

Highlands Newspaper

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Volume 16, Number 33

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Thursday, Aug. 15, 2019

McHan named Chamber's Executive Director of Tourism and Marketing

The Highlands Chamber of Commerce board of directors has picked Kaye McHan (previously Kaye Gorecki) as the new Executive Director of Tourism and Marketing.

McHan will cover all the traditional duties as Executive Director of the Chamber, but the board has outlined priorities that will put more of her time in destination marketing and tourism develop-

ment than in the past – hence the title change.

Board chair Hilary Wilkes said the Chamber/Visitor Center aims to expand the shoulder season and

• See **MCHAN** page 19

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Boys Varsity Soccer Team – 2019



Front row from left are Luiz Torres, Jeffery Olvera, Brent Sleight, Pablo Jiminez, Ethan Tate, Connor Briggs, Nathan Keener, Conor Thorske, and JJ Postell. Back row from left are Dillon Schmitt, Patrick Woods, Lane Tingen, Gig Chalker, Colin Stolfuz, James Earp, and Bill Miller. The Highlanders play their first game Aug. 19 at 6 p.m. at home against East Henderson.

– Photo by Brian O'Shea, Plateau

'Room Tax' proceeds are at all time high in Highlands

The Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center relies mostly on "room tax" allocations to operate and promote Highlands – and every year the pot of gold gets bigger and bigger.

Its fiscal year is July 1-June 30 and according to Macon County Finance Director Lori Hall proceeds for 2018-'19 are up 6% from last year – \$665,941.38 versus \$628,782.58 for fiscal year 2017-'18.

Added to that this year will be \$133,221.37 in back room tax proceeds from Airbnb for Aug. 2015

through June 2019.

That means this year the Chamber/Visitor Center will have just \$838 shy of \$800,000 at its disposal.

Hall said from now on Airbnb will be sending a monthly check for the room tax it collects on behalf of Macon County. It's estimated that amount will be about \$2,500 to \$3,000 a month.

However, Hall said the county has no way of tracking VRBO room tax proceeds "as those

• See **ROOM TAX** page 2

Lighting up Main Street is put on hold

Public Works Committee talks trash pickup

By Brian O'Shea

The proposed lightning up of Main Street will not happen this year, so says Mayor Pat Taylor after a meeting with Town and Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center staff on Monday.

"They are rethinking the con-

cept for possible future consideration," said Taylor. At July's Town Board meeting Chamber representatives proposed wrapping trees with lights on Main Street from 3rd to 5th streets October – April to add a more welcoming

• See **LIGHTING** page 16

HC Health Foundation awards \$1 million+

The Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation (The Foundation) is pleased to announce that grants totaling \$1,287,260 have been awarded to area non-profits and organizations.

Planning for this first grant cycle began soon after the Foundation was established on February 1, 2019 with its broadened purpose to support the health and wellbeing of our Highlands, Cashiers and

surrounding communities.

Programs and Grants Committee Chair, Stephanie Edwards, activated the committee soon after being appointed by Board Chair

• See **HC HEALTH** page 17

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

We're not in Kansas anymore

Normally the Highlands Town Board meeting is the third Thursday of the month which would be on the 15th this month. The meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, August 22.

Why was the meeting changed? I was the cause. I will be at a family fishing reunion on the 15th. My brother and I are meeting at the San Juan River in New Mexico for a four-day fishing trip. The only time we could get our sons and sons-in-law all together was that date. My brother, our fly-fishing expert from Colorado, is 83 and now is the time to do these unique excursions like fishing for trout on the legendary San Juan. I appreciate the Town Board's willingness to change our meeting time for this month.

With the fall season approaching, the August meeting will have a full agenda. I anticipate several reports and recommendations from town committees concerning some impending policy and ordinance changes.



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

At the August meeting I will lead a discussion on the issue of VRBO in Highlands. The proliferation of VRBOs is a very current topic across the state and nation, especially in resort communities like our own. At present we have no direct ordinances or policies that regulate folks renting their homes as a VRBOs. There is a current proposed bill in Raleigh that would preempt municipalities from creating VRBO ordinances. On the other hand, numerous communities have passed such ordinances.

I have heard arguments from state legislators for and against such regulations and ordinances. Frankly, there are valid positions on both sides of the issue. I am not advocating for the town to take a position either way. But, I do think it will be helpful to review the issue to determine what action, if any, should be taken.

Some residents have told me they are upset about the number of visitors in town. They tell me about how hard it is to find a parking space on Main Street and how the restaurants and stores are too crowded. I also have experienced these situations. Salie and I went downtown after 7 p.m. to eat dinner this week and had a very hard time finding a parking space near a Main Street restaurant. We had to walk about two hundred yards!

I not making excuses for the parking situation. But, there are only so many spaces on Main Street, and frankly everyone wants and expects one of those prime spaces.

Highlands is now on the map. The notion that this mountain jewel in Western Carolina can somehow be hidden from the masses is long gone. For that matter, all of Western Carolina has been discovered as a great vacation getaway. Given the cool temperatures in the summer and breathtaking scenery, we shouldn't anticipate any decline in people visiting our community.

A real problem for Highlands would be if in this robust economy we had empty parking spaces on Main Street. Many small towns throughout the country suffer from that other parking problem.

• HIC'S VIEW •



• CELEBRATION OF LIFE •

Remembering Don Cook

Friends are invited to a celebration of life event for Donald Cook on Tuesday, August 20, 2019, at 12 Noon at the Highlands Civic Center. We will have lunch and share memories. RSVP please by Aug. 17 at 2 noon to: donvcook@AOL.com. Donald's wife Jane extends this invitation to all who knew him.

...ROOM TAX continued from page 1

funds are sent to the individual owners and the individual owners are supposed to turn them into the county." Therefore, she assumes those proceeds are already in the mix.

The county takes an 8% administrative fee from the total collected from all lodging establishments including hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, vacation rentals, AirBnB and

theoretically VRBO before it disburses it to the area Chamber/Visitor centers in Highlands and Franklin.

According to the *Profile of North Carolina Occupancy Taxes and Their Allocation Revised and Updated to Reflect 2017 Changes*, beginning in 1983, local room taxes enacted via legisla-

• See ROOM TAX page 8

• WEATHER •

	Friday 8/16		Saturday 8/17		Sunday 8/18	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	80 F	60 F	81 F	62 F	80 F	62 F
RealFeel	88 F	65 F	90 F	66 F	89 F	69 F
Winds	3 g 5	3 g 4	3 g 5	3 g 5	3 g 5	3 g 5
T-Storms	24%	24%	24%	60%	47%	24%
Rainfall	0	0	0	0.04	0.14	0
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

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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.



SCALY MOUNTAIN Phenomenal year round views from this very unique and contemporary home in King Mountain. It's located on the Atlanta side of Highlands, about six miles from Main Street. The property backs to the Nantahala National Forest and has beautiful rock outcroppings on the nearly level land. The home was designed by Jim Fox and has a sunken fireplace niche with comfortable seating to enjoy a relaxing evening with friends in front of a blazing fire.

MLS# 89729 | Offered for \$895,000



HIGHLANDS FALLS CC The living room is spacious with a stone fireplace and wood floors and opens to an expansive screened porch. The open kitchen keeps the conversation flowing with high island seating. The master suite has "his and her" closets, "his and her" vanities, high-end fixtures in the bath, and opens to the deck. The lower level has an office area with a view, two lovely guest suites plus a large family room with wet bar and bookcase/wet bar built-ins.

