

Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., Nov. 9, 2017



ABC Store beneficiaries line up

By law, each year ABC Liquor Store profits are disbursed to area nonprofits. Disbursed this year was \$43,582.08 to the Town of Highlands general fund; \$2,315.84 to the Highlands Police Dept.; \$8,479.06 to the Highlands Rec Dept.; \$7,655.42 to the Highlands School Scholarship Fund; \$7,655.42 to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and two mandatory alcohol and rehabilitation disbursements of \$1,716.87 to the Highlands United Methodist Church Counseling Subsidiary Fund and \$2,575.31 to Counseling & Psychotherapy of Highlands. Recipient representatives are pictured with ABC Store manager Kevin Vinson and ABC Board members John Underwood, Chair Brenda Pierson and Leslie Cook. — Photo by Kim Lewicki

Oil leak on Greenway is contained

A police officer on patrol Sunday night, alerted the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department of a potential fuel oil leak on The Greenway road below the Old Jail.

By Monday morning, crews had assembled to assess and remedy the situation.

Representatives from Highlands Grading, which is demolishing the house on Maple Street, said they left the job the close of business Friday, but had evidently inadvertently ruptured the copper fuel line of the oil tank on the property.

Over the weekend, fuel oil leaked out of the tank whose

•See LEAK page 9

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In honor of our Veterans



Commander Ed MacCloskey, Vice Commander Bill Reese and Mayor Patrick Taylor of Highlands American Legion Post 370 are holding one of the new veterans bricks being installed at the Veterans Memorial Park. The inaugural Veterans brick dedication will take place on Veterans Day, Nov. 11 at 9 am at the Veterans Memorial in front of the Highlands Police Department. The public is urged to attend. Handicap parking is available and additional parking is in the public parking lot adjacent to Town Hall. On Nov. 9 at 4 p.m., in observance of Veterans Day, American Legion Post 370 is inviting the public to assist in placing flags on veteran's graves at Highlands Cemetery. Call Phil Potts at 828-200-9753 with any questions.

Results of the race that wasn't

Americans take the right to vote for granted, especially when there isn't much of a race.

Such was the case this past Highlands municipal election where the mayor and two commissioners on the ballot ran unopposed.

Of the 968 registered vot-

•See RACE page 12

Dodging wildlife in Highlands!



Wednesday Nov 1 about 5 p.m., traffic was backed up on US 64 just before Mirror Lake Road as motorists waited and waited for this bear to move along out of the way.

Photo by Susan McDavid

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

What it means to be a Veteran

When a person becomes a GI, aka Government Issue, he or she is issued a set of general military orders. As Veterans Day approaches and some 40 years later, I remember three of the most important general orders.

First, I recall that a GI is to stay on his or her post and never desert it until properly relieved. What this means for a GI is that one can't quit and go home, or go find another job. As a member of the military one is in service to the country, and this commitment is a higher calling than personal choice or preference.

Second, I remember the order that if captured by the enemy a GI should give only their name, rank, serial number and date of birth. In essence, a GI is not to cooperate nor give aid and support to the enemy. There are those GIs who have lived up to this order, like John McCain and his fellow POWs who endured years of misery, torture and confinement in service to this great country. We can never truly repay these acts of bravery and devotion.

And finally, I remember the general order that a GI is to obey the orders and direc-



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

tives of the Commander in Chief, the President of the United States, and his or her designated representatives. Simply put, the commander and his leaders can make a decision to deploy military personnel to any place in the world and for any purpose. Military personnel must comply.

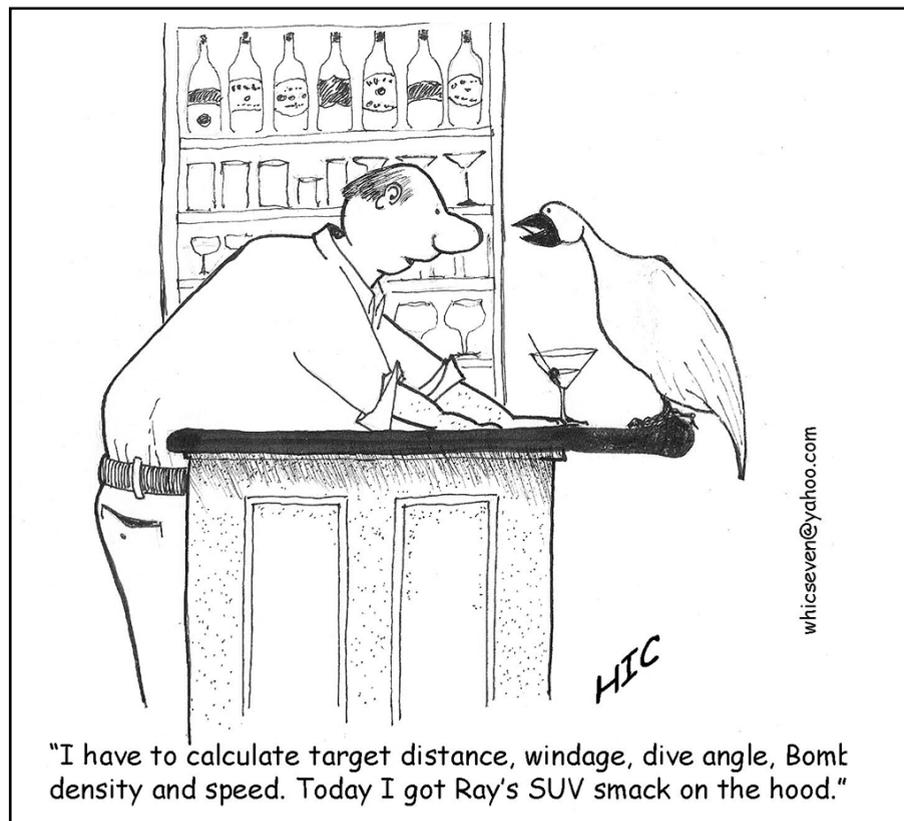
These three general orders are daunting, but that last one is in my view the essence of the meaning to serve in the military. Since the end of the Vietnam War, I have always hoped and prayed that our Commander in Chiefs, their advisors and generals would always make decisions involving military force that were in the absolutely essential interests of the nation. As a GI veteran, I know that the end result of such decision entails soldiers, sailors, airmen or marines going into harm's way. A GI can become the point of a deadly spear in an instant.

