

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Keeping tabs on Mission's moves

Although I'm not identified, yes, that's me in the picture on page 6 of the Saturday edition of the Asheville Citizens Times. I was asking a question at the WNC Conversion Health Foundation Forum. Mayor Bob Scott of Franklin and I attended the meeting with more than 100 representatives from organizations across Western Carolina.



Mayor Bob Scott and Mayor Patrick Taylor at the forum on the creation of the Dogwood Health Trust. Held on the campus of UNC Asheville, Friday, Aug. 3

You might ask why I was there? The forum was the initial rollout

of the newly proposed Dogwood Health Trust that will be created if and when Mission Healthcare is sold to Hospital Corporation of America. I wanted to get information about the new healthcare foundation and how it might impact the Highlands/Cashiers area.

This new organization will manage a one-to-two billion dollar endowment generated by the sale of the Mission Healthcare System. Mission has established a small steering board to begin the process of creating a larger independent foundation board. The new Dogwood Trust will serve the 18 counties of Western North Carolina from Mitchell to Cherokee county. This healthcare foundation will support community health/wellness programs. The underlying concept is that a healthy citizenry will translate into lower, stable and affordable healthcare costs for Western Carolina.

The forum speakers addressed issues related to the creation of this new foundation. One speaker outlined the need for health programs to support people at the lower socioeconomic levels. Two chief executive officers of other healthcare foundations provided good advice on how to operate the foundation. Dr. John Ball of Mission Healthcare gave an overview of the sale of Mission to HCA and the creation of the Dogwood Health Trust.

So what about my question? I asked the question of Jennifer Harrod, a Special Deputy Attorney General. The North Carolina Attorney General will review and approve the sale of Mission to HCA, as well as the establishment of the Dogwood Health-

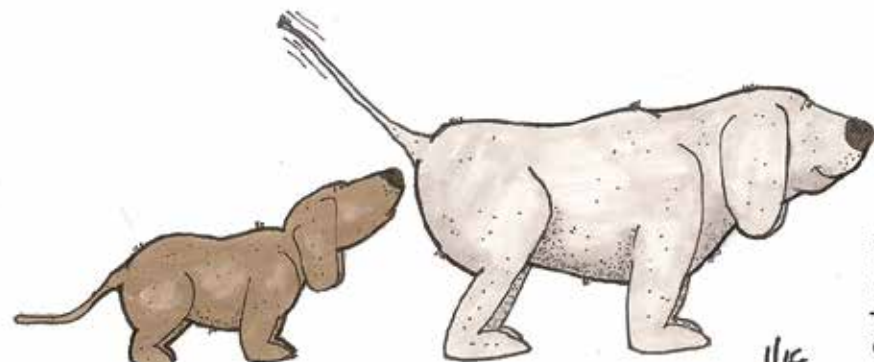
care Trust. Ms. Harrod gave an overview of the process and then took questions. My question went something like this. Acknowledging that the current negotiations between HCA and Mission had to be confidential, I asked when the press and public would have access to those documents outlining the sale and organization structure that will have been submitted to the Attorney General. Her response surprised me. We were told that normally such docu-

ments were not accessible, but public access might be a good idea in this case. I responded that as an elected official operating under open records laws, I, too, believed it would be important for those documents to be public.

A recurrent theme of the forum presenters was a need for the foundation to build public trust. At the appropriate time, sharing documents detailing the plans, agreements and transactions will be a major step in establishing this public trust.

Many participant questions followed centering around transparency and trust in the process moving forward. Sustaining Essential and Rural Community Healthcare (SEARCH) has been created by citizens served by Blue Ridge Hospital. Representatives were at the forum and asked several important questions. Their website is: <https://searchwnc.org>

• HIC'S VIEW •



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• OBITUARIES •

Maria Carballeira (de Cubas) Benning

Maria Carballeira (de Cubas) Benning, of Atlanta, GA passed away at age 95 on July 30, 2018 at Chestnut Hill Senior Living in Highlands, NC. She will be dearly missed by her surviving sons, Carlos and Jorge de Cubas and daughter-in-law Patrice Reynolds.



Maria was born in Havana, Cuba on April 14, 1923 to Eu-liala Carballeira. She entered the Daughters of Charity Orphanage at the age of three after her mother died. Maria was an excellent athlete and Cuban National Champion in the 400-meter dash and the Broad

Jump. An honor graduate from the Colegio La Inmaculada, she received a full scholarship to Marian College in Indianapolis, IN. She graduated in 1944 with a degree in Liberal Arts and Business and spoke perfect English. Upon her return to Havana, she was employed by Sears Roebuck & Co. She worked for Sears in Havana, Miami, Birmingham and Atlanta for 43 years as an Executive Secretary until her retirement.

Maria met her first husband, Carlos de Cubas, at her high school where he was a

• See OBITUARIES page 7

• WEATHER •

	Friday 8/10		Saturday 8/11		Sunday 8/12	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	75 F	59 F	75 F	59 F	77 F	59 F
RealFeel®	85 F	64 F	84 F	67 F	88 F	67 F
Winds	3 g 5	3 g 5	3 g 4	2 g 3	3 g 5	2 g 4
T-Storms	48%	24%	40%	40%	40%	24%
Rainfall	0.2	0	0.06	0.1	0.31	0
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

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\$315,000
MLS# 86979

One level with 3BR/2BA. The great room boasts vaulted ceilings, beautiful hardwood floors and built-ins next to the gas fireplace. The kitchen opens to the great room and has lots of cabinetry and granite countertops.



\$295,000
MLS# 87425

Great location in Chestnut Hill on a level lot with a small fenced yard for a dog in the back. Lovely rocking chair front porch plus a screened porch in the back.



\$298,000
MLS# 86978

One level living with two bedrooms and two baths. The large kitchen boasts white cabinetry and has easy access to the one car garage. Move in ready!