MLS# 91259 | Offered for \$849,000

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN Excellent location for this newly renovated 3 bedroom, 3 bath home! Conveniently located within walking distance to Main Street restaurants, shops, and entertainment venues. Offers a large back deck for entertaining and a detached-oversized two car garage which could be turned into a guest cottage. Incredible private flat back yard (almost one acre) with its own art studio. This would also make a great vacation rental. Move in ready!

MLS# 88180 | Offered for \$840,000

HIGHLANDS CC The charm of old Highlands awaits you in Highlands Country Club at this fabulous 3 bedroom, 3 bath cottage. Gorgeous stone fireplace in the formal dining room, fireplace in the living room, and a cozy fireplace in the upstairs bedroom along with a little deck. An additional room can be used as an office or a library/study. Lovely screened porch to sip coffee or enjoy an evening with friends. Detached garage along with workshop, and basement with laundry.

MLS# 91540 | Offered for \$799,000



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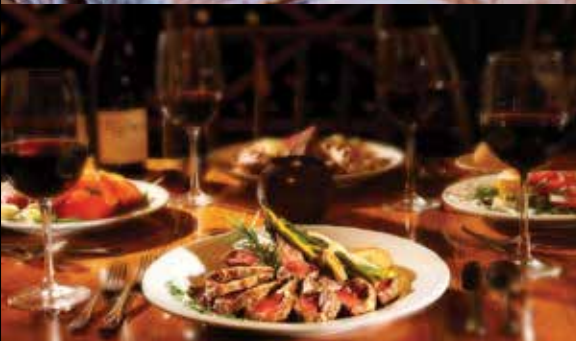
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HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN "Picture perfect" is a perfect description for this well-maintained home within an easy walk to everything Highlands has to offer. Located on a very quiet cul de sac with a lovely water feature and stone patio with fire pit. The living room has soaring wood ceilings, and is accented by a stone fireplace and beautiful wood flooring. It opens to a large, perfectly private screened porch which runs the entire length of the home.

MLS# 90910 | Offered for \$797,000



HIGHLANDS Two for the price of one! This wonderful, meticulously maintained 4.49 acre estate property is in a world of its own. The main house is a true mountain cabin with a lovely masonry stone fireplace, vaulted ceiling, 2 bedrooms, 3 full baths, and a newly updated kitchen with granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Totally private guest house built in 2003 with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, wood floors, and a rocking chair front porch overlooking the pond.

MLS# 91073 | Offered for \$695,000

HIGHLANDS FALLS CC Almost brand new remodeled home in Highlands Falls Country Club (where club membership is optional). Three bedrooms, four bath home with a lower level family room and office/bonus room with a full bath, built in 2001 and completely renovated in 2019. New kitchen, appliances, bathrooms, wood floors, two stone fireplaces located in the great room and lower level family room, and covered decks on both levels.

MLS# 91190 | Offered for \$695,000



HIGHLANDS CC This mountain contemporary home is light and bright with skylights and clerestory windows. Originally built by Schmitt Builders, the home had a remodel by renowned Atlanta builder Keith Ashe several years ago. The kitchen is open to the great room and there is a den adjacent. The screened porch is large and vaulted with access from the great room and the master bedroom. In addition, there is an open deck perfect for grilling and additional seating.

MLS# 91051 | Offered for \$647,000



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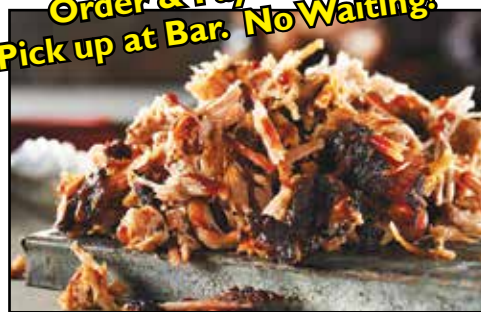
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...ROOM TAX from page 2

tion passed by the NC General Assembly have been a popular and effective means of growing the visitor economy in North Carolina communities.

These taxes paid by lodging guests on the cost of their rooms have generated billions of dollars in direct tax revenue. Room taxes are typically applied to any lodging property that also pays sales tax, including hotels, bed and breakfasts, cabins, condominiums, and rental homes for short-term stays (including Airbnb in North Carolina).

Unlike sales tax, no room tax revenue is directed to state government in North Carolina – 100% remains at the local level. In Macon County, guests pay an additional 3% of their lodging rate which the business owner sends to the county on a monthly basis. Those proceeds are then sent to the county's Tourism Development Authorities (TDA) which are part of the chamber/visitor centers.

TDA boards consist of appointed individuals – stakeholders in the local tourism economy and elected officials, as well as the executive director of the chamber of commerce.

In Highlands, the elected officials are MC Commission Chairman Jim Tate and Highlands Town Board Commissioner Brian Stiehler who is the chairman. Currently Bob Kielyka holds the Executive Director of the Chamber position but incoming Executive Director Kaye McHan will replace him Sept. 3. Tony Potts, who represents the Chamber Board is vice chair; OEI's Jack Austin represents Large Accommodations; Jerry Moore, who owns a short-term rental property, represents Small Accommodations; Travis Brooks manager of Lakeside Restaurant and Realtor/builder Bill Futral both hold At-large seats.

The legislatively allowed uses of room taxes vary from both the spirit and, in some cases, even the letter of the law. But generally speaking, the use of room tax revenue in North Carolina falls into one of five categories: Destination promotion, Tourism-related expenditures – which includes uses varying from staging festivals and events to providing some municipal services in some beach towns; Funding or debt support for tourism-related capital projects such as

• See ROOM TAX page 12

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• FINANCIAL MATTERS •

Understanding your IRA

Most investors are aware of the withdrawal restrictions from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and 10% penalty prior to age 59½.

The tax code in the U.S. takes a “carrot and stick” approach incentivizing many behaviors the government sees as beneficial or harmful to our society. One of those behaviors deemed beneficial is saving for your own retirement and policymakers want to stick remove any incentive to using this type of account for anything other than funding your retirement.

But many people don’t realize there are provisions to have the penalty waived for very specific reasons. Sometimes it’s to help accommodate some unexpected event in a person’s life and at other times, it provides a way to access your IRA early to provide retirement income, but with heavy restrictions.

Penalty Free Withdrawals

Keep in mind, in these circumstances, the 10% penalty may be waived, but the withdrawal is still included in your ordinary income for tax purposes.

1. Death – If you die prior to age 59½, the beneficiary(ies) of your IRA may withdraw the assets without penalty. However, if your beneficiary decides to roll it over into his or her IRA, he or she will forfeit this exception. ²

2. Disability – Disability is defined as being unable to engage in any gainful employment because of a mental or physical disability, as determined by a physician. ³

3. Substantially Equal Periodic Payments – You are permitted to take a series of substantially equal periodic payments and avoid the tax penalty, provided they continue until you turn 59½ or for five years, whichever is later. The calculation of such payments is complicated, and individuals should consider speaking with a qualified tax professional.

