

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 15, Number 43

Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: [HighlandsInfo.com](http://HighlandsInfo.com)

Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018

## 2018 CANDIDATE PROFILE SERIES

### Two contenders trying to unseat Holland

By Brittney Lofthouse

Around 3,000 Macon County residents have already made their way to the polls to cast their ballots in the November election. With early voting coming to a close and just a few weeks left until November 6, candidates are in overdrive meeting voters and sharing their vision

for Macon County. The Macon County Sheriff's race has been a contentious one – with three candidates running for the position.

• See **UNSEAT** page 8

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### Town Scholarship Golf Tourney was a win for all



Manny Martineze, Carlos Santana, Nester Santana, and Carlos Diaz were first-place winners of the Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament held last Thursday, Oct. 18 at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. "The Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament was a tremendous success thanks to the hospitality shown by the staff and membership of Wildcat Cliffs CC.," said Town of Highlands Commissioner chairman of the tournament Brian Stiehler. "We are grateful for the generosity of the Wildcat Cliffs membership and General Manager, Jeffrey Blais and his team. This was another successful event that allows the town to support graduates of the Highlands School for years to come." There were 18 teams and while the count isn't final, it usually nets about \$18-\$20K. The interest from the endowment is distributed to graduates from Highlands School who pursue higher education as well as college students continuing their education.

### Town Board discusses Main Street aesthetics and the bear problem

By Brian O'Shea

Things got a bit unorthodox in terms of procedure at the recent Board of Commissioners meeting on Oct. 18. It began when improving the aesthetics on Main Street was under discussion. Commissioner Eric Pierson said he had been receiving comments that something needs to be done along Main Street to help improve the overall look, possibly by adding some planters with trees to help breakup the line-of-sight. Pierson looked into the issue and feels he has come up with the beginnings of a solution.

"We can get more green in the middle of downtown so it doesn't look like a Walmart park-

• See **TOWN BOARD** page 30

### Halloween Highlands style is downtown Wednesday night



On Halloween night, the length of Main Street from 1st to 5th will be closed to vehicular traffic from 6-8 p.m. so trick-or-treaters young and old can walk freely from shop to shop. Rotary will be serving free food while it lasts and there will be a DJ set up in the middle of the street for those who want to dance the night away. – Photo by Kim Lewicki

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### What do do about the bears and what it could cost

Let me share some thoughts before the Community Coffee with the Mayor tomorrow at the Hudson Library at 11 am. The program is on bear control. My candid views are about what the town has already done and possible plans for mitigating the bear problem. I use the word "mitigating" rather than "solving." I don't believe we will be able to completely solve the problem. The bears will always be with us. We have moved into their territory.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

ing access inside. The metal tops were supposed to be the solution. The smaller metal doors would allow people to easily open and close the dumpsters while deterring the bears. I was informed by the sanitation worker that if our large commercial dumpster lids are chained, as they should be, the big 400 or 500 pound bears simply grab the sides of the lids and bend the metal back like opening a can. The town has had several dumpsters tops destroyed by large bears.

This problem illustrates one aspect of the growing bear population. Work and research is underway in developing an alternative bin system for commercial uses. One particular problem is restaurant food waste. We might be at a point of considering alternatives to discarding restaurant food waste.

At the last Town Board meeting, a discussion was held about replacing our trash cans on Main and 4th streets with bear resistant receptacles. Bears are overturning these street cans nightly.

The new bear resistant street cans that were discussed cost about \$1,300 per can. Gatlinburg just replaced their street cans with a bear proof, compactor cans that are solar powered. These cans also send a text message to trash crews when they are full. I don't know the cost of these high-tech devices, but I bet they exceed that \$1,300

number.

Another aspect of the problem is residential garbage. The town could pass an ordinance requiring residential garbage being placed in bear resistant totes. They cost about \$200 each. But, a 500-pound bear could open these containers by jumping on them like they did the dumpsters with plastic tops.

Now I know some folks reading this will say the mayor is "Debby Downer" when it comes to controlling bears. I like to think I'm not, but that some solutions might not work as intended. The town could spend a lot of money on bear control, so we need to make sure our plans provide the best outcomes.

See you at the coffee.

## • AN OPEN LETTER •

### Highlands Cashiers Hospital needs an ambulance

*This is a letter I sent Wednesday, Oct. 17 to HC Hospital President/CNO Jackie Medland, MC Emergency Services Director Warren Cabe, MC Commission Chair Jim Tate, MC Commission Vice Chair Ronnie Beale, HC Hospital Foundation Board Member Sam Lucas, MC Manager Derek Roland and Mayor Pat Taylor about my recent experience at HC Hospital particularly pertaining to the woeful access to ambulance service.*

*So far I have heard from Warren Cabe who said the process is being reviewed as it pertains to the "category" of emergency. He agreed something needs to be adjusted.*

*Jackie Medland said that the case is under review but doubted if there would ever be a ambulance hub at the hospital. However, Commissioner Ronnie Beale said he felt for certain something could be done.*

*I chose to go public with this because I believe the citizens of Highlands and Cashiers when in the care of the hospital deserve better.*

Most of you know me as publisher of Highlands Newspaper.

Today I am writing you as an aggrieved citizen with yes, the power of the press on my side.

Last week, Wednesday, Oct. 11, I was diagnosed with acute appendicitis first by

my primary care physician in Highlands, Dr. Margaret Wadsworth and verified following an abdominal scan by Dr. Meade at the Highlands ER.

It is what transpired following the diagnosis that is the subject of this comment.

•See OPEN LETTER page 16

### Highlands Newspaper

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[www.HighlandsInfo.com](http://www.HighlandsInfo.com)

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Highlands, N.C., 28741

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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.

### Need help with staying warm this winter?

The Highlands Emergency Council (H.E.C.) will be accepting applications from those requesting financial help for the cost of propane gas, fuel oil, and wood.

Applications will be accepted on:

• Mon., Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Tues., Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Wed., Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please come by H.E.C. located on Poplar Street (next to Wilson Gas). Proof of income is required.

No applications will be accepted after these dates. Applications must be filled out in person; no applications will be taken over the phone.

## • WEATHER •

	Friday 10/26		Saturday 10/27		Sunday 10/28	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	48 F	43 F	52 F	38 F	56 F	40 F
RealFeel	49 F	39 F	56 F	44 F	58 F	39 F
Winds	4 g 6	3 g 4	4 g 6	4 g 6	4 g 7	4 g 6
T-Storms	20%	20%	2%	1%	1%	5%
Rainfall	0.36	0.01	0	0	0	0.1
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to [www.highlandsinfo.com](http://www.highlandsinfo.com) and click on Weather



## RAVENEL RIDGE

This 4BR/5.5BA home has spectacular views of 30 mountains, including Satulah, Little Bear Pen and Shortoff, as well as overlooking Highlands. It's a perfect home for entertaining, with its covered screened outdoor living space with its own stone fireplace. The soaring ceiling and open living room add to the appeal. The living, dining, kitchen and award-winning bar area layout make it an easy flow for large groups. The oversized master bedroom and bath has two separate closets. With its own kitchen and fireplace, the terrace level is perfect for a guest retreat, mother-in-law suite, or spacious home office. This home is located in the exclusive gated community of Ravenel, which is walking distance to downtown Highlands.

**MLS# 88218 | Offered for \$3,177,000**



## LAKE FRONT IN CULLASAJA CLUB

A picture of good taste and style, this Lake Ravenel lake front house is surrounded by the most enchanting scenery with gardens and trails, plus babbling water features, gazebo and dock. The living room ceiling soars two stories with a floor-to-ceiling native stone fireplace, a wall of glass which opens the room to the spacious covered deck, and a built-in bookcase. The polished heart pine floors give this home an open, relaxed feel that is easy to maintain. The beautifully appointed kitchen boasts rich cabinetry, granite counters, SS appliances and a large island; it opens up into an intimate dining area and the cozy den. The luxurious bedroom suite has "five-star" written all over it with a stunning bath and a private outdoor deck that holds the hot tub. Upstairs are three inspired en suite bedrooms with private balconies. This home is a true masterpiece and is waiting for your family's memories to begin.

**MLS# 89386 | Offered for \$2,900,000**



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## LAKE FRONT HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB

This idyllic retreat is designed to offer views of nature, mature landscaping and tranquil views of the lake from almost every window. Gleaming oak flooring, native stone fireplace, tall windows and a vaulted ceiling lined with timber grace the living area. A well-appointed kitchen features beautiful cabinetry, granite countertops, and a tile back-splash. The orientation of the home ensures natural light is maximized and offers the flexibility of additional living spaces, with a keeping room off the kitchen complete with gas fireplace, stunning carved wood bar, and casual dining area. The luxurious master suite has "his and her" closets with built-in wardrobes and a recently remodeled, lavish master bath. Beautiful gardens are an ideal backdrop for the outdoor living areas which includes a lovely yard, and fire pit. Studio guest apartment over garage and dock on lake.

**MLS# 89162 | Offered for \$2,495,000**



## HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN

This amazing historic property features three completely updated homes with the main house boasting five bedrooms, a guest house with one bedroom, and a charming cabin with two bedrooms. Clear Creek runs through the property which boasts a lake, picnic pavilion and walking paths. The compound sits on more than eight acres of cleared, forested land just two miles from Main Street in Highlands. The current owners raised championship golden retrievers and have a terrific kennel adjacent to the home. Anyone with pets will enjoy the convenience of having a special place for their dogs. This area would also make a great art studio. The guest house has a covered walkway from the main house and is perfect for live-in help or as a mother-in-law suite.

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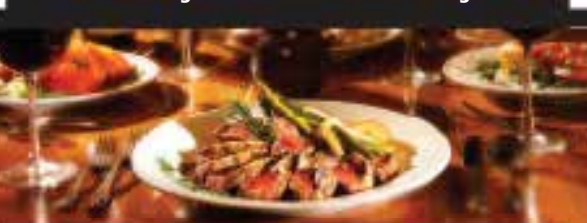
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**HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB** New construction with panoram-ic views of the 9th fairway & green surrounding both sides of the cottage and just steps away from the croquet court. Vaulted ceilings, a soaring stone fireplace, and reclaimed wood beams & railings. The kitchen features quartz counters, a dual fuel Wolf range, Sub Zero refrigerator, Bosch dishwasher, and a large island. Wrap around porch with open & covered areas and two fireplaces. Two private guest suites each with its own bath with quartz counters, tiled showers & heated floors. Large master with "his & her" baths with heated floors & quartz counters. His bath has a large steam shower while hers provides a wonderful soaking tub. Too much to list here!

