her most acclaimed roles as Tatiana, the naive heroine of Tchaikovsky's opera, adapted from Pushkin's classic novel. Dmitri Hvorostovsky stars as the title character, who rejects Tatiana's love until it's too late. Robin Ticciati, Music Director of Glyndebourne Festival Opera, conducts the revival of Deborah Warner's staging, which opened the Met's 2013-14 season. Alexey Dolgov sings the role of Onegin's friend-turned-rival, Lenski, with Elena Maximova as Tatiana's sister Olga and Štefan Kocán as Prince Gremin. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org – at the door or by calling 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands NC

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Spring Home Improvement

6 Ways to Update Home Décor this Spring

(StatePoint) Spring is the perfect time re-evaluate your home's décor and color palette. After the long winter season, interiors often need a facelift.

Get inspired to freshen up your home with these six 2017 décor trends from interior designer and DIY television personality, Taniya Nayak.

1. Add timeless touches. Tasteful updates can help create an elegant family room that will never go out of style. Display heirlooms and vintage-inspired items, such as traditional candle holders or a vase, and pair with a modern color scheme such as white or navy, to achieve a tailored and timeless look in your living room.

2. Apply modern morphing techniques. Morph a wide-open space together with bold colors and patterns that help bridge the gap between rooms. Accomplish this with a large piece of geometric artwork or by utilizing color-blocking techniques to paint an accent wall, which tricks the eye as to where one room ends and another begins.

Before painting an accent wall, it's important to tape off windows, doorways and trim to prevent splatter. One of the most important tools for any painting project is a premium painter's tape, such as FrogTape brand painter's tape, which is treated with patented PaintBlock Technology to help ensure

your work looks seamless and to deliver the sharpest transition lines between the newly painted accent wall and adjacent walls.

3. Interweave textures and bold patterns. Be bold and embrace this indie-meets-mid-century trend to add character to a space. An easy way to attain this look is by pairing patterned pillows with deep, intense col-

ors from an area rug. Or, take it one step further and create a wall design comprised of overlapping paint using rich shades such as blue, pink or red, for a truly authentic look.

4. Create luscious layers. Allow yourself to feel wrapped in luxury with this emerging trend. When creating a peaceful nest,

• See 6 WAYS page 16

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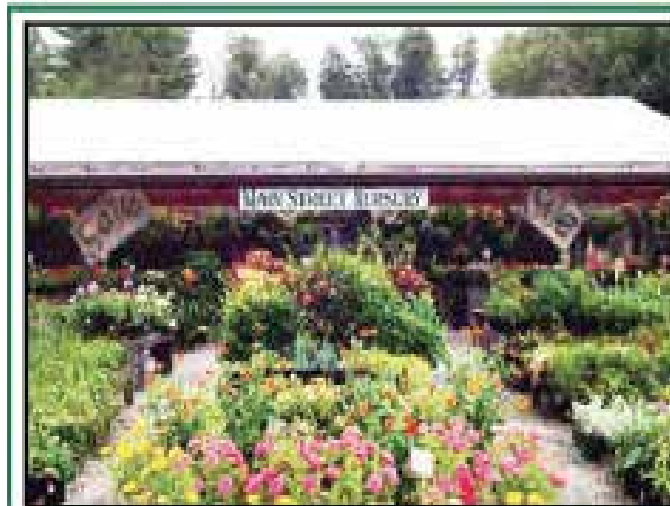
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Spring Home Improvement

Creative Gardening Tips for the Spring Season

(StatePoint) Gardeners often focus on the science of their hobby: how much water and sunlight their plants need and how to improve soil quality and keep pests at bay. But there can be a lot of artistry behind the craft as well -- from how you harvest and enjoy flowers to how you convert unused spaces of your home into a viable indoor edible garden.

Put your creativity to good use this spring season by gardening with style.

Indoor Gardening

For those who don't have an outdoor garden or yard, the dream of enjoying your own freshly picked fruits and vegetables may seem out of reach. However, the nooks and crannies of your home can be creatively rendered into productive growing zones. And experts say that nearly all homes can support indoor gardening.

"Whatever the size of

your home, there will be a selection of edible plants you can grow indoors, as long as you have some natural daylight filtering in," says Zia Allaway, author of "Indoor Edible Garden: Creative Ways to Grow Herbs, Fruit and Vegetables in Your Home." "The areas where plants will grow can be windowsills, beneath a skylight or even in a dark, unlit area if you install grow lights."