So, in celebrating Veterans Day I hope folks will take time to remember the service of our veterans. Whether a GI is a heroic metal recipient, or simply a person who faithfully did their duty, sometimes boring duty in a distant place, they all served America.

Many veterans, especially those who did multiple deployments in the Middle East, have had challenges in returning to civilian life. I want to especially salute these young veterans from both the regular and reserve services who have served in multiple over-

•See MAYOR page 19

• HIC'S VIEW



whicseven@yahoo.com

"I have to calculate target distance, windage, dive angle, Bomt density and speed. Today I got Ray's SUV smack on the hood."

• LETTERS •

Highlands needs to preserve its history

Dear Editor,

Two weeks ago Highlands lost another of its few remaining historic homes. While an offer was pending to move the house to another property at no expense by private contributions, an unfortunate combination of misunderstandings and neglect led to the the hasty and unnecessary demolition.

•See LETTERS page 6

Highlands Newspaper

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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.

• WEEKEND WEATHER •

	Friday 11/10		Saturday 11/11		Sunday 11/12	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	54 F	25 F	48 F	24 F	49 F	35 F
RealFeel SM	62 F	27 F	52 F	28 F	46 F	30 F
Winds	3 g 7	4 g 6	4 g 5	3 g 5	3 g 6	4 g 5
T-Storms	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	1%
Rainfall	0	0	0	0	0.12	0.1
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

• OBITUARY •

Dovie Moss McCall

Dovie Moss McCall of Highlands went to her heavenly home, Wednesday evening, November 1. She was 104. She was born in the Buck Creek community of Macon County, October 3, 1913 to the late Frank and Rosella Holland Moss.

Dovie was married to Rev. James Madison McCall who passed away in 1980. She was a housewife and worked as a housekeeper. Dovie enjoyed reading The Bible and ministering to her friends and neighbors in need. She spent her later years longing to be with her Lord.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her siblings, Homer Moss, Gernell Moss, Alma Bolick, Sybil Bradley, and Arvina Hedden; one son, James Shirley McCall; and one granddaughter, Mary Ann Clayton.



Survivors include two daughters, Christine Wilson of Highlands, Margie Houston of Mount Holly, NC, and one son, Richard (Freda) McCall of Highlands; three grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held Friday, November 10, 2017 at 2 pm in the chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory with Rev. Scotty Patrick officiating. Burial will follow the service in Sugarfork Cemetery. The family will receive friends Friday from 1 - 2 pm prior to the service at the funeral home.

Online condolences are available at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the McCall family.

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COMING SOON

Wonder Nov 17th - 21st

...LETTERS from page 2

Why the haste? there was no plan for construction at the site until next year.

Highlands has been fortunate to have had generous families in the past and support for civic organizations, but this is a bad example for the future.

If another opportunity comes again, Highlands should learn a lesson and should do better. We can do better.

**Richard Melvin
Highlands**

Poop Commissioner Needed

Dear Editor,

I never cease to be amazed at what comes from the lips of an authority figure. To wit, the recent complaint about "poop" in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park.

Piled-higher-and-deeper is a sight that I've not seen in the park. Taking away the courtesy bags is not the answer. Dogs will not understand the need to hold it. Most dog owners treat their pets for fleas and parasites. Has anyone reported an itch problem?

Perhaps the way to deal with Commissioner Dotson's concern is to buy a microscope for him. If specimens are found, he can use his high school biology experience to make slides, view tape from park cameras and track down dogs that leave worms. Which by the way don't originate in dogs. Spores that grow into worms that infest dogs are part of our environment. These spores are typically found in grass. They'll set up shop in children as easy as they do in dogs or cats.

Would Dotson require a once-a-month wormer for our kids? Under Dotson's guidance, the commission could be proactive.

Here are a few suggestions: ban organic vegetables, grown in poop you know; set up roadblocks to stop those heading to Highlands with poop on their shoes; monitor KHP bathrooms to keep people from tracking poop into the grass; and keep a close eye on squirrels, birds and bears.