\$290,000
MLS# 82769

Great location in Chestnut Hill. Lovely rocking chair front porch plus a screened porch in the back. Located on a cul de sac with plenty of room to walk the dog or fiddle in the yard. Fenced dog run in back.



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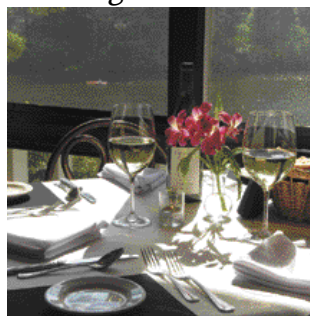
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...OBITUARIES continued from page 2

coach of various sports, especially swimming and diving. Maria, Carlos and their two sons, Carlos Jr. and Jorge fled Fidel Castro's Communist revolution to Miami in 1960. She was immediately employed by Sears in their Latin America division. After Carlos' death in 1983, she married Ted Benning, Jr. of Atlanta, GA in 1991. A devoted wife,

Maria traveled extensively with Ted and both were fervent Auburn and Atlanta hockey fans. Upon Ted's death in 2011, she moved to Chestnut Hill in Highlands, NC, where eldest son Carlos lived nearby and took great care of her. They often watched her favorite team the Atlanta Braves well into the evening.

John Larry Smith 'Little John' Memorial Service

Friends and family will gather to have a prayer, sing and share stories and happy memories about him Little John at the Highlands Recreation Center, 600 N. Main St., in the Arts and Crafts Room on Saturday, August 11, 2018 at 2 pm. Little John's family requests no flowers.

• THANK YOU •

Walter the Wonder Dog is home!

A few days back I ran into the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Fifth and Main streets on a quick errand and left our two Scoties in the car.

In the couple minutes I was gone, Walter jumped out the open window of the SUV and staged a jailbreak.

Excited witnesses were able to point me toward the library and I gave chase on foot. I lost him near Horse Cove Road but several different people kindly joined the chase/search.

The first calls went to Paul and to Bob Boshell (resident Dog Whisperer) and then, on the advice of kind townsfolk, to WHLC which put out the word over the air and posted the runaway notice on their FaceBook account.

One member of the Highlands police force, two Cullasaja friends, the OEI Asst. General Manager and a number of unidentified volunteers in cars joined in.



It is fairly amazing how many people saw Walter racing at 35 mph from one end of Highlands to the other. Reports came in from all the way down to the Bascom and then back again to the Library and Horse Cove Road. Eventually, he was surrounded and flushed out of the Highlands Manor woods behind Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church. What an adventure!

To each and every one of you who helped with the search, who reported the latest sightings, who changed your walking or jogging route to watch for Walter, and to all the many people who have expressed concern and asked whether he has been located, a huge thank you. Walter the Wonder Dog is home.

Highlands is a great town full of fantastic, helpful and friendly folks. We appreciate you all!

Jean and Paul Head
Highlands, NC

No services or memorials are planned.

The family asks that you do something you passionately love with the living memories of Maria by your side. The family invites donations in Maria's name to Cashiers Highlands Humane Society.

Macon Funeral Home handled arrangements. Condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com



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• WORD MATTER •

The Elusive Butterfly of Time

I have long believed there are only two real currencies in life: time and money. I'll leave any pontificating about money for another ... time. See what I did there?

It's been said time is a human construct; it doesn't really exist. Al-

low me to dissent. Time, as defined by Sir Isaac Newton, he of gravity fame, and the Oxford English Dictionary, the word, if you will, is the indefinite, continued progress of existence and events that occur in apparently irreversible succession from the past through the present

to the future.

Time, therefore, like it or not, just is.

Humans, in some rudimentary manner, figured out long ago how to inexactly measure time. Those measurements are the human construct. In the past we viewed it entirely in terms of binaries, such as dark or light, cold or warm, wet or dry. In other words, long or short stretches of those italicized words in the second paragraph.

Later, we created measurements, like days, weeks, months, and years, hours, minutes and seconds; the whole rotation-of-the-earth-on-its-axis-thing and the whole earth-hurting-in-orbit-around-the-sun-thing. Galileo, Copernicus, those guys. What they said.

Even later, we came to measure these dynamic features of time via advanced technologies, such as timepieces and calendars.

I love timepieces. I especially love clocks or wristwatches that either tick or have an ever-moving second hand. These precision instruments serve to demonstrate the unquestioned and unstop-



Bud Katz

pable march of time. I don't love calendars so much, except those that come along with really nice pictures.

No matter how good or bad, positive or negative the current circumstances of our lives, or of the world, we know, deep within our hearts, time inexorably marches on. As

sure as day turns to night, so too, do the pages of the calendar fall away, revealing the ever-fleeting nature of this thing called time.

We, all of us, sometimes soothe the passage of an otherwise ordinary day by whispering to ourselves, "Someday, we'll..." do this or that, go here or there, promising ourselves a reward on an occasion to be designated later.

An interesting attribute of time has to do with how we pass it. We've all experienced someone uttering the words, "I made great time getting here." No doubt, we've also encountered someone giddily proclaiming, "I saved a bunch of time" doing this or that.

No, you didn't. Time is not something to be made or saved. That's the OTHER currency, which we will discuss at another

point in ... you know. That said, time can, indeed be spent, or invested, or misspent, or wasted. Once you've performed any of those activities you should lament that period of fleeting time, which is gone, and will never return.

Someday, we'll look back on this particular period of time in our own lives or in our nation's history. We'll shake our heads, smile ruefully at the inanity, or insanity of it all, and turn a hopeful gaze in the direction of a welcome if uncertain future. We'll do this secure in the knowledge, or at least the belief, depending on our personal point of view, that things can never be as great and wonderful, or as senseless and depressing as they are right now.

