

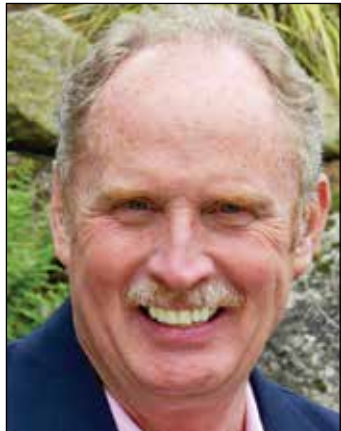
Highlands Newspaper

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Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019



John Dotson



Marc Hehn



Brian Stiehler

2019 Town Board winners

Seven candidates lined up for this off-year municipal election in Highlands. Incumbents John Dotson, Eric Pierson and Brian Stiehler vied for re-election over Mark Hehn, Nick McCall, Michael Rogers and Hank Ross.

Stiehler, Dotson and Hehn won.

"I am grateful a majority of those who voted have faith in my ability to serve on the Town Board. I'm looking forward to another successful four years of representing Highlands' taxpayers and the community," said Stiehler. He got the high number of votes at 182.

Dotson and Hehn tied with 134 votes each.

"I commend the 324 Highlands residents who voted in the election," said Dotson. "The most important freedom we enjoy as citizens of this great coun-

try is the right to vote, whether on a local or national level. We vigorously debate issues and then express our opinion peacefully via the ballot box. No one wins an election by themselves. It takes grassroots support and voters who are familiar with your stance on issues. I pledge to continue to serve the residents of Highlands to the best of my ability and always for the betterment of our residents. Thank you."

Hehn who put it all out there during the campaign said, "I would like to thank my wife, friends and supporters for their hard work during the last four months. Believe and imagine our hospital and medical practices are once again fully staffed."

There are 926 registered voters in the town of Highlands. Interestingly, the number of early votes cast – 161 – about matched

those cast on election day which was 163.

Votes cast for the other contenders were: Pierson with 130 votes, Ross with 126 votes, McCall with 85 votes and Rogers with 58 votes.

There were four write-ins. There is one absentee ballot and six provisional ballots so the final count won't be complete until the canvass is completed Nov. 15.

After the polls closed Tuesday night, there were three versions of the outcome – two of which were wrong. The Board of Elections is looking into why.

Commissioners will be sworn into office at the December Town Board meeting following old business. They will begin their four-year term immediately and will preside over new business on the agenda.

– Kim Lewicki

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Providers now required for Medicaid recipients

By Brittney Lofthouse

Medicaid in North Carolina has been undergoing behind the scene changes since 2015 and for the first time since the process started, people who receive Medicaid have been asked to make some changes. One in five North Carolinians is on Medicaid and the new changes are extensive and may be difficult to navigate.

Open enrollment for Medicaid Managed Care began statewide on Monday, Oct. 14. According to

the state Department of Health and Human Services, open enrollment has expanded from the initial 27 counties that launched mid-July to all 100 counties, covering an additional 860,000 people. Most people who receive Medicaid are now required to choose a health plan and primary care provider to deliver their Medicaid services as part of the state's transformation to managed care.

Open enrollment ends for

• See MEDICAID page 15

Plans for the PAC grounds on campus are revealed

By Hank Ross & Cauty Worley

The Performing Arts Center board has presented renditions of what the inside of the buildings on the expanded campus will look like and now the plan for the outside is being explained.

The general philosophy for the site plan and landscape architecture for the Performing Arts

Center (PAC) expansion includes protecting and uses as much of the existing natural and mature landscape as possible. The landscape architecture plan minimizes site grading, maximizes privacy and protects the natural drainage systems throughout the property and adjacent properties. In addition, the landscape and hardscape

• See PAC page 14

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

The future of H-C Hospital is not the sole responsibility of the Town of Highlands

I remained quiet and neutral during the election. Congratulations to those who won and to all candidates on the ballot. Thanks to everyone who took the time to vote.

Now I want to respond to a general notion that was manifested in various forms during the election. It goes something like this with an introduction statement, "What should the town do about . . ." One specific question concerned what the town should do about the hospital and healthcare.