In "Indoor Edible Garden," a highly visual guide full of practical tips and stylish ideas, Allaway offers step-by-step directions for everything from creating suspended shelves and hanging jars for growing herbs to mounting edible orchids onto bark and displaying them on walls. She points out that those embarking on indoor gardening should first evaluate the level of time they can commit.

"Just remember that



unlike other projects in the home, such as decorating and cooking, all gardening projects require some after-care. So, if you have a busy schedule, choose crops that will tolerate less watering and feeding."

Flower Arranging

While your flower garden is likely a beautiful work of art in and of itself, you can spread the joy by harvesting your flora and bringing the beauty indoors. Floral arrangements add vitality to any interior space.

"For me, every ar-

range starts with the container. Think about what mood or style you want to evoke, and remember, anything can be a container as long as it can be made watertight," says Rachel Siegfried, author of "The Flower Book: Natural Flower Arrangements for Your Home," which explores 60 flowers, bloom-by-bloom in portraiture, including quick-reference profiles and tips.

Siegfried recommends that, when selecting flowers

• See TIPS page 18



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Dining Out for Life

Thursday, April 27, 2017 5:30 – 9 pm
...on The Verandah

Join us on Thursday evening, April 27, as we raise money for the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) which provides vital services to those living with AIDS and HIV in our community. Have dinner at On The Verandah and 20% of your bill will be donated to WNCAP.

Doug Helms, Pam Nellis, and Carl Romberg — all from Landmark Realty Group in Highlands — are ambassadors for this event. They hope to see you there!

Advertising in Highlands Newspaper WORKS!

For information, email
highlandseditor@aol.com

Date: May 13, 2017 Time: 2:00-4:00
Place: Cowee Baptist Church Doors open at: 1:30

An American Girl Tea Party

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- Raffle of American Girl Doll of the year "Gabriela McBride" (pictured right)
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- Exciting activities
- Silent Auction

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Children: \$10.00 Adults: \$25.00
Table (8 people): \$150.00



★ For more information or to purchase tickets please call our Macon Office: (828) 369-5544 or our Jackson office at (828) 586-8969 Tickets can also be purchased online via our website www.reachofmaconcounty.org

•HIGHLANDS EVENTS•

• Spring Wildflower Garden Tour, 12:30-3. Cost \$30/\$40 Tour the spring garden of Dick and Judy Allison To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

• The Highlands Writers Group has published it's very first Anthology. Please join us for a short dedication, a few readings and complimentary wine and cheese at The ugly Dog Pub, Friday, from 3-5p.

Sat., May 13

• An American Girl Tea Party to benefit R.E.A.C.H. of Macon County. 2-4 p.m. at the Cowee Baptist Church. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Hot teas, light finger food and sweet treats. Raffle of American Girl Doll of the Year "Gabriela McBride." Door prizes for both children and adults. Silent auction, too. Tickets are \$10 for children and \$25 for adults. Table of 8 is \$150.

Tue., May 16

• iOS for Beginners: The Basics for the iPad and iPhone, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com.

Wed., May 17

• Kilwins in Town Square will donate 50% of its proceeds to support the HUMC Family & Fellowship Hall.

Tue., May 23

• Vladimir Putin: New Czar or Last of a Dying Breed? 10a-noon. Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Niall Michelsen. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Tue., May 23

• iOS for Intermediate Users: Learning more about the iPad and iPhone, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Thur., May 25

• iOS Delving Deeper: More about the iPad & iPhone, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Fri., May 26

• At the Nature Center, Salamander Meander - Ages 6-Adult • 9 pm – 10 pm • \$5. Join herpetologists on a night search to observe some of the area's salamanders in the wild. Registration is required. Don't forget to bring your flashlight! For info, call 526-2221.

Sat., May 27

• J. McLaughlin's on Main Street will donate 15% of their proceeds from 1pm - 4pm HUMC Family & Fellowship Hall.

Tues.-Fri, May 30 – June 2

• Plants-a-Plenty Highlands Nature Center • 828-526-2623. Ages 4 - 6 • 9 am – 11 am daily • Cost \$75 per child. Highlands is a perfect place to investigate plant biodiversity. Campers will be exposed to plant and tree basics while exploring in the Highlands Botanical Garden. From flowers to ferns, the fun is never-ending!