**MLS# 89538 | Offered for \$1,800,000**



**OLD BRUSHY FACE** *Newly painted exterior, newly screened back porch with new ceiling fans, new whole house dehumidifier!* The living room boasts vaulted ceilings with a floor-to-ceiling stacked stone fireplace. The living room, kitchen, and master suite open to an oversized screen porch. The master suite is spacious and features a lovely tiled, ensuite bath area with large vanity, separate shower and soaking tub. Upstairs are two great guest suites and a small office. Lower level family room with stone fireplace plus additional sleeping areas. The lot is relatively flat and offers plenty of outdoor space for children or pets.

**MLS# 87561 | Offered for \$1,450,945**



**HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN** Totally renovated, expanded and redesigned in 2002, this 3BR/4BA home is the perfect mountain retreat! The kitchen features professional appliances, tumbled marble backsplash & Corian counters. It has two levels of extensive wrap around decks to enjoy the beautiful views. Relax in the spacious living room by the stone fireplace with floor-to-ceiling windows. The terrace level features a media room with 7-speaker surround sound, one office, one bedroom, and an Endless Pool (8x13 swim area) with porcelain tile surround. **BRING OFFER!**

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**HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN** This unique home is within walking distance of downtown Highlands, the Bascom, and the post office. Beautifully maintained grounds with abundant plantings. Relax on the front porch, deck or gather around the fire pit in the yard. Inside you'll love the sun room, which has a double-sided fireplace it shared with the living room. There is a separate dining room and an updated that kitchen opens into a den with a second gas fireplace and artistic glass windows. Three bedrooms plus an office area are upstairs, offering peace and quiet.

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## Fall Special through October 10% OFF All Toys!!!!

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## ...UNSEAT continued from page 1

Long-time incumbent Sheriff Robert Holland (Republican) will have two opponents, Eric Giles (Democrat) with just less than 10 years experience in law enforcement, and Brian Carpenter (unaffiliated) who challenged Holland last election. Carpenter, who had no experience in law enforcement last go around has since completed BLET and become a K9 officer in Graham County.

Holland is currently serving in his fourth term as Macon County Sheriff, having been elected in 2002 following the retirement of Sheriff Homer Holbrooks. He is married to Marci Bateman Holland, who is a Social Worker with Macon County Schools. Together they have two children, a daughter and a son, ages 12 and 8. They are members of Pine Grove Baptist Church, where they both have attended since childhood.

Holland began his career with the Macon County Sheriff's Office in 1991 starting as a volunteer. After being hired part time, he worked his way up through the ranks of the department, serving as Detention Officer, Deputy Sheriff, Juvenile Investigator, K-9 Handler, and Detective Sergeant.

Throughout his career, Holland has always focused on helping the county's most valuable resource, its children. More than 25 years ago Holland and his wife organized what has become well known as Macon County Shop with a Cop program which has helped hundreds and hundreds of families during the Christmas holidays. He was the recipient of the NC Juvenile Officer of the Year in 1999 and both he and his wife received the Donna B. Stone Memorial Award by Prevent Child Abuse NC for their efforts in working with victims of child abuse and for efforts in getting the NC Infant Homicide Prevention Act signed into law in July 2000.

Since being elected as Macon County Sheriff, Holland has received numerous awards for both his proactive approach to law enforcement and for effective-

ness in fighting crime. The Macon County Sheriff's Office was named "Agency of the Year" by M.A.D.D. in 2008 and Holland was named Sheriff of the Year by M.A.D.D. in 2011 for the western district due to the development of the New Year's Eve program geared toward reducing drunk driving called "Operation Think Twice," which has successfully been conducted for the last seven years.

Sheriff Holland and his agency have also received recognition from other agencies and organizations for their community efforts which include the North Carolina Wildlife Commission, United States Drug Enforcement Agency, Marine Corps League Detachment 973, Fraternal Order of Police, and "The Chairman's Award" from the Macon County Republican Party and twice the recipient of the "American Patriot Award" from the Gem County Republican Woman's Club.

For several years now, the Sheriff's Office has also been an active participant of the Governor's Highway Safety Program in an effort to combat various issues of concern on our local roadways and has received recognition for these efforts.

Sheriff Holland also has served as Past President of the North Carolina Juvenile Officer's Association and as President of the local child advocacy center, K.I.D.S. Place. He also served as Vice-Chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Safer Schools from 2013 to 2017 (appointed by Governor Pat McCrory.) Additionally, Sheriff Holland currently serves as Chairman for the Western Sheriffs and on the Board of Directors of NC Child Advocacy Centers. He also serves as Chairman of the Center for Safer Schools Task Force (appointed by Governor Roy Cooper in 2017.)

"I am running for the Office of Sheriff because I have worked hard throughout my entire career focused 100% on keeping Macon County a safe place to live and raise our families," said Holland. "I have spent my adult life pro-

tecting and serving this community and being committed to the citizens of Macon County. Serving my community has been my passion. I have never considered giving up or seeking employment anywhere else. Throughout my career, I have always kept my focus on the best interest of Macon County and its citizens no matter what their economical standings may be. Holding the title of Sheriff did not change that, it only increased my desire to continue serving the citizens of this county. While the MCSO has accomplished much over the last several years, there is still a great deal of work to be done. I am the candidate that has the knowledge and the proven experience to continue leading this agency in the right direction with a focus on proactive law enforcement services while delivering strong enforcement of the laws."

### Eric Giles

Eric Giles graduated from Haywood Community College in 2010 and started his career with the Macon County Sheriff's Office in 2011 as a Transport/Detention Officer where he was made Supervisor over transports until going full-time as a Detention Officer. Giles also worked as a Patrol Deputy with Graham County Sheriff's Office. According to Giles, he also worked at Clay County Sheriff's Office as a Bailiff, Patrol Deputy, and was Shift Supervisor, and was also the witness/victim coordinator/ Domestic Violence advocate under Captain Rocky Sampson. Giles is now a Patrol Deputy for Cherokee County Sheriff's Office.

"I filed to run for Sheriff to make a difference in our county," said Giles. "I feel we need a new direction and fresh ideas to combat the problems here in Macon County."

### Brian Carpenter

Brian Carpenter was born in Cobb County GA, while his dad was serving in the Navy. Carpenter's dad is a native of Macon County, and his family can trace their roots back to the Civil War.

• See UNSEAT page 12

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• LETTER •

## Removing candidate signs is illegal

Dear Editor,

Election season is upon us and with just a few weeks to go until November 6, candidates are increasing their public appearances, running ads on television and radio, and getting their name recognition out through road signs, billboards, and bumper stickers. Regardless of your political affiliation you may not appreciate the political signs that currently dot our roadways. It's clear that some area residents dislike them very much, resorting to removing and discarding candidate signs from a public rights-of-way, and in some cases, from private property.

The motivation for such activity is not clear, perhaps these individuals dislike a certain candidate, perhaps they dislike the political signage in general. Perhaps they don't think about the money and effort that went into producing and placing those signs. And my guess is that they probably don't know that they are breaking the law.

Most citizens probably recognize that removing or destroying a campaign sign on someone else's private property is illegal, but many people may not realize that removing campaign signs from a public road rights-of-way is also illegal. It is a Class 3 misdemeanor to steal, deface, vandalize,

or unlawfully remove a political sign that is lawfully placed.

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §136-32, campaign signs may be placed in the rights-of-way areas of public roads beginning 30 days before early voting opens until 10 days after election day. In other words, candidates were permitted to begin posting their signs on public roads (with some exceptions) starting on September 17th this year.

Road signs cost money, often money that has been donated by hardworking citizens who want to show support for their candidate of choice. It also requires someone's time and energy to put the signs out. The signs are an expression of free speech and part of the political campaign system in our great country. You may not like seeing them for this brief time on our roadways, but I see them as a badge of honor, a reminder that We The People are responsible for our electoral choices.

Overall, the signs I have seen in the Highlands area are legally placed and comply with the terms of North Carolina law. What is not legal are the actions of the individuals that have systematically removed and destroyed legally-placed signs. The actions of these unknown people are a blight against our democratic process and should be prosecuted if

caught. If you see someone removing a sign from a public roadway, please tell law enforcement. This activity is criminal, and perpetrators should be held accountable.

Erin Moorman



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# • THANK YOU •

## Empty Bowls events fills bellies

This letter comes filled with thanks to the enormous number of people who pitched together to make the 2018 Empty Bowls Benefit for the Highlands Food Pantry such a success. As we reflect on

the day we can't help but think of the 126 people whose fingers and toes must have ached from their physical contributions!

With huge appreciation we think of the fingers of the 40 potters who threw

clay to make over 350 bowls and 10 wood turners who turned timber to create 15 Silent Auction bowls -- that's easily 500 fingers. 11 chefs and bakers chopped, stirred, kneaded and frosted to create delicious soups and desserts. At least 46 volunteers stood on their feet for a cumulative total of 108 hours ladling soup, serving, setting and resetting places, pouring beverages, hefting packed garbage bags and directing foot traffic. (Just imagine those 460 aching toes.). And we think of and thank the 19 Committee Members and individuals who volunteered from June to October to do the multitude of additional jobs needed to organize this event.

We are especially grateful the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, and to the Dave Drake Potters and the Western Carolina Wood Turners at The Bascom Visual Arts Center for their continuing support of the Empty Bowls Benefit.

The need to alleviate hunger is year round -- and we hope our community will continue to help. Some bowls are still available for sale in Coleman Hall at the Presbyterian Church. Stop by any time from 10-5 Monday-Friday or Sunday mornings if you're in the market for a hand-made holiday gift! And, don't forget that fall is a good time to pack up your canned goods and bring them to the Food Pantry. It is located at the United Methodist Church of Highlands and is open every Monday 3.30-5.30. Call the International Friendship Center (526-0890) or the Pantry (421-1789) for more information or if you'd like to make a contribution.

So. It took approximately 2,520 fingers and toes to present Empty Bowls. Our Highlands community is remarkable

because there are armies of people who happily volunteer their time to this and other projects throughout the year. We salute them all!