If we all work together, we can help Commissioner Dotson clean up Highlands.

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Heroes Among Us, #2

Just in time for Veterans Day, I've once again had the privilege of interviewing a local WWII veteran. My husband arranged for me to sit down with Cecil Hannaford, a local VFW member. Born in Reid, Mississippi, Cecil was the youngest child of a cotton farmer.



Kathy Manos Penn

After high school as his friends were being drafted, Cecil enlisted in the Army Reserve. He explains that he fell

for the tale the recruiter spun: Enlist in the Army Reserve, finish college, tell us what you want to do, and we'll work it out. He felt pretty smart until, four months later, when he was called up to Camp Shelby, MS in the infantry. From there, he headed to Fort McClellan, AL before shipping off to England in August 1944. He jokes that at least he got his payday sooner than his fellow soldiers because he'd enlisted earlier.

You're probably figuring out that Cecil has quite the sense of humor. Perhaps that's what sustained him during his service.

He crossed the English Channel after D-Day, was sick like most everyone else, and quickly realized the seriousness of his situation when he saw a French hillside covered with crosses. Just as Cecil thought, things soon got serious.

In the Battle of the Bulge, his regiment had been sheltering in buildings in Heinerscheid before his platoon was ordered to set up a roadblock at a nearby crossroads. They dug foxholes in the snow and ice, where for two days, they watched German tanks go by on the main highway. Cecil's theory is that after the war, the Germans used parts of those same tanks to build Volkswagens to sell to Americans. Again, that sense of humor comes through.

The troops left in the village were all but wiped out when the Germans came through, but Cecil's group escaped unscathed. Eventually, his platoon joined the 116th Infantry division. Just before Christmas, walking up a hillside, they were ordered to dig foxholes in the frozen ground. With only a six inch deep foxhole hacked out of the ice, both he and his foxhole buddy somehow dove in and escaped fire as German tanks rumbled through.

With a smile, Cecil described opening his one can of beans for dinner: "If you've never eaten beans frozen with ice, you're missing something?" When he painted the picture of how he got frostbite, though,

there was no hint of a smile. Ordered to take the highest hill overlooking the Rhine, the men removed their shoes and donned white capes and white rubber boots. Walking through two feet of snow in rubber boots that didn't breathe led to frostbitten feet.

Most of the casualties on that hillside came from shelling. Cecil and many others were untouched by shells or bullets, but instead suffered from frostbite; and many, like Cecil, were evacuated to England for treatment. Cecil received his Purple Heart for his frostbite, an injury which bothers him to this day.

His unit was preparing to deploy to Japan when the war ended. After the war, Cecil spent 23 years in the Air Force Reserve and enjoyed a long career in the life insurance and pension industry.

What did Cecil take away from his WWII and Air Force Reserve experience? What's his message? "Service; everyone needs to get out there and serve. Our country needs us, and service is how we stay strong."

To hear Cecil and other veterans tell their stories, visit Witness to War, <http://www.witnesstowar.org/home>, whose mission is to preserve the oral histories of combat veterans.

• Find Kathy's new book "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" and 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.



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•HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CONCEPTS•

Big Questions Answered: What's The Big Deal About Bone Broth? Part 1

If the latest articles about bone broth being America's newest health craze have left you bewildered as to why people are paying up to \$10 for a cup of watered down soup stock, you may have figured out that your don't have the whole story- and you are right! For starters, contrary to what you may have heard, bone broth is not the same as what we call "stock," and certainly not the same as bouillon cubes or paste!

There are several differences between "stock" and bone broth, the biggest difference being the Quality of all the ingredients used, followed by amount of time that the bones cook, and the use of a natural acid that releases the nutrients from the bones.

And the reason for these differences is its purpose.

Although related through human history, today's modern

soup stock is a mere shadow of the nutrient-rich bone broths of our ancestors, and is now made for one purpose and one purpose only - and that is to add flavor to soups, sauces and gravies, and as quickly as possible at that.

Those jumping on the current bone broth trend, however, have a desire that completely transcends that of merely flavor or taste - their desire is for better health. And they are willing to give up their morning cup of coffee or afternoon latte to simply feel better. Cooked with quality organic ingredients and with seasoned with health condiments like Celtic Sea Salt's Seaweed Seasoning or Organic Ground Pepper, today's bone broth is both nourishing and delicious.

Today, thousands of people are seeking out bone broth because it provides the easily absorbable nourishment that we as modern humans are not getting from our highly processed and toxic food

supply. Our current day agribusiness and food manufacturing practices have created the perfect storm of mineral deficiency and toxicity in the majority of Americans. A combination of mineral depleted soils that grow our conventional produce, the over-abundance and over-consumption of highly addictive refined carbohydrates and synthetic packaged foods, and the over-use of antibiotics have left too many children and adults in this country suffering with what is known as "leaky gut syndrome". Leaky gut refers to an inflammatory response in the intestines that can result in a wide range of symptoms, including but not limited to gluten-intolerance, food allergies, hormonal imbalances, au-



Medea Galligan
MS Nutrition, CHHC, AADP

to-immune diseases, irritable bowel syndrome and Crone's disease.

