Volume 14, Number 32

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

Thurs., Aug. 10, 2017

Chief Harrell charged w/misdemeanor death by vehicle

Three months after a car accident claimed the life of 13-year-old Shane Tastinger, Monday afternoon, the District Attorney's office declared it had reviewed the evidence in the case and filed charges against two individuals.

"On August 7, 2017, Mr. Bill Harrell was charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and misdemeanor death by vehicle. The first court date is August 28th," said Eric Bellas, Chief Assistant District Attorney. "In a

related case Mr. Adam Dover was charged with failure to secure load and false report. He also has an August 28th court date."

Failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident is an infraction citation. A comparison is failure to come to a complete stop at a stop sign which is also an infraction.

Harrell serves as the Police Chief in Highlands, and according to Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor, the misdemeanor charges will

•See HARRELL page 14

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Upcoming Paoletti fundraiser to benefit Hospice House

Hopes to open Fall of 2019



On Wednesday, Sept. 27. Paoletti's Restaurant in Highlands, NC will once again host the charity dining event "Peaceful Journey" in support of Hospice House Foundation of WNC (HHFWNC). "Peaceful Journey" events in 2015 and 2016 netted a combined total of \$260,000! This speaks to the astoundingly generous philanthropic spirit of the Highlands/Cashiers communities and are so very much appreciated. Dining patrons will indulge in a decadent 4-course menu and wine pairing specially selected for the evening. The evening will be accompanied by a silent auction of fabulous items, including assortments of distinctive wines. The cost is \$300 per person. (\$125 is tax deductible.) Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m.; dinner is at 7:30 p.m. To learn more about HHFWNC or Paoletti's September 27 charity dining event, visit www. hhfwnc.org or call Phyllis Racine for reservations and information at 828-524-8261. HHFWNC has raised over \$3 million towards its \$5 million goal for its Capital project (including \$1.3 million in challenge grants). Tentative plans are to "break ground" August 2018, contingent on raising an additional \$1 million (when total funds raised reach \$4 million). Our regional Hospice House could be serving hospice patients and their families as early as fall, 2019.

Prepare for the eclipse

No one really knows what August 21 is going to look like in Highlands. Experts predict tens of thousands of people will be in Western North Carolina throughout the weekend leading up to the Great American Eclipse, which is set to darken the skies just after 2:30 p.m. on that Monday.

The uncertainty of the week•See ECLIPSE page 8

Don't be a victim of a scam

By Detective Andrea Holland

The Highlands Police Department has received several reports of potential scams in the past two years. Scammers do not discriminate; they will target anyone. Therefore, it is important that you do not give any personal information over the phone, including your banking information. Also, do not

•See SCAM page 6

Even the bears have to deal with Highlands traffic!



A cub obediently waits until Mama says it's OK to cross the street on NC 106 across from The Summer House this past weekend.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

The saga of the Sunset Bear

By Dick Funsch

The big black bear and I stood eyeball-to-eyeball; her beady black eyes staring into my wide-open brown ones. It really was no contest. I was frozen in time and place. Black bear...one. Nervous old-timer...none.

Finally, her curiosity satisfied

and threat dismissed, the bear slowly turned and ambled off into the woods...her two cubs trailing in her wake.

Saturday, July 29, another picture-perfect day in the Western North Carolina Mountains. Sun shining brightly, a few fluffy white

•See BEAR page 11

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THE PLATEAU'S POSITION

MAYOR ON DUTY

Solar Eclipse here we come

I'm writing this piece on Monday, exactly two weeks before the Great American Solar Eclipse. Many Highlanders have been dreaming and speculating about it. I hope forecasts of it being a cataclysmic day will not come to fruition, and that we will all celebrate and enjoy the eclipse.

The experts contend a full, total solar eclipse is so spectacular that people will never forget the experience. I hope the predicted crowds coming to Highlands are over estimated and never happen.

Recent reports make me think Highlands will not see overwhelming numbers on that day. This past week I saw a report indicating there would be 55,000 cars coming to Rabun County. The report also indicates US 441 through Clayton, Mountain City and Dillard will be gridlocked by 10am on Eclipse Day.

If 55,000 vehicles descend on Rabun County, that translates into 100,000 to 150,000 additional people in the county. If this highway gridlock occurs south of us, I can't see too many folks being able to turn onto the Highlands highway. I could be wrong, but let's hope not.

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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.



Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor

Our town staff has been hard at work addressing eclipse issues. Last week the Town Manager and Commissioner Pierson scouted out locations for the porta-potties that will be available on Eclipse Day. Our Town Planner, Andrew Bowen has developed a map identifying restroom locations for our visitors. This map has been posted on the Highlands Eclipse website. Other pertinent information will be posted on the map and on the website.

Police Chief Bill Harrell has secured illuminated highway signs that will be located at all entries into town. There will be two messages on the signs. The primary message will be to tune into FM 104.5 for traffic updates. We hope cell phone service will not be lost on that day, but it is possible. The folks at WHLC will monitor the police radio for traffic information. Also, each sign will have a message at the bottom requesting the public to be patient during this congested period.

The Town Manager, Public Works Director, Police Chief and the Mayor have all come to the conclusion that trash service should be suspended on Eclipse Day. Our trucks make frequent stops that could disrupt traffic flow. We are not sure crews could even negotiate through traffic. Trash crews will be out in force on the weekend leading up to the eclipse, and Tuesday crews will double up and do both the Monday and Tuesday routes.

We are also urging companies in the delivery and trucking business to avoid even attempting deliveries on that Monday. Local contractors also need to avoid moving large loads through town.

So, what can residents do to prepare for this once-in-a-life time event? Stock up on food and gas early in the week. I talked with staff at the ABC Store. They will have an extra large order in at the first of the week.

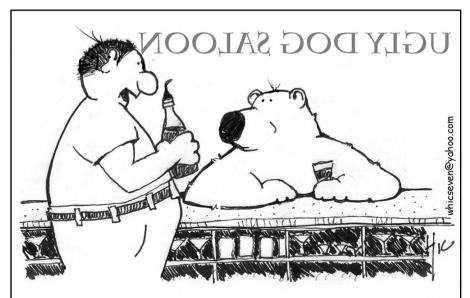
Helpful websites are: HighlandsChamber.org and HighlandsEclipseFest.com.

Happy eclipsing.

·NOTE·

Mission Health has set up a dedicated website where the community can stay up to date with the latest information. Go to: www.StandWithMission.com

·Hic's View



"you're right, you do have a challenging job. You have to run around town naked, filthy, penniless, eat garbage yet be an iconic symbol of nature for Highlands."

• LETTERS

Save Highlands History

Dear Editor.

I write to object to the view of the Mayor, and those Commissioners who may agree with him, to demolish the Highlands Playhouse.

As I understand it, the Mayor claims that the Town can't afford to continue the meager \$10,000 a year subsidy to the Playhouse, that the building is unsound, and that the Town can't afford the necessary renovation work.

This argument is specious inasmuch as one prominent civic leader has guaranteed

that he and other supporters of the Playhouse will replace the annual subsidy, and will underwrite the cost of such repairs as are necessary. In fact, the decision will cost the Town a substantial amount of money. Estimates of the cost of demolition and hauling away the wreckage range from \$25,000 up.