With grateful thanks,

**Jane Jerry, 2018 Empty Bowls Chair**

**Marty Rosenfield, Director, Highlands Food Pantry**

**Dick Grier, President,**

**International Friendship Center**

**Andrea Smith, Director,**

**International Friendship Center**

## • OBITUARY •

### Beverly Jean Sander

Beverly Jean Sander, age 80 of Woodstock, GA, passed away on Sunday, October 14, 2018.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Sander; her children, Kelly (Tom) Corsetti, Mike (Lynn) Sander, Kim (Dave) Boyd, and Keri (Todd) Blanks; and her sister, Marcia (Tom) Stickle. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, October 17th, at St. Peter Chanel Catholic Church.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to St. Jude's Research Hospital ([www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org)), Ronald McDonald House of New York City ([www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org)), or Boys & Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain ([www.bgccp.com](http://www.bgccp.com)). Please sign online guestbook at [www.northsidechapel.com](http://www.northsidechapel.com)

### Need help with staying warm this winter?

The Highlands Emergency Council (H.E.C.) will be accepting applications from those requesting financial help for the cost of propane gas, fuel oil, and wood.

Applications will be accepted on:

Mon., Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tues., Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wed., Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please come by H.E.C. located on Poplar Street (next to Wilson Gas). Proof of income is required.

No applications will be accepted after these dates. Applications must be filled out in person; no applications will be taken over the phone.



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## • HS SPORTS •

### Highlands JV Volleyball team is championship winner!

Highschool soccer played Hayesville this week. They finished with a 5-1 loss. They are now waiting to hear information about state.

Highschool volleyball played in their conference tournament.

Varsity played Hiwassee Dam for their championship game and lost in 3 sets. They didn't make it into state this



Kedra McCall

year, meaning their season has officially come to an end.

JV Volleyball also played Hiwassee Dam for their championship game. They pulled the game out in the 3rd set giving them the championship trophy.

Listen for news about Highlands soccer boys and help support them if they get the opportunity to play in state.



Highlands JV volleyball – Conference Champions!

– Photo by Brian O'Shea



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Rachel's .... Game Day Pleasers

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#### Ingredients from The Spice & Tea Exchange®

2 TBS Tailgater's Spice Blend

2 TBS Island Sweet Spice Blend

#### Ingredients from the Grocer

¼ cup (½ stick) butter, divided

6 pre-cooked brats

½ cup water

1 large yellow onion, sliced

#### Preparation

**HEAT** 1 TBS butter over medium heat in a medium frying pan.

Brown brats over medium-high heat (about 5 mins).

**ONCE** brats are slightly browned, add the remaining butter, water, onion, TSTE® Tailgater's Spice Blend, and TSTE® Island Sweet Spice Blend.

**COOK**, covered, on medium heat for 10-15 mins or until brats are tender and have reached an internal temperature of 160°F.

\*Feel free to substitute fresh brats if desired. However, when doing this, you may need to turn the burner down to medium and add 10-20 mins to the time allotted for browning the brat.

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## ...UNSEAT continued from page 8

Carpenter and his family moved a few times from Georgia to Franklin and Virginia and back to Franklin while his dad was still in the Navy. When Carpenter was around 5 years old, he began school at the Old Cartoogechaye School, on to middle, and of course Franklin High where he graduated early for the class of 2003. Carpenter married his high

school girlfriend in 2003 and they celebrated the birth of their son, Kevin.

Carpenter worked as a laborer at Franklin Lumber for roughly 10 years. When the company changed directions, he stayed and worked for two years, and then went to work for mowing yards and driving short loads to Georgia and back. When the race for

Sheriff started in 2014, Carpenter felt led to run. He was defeated in the primary but said he learned a great deal.

Over the past four years, Carpenter has gone through Basic Law Enforcement Training (B.L.E.T) at Haywood Community College, where he also received his Associate's degree in criminal justice. Carpenter has a certification in Investigation, and Response and Recovery. He has been working for Graham County Sheriff's Office going on three years as a Patrol Deputy and recently, he was promoted to Patrol Sargent. Over this time, he became a Certified K9 handler with K9 Boaz, a Belgium Malinois.

"In 2014, I ran for Sheriff in the Republican primary against Robbie, I was ever impressed with the turn out in that primary," said Carpenter. "In 2018, I decided to run as an unaffiliated candidate, to do so I had to get 4% of the registered voters in Macon County. Which at that time was 1,018, I turned in approximately 1,350 signatures to get 1,080 validated signatures to be able to place me on the ballot. As of right now I

am still a registered Republican.

"I am no politician, I am a hard worker, who wants to Make Macon Safe Again," said Carpenter. "I am devoted to making Macon County a safe place for not only myself, and my family but everyone's family. Macon County's Crime rate is growing year after year. It is time Macon County changes to a positive way of thinking, and a new outlook on how to approach things, that is what I am offering for the residents of Macon County if elected Sheriff. I am ready and willing to work the long hours and days, I bring many things to the table."

*Macon County, WNC, and NC has a drug problem, and epidemic. How do you think law enforcement can strengthen its response to these problems?*

### Holland

"When first elected as Sheriff, I organized the Macon County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit in order to make a better effort at targeting drugs in our county. Prior to establishing this unit, narcotics officers participated in a task force that served all of western North Carolina and was active in each county for only a few months at a time. We needed to focus more on our county but are always willing to assist the other agencies at their request. That has proven to be beneficial and we all have worked great together. These efforts proved to be a positive change, as drug arrests increased dramatically. As Sheriff, I have established a three-pronged approach to fighting drugs:

1. Prevention (partnering with the school system and various agencies to inform our youth and our community as a whole about the dangers of drugs and addiction — also establishing numerous initiatives to enhance the safety of our county)

2. Intervention (partnering with mental health providers and addiction treatment programs to connect addicts with the help they need — such as the Prime for Life Program and the Second Chance Program, both offered in the Macon County Sheriff's Of-

fice Detention Center.)

3. Tough on crime (conducting aggressive operations such as the Highway Interdiction program, numerous undercover narcotics investigations, Operation Jaw Breaker, Operation Thunderstruck, and others.)"

### Giles

"Education is the key to preventing drug problems. I think we need to strengthen our rehabilitation programs, strengthen our education programs to prevent our youth from heading down the path to drugs, and start more community programs to get everyone involved in fighting this scourge."

### Carpenter

"The War on Drugs has been going on for years. As Sheriff of Macon County, I will bring the War on Drugs closer and more concentrated to our county. I will work with surrounding agencies, both Federal and State. With the help of patrol units, K9 Units, and investigations, the Narcotics Unit will spearhead an operation to stop the drug flow in and out of this county. One of the ways that will prevent the flow of drugs into this county will be to install a license plate reader on Hwy 441 North/South and into select patrol vehicles. As drug dealers enter the county, the readers will let our officers know that this car is on a watch list for drug trafficking. There have been many drug seizures and missing persons found because of these fine programs and will be a great improvement to the Sheriff's Office. More drug enforced check points, including DWI check points, will help tighten down on all the other illegal operations that occur."

*What specific areas within the existing department can be changed in terms of budgetary items to fund additional officers in Nantahala ... is it even possible?*

### Holland

"I am in favor of providing 24-hour coverage to the Nantahala community," said Holland. "I have throughout my years serving as Sheriff and will con-

• See UNSEAT page 32

### Dr. Joseph H. Wilbanks, D.D.S.

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# • YOUNGER THROUGH FITNESS •

## Are Women Smarter Than Men?

### Pertinent Points:

1. Women on average live over five years longer than men.
2. The number one cause of death for both sexes is heart disease.
3. Observe the waist size of the majority of American men over 50 years of age.
4. Excess abdominal fat statistically relates to an increase in heart disease, cancer, stroke and type 2 diabetes.



Hank Miller  
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training should be done only after several minutes of gradually warming the body up with an initial low intensity aerobic exercise. As we get older, strength training should encompass multi-joint patterns that mimic real to life movements. It can and should take months to build up to a successful strength training program due to the fact that muscle strength can increase faster than the connective tissue in the ligaments and tendons

can adapt to the stresses.

Cardio vascular conditioning should be emphasized first and for most. Without a strong and exercise-adapted heart there is higher risk of death! By the way; I am unapologetic for emphasizing this point so many times in my articles.

Repetition breeds habits and awareness and I truly believe this may be my public service to those of you following this column.

In comparing my observations of men versus women, untrained and working on their own, I have viewed women heading to the aerobic sections first and foremost. I've observed women routinely out numbering men on treadmills and aerobic-based classes. In the course of my career, I have specialized in two cardio classes over the years. One was an outdoor, walking-based aerobic, flexibility and functional strength class. Most of these classes were attended by almost 100 percent women. For almost a decade I led an indoor cycling class at High Hampton Health Club in Cashiers and for most of the hundreds of classes I led, the women outnumbered the men. The men who attended were just smarter than others of my gender.

In my observation of men exercising the majority whether they are 15 or 80 go directly to some form of chest press, either a machine or free weights. Secondly, they do an arm curl. Totally ignoring their heart conditioning, flexibility and balance in their posture. Although these exercises can be a portion of a balanced exercise program they are far down on the list of benefits for a program that will result in a healthy, well balanced, illness preventing life extending, balanced fitness protocol.

Does this mean women are smarter than men? What do you think?

Recently I read an article about a group of silicone valley billionaires attempting to fund research into medical breakthroughs with the goal of extending human life indefinitely.

One of the principles behind this attempt noted that if such breakthroughs develop, the benefits would have to be limited to a select few wealthy, super privileged people (and I might add self-absorbed self-ish elitists!) due to the fact that if everyone benefited, extreme over population would be the result.

Over population would over tax all of the world's resources and inevitably result in a world-wide disaster of biblical proportions.

Thankfully these Dorian Gray characters have not, as yet, been successful and according to the article may never be. The article went on to say that at this time and for the foreseeable future our best bet for longevity is a healthy diet and exercise. What a surprise!

You'd have to be living in a sound proof isolation chamber today if you haven't heard that healthy diet and exercise is our best avenue for a longer life with less chronic pain and suffering. Unfortunately, many people hear this but are clueless in what to do and where to start.

During my years as a trainer and fitness director in club environments, I always found it interesting to observe how people chose to go at exercise on their own, especially when they did not seek professional assistance for their initial fitness program.

Men from my observation tend to have the lowest potential for success and the greatest potential of harming themselves more than women do.

Initially, an exercise program should be started at a slow gradual pace. Strength



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# • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

## Mental Health for All ... Private, outpatient mental health clinic now open

Carolina Partners in Mental HealthCare and Rachel Kelley, PMHNP-BC have just opened their 36th clinic in North Carolina. The new Highlands Clinic at 26 Highlands Plaza opened its doors on Monday, August 20th - and it is rolling out a new, company-wide doctrine of care they are calling, "Real Value." Real Value emphasizes that good behavioral health services are vital for anyone in our society to thrive and be happy, regardless of their occupation or background. Therefore, Carolina Partners is working hard to make their diverse services accessible to all.