I always feel uneasy about this notion of "The Town." It connotes "The Town" as some autonomous, self-supporting, corporation with unlimited resources. I wish the question was not framed with what's "The Town" going to do. I suggest an alternative of what the town taxpayers are expected to support.

The following two questions are very different: "What is the town going to do about the hospital and healthcare?" and "What are the taxpayers of Highlands expected to do about the hospital and healthcare?" The latter begs the question whether the taxpayers of Highlands should



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

be directly or indirectly the sole bearer of support for the hospital's long-term vitality. We should also remember that the current proprietor of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, HCA, is a private corporation.

My point is that while some may think "The Town" should take action, possibly involving taxpayer money, the vast majority of beneficiaries reside outside of town and would not shoulder that tax burden.

Maybe the question should be reframed to "What should the Macon and Jackson county taxpayers be expected to pay to insure the long-term access to healthcare?" We have a Highlands' fire district where town residents and those in the county all share the tax burden for fire protection. Why would a healthcare access scenario be any different?

Yes, I do become concerned when the sole focus of plateau initiatives falls on "The Town." We need to be forming partnerships from all local governmental entities, not just the Town of Highlands. Some effective partnerships already exist.

But, as I said HCA is a private corporation. That makes direct financial support from any elected government body problematic. On the other hand, we all have a crucial vested interest in assuring continued healthcare access in the Highlands-Cashiers area. As mayor, I have a fiduciary responsibility to advocate for the community. Last Friday I attended a meeting of the Health Equity Coalition (HEC) in Asheville. This group evolved from the sale of Mission to HCA and the formation of the Dogwood Healthcare Trust. HEC has recently pushed for the hiring of a healthcare monitor which was a condition of the Attorney General's approval of the sale. After nine months Dogwood announced the hiring of an independent monitoring firm last week.

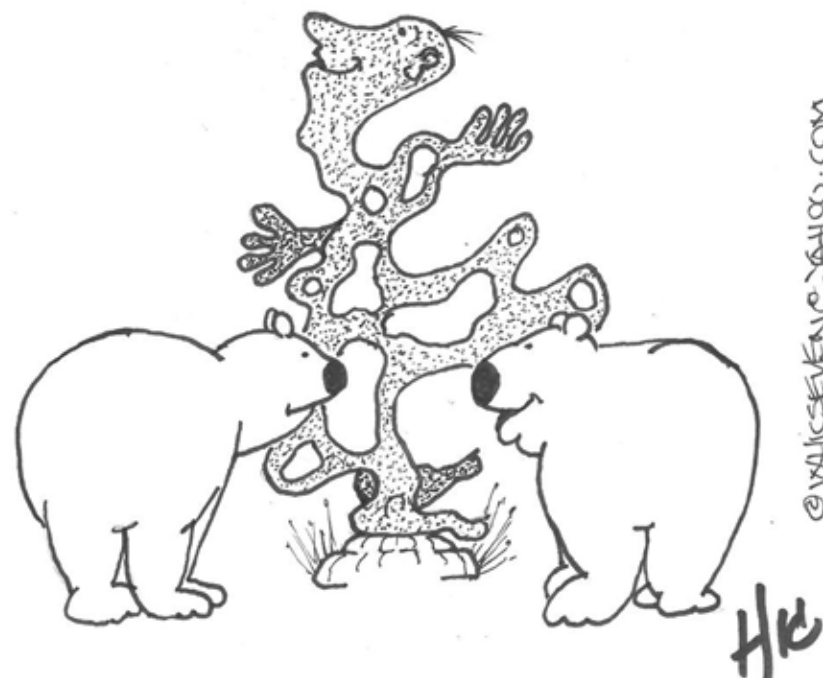
Big questions remain. How will HCA invest in the future of the hospital? Given their collective focus on social determinants of health, what will Dogwood and the Highlands-Cashiers Health Foundation do to insure basic healthcare access on the plateau? "The Town" should play a supporting role, but I am wary of any expectation that Highlands taxpayers should "chip in" when others do not.

