

# Highlands Newspaper

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Volume 14, Number 23

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Thurs., June 8, 2017

## New Highlands Planning Director to start June 26

The search for a Highlands Planning & Development Director/Code Enforcement Officer is over.

This week Town Manager Josh Ward announced that Andrew Bowen has been hired –

replacing Randy Feierabend who held the position full-time for one year and part-time for six months. His salary is \$57,000 plus benefits.

He was Maggie Valley's Planning Director for the past three years. Before working in Maggie

Valley, Bowen worked 1 ½ years as an intern with the Jackson County Planning Department.

Bowen, 27, is a native of Haywood County and hails from Waynesville where he lives with his wife Laura, their 2 ½ year-old

daughter and their family dog. They will be adding a son to the mix – any day now.

"The perfect nuclear family – a girl, a boy and a dog," said Bowen. "You can't ask for more of the

•See **DIRECTOR** page 11

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## NC budget negotiations begin with House, Senate and Governor

North Carolina leaders now have the first step in the budget process complete, with both the House and Senate approving \$22.9 billion budgets.

Now, with both the House and Senate approving their versions of the budget, the two-year spending plan is in the negotiation stage. The two chambers will negotiate portions of the bill before sending it to Governor Roy Cooper for approval.

Gov. Cooper has already spoken out against the budgets approved by the General Assembly, calling for more spending measures across the state. Governor Cooper said his administration plans to be part of the budget discussions that are taking place this week between the House and Senate. He also encouraged the public

•See **NEGOTIATIONS** page 11



Golf course superintendent of Highlands Country Club Brian Stiehler who also serves on the board of the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association and Secretary of Commerce Anthony Copeland.

## Area golf courses are more than just 'playgrounds'

Golf's significant contribution to the state's economy was front and center with legislators at North Carolina Golf Day in

Raleigh recently. Golf industry representatives described how the game contributes close to

•See **GOLF** page 16



The Prince House is home to the Highlands Historical Society, and the centerpiece of the historical park on N. 4th St.

## Prince House joins bevy of 65 National Register sites in Highlands

By Ran Shaffner  
Highlands Historian

The Elizabeth Wright Prince House, which is the oldest house in Highlands and home to the Highlands Historical Society, has

been placed by the U.S. Department of the Interior on the National Register of Historical Places.

Highlands is noted for having 65 sites on the National Register,

•See **PRINCE HOUSE** page 6

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

Our son was married this past weekend, and his bride is from Asheville. Sallie and I stayed at a hotel next to the Town Hall and the park.

When in another town, I put on my mayor's hat and take a tour to determine what the other municipality is doing. While walking around I ask myself how does Highlands compare, and can I learn something new?

I walked through Asheville's Pack Square Park next to its big and beautiful Town Hall. Like our Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park, the park is next to the business district. Both parks are urban, community parks on public property. Big Asheville and little Highlands operate municipal parks with similar rules.

Now the big difference between the two towns is the scale. The Asheville Town Hall is about a hundred times larger than the Highlands' Town Hall. The same can be said for the size of the park. We have a rather compact park, while Asheville's park is much larger to accommodate larger populations.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

But the features in both parks are practically the same. Each park has a stage for concerts. Both parks have fountains including an interactive water feature for children. Each park has grass areas and handicap accessible walkways. There are benches and tables in both parks, as well as art work and historical monuments that capture community history. Pack Square has a moving veteran memorial. While not in our park, we, too, have a veterans memorial on town property. Streets traverse both parks.

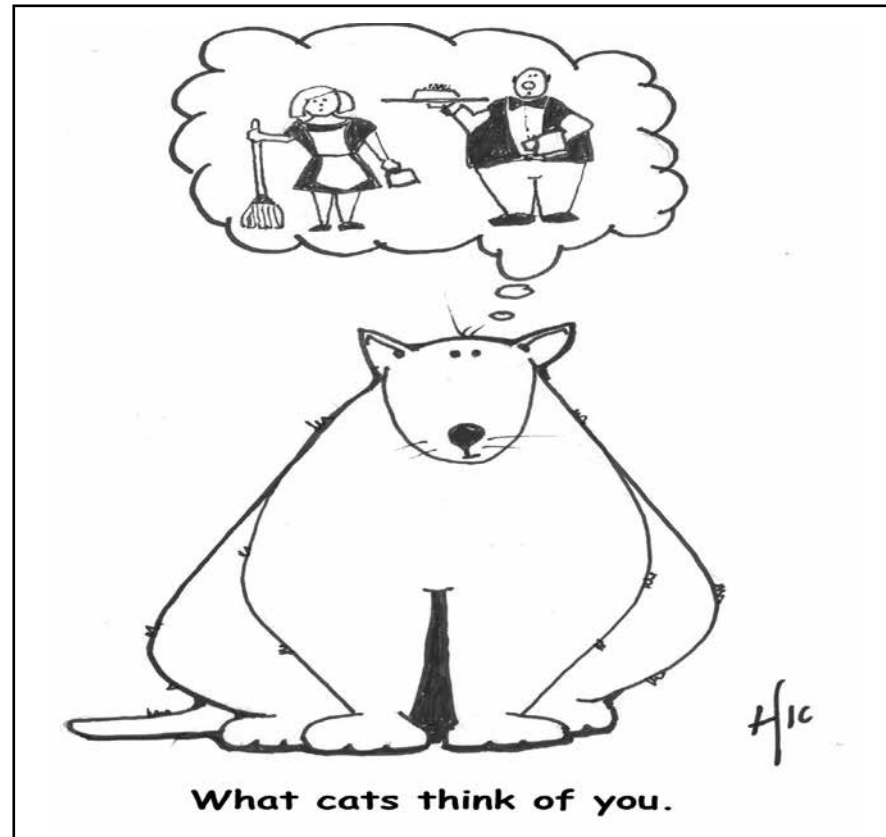
Let me share with you some of the rules that both parks have. No skateboarding, panhandling or smoking are permitted in the parks. Also, dogs must be on a leash and owners are required to cleanup all pet waste. Dogs are not allowed in the fountains.

The Asheville park does not allow alcohol consumption in the park without approval and a permit. I know some folks believe our Town Board is too strict with the same policy in Founders Park. Like Asheville, our park is on public property and the state requires municipalities to follow policies congruent with state alcohol regulations. Informal gatherings involving alcohol on public property are not permitted in this "alcohol control" state. Some states have laxer laws where even recreational marijuana consumption is on the verge of being permitted in designated public spaces, but not North Carolina. Drugs or illegal substances are banned in Pack Square and Founders Park.

There are two rules in Pack Square that I would like to see Highlands consider. Camping and bathing in the fountains are not allowed in Pack Square. While this is not a problem for us now, having those rules in place will allow police to enforce them if and when an incident occurs.

Hope to see everyone at the Low Country Shrimp Boil to benefit Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park on June 17. Tickets are available at the Highlands Chamber, the Dry Sink, or at [www.foundersparkhighlands.org](http://www.foundersparkhighlands.org). There will be good food, adult beverages and great music.

## • HIC'S VIEW



## • CELEBRATION OF LIFE •

### Juan Perez

There will be a visitation and memorial service at First Baptist Church Highlands, for Juan Perez, who died May 6, 2017 on Saturday, June 24. The family will be accepting visitors at the church from 10-11 a.m. The memorial service will begin at 11 a.m.