Time is precious. Time is never-ending. Time marches on, and all that. With regard to each and all of us, time is definitely finite. We each started this thing called life at a particular moment in time and we will come to our ultimate demise at another. For us, time is, at its very essence, all we've got.

For whatever reasons, this time in history can feel either spectacular or spectacularly awful. Either way, don't fret or gloat. Turn your eyes instead to the nearest clock or wristwatch. Make sure it's one that either ticks or has one of those ever-turning second hands. Look at it. Rest assured, whatever future you either imagine, hope for, or dread is unquestionably and unstoppably on its way.

Now, wait a second, or, a minute, or, an hour. Wait a day, or a week, or a month, or a year.

See? That future we just talked about? There it is!

• Bud Katz is a full-time resident of Highlands and a member of the Highlands Writers Group.

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...TAXES continued from page 1

Mecklenburg and the municipalities of Matthews, Mint Hill, Cornelius and Huntersville,” said Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin. “The issues and circumstances around the push for these municipalities to fund public education within their city limits are not currently present here in Macon County. I was not aware of this addition to the budget, however. This change opens up many different scenarios that could benefit some, or all students in our school district. A great deal of cooperation between the school system, county and local governments would certainly be required for this to be beneficial for all of our students.”

But the budget, which was fast-tracked through the Republican-controlled General Assembly, authorized cities – in general – to use taxes for public education. It also specifies that city taxpayers should not be liable for any school-related debt. With House Bill 514 and the budget language, every city in the state now has the ability to fund public education if they want to.

Municipal leaders including Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor have their concerns.

“In essence, the legislation would allow municipalities to use sales and property taxes in support of charter schools in their

town. I don’t foresee the town of Highlands ever getting into the school funding business,” said Taylor. “I believe in the concept of limited government, especially when it comes to towns and cities.

Scott Mooneyham, director of public

• See TAXES page 10



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...TAXES continued from page 9

affairs for the N.C. League of Municipalities said this is a monumental policy change in North Carolina that is receiving very little vetting.

"Constitutionally, the state has a duty to operate and fund schools. Sometime down the road would this result in a statutory shift of some of that responsibility?" he asked.

Dr. Baldwin said there is a possibility the legislation could lead to municipalities in Macon County one day directly funding public education.

However, Senator Jim Davis disagrees and said the legislation should never impact Macon County.

"This budget provision was specifically targeted to the problems Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system and outlying suburbs have been experiencing the last few years," said Senator Davis. "I do not see it being adopted anywhere else, especially in the rural west."

Macon County Democrat candidate and public school teacher Bobby Kupperts, who is facing off against Republican Senator Jim Davis this November in the Senate, said he doesn't support the legislation.

"I don't support the budget bill's provision allowing municipalities to fund their

own charter schools," said Kupperts. "It looks like an attempt to shift a greater burden for school funding onto local governments, a measure that would almost certainly lead to dramatic property tax increases. Less wealthy municipalities and counties will disproportionately bear the brunt of these taxes. The General Assembly is required by the state constitution to provide for a free public education for our children. Privatizing or forcing municipalities and counties to pick up the state's share of the load is just wrong."

Representative Kevin Corbin said that he supported the bill as it pertains to Charlotte-area schools but wouldn't support the same measure for his district.

"We have excellent public schools here in Macon County and throughout my district so if this legislation was something for here, I wouldn't support it," he said. "But for the towns it was written for, those leaders would like to see more options in terms of education and I understand that."

Rep. Corbin said that while the current legislation specifically names only four towns, it does open the door for other towns to ask the legislation for consideration in the future.

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...HOMELESS continued from page 1

the state has steadily increased, and Macon County is no different. In Macon County, 80 percent of all foster care cases involve circumstances where the parent/caretaker is battling some sort of substance abuse issue.

But luckily, through the Title 1 program, both homeless students and children in foster care receive special services during the school year to ensure those children stay on track with the rest of their classmates.

"We are an extra set of eyes on those children and provide services, anything from transportation to clothing to those who need it," said Carol Arnold, a consultant for Macon County Schools who is in charge of the district's Title I program.

Title I schools are schools that get financial assistance through a federal program due to the school having a high percentage of students coming from low-income families.

Eight out of Macon County's 11 schools, including Highlands School are considered Title I schools, meaning they receive Title I funds for students.

Title I is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging state academic standards to reinforce and amplify efforts to improve teaching and learning for students farthest from meeting state standards.

In addition, the Title I program helps to provide both homeless students and foster children with essentials for school such

as backpacks, pens and paper. Beyond that, Arnold said a clothing closet is maintained at the central office to help ensure that children have season-appropriate clothing.

"We also want to make sure that these students feel like they can match up with their peers," said Arnold, "wearing what their friends are wearing, for instance."

According to Arnold, students are considered homeless if they are living in motels or hotels, living in cars, parks, or public spaces, or living in a migratory situation that lacks an adequate nighttime residence.

In addition, students may be considered homeless if multiple families are sharing one home because one of the families lost their residence.

In Macon County Arnold says the system initiates extras, too. "If their class is going on a field trip like many of them do at the end of the year, we want to make sure those children have the money to go," she said.

Over the last three years, Arnold said both the number of homeless students and foster students has increased in Macon County. During the 2015-2016 school year, Macon County recorded 41 homeless students. The following year there were 47 and last year the number jumped to 59. The increase can be attributed to a number of different reasons and there is no one cause. The only thing for certain is that Macon County has more homeless and foster students today than three years ago.

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Ongoing

• Let's fill the brick walkway of the Highlands Veterans Memorial Garden by Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Bricks are \$50 for 1, \$40 for the second one. Contract for the purchase form is through Bill Edwards at Edwa7353@bellsouth.net 404-915-1344. Forms are also available for pickup and return at Town Hall. Sept. 1 is the deadline for placement by Nov. 11.

• Summer Movies at the Playhouse: See ad on page 6.

First Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men's Meeting at 7p.

Mondays

• At the Rec Park, High Cardio Zumba Fitness with Certified Instructor Tiffany Austin at 5:15 p.m.

• Hip Hop classes with Tori Schmitt at 5:30-6:30 at the Rec Park.

Mon. & Thurs.

• The Joy Program at HUMC 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.

• Gentle Yoga at the Rec park at 9:30. All levels welcome.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am-9:30am.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

• Pickle Ball at the Recreation Department Gym 10:30am -1pm

Tuesdays

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

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

• The Highlands Writers Group, a collection of professional and talented amateur writers, meets to read, workshop, or to just share information on writing, every Tuesday, 3pm-5pm, in the downstairs board room at The Bascom, 323 Franklin Road, Highlands. For more information, call 828-526-3190.

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 to discuss topics related to raising backyard chickens. Meetings are open to the public of all ages family friendly and educational. For more information please call 828-349-2046 or 828-369-3916.

Tuesday and Thursdays

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:15. A combination class with many different styles of exercise at Rec Park.

Wed. - Sat.

• At Highlands Inn on Main Street held in the dining room, Afternoon Tea 2-4:30pm. Royal Tea: \$45; Classic Tea: \$35. Call 828-526-9380 for more information.

Wednesdays

• The Glenville Historical Society Museum is open every Wednesday through Saturday 11am to 3pm until October 13 at 4735 Highway 107 in Glenville next to Signal Ridge Marina. A historic time line, photos, documents, artifacts and antiques tell the story of Old Glenville, building the Lake Glenville Dam and new Glenville development from the 1940s to present day. Go to www.glenvilleareahistoricalsociety.com

First 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.

Wed. & Fri.

• Duplicate Bridge 12-4pm at Rec Park.

Thurs. - Sat.

• Highlands Historical Village is open 11a to 3p through October.

Thursdays

Aug 16, 30, Sept. 13, 27, Oct. 11 & Nov. 1 and 8.

• Four Seasons Compassion for Life will be leading a grief support group at First Presbyterian Church in Highlands on al-

Highlands Village Square Art & Craft Show August 25 & 26



Spectacular nature photography. Fused glass art. Pottery. Leather. Christmas decor. Rustic furniture. Dog treats. Fine art paintings and prints. All of this and much more will be featured at the Village Square Art & Craft Show on Saturday and Sunday August 25 & 26. Sponsored by Highlands Mountaintop Rotary, the shows are FREE and located at K-H Founders Park in downtown Highlands, NC on Pine St. from 10 to 5.

The Village Square shows have attracted a multitude of artisans of the highest caliber from western NC, northeastern Georgia, and western SC for 13 years now. Each show brings new talent and mediums.

Of particular note, Sky Valley artist Patty Calderone will create a large bear painting at the show. A silent auction for it will benefit the B.E.A.R. Task Force and its efforts to educate the public about living in bear country.

Food is always a big part of the show, with Dr. John's tacos offered by Rotary and the Courtyard Cafe in the Village Square next to the park.

For more information contact Cynthia Strain at (828) 787-2021, cypicturelady@aol.com, or follow us on Facebook.

China's evolving communist leadership and the future of Hong Kong offered at CLE



On Monday, August 20 (Time: 10a-12p) the Center for Life Enrichment is offering a lecture on a very timely topic: China's Evolving Communist Leadership and the Future of Hong Kong. With the tariffs and ensuing

trade war a daily news topic, this is an excellent opportunity to hear professor Clifton Pannell, Ph.D. of University of Chicago, delve into the current governmental policies of President-for-life, Xi Jinping. Dr. Pannell is emeritus Professor of Geography and Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Georgia. His teaching and research focus on the economic, political and urban geography of China and East Asia.

Professor Pannell will offer insight into Xi's consolidation of power over the past five years and how he has positioned himself to rule with near absolute power as he pursues his dream that China will become a major global power in the near future and will dominate the western Pacific and Eurasia.

Dr. Pannell will also elaborate on the future of Hong Kong, after being relinquished by the British in 1997. To date under the leadership of Xi, China has consistently stripped Hong Kong of its autonomy and freedoms granted with the British handover in 1997. Currently, the long-term outlook for Hong Kong appears to be an ever stronger integration into the Chinese policy that will render it difficult for it to maintain its identity as a special city open to the global economy and community.

For more information or to register for this event please call 526-8811. Cost is \$25 members/\$35 nonmembers, walk-ins are welcome. The lecture will be held in the CLE lecture hall located in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center.

HCP to present 'The Odd Couple'



On Thursday, August 23, Highlands Cashiers Players brings something old that is new to the PAC Theater. Neill Simon's The Odd Couple opens for a 2-week run August 23-26 and August 30 - Sept. 2.

The Odd Couple is acknowledged as one of Neill Simon's best comedies. Made into a movie with Walter Mathau and Jack Lemon, the story is about Felix, whose wife has left him and who is contemplating suicide. His friends sense his depression and one of them, Oscar, volunteers to take him in until he is fine again.

The two of them are like chalk and cheese - Oscar is fun-loving, gregarious and slovenly, Felix is a shy, stay-at-home, obsessive-compulsive neat-freak. Being around Oscar brightens Felix up, but he quickly starts to irritate Oscar. This lighthearted comedy is a favorite with audiences.

Tanj Marshall, a veteran PAC actor and director, will be directing this delightful comedy that includes David Spivey, Lance Trudel, Michael Ianzilotta, Ricky Siegel, Craig Eister, Joe Lazow, Betsy Miller and Ronnie Spilton.

Tickets may be purchased at the Box Office starting on Aug. 9 at 828-526-8084 or select your seats online at highlandscashiersplayers.org.