Neither is the building unsound. If it were, I seriously doubt the town would permit the public to sit for plays and movies inside the building.

• See LETTERS page 3

WEEKEND WEATHER •



For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather



Frances Wilson Reed

Frances Wilson Reed, age 88, of the Satolah community, Clayton, Georgia, went to be with her Lord and Savior on August 7, 2017.

She was the daughter of the late Hubert L. Wilson and Doshie McCall Wilson and wife of the late Rev. Mack A. Reed.

Frances was a member of the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church and loved the Lord. She loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren. She enjoyed canning, and would preserve the produce that she grew in her garden. She loved spending time watching songbirds on her porch.

In addition to her husband and parents, one brother, Clarence Wilson, preceded her

in death.

Her survivors include her son, Charles Reed (Jean), of Satolah; her daughters, Jewell Hedden (Ralph), of Highlands, NC, Frieda Munger (John), of Satolah, GA, Linda Wilson (Mike), of Satolah, GA, Brenda James (Tommy), of Scaly, GA.

The family will receive friends on Thurs., Aug. 10 at the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church from 10-11am. A funeral service and burial will follow with the Rev. Roy Lowe, Rev. Zane Talley and Rev. Ralph Campbell officiating.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorial donations be made in her honor to the Macedonia Cemetery Fund c/o Barbara Rice 810 Timberlane Rd. Clayton, GA 30525

...LETTERS continued from page 2

The Mayor says that the Playhouse is no longer necessary, because upon completion of the new Performing Arts Center the Playhouse's productions will no longer be performed at the Playhouse but at the new PAC. This argument ignores the fact that the Playhouse now offers first-run movies, and once the new PAC is up and running, the screenings will no longer be interrupted by rehearsals and performances of the Playhouse's plays.

And this year, the Playhouse, with the Chamber of Commerce and in conjunction with the Highlands Food Festival, will host the First Annual "Highlands Foodie Film Festival."

If the Mayor's desire is allowed to stand, Highlands residents who want to see a movie will have to spend time, and risk their necks, driving down the Gorge Road to Franklin's Ruby Cinema.

The Mayor's opinion will destroy an irreplaceable bit of Highlands history. The

Playhouse was built in 1934 as the Highlands High School Auditorium, and bought by the Town from the School Board in 1951. It is probably the oldest continuous commercial use of a building in Highlands (since 1939). Wit's End wasn't started until 1940.

The land on which the Playhouse sits was purchased from Samuel Kelsey by the Ladies Floral & Industrial Society. In 1894 it was sold to the State of North Carolina for one dollar. The stated purpose of the gift was for the land to "preserve, protect, and promote the natural beauty of Highlands." It's ironic that one possible use of the land, once the Playhouse is destroyed, is a trash recycling plant.

In short, the Mayor has yielded to the age-old tendency of government—to aggrandize itself at the expense of the people government is supposed to serve.

Griffin Bell Highlands

Kudos due all the way around

Dear Editor,

For the past several weeks (and throughout the year) you have published the accomplishments of the dedicated swimmers of the Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team. It is always fun for the swimmers to see their names in print and receive recognition for their many hours of practice and accomplishments at swim meets!

As the parent of a trio of swimmers on the team, I wanted to take the time to mention the names of a few from our awesome community who selflessly share their time and talents with our swim team. Without the enthusiasm, patience and experience of these people, our team would not thrive and achieve even remotely what

I believe I speak for the whole team when I say a heartfelt and sincere THANK YOU to a few people.

Our awesome head Coach Steve Hott - his investment to the whole team is immense. He gives up most of his free time to coach and encourage, passing on his enthusiasm for swimming and the technical skills and hard work ethic needed to succeed. Coaches Jordan Kenter, Fawn Jolly and Chad Garner and Debbie Kenter and Julie Hughes do so much for the team ~ from coaching to record keeping and fundraising. Their commitments and sacrificial help in and out of the pool are greatly appreciated. We are truly blessed to have these and so many other great volunteers!

Kirsten McKim, Highlands



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THIS WEEK'S FEATURES

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Cheese Crusted Asparagus Sticks

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ENTREES

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Lasagna

Fresh spinach and plenty of ricotta, Romano and mozzarella

SOUP

White Bean w/Pastrami and Asiago

Reservations appreciated but not required.

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...SCAM continued from page 1

send money to people claiming that you have "won prizes, extended warranties, trips, products, foreign lotteries or money, it is likely a scam (Phone Scams)." If it's free, then it's free, you should never have to send money! Also, scammers will ask if you can hear them. When you say, "yes," they record this and use this as an agreement to their demands. Try to avoid answering any questions to someone

big city entertainment.

August 3-19

En Lydicg's

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vou do not know.

Scam Reports in Our Community

- 1. Companies wishing for you to invest money in their company
- 2. Duke Energy claiming to shut off your power if you don't pay a certain amount (Duke sends bills, unless you have electronic billing, they don't call.)



- 3. Publishers Clearing House requesting you to send money to receive money
- 4. Vacation packages (requests for financial information)
- 5. IRS- claiming you owe them for taxes. IRS does not ask for financial information over the phone!!!!
- Caller claiming you have won large amounts of monev.
- 7. Computer sales company claiming to be (MAC) Apple, when in fact they are not

Most recently, we received a complaint that the victim's computer indicated Microsoft was "infected." The victim was asked to pay money to have her services restored. If you have any type of notification such as this, contact the actual company directly using their official website contact information. Any legitimate company should be able to confirm or deny if they have notified you for any reason. Make sure the site you use for contact information is in fact the company's official site.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), "Every year, thousands of people lose money to telephone scams- from a few dollars to their life savings. Scammers will say anything to cheat people out of money" (Phone Scams). Scammers will go to great lengths to get you to believe that they are trustworthy and legit. Understand, if you are asked to give your banking, financial, or personal information over the phone, it is probable the call is a scam. DO NOT GIVE any personal or financial information to someone who is calling that you do not know and DO NOT SEND MON-EY to someone promising something in return. If you are unsure if a call is legit, get advice from someone you know, DON'T BECOME VICTIM TO A SCAM!

If you receive a call from a potential scammer, please contact the Highlands Police Department at 828-526-9431 and the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.ftc.

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•THE INK PENN•

What a difference a year makes

Then I look back over the last 12 months, I realize I've been exceptionally busy, despite the fact that I retired in 2016 with plans to relax. I had vague notions of sleeping late, lying on the couch reading, traveling, and doing lunch with friends.

No, I didn't plan to give up working out, taking yoga, or writing; I just wanted to start off doing some of the things I so often daydreamed about

when I was working long hours. We took a few short trips and a river cruise, and I read plenty of books but mostly at night as I always had. The difference? I had the newfound freedom to stay up as late as I wanted reading.

I also had a to-do list in my head to clean out closets, the basement, and more, but I had no deadline. I managed to clean out file cabinets, give away boxes of books, and even take cans of paint to a local recycling event, but that's as far as I got. Why? Well, read on.

Since I'd been writing twice-monthly "Crier" columns plus a weekly blog, it seemed a no-brainer to increase the columns to weekly. I gave myself permission to write fewer blogs, but still, I wrote 30 last year because the more I write, the more I enjoy it.