The family asks that donations be made to First Baptist Church Highlands.

## • WEEKEND WEATHER •

| FRIDAY<br>JUN 9 | SATURDAY<br>JUN 10 | SUNDAY<br>JUN 11 |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
|                 |                    |                  |
| 71°/48°         | 73°/49°            | 77°/55°          |

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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.



# • OBITUARIES •

## William Henry Cheney

William Henry Cheney, Sr. 87, of Highlands, NC and Palm Beach, FL passed away Sunday, June 4, 2017 in Palm Beach. He was born in Columbus, GA to Foster Cheney and Lucy Sheridan Cheney. He was married to Eleanor McCarty Cheney who preceded him in death on October 14, 2014.

Mr. Cheney was a real estate developer and was a veteran of the U. S. Air Force serving during the Korean Conflict. He loved fishing, golf and painting.

Survivors include two daughters, Margaret Cheney Knox of Newnan, GA and Eleanor Frances Cheney of Palm



Beach, FL; one son, William Henry "Will" Cheney, Jr. of Sarasota, FL; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, Mr. Cheney was preceded in death by a grandson, James Gilliam Cheatham, Jr. and a brother, John Foster Cheney.

A graveside service will be held Friday, June 9, 2017 at 2 pm at Highlands Memo-

rial Park.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Cheney family. On-line condolences may be made at [bryant-grantfuneralhome.com](http://bryant-grantfuneralhome.com).

## James Earl Speed

James Earl Speed, age 64, of Clayton, passed away on June 5, 2017. His family surrounded him as he went to be with the Lord.

James was a devout Christian, and served the Lord as a deacon of the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. He taught Sunday school for over thirty-five years, and shared his love of God through his music and in song. James enjoyed the outdoors, and enjoyed hunting and fishing, as well as farming.

In his professional life, he worked as a landscaper for thirty-five years. His family was also very important to him, and his love for his wife, children and grandchildren was apparent in all that he did.

Preceding James in death were his father, John Pick Speed; one brother, Donny Ray Speed; and son-in-law, Marty Ramey.

His survivors include his mother, Mary Grace Cobb Speed; his wife, Ruth Gail Patterson Speed; one son, Richard Pick Speed (Joy), of Easley, S.C.; one daughter, Martha Ramey, of Clayton; two brothers, Johnny and Michael Speed, both of Clayton; two sisters, Debbie Page and Judy O'Shields, both of Clayton; three grandchildren, Jolie Ramey, Gavin Ramey and John Pick Speed.

The family will receive friends on Thursday June 8, 2017 at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church from 6 – 8 pm.

A funeral service will be held on Friday June 9, 2017 at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church at 1 pm with Rev. Mickey Woods and Rev. Raymond Page officiating. Interment will follow the service in the church cemetery.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Sid Weber Memorial Cancer Fund P.O. Box 485 Rabun Gap, GA 30568

Beck Funeral Home, in Clayton, Georgia, is in charge of the arrangements. If there are any questions, please call 706-782-9599. An online Memorial Register Book is available at [www.beckfuneralhome.com](http://www.beckfuneralhome.com).

## Sandra Jean Travis Collier

Sandra Jean Travis Collier of Highlands passed away on Sunday, June 4, 2017. She was 83.

Born February 20, 1934 in Lookout Mountain, TN, she is the daughter of the late Mary Bettys Travis and Guy Otis Travis and the sister of Mary Dale Travis Busche and Guy Otis Travis, Jr., both deceased.

Sandra was a member of the first graduating class of the Harpeth Hall School in Nashville, Tennessee and was recently honored with her fellow students from the inaugural 1952 senior class. She graduated magna cum laude from Vanderbilt University's School of Nursing and was president of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

•See OBITUARIES page 8

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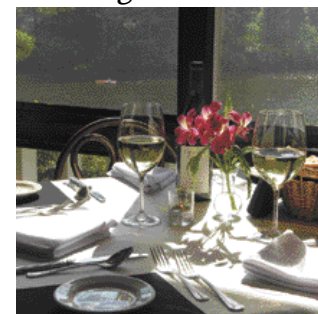


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### THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

#### APPETIZERS

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#### Obazda

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#### ENTREES

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# • LETTERS •

## There are enemies on the left, too

Dear Editor:

I write in response to Kim Bonsteel's June 1 letter entitled "The Trump Doctrine and the way people drive" in which he exercises ecstatic outrage at the Red State blog's characterization of Trump's response to the Left's condemnation of his conversation with the Russian Ambassador. The statement to which Mr. Bonsteel took such violent exception, "I Did It, I'm Glad, Screw You." was the Red State blog's characterization of that response, not Trump's own words.

The Left had complained that Trump disclosed "classified information" to the Russians. In fact, Trump told the Russians about a new Jihadi approach to blowing up airplanes – a matter in which Russia and the US have common concerns. It therefore served our national security interest to alert Russia to the new approach, in order that the two countries might cooperate in developing countermeasures.

For that reason Trump, quite properly, defended the exchange. Mr. Bonsteel apparently subscribes to the view that "Cet animal est très méchant, Quand on l'attaque il se defend. "This animal is dangerous: it defends itself."

In the course of the entirely appropriate conversation with the Russian Ambassador, Trump did not disclose the source of that information (apparently, Israeli intelligence). No, that information was disclosed by leftist operatives inside the US Intelligence Community, who leaked the conversation to the media. Trump's opponents in the Intelligence Community and the Media are so eager to destroy Trump that they do not mind revealing sources and methods of intelligence, thereby endangering our national security, so long as they can, momentarily, damage Trump.

Mr. Bonsteel's concern for vehicular safety aside, one wonders why he does not pay any – let alone equal – attention to leftist disclosure of sensitive information, assaults on free speech, violent attacks on Trump supporters, and Leftist calls for Trump's assassination. But then, Mr. Bonsteel, who describes himself on his Twitter page as a "long-time progressive" apparently believes in the old progressive maxim "No Enemies on The Left." Pity.

John M. Capron  
Highlands

## Academic Auction raises \$7,900

Dear Editor,

On behalf of all public school students and teachers of Macon County, the Academic Foundation would like to offer a huge THANK YOU to all Highlands businesses and residents that helped make this year's Academic Auction a resounding success! Everyone that donated their goods and services helped raise over \$7,900 that will go directly towards field trips and classroom projects in our public schools. If you would like to learn more about the Macon County Academic Foundation, please email [brian.aulisio@macon.k12.nc.us](mailto:brian.aulisio@macon.k12.nc.us) anytime.

Brian Aulisio

Academic Foundation Highlands Representative

## ...PRINCE HOUSE from page 1

59 of which are in three districts and four in the business district.

The Prince House has joined two individual houses in Highlands which are more difficult to nominate because they have to qualify on their own merits and can't ride on the merits of a district. It took 14 years to complete a process that began in 2003, when the Prince House was first proposed for recognition by the National Register.

Being placed on the National Register does not impose any significant restrictions on a house. Instead, the honor is regarded as a recognition that the house is worthy of preservation for its historic value to its community, its state, and the nation. The Prince House has met all the criteria necessary to qualify for the National Register, and the Highlands Historical Society is honored by its acceptance.