Tues., May 30

• Village Nature Series: Hungry Like the Wolf - Learning About Endangered Red Wolves with Ben Prater. Co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green. 5:30 PM, rain or shine. For more information contact the land trust at 526-1111 or info.hitrust@earthlink.net.

Wed., May 31

• 100 Day Review of President Trump's Foreign Policy 10:00-12:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Niall Michelsen. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., June 3

• Reviving and Reshaping North Carolina after the Civil War, 10:00-12:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Stephen Nash. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., June 3

• Manna Food Bank's 2017 Blue Jean Ball. Travel by motor coach to Asheville. Depart from CLE at 4:45 Cost \$110 per person (age 21 and older). To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., June 3

• "Brushy Face Grand Opening Celebration" Come celebrate the brand new public trail on National Trails Day/Land Trust Day at one of our newly conserved properties. Bring the kids and visit environmental education stations along the way. For the more adventurous, join us for a challenging hike from our newest public property, Brushy Face, to the summit of our first property that was protected in 1909, Satulah Preserve. To learn more about this free community event visit www.hicashlt.org.

Sun., June 4

• At the Nature Center, Birds of the World - All Ages • 7 pm • Free. In collaboration with the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society. Come for a presentation by the Carolina Raptor Center (CRC) featuring live raptors from across the globe. Contributions to CRC are appreciated. For in-fo, call 526-2221.

Mondays, June 5, 12, 19, 26 (4 sessions)

• Thinking Bridge: Play of the Hand

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

(intermediate), 9:30-11:30 Cost \$80/\$90
Instructor: Duane Meeter. To Register
Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Mon., June 5

• Covert Actions of the CIA, 10:00-12:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Ira Cooperman. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Tues.-Fri., June 6 – 9

• Cycling Through Nature. Highlands Nature Center • 828-526-2623. Ages 6 - 9 • 9 am - 11 am daily • Cost \$110 per child. The natural world is very cyclical. From life cycles of plants and animals to the water cycle and even the seasons, things tend to happen in circular patterns. We will explore the richness of

these cycles throughout the week.

Tue., June 6

• The Movies of Burt Lancaster: An American Hero, 10:00-12:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Ira Cooperman. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Tuesdays, June 6, 13, 20, 27

• Great American Short Novels (Novellas), 5:30-8:30 Cost \$110/\$120 Presenter: Brian Railsback. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Wed., June 7

• Mexico's Drug Wars, 2:00-4:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Erik Ching. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

• A Dining Extravaganza with Chef Johannes, Meet in the CLE parking lot

and travel by van to the Library Kitchen and Bar in Sapphire, NC 6:00-? Cost \$95/\$110. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Thur., June 8

• Race and War: Soldiers of Color on the Western Front, 2:00-4:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: John H. Morrow. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Fri., June 9

• Checks But No Balance? The Role of the Supreme Court as a Policy Maker, 10:00-12:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter:

Todd Collins. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., June 10

• At the Nature Center, World Oceans Day - All Ages • 11:30 am – 4:30 pm • Free The ocean is integral to all life on Earth and no matter where we live we all have an impact on our ocean. Celebrate the ocean and the link we share with it, from the Mountains to the Sea. Find out more about how the ocean affects us and what we can do to protect it! For info, call 526-2221

Highlands writers launch inaugural anthology Book Signing and Reception May 12 at The Ugly Dog Public House in Highlands

The Highlands Writers Group (HWG) is pleased to announce publication of their first anthology of creative writing. Highlands Writers: A Collection from the Highlands Writers Group features poetry, short fiction, memoirs, and original artwork from members of the group.

"We are thrilled," said HWG leader, Linda Anderson, author of four novels and, So Late, So Soon, a recently published collection of vignettes about women in the process of aging. "I believe people who buy a copy of the anthology will be delighted at the quality work our local and seasonal residents have submitted."

The anthology will officially be launched at a Hot Off the Press party, reading, and book signing at the Ugly Dog Pub, Friday, May 12th from 3 to 5pm. Net proceeds from sales of the anthology benefit the Hudson Library.

The anthology is dedicated to Anne Doggett, a founding member of the Highlands Writers Group. The group meets every Thursday at the Hudson Library at 1:30pm. Writers engage in exercises, readings and what Linda Anderson calls "constructive encouragement" in a workshop setting. Writers at all levels are encouraged to attend. There are no charges for participation.