Life might have remained leisurely had I not decided to publish a collection of my columns. I thought, "Well, I've already written the columns; how hard can it be to pull them together into a book?" Little did I know.

I thought I'd get serious about it in the summer and have a book out in time for the Holiday season. Suffice it to say; there was way more involved in that endeavor than I ever imagined. Oh sure, you can self-publish a book, but it's not like The Field of Dreams: "If you build it, they will



Kathy Manos Penn

come." If you want to sell your book, you have to market it, and when you're self-published, that means YOU do it all.

From the August day I met with the publisher through the November publication date and on through year-end, my every waking hour was consumed with thoughts of how to promote the book. I approached local shops; I did book signings; and I created posters, press releases, a Facebook Author Page, and website

content. It was all fun but time-consuming.

And then, I took a slight break in the New Year. I'd contemplated writing a book with my dog—he's very talented—but decided instead to spend the year focused on marketing. I did a few book signings, helped organize the author booth at Lemonade Days, and met other Dunwoody authors. Those new connections led to more ideas. If only I'd stopped there.

Perhaps I can blame my next decision on my corporate career where I was accustomed to having a full plate. Who knows? All I know is that before I knew it, I'd decided to go ahead with the dog book.

The result? "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" will be released August 30th. Once again, Banjo and I had already written much of the book as blog posts, so we two only had to add the connective tissue, if you will, to make his stories flow. Still, as you now know, there was plenty more work to be done. And, yes, I'm still busy. So I'm either a glutton for punishment or a glutton for fun. What would you say?

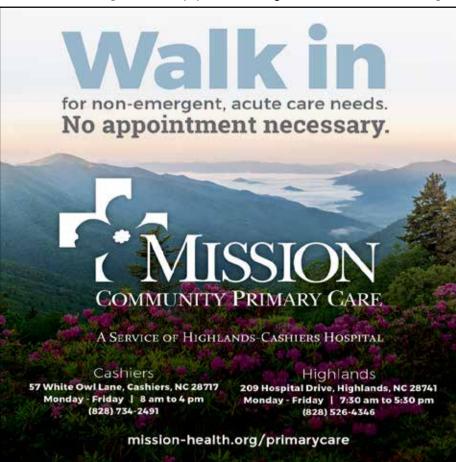
• Look for Kathy's new book "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" due out in late August and find her collection of columns, "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday," locally at The Molly Grace in Highlands and Books Unlimited in Franklin and on Amazon. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com.

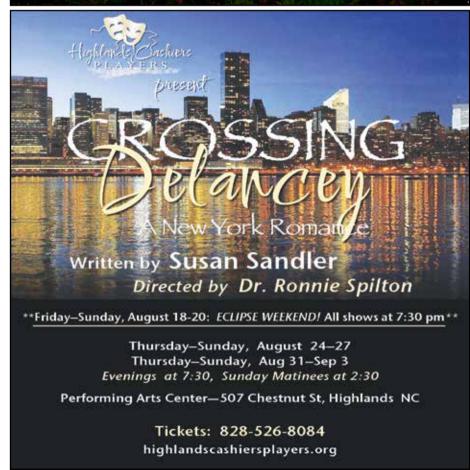
Mission Health gets \$1.25 Million grant from The Duke Endowment

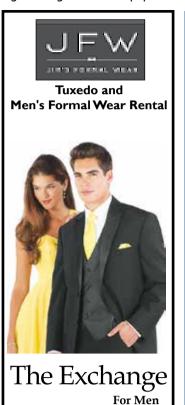
Mission Health is the recipient of a pivotal \$1.25 million grant from The Duke Endowment, a private foundation whose areas of focus include health and wellness. The Endowment grant will allow Mission Health to integrate behavioral health care together with primary care throughout western North Carolina, Mission's 18 county service area. The need for mental health services in the region has increased dramatically over the past two decades

and it affects virtually every area of healthcare.

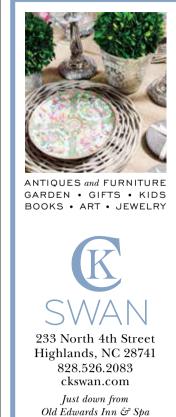
Western North Carolina is in urgent need of additional, and fully combined behavioral health services and programs, as evidenced by the fact that the region's suicide rates are among the highest in the state. Regional jails also report that over half of the imprisoned population is living with unmet mental health needs, and that underlying behavioral health illnesses were major contributing factors that led to their incarceration.







322 Main St. & Oak St.





...ECLIPSE continued from page 1

end, and uncontrollable factors like the weather, day visitors, and the day-to-day business of the town have emergency officials in Macon County cautioning residents to be prepared for just about anything.

Macon County Emergency Management has been working with local, State, Federal and a host of other agencies to ensure that Macon County residents and visitors have a safe and enjoyable experience during the solar eclipse. This is the first total eclipse to cross the continental United States in many years and may attract many spectators.

Highlands is among a group of areas in an arc across the United States that will experience a few minutes of total darkness during the day at approximately 2:30 p.m. Although many areas will experi-

ence some effects from the eclipse, very few will experience total darkness, also known as totality.

Exact numbers are very difficult to estimate, but officials are planning for an influx of visitors into the area for several days prior to and following the event. August is also a significant vacation and travel time for North Carolina and local areas. Expectations are for many things such as motels, hotels, rentals, and other travel and tourism related industries to be at or above capacity.

Suggestions for residents and visitors:

• Be prepared for crowds, lines and traffic. Areas around construction zones in east Franklin and intersections in downtown Highlands are expected to be especially congested. Allow extra time for travel.

 Have snacks, water and first-aid supplies on hand in case crowds/lines/traffic becomes significant while you are traveling.

• Be aware of the hazards of the area especially this time of year including steep and winding rural roads, heavy and slow moving traffic, severe thunderstorms, and trip and fall hazards particularly around waterfalls and other trail areas.

• Have an emergency kit and emergency plan; make sure family members or friends know your schedule, when you are expected to return, and your plan if something happens.

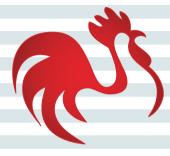
Suggestions for businesses and employers:

- Prepare for a larger than normal influx of customers. Goods should be ordered and staffing adjusted accordingly.
- Be aware that some visitors unfamiliar with the area may be in authorized and unauthorized areas.
- Encourage employees to be prepared with full fuel tanks and other necessary supplies to avoid long lines and other delays that could occur should the influx of visitors be significant.

•See ECLIPSE page 10







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Police Report

The Highlands Police log entries from July 21. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

July 21

• At 8 p.m., officers responded to a two-







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vehicle accident on Smallwood Ave.

July 25

 At 10 a.m., officers were called about a US Postal worker unlawfully detaining and delaying US Mail by failing to deliver mail to the rightful owner and by taking the mail to



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his residence. The case is in the initial stages of investigation by the Inspector General's office.

July 26

- At 11:49 a.m., officers were called about a noise complaint at a residence on Trillium Circle
- At 2:05 p.m., Thomas Michael Chatlos, 41, of Franklin, was arrested on Log Cabin Lane on a warrant from the Franklin Police Department for possession of heroin and for possessing drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$2,000 secured bond. His trial date is Sept. 25.
- At 4 p.m., officers were called about fraud by impersonation at a residence on N.4th

Street where someone was impersonating a Microsoft technician.