They are doing this in a few ways: by expanding to become geographically accessible from anywhere in the state; by working to remain affordable with or without insurance; and especially by employing enough practitioners from every walk of life that any patient who walks through their doors can be matched with someone who meets their individual needs. "Good mental health is required for getting a job promotion; in building healthy and long-lasting relationships; in maintaining friendships, et cetera," explains Stan Monroe, founder and CEO of Carolina Partners. "The 'Real Value' of mental healthcare is simply that every person needs it. So with this new clinic (and all our clinics), we're trying to help more



**Dr. Rachel Kelley**

people access these services that every person needs."

The Highlands Clinic employs a staff of experienced, empathetic practitioners to ensure the success of this mission of inclusivity. Rachel B Kelley is an Advanced Practice Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Board Certified Nationally, with a graduate degree from the University of Cincinnati. She has years of experience in the mental health field, and is well-qualified to provide optimum care to her community. "I take pride in properly diagnosing the issues, appropriately medicating these problems, and closely monitor patients until they are stable and living the life they want and deserve to live," Kelley says. "I believe there are many ways to help someone, so I am committed to working closely with other treatment providers in order for the person seeking help to have the most optimum level of treatment possible." Because Kelley has the freedom to act as a therapist, prescribe medications, and to monitor and adjust patients' prescriptions as needed, Kelley can ensure that every patient gets a health plan that is tailored to their precise needs. And if she isn't the person best suited to help someone, someone else at the clinic with a different background can step in and take over.

Right now in our country, only 25% of people who need mental health services are currently accessing them. Less are accessing services that are maximally helpful in solving their specific issues. Economic and geographical concerns, coupled with longstanding stigmas surrounding mental illness, can majorly influence a person's decision to seek help. As questions of healthcare affordability and accessibility continue to be hot-button topics debated on the political stage, it may indeed be up to the practices themselves to take their own initiatives in bringing their crucial services to their communities. The new Carolina Partners of Highlands clinic intends to do just that.

Contact Dr. Kelley to schedule an appointment: 877-712-7168. [www.cpmh.com](http://www.cpmh.com)

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# • WORD MATTER •

## Questions and Answers



**Bud Katz**

For some thoroughly unknown and patently ridiculous reason, some people, who walk among us, procreate, and vote, confer “all seeing, all knowing” status on those of us who have been provided a platform from which to offer our opinions in a public forum. Count me among the folks who get to do this.

Sometimes, when someone I know, or even a total stranger notices the gent in their field of vision happens to be me, they will mention this column and will engage me in a discussion of one or more of the issues of the day. Sometimes, it's simple stuff, other times it's more complicated. Here are a couple of examples for your consideration.

We find ourselves nearly two years from the date when, to the surprise of almost everyone, including himself, Donald Trump defeated Hillary Clinton, won the election, and, two months later was sworn in as 45th President of the United States. More than once, since that, based on your perspective, auspicious or infamous date, I have often been asked two questions, depending on the political leanings of the person asking the questions. Why, I am asked, isn't Hillary Clinton in jail? How, I have also been asked, did Donald Trump ever get elected POTUS?

One might, on the surface, consider these as rhetorical questions, and therefore no answer is expected. Not in this context, though. These people are seeking the truth. And who better to ask than the, allegedly, all-knowing, all-seeing, purveyor of wisdom, the columnist for the Highlands Newspaper? I understand that these folks have no interest in simply dropping an

opinion in the form of a question. No, THEY WANT ANSWERS!

So, in the spirit in which the questions are posed, here they are. In both cases, the answers are: Don't ask me. Ask James Madison. Let me explain.

As to the first question, Hillary Clinton isn't in jail because she was never charged with a crime. Therefore she never stood trial. Therefore she was never found guilty, of anything at all. Whether we're talking emails, Benghazi, Whitewater, or wearing arguably unfashionable pantsuits, no criminal act was committed and therefore no sentence was passed. That's why she's not in jail. It's all there in the U.S. Constitution, mostly in Amendments 5, 6 and 7.

Our legal system, which, if we're honest with each other works most of the time, doesn't provide for a determination of guilt by consensus at campaign rallies, or by an individual's political preference. Consequently, in America's legal system, simply chanting, “lock her up” doesn't constitute due process. No charge, no determination of guilt, no jail. Sorry, but that's just the way it is.

As to the question of how Donald Trump ever got elected, one must again look to Mr. Madison's marvelous missive. Article Two, Section One, Clause Two of the U.S. Constitution establishes the United States Electoral Col-

lege. This process provides that states appoint electors, who then cast votes for the candidate who received the most votes in that particular state.

BUT, the follow-up question always begs, Mrs. Clinton won the national popular vote by over three million votes! Indeed she did, however, most of those votes were cast in two states. The electoral votes of those two states, New York and California, were awarded to Mrs. Clinton regardless of whether she won each state by one vote or by millions of votes. What she didn't win, however, were enough electoral votes from enough states, consequently she, and her arguably unfashionable pantsuits, did not get to move back into the White House for a second time. Instead, Mr. Trump and his seemingly redundant blue suits, white shirts and red ties did. Sorry, again, but that's just the way it is.

Now, I understand ‘that's the way it is’ isn't ever the kind of salve necessary to ameliorate the burns or wounds behind plaintively sought inquiries into, if not pressing issues then the enduring and frustrating ones which have been plaguing the psyches of these questioners for two years.

That's too bad.

Just so you know, these are not the only questions truth seekers pose when they happen upon he-who-has-been-anointed. No siree, Bob. Not by a long shot. On occasion, when your faithful columnist deems it appropriate, I will again share the wisdom of the ages.

Or, I'll share whatever else happens to fly into my head at any given moment. You are, indeed, welcome.

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



**Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Dinner – 6pm**

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**The polls are open on Election Day Nov. 6, 6:30a to 7:30p.**

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## ...OPEN LETTER continued from page 2

munication which I hope leads to some very needed attention in Macon County but particularly for patients at Highlands Cashiers Hospital.

Namely, if a surgical unit for "little" surgeries isn't reopened at Highlands Cashiers Hospital, then an ambulance needs to be on site using on-call attendants.

Here is why.

Wednesday afternoon, after a thorough exam, Dr. Wadsworth determined that something was "abnormal" in my abdomen and called over to Dr. Meade for a scan.

I entered the ER a little before 3:30 p.m.

Once in the ER, while waiting my turn for a scan, bloodwork was taken and fluids given intravenously. When my bloodwork came back indicating that my white blood count was extremely high – Dr. Meade agreed with Wadsworth that something was clearly wrong.

By 4:30 I was back in the ER cubicle awaiting the results of the scan.

Dr. Meade came in directly and said that I had acute appendicitis and I needed to have surgery.

I asked when, he said now...tonight... in Franklin...I have already called down to tell them you are coming.

I said I would call Jim (my husband) to come get me and we would go on down.

Meade said that wasn't an option, I needed to go by ambulance because the appendix could rupture and then I'd be in real trouble.

Long story short, it took 3 hours for an ambulance to arrive. I could hear Dr. Meade on the phone outside the cubicle pleading for an ambulance ... for hours.

There weren't any available in Franklin; Asheville might be able to come at some point but wasn't sure and even so it could take hours; Highlands had one on a call enroute somewhere and had to keep one on site. Glenville-Cashiers likewise, was on a call enroute and had to keep one on site but they would call if they could free one.

Meade kept trying.

Finally, a little after 7 p.m., Glenville-Cashiers called and said that the call they were on refused transport so they would come directly to Highlands.

They arrived around 7:30 p.m. I was loaded up and ready to go before 8 p.m. for the arduous journey down Buck Creek Road – which this team from Glenville-

Cashiers had never made.

Forty-five minutes later I am deposited at the Angel Medical Center ER. They knew why I was there, but I arrived MUCH later than expected. Consequently, the surgical crew had to be called in.

It was explained to me, that the surgical crew of four that includes the anesthesiologist is always on-call because only "little" surgeries are done at Angel ... the big stuff is sent to Mission in Asheville.

So again, we waited.

Finally, at 10 p.m., everyone was on site and the surgeon, Dr. Weircox came in to explain the procedure.

If all went well ... that is if the appendix hadn't ruptured throughout this process... surgery would take an hour and I could go home the next day.

As it turned out, it had ruptured, so it was a two-hour procedure and I was in the hospital until Friday afternoon.

My point? If no "little" surgeries can be done in Highlands and patients HAVE to go elsewhere, namely Angel for the "little" stuff, then patients should not have to wait as long as I did OR even for an hour and a half which I am told is the normal wait time once an ambulance is requested from the hospital in Highlands.

In the Nov. 16, 2017 edition of Highlands Newspaper a front page story touted the purchase of a state-of-the-art ambulance primarily with funds supplied by the HC Hospital Foundation.

"When I learned about the need to improve medical transport for Highlands and all of Macon County, I was pleased to make a significant contribution to this important cause," said community donor Mark T. Mahaffey.

"My intent was to expedite the project by making a challenge gift to complete the funding by yearend 2016. It was exciting to see so many good folks in Highlands come forward to meet the goal."

I wonder what Mark Mahaffey would think if he knew that the new ambulance is rarely in Highlands and in fact – according to sources I am not naming as not to jeopardize their careers – "lives" in Franklin.

Everyone understands that ambulances have to be shared in the county ... but is it right that the community that purchased the ambulance be treated like the red-headed step-child?

While I was in the hospital, I emailed

• See OPEN LETTER page 29

# PRINCESS PUDDIN'S PERSPECTIVE

## • CATSPEAK •

### Pet Parent Training Guide

Everyone knows you can train a dog, but not a kitty. We kitties, though, can sure train our pet parents. I suspect some of us are better at this than others, so for my fellow kitties who may struggle to get their pet parents in line, I'd like to provide some tried and true tips.



Princess Puddin'

stare at it; sit or stand near the kitty bowl and stare at the pet parent; add meowing to the stand or sit step as appropriate; sniff the food and look up at the pet parent accusingly; sniff the food and with an appropriate touch of disdain, walk at least two feet away and lie down; by all means, do

not touch the food.

Well trained pet parents will respond by continually fluffing up the wet food or washing the food from the bowl to replace it with milk or whatever else the kitty desires until food satisfaction is achieved. Having a dog in the house is especially helpful when training pet parents on proper feeding procedures.

My fellow kitties may ask, "How on earth can having a dog be helpful?" The answer is simple: dogs like kitty food and loving pet parents won't want their dog to eat it. Because kitty food is not healthy for dogs, pet parents will rush to pick up, fluff up, or change out the kitty food to prevent the dog from scarfing it down.