A bronze National Register plaque is being installed at the front entrance to the house



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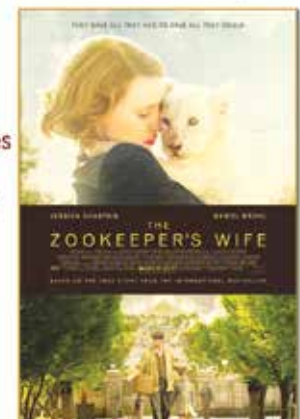
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The Playhouse shows first run movies throughout the year. Of course, we have to adjust our schedule once the live productions begin in the summer. To help you know when movies will play, here is a schedule of showtimes. There is, however, no set list of movie titles... the movie companies do not decide which movies we will get until the week prior to showtimes. As always, you can check our website at [HighlandsPlayhouse.org](http://HighlandsPlayhouse.org) for information on upcoming movies or sign up online for our weekly newsletter.

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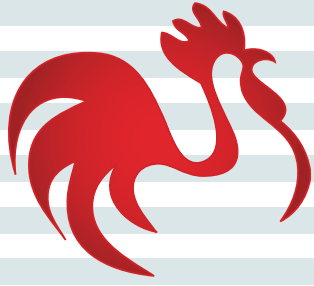


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# • INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

## Zillow: Love/Hate Relationship with Brokers

A few weeks ago, I was frustrated with viewing Zestimates (Zillow's on-line estimate) of properties on the Plateau. Many "Zestimates" were 50% less than the properties had previously sold for or were assessed for tax purposes. I read the formulae that Zillow uses and

was befuddled that they could be so vague and subjective yet portray the Zestimate as a thoughtful appraisal.

Lo and behold, other property owners were angry as well. A group of Chicago home builders filed a class action suit last week against the real estate marketing

company Zillow, whose at-your-fingertips property-value approximations are misleading home buyers with lowball figures that roil sellers, according to the suit (and me).

The class action claims that Zillow's overall practice of posting estimates without homeowner consent is in violation of state statutes that govern appraisals calling Zestimates "illegal appraisals." Zillow claims that if you read the fine print it states that this is an automated valuation, not an appraisal. Further, the formula states:

We use proprietary automated valuation models that apply advanced algorithms to analyze our data to identify relationships within a specific geographic area, between this home-related data and actual sales prices. Home characteristics, such as square footage, location or the number of bathrooms, are given different weights according to their influence on home sale prices in each specific geography over a specific period of time, resulting in a set of valuation rules, or models that are applied to generate each home's Zestimate.

It certainly seems to me that no company should be able to use a formulae



**Jody Lovell**  
**Owner Highlands-Sothebys**  
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across the country without knowing an area or actually seeing the individual properties. Some prospects interested in purchasing a home may forego seeing a home by comparing the Zestimate to the list price thinking that a listing is overpriced. I do hope that the class action suit gains traction and succeeds to eradicate Zestimates entirely.

On the other hand, Zillow just sent me a buyer this morning who

was notified by their automated system that one of my listings matched their criteria for a new home. Thus, exposure for my listings is appreciated but slandering my listings with low-ball Zestimates is loathed and resented. Isn't that called a Love/Hate relationship??

Jody and Wood Lovell own Highlands Sotheby's International Realty, the top producing firm in Highlands for the last three years per the Highlands-Cashiers MLS with three locations in Highlands, Cashiers and at the gate of Cullasaja Club. With 26 brokers, they are ready to serve all of your real estate needs. Call them today at 526-4104 or 526-8300 for a consultation.

## ...OBITUARIES continued from page 3

Sandra was married to the late Joe Carter Collier, Jr. He served as a paratrooper with the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army and graduated with an engineering degree from Tennessee Tech University. Mr. Collier was senior vice president with Florida Power & Light Company and CEO of Central Maine Power.

Sandra had a multi-faceted career as a registered nurse, teacher, real estate broker and homemaker. Adventurous, extroverted and curious, she was an avid nature lover and intrepid traveler. She visited over 25 different countries and developed lasting friendships with persons from a variety of diverse cultures and backgrounds from around the world. She had a passion for the people of Africa and worked with individu-

als and families as a public health nurse in rural villages. One of her beloved families in Kenya named their child "Sandy" in her honor.

Sandra is survived by daughters Mary Alice Collier Collins, Carolyn Dale Collier and son Joe Carter Collier, III. She has eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

A family graveside service will be held Sunday at 1 p.m. at Riverside Memorial Park in Jupiter, Florida where she will be laid to rest next to her husband. Arrangements are handled by Aycock Riverside Funeral and Cremation Center in Jupiter, Florida.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of local arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

## MOVING SALE

**Saturday, June 10 • 9am-3 pm**

**308 Crescent Trail Cullasaja Club**

**(East on Cashiers Rd, approx. 6 mi from downtown Highlands)**

**Downsized – quality furniture, rugs, beds (all sizes),**

**linens, lamps, artwork, outdoor furniture, grills,**

**billiards table, grandfather clock, nursery items & more!**

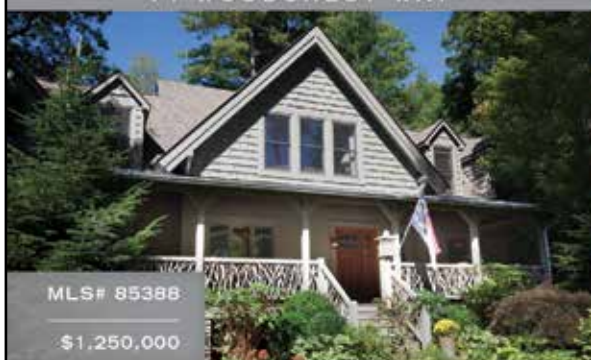
**Picture gallery available at [estatesale.com](http://estatesale.com)**

**Text 828-200-0361 with questions.**

## OPEN HOUSE IN-TOWN HIGHLANDS

**Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:00am–1:00pm**

71 WOODCREST WAY



MLS# 85388

\$1,250,000



### WELCOME HIGHLANDS MOTORING FESTIVAL FANS AND DRIVERS!

Living in downtown Highlands has never been more comfortable or convenient than this "close-to-town" 4BR/4BA luxury mountain getaway, which boasts 4 full master suites, large & lofted open living areas with a Chef's kitchen, outdoor environments galore, a double lot, and furnished to the 9's (furnishings are negotiable). You'll LOVE visiting this property!

**So as you're "motoring around" this weekend, c'mon by for a pimento cheese sandwich, a homemade oatmeal bar, and an ice cold Arnold Palmer.**

**Directions:** From Main Street/Dillard Road stoplight, proceed 0.5 mile to Woodcrest Subdivision; turn right up the hill; second home on right is 71 Woodcrest Way.