July 27

 At 10:15 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east near Memorial Park Drive.

July 28

- At 2:10 p.m., officers were called about a simple physical assault between a man and woman pulling and tugging on a piece of railroad tie that was in dispute.
- At 7 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west at Third Street.

...ECLIPSE continued from page 8

• Talk to suppliers, particularly those out of the local area, that may not anticipate the event. Some deliveries might need to be adjusted accordingly.

With little information available except estimates for potential visitors and no event in recent history comparable on which to base any estimates, Macon County Emergency Management recommends treating this event as a significant travel holiday event.

"We will continue to monitor the event as it draws near providing information as it becomes available and update our plans as necessary," said EMS Director Warren Cabe.

For more information about Highlands events, visit, http://www.highlandseclipsefest.com/calendar/ and http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov

Hurricanes finish 3rd in All-Star meet

On Saturday, July 29, 19 members of the Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team traveled to Murphy to the Mountain Swim League (MSL) All-star meet to finish their summer season.

Even with the National team simultaneously competing at the AAU Jr. Olympics in Detroit, MI, the Hurricanes did well, with Coach Tay Bronough stepping in out of retirement to coach the team for the meet.

The Hurricanes scored 151 pts. to finish 3rd ahead of Jackson County Swim Team's 120 pts., but behind Cherokee County Aquatics Club's 279.5 pts., and Franklin Amateur Swim Team's 523.5 pts.

The Hurricanes brought home four trophies, 23 medals (seven of them gold), 32 ribbons, set six team records, and 26 Personal Records (PRs).

The Hurricanes were led by Andre Halldin, Layla Babac, Hayden BySura and Savannah Byrd, all who received trophies for the overall place in their age group.

Halldin won his age group, scored 26 pts, and brought home four medals (three of them gold). Babac finished 2nd in her age group, scored 24 pts, and brought home four medals (two of them gold). BySura and Byrd both finished 3rd in their age group; BySura scored 20 pts, and Byrd 11. BySura brought home four medals (one of them silver), and Byrd brought home two bronze medals.

Elias McKim scored 17 pts, brought home three medals (two of them silver), and set three team records. Lauch Young scored 11 pts, and brought home two bronze medals. Vivi Geren scored 10 pts and brought home a gold medal in the 50 butterfly and set two team records. Jordan Powell and Aniah McKim both scored eight pts. Powell brought home two bronze medals and had two PRs, McKim won the bronze medal in the 100 IM and had a PR.

Jelehna McKim, Penelope Hilson, Toby Henderson, and Ben Halldin all scored three pts. McKim, Hilson, and Henderson all scored 4th in their respective breaststroke events. Hilson set a team record and a PR, and Henderson set a PR. Halldin won the 25 freestyle, and finished 4th in the 25 butterfly and set two PRs. Brady Jolly scored a point by finishing 6th in the 50 backstroke, and set three PRs. Annie Geren finished 7th in the 50 backstroke. Sadie Green swam the 50 backstroke, and Landon Green and Fen Hilson swam the 50 Breaststroke.

The Highlands Hurricanes are a Highlands Recreation Park age group swim team with swimmers aged 4-17. The team practices at the Highlands Recreation Park Pool Mon. through Thurs. evening & Saturday mornings. All practices are not mandatory. The only requirement for joining the team is that a swimmer must be able to swim 1 length of the pool (25 yards) unassisted. For more information please call Steve Hott, Head Coach at 828.421.4121 or the Highlands Recreation Park Pool at 828.526.1595.

...BEAR continued from page 1

clouds playing peek-a-boo with the sun, the temperature hovering in the low 70s. What's not to like?

Not a thing, concurred the seven Funsch family members gathered at their seasonal home on Moon Mountain, Highlands, for a brief mini-family reunion.

Youngest son Kevin and girlfriend Tess DeVore had flown in from Houston, TX on Thursday, while Mike, Lisa and children Caleigh and Colin had driven up from St. Petersburg, FL, on Friday.

Familiar with the Western North Carolina Mountains, having attended Georgia Tech...a mere 80 miles away, Kevin had placed a visit to nearby Sunset Rock at the top of his vacation bucket list.

He swayed Tess with the prospect of sipping wine and snacking on aged cheese from their lofty perch on Sunset Rock, as they watched the sun slowly dip behind the distant mountains....the town of Highlands spread out at their feet miles below.

It was an easy sell. Tess was on board, as were Mike, Lisa, Caleigh and Colin.

I hitched a ride with Kevin and Tess as navigator....a big mistake. I took the wrong turn off Horse Cove Road across from the Highlands Nature Center; instead of heading up the mountain and Sunset Rock we took a leisurely 10-minute tour of the surrounding neighborhood. Mike followed our lead.

Finally, back on Horse Cove Road I spotted the sign for Sunset Rock and we were back on course. The road to the top was narrow, rutted and rocky. No sooner had we started bumping and rocking along, however, than we were met by a car hurrying down the road in our direction. This was a little peculiar because it was only a little after 7:30 and sunset was still an hour away. In addition, passing was a little tricky because of the width and condition of the road.

Then a second car came tumbling down the road and then another. We finally stopped the fourth car and asked the driver what was going on. She was in panic mode, shouting that there were bears up ahead. They had ransacked her picnic blanket and eaten her food. She abandoned food, blanket and picnic baskets and was out of there....for good....no turning back. She took off, hurrying back down the road to civilization.

Wow! What now? The road was too narrow to turn around. Mike was bumper-to-bumper behind us. No option but to forge onward and upward. So we did, albeit apprehensively.

At the top we found limited parking options but managed to squeeze both cars betwixt and between. A narrow path led to the open face of the mountain and a perfect 180-degree vista of the western horizon.

The area was not deserted. About 12-to-15 people milled about, excitedly talking about the visit of the three bears, who were nowhere in sight at the moment. Key phrase: At the moment.

Apparently my 10-minute detour caused us to miss the excitement of the three bears raising havoc.

But the fright and the fun was far from over.

Mike found the ravaged blanket and the remains of the abandoned picnic as well as an ice tea container with a puncture wound in its side. Circumstantial evidence, of course, but very convincing.

And yes, the bears were still in the neighborhood. Some folks spotted them.... pointing to the left, while others were sure they saw them....off to the right. It was about then I spotted big mama bear about 25-to-30 yards away, at the edge of a thicket. The cubs were not in sight.

Unfortunately, I had left my Nikon digital camera back in Florida. Fortunately, Colin was by my side and snapped off several shots with his I-Phone camera to save the day.

Documenting photos or not, the visual image and the near encounter will live on forever in my mind's eye.

By the way, bear in mind that the view from Sunset Rock is quite spectacular and well worth the effort; sharing the vista on rare occasions with a less than welcoming black bear notwithstanding.

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS

Ongoing

- Movies at the Highlands Playhouse: Summer Movies: Sun.,, 5:30 and 8p; Mon.,, 2, 5, 8p, Tues., 2, 5, 8p.
- Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. Contact Coach Steve Hott at 828-421-2121.
- The Nature Center will be open Tuesday-Saturdays from 10am-5pm and from 12pm-5pm on Sundays. The Nature Center is closed on Mondays.
- The Glenville Area Historical Society Museum is open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 AM to 3 PM until October 14. The Museum that traces the history of Glenville from it's founding to present day though wall displays and items of historical value, is located at 4735 Highway 107 in Glenville. For information call 828 743-1658, email historicalsocietyglenville area or go to www.glenvillecommunity.com

Mondays, 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 nonnative invasive species from your garden and the surrounding forest.