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

ternating Thursdays 10:30-11:30am. This will be a closed group due to the nature of the group unless there are special circumstances that keep an individual from coming to the first meeting. Music therapy will be used for most sessions. For additional information, contact Four Seasons at 866-466-9734

Thursdays

- Live music in OEI's The Wine Garden on Main Street. Zorki from 7-9 p.m.
- Storytime with Miss Deanna at Hudson Library 10:40 am. Open to the public.
- NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 – 8:15pm. at First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street in Franklin Call Donita for more info (828) 526-9510.
- Hip Hop classes with Tori Schmitt at 6:30-7:30 at the Rec Park.

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 River-view St. Contact Majestic 828-369-9474

1st and 3rd Thursdays

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

Fourth Thursday

- At the Hudson Library, Kids Zone LEGO Club. Intended primarily for kids in grades 1-5, LEGO Club allows creativity and STEM skills to develop together as kids enjoy making a

wonderful variety of LEGO creations.

Fridays & Saturdays

- Live music at OEI's Art's At The Lodge on Spring Street. 5-8 p.m. Fridays Steve Wohlrab. Saturdays Zorki.
- Live Music in OEI's Hummingbird Lounge. Maestro from 6-8 p.m. and Cy Timmons 8 p.m. to close.

Fridays

- Live FREE music in Town Square on Main Street from 6-8 p.m.

Saturdays

- Live FREE music in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street from 6-8 p.m.
- 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.

4th Saturdays

- Scaly Mountain Women's Club Pancake Breakfast 8-10:30a at the old Scaly Mtn. School at Buck Knob and NC 106.

Sundays

- Live Music in OEI's Hummingbird Lounge 8 p.m. to close with Paul Jones.

Thurs., Aug. 9

- Free Zahner Lecture Series "The Plight of the Hemlock." At Nature Center on Horse Cove Road at 6pm.

Sat., Aug. 11

Macon Marketplace is Saturday at the Macon County Community Building. The hours are 10 am to 2 pm. The focus for Macon Marketplace is "Locals Helping Locals" It's a place for local people to buy from local vendors. The vendors have en-

trepreneurial, home-based businesses or are local crafters. A portion of the vendor's fees help a local non-profit organization. This year, Read2Me will benefit from Macon Marketplace and there will a booth accepting donations at the event. Read2Me is a community initiative in Macon County whose goal is to put books into the hands of children and has also helped children learn to love books by helping provide story walks in Macon County.

- Free Highlands Design Tour noon to 2:30p, featuring showrooms at Old Edwards/Acorns on Church, The Summer House, ACP Home Interiors and Shumprine Gallery. Meet at The Summer House. Donations accepted for C-H Humane Society. Designers will showcase their talents on fabric pairings, renovation suggestions, simple makeovers, current trends, and celebrity designer Marshall Watson will be on hand. Complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres served at each design showroom. RSVP a must to aprilinparis24@yahoo.com or (678)360-2296. (Max. number of attendees) 20% off purchases at Old Edwards/Acorns on Church Street to attendees plus a free one-hour complimentary in-home design.

- Booksigning at OEI's Acorn's on Church Street from 2-5 p.m. Celebrity Designer Marshall Watson's book, "The Art of Elegance."

- Benefit for Patricia Barnes at the Community Building next to the ballfield. 5-10p. Live band, raffle and cake auction. BBQ plates. \$8 for adults, \$5 for children under 12.

Sun., Aug. 12

- Revival at Blue Valley Baptist Church with Rev. Eddie Dodson beginning at 7 p.m. Special singing nightly. For more info, call Rev. Oliver Rice at 706-782-3965.

• See EVENTS page 19

HIGHLANDS DESIGN TOUR

Saturday, Aug. 11 • noon to 2:30p • R.S.V.P.

Acorns on Church St.
ACP Home Interiors

The Summer House
Shuptrine Gallery



Designers will showcase their talents, fabric pairings, renovation suggestions, simple makeovers, current trends, time honored traditions and there will be an appearance by celebrity author Marshall Watson of "The Art of Elegance." Complimentary nibbles and beverages.



Meet at The Summer House on the Dillard Rd. RSVP a must to aprilinparis24@yahoo.com or (678)360-2296. (Max. number of attendees) 20% off purchases at Acorns on Church St. to attendees plus a free one-hour complimentary in-home design.

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Right this way & easing on down the road

When buying and selling real estate, you need to verify certain things about the property be-

fore the transaction has been completed. Look at the deed of property you're considering, and it doesn't hurt to look at the

deed of property you're selling, to refresh your memory.

EASEMENTS

There are at least two kinds:

1) GROSS EASEMENTS

allow you to use the land without ownership, and the easement belongs to the homeowner needing the easement (not the property owner.) This easement will pass to the next property owner, but the limitations of the easement is usually controlled by the property owner and can change.

2) APPURTENANT

EASEMENT joins land together and transfers with the property the easement is on when the property is conveyed. One property is called a servient property while the other is the dominant property. It's not rocket science to figure out if you are the owner of the servient property, your land use is determined by the dominant property.

RIGHTS-OF-WAY

This allows another to pass through your property. Anyone can pass through your land via a rights-of-way, and it's considered a public right of way.

The effects of these two encumbrances could determine your use of the property.

What can you do? Several things. Ask your Realtor for help first, but go ahead and do some digging on your own.

First of all, whether you're buying or selling, it's a good thing to get a SURVEY, or if there is an existing survey, have it updated. Just because the seller said there have been no changes to the property since they've owned it, the surrounding properties could have made changes unknown to the seller. We've seen decks that have had to be partially removed because half of it was on a neighboring property, a few feet of the edge of an addition to a home had to be cut back, gazebos torn down, fences moved, etc.