Bone broth is a traditional food that our ancestors made for centuries and revered both as food and medicine. Culinary traditions from around the world were born from people using both

animals and plants in their natural and organic state, foods that were completely free any synthetic hormones, antibiotics, petroleum-based fertilizers, toxic pesticides or herbicides. And without the non-stop demand of a modern world, our ancestors had the time to cook foods that maximized both their natural flavors and healing benefits. Travel to the remote villages of any country in the world today and you will find they have a traditional broth or soup made from locally available foods, and the indigenous people will most likely swear to its health-giving properties. As Hippocrates, the Father of Modern Medicine was quoted to have said "Let Food Be Thy Medicine, and Medicine Be Thy Food".

In a modern society that is all about speed and taste, however, soup stock that chefs are

taught to make can take as little as 4 hours to make and is usually highly seasoned. There is no requirement that the bones be from animals that are raised in a healthy environment, and so conventional "stock" will contain the hormones and antibiotics that factory raised animals are treated with. Since there are no GMO labeling laws, the animals may have been fed GMO corn, soy or wheat, and the chicken, beef or pork bones used to make the stock may be from genetically-modified animals. Conventional, non-organic vegetables and herbs that have been raised with chemical fertilizers and pesticides are then added to the pot for flavor. Stock is then usually seasoned with refined table salt (sodium chloride) which is devoid of all essential minerals, and may contain even contain harmful additives like MSG, modified corn starch, hydrogenated oils or even "natural" flavors and colors. After the stock cooks for as little as 4 hours, it is cooled, and the naturally occurring fats are removed based on the erroneous assumption that naturally occurring animal fats are bad for the human body- something our ancestors would have never done!

See PART 2 in the Nov. 16 edition



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...LEAK continued from page 1



Absorption pads lined the gullies along both sides of The Greenway roadbed to sop up the red fuel oil.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

valve, crews later learned, had been left open. Though the valve was open, over the years the fuel stayed contained in the tank and in the line because the fuel line to the house was intact.

The valve was buried about six inches underground, but once located by Highlands Grading it was closed to prevent any further leakage. By the time the valve was closed, two inches of fuel remained in the 250-gallon tank. How much was in the tank initially, and how much leaked out is unknown.

What is known is that the fuel seeped through the ground and traveled to the road below the property using the underlying rock as a conduit.

Once it hit the road, it filled the gullies alongside the roadbed travelling the slope of the road. Luckily, according to all ac-

counts, the fuel remained in the gullies and on the roadbed and has not gotten into Mill Creek. Water contamination isn't feared at this time.

As required by law, the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department notified Macon County Fire Marshal/Inspector Jimmy Teem who in turn called the state's Department of Water Quality (NC DEQ).

In addition, Mountain Environmental Services from Canton, NC, was called to assess and monitor the cleanup efforts.

Members of NC DEQ and Mountain Environmental Services were on scene Monday morning to monitor the cleanup. Both said Highlands Grading was doing a good job and the fuel oil had not gotten into Mill Creek. They said it was likely that the ground was saturated due to heavy rains

•See LEAK page 10

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Boys advance to round 3 of Playoffs



Pablo Jimenez commandeers the ball at Friday's playoff game.



High school boys' soccer played in the second round of state on Friday, November 3rd. They played Hayesville and finished with a 4-0 win to advance to third round of state playoffs. Yesterday, Wednesday, November 8th they played at Starmount High School for round three. The score was not available by press time.

...LEAK continued from page 9

the week before which helped contain the fuel oil to the road bed.

Prior to the arrival of NC DEQ and Mountain Environmental Services, Highlands Grading lined the gullies that ran red with fuel oil with thick absorption pads and then began digging up and removing all contaminated soil on the 100-200 ft. swath of road running along Mill Creek.

Mountain Environmental Services will transport the contaminated dirt to a Subtitle Landfill that accepts dirt contaminated with fuel – either in North Carolina or South Carolina.

Fire Chief Ryan Gearhart said people will still see fuel oil coming out and over the exposed rock directly below the house since that's where the fuel is leaking, but they don't need to be alarmed.

"Absorption pads placed at the point of egress are being changed at least twice a day and dirt barriers have been put in place to catch any oil the pads don't absorb," he said.

Since it's not known how much fuel oil was in the tank to begin with, it's likely the seeping of the oil will last for quite some

time, said Gearhart.

During Tuesday's heavy rains, Mountain Environmental Services was on scene monitoring

the project because during heavy rain events, changing the absorption pads twice a day will likely not be enough.

– Kim Lewicki



Contaminated dirt will be taken to a Subtitle Landfill for disposal. Absorption pads will be replaced at least twice a day at the point of egress.

Photo by Kim Lewicki



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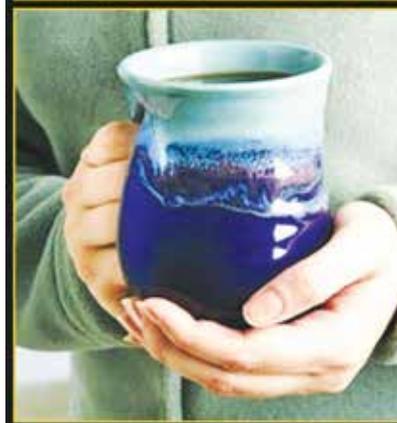
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...RACE continued from page 1

ers in the Town of Highlands, only 79 cast a ballot for a mayoral candidate and four of those were write-ins.