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**PROPERTIES**

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**PAT GLEESON**  
**828.782.0472**





Great location in Chestnut Hill in this 3br/2ba with a level lot, private cul-de-sac location. Rocking chair front porch plus a screened porch. Landscape care done by HOA. \$290,000. MLS #82769



**BIG BUCK LODGE** is truly a grand estate. This private and serene property consists of 35 wooded acres that backs up into the National Forest. Exceptional quality and care was taken while building this one of a kind estate with the grandeur of a formal home. Pamper yourself in luxury. MLS# 85171 \$2,995,000



Great 2br/2ba recent remodel of historic barn with Mill Creek bordering the land. Hay loft is now a huge master ensuite. Private well with some of the best water on the mountain. Wide plank flooring, original locust posts and beams, new insulation, new roof, upper deck looks at creek. MLS# 82974 \$284,900



Updated 2 bedroom log cabin with exceptional long range mountain views on over 10 acres. Drive to the top and see a wonderful flat building site with even better long range views. Property is on the Atlanta side and minutes from downtown Highlands. MLS#84525 \$700,000



Renovated 3 bedroom, 2 bath immaculate home in Highlands Falls Country Club. Cathedral ceilings, new carpet, wood flooring, granite counter tops, new appliances, updated baths, fireplace and 2 car garage. \$399,000. MLS #85031



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



Close to town 3br/2ba home with some mountain view. Master, living room and kitchen on main are bright and cheery and bring the outside in with a solid wall of glass. Downstairs guest rooms & family room with wood stove. Adjacent lot available. MLS# 82336 \$299,000



Architecturally unique home with a great lake setting on Cold Springs. 3/3 main house plus a two car garage with apartment above. Adjoins a conservation easement so you can enjoy the peace and serenity of the lake while maintaining privacy. MLS #79848 \$997,000



Authentic log cabin with rustic interior and modern appliances. Custom cherry-wood kitchen counters. End of the road privacy and quiet on 9 acres of lush wooded land. This 3/2 cabin is located off Buck Knob Road in Scaly Mountain. MLS#84143 \$599,500



Constructed from a barn from Pennsylvania, this 5br/5.5ba home in exclusive Highgate is the epitome of a mountain home. Beautifully landscaped, large covered decks w/fireplace and an amazing guest cabin with everything you need! \$2,175,000. MLS #85692



Live in the safe and quiet community of Teague Estates in an immaculate 3br/2ba home! Enjoy the mountain views and sounds of Buck Creek from the oversized back deck. Half way between Highlands and Franklin with easy access to both towns. MLS #84749 \$227,000



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



Own a family retreat - in the north Ga mountains, in the city of Sky Valley. Great investment opportunity. This rustic, mountain styled 3 bedroom main home offers wooden floors and beams & large wood-burning stone fireplace. Separate 2 car garage, 2 bedroom guest home. MLS#84770 \$195,000



16-acre estate with stream and view. An adorable 2br/2ba cottage with den. Sit on the deck and enjoy the view and the forest. Walk the many trails on the property to your heart's content. Keep as one tract or subdivide. MLS# 84135 \$279,000



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



This fantastic 2br/2.5ba charming cottage in Trillium Links and Lake Club is light and bright and includes 3 outdoor sitting areas. Open floor plan and beautiful wood floors on the main level...lives comfortably. \$242,000. MLS #84503



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**LOW COUNTRY SHRIMP BOIL**  
to benefit  
**Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park**

*Help us maintain our beautiful park!  
Don't miss this inclusive community event. Tickets sold out early last year so reserve your spots today!*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH**

**Drink sales begin at 5 O'CLOCK**  
\$5 Wine & Beer Tickets Available at the Plaza

**Dinner & Drinks 6 - 8 O'CLOCK**  
\$55 Ticket includes tasty Low Country Boil Dinner, Dessert and Two Drink  
Tickets Available at The Dry Sink, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust office, Highlands Chamber of Commerce or  
[www.foundersparkhighlands.org](http://www.foundersparkhighlands.org)

On the Plaza, Oak & Pine Streets, Highlands, NC  
Enjoy live music from Goldie & The Screammers  
-one of Asheville's top 5 favorite bands-  
Hosted by Friends of Founders Park  
a 501c3 organization

# • THE INK PEN •

## River Cruise



**Kathy Manos Penn**

Last year for the first time, we went on a European river cruise. We've taken several bike and barge trips over the years, one in the Netherlands and two in France, and one biking/sailing trip to the Greek Islands. A river cruise was a new experience for us. Not only did we not bicycle, but we got to sleep in a decent size bed and shower in a bathroom with an actual separate shower. On a barge, you shut the door to the bathroom and pick up a handheld shower head for luxury bathing.

We traveled the Danube, so true to form, I researched books set in the area and created a reading list. I always like to prepare for a trip by reading novels set in the cities we're visiting. Oh, I read a travel book or two about Prague, Vienna and Budapest, but novels seem to bring the cities to life for me. I read three Viennese mysteries, two set in 1899 and another in 1934. I read a modern novel about expats in Budapest in the '90s who wish they were in Prague and a

mystery that takes place in 1936. A "Da Vinci Code" type mystery in modern-day Prague and a WWII-era novel about the final days of the German regime set the stage for our stay there. Once I'd covered all three major cities, I felt like I was ready.

We've planned trips via the internet in the past, and they've worked out fine, but all that planning takes time. This trip, we were fortunate to be able to work with a local travel agent to plan our travel. She advised us to spend a few

extra nights in Prague, where we landed before traveling to Nuremberg to embark on the cruise. She booked the cruise, airfare, and Prague hotel, so we were never overwhelmed. She also helped us select several Prague tours.

We had visited the Habsburg Exhibit at the High Museum in January, and that helped get us in the spirit. Like most folks, I was familiar with Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination led to WWI, but wasn't familiar with the extent of the Habsburg dynasty. For example, I had no idea Marie Antoinette was a Habsburg.

While cruise attire was described as comfy and casual, I enjoyed being able to dress a bit nicer than we have on our barge trips. I also was not nearly as exhausted as I am on our cycling trips and better able to enjoy the leisurely evenings. Not that our days were spent lying around; no, we enjoyed walking tours almost daily in the port cities on the Dan-

•See PENN page 16

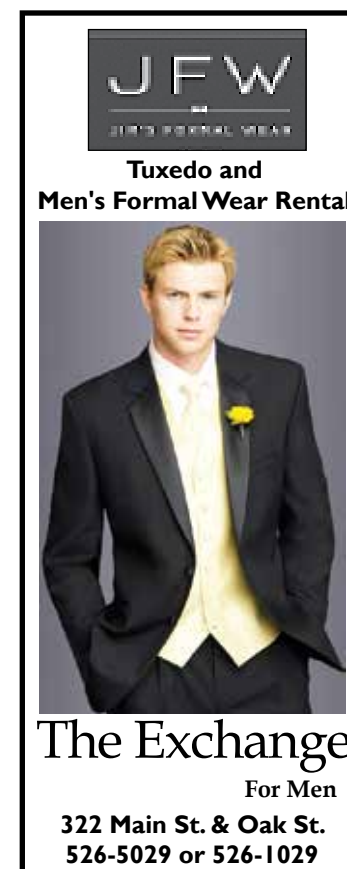


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## ...DIRECTOR continued from page 1

American dream than that!"

The family is house-hunting in Highlands where they will be relocating as soon as possible.

Bowen attended Western Carolina University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Business Administration, followed by a Masters in Public Affairs. He has also recently obtained the North Carolina Certified Zoning Official status by completing coursework and exam at the UNC School of Government in Chapel Hill.

Town Manager Josh Ward first met Bowen at a NC League of Municipalities meeting which Bowen attended with the Maggie Valley Town Manager.

"I thought he'd be a good fit then but didn't want to try to lure him away. Then he called to ask if the position was still open in Highlands," said Ward. "We are excited to have Andrew working for the Town of Highlands. We feel with him being from the area and his experience with working in a tourist driven, resort town in Western North Carolina, High-



Andrew Bowen

lands will be a natural fit."