4. Home Purchase – You may take up to \$10,000 toward the purchase of your first home. (According to the Internal Revenue Service, you also qualify if you have not owned a home in the last two years). This is a lifetime limit.

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Michael P Henderson, CFP®
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6. Medical Insurance – This permits the unemployed to pay for medical insurance if they meet specific criteria.

7. Higher Education Expenses – Funds may be used to cover higher education expenses for you, your spouse, children or grandchildren. Only certain institutions and associated expenses are permitted.

8. IRS Levy – Funds may be used to pay an IRS levy.

9. Active Duty Call-Up – Funds may be used by reservists called up after

9/11/01, and whose withdrawals meet the definition of qualified reservist distributions.

With an IRA, once you reach age 70½, generally you are obligated to begin taking required minimum distributions.

Your required minimum distribution (RMD) may be based on your age or the deceased’s age at the time of death. Penalties may occur for missed RMDs. Most are required to begin by December 31 of the year following the date of death. Any RMDs due for the original owner must be taken by their deadlines to avoid penalties. You will pay taxes on any distributions you take. Consider speaking with a financial professional who can help you evaluate the potential impact an inheritance might have on your overall tax situations.

The information in this material is not intended as tax or legal advice. It may not be used for the purpose of avoiding any federal tax penalties. Federal and state laws and regulations are subject to change, which may have an impact on after-tax investment returns. Please consult legal or tax professionals for specific information regarding your individual situation.

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• Michael P Henderson, CFP® CKA® CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ practitioner. Investment advice and financial planning services offered through Crossover Point Advisors, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor

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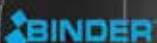
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Andrea Gabbard
c 828.200.6742 o 828.526.8300
andrea.gabbard@sothebysrealty.com

•WORD MATTER•

The Mind Boggles

News Item: A businessman offered to pay “school lunch debt” after parents received a letter from an eastern Pennsylvania school district official threatening to place children in foster care if the debts weren’t paid.

His offer was refused.

I’m NOT going to do a deep dive into the remarkable ignorance, or just plain stupidity contained in that sentence. Instead, let’s consider what our national, state and local priorities are if not to prepare our children for their own and our future.

A review of earlier columns will reveal my passionately-held belief that we can solve many of America’s social problems if we invest as much in the education of our children as we do to corporate tax subsidies, Cold War-era weapons purchases, or pork barrel spending.

I’ve heard with my own ears, and likely, so have you, people lament that since they have no children attending public school they should be exempt from paying taxes to support public education. Of course, when confronted with the proposition that, since they haven’t personally utilized their services, why should they pay for police and fire departments, they blithely dismiss the argument with, “Oh, that’s not the same.”

I’m sorry. It’s exactly the same. And, it should be.

I’ve also heard, and so have you, the argument that there should be no public education at all, because, and I’m quoting a particularly intelligent and highly educated individual on this, “Government doesn’t do anything better than the private sector can, consequently, there should be only private, and not government-funded schools.”

If you ask these educated and intelligent people, “But what about those people who can’t afford to send their children to private school?” the answer, I have little doubt, would be, “Well, perhaps they shouldn’t have children.”

Bless their hearts.

I’ve also heard the argument that public schools are nothing more than “social engineering platforms.”

Yeah, so?



Bud Katz

Do we not want our children to be functioning, contributing members of American society? Or, to go back to another favorite theme of mine, are we not, all of us, including, if not especially our children, part of our great and ongoing experiment in representative democracy? What we call American society?

I, my wife, my children, their children, and most of you are likely products of our public education system. If it did its job, and I believe that for the most part it does, we learned just enough to survive and prosper in life. It gave us the foundation to qualify for further education, for a large majority of available jobs, for the ability to discern, in general, right from wrong, for the ability to communicate with one another, for the ability to think critically, and, most important, the ability to participate as an adult in the American experience.

It is my belief that a quality K-12 – key word: quality – public or private education, including art, music, history, civics, math, science, the fundamentals of technology, and the English language, along with physical education and some real-life management skills, will reduce crime, reduce many chronic health issues, reduce many ignorance-based forms of prejudice and discrimination, and, perhaps most important, will prepare young people for adulthood in a highly competitive global economy.

There is, or should be, no doubt that children learn better on a full, rather than empty stomach. Consequently, a nutritious breakfast and/or lunch should be made available to all public-school students, regardless of their parents’ ability to pay. Teachers on primary, middle and high school levels should be fairly compensated and should be rewarded for the scholastic achievement of their students. School buildings and campuses should be safe.

An apology. My soapbox is getting wobbly from all the frustration I’ve asked it to support. I’m willing to argue this particular subject into the ground because, quite simply, I can’t imagine there’s anything more important we can be doing to continue as a functioning nation in a complicated world than invest today into the physical

• See KATZ page 13



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Starting again on Friday 8/23
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...ROOM TAX from page 8

convention centers and arenas or visitor attractions; Beach re-nourishment; and General Fund revenue and other Non-Tourism uses.

With Highlands experiencing increasing visitors which tax the town in various ways it's the non-tourism uses of room tax funding that is raising interest.

There are seven counties in North Carolina which direct some or all of their room tax revenue into the general fund to be expended on any unspecified "lawful public purpose" as mandated by their legislation: Ashe, Cleveland, Davie, Durham, Hertford, Hyde, and Lee. This is different from room tax revenue specifically dedicated to the construction and operation of civic centers, convention facilities, arenas, and other traditional "tourism-related" venues – which is also considered an allowable use.

There are two municipalities in North Carolina which collect their own room tax and are legislatively enabled to direct money into the general fund for any public purpose – Claremont (Catawba County) and Columbus (Polk County). The city of Franklin also has a room tax separate from the county-wide 3% tax.

Dare County in the Outer Banks, which like Highlands sees large increases in its transient population during the summer season, has legislation that specifically dictates a portion of its room tax toward "services or programs needed due to the impact of tourism on the county."

Board Chairman Hilary Wilkes said the Chamber's big push, as evidenced by the hiring of Kaye McHan whose title is Executive Director of Tourism and Marketing, is to put more of her time in destination marketing and tourism development than in the past – hence the title change. Wilkes said the Chamber/Visitor Center aims to expand the shoulder season and bring in visitors during Highlands' weakest times of the year.

As evidenced by room tax revenues 2018-'19, "weak times" are January through April where monthly proceeds span \$21,000 to \$33,000 per month. (AirBnB proceeds were not in the tally but will be from now on.)

Compared to July 2018 at \$95,000; August 2018 at \$86,000 and June 2019 at \$75,000 – which are the three highest room tax revenue months this past fiscal year – it's easy to see why the Chamber wants to up the game January through April.

But the balance is precarious.

Citizens are asking "How many more people do we need? There's no parking, streets are crowded with vehicular traffic, sidewalks are crowded with people darting here and there and we can't get into restaurants?"

From a business standpoint these are good signs. As Mayor Pat Taylor says in his column this week (see page 2). "Highlands is now on the map. The notion that this mountain jewel in Western Carolina can somehow be hidden from the masses is long gone. For that matter, all of Western Carolina has been discovered as a great vacation getaway. Given the cool temperatures in the summer and breathtaking scenery, we shouldn't anticipate any decline in people visiting our community. A real problem for Highlands would be if in this robust economy we had empty parking spaces on Main Street."