In the commissioner race, 72 voted for one candidate and 71 for another with a total of six write-in votes.

With 75 votes, Mayor Pat Taylor will serve for another four years; as will both Commissioners Amy Patterson and Donnie Calloway with 72 and 71 votes, respectively. Six people wrote in commissioner candidates.

To be qualified write-ins (not Mickey Mouse) they have to be registered to vote, and live inside the city or town limits and only then would they be counted and posted.

Once the canvass is completed, the write-in candidates will be identified on Friday, Nov. 17, if they were eligible to be considered candidates in the first place.

About half – 36 – of those who voted in the Highlands municipal election voted during One-Stop early voting – an option that began in Highlands about three years ago.

In the Franklin municipal election, Mayor Bob Scott ran unopposed and garnered 236 votes. There were 49 write-ins.

The incumbent Franklin commissioners on the ballot retained their seats. Barbara McRae got 236 votes and the late Billy Mashburn got 137 votes.

Candidate David Culpepper got 217.

There were seven write-ins.

Though Billy Mashburn died before the election, his name remained on the ballot, and since he won his seat, the seat will be declared vacant, and the Franklin Town Council will appoint someone to fill the seat. That person will have to run again in the next Municipal Election.

– Kim Lewicki

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Some things haven't changed. Location, location, location has always been the determining factor in real estate values. Highlands is uniquely situated amongst one of the most beautiful and majestic lands in God's creation. The climate remains ideal for those wanting to escape the summer heat. Our community continually offers a rare combination of down-home comforts, with a flair



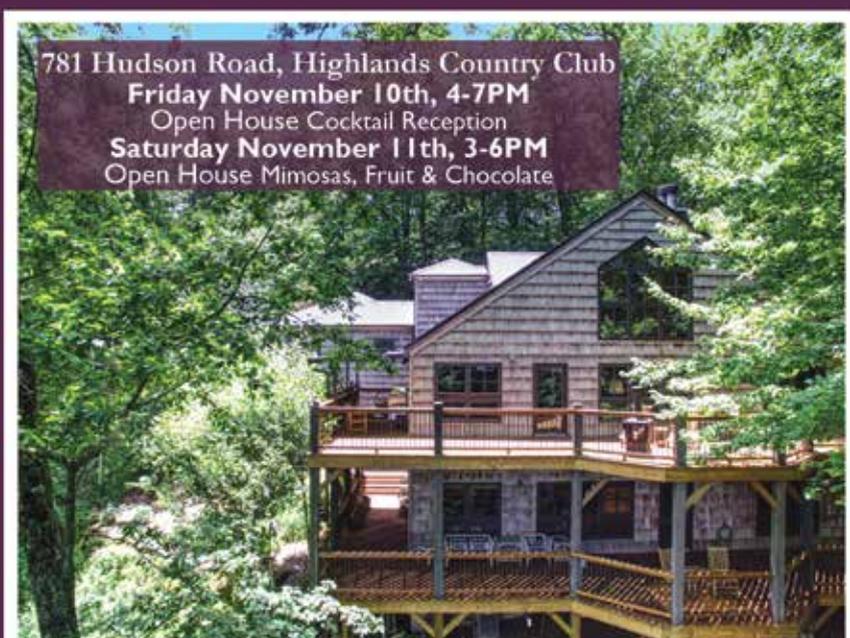
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for the refined. These are some of the many reasons why there will always be people flocking to our area. This is also why residents chose the Highlands plateau for their second or permanent homes as far back as the late 1800's.

Let's look at another consistent factor. Real property is a limited, absolute commodity in which location determines its value. Economists tell us that the real estate industry drives the economy. Real property is the only commodity that is no longer being made and is not going anywhere. It has remained dependable that investment portfolios with a basis in

real estate have the most stability and opportunity for growth.

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Pristine one-level home with long distance mountain views. 4BR/3BA home with oversized two car garage features high end fixtures and superb craftsmanship. Great open floor plan, kitchen with granite and stainless steel, hard wood flooring and vaulted ceilings. Situated in Sky Valley Country Club, enjoy all the amenities with an optional membership! \$565,500 MLS #87175



Under Contract

This is a must see 4bd/4ba meticulously maintained home located on a cul-de-sac with nice views in Highlands Falls CC. Possibility of 2 separate living areas including 2 decks. Wood floors, tile baths, cathedral ceilings, and jacuzzi tubs add to the desirability of this great property. \$525,000 MLS #85453



One level living in a quiet, well maintained neighborhood. Move-in ready 3bd/2.5ba. This home would be a great year round home or rental property. Located between Highlands and Cashiers. \$285,000 MLS #85477



6 BR/5.5 BA custom home. Wormy Maple cabinets and granite in the kitchen with eating area, vaulted ceilings, Brazilian Cherry wood floors, amazing outdoor living space and more. \$1,095,000 MLS #87182