And, believe me, if you have a big dog like Lord Banjo, food can be scarfed down with one swipe of the tongue. That boy loves to eat my food—or anyone else's for that matter—and he can lie near my bowl and scarf down food without ever lifting his head. I consider that behavior the height of laziness, as I always gracefully stand when I eat. I have trained Lord Banjo in other ways, but I haven't been successful in the food arena as of yet. This guide is about pet parent training, though, so we'll leave doggie training for another day.

• Princess Puddin' Penn resides in Georgia with her dad, her mom Kathy Manos Penn, and her canine brother Lord Banjo. Please send comments, compliments, and questions to [ink-penn119@gmail.com](mailto:ink-penn119@gmail.com). Kathy and Lord Banjo's books can be found on Amazon and at Books Unlimited in Franklin.

Today's lesson covers how to train pet parents on proper feeding procedures. Yes, they don't just come already knowing what to do. Success in getting food when, where, and how one wants it, requires the kitty to perfect the art of speaking and of turning up her nose.

To get attention by speaking, the kitty must meow loudly as soon as the pet parent goes anywhere near the kitchen.

And, if the pet parent doesn't go near the kitchen when the kitty is hungry, then the kitty must meow wherever she is and keep looking back at the pet parent while prancing towards the kitchen. Kitties must stand by the kitty bowl and meow especially plaintively once the pet parent hits the kitchen, even when food is already in the dish because the food is very often not to the kitty's liking.

The next step in training on proper feeding procedures is for the kitty to artfully turn up her cute kitty nose to indicate the food is unacceptable.

Several factors can cause food to be unacceptable: food has been in the bowl for over 60 seconds; food is not properly fluffed; Kitty wants milk, not food; Kitty wants food, not milk; Kitty only thought food was a good idea and has changed her mind; Kitty is distracted by the water bowl, a noise, the dog, or the pet parent turning its attention to anything other than the kitty.

How does one artfully turn up a cute kitty nose? Several techniques are available: sit or stand near the kitty bowl and

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Ongoing

• Movies at the Playhouse: Fri. & Sat.: 1, 4 & 7pm; Sun.: 1 & 4pm; Mon. & Tues.: 1, 4 & 7pm

## Through October

• The Bookworm is having a ½ price sale. Located at the Falls on Main, next door to the Highland Hiker, open Monday-Saturday 10a – 4p.

## First Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men's Mtg 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 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](http://www.occupywnc.org) or call 828.331.1524

## Third Tuesday

• The Macon County Poultry club meets to discuss topics related to raising backyard chickens. 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. Go to [www.glenvilleareahistoricalociety.com](http://www.glenvilleareahistoricalociety.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

• 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

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# •HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS•

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 Riverview St. Contact Majestic 828-369-9474

## 1st and 3rd Thursdays

• Indivisible Highlands, a non-partisan activist group meets 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 LEGO creations.

## Saturdays

• 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.

## Sundays

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

## Thurs.-Sun. Oct. 25-28

• HCP presents Mauritius by Theresa Rebeck. Performances will be held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Thursdays through Sundays. Evening shows begin at 7:30, Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. For tickets and

more information after September, check the Players website: Highlandscashiersplayers.org or leave a message at 828-526-8084.

## Fri., - Sun., Oct. 26-28

• At Highlands Playhouse, Foodie Film Festival. Movies about FOOD! Julie and Julia, Chocolat, Ratatouille, Wasted!, Back to Burgundy, Sideways and more. 1, 4 and 7 p.m. For more information, call 828-526-2695.

## Fri., Oct. 26

• Summit Charter School is now enrolling K-10 for the 2019-2020 school year! Come walk the beautiful public school campus, tour the classrooms, meet the faculty and learn more about becoming a Summit Bear. Summit is a tuition-free public school in Cashiers that engages students in learning experiences that stimulate discovery, inspire excellence and nurture a positive influence in an ever-changing world.

• See EVENTS page 22

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## ...EVENTS continued from page 19

Learn more about the school's individualized education and place-based programs on Friday at 8:45 a.m. For more information or to RSVP, please call 828-743-5755 or email mhudson@summitschool.org.

### Sat., Oct. 27

• Scotts Creek School's "Pumpkin Prance 5K Walk/Run" will be held Saturday. Registration starts at 7am, race starts at 8am. Dress in your favorite costume. The best costume

wins a prize! Adults \$20 and youth \$10; At last year's event Jada Sellers, student at Scotts Creek, won second place in her age group. Questions about participation call the school 631-2740 or email mdavis@jcpsail.org or lptotter@jcpsmail.org. Fun for the whole family!

• At PAC, Puccini's La Fanciulla Del West, Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) at 12:55 with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

• Crime novel co-authors Donald Reichardt, of Johns Creek, and Joyce Oscar, of Roswell, will introduce their third book in the Grace Gleason Files Trilogy, *Unholy Mind Games*, on Saturday October 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. with a Reception at The Carolina Gallery of Fine Art in Highlands. The Gallery is located at the corner N 4th St & Carolina Way. Upper level entrance off Carolina Way. Refreshments will be served, and the public is invited to attend.

### Tues., Oct. 30

• Halloween Enchanted Forest at the Nature Center from 6-7:30 p.m. Celebrate Halloween the natural way with our Halloween Enchanted Forest on Tuesday, October 30 from 6-7:30 p.m. Guided tours of our Bo-

tanical Garden will lead you trick-or-treating around the trail to meet some native animal characters offering candy and facts about themselves. Beware the forest in the last half hour as it will turn from enchanted to haunted and the animals will definitely be more "trick" than "treat". When you are done trick-or-treating, join us in the Nature Center for fun activities and check out our bone collection.

### Wed., Oct. 31

• Downtown Trick or Treating begins at 6 p.m. Main Street will be closed to through traffic at 5:30 p.m.

### Nov 1 - Dec 30

• At The Bascom, interweaving Southern Baskets. The art of basketry, including examples of Native American works and fine art baskets.

### Sat., Nov. 3

• At PAC, Julie by August Strindberg, at 1 p.m., Live via Satellite Series featuring the National Theatre (London.) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

### Sat., Nov. 10

• At PAC, Muhly's Marnie, Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC)

• See EVENTS page 26

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\$795,000 • HCMLS# 97556

A beautiful contemporary home on 46 acres of property surrounded on three sides by National Forest. The home has two wings. Part of the house can be used as an in-law suite with its own kitchen, bedrooms, and living area. Approximately 20 minutes from Western Carolina University and 10 minutes from the Bear Lake boat ramp. There is an additional 19.7-acre parcel available for purchase near the listed property Co-listed with Jody Lovell.



\$995,000 • MLS# 89133A

This is a beautifully situated traditional home in HFCC on North Big Bearpen Mountain Road with views of Whiteside Mountain, Shortoff Mountain, Chimney Top Mountain in Cashiers, and distant Mount Toxaway. The waterfall on HFCC golf hole #15 is visible from the home's front deck. Open floor plan. Stone fireplace is focal point in the living room and dining area. Two master bedrooms on one end and two bedrooms on the other. Finished lower level with full bath and a deck.



\$599,000 • MLS# 89218

At the end of HFCC golf hole #5 with a commanding view of the green and down the fairway, this home offers excellent views to be enjoyed from the main floor deck and the lower level area. The main floor features two bedrooms and two baths with a large great room which opens to the expansive covered wraparound deck. The attractive stone fireplace is a focal point in the living room area. The terrace level has another living area with a second stone fireplace plus a kitchenette.



\$429,000 • MLS# 88084

A beautifully maintained home with updated finishes backing up to the Highlands falls County Golf course on hole number 4. From the front entrance, you can see HFCC golf hole number 5. This well-designed home has an open living space and one level living with the master bedroom on one end and the other two bedrooms on the other end of the home. The stone fireplace provides an inviting focal point for the living room, dining, and kitchen area.



Over \$100,000 in upgrades in this spectacular condo/w BIG MOUNTAIN VIEWS. Hands-down the best condo as well as surreal mountain views in Old Edwards Club. Come see why we love this community!

Offered for \$599,000. MLS 89413



Modern and rustically renovated, this turnkey home boasts the best of mountain elegance & is ready for you to sit back, relax & enjoy the season. Less than 5 minutes to town!

Offered for \$449,000. MLS 88779



Perched in the trees in desirable Highlands Falls CC, this spacious home with low maintenance yard is located in a quiet area that offers a respite from all cares. The rustically finished lower level features a separate entrance, offering great rental potential! Bring Us An Offer!

Offered for \$525,000. MLS 88112



Serenity and peace await in this enchanted setting! Listen to Big Creek as you stroll green and private grounds complete with water feature. Charming and spacious home with lots of windows bringing nature inside!

Offered for \$675,000. MLS 89009



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## • INVESTING AT 4.118 FT. •

### 'In God We Trust...all others pay cash'

The quotation above is from a burger joint I frequented during my college days in Minnesota. I was reminded of it again rather vividly. I know that credit cards, Apple Pay, and Venmo are taking over cash transactions and "splitting the tab;" but there is on my ten-dollar bill...In God We Trust.

It really got me thinking about the trust we place in others, and its impact on Real Estate business and life in general. Go ahead and ask the question..."as a Buyer or a Seller of real property, who should I trust?"

I'll make the case, you can trust your professional Real Estate Broker.

In a recent Wall Street Journal column by Crispin Sartwell entitled "America's Institutions Have Earned Our Distrust" he says: "Americans, with regret, have ceased



Pat Gleeson, Owner, BIC  
828-782-0472

to trust their Institutions," and he adds "the basic problem isn't that people don't trust Institutions, but that the Institutions aren't trustworthy" (I'll refrain from naming Institutions that have sunk to these new levels). In the article, Sartwell finally quotes what Mom and Dad always said; "Trust has to be earned!"

It's true that the advances in on-line search help

Buyers and Sellers do their homework, but technology will never replace the market knowledge and experience you get from a professional Real Estate Broker. Thank God the Real Estate world still involves people working with people in a personalized way. At its very core, the relationship with your Real Estate Broker is a very good thing, and governed by a fiduciary

• See INVESTING page 25

## Great country club living at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club



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**Highlands, NC**

**828-526-9155**

**Blair & Margaret Heinlein**

**Owners/Brokers**

**www.blair-realty.com**

**Blair's cell:828-421-6995**

**Margaret's cell:828-421-1295**



## ...INVESTING continued from page 24

responsibility between Broker and Client as required by the North Carolina Real Estate Commission. Specifically, trust and confidence are the cornerstone of this relationship. If you don't have it...run!