If more resources are required, maybe Jackson and Macon county support would

be more equitable. After all, Highlands residents not only pay town taxes, but they also pay a lion's share of Macon County taxes. Some Highlanders even pay Jackson County taxes.




I remain optimistic. Hopefully, HCA and the Legacy Foundations have plans to address critical problems like access to primary care physicians and serving the under insured.

• HIC'S VIEW •



"I don't understand modern art. Then I remembered. I don't have to. I'm a bear."

• WEATHER •

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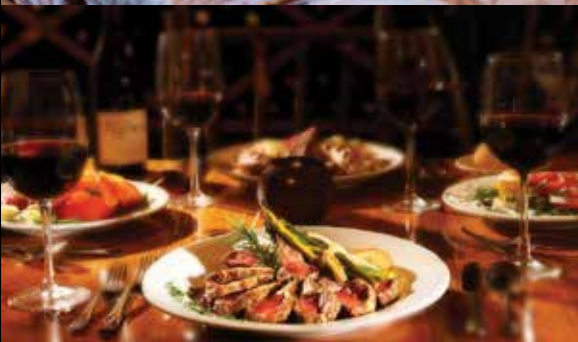
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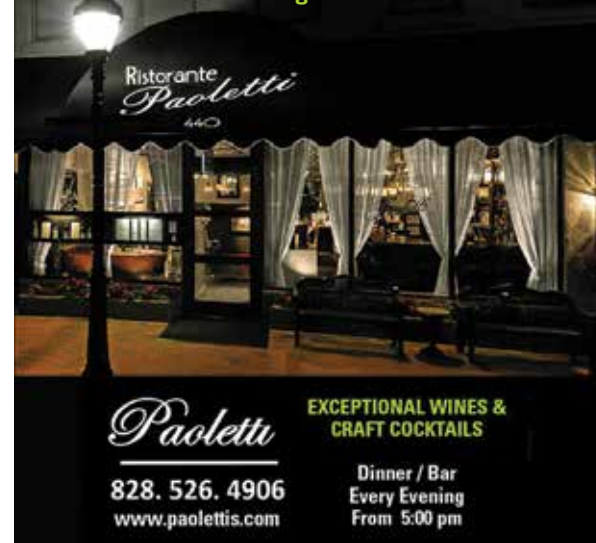
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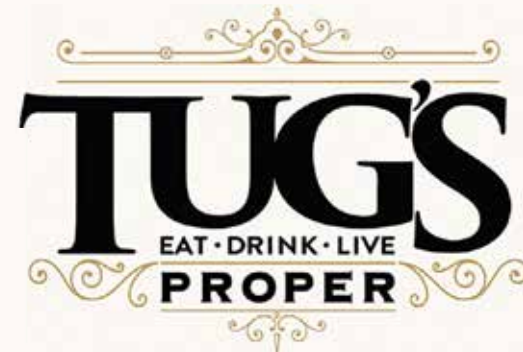


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Stell Huie, Angie Jenkins, and Fletcher Wolfe at St. Marks Basilica.

Area musicians visit Venice, Italy

Attorney and concert singer Highlander Stell Huie, First Presbyterian Church of Highlands organist Angie Jenkins and Maestro Fletcher Wolfe of Boy Choir fame have just returned from a remarkably interesting visit to Venice, Italy.

The three arrived in Venice via Paris and were guests at the famous old Hotel near the Academia Bridge-Pausania.

Maestro Wolfe, who earlier had resided there with his artist wife, Bobbe, led the way for their visiting most of Venice's historic sites. One of these was the famous Basilica of St. Marks in St Marks square. where the famous organist and composer Roberto Marconi served for over 35 years.

As a good friend of Maestro Wolfe and having presented his choir there over the years, the trio had him and his wife, Laura, join them for dinner at the magnificent Island Hotel on the Cipriani - the hotel that hosts many of the world's elite and famous.

At this dinner with Maestro Marconi, he surprised them all with a very special

gift for Maestro Wolfe. A package presented at the table contained the originals of several of his compositions inscribed with his compliments on their past relationship.