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Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street

Tickets available online: www.highlandspac.org - at the door or by calling 828.526.9047

...6 WAYS continued from page 12

immerse yourself in layers by integrating different textures and soft patterns in colors, such as blush pinks, creams and soft grays. Start by adding blankets and sheer drapery. Place a rug on top of carpet. Finish the look with ruffled pillows or a faux fur throw for a space that is cozy and chic.

5. DIY haute homemade projects. Elevate your home with handmade personal touches that bring comfort and warmth into a room. Go bold and paint stripes on an area rug, or give flea market finds a chic update with metallic paint. If you want to start small, try transforming an ordinary basic into a fun planter by painting the bottom with fresh white paint. For professional looking results, you

can use FrogTape brand painter's tape to achieve a crisp line.

6. Incorporate nature's influence. Integrate fresh flowers and surprising pops of color, like yellow or teal, with natural finishes, such as wood, to create an unexpected yet whimsical look. Or create a statement accent piece by painting a nature-inspired pattern like florals or feathers. All you need is paint and painter's tape to DIY a look that brings nature's outdoor influence inside.

More inspiration and popular trends are available at frogtape.com.

Get started on your décor projects now so that you can ensure your home is up-to-date with the latest design trends.

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Spring and Hope Eternal



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Owner/Broker-in-charge
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With a little less chill in the air these days, there is an excitement that springs forth in Highlands. Tourists arrive in shorts and locals put away their down jackets but know we may still get a precipitation surprise!

We have had snow in April and flowers we were determined to plant became little icicles. Still anticipation of a glorious summer grows.

Easter Sunday inspired me to think about my role as a real estate broker and clients' needs.

With our aging population of sellers, their needs are different from those in bigger cities such as Atlanta and Tampa.

Many are selling for health reasons which breaks my heart but it becomes my mission to help them accordingly.

Some sellers have created family memories here for generations but it is time to move on.

Upkeep and maintenance have become a burden and kids are too busy with their own lives to keep up two houses. My role is to help sell in the shortest time possible, hoping Spring and Hope Eternal meet that goal.

I love getting to know

my sellers and discussing their needs...they are all different and deserve time and energy to make it happen in a timely manner.

I listen to emotional stories from the past and feel the love for our magical town that continues to get better and better with age.

I also am seeing a trend where younger people are looking for second homes here and retirees are desiring to make Highlands their primary residence.

Just as days of sadness led to Easter, the excitement and joy of a new beginning and the promise of hope prevail. Birds are chirping outside my window and the morning sun is glorious.

Highlands is a magical place and I'm so glad to call it my home for 23 years. Wishing you all a glorious spring and flowers that live and bloom.

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•THE INK PEN•

Fried Brain Syndrome aka FBS



Kathy Manos Penn

Surely you know what this is. I define it as random thoughts flitting in out of my brain when I'm busily working, thoughts that don't resurface when I might have a chance to act on them, but instead when I'm busily working once again. I just happened to write down FBS one day when it flashed through my mind, and that's the only reason I can now capture the syndrome in a column. Now, tell me, are you also picturing that old ad campaign from the '80s, "Your Brain on Drugs?" That image of a fried egg seems apropos here too.

My poor dog is suffering as a result of my FBS. He occasionally shakes his head in my office, and I think, "Uh-oh, he's got ear mites again; I need to get his medicine." The medicine, however, is downstairs in the laundry room, not upstairs in my office. Has he been treated in the last week? Of course not. Similarly, I often hear what I call the "bathroom gremlins," the toilet briefly running when no one is around, and I think, "I need to let my husband know, so he can fix this." Now, I did finally manage to let him know, but it was several weeks before I did. And, no sooner did he fix the master bath than the gremlins moved to the guest bath.

I'll be on a call and think, "I need to schedule the landscaper," who does our yard work, but don't think about it again until I'm in bed at night. The same goes for contacting my interior designer. She's looking for a new living room rug for us, and I keep thinking I should email her and ask how the search is going; I think of that when sitting in the living room, looking at the rug, not when I'm at my

computer and can easily send her a note. Naturally, well naturally for me, rug thoughts lead to my idea of rearranging the living room, a task I'd need her help with. And, I think, "Well, when I speak with her about the rug, I'll explain that idea." This could go on for months at this rate.