In addition, due to his work in the nearby area, he has numerous contacts at the regional and state level that will assist him with his position here in Highlands, said Ward.

Bowen said he and his wife had been looking for a place to relocate and still be close to Waynesville so Highlands was a great opportunity.

He said there are similarities

between Highlands and Maggie Valley.

"They are both tourist towns and both have a large second-home community and they both want to be the best place to visit when you come to Western North Carolina," he said.

He said obviously there will be challenges.

"It's a different town, and there is a lot to learn – the ins and outs of the UDO and getting to know the community, which is my favorite part," he said.

Interestingly, he and his Planning Board wrote Maggie Valley's first Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) using Highlands' UDO as what Maggie Valley should pursue in the future.

"Highlands has a very impressive environment which isn't like other neighboring towns, which is in part due to its zoning regulations," said Bowen. "It's necessary to build a business area that is cohesive with the natural environment and you can see that in Highlands."

Bowen begins work for the Town of Highlands on June 26.

– Kim Lewicki

## ...NEGOTIATIONS continued from page 1

to put pressure on lawmakers to adopt a final budget that is more progressive than either of the legislature's current proposals.

"The House and Senate budgets shortchange our state at a time when we don't have to," Cooper said during a news conference. "We need a budget that has vision. We need a budget that is planning for years down the road."

The N.C. House voted 80-31 to approve its budget proposal shortly after midnight last Thursday. Representative Kevin Corbin noted the vote was made after midnight because by statute it has to be the next calendar day after discussions, which took place throughout the day on Wednesday. As a freshman member of the House, Rep. Corbin is proud of his first budget.

While the House and Senate are currently debating the specifics of the budget, one thing that is likely to remain unchanged is how much will be spent. The two chambers had previously agreed

on a \$22.9 billion budget, which represents a 2.5 percent increase based on population growth and inflation in the state.

Under the House plan, mid-career teachers would see the greatest salary increase, with teachers at all experience levels getting a raise under the proposed salary chart. Starting pay for teachers would increase from \$35,000 to \$35,300, and teachers with more than 25 years of experience would get a 0.6 percent raise of \$300. The average teacher raise is 3.3 percent.

The senate's budget isn't as generous for teachers or state employees. The Senate budget calls for teachers to get a pay raise averaging 3.7 percent, while other state employees seeing smaller raises: \$750 or 1.5 percent of their salary, whichever is greater. Under the House plan, state employees would receive a \$1,000 salary increase beginning in July, with another \$1,000 raise coming the following year. State retirees would get a 1.6 percent cost-of-living increase that

would apply for one year only.

Under the Senate's teacher salary proposal, starting pay would remain at \$35,000 and teachers with 25 years experience or more would not get a raise at all. The biggest raises – up to 4.8 percent – would go to teachers with nine to 14 years of experience, similar to the House's proposal. Teachers with one to three years and 20 to 24 years experience would see the smallest raises of less than 2 percent.

The Senate's provision includes working that would identify new teachers with a high grade-point average or test scores to be eligible for a higher starting salary.

The House's budget creates a retention bonus of up to \$5,000 for teachers with 27 years of experience or more, if they agree to teach for an additional two years.

"We are continuing to invest in good quality teachers by rewarding them for their invaluable contribution to education in

•See NEGOTIATIONS page 18

## Ribbon cutting officially opens Mountain Findings warehouse



Mountain Findings Furniture & Rug Warehouse at 432 Spruce Street is now open. Both Mountain Findings buildings are open Mon.-Sat., 10a to 4p Memorial Day to Oct 31. Since 1969 this ALL volunteer enterprise donates most of its proceeds from sales back to the community. Throughout the 45+ year operation of Mountain Findings \$1,766,400 has been given to area nonprofits. Household items and furniture are accepted throughout the year. Now with two buildings, more volunteers are needed. Please call 526-9929.

# VOGUE

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Ongoing

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

• 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.

## 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 non-native invasive species from your garden and the surrounding forest.

**Mondays, 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](http://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. & 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 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.occupy-wnc.org](http://www.occupy-wnc.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.

## 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 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

## Fridays

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

## Fridays & Saturdays

• Art's at the Lodge. Live Music 4-8 p.m.. 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.

• At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.

• Scrabble at Hudson Library from 1-4 p.m. Bring board if possible. All are welcome.

• 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!

## Thurs., 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](http://www.clehighlands.com).

• Highlands Plateau Audubon Society. Birding in Panthertown Valley with Brent Martin, Southern Appalachian Regional Director with The Wilderness Society. Meet at 7 AM at the Cashiers Rec Center. Bring water & your camera. Long uphill walk on return leg will be taken slowly!

• The Bascom's Collective Spirits Private Home Wine Dinners at 6 p.m. Call 828-526-4949.

## 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](http://www.clehighlands.com)

• The Bascom's Collective Spirits Beer, wine and spirits Market. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Call 828-526-4949.

## Sat., June 10

• At the Nature Center, World Oceans Day - All Ages • 11:30 am - 4:30 pm • Free. Find out more about how the ocean affects us and what we can do to protect it! For info, call 526-2221.

• At The Bascom. Collective Spirits Lively Gala with cocktails, dinner and dancing to "Class Act." For tickets call 828-526-4949 or visit the website at [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3.5-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail, elevation change 700 ft., from the Tellico Gap to Wesser Bald Lookout Tower. Meet at Huddle House in Sylva NC at 8:30 a.m., drive 65 miles round trip. Hikers from Franklin can meet at Lost Bridge Hwy. 28 N. Call leader Jody Burtner, 828-788-2985, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

## Sat. & Sun., June 10-11

• Free Mozart's "Coronation Mass" Concert at the Church of the Incarnation Episcopal Church at 4 p.m. Performing are the Western NC Singers with Grat L. Rosazza, Artistic Director and Conductor.

## Sun., June 11

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will

## HCP auditions are Sunday, June 11

Auditions for HCP's production of the romantic comedy "Crossing Delancey" will be held Sunday, June 11, 3 p.m. at Highlands Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. Scripts are available to read in the Highlands and Cashiers libraries. Performance dates are August 24-27 and August 31-Sept. 3.

The play, directed by Dr. Ronnie Spilton, has a cast of three women and two men.

**The women:** Isabelle, a single modern young woman, 20s to 30s, Bubbie, her grandmother, a feisty, sharp-witted woman, 70s to 80s, Hannah, 40s to 60s, a professional matchmaker.

**The men:** Tyler, in his 40s, a writer, charming, self-involved, and Sam, 30s to 40s, in the pickle business, appealing, intuitive, very wise for his years.

**The plot:** Grandma thinks Isabelle should be married, employs the services of her friend Hannah, the matchmaker, to come up with some candidates other than Tyler with whom Isabelle is smitten. Sam is suggested, but Isabelle doesn't like the idea of a pickle vendor who lives on the "wrong side" of Delancey Street in NYC. When she finally gets acquainted with Sam, however, romance blossoms.



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

hike to several waterfalls in SC off Hwy. 107 for 4-miles of easy hiking with little elevation gain. Meet at Cashiers Recreation Park at 2 pm, drive 60 miles round trip. Call leader Robin Lurie, 954-632-7270, for reservations. Visitors, children, and dogs are welcome.