However, with legislation allowing a portion of room tax to go toward "services or programs needed due to the impact of tourism" or "for use in a town or county's gen-

ALL ABOUT BOOKS

• THE INK PENN •

Don't you love books you can't put down?

I read two-three books a week, mostly mysteries with the occasional nonfiction or literary selection tossed into the mix. How can you not love a book that keeps you up late into the night because you can't put it down?

This situation seems to occur more and more frequently these days, perhaps because I'm retired and don't feel compelled to turn out the lights at ten pm. Lately, I've found myself trying to keep my eyes open at midnight and beyond so that I can finish a book.

The latest mystery to keep me awake beyond my preferred bedtime was John Sandford's "Twisted Prey," number 28 in his Prey series. I couldn't quite finish it that first night and had to stay up late one more night. I've read all of the Prey books with Lucas Davenport as the main character. Number 29, "Neon Prey," came out in late April, and this year marks thirty years since "Rules of Prey" came out.

Sandford also has another series of twelve books starring Virgil Flowers, a minor character in the Davenport series, but I haven't yet gotten hooked on those. Since I find the Davenport books so engaging, I probably should give the other series a try.

I knew the Davenport series took place in chronological order, and that's the way I've tried to read them, so I was surprised to read on the Sandford website that "people seem to read them out of order." I prefer to see the characters in a series develop and dislike feeling like I've missed some vital happening in their lives.

Finding his website led me to read more about the author. I had no idea Sandford was a pseudonym for John Roswell Camp and that he'd won the Pulitzer Prize



Kathy Manos Penn

in journalism in 1986. The man is prolific with 40 books published. Born in 1944, he has no plans to stop writing, though he says the Prey series may cease in two years.

I knew that Mark Harmon of NCIS had starred in a made for TV movie as Lucas Davenport. I loved it and kept hoping there'd be more. I was disappointed to read there are no plans to make any of the other books into movies, even though the 2011 movie got high ratings.

I'm a sucker for intelligent and well-read characters who have a way with words, and Davenport fits the bill. He enjoys reading fiction and poetry. Though he's a detective in the Minneapolis Police Department, he's wealthy and drives a Porsche. To find out how he came by his money—legally, by the way—you'll have to read the books.

If you like detective stories and you've never picked up a Prey book, I suggest you start at the beginning with "Rules of Prey." I'm going to go out on a limb and predict you'll be hooked.

• *Kathy is a Georgia resident. Find her books "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday" and "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" at Books Unlimited in Franklin and on Amazon. "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" is also available at Highlands Mountain Paws. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, www.facebook.com/KathyManosPenn.Author/.*

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...KATZ continued from page 11

and mental development of the approximately 75 million children in our nation.

It's clear that we have work to do on this subject. After all, could America's education system not require at least a little help if some no doubt well-compensated, bone-headed school official could send a letter threatening to refer their kids to foster care if parents don't pay school lunch bills?

And, that he could then refuse when someone steps up and offers to pay the bill? It truly boggles the mind.

...ROOM TAX from page 12

eral fund to be expended on any unspecified 'lawful public purpose,'" or "dedicated to the construction and operation of civic centers, convention facilities, arenas, and other traditional 'tourism-related' venues," it's possible the town can benefit from the tourism push and thereby alleviate some of the strain put on its environs.

— Kim Lewicki

2019 Upcoming Events



at the
Center for Life Enrichment

August Schedule

- **Sherman, Grady and the Making of Atlanta**
 Friday, August 16 Time: 10-12 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Cully Clark
- **Spain: From Franco and Fascism to a Modern Democracy**
 Monday, August 19 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Santiago Garcia-Castanon
- **Spanish Tapas**
 Monday, August 19 Time: 5-7 Cost: \$90/\$100
 Chef: Marty Rosenfield
- **Data Mining: How Do They Know What I Like?**
 Tuesday, August 20 Time: 10-12 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Keith Osher
- **World War I: One Hundred Years Later**
 Wednesday, August 21 Time: 10-12 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Vejas Liulevicius
- **Can Mankind Be Trusted with Control Over Its Own DNA?**
 Friday, August 23 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenters: Jill Granger
- **The Abolitionist's Daughter: A Novel by Highlands' Own Diane McPhail**
 Monday, August 26 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Diane McPhail
- **The Spanish Civil War: An Introduction**
 Tuesday, August 27 Time: 10-12 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Alberto Centeno-Pulido
- **Threats to Honey Bee Health**
 Wednesday, August 28 Time: 10:00-12:00 Cost: \$25/\$35
 Presenter: Olav Rueppell
- **Day Trip to the Southern Highlands Reserve**
 Thursday, August 29 Time: 8:30-2:30 Cost: \$50/\$60
 Presenter: Kelly Holdbrooks
- **Hungry for Wine**
 Friday, August 30 Time: 2:00-4:00 Cost: \$35/\$45
 Presenter: Cathy Huyghe

2019 Trips with CLE

- **Spain/Portugal: September 15-27**
- **May 2020 California's Central Coast Wine Trip** For info call 526-8811 or visit www.clehighlands.com and see trips under the "Travel with CLE" tab

Cost for lectures is \$25 for members / \$35 nonmembers

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- Lapham Tent House 1908

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Ongoing

• Summer Movies at the Playhouse Sundays 4 & 7 p.m.; Monday & Tuesday 1, 4, & 7 p.m.

• The Bascom is open Friday - Monday 10am -5pm (Sundays 12pm - 5pm). Visitors are welcome to enjoy the newly updated Story Walk Trail throughout the week.

• At the Highlands Recreation Dept. pool. Public Swim Monday-Thursday 11a-7p Friday and Saturday 11a-6p and Sunday 1-6p.

Monday - Saturday

• Mountain Findings Thrift Store on Spruce Street is open from 10a to 4p.

• Fibber Magee's Clothing Thrift Store on Laurel Street is open Tues.-Friday 10a to 4p and on Saturday from 10a to 2p.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

• At the Nature Center. Free. Garden Tour. 10:30am. Enjoy a walk through the Botanical Gardens

with our knowledgeable staff, viewing beautiful native plant life in diverse habitats.

• At the Rec Park, Dance2Fit classes with Tori Schmitt at 5:30pm.

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.

• Hip Hop classes with Tori Schmitt 5:30-6:30.

Mon. & Fri.

• Gentle Yoga at the Rec park at 9:15-10:15 a.m.. All levels welcome.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

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

• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

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

Tuesdays

• At the Nature Center. Free. Turtle and Toad Feeding. 11:30am. View our live animals at their most active -- feeding time!

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

• The Highlands Writers Group meets Tuesday, at 3pm in the downstairs boardroom at The Bascom. Writers at all levels of proficiency are welcome. For additional information, contact Bud Katz, 828-526-3190 or budandlynn@me.com.

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

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.

• Highlands Area Indivisible Group meets at 5 pm in the Meeting Room at the back of the Hudson Library.

Lunch with the Docs at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital noon to 1 p.m. RSVP to Kara Miller at 828-526-1345. Limited to 50 attendees.

Tuesday and Thursdays

• At the Rec Park, Dance2Fit with Tori Schmitt at 7:30am.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:30. A combination class with many different styles of exercise at Rec Park.

Wednesdays

• At the Nature Center. Free. Mad Science. 2:30pm. Try your hand at scientific inquiry with a brief hands-on program aimed at youth ages 7+ (younger ages OK with supervision).