Mon., June 5, 12, 19, 26 (4 sessions)

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

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. & 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 info, 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 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 7PM in the Sneak E. Squirrel Community Room (1314 Main St., Sylva. Visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524

Third Tuesday

• The Macon County Poultry Club meets at the NC Cooperative extension office located at 193 Thomas Heights Rd.,Franklin on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Meetings are open to the public, 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.

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.

Wednesday-Saturday

• The Highlands Historic Village is open June-October. It's free. Visit the Highlands Historical Museum, the Prince Houe, Bug Hill Cottage, Furman Vinson's Boat, The Old Jail while taking a break in the peaceful setting that commemorates Highlands' past.

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 individuals dealing with mental illness and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from $7-8:15~\rm pm.$ 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, I 20 Riverview St. Contact Majestic 828-369-9474

Thurs., & Sat.

• Zumba with Mary K, Barbour at the Rec Park from 11a to noon. For more information, call 828.342.2498.

Fridays

• Live music in Town Square from 6-8 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays

Art's at the Lodge. Live Music 4-8 p.m.. Ocktails in Art's or on the lawn at the Lodge.

Cocktails in Art's or on the lawn at the Lodge. On Spring Street.

Saturdays

- * Farmers Marketplace in K-H Founders Park from 8a-12:30p.
- \bullet At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.
- Scrabble at Hudson Library from I-4 p.m. Bring board if possible. All are welcome. 727-871-8298.
- The Bascom Knitters on the Terrace at The Bascom from 10 am until noon or downstairs in The Bascom Library room.
- Music in K-H Founders Park 6-8 p.m. Bring a picnic!

Thur., Aug. 10

• North Carolina's Revolutionary Era:The Militia, the War and Violence, 10-noon. Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Wayne E. Lee. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Fri., Aug. II

- At Dusty's on NC 106, a wine tasting from 3-5 p.m.
- Anglo-Indian Conflicts in North Carolina: Colonization, Cooperation and Resistance, 10-noon.Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Wayne E. Lee. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com
- The Bascom Barn Dance: Do-Si-Don't Miss. Bring the Whole Family to Celebrate Local Tradition Bluegrass, Contra, and Square Dancing plus a live caller and music by Silly Ridge RoundUp. Barn Dance T-Shirts and Posters Printed Live will be available, a Photo Booth, along with Special Artworks about Local Tradition. Food and a cash bar plus non-alcoholic drinks will be available for purchase. Low Cost Admission is made possible through sponsorships, grants, and contributions to The Bascom's Community Outreach Department. All Proceeds Benefit The Bascom, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. For more information. contact Will Barclift at wbarclift@thebascom. org, 828-787-2897.
- The High Mountain Squares will host their "Back to School Dance" Friday night, at the Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Rd, Franklin NC from 6:15 to 8:45 PM. All school supplies collected will be donated to the Macon Country School System. Bob Morrison from Winder, GA will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. You are in luck, new dancer lessons will begin August 14 2017, join us. Everyone is welcome. For in-



• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

formation call 828-342-1560, 828-332-0001

Sat., Aug. 12

• Edible Foraging Guided Tour, 10-noon. Cost \$30/\$40 Presenter: Ross Pearman. To Register Call 526-8811 or www. clehighlands.com

Sun., Aug. 13

• Land of the Sky Barbershop Chorus will perform Sunday at 3 p.m., in Tartan Hall at Franklin's First Presbyterian Church at 26 Church Street. The 30-voice men's chorus sings light-hearted renditions of timeless and contemporary melodies, sung unaccompanied in four-part Barbershop-style harmony, with lots of laughs interspersed with the music. Admission is by donation; \$7 suggested. Doors will open at 2:30.

Mon., Aug. 14

- The Cultural and Political Power of Modern Nationalism, 10-noon. Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Lloyd Kramer. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com
- Aery Chiropractic & Acupuncture. Free Health Lecture Series from 6-7 p.m. Upstairs 2655 Dillard Road. This week: Marion Macy, Physical Therapy for Injury Healing & Beyond.
- Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild will host nationally renown quilt designer and author Nancy Mahoney at the guild's meeting, Monday at Tartan Hall, 26 Church Street, Franklin. Social time begins at 9:30 a.m; meeting at 10 a.m. Mahoney, who lives in Sparta, GA, will present her "Mastering Colors" program.
- The Battle of Sugartown, Chapter of the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), will hold its monthly meeting at 11:30 in the Boiler Room Restaurant at 1024 Georgia Road in Franklin, NC. All DAR members and prospective members are welcome.

Tue., Aug. 15

• Charles de Gaulle and French-American Relations, 10noon.Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Lloyd Kramer.To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Tue. & Thur., Aug. 15-17

• Apple Computers (Mac OS Sierra 2017 Part 2), 10:30-3:30 Cost \$35/\$150 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Wed., Aug. 16

- A Spectacular Fall Native Garden Up Close, I-3:p Cost \$30/\$40 Presenters: Dick and Judy Allison. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com
- On Wednesday August 16, nationally renown quilt designer and author Nancy Mahoney will conduct a workshop of her quilt design "Granny's Stars" at the West Macon Fire Department from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Class fee is \$25. Preregistration is required. For more information visit www. smokymtnquilters.org. Anyone interested in the art of quilt making is welcome to attend the guild's day and night meetings.

Thur., Aug. 17

- History of Conservatism in America, 10-noon Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Patrick Allitt. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com
- The Highlands Biological Station is jumping into the game with a free educational lecture on Thursday, entitled: "2017 Carolina Total Solar Eclipse." Attached and pasted below is our press release announcing this opportunity. This lecture is a part of our Zahner Conservation Lecture Series, is open to all and starts at 6:30 in the Highlands Nature Center. Please join us to learn more about the big event!

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 18-20

• Highlands Cashiers Players' production of Crossing Delancey will be presented at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut St., 828-526-8084.

Fri..Aug. 18

• Women in the Middle East, 2-4:p Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Michaelle Browers. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., Aug. 19

- Understanding Contemporary Egypt, 10:-noon Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Michaelle Browers. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com
- "Totally Eclipsed on Ravenel" On Monday, join the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust on the Saturday before for a free hike from downtown Highlands to the summit of one of our oldest protected properties, Ravenel Park, home of Sunset and Sunrise Rocks. For details visit www.hicashlt.org.