Maestro Wolfe has loaned them to Angie Jenkins whom he considers one of the finest church organists he has ever heard. Another very special event of their visit was an invitation to the palace which was owned by the Woolworth heiress, Barbara Hutton. Now owned by the renowned London art dealer, Colnaghi, they were given a private tour of the palace and presented with one of his outstanding books.

Of course, it couldn't be a tour of Venice without a Gondola ride or a visit to the glassblowers in the Island of Murano. Their stay was short but oh so memorable with visits to Harry's Bar, The Gritti Palace and the Danieli Hotel. Maestro Wolfe, in the past was awarded Italy's Highness honors including Commander of the Italian Republic says this trip was indeed special because he traveled with friends who shared many of his past experiences.

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• THE INK PENN •

Veterans Day Thoughts on Utah Beach

As we approach Veterans Day, I can't help but reflect on our bicycling trip in Normandy several years ago. One year I turned those thoughts into a column about Omaha Beach. This year, it's the village of Sainte Marie du Mont and the Utah Beach D-day Museum that keep coming to mind. I have to agree with Rick Steves when he writes, "This is the best museum on the D-Day beaches...thorough yet manageable... [with] a series of fascinating exhibits and displays."

To reach the museum, we cycled a pleasant ten-mile route along the coast and marveled at the stunning Channel view occasionally interrupted by the remains of German bunkers. We wondered aloud what the lives of the Normans had been like during the occupation--a question answered for us when we toured the museum.

Like the Omaha Beach Memorial, this museum includes viewing rooms with films plus explanatory panels of photos, stories, and quotes. Conceived in 1962 by the mayor of Sainte Marie du Mont, the museum has grown over the years, and its last expansion completed in 2011 added oral histories of American soldiers and Norman civilians alike, plus a B-26 Marauder and an original Higgins Boat landing craft.

We heard tales of the civilian population going hungry and, unbeknownst to the Germans, slaughtering dairy cows to feed their families and neighbors. "The founder of the Museum Michel de Vallavieille would recall, 'We had a miserable life, a life that became increasingly harder and more miserable as time went by.'"

One story that caught our attention was that of Major David Dewhurst, an Army Air Force squad commander in World War II who flew bombing raids including the "final bombing run on the German stronghold WN5, moments before the Allied landing at Utah Beach," only to die in an auto wreck not long after returning home to Texas. I didn't realize as I stood there, astonished at that turn of events, that his sons had only discovered their father's story upon visiting Utah Beach in 2007 and



Kathy Manos Penn

seeing his name and photo.

From Utah Beach, we cycled past a statue of Major Dick Winters, whose story you may recall from Band of Brothers, and headed to Sainte Marie du Mont for coffee. There we stumbled on a Museum housed in a small shop. The proprietor explained that his shop had been German Headquarters for four years and Allied Headquarters for six months. With his little bit of English, he showed us the rooms where the Germans had

drawn pictures on the walls, and then he cranked up a German siren, giving me cold chills. If you've ever seen a WWII movie, you know the sound.

We wandered the town square reading plaques that described the exploits of the soldiers who liberated the town. Paratrooper Ambrose Allie was about to be executed when a US squad shot the Germans aiming at him. Another plaque told of a High Noon scenario in the square. Yet another described a soldier, seemingly older than most, who hid behind a water pump with his rifle cradled in the crook of his arm. From there, he calmly picked off Germans as they ventured into the square. We all imagined him as an old country boy who hunted back home.

It's not the uniforms, guns, and other artifacts in the museums that brought the Normandy Invasion to life for me, but these personal stories. So many towns have memories to share, demonstrating that the people of Normandy have neither forgotten their WWII ordeal nor the debt they owe to the many who fought to free them. I sincerely hope that we Americans have similarly long memories about the sacrifices made by our veterans not only in WWII but in subsequent wars and conflicts.

• *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/.*

Ice Rink is set to open

Pending weather and chiller repairs being addressed, the Ice Rink at K-H Founders Park on Pine Street is supposed to open today, Thursday, Nov. 7. Consequently, opening day may be delayed but ice is being made as we speak. Stay tuned!