LOT LISTING

1.36 acre wooded lot with multiple easy-build home sites. Community water & roads. Located between Highlands and Cashiers. \$69,900 MLS #85497



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3bd/3ba farmhouse on 4.74 acres is a must see property. Enjoy country living in privacy. Additional "Pond House" set on Golden Pond made from old barn wood is perfect for entertaining guests. \$349,900 MLS #84081



Under Contract

Walk to all that downtown Highlands has to offer from this lovingly renovated 3br/3ba Highlands Manor condo. Vaulted ceilings and stone fireplace in the main living area. Updates to the kitchen include granite and stainless steel. The spacious deck is a perfect spot for relaxing in the private wooded setting. \$449,000 MLS #86768



Located in one of the oldest, most prestigious neighborhoods in Highlands, this 3 BR/5BA home is the perfect family retreat! Views for miles and miles and a nice level lot with plenty of area for the little ones to run. Living room, kitchen and main level master open to the large screened porch. \$1,450,945 MLS #83836

LOT LISTING

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Under Contract

Newly Priced! Bright, light, open floorplan makes this home live large. 3bd/3ba one level home with soaring ceilings and stone fireplace in greatroom that opens to large screened porch. Open kitchen plan, master suite with soaking tub and 2 guest suites complete this great home in gated community. \$500,000 MLS #86438



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.SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING.**Sutherland Springs, TX: The Ancestry of Evil**

Rector: Jim Murph
Christ Anglican Church
Cashiers



One of the societal rages of recent years has been a growing interest in family histories. Ancestry information and other assorted “family tree” web sites have exploded in their popularity. Tens of millions of folks have paid a hefty price to have their DNA researched. All of this in an effort to find out where, in terms of parentage and country of origin, etc., did this or that individual come from. Why does this and such a person tend to look, sound, behave or think in the way that they do.

Not a few folks have been “bitten” by the ancestry bug. And that’s understandable. It can be useful information to have so as to predict or explain various traits or tendencies. However, what is surprising about the ancestry phenomenon is that we seem to resist going through a similar process when it comes to considering evil. In consideration of the most recent example of man-made violence, this past Sunday in Sutherland Springs, TX: why don’t we go deeper, looking into the ancestry of evil? Why do we prattle on about surface issues that may describe or perhaps affect the evil but do nothing to alleviate it or solve it?

We’re quick to blame guns or broken homes or inadequate education or associations with sordid people-groups or whatever combination or additional contributing factors there might be. But all of this is done while we mindlessly fail to consider the origin of evil. Why do we consistently neglect the ancestry of evil: the evil heart of mankind? God lays it out plainly in his Word. We see it played out daily in our lives. Why do we occupy ourselves with pronouncements and condemnations while dancing around the problem of evil with no real hope of getting to the heart of it and or eliminating it?

Evil entered Creation when Adam and Eve, on behalf of us all, committed the Original sin. It didn’t take long for evil to take control. Genesis 6:5 teaches, “Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” (NKJV) Every intent and thought! Continually! By the time of the prophet Jeremiah things had become worse. At verse 7:4 he recorded, “Yet they did not obey or incline their ear [to God], but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.” Jeremiah speaks in the particular situation to give evidence to the general condition of the hearts of men. Ignoring the ancestry of evil leads us away from a solution and further from God. Indeed, the almighty Father is the only one with the answer. Have we, generally speaking, become the classical “idiot savant.” Highly skilled in one realm while mentally-spiritually deficient in another?

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 17

Proverbs 3:5**PLACES TO WORSHIP****John 3:16****BLUEVALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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

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

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Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

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Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

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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

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

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

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Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from 16

Jesus, the Son of God, understood the human propensity unto evil. Consider his words that Luke records at 6:43-45. Those hearts that are given to evil, not given unto God, can only produce one kind of fruit: evil, bad, rotten fruit. That is why the author of the epistle to the Hebrews cautioned the early church and society: "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God." (3:12) That is also why evil events like Sutherland Springs, TX; Las Vegas, NV; Charlottesville, VA; and the like are only a foretaste of what is in store for us if we continue to ignore

• See **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** page 19

kw

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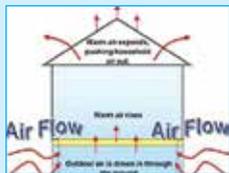


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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Ongoing

• The pool is now open for public swim 3-6p Mon-Thurs.

Mon-Fri

• After School Program for Kids at The Healing Garden, 470 Dillard Road, Highlands. The school bus drops off at Dusty's. Ages Kindergarten through 8. Activities, wholesome snacks, homework time, outdoor and indoor play. Discount for monthly enrollments Pick up time 6 pm. Call Michelle at 828-526-9698.

• Movies at the Highlands Playhouse: Movies: Fri-Tues, 2, 5 8 p.m.

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.

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.

• 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

2nd and 4th Thursdays

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

Thurs., & Sat.

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

First Friday of Every Month

• Dive-in Movie Night at the Rec Park. PG and PG-13 movies. 6-9 p.m., \$7 adult; \$5 children under 12. \$20 family of 4 (\$4 for each additional person) Free popcorn per admission. Bring your own float. Food allowed in designated areas. For movie title call 828-526-1595 or 828-526-3556.