Mon., Aug. 21

- •The Viewing Party at K-H Founders Park from 10 to 5pm on Monday. It's sponsored by the Shops on Carolina Way with BBQ sold by the Literacy Council. There will be family yoga at 10am, music with Tyler Kittle Jazz at 12pm and Hurricane Creek from 3pm to 5pm. For more information go to www. highlandseclipsefest.com
- The Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society (CHHS) will be in the direct path of a total solar eclipse. Starting at noon, CHHS will be hosting a special adoption event and viewing party with the shelter pets. The celebration is called "Total Barkness." Eclipse viewing glasses and collector's edition t-shirts will be on sale that day, with all proceeds benefitting the animals at the no-kill shelter. For more info, call 828-743-5752.
- Local Building Practices of Early Settlers in Western North Carolina, 2-4:p Presenter: Betty R.Torrell.To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com
- Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild's Evening Group will feature a trunk show of quilts by guild member Debbie Patterson. The meeting is held at Tartan Hall, 26 Church Street, Franklin. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in the art of quilt making is welcome to attend the guild's day and night meetings. For more information about the guild and future events visit www.smokymtnguilters.org

Kitchen Tour festivities begin Aug. 17 with 'Over the Moon Party'

The Laurel Garden Club is kicking off its Kitchen Tour festivities with an Over the Moon Party—the hottest hoedown in town! This celestial celebration is set for Thursday evening, August 17 from 6-8:30 at a private barn on Satulah Mountain.

Silly Ridge Roundup will provide live music. The band's eclectic blend of American, Folk, and Bluegrass music will keep you entertained and dancing.

New this year are Silent and Live Auctions, featuring unique items including paintings commissioned exclusively for this event, a week's stay in a St. Simons Island cottage, and more.

What to wear? Think chambray, denim, flat shoes or boots. Think casual and fun!

Add exceptional hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, a specialty cocktail, and YOU for an over the moon, merry evening! Tickets are \$75 per person and can be purchased only online at www.laurelgardenclubhighlands.com.

If you still need Kitchen Tour tickets, they are available online, too, or at The Dry Sink in Highlands! Call (404) 229-2746 for more details.

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Tuesday, August 15 Time: 10:00-12:00 Presenter: Lloyd Kramer

- Apple Computers (MacOS Sierra Pt. 2)
 Tue./Thur. August 15/17 Time: 10:30-3:30
 Cost \$135/\$150 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith
- A Spectacular Fall Native Garden Up
 Close

Wednesday, August 16 Time: 1:00-3:00 Cost \$30/\$40

Presenter: Dick & Judy Allison

- History of Conservatism in America Thursday, August 17 Time: 10:00-12:00 Presenter: Patrick Allitt
- Women in the Middle East
 Friday, August 18 Time: 2:00-4:00
 Presenter: Michaelle Browers
- Understanding Contemporary Egypt Saturday, August 19 Time: 10:00-12:00 Presenter: Michaelle Browers

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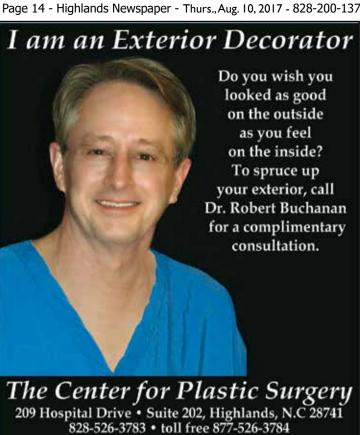
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THE CURIOUS MIND KNOWS NO BOUNDS

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...HARRELL continued from page 1

not affect Harrell's position with the town.

"The North Carolina death by vehicle charge is made when a driver is issued a motor vehicle infraction or misdemeanor related to fatal traffic accident," said Taylor on behalf of the town of Highlands on Monday. "Chief Harrell was not charged with the criminal felony charge of death by vehicle that is charged in cases involving impairment and criminal negligence. The town has consulted with legal and professional advisors concerning the charges and Chief Harrell's status. Whether found guilty or not guilty by the courts, this charge will not affect his professional certification or standing as a law enforcement officer. Bill Harrell will continue to serve as the Highlands Police

The vehicle accident occurred in May and sent five people to the

retrieve a ladder that had fallen from a vehicle. Dover was charged with failure to secure a load. Afterwards investigators found that the ladder in the roadway that caused the accident belonged to Dover. A white Lincoln carrying

four members of the Tastinger family stopped in the median and was rear-ended by a black Chevy driven by Chief Harrell, Chief Harrell was unable to stop in time.

hospital, with Shane Tastinger succumbing to his injuries days

following the accident. According

to the North Carolina State High-

way Patrol, the collision occurred

on Highway 441 near Sander-

stown Road. Authorities said a

red Toyota truck driven by Adam

Dover pulled into the median to

Shane's father John Tastinger Sr., 43, was at the wheel of the Lincoln. He spent days at Mission Hospital with a severe concussion and continues his recovery today at home with his family.

"I ask for your continued prayers of healing for everyone impacted by this tragic event," said Mayor Taylor on Monday.

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Grill - every day of the week starting at 11:00 until close Fresh cut natural meats, homemade deli salads, specialty sandwiches, homemade potato chips, daily soup specials.

Deli - Serving all day
Fresh cut natural meats, homemade deli
salads, specialty sandwiches, homemade
potato chips, daily soup specials.

Wood Fire Pizza Oven -Every day from 11:00 to close Authentic Neapolitan pizza made from scratch, fresh mozzarella, basil, crushed tomatoes, homemade Italian sausage, pancetta, and daily specials.

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.

\$12.95 (dine in) or
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A large selection of take-away items fully prepared and ready to take home. Grilled pork loins, homemade mac & cheese, mashed potatoes, herb rubbed chicken, made in house bbq, chicken salad, deli salads & much more.

DINNERS TO GO

A different full dinner for two every night, Monday-Saturday from 4:30 until we sell out. Call ahead to reserve...

Monday - Low Country Lobster / Shrimp Boil - Maine lobster tails, wild caught large shrimp, red bliss potatoes, summer corn, house made sausage, all steeped in our seasoning. Served with drawn butter and cocktail sauce. \$36.95 serves two

Tuesday - Oven Off Night
Two natural chicken breasts grilled with our Tuscan herb infused olive oil, served on a bed of greens with stuffed brie, spiced pecans, our extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar on the side with two cups of homemade gazpacho and a baguette from our bakery.

\$26.95 serves two

Wednesday - Prime Rib with Baked Potatoes & Salad - Premium Angus standing rib roast, cooked medium rare w/ red wine au jus. Two baked potatoes & a large Caesar salad. \$35.95 serves two

Thursday - Two Racks of Baby Back Ribs - cooked until fall-off-the-bone-tender. Served with house made bacon/apple baked beans and potato salad. \$27.95 serves two

Friday - Wild Caught Shrimp: fried or steamed. Wild caught North Carolina shrimp either lightly breaded in our seasoned corn flour mixture, and then properly fried in peanut oil & served w/ hush puppies; or steamed to order in our low country seasoning. Both come with coleslaw and rosemary sea salt broiled red potatoes, tarter & cocktail sauce.

\$28.95 serves two

Saturday - In-House Smoked BBQ - Hand rubbed pork butt, pit-smoked over night and hand pulled to order. Comes with coleslaw, apple bacon baked beans, and yeast rolls \$25.95 serves two

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It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it

hhh, August. Sipping cold drinks on the deck, golfing, tennis, croquet or pickle ball with friends. The last of the summer visitors are winding down. Time to relax. SCREECH! Halt! Don't get too relaxed; not just vet.

Whether your home is your year-round residence, used only in the summer, or used all year by you along with guests and renters, August is a perfect time to plan your fall and winter home maintenance strategy.