• At Community Bible Church, 5-5:30p - Dinner - Free (Donations Appreciated) 5:45-7p - G.R.O.W. Get Real on Wednesdays - Classes offered on money management, addiction, discovering your spiritual gifts and personality type, studying the bible, evangelism, parenting, marriage, grief, and more. All are welcome! Visit www.cbchighlands.com.

• Power Flow Yoga with Nalicia Allio a certified Yoga Instructor 12-1pm and 6:30-7:30pm.

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.

• Highlands/Cashiers Alcoholics Anonymous "Open Meetings" are for anyone who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. recovery program. Open meetings are held in Highlands @ the 1st Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., on Wednesday & Fridays at noon. And held six times a week in Cashiers at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rte 107, Cashiers. For meeting times in Cashiers visit our website www.aawnc80.org or to speak with a member of A.A. call (828) 349-4357.

• Duplicate Bridge 12-4pm at Rec Park.

Thursdays

• Through July 18, The Church of the Incarnation Grief Support Group Thursdays, from 4 - 5:30. The group will not meet on July 4th. The purpose of the group is to offer support for those suffering from life transitions, such as terminal illness, death of family or close friend, misadventure, and relationship or job loss.

• At the Nature Center. Free. Exploration Hike 2:30pm. Visit forests, streams, and other spots across our campus, experiencing unique habitats and honing your observation skills.

• Storytime at Hudson Library, 10:40 am. Open to the public

• Kids Zone at Hudson Library, 3:30

• NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 - 8:15pm at First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street in Franklin Call Donita (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

• At H-C Hospital, Lunch with the Docs noon to 1p. Events are limited to 50 attendees. RSVP to Kara Miller at 828-526-1345.

• 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

Village Square Art & Craft Show set for Aug. 24 & 25



The August 24/25 Village Square Art & Craft Show will feature some exciting new artisans, including Ilene Kay (Clyde, NC) and her jewelry creations. Also lots of your favorite artists, including painters Marcus Thomas, Sue Gouse and Vicki Ferguson. Rustic furniture, birdhouses, weaving, ceramics, glass art, food products and more will also be on display. Join Mountaintop Rotary for fun, food, and music at this not-to-be-missed annual event. (828) 787-2021 for info.

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

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.

Fridays

• At the Nature Center. Free. Turtle and Snake Feeding. 11:30am. View our live animals at their most active -- feeding time!
• Live music in Town Square from 6-8 p.m.

First Fridays

• The Bascom at Sotheby's series features different artists each month with a reception the first Friday of every month at Highlands Sotheby's International Realty from 4-5:30p at the corner of Main Street and Highway 64 across from The Old Edwards Inn. The public is invited to come meet the artist, view the exhibit and have some wine.

• At the Rec Park Pool. Movie Float-in Night - all ages Pool opens at 6:30p and movie starts at 7 p.m. Call for movie title and prices. 526-1595.

Fourth Friday

• Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor at the Hudson Library in the Meeting Room from 11a until noon.

Friday - Monday

• At the Bascom, 10am - 5pm (Sundays 12pm - 5pm): Free Admission to exhibition spaces and SmArt Space for children. For more information call 828-526-4949.

Saturdays

• At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.
• The Bascom Knitters on the Terrace at The Bascom from 10 am until noon or down-

stairs in The Bascom Library room.

• At the Nature Center. Free. Creature Feature. 11:30am & 2:30pm. Experience one or more of our live animal ambassadors up close while learning about their fascinating adaptations.

• Free music in the K-H Founders Park on Pine Street 6-8 p.m.

Sundays

• Live Music in OEI's Hummingbird Lounge 8 p.m. to close with Paul Jones.
• Church in the Wildwood, hymn singing each Sunday through Labor Day weekend from 7-8 p.m.

Though Aug 17

• At the Playhouse, "Always, Patsy Cline." For ticket call 828-526-2695 or go to highland-splayhouse.org.

Thurs., Aug. 15

• Zahner Lecture Series "Forests of the Southern Appalachians" at the Nature Center at 6 p.m. Free.

• Lunch with the Docs at H-C Hospital noon to 1p. You're never too young for advanced Directives with Dr Robyn Restrepo. RSVP to 526-1345.

• Macon County Cancer Support group Thursday at 7 pm in the cafeteria of Angel Medical Center, Riverview Street, Franklin. Robin Callahan, Program Director, Cherokee Choices & Nurse Family Partnership, will be the guest speaker. Light refreshments. Everyone is invited.

Fri. Aug. 16

• At CLE Sherman, Grady and the Making of Atlanta Time: 10-12 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Cully Clark. To register call 828-526-8811.

• The High Mountain Squares will host their "Sand, Beaches, and Boats Dance" Friday

night at the Robert C Carpenter Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin, NC from 6:15 to 8:45p. Mr Randy Ramsey from Suwanee, GA will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. You're in luck, classes start Sept. 16th. For information call: 828-787-2324, 828-332-0001, 706-746-5426

• Live music at Town Square from 6-8 p.m. Tallulah River Bankd

Sat., Aug. 17

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway monthly work day is 9a til noon. If you are interested in participating, please reply to this email so we will know you are coming. We'll meet at the large upper parking lot behind the Recreation Center at 9a for a brief orientation session, and you will be furnished with the necessary tools and safety equipment. Please bring work gloves and bottled water.

• Little Highlander Cheer Camp from 10a-3p for ages 4-to rising 6th graders. The camp will be held at the Highlands Recreation Department. The cost for the camp is \$25 which includes a t-shirt and lunch. The camp will be ran by Kristin Huneycutt the Highlands School Cheerleading Coach.

Sun., Aug 18

• Prayers for Highlands School 2019-'20 school year at 4p on the track.

Mon., Aug. 19

• At CLE Spain: From Franco and Fascism to a Modern Democracy Time: 2-4 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Santiago Garcia-Castanon. To register call 828-526-8811.

• At CLE Spanish Tapas Time: 5-7 Cost \$90/\$100 Chef: Melissa Pelkey-Hass. To register call 828-526-8811.

Tues., Aug. 20

• At CLE Data Mining: How Do They Know What I Like? Time: 10-12 Cost \$25/\$35

Presenter: Keith Osher. To register call 828-526-8811.

Wed., Aug. 21

• At CLE World War I: One Hundred Years Later Time: 10-12 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Vejas Liulevicius. To register call 828-526-8811.

• At 2pm on Wednesday, the Smoky Mountain Brass Band will be featured in an Interlude concert which will take place at First Presbyterian Church in Highlands.

Thurs., Aug. 22

• MC Board of Elections Educational Seminar on Voter ID requirements for 2020 election at 10 am. at the Highlands Civic Center. Also at 6 p.m. at the Franklin Community building on the Georgia Road.

• At CLE Can Mankind Be Trusted with Control Over Its Own DNA? Time: 2-4 Cost \$25/\$35 Presenters: Jill Granger. To register call 828-526-8811.

• Highlands School Open House for all students is Thursday, 4-6 p.m.

• Zahner Lecture Series "The Plant-Pollinator Love Affair That Keeps Our Planet Humming" at the Nature Center at 6 p.m. Free.