## Mon., June 12

- The Battle of Sugartown Chapter of the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), will hold its monthly meeting at 11:30a in the Boiler Room Restaurant at 1024 Georgia Road in Franklin. All DAR members and prospective members are welcome.

- Center for Life Enrichment Opening Party, 5-7 Beverages and Light Hors d'oeuvres. Please RSVP 526-8811. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

## Mon. & Tue., June 12-13

- Build Your Own Garden Trough (2 Day Class: Mon. 10:00-4:00, Tue. 2:00-4:00) Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Mary Guy Gunn. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com.

- The Bascom's Collective Spirits Gala. Cocktails, dinner and dancing. Call 828-526-4949.

## Tue.-Fri., Jun 13-16

- At The Bascom, Summer Camp: Session 1 - 9a-noon and 1-4p. This first session is FREE! Kids will explore drawing, painting, and other methods of making art in a lively creative environment. Space is limited so please register today. To register call 526-4949.

- Citizen Scientists. Highlands Nature Center • 828-526-2623. Ages 9 - 10 • 9 am - 1 pm daily. Cost \$110 per child. This camp will focus on citizen science projects, where citizens help out scientists by collecting data. Bring your curiosity and investigation skills and prepare to science!

## Tue., June 13

- Highlands Plateau Audubon Society The Charlotte Raptor Rehab Center presents "Birds of the World" at 7 PM at the Highlands Biological Station at 265 N 6th Street.

- Bugs Among Us, 10a-1noon. Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Kefyn M. Cately. To Register Call 526-8811

## Wed., June 14

- Lakeside Cooking Demonstration and Lunch, 11:30-2:00 Cost \$65/\$75. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

- Who are the Mexicans? 2-4p Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Angélica Lozano-Alonso. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

## Thur. & Fri., June 15-16

- Build Your Own Garden Trough (2 Day Class: Thur. 10a-4p, Fri. 2:00-4:00) Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Mary Guy Gunn. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

## Thur., June 15

- Apple Music, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

## Fri., June 16

- Decision Making Through Instinctive Thinking, 10a-noon. Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Hunter R. Hughes. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

## Sat., June 17

- Annual Reese Family Reunion at the Rec Park from 10 to 2p.

- Meet Highlands Newspaper columnist Kathy Penn at her booksigning of Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday at The Molly Grace at Oak and N. 4th streets in Highlands from 11am - 2 pm..

- Birding with Brock Hutchins to Jones Gap and Turtle Pond Rd. Meet at Founders Park in Highlands at 7:30 AM. Moderate amount of easy hiking; loaner binoculars available.

- Low Country Shrimp Boil to benefit K-H Founders Park. Drink sales begin at 5p.m. \$5 wine and beer tickets available at the plaza. Dinner & Drinks 6-8 p.m. \$55 ticket includes Low Country Boil Dinner, dessert and two drink tickets. Dinner tickets are available at The Dry Sink, the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust office and the Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous hike to

• See EVENTS page 14

## Who Are the Mexicans?

Presented at the Center for Life Enrichment by Angélica Lozano-Alonso

With views on immigration being a hot topic in the headlines these days, this will be one of those lectures you will not want to miss! Octavio Paz, one of Mexico's Nobel laureates, once wrote that Mexicans and Americans had a hard time understanding one another because Americans didn't know how to listen and Mexicans didn't know how to speak up. Join us on Wednesday, June 14, Time: 2-4 p.m. for the lecture "Who are the Mexicans?" as Dr. Lozano-Alonso looks at some of the foundational socio-cultural patterns in Mexico and explores them, in part, through references to Mexican literature as well as spending some time discussing contemporary Mexican identity and Mexican Americans in the U.S. today.

Mexican-Americans are Americans who are of full or partial Mexican descent. The United States is home to the second-largest Mexican community in the world, second only to Mexico itself, and comprising more than 24% of the entire Mexican-origin population of the world. As of July 2015, Mexican-Americans made up 11.1% of the United States' population, as 35.8 million U.S. residents identified as being of full or partial Mexican ancestry. The United States and Mexico have one of the most dynamic love-hate relationships of any two neighboring nations in the world, especially as the United States becomes increasing Latino in its demographic composition.

Presenter Angélica Lozano-Alonso received her Ph.D. from Cornell University in Hispanic Studies in 2001. She is Associate Professor of Spanish at Furman University and specializes in Latin American literature, with an emphasis on Mexican literature and Latino literature. She will answer questions during her presentation such as "Who are the Mexicans?" "How do they see themselves?" "What, if anything, distinguishes Mexican culture from Anglo-American culture in the United States?"

The U.S. Mexico relationship is on a slippery slope these days, so please plan on joining us at the CLE Lecture Hall to learn more about the history behind these two neighboring nations. The CLE Lecture Hall is located in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center. Students are able to attend all \$25 lectures for FREE. Members \$25, nonmembers \$35. For more information on this lecture or CLE please call 526-8811 or visit www.clehighlands.com.

## H-C Chamber Music Festival begins

The 36th annual Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival will open with its first special program of the season, Enoch Arden: A Melodrama.

Held Sunday, June 25th at 3 P.M. at the Bardo Performing Arts Center at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, it will be performed by George Brown, Dean of Western's College of Fine and Performing Arts, and Festival Artistic Director and classical pianist, William Ransom

Enoch Arden was written in 1864 by Alfred, Lord Tennyson during his tenure as England's Poet Laureate and in 1887 Richard Strauss set the narrative poem to music. It is the tale of an impoverished fisherman who, trying to provide for his family, leaves his wife and three children and becomes a merchant sailor. Arden suffers many hardships but does, eventually, return home.

The Bardo Arts Center, a destination for the arts in Western North Carolina, is home to an elegant 1,000-seat performance hall, and provides an acoustically and visually superb setting for Brown and Ransom as they perform, Enoch Arden: A Melodrama.



William Ransom



George Brown

The festival continues with the first in its regular concert series June 30. As in previous years, Friday and Sunday concerts will be held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street and Saturday and Monday concerts are held at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library. Tickets may be purchased for the entire series or for individual concerts.

Along with the regular season concert series, the festival will include other special programs along with Feasts and Salons. This season audiences will be entertained at Buck's in Highlands and Cashiers, Chestnut Hill in Highlands, Camp Merriewood in Cashiers, and the Highlands Presbyterian Church for the Family Concert and Ice Cream Social as well as the Interlude Concert. The two Bucks concerts and the Church concerts are open to the public. Chestnut Hill, the Family Concert, and the Interlude Concert are sponsored by the Cullasaja Women's Outreach.

For tickets and more information on the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival visit them online at h-cmusicfestival.org or call (828) 526-9060.

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# • HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

Water Rock Knob from the Blue Ridge parkway.. Meet in the Bi-Lo parking lot in Franklin at 9 am ,drive 78 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations.

**Mon. & Wed. June 19, 21, 26, 28**

• At The Bascom, Beginning Drawing Workshop, 1-4 Cost \$95/\$110 Instructor: Freddie Flynt.To Register Call 526-8811 or [www.clehighlands.com](http://www.clehighlands.com)

**Tue.-Fri., Jun 20-23**

• At The Bascom, Summer Camp: Session 2 – Drawing. 9a-noon and 1-4p. Start your summer by practicing an important skill for all creative exploration. Students will explore the many methods and materials for drawing.To register call 526-4949.