When I'm twisting my hair into a bun each morning, I remember that I have an appointment with my hairdresser in a few weeks and am ready to have my hair chopped off chin length again. To follow through on that idea, I need to surf the internet for some style photos. Do I remember that when I'm sitting at my desk in front of my computer all day long? What do you think? No, I think of it again the next morning in front of the mirror.

My husband and I were joking just this morning about the saying, "Mind like a steel trap." We decided ours were no longer steel and were more likely aluminum. We think the next phase is "mind like tin foil." Or perhaps it's this saying I found online, "My Mind is like a steel trap...rusted shut." When we both reach that phase—no matter what we call it -- we'll be in serious trouble.

• Kathy Manos Penn is a Sandy Springs resident now happily retired from a corporate career in communications. Find her book, "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday," locally at The Molly Grace or on Kathy's website at www.theinkpenn.com. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com. Join her at the Molly Grace on the corner of Oak and N. 4th Stree in Highlands on June 17th, 11 am – 2 pm for a book signing

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From left: Coach Kevin Gabbard, Samuel Hawkins, Destin Gearhart, Mattson Gates, Drew Chalker, Jonathan Miller and Reid Ingate.
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...TIPS continued from page 13

for your arrangement, pay attention to shapes, textures and colors to achieve good balance. Start with a primary focal flower and build out with a couple of secondary focals, a final flourish, and foliage.

For her part, she relies on instinct. "I get a 'buzz' when I find a good combination," she says.

From flowering bouquets to spicy pepper plants, apply creativity to your gardening this spring.



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...HB13 continued from page 1

that would address the funding impact with the new law, while also lowering class sizes across the state.

According to a Report by the Education & Law project, the new law will cost school districts as much as \$388 million more per year in operating costs as well as significant capital costs. Districts will have to hire between 3,000 and 5,400 teachers in order to comply with smaller kindergarten through third-grade class sizes.

Lawmakers lowered maximum K-3 class sizes starting in the 2017-'18 school year.

School officials around the state say the changes remove their flexibility to pay specialists such as art, music, foreign language and physical education teachers out of the state dollars provided for regular classroom teachers.



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In North Carolina, funding for classroom teachers is provided by a position allotment. Under a position allotment, the state provides each school district a set number of teachers based on the number of students at particular grade levels in each district. For instance, the allotment ratio for kindergarten is one teaching position for every 18 kindergarten students.

The resolution presented to commissioners supports HB13, which was cosponsored in the House of Representatives by Rep. Kevin Corbin. The bill unanimously passed the House of Representatives on February 16 and was then sent to the Senate for consideration. Despite a unanimous vote in the House to pass the legislation, members of the Senate won't even consider it, which is something Senator Jim Davis doesn't think is going to change.

Senator Davis and his colleagues in the Senate are adamant that local school districts haven't been held accountable in the past for how they have spent funding previously allocated toward lowering class sizes. Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin disagrees.

While the Senate has sent funding to districts to lower classroom sizes in K-3, the funding came with the flexibility to not only fund additional classroom teachers, but it could also be spent to hire specialty teachers in art, music, PE, and foreign languages, which Dr. Baldwin said has been done in Macon County.

If HB13 isn't passed in the Senate, Dr. Baldwin warns that Macon County is looking at having to hire 5-6 new teachers at a cost of \$350,000-\$400,000 or eliminating special curriculum teachers in PE, music, or art in the district.

In addition, the additional \$350,000 needed to comply with

the mandate doesn't include funds for new construction costs, which would be needed for additional classrooms. Dr. Baldwin says constructing new classrooms would not be feasible by the 2017-'18 school year start date in August.

So, to meet the mandate of lowering the teacher-to-student ratio in Macon County – without any additional class space – Macon County would have to combine classes as suggested by Senator Davis.

The new law would change the limit on average class sizes from 16 to 18, depending on the grade, and the maximum number of students per class would be 19 to 21 per teacher.

Senator Davis said to avoid building new schools but still meet the requirement, school districts could combine classrooms. That would mean combined, there could be up to 42 students in one classroom, with two teachers; thereby satisfying the state mandate while not having to build new schools or expand existing ones.

Though it may seem ludicrous to cram 42 students and two teachers and possibly two teacher assistants into one classroom, Dr. Baldwin said if HB13 isn't passed, that may be the only possibility for Macon County schools.