Another thing you can do is go to the county website and look up the deed of the property. There's a lot of boiler plate language used like: Together with the improvements thereon, and the rights, privileges, and appurtenances, belonging thereto, (it may go on to include known easements, etc. But wait, there's more!) Subject however to enforceable (a) covenants, restrictions and easements of record, (b) easements for roads or utilities shown on property plat, (c) easements for public or private road or utilities, rights of way not of record, (d) zoning



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restrictions or other regulations imposed by government authorities (e) liens for real estate taxes not yet due and payable. (There could be more). Did you catch that part in (c) not of record? That's right, a recorded deed is a wonderful thing, but it can't encompass everything, that's what attorneys are for, more on that later.

While we're talking about rights-of-way, it's a good time to bring up fences. In the Robert Frost poem, Mending Wall, the neighbor stated "Good fences make good neighbors," but the

poet wondered further "Before I built a wall I'd ask to know, what I was walling in or walling out, and to whom I was like to give offence." Wouldn't it be great if we all pondered those questions before building?

According to NOLO.com, NC doesn't have a specific law regarding boundary fences, but there IS usually a local town ordinance or zoning restriction. Always check with local authorities before going to the expense of constructing a fence or wall, or even adding a driveway.

Now, that promise to say something about attorneys. I'm not one. What I've typed here is information gleaned from different internet sources and my own imaginative mind. My words will not help you in a court of law, trust me on that one. Please seek professional legal advice concerning rights-of-way disputes, survey disputes, boundary disputes, just about any dispute for that matter.

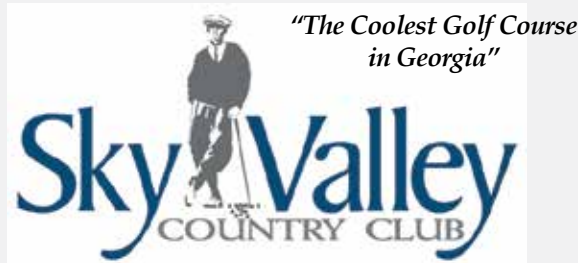
Remember, a little kindness goes a long way. It's easy to get riled up when you think you've been taken advantage of by a neighbor or municipality. There's a way to stand your ground without becoming a doormat. In the olden days, before so many rules and regulations were involved, consider this local history note, circa 1930s: There was a man on Billy Cabin Road who was building a fence. When the neighbor asked "Why are you putting this fence a foot over on your side of the property?" The man replied, "What's a foot between friends."

• Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are Broker/owners of Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals at 401 N. Fifth Street, Highlands and are ready to help you with any of your property decisions. Stop by, email info@highlandsiscalling.com or go to our website: Highlandsiscalling.com

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... KUPPERS continued from page 1

recession,” said Koppers.

The Republican and Democrat candidates are espousing the same issues, but Koppers' and Price's solutions are diametrically opposed to Davis' and Meadows' hardline GOP rhetoric. Koppers and Price claim that rhetoric hasn't helped “normal working people” in Western North Carolina much in the past decade.

“What was wrong in 2008 is still wrong in 2018,” said Koppers.

Education, the opioid crisis, Medicaid expansion, health care, jobs, infrastructure including broadband expansion, are the topics high on the list of “musts” for Koppers and Price.

“These guys [Davis and Meadows] want to stay in their seats for the long-term. I want to get in to get stuff done now. I can't wait for something to happen. I'm ready to pummel a good idea and get it done in the next two or three terms at the most.”

Education – Koppers said sure, Davis and the NC Republican-run Senate gave teachers raises but the insurance premiums are eating it up.

“Raleigh gives with one hand and takes away with the other,” he said. “North Carolina used to be a pillar in the nation when it came to education, now we rank 39, worse than Mississippi. That's just not right.”

Koppers has been teaching high school civics and coaching basketball and football for 18-years so he knows what teachers do and what they need.

He said House Bill 514, which was written into the state's 2018-'19 budget to allow municipalities to use local tax proceeds to fund education, is just another way for North Carolina's GOP-run House and Senate to shed their responsibility to fund public education. (see “Local taxes could

fund public schools” on page 1).

“That's a slippery slope. Maybe Highlands could afford to do that, but not Franklin. Then you have schools that aren't equal,” said Koppers.

He also said college tuition must be addressed.

“Sure you can now go to Western Carolina University for \$500 a semester but there are so many hidden costs it's more expensive than ever.”

He also said the minimum wage has to be addressed if young people are expected to be a viable part of communities in the state.

But his passion for public education is his second career. His first was a 25-year stint with the U.S. Submarine Service from which he retired in 2000. He was Chief of Staff for NATO's Submarine Force Eastern Atlantic in Northwood, United Kingdom, and later Commanding Officer of the Trident Training Facility in Kings Bay, GA.

“We in the military know how to get things done. We figure out the mission and we get it done,” he said. “We know what it means to represent something bigger than ourselves. And that's what I intend to do at the state level.”

The opioid crisis, Medicaid expansion and health care are related at this point in time in North Carolina.

“Medicaid expansion is good all the way around; even Republican Governor of Ohio John Kasich knows that!” he said. “He took the expansion and why shouldn't we? We pay into it. Why should that money go to the states all around us that opted in?”

Medicaid expansion was part of President Obama's path to affordable health care for all. Expanding the Medicaid income

• See KUPPERS page 17



MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY DINNERS-TO-GO SUMMER MENU 2018

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SAT

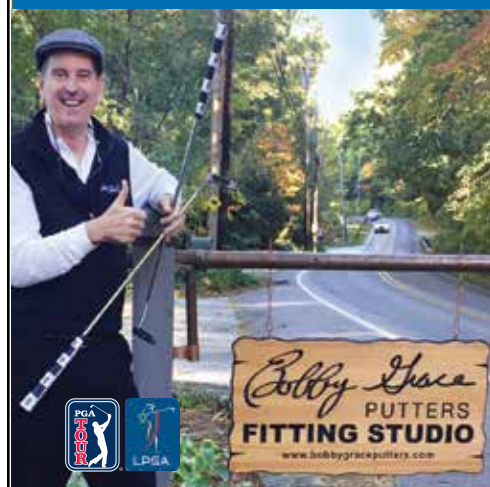
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• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Mountain Findings donates record \$135,000

Setting a record for the amount of donations as well as the number of organizations receiving donations, volunteers voted to donate \$135,000 to 44 charitable organizations in the Highlands area. These organizations touch all of our lives and having the ability to make these donations is the reason our volunteers dedicate their time to making Mountain Findings a success. We would be remiss not to thank all the people who donate to and shop at Mountain Findings. Give yourself a pat on the back because each of you are vital to our success.