Here are some of the highlights you don't want to miss:

Plumbing

It's a good idea to check your washing machine hoses. After all, they've probably gotten a lot of usage over the summer. When is the last time they were replaced? Do the washers need replacing?

If you know your approximate exit date, go ahead and call your plumber to have your home winterized. Most plumbers are requiring at least a 2-week minimum notice for this service. Gone are the days of calling your plumber "I'm leaving in the morning, and I see it's going to get cold this weekend, so I need you to close it down

Lawn & Garden

By the end of August, you'll probably notice dead wood stalks from perennials. It's OK to cut those back, and clear away any dead leaves and foliage. Watch out for wasps and bees though! August is the time of year the ground, gutters, eaves, etc. are full of swarming, angry stingers. Speaking of gutters, it's time to clean them out.

If you're not feeling the love of climbing a ladder, there are plenty of people around that clean gutters every day. HVAC

It's time to change the filters, and al-

Now is the time to have your tanks

though that's usually an easy enough job for

you to do yourself, you may as well go ahead

and call a professional to inspect your fur-

filled and checked for leaks before the sup-

nace before cold weather sets in.

Fuel Oil and Propane



leannie Chambers Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals

weather gets here and wake up to a cold house.

pliers get busier. You really

don't want to wait until cold

Chimney inspection

Speaking of cold weather, and what you do to keep from being cold, August is a great time to have your chimney inspected. Chimney fires can happen when creosote builds up on the chimney lining, or if you are burning the wrong things in your fireplace or

wood stove. Hold back on the amount of paper, and high resin woods such as pine.

Deck furniture

Homeowners are spending more and more time outside, and their outdoor furnishings are proof they want to be comfortable while enjoying their time on their decks and porches. It's a good idea to bring wicker furniture inside during the winter, and obviously the cushions, lamps, TVs,

• See INVESTING page 22

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MAGICAL MIRROR LAKE!

A block off Mirror Lake, in the heart of dog-walking, canoeing, fishing, and hiking is this home well-positioned on a double lot, with plenty of room to roam, relax, and even expand! The open living area is where the funbegins with family and friends sitting back and lounging among the kitchen, family room with stone fireplace, and outdoor deck. This home includes a separated 1.5 story living area with bunk room, full bedroom/bath, and kitchenette. Inquire about the excellent rental history!

Directions: From downtown Highlands, take Hwy 64 (Franklin Road) approximately 1 mile and veer right onto Mirror Lake Road. Cross the Mirror Lake Bridge and veer left continuing on Mirror Lake Road, Head up the Hill, and property is on the left at the corner of Mirror Lake and Wingina.



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Immaculately cared for home in Highlands Falls CC. Offered furnished and sits on a private corner lot with a great mountain view. The living room boasts high wood beamed ceilings, a stone fireplace and opens to two large covered, screened porches. Gourmet kitchen with large island and a gazebo shaped eating area. The lower level is a perfect guest retreat with large family room, two guest suites with lower deck access and a bunk room with a half bath. Above the garage is a game room and extra storage. \$1.097.000 MLS #85801

LOT LISTING

1.36 Acres, buildable, flat wooded lot. Centrally located between Highlands and Cashiers. Great buy! \$69,900 MLS #85497



Spectacular in-town living with little to no maintenance! Quaint stream runs length of property. Beautiful stone fireplace, built-in entertainment center and harwood floors in living room. Master on main level with 2 guest rooms, full bath and sitting area on second floor. \$390,000 MLS #86329



3bd/2ba home with beautiful mountain view. Covered porch, hardwood floorsing, custom blinds and in-home water filtration system are just a few of the great features. Sylva area. \$224,900 MLS #85536

LOT LISTING

1.12 Acres in beautiful Highlands Falls CC. Privately located on cul-de-sac close to the gated club entrance. Mountain view available with some trimming. \$85,000 MLS #85359



Sitting on 4.26 acres and offering an amazing waterfall as well as views of both Satulah and Little Yellow Mountain, this beautiful 4bd/5ba home is sure to be your perfect mountain retreat. \$1.550,000 MLS #83796



3bd/3.5ba private sanctuary sits on 2.36 acres of enchanting scenery with a view that stretches over 40 miles. No detail was spared, hand made stairs leading up from the main living area to the mahogany doors and custom fixtures. \$1,375,000 MLS #85697

LOT LISTING

Amazing opportunity to build your custom home in the highly sought after Mirror Lake District! I acre homesite located at end of a payed cul-de-sac. \$150.000 MLS #85496



2bd/2ba condo in Highlands Falls CC with sweeping views of the 13th fairway. Vaulted ceilings and stone fireplace in greatroom, spacious kitchen and sunroom to enjoy the cool summer nights. \$260,000 MLS #85855

LOT LISTING

1.95 acre lot in Highlands Falls CC. Mountain ridge line views and plenty of privacy. Stream at bottom of property. \$75,000 MLS #84745



Talk about Old Highlands Charm!! Set back on a beautifully landscaped lot with terraced gardens, this 3bd/3ba home comes with additional lot and deeded land across the street with dock directly on Lake Sequoyah. \$599,000 MLS #85655



Nearly maintenance free living in beautiful community less than 3 miles to Main Street Highlands and close to Highlands Hospital. Light and bright one level 3bd/2ba with great floorplan. \$295,000 MLS #82103



Create your family homestead 3bd/2ba home on over 13 acres. Dormitory style 2nd floor that sleeps up to 6. Mountain views, creek and 3 springs on property. The possibilities for this land are endless. \$325,000 MLS #85474



Highlands Falls CC - Light, bright and airy condo in Chestnut Cove. Features 2bd/2ba on one level, Screened side porch and open deck. \$265,000 MLS #85656



Rustic log cabin on impeccable tree filled lot. Open concept kitchen flows into the living and dining rooms. Master suite on upper level, with an entertainment room on the lower level perfect for family gatherings. \$239,000 MLS #85897



Beautiful 3bd/2ba home in Broadview Acres with great rental history. Vaulted wood ceilings, stone fireplace, open floor plan and oversized deck and sunroom. Perfect family retreat or year round residence. Newly paved drive. \$370,000 MLS #85526



You'll love this 3bd/2ba spacious unit at Highlands Mountain Club. Enjoy the pool, tennis, and clubhouse and the great mountain view from the unit itself. It comes furnished and in great condition. Renovate or leave as is. \$229,000 MLS #82270



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SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING.



Self Esteem

Steve Kerhoulas Christ Church of the Valley, Cashiers

There could be more, but it seems to me we have three ways in which to feel good about ourselves. The first way is to rely upon others. Let's call this the outward way. We rely upon others and their perception of our looks and performance to feel good about ourselves. Appearance and doing a good job then becomes the driver in our lives.

Then there are those who look inward. These folks rely up on themselves and their own perceptions of their looks and performance to feel good about themselves. Let's call this the inward way. Competition and appearance become the driving force in our lives.

OK, so some of us look to others while others depend upon themselves in determining self worth and good feelings about themselves.

If this is true, and I think it is, we can then say our feelings about ourselves, our self-image, and worth is determined by our looks and performance. Right? Sure it is!