Fri., Aug. 23

• The Western North Carolina Area Team of Operation Christmas Child is hosting a Project Leader Workshop and party at Holly Springs Baptist Church, 366 Holly Springs Church Road in Franklin. The event is open to our volunteers and anyone who has helped or would like to help with Operation Christmas Child in their church, business, or community group. Area volunteers will also be filling empty shoeboxes with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items for Operation Christmas Child. These gifts will be delivered to children in need. For many it will be the first gift they have ever received. RSVP, email jtrull.OCC2017@hotmail.com.

Smoky Mountain Brass at Interlude



At 2pm on Wednesday, August 21, the Smoky Mountain Brass Band will be featured in an Interlude concert which will take place at First Presbyterian Church in Highlands. The Smoky Mountain Brass Band is a British-style brass band located in Asheville, NC. Formed in 1981 by Western Carolina University music professor Richard Trevarthan, the group draws its membership from throughout Western North Carolina. Currently directed by Casey Coppenbarger, they perform in and around Western North Carolina, the Southeast, and the Nation. There is no charge for the Interlude concerts which constitute a ministry in music to the community. Dress is casual- come as you are. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

HCP's 'Dearly Departed' coming up



Highlands Cashiers Players 25th season is here! We are working hard on our first show of the season, "Dearly Departed." Directed by Dr. Ronnie Spilton and filled with both familiar and brand new faces, this Southern comedy is one you will not want to miss. Tickets go on sale for season subscribers on August 15, and for the public on August 17. Call the box office at 828-526-8084 or go online at www.highlandscashiersplayers.org



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THE DRY SINK
HIGHLANDS, NC

Have you seen
The Fry Wall?

Carafina

Wavy Bakers

Pakka wood Utensils!

The Dry Sink Main Street Highlands, NC

2019 Scholarship Golf Tournament is coming up

Space is rapidly filling up for the 2019 Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament! 2018 is looking like it could be the most successful year ever!


October 19, Wildcat Cliffs Country Club will once again host the annual Scholarship Golf Classic. The Town of Highlands Scholarship fund began in 1975 through the generosity of a local businessman named Jack Taylor. His gift of \$5,000 was the initial funding for this scholarship program, enabled by special legislation in the NC General Assembly, making Highlands unique in the state with the ability to administer such a fund for the benefit of Highlands School graduates committed to higher education through college, university or vocational training.

Currently, the Town of Highlands Scholarship Endowment Fund which at the time exceeds \$800,000. Through the ensuing years, various Clubs including Highlands Falls, Cullasaja Club, and now Wildcat Cliffs, have graciously provided each of their unique golf course and

clubhouse facilities for the purpose of creating an annual event. The historical generosity has been essential in building and sustaining the endowment fund with the goal of providing financial and moral support to our young Highlands School graduates.

"We are excited to continue this important tradition. Wildcat Cliffs management and staff have gone above and beyond to make this a successful event on all levels for the last 10 years. Without them, local graduates wouldn't have the same financial support." In addition to this golf tournament, the Annual Three Rivers Fly Fishing Tournament is also becoming a huge contributor to the Scholarship Fund.

The event kicks off at 7:30am with breakfast and practice on the range tee and practice green. A 9am shotgun start is followed by cocktails, lunch and awards ceremony. The cost for the event is \$150 per player. For sponsorship information or to sign up, please contact Brian Stiehler (787-2778) or Rebecca Shuler (526-2118).



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...LIGHTING from page 1

atmosphere for visitors arriving in town after dark.

Taylor said there were no votes of support for the project based on the proposal last month.

Chamber Board Chair Hilary Wilkes said they will continue to look into the idea.

"We are hopeful that with more research and a few trials we will come up with an acceptable lighting proposal for downtown trees during the darker fall and winter months and we are grateful to the Town Board and town staff for allowing us to get the conversation started," said Wilkes. "We had a great meeting with the Mayor and town staff Monday and look forward to doing more due diligence together."

Public Works Committee discusses trash pickup amendments

The lighting proposal was potentially a large topic at the Public Works meeting on Tuesday, but instead discussion focused on beefing up the town's current trash pickup requirements.

Since installing bear-proof trash containers downtown, Committee members agreed that bear interactions have decreased. Bear-resistant toters for commercial customers have been ordered and are due to arrive in October, said Town Engineer Lamar Nix. "The next step is firm up policy in the residential areas."

Amendments discussed to current residential trash pickup procedures included requiring town customers to purchase a bear-resistant container no more than 100 gallons in size. The container must have wheels and a bar so it can be mechanically lifted by a garbage truck.

It was suggested that residents could also house containers in an enclosed bear-resistant structure but it must be accessible from a side so receptacles can be rolled out, as opposed to being lifted out.

"I think if they have the proper containers at these places, trash pickup will be a lot easier,"

• See **LIGHTING** page 22

...HC HEATH continued from page 1

Dr. Walter Clark in early March. The committee is comprised of four Board members and three community advisory members representing communities across the Highlands and Cashiers area.

"We are fortunate to have the talents of this dedicated committee who devoted extensive time and effort reviewing, scoring and evaluating the grant applications," said Dr. Clark.

Using the basis of Social Determinants of Health, and information obtained through research and listening sessions, the committee identified four focus areas for grant funding: Access to Healthcare, Education, Economic Stability and Community Vitality. Grant workshops were conducted, and the first grant cycle opened May 15.

Board-approved policies and best practices were closely followed throughout the process of reviewing, vetting and prioritizing the grant applications.

"The committee dedicated more than 1,000 collective hours

of intense analysis of each of the applications in a detailed grant review process that ensured accuracy, integrity, and transparency throughout consideration," said Ms. Edwards.

On July 31, the Programs and Grants Committee recommended grant awards totaling \$1,287,260 to the Foundation Board of Directors which it unanimously approved. Selected projects spanned all ages from early childhood to end-of-life care; and addressed a wide spectrum of solutions from on-site school nurses and social workers to equipment and technology upgrades, as well as capital improvements and critical support for our indigent population.

Support for children and youth included facility upgrades, instructor support and creative programming. A particularly unique project combined more than one focus area and included family-based services with food security.

Edwards noted commonalities across some of the grant pro-

posals. "Some requests were similar, involving emergency services and transportation, school-based health, mental health services and healthcare for the uninsured. These commonalities represent opportunities for collaborative initiatives in the future."

"I am extremely impressed with the good work of the applicant organizations. Their successes provide the channels to fulfill our charitable purposes. We look forward to ongoing partnerships that reach far into the future as we strive to build healthy and vibrant communities," said Dr. Clark.

"Over the coming weeks we look forward to sharing impact stories about how the funded organizations will move the needle to improve the health and wellbeing of our Highlands, Cashiers and surrounding communities," said CEO Robin Tindall.

Plans for a second grant cycle in 2019 are underway. For further please visit the Foundation's website www.hchealthfnd.org.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •



Leave it in His hands

Pastor Dan Robinson
Highlands Central Baptist Church

In Romans 11:36 we read: "For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things." Then in Romans 8:28 these words: "And we know that God works all things together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose." And, "Yes," All things means all things in both verses. Theologians would cite these verses in their explanation of the Biblical doctrine of Sovereignty. Though in no way a simple doctrine, we may nonetheless state it simply. Sovereignty means that God Himself is in control of all things, times, people, circumstances, and events, including history and future. Of Himself He says: "What I have said, that will I bring about; What I have planned, that will I do" (Isaiah 46:11). In Psalm 115:3 we read: "Our God is in His heaven; He does whatever He pleases."