Left: Margie Newman, Mountain Findings volunteer, presents a check to Terry Stamey, Media Coordinator, to purchase shelving for the Highlands school library;



Lower Left: Ophelia Mustain, volunteer, presents a check to Carlyn Morenus, Hudson Librarian, to purchase new computers for the library;



Above: Mountain Findings Board President, Tom Hill and his wife Rose, volunteers, present a check to Pat Hedden, head of the HCCDC to purchase furnishings for the newly expanded nursery.

Book SIGNING

August 11 | 2 - 5 pm

The Art of Elegance by Marshall Watson

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LANDMARK REALTY GROUP ANNOUNCES NEW BROKER-IN-CHARGE AND GENERAL MANAGER, CAROL WILSON

Landmark Realty Group is pleased to announce that our new Broker-in-Charge at the Frank Allen Road office will be Carol Wilson. Carol has been with Landmark as a broker since 2014. In addition, she will assume responsibility of General Manager for Landmark Realty Group across the Plateau. She will focus on the company's growth and future as well as providing resources for the continued success for each individual broker.

Prior to joining Landmark and moving from Charlotte over five years ago, she held a variety of management and leadership positions as well as owning her own company in England.

This is an exciting opportunity for Carol. She will be leading Landmark Real Estate Sales and Vacation Rentals along with its dedicated employees and brokers to reach new levels of success on the Plateau. Even though her real estate path is taking a slightly different direction, she will continue to be a resource for all her past, present and future clients and friends.

Landmark has got you covered on all points of the compass - Cashiers to Glenville and Lake Toxaway to Highlands along with the local knowledge and professionalism which keeps us the #1 real estate company on the Plateau.



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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Highlands Community Foundaton's 'Rise & Shine' event celebrates endowment benchmark



Board chair Jim Landon with board member Cynthia Trevathan at Sunday's event.



Board member Caroline Cook with husband Jodie enjoying the BBQ supper amid the centerpiece by Oakleaf Flower & Garden.

At Sunday's "Rise & Shine" event held at The Bascom, Highlands Community Foundation celebrated hitting the \$1.5 million mark in its fund. With that achievement, the advisory board has more leeway in the granting of annual gifts to Highlands' non-profits. Prior to hitting that mark, grants could only be awarded based on need.

"As we continue our fundraising, the corpus in the account grows allowing more gifting each year from the earnings," said Cindy Trevathan, board member.



Ray and Diane McPhail and others danced the night away to the tunes of the Caribbean Cowboys.

— Photos by Kim Lewicki

...KUPPERS continued from page 15

guidelines enabled those who made too much money to be covered by Medicaid but too little to afford a comprehensive health plan, to get medical coverage.

Not taking advantage of the expansion has shifted millions to other states and forced people to seek medical attention at emergency rooms. By law, emergency services must be provided to anyone who walks through the door whether they can pay for services or not. This, of course, has put a huge financial burden on North Carolina medical facilities forcing them to close their doors or consolidate.

Kuppers said even the opioid crisis could be alleviated somewhat if people who now fall through the Medicaid hole had coverage for medical care and rehabilitation services.

Though it's not perfect, systematically disassembling the Affordable Care Act on the federal level further affects the overall health of North Carolina.

This is an issue Price and Kuppers hammer home.

Federal employees – congressmen and senators included – currently have the Gold ACA plan for which the federal government provides a 72 percent subsidy which means employees pay approximately 28 percent of their annual healthcare premiums through pre-tax payroll deductions.

During the mark-up of the ACA bill, lawmakers inserted a provision (Section 1312(d)(3)(D)) that required members of Congress and designated congressional staff members to obtain their health insurance through ACA exchanges – like everyone else – rather than continue to receive their healthcare coverage through the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). If the Affordable Care Act is repealed, members of Congress have a fallback plan. They would be able to return to the FEHBP which is an even sweeter plan.

For Kuppers and Price jobs are tied to on-the-ground infrastructure, which is disintegrating across the region and nation but also to tech jobs which require broad-

• See KUPPERS page 19

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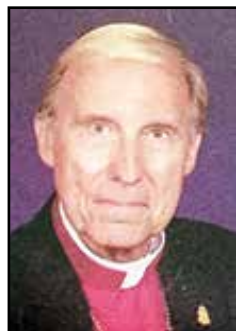


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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Silence, please



Archbishop John Erbeling

In today's busy world there rarely seems to be any time for a quiet moment alone. And, when we do find it, many of us seem frightened at the sound -- or lack of sound -- and seek to change it. When we walk into an empty room often the first thing we reach for is the TV control. We tend to choke our solitude with music, or talk, or sounds to which we don't even listen. It's there simply to fill a vacuum; and, when it's gone, we become nervous at its absence.

It may be time to learn again to be alone, to re-experience the quality of solitude, to allow life with all its fullness to rush back into our consciousness. To be alone and to think deeply about one's own life is important to our personal sense of well-being. It's part of the process of developing a well-defined personal philosophy of life.