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. 727-871-8298.

• The Bascom Knitters on the Terrace at The Bascom from 10 am until noon or downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

Thurs., Nov. 9

• The Macon County Cancer Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Angel Medical Center; Riverview Street, Franklin. Bonnie Peggs, Chaplin at Angel Medical Center will speak on Emotional Health & Well-Being after a cancer diagnosis. Learn how stressors can affect us physically & psycho-socially--and how we can find ways to address & reduce stress, distress, anxiety & even depression. There will be light refreshments & free gifts. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thurs-Sun. Nov. 9-12

• Highlands Wine & Food Festival. Call the Chamber of Commerce for details.

Fri., Nov. 10

• Movie at The Playhouse, "Chef" on Friday at 2, 5, and 8 pm.

Sat., Nov. 11

• Movie at The Playhouse, "Jeremiah Tower: The Last Magnificent," at 2, 5, and 8 pm.

• The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club meeting is at 10 AM at the Bascom in Highlands, NC. The Bascom is located at 323 Franklin Rd, Highlands, NC, just north of Downtown Highlands, NC (heading toward Franklin). Drive across the covered bridge into the parking lot, and come into the main entrance near the covered patio. There will be directions on how to get to the wood turning studio. Visitors are always welcome. The club meets in Highlands the second Saturday of every month.

Sun., Nov. 12

• Movie at The Playhouse, "Big Night" at 2, 5, and 8 pm.

Nov. 13-20

• The First Baptist Church in Highlands is the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child drop off place. It is hoped that Highlands residents will transform empty shoeboxes into gifts of hope filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items. After being dropped off, Operation Christmas Child will deliver these shoebox gifts to children living in poverty overseas.

Ice Rink Schedule 2016-2017

Open

November 9, 2017 - March 4, 2018

Thursday's 1-8PM

Friday's and Saturday's 1-10PM

Sunday's 1-5PM

Mondays 6-8PM

(Group Booking & Parties)

Christmas Holiday Schedule:
In addition to above schedule we will be open

Mon., November 20-Wed., November 22

Tues. December 26-Wed., December 27

Mon., January 1-Wed., January 3

1-8PM

Closed

November 23, Thanksgiving Day

December 24, Christmas Eve

December 25, Christmas Day

Schedule subject to change depending on weather



The Mountain Faith Band
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Friday after Thanksgiving
November 24 8pm

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Veterans Day 2017

By Ira Cooperman
Veteran of the wars in Southeast Asia

iracooperman@gmail.com.

Americans often glorify soldiers while battles rage and express gratitude for their service – especially during observances of Veterans Day and Memorial Day – but quickly forget them when the guns fall silent.

When war claims a soldier's life, what does that death signify? What is the meaning of a veteran's service? What now, in 2017, when a year in a war zone, followed by a year or less at home, often followed by orders to deploy back to war is the new "normal" for active duty soldiers, especially for those sent to Iraq and Afghanistan?

What now, as our country becomes a nation "at peace with being continuously at war," as suggested by The New York Times?

The effects of multiple combat tours has been "horrifying," according to several military commanders. Troops beset with demons caused by Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and by Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) have turned increasingly to alcohol and drugs. Indeed, veterans are part of the national opioid crisis.

The statistics released by the Defense Department during the past five years have been tragic and staggering. PTSD among vets has increased to epidemic proportions. And, according to several sources,

more than 360,000 veterans from recent wars may be suffering from TBI.

Suicides have skyrocketed. Every day, approximately 18-20 veterans, ages 18 – 24, commit suicide in the U.S., according to a study released in 2014 by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Two-thirds of the thousands who commit suicide are age 55 and over -- veterans of Vietnam, Korea and WWII.

These grim statistics prompted talk of a veteran's suicide epidemic. CNN.com posted an article on its website in November 2014 that said "we're losing more people now to suicide than to combat."

Another statistic: Raw numbers of recent vets who have left the military under OTH – "Other than Honorable" – conditions, thus ruining lives and futures, may perhaps be upwards of 300,000 of the 2.5 million who have seen service in the Global War on Terrorism. And divorce rates among Afghan and Iraq war vets have increased by as much as 42 percent.

While the public voices concern and criticism about our healthcare system, the healthcare needs of veterans of Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan have increased beyond expectations. Among the leading indicators of how bad veterans' healthcare has become, disability claims by veterans from 2000 – 2010 quadrupled from the previous 10 years.

The Veterans Administration has been

slow to react to this healthcare crisis. The government, in effect, is not fulfilling its contract with veterans to provide for their healthcare needs. And since a quarter of the approximately 2.5 million Afghan and Iraq war vets already have claimed a service-connected disability, a figure to increase as that population ages, things will get only worse.

It's important to note that the disability claims of veterans do not reach their peak until 30 or 40 years after a conflict has ended. Clearly, costs will continue to rise.

Many veterans returning home feel a sense of alienation, powerful miasmic feelings. Vets who have experienced prolonged combat may also have feelings of rage as they deal with the memories of their dead friends. Some of them continue to confront the absurdity and horror of war as they

struggle in their daily lives to regain their pre-war selves.