Commissioners said they would speak to Rep. Corbin about the resolution, which mirrors similar resolutions passed by local school boards and boards of commissioners across the state, and will vote on passing the resolution on April 25 during the board's continuation meeting.

Rep. Corbin said he supports the resolution and appreciates the support of the district and HB13. Corbin remains hopeful the Senate will at least discuss the legislation, and believes it is possible.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

God's Plan of Salvation



Pastor Sam Forrester
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"And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life" (1 John 5:11-12).

In these words, we find that God gives eternal life and this life is found in his Son, Jesus Christ. What this means is that the way to possess eternal life is to possess God's Son. What this brings to the mind of all thinking men is why do I need the Son and how can I have the Son of God?

Man is faced with a problem when it comes to possessing the Son. "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). Why do you need the Son? Why can't you just earn your place with God? Adam when he failed in the Garden left all men descended from him by ordinary generation dead in their sins and trespasses (Ephesians 2:1). They were cut off from God without any hope of restoration to their Creator.

What can possibly overcome this situation? "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this; While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Through the death of his Son, God demonstrated his love for his people. Christ came and died for those the Father gave to him (John 6:37) in order to pay the price for their guilt and sin. According to Romans 3:23 all men sinned and fell short of the glory of God. They were separated from God with no way of their own to repair that breach.

What can man do? He cannot do enough works to earn his forgiveness. Because of Adam's fall in the Garden all his progeny are dead in their sins and trespasses (Ephesians 2:1). In Romans 1:18-3:8 the apostle explains that all men, Jews and Gentiles, are under sin. He declares in Romans 3:10 "there is no one righteous, not even one." Therefore, for there to be any hope of salvation for man God had to do something extraordinary.

That event was the sending of his only begotten Son into this world to do for man what he could never do for himself. Jesus came to live the perfect life the law required, to die the atoning death needed to bring forgiveness, and to win the resurrection victory to defeat death on the behalf of his people. According to Roman 1:4 Jesus was by his resurrection declared to be the true Son of God, the one with the power to effect the salvation of the souls of men. Romans 4:25 says he took on our punishment and died in our place to open for us justification before God. II Corinthians 5:21 says God took this one (Jesus Christ) who knew no sin and

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 21

Proverbs 3:5

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• POLICE & FIRE •

The Highlands Police log entries from April 11.
Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3

misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

April 11

• At 11 a.m., officers responded to call of criminal damage to property on Dog Mountain Road where 3 roadside mirrors were vandalised.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from April 11.

April 11

• At 10:57 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cook Road.

April 14

• At 12:31 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Spring Street.

• At 12:53 p.m., the dept. stood by at Zachary Field for the MAMA helicopter.

• At 2:55 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Satolah, GA, fire and rescue dept.

• At 5:40 p.m., the dept. responded to a call about a miscellaneous fire on Hicks Road.

April 15

• At 4:17 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a possible fire at The Bascom.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 19

made him to be sin for us so that in him we would become the righteousness of God.

Because of what Jesus accomplished in his life, death and resurrection the apostle John says "He who has the Son has life." How do you receive the Son? You receive him as your personal Savior by a personal faith, by trusting in the person of Christ and his death for your sins.

God opens the heart and gives new life to his people in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:4-5). With this new life you can see yourself for the sinner you are and know your need of a savior. You will them be enabled by the grace of God to call out to God for the help you so desperately need and he will answer and save your soul, Ephesians 2:8-10.

God's plan of salvation is to save the souls of everyone who comes to recognize their sin and their need of salvation through Jesus Christ and through him alone. This is his testimony: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Hear this message, believe it with all your heart, repent of your sins and stand fast in your faith that Jesus Christ is the one and only Savior of the souls of men.

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for part time and full time positions. Apply at Sweet Treats Deli. Corner Main St. and So. Fourth. 526-9632. (st. 4/13)

THE MOUNTAIN FRESH PIZZA DEPARTMENT

has two positions available for the 2017 summer season. Candidates must be energetic and team oriented. Positions require a range of skills including customer service, food prep, utility assistance and line cook. Evening coverage needed. Please contact Mountain Fresh Grocery at 526-2400 and speak with Missy or stop by in person at the corner of 5th and Main.