Most of us would probably agree that we would like a few undisturbed minutes but somehow just can't find the time. Perhaps the trick is to schedule some time alone each day, even if it's just for a quarter of an hour. And it doesn't have to be in some dark corner. You can be alone with your thoughts in a park, in a museum, in a house of worship, or in a library. You can be alone while soaking in the tub, knitting a sweater, or working in the woodshop or in the garden. The important thing is to share a moment with yourself undisturbed by the rush of other's demands and interests, the unending stream of emails that clutter our lives. Our first duty in our silence should be to listen and follow the command of Psalm 46:10: "Be still and know that I am God."

Lives built around a daily moment of solitude seem to have a greater comfort zone in dealing with daily challenges. They have an eternal perspective to help meet daily pressures in subtle ways. It helps keep life in balance so no single element becomes the only important part of life. There's a reserve provided by this spiritual center of solitude -- a balance that permits individuals to tolerate stress more than would be possible if there were nothing else.

Perhaps the most important reward of solitude is that it keeps us in touch with spiritual values. When we lose the light of Christ, we lose the purpose of life; and when the purpose of living is forgotten, the universe becomes meaningless.

If we are serious about understanding ourselves and our purpose in this existence, then we need to find time to think about it. We should not be afraid of the quiet in our lives, but cherish it and use it as a tool in assessing where we are along life's eternal road.

I would like to be able to reach out to you through this page and ask you to walk once again with me in the Cloisters retreat on a Sunday afternoon of dappled sunlight or sit in the Monastery of the Holy Spirit, the faint sound of distant men's voices singing Gregorian chants and now in our new-joined souls repeat, "Be still and know that I am."

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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

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Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street • Sunday Service 11 a.m.

Testimony meeting: 3rd Wednesday at 5 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

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

Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC • Sr. 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

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Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

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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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Wednesdays: Choir: 6p

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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

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Worship/Communion: 10:30

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

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Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

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• POLICE REPORT •

Highlands Police entries from June 26. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

July 26

• At 8:50 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west near Mirror Lake road.

• At 12:51 p.m., officers received a report of a breaking and entering of a vehicle parked in Highlands Plaza

where a dog was let out of a truck.

July 27

• At 1 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident Main Street.

• At 10:37 p.m., officers received a report about someone obstructing law enforcement in regards to disorderly conduct and assault.

• At 10:45 p.m., Samuel Cole Schmitt, 17, of Scaly Mountain, NC, was arrested for assault, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct on N. 4th

Street. He was issue a \$600 secured bond. His trial date is Aug. 28, 2018.

July 28

• At 10:40 a.m., officers were called about a dog bite at a residence on Sequoyah Drive.

• At 2 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Highlands Police Station parking lot.

• At 3:07 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Mountain Fresh parking lot.

...KUPPERS continued from page 17

band expansion which currently requires public and private partnerships. Most private companies aren't interested in rural WNC.

"The government is making this difficult. I met someone last week who had moved to Western North Carolina but was leaving because he couldn't work without reliable broadband," said Kuppers.

Asked how he could get the vote Kuppers said he and Price need young voters, unaffiliated

voters and voters in the military.

"We have to give young people and people who are unaffiliated a reason to vote. We have to go where they are, meet them on their turf and we have to be blunt with them. We have to tell them we need them to vote."

Kuppers said there are 1,600 young registered voters in Macon County and he has probably taught 500 of them and coached 200.

He said he believes he and Price have a chance to win with

those numbers.

"This November is about turnout. It's not about me or Jim Davis, it's about you the voters, the kids in the classroom and it's not even about the next election; it's bigger than that ... it's about the next day, week and year."

For more on Bobby Kuppers go to www.kuppersforsenate.com.

For more on Phillip Price for Congress go to: www.price4wnc.org.

— Kim Lewicki

...EVENTS from page 13

Mon., Aug. 13

• Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild will hold its regular day meeting Monday at Tar-tan Hall, in the First Presbyterian Church, 26 Church Street, downtown Franklin. Social time begins at 9:30 a.m. Meeting begins at 10 a.m. For more information about the guild visit www.smokymtnquilters.org.

• Bolivian Auction at 5pm in the new fellowship hall at the Methodist Church on Main Street. There is jewelry, alpaca items, artisan wood products, and much more. Silent auction items are on display in the old fellowship hall. Bids can be made even if you can't come to the auction. For more information call Dr. Baumrucker at 828-200-0902.

Wed., Aug. 15

• Free Summer Interlude at Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. Samuele Parrini, Violinist.

• The Friends of the Cashiers Library invites people to sign up to read their favorite poems at the Friends of the Cashiers Library's Favorite Poems Night, Thursday at 7:30p. Those reading poems on stage will be selected from area residents and visitors who have submitted the name and specific poem of their favorite poet. Submission forms are available at the library.

Submissions deadline is Aug 10.

Thurs., Aug., 16

• Dr. Robyn Restrepo, will be hosting Highlands-Cashiers Hospital's next Evening With the Docs



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BUSY, FAST-PACED RETAIL STORE needs someone with a good work ethic and good customer service skills for a part time position. Being comfortable working with computers is essential. Occasional Saturday work will be needed. Please send all inquiries to: info@biz-spot.net (st. 7/26)

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JOE WEBB CABIN FOR SALE BY OWNER IN HIGHLANDS. To be moved. See Reuben Cox's Book on Joe Webb pages 108 and 109 for pictures. Email Tom@tomchambers.co or call Tom's office at 828.526.2075. Serious inquiries only please. (st. 8/2)

SCALY MOUNTAIN CABIN. 3 Bd / 3 Ba. \$184,950. By owner and by appointment only: 828-526-9705. See 64osagelane.com for more information. (8/2)

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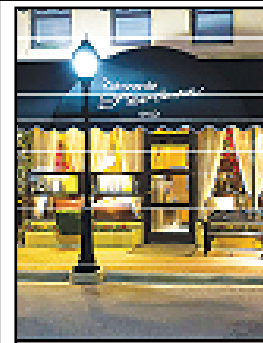
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