•WORD MATTER•

Doing Well by Doing Good

Americans have a love-hate relationship with large corporations.

The conflict stems from the contradiction between appreciating the important role corporations play within the American free enterprise system and decrying the often-enormous profits they earn in the face of poverty among the general population. In 2018, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, profits among American corporations approached \$9 trillion, while 40 million Americans lived below the poverty level. American corporations are enjoying staggering success while 13% of the general population is being entirely left out, and 14% are barely getting by.

I'm not going to point negative fingers at specific companies; instead, I want to call a bit of attention to issues with which some Americans struggle, and why there appears to be a movement among younger Americans to successfully challenge this entrenched aspect of life.

American corporations enjoy a revered status in our country. They are provided, by their partners in government, a plethora of mechanisms by which to avoid taxes on the profits they earn. And they do actually earn those profits, for the most part, at least.

Corporations aren't born huge. They spring from the American entrepreneurial spirit, which is at the core of our envied capitalist economy. The game is risk and reward. Entrepreneurs and investors "risk" capital in pursuit of profits. They identify something missing, or some unmet need or want among consumers, and they address that void. If successful, they employ people to produce the product or deliver the service and, in turn, they get to enjoy the rewards.

Employees, who do much of the hands-on work, are paid, hopefully fairly, for the time and talent we bring to the effort. Some employers are generous, others, not so much, but such are the vagaries of American capitalism.

I believe at least part of the conflict regarding corporations stems from two streams of thought. First, some of us don't like a few to be hugely successful while many others are struggling. Sorry, but that's our system. Corporations and investors should not be expected to take the risks and not reap the rewards.

Second, there are corporations who don't play by the rules, or who exploit the



Bud Katz

system for no reason other than greed. They relocate operations "off-shore," exploiting cheaper labor in poor foreign countries and, in the process, eliminating millions of jobs for American workers. They cut corners and engage in environmental degradation, and in so doing, they risk their employees' safety and that of the general public and, in the process, damage their brand and

the value of their businesses.

Both private and shareholder-owned corporations impact American workers through pensions and 401(k) retirement accounts. They, along with individual investors, hold corporations responsible for the value of their investments. It's complicated, but many Americans enjoy both the direct efforts of large corporations who provide products and services we either want or need, and the byproducts of improved shareholder value.

Interestingly, as large corporations look towards their and our future, and under pressure from younger Americans who will constitute the customer base of tomorrow, many are starting to visibly engage in social responsibility. Walmart has banned the sale of assault-style weapons. Bank of America has stopped lending to manufacturers of assault-style weapons. Walmart, Amazon, JP Morgan Chase and others have increased their minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Delta Airlines has pumped billions into bonuses for employees. Amazon has signed The Climate Pledge to be net-zero in carbon emissions by 2040, ten years before the Paris Climate Accords take effect.

Other steps forward thinking corporations could take would be to self-impose limits on CEO pay, improve childcare and family leave, and lower healthcare costs for employees. They could keep jobs at home, and operate, in the context of climate change, as if their and our futures depended on it. Pharmaceutical companies could stop the deplorable practice of selling medicines for top dollar here at home while slashing prices for customers in other nations. Insurers could eliminate their culture of fighting legitimate claims by policy holders.

Apple's Tim Cook recently said, "Apple is about changing the world. [It's clear] you don't do that by staying quiet on things that matter."

Where government can't or won't take affirmative steps in the interest of the American people, at least a few corporations are doing some of what they can to help improve things. It would be great if more got on board.