• Eco-Trekkers: Round 1 Highlands Nature Center • 828-526-2623.Ages 11 - 14 • 9 am - 4 pm daily • Cost \$150 per child. Campers will travel off-campus to explore the wonder and beauty of the Blue Ridge through all-day hikes.

**Tue., June 20**

• Birds & Beer (or wine or tea) at the Ugly Dog in Highlands. Spirited discussion

of birds and birding starting at 5:30 PM and continuing with sandwiches and other pub grub.

• SIRI, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith.To Register Call 526-8811 or [www.clehighlands.com](http://www.clehighlands.com)

**Wed., June 21**

• The Inimitable Winston Churchill, 2:00-4:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Dr. Elliott Engel. To Register Call 526-8811 or [www.clehighlands.com](http://www.clehighlands.com)

**Thur., June 22**

• iPad PRO, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or [www.clehighlands.com](http://www.clehighlands.com)

• The Carter Presidency, 2:00-4:00 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Joseph Crespino.To Register Call 526-8811 or [www.clehighlands.com](http://www.clehighlands.com)

• At the Nature Center, Feelin' Froggy! - 6 - Adult • 8:30 pm – 9:30 pm • \$3.Advanced registration is required as space is limited. Please bring a flashlight. For info, call 526-2221

## Peter Pan Live via Satellite at PAC Children are FREE



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will present the National Theatre of London's production (Live via Satellite) of Peter Pan on Saturday, June 10 at 1pm.All children, except one, grow up...JM Barrie's much-loved tale.When Peter Pan, leader of the Lost Boys, loses his shadow, headstrong Wendy helps him to reattach it. In return, she is invited to Neverland, where Tinker Bell the fairy, Tiger Lily and the vengeful Captain Hook await. A riot of magic, music and make-believe ensues.A delight for children and adults alike, Sally Cookson (NT Live: Jane Eyre) directs this wondrously inventive production.All children under age 18 are welcome FREE of charge, when accompanied by an adult. No tickets are needed for children.Adult tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands



# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**The Highlands Police log entries from May 10. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

## May 10

• At 1:30 p.m., officers responded to a call from Highlands School where someone was doing "donuts" in the bus parking lot near the new gym.

## May 19

• At 6:45 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east.

## May 24

• At 11:25 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 106.

• At noon, officers responded to a call about vandalism on the Riverwalk Drive Entry gate on US 64 east.

## May 25

• At 7:30 a.m., officers received a call about a nuisance dog on Wingina Place.

## May 26

• At 9:50 p.m., officers received a call about a resident on Wingina Place playing loud music outside.

## June 1

• At noon, officers were called about dog biting a person at a residence on Cullasaja Drive.

## June 2

• At 9:08 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 106.

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from May 29.**

## May 29

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 east.

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Sequoyah Ridge.

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 east.

## May 30

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at Half Mile Farm.

• The dept. responded to fire alarm on Falcon Ridge.

• The dept. responded to brush fire on Windy Top.

## June 1

• The dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Brushy Face Road.

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

• The dept. responded to a miscellaneous fire on Lyman Zachary Road.

• The dept. responded to an illegal burn on US 64 east.

## June 2

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

## June 4

• The dept. was first-responders to a residence on NC 106.

## June 5

• The dept. was first-responders to a residence at Highlands Manor Court.

• The dept. was first-responders to a residence on Falcon Ridge.

• The dept. was first-responders to Main Street.

## Murphy earns 'Eagle Scout' title



On Saturday, May 27, Highlands Boy Scout Troop 207 held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for one of its newest Eagle Scouts, John Murphy.



## Comedian Wilkes speaks at Rotary

Rotarian Chris Wilkes thinks seriously about the business of comedy and his transition from NYC stand-up comedian to Highland Hiker retail impresario. On May 21<sup>st</sup> he spoke to the Rotary Club of Highlands about his career as a stand-up comic prior to coming home to Highlands. You can see Chris in action on July 1<sup>st</sup>, when he will MC a comedy show at Highlands' Performing Arts Center starring his friend and colleague comedian Keith Alberstadt. Tickets for this family friendly show are on sale now at PAC.

## Scouts remember those who served



Scouts from Pack 207, Troop 207, along with members of Highlands American Legion Post 370 and their family members placed 240 flags on the graves of Veterans at Highlands Cemetery in observance Of Memorial Day.



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## ...PENN continued from page 10

ube and shopping here and there, but nothing too strenuous.

Because our travel agent handled all of our plans, I indulged in stress-free anticipation

and focused on checking Danube weather forecasts and planning my wardrobe. We enjoyed our trip so much, we've booked one for this year. Look for news on that coming soon.

Find Kathy's book, "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the

Everyday," at The Molly Grace in Highlands, at Books Unlimited in Franklin, or on her website at [www.theinkpenn.com](http://www.theinkpenn.com). Contact her at [inkpenn119@gmail.com](mailto:inkpenn119@gmail.com) and join her at the Molly Grace on the corner of Oak and N. 4th Street in Highlands on June 17th from 11 am - 2 pm for a book signing.



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## ...GOLF continued from page 1

\$2.4 billion in economic impact in 2016, supports nearly 37,000 jobs and delivers almost \$435 million in federal, state, and local tax revenue.

Some of that economic bounty stems from a resurgence in new home construction at golf communities in the state. A report prepared by TEconomy Partners found that six communities – spread from the mountains to the coast – generated build-outs of more than 100 new homes last year. Several other golf communities also had significant new home activity as well.

"It's very gratifying to be able to deliver such positive news to key decision-makers on behalf of our industry," said Brian Stiehler, golf course superintendent from Highlands Country Club in Highlands, N.C. "Golf is so much more than a game. In addition to the economic impact, the game contributes to the social fabric of many communities and provides green space and habitat in urban areas."

North Carolina is home to 534 golf facilities (at least 10 in the Highlands-Cashiers area) which, in addition to driving residential demand, play a key role in the state's tourism economy. Major golf industry manufacturers such as John Deere and Golf Pride also have headquarters in the state. In August, golf will draw extensive international interest when Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte hosts the PGA Championship, which is

expected to generate upwards of \$100 million in economic impact.

The golf industry delegation met with Secretary of Commerce Anthony Copeland and Lieutenant Governor Dan Forest in separate sessions. They also delivered a series of presentations to a joint meeting of the House and Senate Commerce Committee. Senator Rick Gunn read a proclamation from Governor Roy Cooper designating "May 24, 2017, as Golf Day in North Carolina in appreciation of the golf industry's contribution to our state."

"This was my fourth visit for Golf Day and I believe legislators and their staff members are now very familiar with and grateful for the role the industry plays," said Stiehler, a certified golf course superintendent and master greenkeeper. He serves on the board of the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association. "They recognize us now when we walk in and it's amazing how much information they retain from year to year. We are being heard. It was a good day."

In addition to Stiehler, the golf industry delegation included representatives of the Carolinas Golf Assn., Carolinas Section of the PGA of America, Carolinas Chapter of the Club Managers Association of America, American Society of Golf Course Architects, NC Golf Course Owners Assn. and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

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**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.  
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**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  
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## ...NEGOTIATIONS continued from page 11

North Carolina," said Rep. Corbin. "This is the fourth consecutive year of teacher pay raises in North Carolina, but almost all state employees are getting a significant pay raise in this year's House budget as well."