What are some of the ways this trust is earned? As a Seller, you may not live in Highlands full-time. You've given your Broker the "keys to your castle" in more ways than one. As Brokers, we take ownership in keeping your property looking good even in the middle of Winter; are the heating system and ceiling fans set correctly to avoid stale air and freezing; and is the home "show ready" at all times?

Likewise, for Buyers we coordinate all Inspections during the Due Diligence period once you're under contract. We facilitate bids from professional vendors (plumbers, electricians, and carpenters) necessary for you to project expenses and fix things once you own the property; and we regularly interface with lending institutions during underwriting if you're obtaining a loan.

For both Buyers and Sellers, fiduciary trust really heightens during price negotiations. Experienced Brokers work with you on a pricing strategy for your prop-

erty based upon current market conditions, comparable inventory, and facts. Pie in the Sky pricing never works. Perhaps you've made an offer on a property and you're waiting on a response from the Seller. Trust that a Licensed Broker is negotiating on your behalf in a timely manner to achieve the best possible outcome for all parties. And finally, this same level of trust should be exemplified by Brokers who are on opposite sides of a deal. Broker-to-Broker, we pledge to cooperate in good faith, and equally and fairly in every step of the transaction, to the benefit of our respective parties.

So the next time you reach into your wallet and look at a ten-dollar bill, read those precious words "In God We Trust," and go have coffee with a friend.

• *Pat Gleeson, his wife Deborah (aka Bee), and their dog Gemma are Owners and Brokers of White Oak Realty Group, located in downtown Highlands on 4th Street across from the Old Edwards Inn. White Oak Realty Group, founded in 2009 by Susie deVillie, is one of the leading boutique brokerage firms on the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau. You can reach Pat, Bee, and Susie deVillie at 828.526.8118.*

## OPEN HOUSE

**SAT & SUN, Oct. 27 & 28 • 12-2PM**  
**REDUCED TO \$259,900 MUST SELL!**  
**MLS# R89631A**



**Enter to Win \$100 for Viewing Brand NEW Gated, 3 bedroom 2.5 bath Mountain Chalet, Fireplace, Decks, and Panoramic Mountain Views.**  
*(Directions 441 to Tessentee Road to Deer Ridge. See Signs)*

**Lin Tibbetts, Broker • 828.222.9319 • Keller Williams Realty**

## 'BREAKFAST ON MIRROR LAKE!'

### OPEN HOUSE

**Sat., Oct. 27 • 10a-1p**  
**414 Mirror Lake Road**



**\$625,000 • MLS# 89504**

A special place, in a special location! 3BR/3BA, 2 large lots, walk-to-town or stroll to Mirror Lake, Canoe, Fly Fish, and Hike your way through life.



*Directions: From Downtown Highlands, take Hwy. 64 (Franklin Road), VEER RIGHT onto Mirror Lake Road. Cross the bridge, stay left on Mirror Lake Road to 414.*

**WHITE OAK**  
 REALTY GROUP

**Pat Gleeson, BIC • 828-782-0472 • White Oak Realty Group • 828-526-8118**

# Open House

**Saturday, Oct. 27 • 10a-2p**

**2730 Clear Creek Road, Highlands**



**\$1,795,000 • MLS# 88068**

**You won't find this in the city!**

**New construction, 23 acres, 1,000 ft. Clear Creek runs through property, guest house, spectacular pastoral view from every direction.**

*Directions: From Highlands take Hwy 28S about 5 miles. Turn right onto Sassafras Gap Rd. Go about 1 mile to the end of Sassafras Gap Rd and turn left onto Clear Creek Road. First driveway on left with stone columns.*

**Debra Rogers, Broker • 828-200-0155 • Country Club Properties • 828-526-5010**

## ...EVENTS continued from page 22

at 12:55 with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

### Sat., Nov. 17

• At PAC, King Lear by Shakespeare at 1 p.m., Live via Satellite Series featuring the National Theatre (London.) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047.

### Sat., Nov. 24

• Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Caroling in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street beginning at 6 p.m.

### Sat., Dec. 1

• Annual Olde Mountain Christmas Parade on Main Street beginning at 11 a.m.

• At PAC, Mozart's The Magic Flute at 2pm. Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. (After the Highlands Christmas Parade) Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047.

Chefs in the House at The Farm at Old Edwards. Parade night party with Pitmaster Rodney Scott.

### Sat., Dec. 8

• At PAC, The Madness of King George by Alan Bennett at 1 p.m. Live via Satellite Series featuring the National Theatre (London.) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047.

### Sat., Dec. 15

• At PAC, Verdi's La Traviata Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) at 12:55 with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

### Sat., Jan. 5, 2019

• At PAC, Allelujah by Alan Bennett at 1 p.m. Live via Satellite Series featuring the National Theatre (London.) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

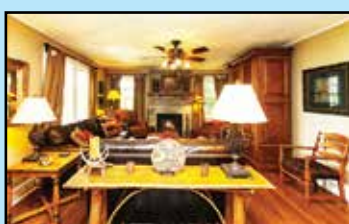
### Sat., Jan. 12

• At PAC, Cilea's Adriana LeCouvreur, at 1 p.m., Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) at 12:55 with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: [www.highlandspac.org](http://www.highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands

# Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals



**MLS #88874 \$297,000**  
**3BR/3 bath - FURNISHED**  
On two private lots near the top of Moon Mtn. Hiking/ waterfalls



**MLS #88942 \$1,050,000.**  
**6 BR/ 2 baths**  
Old Highlands charm on over 6.5 acres  
Mountain views & **EASY WALK** to town



**MLS #88979 \$312,500**  
**3BR/ 3 baths with bonus rooms.** Quiet neighborhood in Flat Mountain area. It's the little cottage that **LIVES LARGE.**



**MLS #86858 \$950,000**  
**3BR/3 baths**  
Walk to town with mountain views  
Contemporary design with log siding



**MLS #89025 \$977,000**  
**5BR/ 4 baths. FURNISHED.** Beautiful, well maintained and custom built. 4+ acres in private location in Flat Mountain Road area.



**Tucker & Jeannie Chambers**  
828-526-3717  
[www.highlandsiscalling.com](http://www.highlandsiscalling.com)  
401 N 5th St., Highlands

*"Highlands is calling and I must go."*



Main Street

## COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

Mtn. Fresh

Wright Sq. 828-526-2520 | www.ccphighlandsnc.com | ccp4info@frontier.com



Ready to move in to this 3 bedroom 2 bath on a gentle lot with a view of Satulah Mountain. This house has been totally renovated with quality craftsmanship and materials. Custom kitchen with new appliances, cathedral ceilings in the greatroom with stone fireplace, Carolina room with fireplace. City water and a great setting. Offered at \$799,000. mls #88604



Level 1.65 acre lot. 2 bedroom 2 bath home all on one level, Single car garage, and screened porch. Home being sold in "as is" condition. Frame built around original mobile home. Offered at \$160,000. mls #88071



This light and bright, 3BR, 3BA home is a must see. One level living, newly updated kitchen, vaulted ceilings, wood burning fp and 18'30" deck facing Shortoff Mountain. Separate family room w/fireplace, full house generator, paved circular drive, beautiful landscaping. An inviting and comfortable home that brings the outdoors inside. Buckberry Falls is a friendly neighborhood that enjoys social events and community pond. Near Highlands-Cashiers hospital. Offered at \$529,900. mls #89574



Lovely Old Orchard estate Over 9 acres with a spectacular mountain views, this house is move in condition, with 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths. Fully renovated kitchen with dining area and cathedral living room with fireplace. Immaculate grounds and guest house is available listed separately. Do not miss this one if you want privacy and usable yard. Offered at \$1,875,000. mls #88584



Original ranch home with 3.44+ acres sits on a grassy knoll with nice ridgeline view. 3 bedroom 1 bath home with hardwood floors. Full basement for expansion and a detached garage. Property crosses the road with a gurgling stream. Property backs up to USFS lands. Offered at \$219,500. mls #87858



Well maintained log home on 4+ acres on Arnold Road, behind security gate. Open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, loft. Master bedroom on main, 2 guest bedrooms above and an over sized bunk room below. 3 wood burning stone fireplaces; main living area, and lower family room under outside covered deck. 3 car garage with studio-office apartment above, equipped with kitchen and full bath. All log exterior, cedar shake roof, copper gutters. Gentle terraced path to lake with private dock. Offered for \$1,795,000. MLS# 88211



Lovely Mountain 3 BR 3BA home built in the 1950s by Alvin Crowe. Large open living/dining combined, vaulted ceilings with beautiful original stone fireplace. Open kitchen, sun room, large bedroom with en suite bath, and full bath for guest. Downstairs had two bedrooms, and one bath with bonus room. Wrap around deck and covered deck to enjoy the outside living. Also downstairs patio and lovely rolling walkway to lake. Offered at \$425,000. mls #89581



This beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath log cabin on the Atlanta side of Highlands on buck knob road in scaly mountain is the perfect hideaway with almost 10 acres of land and a great view to the west. The covered porch across the entire back of the log cabin is a great place to enjoy the long range mountain views. The log cabin is furnished with a few exceptions. Offered at \$585,000. mls #87736



Great year round or weekend getaway. This love home sits on a gentle knoll with a nice natural yard and wooded view. living area has cathedral ceiling, spacious kitchen, split bedroom floorplan and great loft. Huge deck. 2 car garage. Offered at \$329,000. mls #88308



With a mountain ridge view, this home has been totally renovated inside and out. Large open kitchen, dining, living room with gas log fireplace, 3 BR/2 baths, double garage, large deck (partially covered), and beautiful landscaping. Almost one acre fully fenced for dog/children security. The foundation and the front entrance are showcased with stone veneer, and the timber supports for the decking and front porch add a rustic charm to this mountain home. Offered at \$319,000. mls #88377



This home is a must see sitting on over 10 acres of land with great panoramic views to the west. This all glass contemporary home is a one owner well built with 3 fireplaces, 2 levels of decks, walls of glass to see the views and lots of land for privacy or development. this home is convenient to the hospital, country clubs, highlands and cashiers. Offered at \$1,295,000. mls #87715



On all paved roads, 7 minutes from town, is this lovely Sagee Woods estate, almost flat lot with good privacy, garage and carport. Spacious rooms with everything you need for main level living. Multiple fireplaces. Upstairs is great for guests with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, plus sitting room. Lower level has media room, workshop, and guest room with full bath. Storage everywhere. Offered at \$1,595,000. mls #89497



New custom built home on 23.04 acres with over 1,000' of Clear Creek flowing through the property, pastoral grounds and a pond. The main level living room has vaulted ceilings, a floor to ceiling stone fireplace, hardwood floors throughout, neutral color shiplap interior with rustic touches. 3BR/2BA on main level. Upstairs a large bunk room, spacious bath and cozy tv spot. Kitchen has custom cabinets, granite countertops, large island and stainless appliances. Outdoor patio with stone fireplace. Detached garage and 1BR/1BA guest house. Offered for \$1,795,000. mls #88068



Brand new Under Construction! Custom cabinets with granite counter tops and farm sink. Open living room/dining room/kitchen with tongue and groove ceilings and hardwood floors, solid masonry fireplace with Tennessee stone. Tile shower and floors in master bath. Electric heat pump, dual fuel range, metal roof. Basement with garage door. Offered at \$575,000. mls #87628



3 bedroom 3 bath home in town. Enclosed porch. Covered outside deck. Kitchen remodel: Sub Zero Viking, Wolf. Tankless water heater. New AC and Heating System. Offered at \$645,000. mls #87772

# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## A genuine life requires effort



Curtis Fussell  
Co-pastor First Presbyterian  
Church of Highlands

At a local martial arts school, they have a banner which says, “Thousands of hours of training. Countless bumps and bruises. One black belt.”