2020 OLD EDWARDS EVENTS

JOE KINDRED *Kindred*

STEVEN SATTERFIELD *Miller Union*

JANUARY 25 Half-Mile Farm

HUGH ACHESON *The National*

FEBRUARY 22 The Farm at Old Edwards

BILL SMITH & JUSTIN BURDETT *Crook's Corner*

MARCH 28 Half-Mile Farm

WHITNEY OTAWKA *Greyfield Inn*

ROSÉ DINNER

MAY 2 Half-Mile Farm

FOX BROTHERS BBQ *Atlanta*

MAY 21 The Farm at Old Edwards

CHRIS HUERTA *Madison's, Highlands*

CHAMPAGNE DINNER

JULY 30 The Farm at Old Edwards

OYSTER FEST & DINNER

The Darling, Charleston

SEPTEMBER 13 The Farm at Old Edwards

FARM HARVEST DINNER & BARN DANCE

NOVEMBER 13 The Farm at Old Edwards

SUE ZEMANICK *Zazu, New Orleans*

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"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand, and for a talk by the fire. It is the time for home..."

— Edith Sitwell

There's a local joke going around town I'd like to share. "How do you know when 'the season' ends in Highlands?" Answer: "When you can walk down Main Street and not get harassed by someone selling over-priced cosmetics." Sadly, there's some truth in that joke.

All joking aside, it's time to make a declaration about business in Highlands and Cashiers. There is no "season!" Tumbleweeds are not blowing across Main Street November through March anymore. We owe a lot of it to the vision embraced by the Highlands and Cashiers Chamber of Commerce(s), Mayor Pat Taylor, and the incredible Community and Business investments from Jane Woodruff, Angela & Art Williams, Diane & Ray McPhail and others.

In real estate, there's some old lines that need to be retired. "Let's take our place off the market until next season," or "Nobody looks at property during the winter," and the one I love most, "All the Brokers head for Florida." 100% of these myths are false...almost (alright, Bee and I are taking a 5-day trip to the BVI in February).

Take it from all 288 Real Estate Brokers up here... Highlands and Cashiers are YEAR-ROUND markets! The golf course might be closed, but we're open for business. More and more full-time residents are moving in, and looking during Winter. We just sold a beautiful home to a Captain with Delta Airlines who commutes to Hartsfield-Jackson Airport in Atlanta for his trips. Several of our customers with families have chosen to be full-time, enrolling the kids at the Highlands School, Summit Charter,



Pat Gleeson, Owner, BIC White Oak Realty Group
828-782-0472

or Rabun Gap. One family recently told me "since moving here we spend less time in front of TVs, computers, and cell phones, and more time in front of our fire pit." When you consider the investments being made at High Hampton in Cashiers, Glen Cove along the Highlands-Cashiers corridor, The Performing Arts Center in Highlands, and numerous retail environments, it's no wonder I struggle finding a parking spot.

Then there's the obvious advantages of buying and selling in winter, just ask your broker. For example, the leaves are off the trees. That means a buyer can actually see that the lot next door might be a little too close for comfort (especially if there's a double-wide on it), and a seller can see that if you'll just trim a few limbs, you might open up a great view. Buying and selling in winter allows you to close on a property by spring and be ready to move in as soon as the kids are out of school. This may sound trite but if the furnace doesn't work in a home you're considering, you'll know it, and if it does work but it's still cold, you may want to ask about the insulation. For those of you selling your property, winter is the best time to get your property inspected because you can actually find a contractor who can fix what's wrong without having to wait weeks or months.

One last tip. If you haven't hiked these mountain trails in winter, you haven't lived!

• 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 deVille, is one of the leading boutique brokerage firms on the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau. You can reach Pat, Bee, Christal, Tom, and Susie at 828.526.8118.

Samaritan Purse 'shoe-box' project is Nov. 18 in Highlands

On Nov. 18, First Baptist Church in Highlands will be a drop-off location for shoebox gifts filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items for the Samaritan's Purse project.

During the project's National Collection Week (Nov. 18 – 25), shoebox donations for children living in poverty overseas will be collected. Operation Christmas Child's 2019 goal is to reach 11 million children in need.

•THANK YOU•

Mountain Findings donates nearly \$184,000

Dear Editor

The 2019 season for Mountain Findings closed at the end of the day on October 31st. What a wonderful season it was with generous donations from Highlands and the surrounding communities.

A huge thank you to everyone for their quality donations of clean, gently used household items including furniture, art, rugs, lamps, glassware, china, small and large appliances, tools and so much more.