TOWN OF HIGHLANDS JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

– POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT F/T - Under the supervision of the Chief of Police, performs a variety of routine and complex

clerical, secretarial and administrative work in keeping official records, providing administrative support to the police command staff. Full time work with benefits package. M-Th 10hr Workdays. Base Salary \$13.66/hr DOQ. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED: Graduation from a high school or GED equivalent, with a two (2) year specialized course work in general office practices such as typing, filing, accounting, and bookkeeping, a strong working knowledge of MS office tools and the Internet/willingness to be trained. Two (2) years of increasingly responsible related experience, or any equivalent combination of related education and experience. Must type a minimum of 50 words per minute. A full job description and applications are available at the Town Office or on-line at the Town's website: www.highlandscn.org. Application deadline is Friday, April 28, 2017. The Town of Highlands is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (4/28)

WE ARE LOOKING FOR EXPERIENCED BARTENDERS & WAIT STAFF. Must be a responsible team player with a positive attitude. Full time and part

time positions available. Apply in person at Wild Thyme Gourmet 343-D Main Street, Highlands N.C. Please no phone calls. (st. 4/6)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY

is hiring a full-time, experienced line cook. Also hiring a breakfast cook, prep and deli positions. Please come in person to 521 east Main Street in Highlands to apply or call 828-526-2400

PART TIME HELP NEEDED. RETAIL. Working knowledge of computers a plus. Customer Service and ability to think on your feet is an added plus. Flexible Hours. Seasonal but could become year round. Contact by text 615-400-5498 or email: colleenk959@gmail.com (st. 3/30)

BISTRO ON MAIN is now looking for experienced, enthusiastic, and energetic employees for our highly successful, fast-paced Bistro. We are currently hiring ALL positions: experienced prep and line cooks, dishwashers, servers, buspersons, and hosts. Call 828-526-2590 for more information. (4/13)

FURNITURE MAKERS/TRIM CARPENTERS/CABINET INSTALLERS for full-time work in High-end cabinet shop in Highlands, NC. Please send resume to: info@warthconstruction.com. (st. 3/2)

WOLFGANGS RESTAURANT looking for experienced waitstaff, bartender and bus person. Call Jacque at 828.526.3807 (st. 3/2)

HIGHLANDS INN & HIGHLANDS INN LODGE now accepting applications and interviewing for all positions. Front Desk, Housekeeping, Maintenance, Night Audit, Breakfast Host & cook. Full time and part time available. Call 526-5899 for appointment or stop by 96 log cabin lane for application. Resumes or questions may be emailed to sales@highlandsinnlodge.com. (st. 2/16)

EXPERIENCED ELECTRICIANS NEEDED. Call 828-526-5147. (st. 1/22)

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Dan at 828-421-1616. (4/20)

RENTAL HOUSING JULY-DECEMBER 2017. Call 410-799-7740. (st. 4/20)

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SMALL OFFICE SPACE for rent, near Bascom. Seasonal or year-round. \$400/month. 828-526-5558. (st. 3/30)

WAREHOUSE FOR RENT. Christ Church of the Valley. 3,400 sq. ft. heated or unheated. 118 Hwy. 64 East, Cashiers, 743-5400 (st. 3/9)

CASHIERS/SAPPHIRE - 3 Bed/3 Bath home. Year round Mountain Views. Yearly lease 1,750. per month. Will consider lease option. (561) 346-6400 (st. 4/6)

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HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN VINSON: scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing. Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208. (st. 3/16)

MOLD AND MUSTY SMELL IN YOUR HOME? Call for free inspection. 828-743-0900..

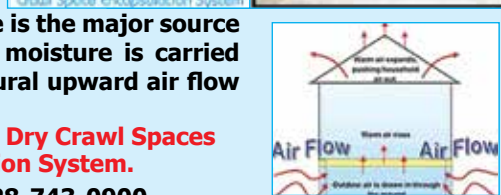
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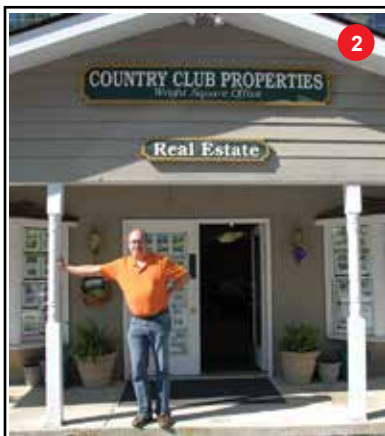
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