What have we learned from the sacrifices of thousands of Americans who died during the wars of the 20th and 21st centuries? What will be the legacy of those of us who were sent to fight in foreign lands?

Maybe our legacy is somehow connected to the commemoration of Veterans Day, a day when we remember and honor all those who took the oath to serve and protect our nation.

As long as we do not betray the ideals of those who have ever served, as long as we approach them with dignity and integrity, their spirit will live on. The lives of those who have served our nation challenge us, not only to remember them, but to give meaning to their lives.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from 17

God, walking in the dictates of our own evil hearts.

The ancestry of evil leads back to Original sin. Unless and until that is dealt with, through belief or faith in Jesus' sacrifice for sin, the problem will not, indeed, cannot be solved. As the Book of Common Prayer says, "We have no power in ourselves to help ourselves," because every

...MAYOR continued from 2

seas assignments. They too are a great generation. Our country needs to do everything possible to assist these GIs in their transition to normal civilian life.

The Highlands American Legion Post 370 will host a 9 am Veterans Day Celebration this Saturday at the Veterans Memorial in front of the police department. Please come and show your support for our veteran GIs. I'll see everyone there.

A Note about our Coal Ash Situation

The Charlotte Business Chronicle has just run a story that the Duke

Energy CEO states they may appeal the NC Utilities Commission recovery

tendency of our hearts is evil. We'll continue to be lost in a vortex of deluded human self-sufficiency until we honestly examine the ancestry of evil. But, we can change hearts, one at a time, through the power of the Christ and thereby set ourselves on a path to stop this madness. Know Jesus, know hope; no Jesus, no hope.

costs allowance all the way to the NC Supreme Court if Duke doesn't get the full 5.2 billion dollar request.

That means Highlands and others would be paying the high recovery rate for several years while the court decides the case. Our consultant had anticipated this issue being resolved some time this year with the final decision by the Utilities Commission. The Public Staff of the commission had recommend granting 50% recovery costs. We were very happy with the recommendation. Now a Duke appeal through the courts could take years, and we have no idea what the court would allow.

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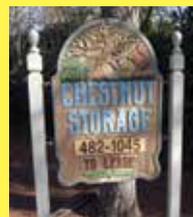
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• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Police log entries from Oct. 14 Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Oct. 14

• At noon, officers responded to a two-vehicle ac-

cident on NC 28.

Oct. 16

• At noon, officers were called to a residence on Wyanoak Road about someone tampering with an electronic device.

Oct. 18

• At noon, officers were called about a lawn mower begin taken from a residence on N. 5th St.

Oct. 21

• At 5:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Helens Barn Ave.

Oct. 25

• At 9:46 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Highlands Rec Park parking lot.

Oct. 25

• At 7 a.m., officers were called about someone withdrawing money from a victims Wells Fargo bank account without authorization. Oct. 26

• At 8:12 a.m., officers were called to a residence on Hicks Road about a bear that broke in through a window to an enclosed porch and destroyed several items.

Oct. 28

• At 6:01 p.m., officers were call to the Citgo Station concerning a verbal argument.

• At 10:26 p.m., officers were called about loud music at a residence on Smallwood Ave.

Nov. 1

• At 2 p.m., officers were called about a frying pan taken from a residence on Picklesimer Road.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Nov. 1

Nov. 1

• At 5:37 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cobb Road.

Nov. 5

• At 3:33 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers Fire Dept.

• At 8:08 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance on Horse Cove Road.

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applicaton or call 828-526-8709. (st. 8/17)
M EQUALS 3 IS HIRING ALL POSITIONS. \$7-\$12 PER HOUR. Experienced very helpful. See Robby Potts at M=3 Restaurant (formerly Sweetreats) Mountain Brook Center for application. (828) 421-8268. (st. 7/23)

LOCAL BUILDER seeks full-time driver and laborer. Job tasks include driving company truck and performing common labor. Must have a valid driver's license, references, a clean driving record, and be at least 21 years old. Call 828.526.4532 for more information or e-mail resumes to harrison@lupoliinc.com (st. 7/20)

SKY PIE PIZZA, PASTA & TAP, now hiring all positions. Experience preferred but not required. Please pick up an application at 423 4th Street, (Mountain Brook Center) Highlands or call 402-480-5138 or 828-200-5311. (st. 6/29)

SALES ASSOCIATE FOR HIGH END CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS, NC, full time, part time and seasonal. Must be available to work weekends. Retail clothing sales experience preferred. Please call 828-200-0928. (st. 5/25)

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

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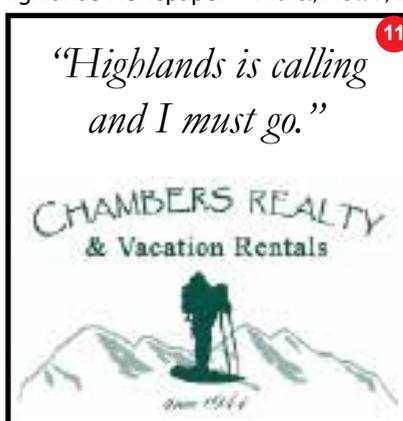
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