But what happens to us if we are not esteemed by others or if we are filled with self -doubt or loathing? What if we are not that great or good or attractive or liked? The impact on our personhood is huge. Which explains why the inwardly and outwardly focused are so angry at themselves, feel mistreated, misunderstood, and unattractive. If I am dependent upon myself, or others, to determine how I feel about me, the outcome can be tragic. And doesn't this explain why so many have all kinds of emotional issues? It does!

So what to do? Instead of looking outward or inward try looking upward. Who ever said having to choose between dependence upon others for our self-image or upon ourselves was wrong. There is a third way and it is much better. The Apostle Paul writes:

"I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me." 1 Cor. 4:3-4

What he is saying is I don't care what others think of me, I don't even care what I think of me, what I care about is what God thinks about me. Paul is saying there is a third way to live. One that refuses to let society or self dictate how we feel about ourselves. Through the gospel a third way is made available. A way that develops self-esteem not by "achieving" but by simply "receiving". The good news of the gospel is how God sees us. God loves us. God in Christ adores us with every fiber of his being. God looks at us, and smiles. Even when we are disobedient God's opinion of us never changes. Our approval rating is always 100%. When we accept the Son of God as our Lord and Savior we are "ACCEPTED." But this is not based on what we do. No! It is based upon what Jesus has done for us. We are accepted not because we perform well, but because of what he has done. Three ways to feel good about ourselves: inward, outward, or upward. Of them one is so much better. The upward!

John 3:16 **Proverbs 3:5**

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

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Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper at homes

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Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

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

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

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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; Ch. 5p

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Mondays: 8 a.m.:Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast Wednesdays: Choir:5:30p

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Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

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Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729 • Pastor Nathan Johnson Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p Wed. Kidsauest 6p.: Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street Sundays: Worship: LL

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center) Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45 a., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p. Wed: Supper: 5:15: youth, & adults activities: 6: Handbell rehearsal, 6:15: Choir Rehearsal 7, (nursery provided): 7pm Intercessory Prayer Ministry

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741 LutheranChurchoftheHolyFamily.yolasite.com

Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.: Worship/Communion: 10:30

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

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Mass: Sun: 11 a.m.: Sat. at 4p

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Rev. Marty Kilby

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Donald G. Bates • 526-3212 Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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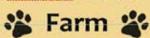
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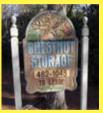
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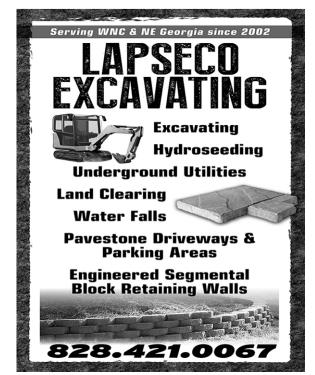
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SAT. AUG. 12 - Massive yard sale for residents of Macon, Jackson, and Rabun counties, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the grounds of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin. located at 85 Sierra Drive in Franklin. Ample parking will be available and volunteers will be on hand to direct you and to assist you in locating the sale items. For any additional information please call 510-544-9077. (st. 8/3)

HELPWANTED

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• See CLASSIFIED page 22



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VAC RENTALS & FOR ECLIPSE



VACATION RENTAL: In-town Highlands 3bd/3ba, walk-to-town condo. Book now! Available fall 2017 & 2018.\$2500 week includes housekeeping. https://www.vrbo.com/4473684ha more info at Chambers Agency 828-526-3717.

VIEW ECLIPSE FROM THE NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAINS while enjoying your own private suite. Wine and breakfast included, 828-526-3742. (st.

7/27)

LUXURY HOME AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL OVER THE ECLIPSE WEEK. Call Jody Lovell at 828-226-6303. Incredible view of Whiteside Mountain and Whiteside Valley. Sits over Bear Shadow. Open view for eclipse. (st. 7/27)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

WALK TO TOWN! Mill Creek townhome - 2 bdrs., 2 baths, 2 car garage, new kitchen appliances, stone fireplace, front porch overlooks large yard.\$419,900 - call 828-482-0326 to view. (st. 7/6)



FALLING WATERS. Gated community, beautiful mountain land. Just 2.4 miles from Main St. Cottage lot with small waterfall \$159K. Premium waterfall (above pix) \$439k. Other lots \$169k to \$259k. From Main St. and Hwy 106, turn west on 106. Go 1.8 miles just past Glen Falls sign... turn right on Mt. Laurel Dr., go 3/10 mile, turn left on Moonlight. Entrance is on the right. Contact onsite developer for plats and info. 828-508-9952. fallingwatersnc. com (st. 5/11)

1.21 ACRES FOR SALE BY OWNER - OTTO, NC - \$28,000. Lot 12 Quail Haven Road. Otto, NC. Price not firm...open for negotiation. Please email if interested to ddmarsh 15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. If no answer please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

WANTED

VENDORS WANTED [Arts & Crafts, Tools & Household items] for the Scaly Mountain Summer Fest, August 12, 2017. Space rental \$20. For more information please contact Grace Crouch 850-251-7355 (8/10)

CONTESTANTS WANTED for the Scaly Mountain Summer Fest Men's Chili Cook-off, August 12, 2017. Entry fee \$10. Please Contact Grace Crouch at 850-251-7355 for more information. (8/10)

CONTESTANTS WANTED for the Adult and Junior Scarecrow Contest at the Scaly Mountain Summer Fest, Aug. 12, Scarecrows will be used in the Scaly Mountain Community fall decorations. Contact Grace Crouch at 850-251-7355. (8/10)

...INVESTING continued from page 16

etc. anything that could be affected by harsh winds and temperatures.

Clean out your outdoor kitchens and grills before storing them for the winter.

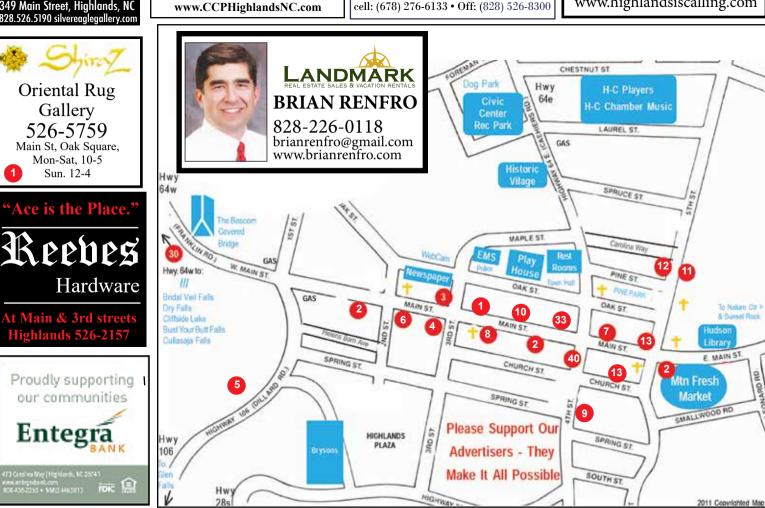
OK, now that you've considered these things to be done, sit back down and relax and enjoy August, just don't forget to make those calls. • Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are owners of Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals at 401 N. Fifth Street in Highlands. The homeowners they serve can relax a little longer because all of the above can be taken care of for them. 828-526-3717 jeannie@highlandsiscalling.com www.highlandsiscalling.com















MEMBER

828 200-6742

Cell:

AndreaGabbard @gmail.com



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