This statement reminds us that important things in life require time, commitment, and perseverance. Important things do not come instantly. Nothing significant ever comes quickly and easily; or, if it does, it's extremely rare.

For example, change the wording in that banner and we have, “Thousands of hours of studying. Countless exams and attention to details. One diploma.”

Or, “Thousands of hours of nurturing. Countless bumps and conversations. One child raised.”

Or even, “Thousands of hours of striving. Countless ups and downs with joys and worries. One life lived.”

Perhaps it is too much to reduce our life to a single statement. Yet, this formula captures the essence of what we know so well: a genuine life requires a determined effort. A genuine life does not come instantly. It takes time, commitment, and perseverance.

However, with some issues people might advise us to “just pray about it,” or “just give it to God.” How I wish that matters of our heart, mind, and soul could be settled with such a quick and easy solution! Of course, praying and giving things to God are essential actions. Yet, praying and giving things to God cannot remove the demand for us to take our time, for us to commit and to persevere in matters of the heart, mind and soul.

One day some people said to Jesus, “Increase our faith!” Jesus had said that life required them to do some difficult things, such as watch how you treat other people, and always be ready to forgive. With such a requirement, it would certainly help to have our faith increased, to have instant faith. It would be wonderful to be able instantly to treat others as I would have them treat me. It would be wonderful to be able instantly to forgive others. A quick and easy faith would be delightful to have. “Yes, Lord, increase my faith!”

However, God does not give us quick and easy faith. God does not give us more faith, because it is not necessary. Instead, God wants us to practice and exercise the faith, the spiritual abilities, which we already have.

Now, if you don't think you have enough, think again; you do! It is not a matter of how much you have, whether little or much. What does matter is this: how much will you trust and exercise the spiritual abilities you already know and enjoy? So, rather than saying, “Increase our faith,” say this: “Lord, give me the determination and the perseverance to do what is right in your sight. I know what it takes: Thousands of hours of praying. Countless times of showing kindness and being gracious. One goal: trust in you.”

## Proverbs 3:5

### BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

### BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor

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

### CHAPEL OF THE SKY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.: Worship

Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

8:30a quiet service, 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship

Service. Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper at homes

First Thursdays 5p bi-lingual Holy Eucharist

### CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470

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

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

### 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.

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. W. Bentley Manning • 526-2968

Monday-Friday: Morning Prayer at 8:15a. Sundays: 8 am

Holy Eucharist Rite I; 9 am Sunday School; 10:30 am Holy

Eucharist Rite II. Childcare available at 10:30

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands

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

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship & Communion: 8:30 & 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

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

Wednesdays: Choir: 6p

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

### GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship

242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers

www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814

Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Pr. Nathan

Johnson

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p; Worship 7p.

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

## John 3:16

### 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.: Bible Study 10a; Morning Worship 10:45a., Evening

Worship, 6p. Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

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

Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell

rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided); 7pm

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

LutheranChurchoftheHolyFamily.yolasite.com

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

Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

### MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Pastor Zane Talley

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

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

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin • 828-524-9463

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,

4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Father Casimir — 526-2418

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

### SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

Sundays: School — 10 a.m.; Worship — 11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Donald G. Bates • 526-3212

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

### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

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

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

706.746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447, Pastor Gary Hewins

Worship: Sun. 9 a.m., with Holy Communion the 1st & 3rd

Sun.; Tues: Community Supper 5:30 followed by Bible Study.

### THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood

June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a

Nursery available for Rite II services

Sept 6-Oct 25- Informal Evening Eucharist- 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

## ...OPEN LETTER continued from page 16

Jackie Medland through her media contact saying how displeased I was ... she sent her counterpart, President/CNO of Angel to visit me.

Ms. Gorby sweetly asked if I was familiar with the "Triage" concept.

I told her I was of course familiar with the concept and I understood that an appendectomy probably didn't rate, but since the citizens of Highlands and Cashiers purchased the ambulance shouldn't Highlands get some preferential treatment in an emergency "emergency" situation?

She said it was her understanding that it was the "Foundation" that purchased the ambulance. I said the Foundation gets its money from the citizens of Highlands and Cashiers.

I know Director of EMS Warren Cabe does the best he can with the resources and vehicles he has at his disposal.

"In 2017 there has been a 29% increase in out-of-county patient transfers from Highlands Cashiers

and a 46% increase from Macon County. When an ambulance must transport a patient out of the county, local coverage suffers. This new Quick Response Vehicle will strengthen 911 coverage in the area by offering greatly increased availability for residents," he said in the Nov. 16, 2017 article.

Clearly, those stats are even higher a year later.

If Mission/HCA isn't going to open a

"little" surgical unit with on-call personnel then more ambulances are needed.

What's going on isn't working ... even an hour and a half is too long to wait once a diagnosis is delivered and an action plan is determined for a patient.

I hope that each of you within your capacity take this information seriously ... something has to change.

— Kim Lewicki

## Emerald ash borer found in Jackson County

The emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in Jackson County for the first time, making it the 37th county within the state where this invasive insect has been detected. The EAB was found when a concerned homeowner with declining ash trees contacted Paul Pittman, the N.C. Forest Service County Ranger in Jackson County.

EAB is a metallic green beetle that bores into ash trees and feeds on tissues beneath the bark, ultimately killing the tree. The signs and symptoms of EAB aren't always immediately noticeable because EAB damages the inside of the tree. Adult borers lay eggs on the bark of ash trees. When the eggs hatch, the larvae bore into the bark and feed on the transportation tissues of the tree. This disrupts the movement of nutrients and water within the tree, causing the tree's slow death, typically in three to five years.

The signs and symptoms of EAB infestation include thinning and dying crowns; increased woodpecker activity that causes the tree to look like it is losing patches of bark; small, 1/8-inch D-shaped exit holes where adult beetles emerged from the trees; galleries on the inside of the bark; cream-colored larvae; and epicormic sprouting, or sprouting from the main stem of the tree.

Host plants include all native ash trees and native white fringetree. The Chinese white fringetree, often planted for ornamental purposes, is believed to be resistant.

EAB, a non-native invasive insect from Asia, has been found in the following North Carolina counties: Alamance, Avery, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Caswell, Catawba, Davidson, Durham, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Graham, Granville, Guilford, Halifax, Haywood, Iredell, Jackson, Johnston, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, Wilson and

Yancey.

The entire state of North Carolina is under a quarantine for EAB. This prohibits the movement of ash plant parts, the insect itself, ash nursery stock and all hardwood firewood into non-quarantined areas such as central Tennessee, most of Alabama, and all of Florida.

Adult EAB beetles are about a half-inch long and 1/8-inch wide. If their wing covers are pried up, their bodies are a metallic purple-red color. In North Carolina, the adult EAB is typically active from late spring and early summer, likely April through June. EAB larvae may be found under the bark of the tree most of the year.

For more information about EAB, visit [www.ncforestservice.gov](http://www.ncforestservice.gov) and follow the links under the "Forest Health" section. To view current federal EAB quarantines, visit the national EAB website, [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).

The spread of invasive insects in the state is often due to human activity through the transportation of infested wood products such as firewood. It is strongly recommended that people burn local or treated firewood to reduce the spread of invasive pests.

The North Carolina Forest Health Branch monitors the spread of invasive pests. People who suspect there is an infested tree in an area near them should contact their county ranger. The contact information can be found online at [ncforestservice.gov](http://ncforestservice.gov), under the links in the "contacts" heading.

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**as you'd planned?**

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*\*information provided by HCMLS - based on HCMLS data.*

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To purchase tickets and view the full line up of films and events, visit us at  
[HighlandsPlayhouse.org](http://HighlandsPlayhouse.org)

**(828) 526-2695**

## ...TOWN BOARD continued from page 1



A bear makes its way from garbage can to garbage can in search of food in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park on Oct. 14.  
— Photo by Brian O'Shea

ing lot," he said. He added that if something was going to be done, action would need to be taken soon.

With the addition of planters in the middle of downtown Main Street, Pierson said no parking will be lost or affected. He presented two plans, the difference being three planters and the planter's locations. The trees would be slightly mature with high canopies to not interfere with truck traffic. Pierson proposed putting in 15-18 planters staggered from 3rd to 5th Streets. Each planter costs approximately \$1,000 and each tree is approximately \$600. Pierson said using granite instead of concrete would improve the look and cost approximately \$250-more each planter.

"I like the idea of granite," said Commissioner Brian Stiehler. "It will look better and last forever."

Pierson estimated the planters would cost approximately \$40,000.

It was then that Bob Mills voiced his opinion from the audience and said cars would be hitting the planters while trying to park.

"These things are going to be destroyed and all we're going to do is fix them, fix them, fix them, constantly," said Mills. "It's ludacris."

Mills added that for the past couple of weeks town has been busy, and that has been good for business, but by adding planters it will eliminate parking spaces by not being able to open the rear car door.

"25 percent of cars aren't even parking between the lines," said Mills. "Seriously

consider the potential catastrophic events that could happen with these planters. Just watch the people."

Commissioner Amy Patterson said she supports the idea of adding some green to Main Street.

"I personally like it," she said. "It breaks up the line-of-sight, cools a section of downtown, and makes you feel like you're outdoors. I think it will look good."

Commissioners Donnie Calloway and Stiehler voiced their objections.

"I drove up and down Main Street and I just don't see a problem," said Calloway. "Planting these trees is a mistake."

The Board voted to send the plan to the NC Department of Transportation for approval. If approved, the board will discuss it further.