This doctrine, however, poses a significant problem for many. We often hear this truth countered by comments such as, "How could God do this?" or declaring even more emphatically, "Surely God wouldn't do or allow this or that!" I agree. Sovereignty is no easy doctrine.

But honestly, I think we have a bigger problem if God isn't Sovereign. Namely: If God isn't in control, then pray tell "Who is?"

It's been said that "Some things we'll just have to leave in His Hands." And in this instance I surely agree. This is neither passive resignation or ignorant theology. The Bible calls this position Faith. Since Jesus taught it and was sustained by it then I think it will be good enough for us.

On Monday, July 15, my Mom transitioned to heaven. She pulled out into the path of an oncoming box truck. All reports and accounts indicate that Mom never even saw the truck and that she died instantly. And frankly, the doctrine of Sovereignty would be a lot more attractive (at this point) had Mom died in her sleep rather than in the more violent way in which she did.

But then we must once again visit the Cross of Calvary and how our Lord indeed also died a violent death. "Why" my Mom died the way she did is hard for me to understand. I can give you no logical explanation. But then, Faith doesn't rely on logic. It relies on Truth which is ultimately in Jesus.

Furthermore; I can give you no logical explanation for how the death of one man (the only perfect and sinless man who ever lived, Jesus) indeed paid the price for all people, for all times and places for their sins. But by Faith I can. God loves you. Jesus Christ died for you. The only way we could ever get to God is through Jesus Christ. This is why Jesus died. And this is why He died the way He died. He did this for us. Anyone who comes to Him by faith may be assured of sins forgiven and an eternity in heaven.

My Mom is there now. And though the space she leaves is huge, I can say with all my heart that I am so thankful that she is safely Home. And for all that she taught and lived before me, I now rise up and call her blessed. "Mom: You and Dad keep the lights on. We're coming."

Proverbs 3:5

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Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

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

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Pastor Jim Kinard

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

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

Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

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10:45am: Child. Program, 10:45am: Worship Service

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

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

Choir 5p

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Wed.: Choir: 6p

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Sundays: Worship: 11

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Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

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

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

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• FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from July 28

July 28

• At 6:22 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.

July 29

• At 2:29 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.

• At 5:26 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Glenville-Cashiers Rescue at Whitewater Falls.

July 31

• At 1:05 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Zachary Road.

• At 2:53 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Potter Lane.

• At 2:56 p.m., the dept., was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

Aug. 1

• At 9:57 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on Horse Cove Road..

Aug. 3

• At 8:50 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Highlands View.

• At 10:48 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to at residence on Potter Lane.

• At 11:48 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Arnold Road..

• At 2 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Spruce Lane.

• At 3:25 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on County Club Drive.

Aug. 4

• At 2:36 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hutchison Court.

• At 11:24 a.m., the dept., investigated the source of smoke at NC 28 south and Clear Creek Road.

• At 9:04 a.m. the dept., responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 south.

• At 10:15 p.m., the dept., investigated a possible gas leak at a residence on Highgate Road.

Aug. 5

• At 11 a.m., the dept. responded to a electrical fire at a residence on Myrtle Speed road.

• At 6:39 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Skyline Lodge Road.

Aug. 6

• At 2:01 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

• At 3:03 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Spruce Street.

• At 11:03 p.m., the dept., responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Falls Village Court.

Aug. 7

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at

a residence on the Bowery Road.

Aug. 8

• At 3:09 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Foreman Road.

• At 5:19 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence at Village Walk.

...MCHAN continued from page 1

bring in visitors during Highlands' weakest times of the year.

"We were very impressed at the caliber of applicants interested in this pivotal position, many from outside the area," said Wilkes. "While some of the other lead candidates were highly skilled in some of the specific areas required for the job, Kaye brings a demonstrated track record of leading an organization forward to achieve established goals; engaging, motivating and mobilizing staff and stakeholders; and effectively managing partners to realize an overarching vision and strategy. We are thrilled to find someone who is so grounded in operations, project management and partner relationships while still being a creative and strategic visionary."

As was the case with previous Executive Director Bob Kiltyka, a good portion of McHan's salary will be paid with room tax proceeds as now much of her job will entail marketing and tourism and because chamber membership dues haven't traditionally been enough to cover the Executive Director's salary.

Currently, room tax proceeds can only



Kaye McHan

Aug. 9

• At 6:04 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Happoldt Dr.

Aug. 11

• At noon, the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Naiad Terrance.

Aug. 12

• At 6:32 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse trail.

At 6:55 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brushy Face Road.

be used for promotional activities.

"The Highlands Chamber is unique in that our primary focus is not recruiting membership or new industry/businesses to town, but to bring in visitors to support the local economy and create an awareness of Highlands in key markets," said Wilkes. "Tourism development and destination marketing have become critical components of our work and as we developed the job description for online posting, it was clear we needed to focus on candidates with a background in these areas. Putting these words in the title also helped relay our focus and eliminate candidates that only held general nonprofit/chamber experience."

Most recently, after returning to Highlands, McHan served as Assistant to the President of Advanced Equine Comfort at Carpe Diem Farms and as Director of Development and Marketing at the International Friendship Center – both located in Highlands.

In the past, she was Executive Director of the Matthews Help Center in the greater Charlotte area; Assistant Vice President for

Development and Project Manager for Marketing for the Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota; Executive Director of the I-Park Foundation in Connecticut and Executive Director and Artistic Director at The Bascom 2003-2012.

"While my experience outside the Highlands area provided a rich tapestry for building relationships and broadening my scope and skills in nonprofit leadership, my heart has always been in Highlands," said McHan. "I feel very fortunate to now put my experiences and passions to work helping to cultivate community, commerce and tourism in ways that preserve and enrich this lifestyle that we all love – and seem to return to. I am especially looking forward to meeting with each of the chamber members and other community leaders to understand their unique challenges and opportunities and help devise ways to foster their continued success."

One of McHan's initial priorities will include overseeing the development and deployment of the new CRM sales platform that the chamber has begun to move the organization forward using data-driven strategies for member success and highly targeted tourism management.

The current Executive Director of the Chamber, Bob Kiltyka announced his retirement in June. McHan takes over Sept. 3.