Because of the generous donors, avid shoppers, and dedicated volunteers, Mountain Findings donated \$183,950 to over 40 organizations this year. We are always happy to have new volunteers and welcome anyone at any skill level. Our greatest need right now is to have able-bodied men volunteer to help with pick-ups and deliveries. Volunteers shifts are three hours mornings (10a-1p) and afternoons (1-4p) on any of the six days we are open.

A number of local businesses support us in a variety of ways. We appreciate each of them including this newspaper. A special thank you to Nick McCall of the Pizza Place of Highlands for donating pizzas, even delivering them himself, for our end-of-the-season party for all volunteers.

Watch this newspaper for our "winter weekend openings" (once each month as weather and available volunteers make it possible). Pick-ups and deliveries are available year around, again depending on weather and available volunteers.

Mountain Findings Board to Directors
Trisha Roellke
Treasurer

What a great Highlands Halloween!

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, I would like to offer our most sincere thanks to all who helped us make the Highlands All Hallows Eve Celebration one of the best! Many, many thanks to, Highlands Police Department and Rotary Club for keeping participants safe; Town of Highlands Fire and Recreation for equipment and helping set up and break down; Highlands School Interact Club for distributing 700 pounds of chocolate candy; both Rotary Clubs of Highlands for teaming up to cook, serve and clean up after 2,100 hot dogs and beverages were provided; and for all the fabulous businesses on Main Street and 4th Street for being the center of the festivities for thousands of children and parents! It is true, the greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members. Thank you for compassionately caring about Highlands and taking action to bring the town together!

Kaye McHan
Executive Director
Highlands Chamber of Commerce



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•HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS•

Ongoing

- Movies at the Playhouse Fri & Sat 1, 4, 7; Sun. 1 & 4; Tues-Thurs 1, 4, 7. See ad.
- 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.
- 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 Rec Park, Dance2Fit classes with Tori Schmitt at 5:30pm.

Mon.-Wed.

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

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. & 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

- 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.

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 Community Bible Church, 5-5:30p - Dinner – Free (Donations Appreciated) 5:45-7p - G.R.O.V. 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., 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 go to website www.aawnc80.org or call (828) 349-4357.

- Duplicate Bridge 12-4pm at Rec Park.

Thursdays

- 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

- 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

- 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

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.

Fri., thru Nov. 22

- Families with young children ages 3-5, are invited to join the Highlands Nature Center's Education Spe-

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

cialist, Paige Engelbrektsson, every Friday morning 10-11a as she combines stories, walks, and activities for their little ones. Different topic each week. Adults must accompany their children. The suggested age for children is 3 to 5 years old. Families who wish to participate in this free outdoor educational program should be prepared to go outside rain or shine. It's free. No registration is necessary. Meet at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Road. For more information, call (828) 526-2623.

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 title and prices. 526-1595.

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 downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

- 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.

Thurs.-Sun., Nov. 7-10

- Highlands Food & Wine event. Call the Chamber of Commerce for details. 828-526-2114.

Thurs., Nov. 7

- USA flags will be placed on veteran's graves in observance of Veterans Day starting at 4pm. Everyone is welcome to participate. Please contact Phil Potts 828-200-9753 or ppotts63@frontier.com for more information.

Fri., Nov. 8

- Local veterans with Wreaths Across America and AHEC are gathering at Highlands School at 8 a.m. for a flag-raising event with the 5th Grade Class.

Sat., Nov 9

- The Brasstown Woodturners guild will meet at 9:30a at the Hayesville High School, Hayesville, NC just off of school road in Hayesville NC. Drive around the back of the school to the wood shop where the meeting will be held. Visitors are always welcome. The guest presenter for November is Steve Cook, he will be demonstrating how he embellishes wood turnings. There is a \$10 fee at the door. If there are any questions please contact John Van Camp at 706-896-9428 or Don Marks at 828-524-6282.