"Let's ask to see if the state approves," said Stiehler. "If they say no, it's a moot point."

### Bear and trash in downtown

Not far from the theme of beautifying Main Street, the Board discussed bears knocking down garbage cans along Highlands' main thoroughfare. Pierson presented a plan of changing out the current public waste cans with animal-resistant receptacles.

Each garbage unit costs about \$1,300 and the town would need approximately 40 units. Pierson showed diagrams of the animal-resistant cans and said they were made of steel and bolted to the ground. Town of Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor said

• See TOWN BOARD page 34

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THE CURIOUS MIND  
KNOWS NO BOUNDS

## ...UNSEAT continued from page 12

tinue to advocate for this to our county commissioners. The cost of providing 24-hour coverage to Nantahala is nearly \$400,000. To fund this through the existing budget would mean cutting \$400,000 from other law enforcement services currently provided. It is not feasible or responsible to cut this amount of services. It is my hope that I, along with members of the Nantahala community, can continue to make efforts to request this from our commissioners and county manager."

### Giles

"Having an Officer in Nantahala is possible," said Giles. "I believe going to zone patrol like every county around us is the only way to do this under the current budget. It's not ideal but it's what we have to work with at this time. As Sheriff, I plan to go through the budget with my command staff to find anywhere we can cut items that are not necessary in order to add as much patrol as I can."

### Carpenter

"One of two plans that I have is to request from the commissioners for the position to place officers in Nantahala. With the outcry from the Macon County citizens, the commissioners should appropriate funds now. I know one of the persons running for one of the open commissioner's seat has said they would vote for an officer in Nantahala (Ron Haven). Or simply take an officer from Franklin area for this position, then request from the commissioners to fill that position. As of right now, I foresee one task force, at the moment, I would use forfeiture, grants, and donations, before requesting monies from the county. ALL SROs will remain at their assigned schools

until summer vacations. I think at this time the call volume is not an issue. The real issue is the residents of Nantahala are citizens of Macon County and deserve the same amount of law enforcement as if they were living in Franklin. They should not have to beg for protection as a Macon County citizen, just because of where they live."

*What do you see as the strongest area currently within the department?*

### Holland

"If I had to identify just one strong area within our department, it would be that I have established more specialized units within the MCSO — with more training aimed at their specific area of law enforcement, such as the Special Victims Unit, the Narcotics Unit, Property Crimes Unit, School Resource Officers, Detention Unit, etc. We now have a training coordinator within our agency to provide up-to-date training in-house. We also have more certified instructors working for our agency than ever before. I believe that enhancing the training of each unit has increased the effectiveness of the duties they each carry out. These units build strong, solid cases against those who break the law. I also believe the

• See UNSEAT page 35

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## La Fanciulla Del West at PAC



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will screen, live via satellite, the MET Opera's production of La Fanciulla Del West by Puccini on Saturday, October 27 at 12:55pm. Set in the Wild Old West, a love triangle includes the sheriff, the female bar owner and an outlaw. A surprise ending, as far as operas are concerned. Soprano Eva-Maria Westbroek sings Puccini's gun-slinging heroine in this romantic epic of the Wild West, alongside star tenor Jonas Kaufmann in the role of the outlaw Dick Johnson. Baritone Željko Lučić is the vigilante sheriff Jack Rance, and Marco Armiliato conducts. There will be a pre-opera discussion beginning at 12:30pm. Run time for La Fanciulla Del West is 3.75 hours. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org), at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

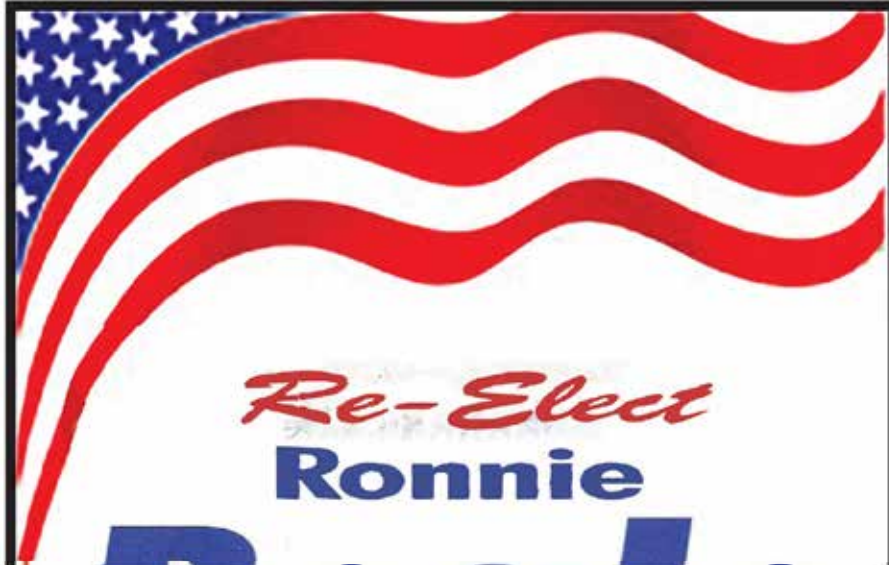
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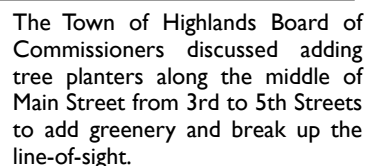
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**Early Voting Begins Wednesday, Oct. 17th**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ronnie Beale



he has spoken with town garbage crews who told him the bears getting into garbage is a huge problem. They're even ripping the tops off of dumpsters located on Oak Street.

"It's a simple solution," said Greenfield. "This is great, forget

- The Town Board entered into closed session and reconvened in open session and passed the following motion. Town Manager Josh Ward was directed to separate the current position that is the town planner and code enforcement officer. There will now be two positions, the town planner and another position for code enforcement. The new code enforcement officer will be a certified law enforcement officer and will work from the Highlands Police Department. The job description and requirements for this position are under review and development by Ward and the personnel director. Ward will conduct a final review for the town planner position and fill the position as soon as possible.

“The Code Enforcement part of the Planning Director position requires a substantial amount of time and many of the applicants for the position do not have ex-

- The board approved the rezoning of a property owned by TRI Real Estate N.C. (Old Edwards Inn) located on N. 4th Street across from the Community Building. The front portion of the 3 1/2 acre parcel is zoned B-4 and the rear of the property is zoned R-2. The board approved rezoning the entire parcel R-2 for a future residential development that will include six residences on 1/2+-acre lots.

The subdivision will be like the subdivision OEI built on N. 5th Street.

The Highlands Playhouse will host an opening reception for our Foodie Film Festival, featuring samples of our wines & a few light bites. Come join us for this free kick-off to our weekend festivities!

Photo by Linda Barden

## ...UNSEAT continued from page 32

commitment of all my officers (who are willing to wear many hats) is one of the strongest attributes of the MCSO. The men and women make up who the MCSO actually is, and it is obvious each of these employees are committed to keeping Macon County safe for our families and for all the citizens and their families.”

### Giles

“We have some amazing officers at Macon County Sheriff’s Office and I feel with the proper leadership, Respect and Encouragement, they can get the job done.”

### Carpenter

“As of now, the only way to really know what the strongest and or the weakest area is to be the sheriff,” said Carpen-

ter.

*What area of the department can be improved?*

### Holland

“More manpower to address the changes our county faces as it grows. More manpower would help to provide 24-hour coverage for all areas within Macon County and would allow us to create a better law enforcement presence in every neighborhood and community. Just as important though, is it is slowly becoming a safety issue for these officers to be alone answering at times very dangerous calls for service. I also believe that the amount of pay that employees of the MCSO are paid should be seriously re-evaluated by our county commissioners.”

### Giles

“We have been doing things the same way for years and things are not getting better, we need new ideas and a fresh start to combat the issues plaguing our home.”

### Carpenter

“In my opinion, there is always room for improvement even when there looks like there is no room for improvement.”

**Early Voting continues in Highlands at the Civic Center/Rec Park and in Franklin at the courthouse until 1 p.m., Nov. 3. The polls are open on Election Day, Nov. 6, 6:30a to 7:30p.**

## Halloween Spooktacular at the Rec Park Thurs., Oct. 25 from 6-8p

Highlands Parks and Recreation will host Halloween Spooktacular on Thursday night October 25 from 6-8 p.m.

The event will include pumpkin decorating, apple bobbing and other games geared for children ages 5-12, but everyone is welcome. Wear your spookiest costume or come as you are. We look forward to a fun event for the whole family.

## Last weekend for HCP’s Mauritius



The final performances of the Highlands Cashiers Players suspenseful drama, *Mauritius* by Theresa Rebeck, runs Thursday, October 25 through Sunday, October 28, at Highlands Performing Arts Center. Two half sisters obtain a valuable stamp collection after their mother’s death and vehemently disagree about its disposition. Jackie, played by Jamie Thomas, wants to sell it and get rich quick. Mary, played by Virginia Talbot, wants to see it preserved for posterity in a museum. Into the controversy come two stamp dealers played by Lance Trudel and Craig Eister, who learn that the collection includes the “crown jewels” of philately—two rare stamps worth millions printed in 1847 on the island of Mauritius in the Indian ocean. The guys hope to get their hands on it and score big by selling it to a wealthy unethical collector played by David Spivey. For tickets, call the Players box office, 828-526-8084, or on line at [highlandscashiersplayers.org](http://highlandscashiersplayers.org).

## Mountain Findings

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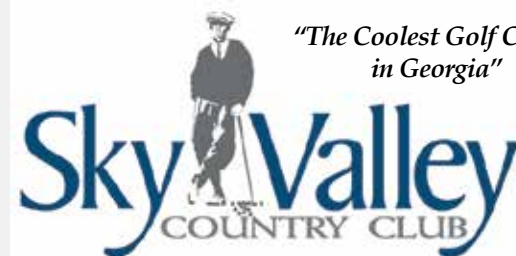
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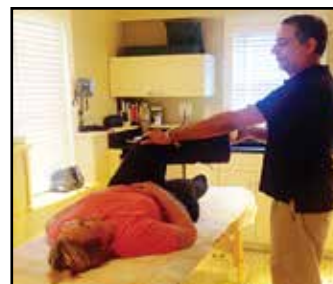
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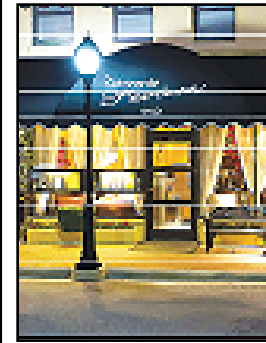
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