In terms of education, the House budget fully funds K-12 enrollment growth, increases textbooks and digital materials funding by \$10.4 million in 2017-18.

"This House budget ensures we are spending appropriately to fund all our needs, continuing to raise salaries for teachers and state employees, setting aside billions in savings and cutting taxes for hard-working North Carolinians too," said Rep. Corbin.

The House budget would also eliminate the North Carolina Pre-K waitlist by 2018-19, increasing the number of Pre-K slots to approximately 29,300 in FY 2017-18 and 31,700 in FY 2018-19.

The House budget proposal also provides an additional \$150 million for disaster recovery, funding that supplements the \$200.9 million in funds provided by S.L. 2016-124 (Disaster Recovery Act) bringing the total State funding for Disaster Recovery to \$350.9 million. Both the governor

and the Senate also set aside recovery money for Hurricane Matthew victims – the Senate included \$150 million while Cooper had \$115 million – and for the state's "rainy day" reserve fund – \$363 million in the Senate plan compared with \$313 million in Cooper's.

The House budget also transfers an additional \$263 million to the Savings Reserve to bring the total held in the "rainy day fund" to \$1.82 billion, the largest balance in the Savings Reserve since its inception.

The House budget cuts taxes by increasing the standard deduction by \$1,000 for married filing jointly taxpayers and surviving spouses, by \$800 for heads of household, and by \$500 for single and married filing separately taxpayers.

The Senate rolled its so-called "Billion Dollar Middle-Class Tax Cut" plan into the budget, which was a focal point for the Senate. The Senate approved the legislation last month, calling for lowering the personal income tax rate from 5.499 percent to 5.35 percent in 2018 and the corporate tax rate from 3 percent to 2.5 percent by 2019. The plan also would expand the standard deduction and make changes to mortgage interest

deductions and child tax credits.

One point of contention in the budgets comes to proposed cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP — commonly referred to as food stamps. The senate's budget changes the provisions for the state's eligibility requirements for the federally funded program. The change wouldn't save the state any money, because its federal funds, but the change would mean an estimated 133,000 people in the state would lose access to the program.

Under current requirements in North Carolina, people can qualify for the program if they receive other government assistance benefits, such as disability payments – even if their income level is higher than the maximum income for food assistance. Known as "broad-based categorical eligibility," the same policy is used by 38 other states. For a three-person household, \$26,000 is the current maximum annual income to qualify for food assistance. But under the current

law, if that same household receives other types of government assistance, it could earn \$39,000 annually and still receive food assistance.

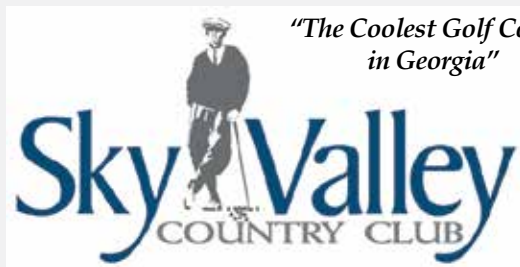
The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services released numbers on who would be impacted and said that 132,902 people across the state would lose food assistance if the change is in the final budget. Of those, 51,236 are age 18 or younger – and could therefore lose access to free and reduced-price school meals.

According to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, the Senate's proposal would mean 517 people in Macon County would lose benefits, 164 of which are under the age of 18.

The House did not include a budget provision that changes eligibility requirements for the federally funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP – commonly known as food stamps.

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# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Praying for Jerusalem's Peace



Father  
Jim Murphy  
Christ Anglican  
Church,  
Cashiers

At first blush, you may be tempted to think, "Why pray for Jerusalem's peace, we're hurting here with rank division and violence at every turn, we need peace right here in the good old USA!" And you would be correct. A thorough-going peace in our country is a prerequisite for order, civility, and truth. Peace is a scarce and precious state of being in 21st century America. Nevertheless, we are called by God in his Word to prioritize Israel's peace, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." (Psalm 122:8, ESV) Why?

There are three principal reasons to pray for Jerusalem's peace. The first reason is that our Creator-Father has chosen her for the place that his name would dwell forever. Jerusalem (a.k.a., Zion) is God's sovereignly chosen location, that is, the home-town for his name, (i.e., his character, his reputation, his peace,) to dwell. We pray for the peace of Jerusalem because he has chosen her and therefore calls us to our knees on behalf of her peace. King Solomon, in 2 Chronicles 6:6, announces the selection of the holy city to the nation of Israel assembled therein as his name's abode.

The second reason to pray for Zion's peace is that all of mankind benefits from Jerusalem enjoying peace. King Darius, the heretofore pagan ruler of Persia understood this principle, outlined in Psalm 122. Darius came to recognize Israel's God as the only true God. In Ezra chapter 6 he issued a decree that basically protected Zion's reestablishment and provided for Jerusalem's peace and tranquility. The Arab-King of Persia commanded all the world to take care of Zion because in taking care of her, the world was providing for their own peace.

Finally, the third reason that we are called upon to pray for Jerusalem's peace is because of he who is the Prince of Peace, spoken of in Isaiah 9:6. Jesus the Christ is the subject and fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. It is Jesus who is the epitome and embodiment of Peace. Indeed, he is the one and only grantor and guarantor of everlasting Peace. Every other type of peace pales in comparison to the thorough-going peace that only God himself brings. According to John 14, it's a peace that the world cannot give. Therefore, it makes sense to pray for

• See SPIRITUALLY page 21

## Proverbs 3:5

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Sun. 8:30a 1928 Prayer Book Service (no music); 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service

Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper at homes

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Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470

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

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 a.m.

Testimony Meeting: 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wed.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

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

Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

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Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School

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

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

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### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 am; Prayer Mtg 6:15 pm; Ch. 5p

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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526-3175 • fpcchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship: 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

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

Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

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

Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided); 7pm

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

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Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;

Worship/Communion: 10:30

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8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Troy Nicholson, (828) 526-8425

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

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

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### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

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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 Jerry David Hall • 526-3212

Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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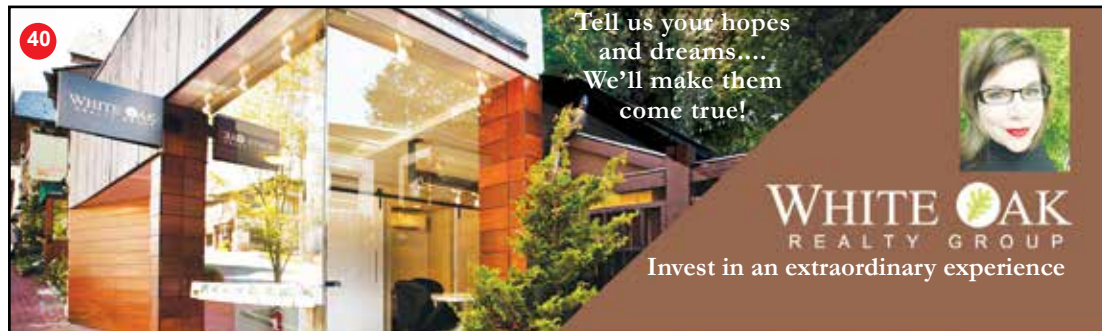
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