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For more info, go to my website, Facebook.com/OwenLandscapingWNC or call (828) 884-8764. I build waterfalls, boulder walls, stepping stones, and do light grading and hauling. (st. 8/1)

ORIENTAL RUG Karastan Kirman #759 8x12 excellent condition \$500. 828-342-4115 (st. 6/13)

COMIC BOOKS - Buy / Sell. Call Bob @ 302-530-1109 (9/5)

WANTED

MASSAGE THERAPIST

wanted for new holistic center in Franklin. Will train in Reiki. 239-822-2752. (st. 8/15)

NEEDED AN EXPERIENCED HEALTH CARE-TAKER

for a very sweet female Alzheimer's patient for limited time each day not during normal working hours in exchange for free lodging and utilities in a fully furnished cottage located in Highlands Country Club. For additional information call 828 526-0469. (st. 8/8)

SENIOR MALE NEEDS

LIVE-IN companion, driver, housekeeper. Room and board. Small salary. Spends time in NC and FL. No pets. Valid drivers license required. Call Phil at 828-526-5261. (st. 8/8)

HELP WANTED

WHOLE LIFE MARKET

AND NECTAR JUICE BAR is looking for a new team member! A YEAR-ROUND, PART-TIME position is opening up soon so stop by and pick up an application at 680. N. 4th St. or send resume to

wholelife@frontier.com. (st. 8/15)

MOUNTAIN FRESH IS

HIRING: - Line/buffet cooks, Bar/barista/wine/specialty foods, Servers, Dishwasher/prep, Pizza staff, Cashiers, More!. Apply in person or to HR@mfgro.com. Free meals and TRAINING PROVIDED AGE 16+ (st. 8/15)

WAIT STAFF FULL- OR PART-TIME. Experience preferred. Stop by at Wild Thyme Gourmet on Main Street in Town Square. (st. 8/8)

RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE

for hair designer. Apply in person Tues. - Sat. at Mountain Magic, 44 Satulah Road, Highlands. (st. 7/11)

COLONEL MUSTARD'S SPECIALTY FOODS IN HIGHLANDS

looking for an awesome person with a passion for food and cooking. Part time position available, includes some holidays and weekends. If you are a quick learner, friendly and hardworking, you'll fit right in with our team. Please stop by the shop to fill out an application or email resume to col.mustardshighlands@yahoo.com. (st. 7/11)

DUTCHMANS CASUAL LIVING STORE Looking for full and part time sales associate to join our team. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. Please call Shannon or Gabbi at 828-526-8864. (st. 6/6)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT HIGHLANDS SMOKEHOUSE.

Hiring all positions. Commitment to excellence in food quality and guest service. We are proud of the products and service we provide, we create experiences not just sell food. Offering defined, sane schedules and healthy work environment allowing for a balanced life. Very cooperative pay. Food service experience preferred. Tobacco free workplace. Contact us at Smokehouserecruiting@gmail.com (st. 5/2)

FULL-TIME SALES POSITION. Weekends & holidays a must. Great hours with a great salary. Nancy's Fancys. 828-526-5029. (st. 5/2)

OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA

are looking for the following employees: Full-time seasonal sales assistant- Acorns; Sous Chef/Cooks; Assistant Pastry Chef; Front Desk Supervisors/Bellmen; Housekeeping Supervisor; Spa Operations Manager; Cosmetologists/Nail Technicians; Hostess/Bartenders/Servers/Bussers

Please apply online at www.oldedwardsinn.com or call: Pat Turnbull at 828-787-2697. (st. 3/7)

POTPOURRI BOUTIQUE

STORES IN HIGHLANDS looking for full time and part time sales persons. Retail sales experience with women's clothing and accessories preferred, eyewear experience a plus. Must be able to work weekends and holidays, except Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day. Fun, lively, fast paced environment. Please stop by the store for application or email resume to potpourrihighlands@yahoo.com (st. 4/4)

SALES ASSOCIATE HIGH END RETAIL CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS AND CASHIERS, NC. Full time, part time and seasonal. Inquire to 828-200-0928. (st. 3/38)

THE UGLY DOG PUB wants you to be a part of our team. We need managers, full-time servers, bartenders, and support staff with a positive attitude, ability to multitask, and a willingness to work as a team. Experience preferred but not required. Working nights and weekends is required. 828-526-8364 theuglydogstaff@gmail.com. (st. 3/21)

WOLFGANG'S RESTAURANT is looking for experienced waitstaff, hostesses, line cook, pantry person and bussers. Please call Jacque at 526-3807. (st. 2/14)

SERVICES

GUTTER CLEANING, METAL ROOF & FABRICATION roof repairs, chimney flashing, debris removal. Call 371-1103. (st. 6/27)

WNC PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LLC - 828-347-1822. Year-round property maintenance and monitoring for vacation homes-rentals-residential • pressure washing-deck repairs-carpentry-small plumbing & electrical repairs-painting-etc. • lawn care & mowing • by the job or yearly contract • call for FREE estimate • insured.

HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDYMAN: Repairs, remodeling, painting, pressure washing, minor plumbing and electric, decks and additions. Free Estimates. Insured. Call 828-200-4071. (9/26)

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incapacitated clients. Hours are flexible to meet your needs. Dependable and punctual. Please contact me to see if I can accommodate your needs. References upon request. Catherine Robinson, 727 215-4195. Catherine-guardian15@gmail.com. (st. 7/3)

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HIGHLANDS HANDI-MAN - Can fix anything inside or out. Carpentry, painting, pressure washing, lawn care, hauling, and will monitor house during winter. Free Estimates. References. Call Tony. 828-200-5770 or 828-482-0159. (6/27)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE SIX ACRES ON BUCK

CREEK ROAD behind Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Sign on property. 843-460-8015. (st. 5/30)

3+ ACRES WITH MULTIPLE ACCESS/ EXIT POINTS. NUMEROUS BUILD SPOTS. 2 car garage finished (insulated, electrical). 2 bed., 2 bath single-wide with large deck to enjoy expansive views. New well pump. Good for businesses.. Lower Clear Creek 5 miles down HWY 28. Lots of hardwoods and privacy. asking 159,000 (st. 9/21)

1.21 ACRES FOR SALE BY OWNER - OTTO, NC - \$28,000. Lot 12 Quail Haven Road. Otto, NC. Price not firm ... open for negotiation. Please email if interested to ddmarsh15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. Please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

COMMERCIAL SPACE RENTALS

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE A COMMERCIAL/MIXED USE PROPERTY strategically and conveniently close to Highlands in Scaly Mountain. Property includes a post office, real estate office, individual home and five apartments. Directly across from new Dollar General store. For information, contact Jody or Wood Lovell with Highlands Sotheby's International Realty at 828-526-4104.

(st. 6/20)

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

SUMMER RENTAL NEAR MIRROR LAKE. 3 BR/2BA. Avail 7/2020-8/2020. 1 mo. min. \$4200/mo. Pls call for photos and details. 843-224-8783. (8/29)

LUXURY APARTMENT IN TOWN. Walk to Main Street. 1BR 1BA. \$3,500 per month. 3 month minimum. Sorry, no pets, no smoking. Adults only. 828-421-1709. (st. 5/10)

...LIGHTING continued from page 16

said Town Manager Josh Ward.

Other changes in the works include rules about loose trash bags placed on the side of the road. They would no longer be picked up and if a bear creates a mess with a resident's garbage, it will be the owner's responsibility to clean it up.

Nix said bear-resistant containers can be purchased at Reeves Hardware in Highlands or any other home supply store. At Reeves a 64-gallon toter is \$229.99 and a 96-gallon toter is \$239.99. He said if the town were to purchase bear-resistant toters to rent to the 2,500 residential trash customers, it would cost the town about \$800,000.

Committee members discussed the civil penalty for violations and repeat offenders and felt \$250 would be enough to deter violations.

Deadline to make change

The suggested deadline for commercial customers to have bear-resistant toters up and running is Jan. 1, 2020. The proposed deadline for residential customers to meet requirements is Aug. 1, 2020.

What's the next step

The Public Works Committee will meet again at 8 a.m. on Aug. 20 in Town Hall to review the changes to the solid waste management ordinance and make its recommendations to the Board of Commissioners at this month's meeting on Aug. 22.

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