Sun., Nov. 10

- Please plan on joining us on Sunday (the day before Veterans Day) at the HUMC Faith & Fellowship Center for "Dinner and a Movie!" Dinner is served at 6pm. Dinner includes Chili, Baked Potato w/Fixings, Salad, Drinks & Movie Popcorn, Chips, Candy. Movie starts around 6:30pm. APOLLO 13 starring Tom Hanks, Gary Sinise, Kevin Bacon, Bill Paxton, and Ed Harris will be our featured film. Dinner and Movie admission is for a donation of your choosing. You will also be able to donate Wreaths for \$15/each and sign up to Volunteer for our December 14th WAA Highlands Event at Highlands Cemetery. For more information, please contact Philip Potts or Michael Murphy..

Mon., Nov. 11

- Veterans Day memorial service in the plaza in front of the Police Station at 10 a.m.

Sat., Nov. 30

- Annual Town Lighting in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street.

Sat. Dec. 7

- Annual Old Towne Christmas Parade 11a to noon on Main Street Highlands.

- Annual Christmas Carol Sing at 1 pm after the parade at First Presbyterian Church, Highlands.

- Christmas Concert after the parade at 4pm featuring the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet at First Presbyterian Church, Highlands.

- Parade Night Dinner at Half-mile Farm with Chef David Bancroft of Acre in Auburn who will bring cocktails and classic southern favorites. For reservations, call 828-787-2635



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Madame Butterfly live via satellite at PAC



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will screen live via satellite the MET Opera's production of Puccini's Madame Butterfly on Saturday, November 9 at 12:55pm. Anthony Minghella's vividly cinematic staging returns to cinemas, featuring soprano Hui He in the devastating title role. Pier Giorgio Morandi conducts one of opera's most beautiful and heartbreaking scores, with a cast that also includes tenor Piero Pretti as Pinkerton, baritone Paulo Szot as Sharpless, and mezzo-soprano Elizabeth DeShong as Suzuki. A young Japanese geisha who clings to the belief that her arrangement with a Visiting American naval officer is a loving and permanent marriage—this is one of the defining roles in opera. The story triggers ideas about cultural and sexual imperialism. The lyric beauty of Puccini's score, especially the music for the thoroughly believable lead role, has made Butterfly timeless. There will be a pre-opera discussion beginning at 12:30pm tickets are available online at www.highlandspac.org or at the door. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands Nc

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...PAC continued from page 1



design respects the natural and cultural heritage of our area.

Although the building and parking lots will cover near 70% of its acreage, the site plan protects stormwater and runoff. A state-of-the-art underground retention basin collects rainwater from the building rooftops and Chestnut Street parking lots then slowly releases the runoff into neighboring Mill Creek. In addition, a gravel-pave system is provided for the new 76-vehicle Laurel Street parking lot. With this system, rainwater will permeate the parking lot

surface and slowly passes into groundwater. The existing rain garden, in the original parking lot on Laurel Street, will be maintained and enlarged for greater stormwater capacity.

This extensive drainage collection system has been designed and installed as per State and local regulations. The PAC stormwater system will be collecting silt, vehicle pollutants and organic debris along the way. This project protects water quality on-site and in the Upper Cullasaja Watershed

• See PAC page 14

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...MEDICAID continued from page 1

everyone on Dec. 13, 2019, and coverage is scheduled to begin Feb. 1, 2020.

The state mailed out enrollment packets the first few weeks of October to the remaining 73 counties in managed care regions 1, 3, 5 and 6. Packets include a letter, enrollment form, information sheet, comparison chart and postage-paid envelope, but were sent to whatever address the state had on file.

The state's new managed care system shifts the Medicaid program to being managed by five health plans and insurance providers. All health plans are required to have the same Medicaid services, such as office visits, blood tests and X-rays. Health plans also have added services such as gym memberships and healthy pregnancy

programs. Each health plan has its own network of qualified doctors and health care professionals. The Medicaid Managed Care program will provide and cover the same services as Medicaid but will be managed more closely to find cost saving opportunities to cut down the state's cost.

In 2015, the NC General Assembly enacted legislation directing the Department of Health and Human Services to transition Medicaid and NC Health Choice from fee-for-service to managed care. Under managed care, the Department contracts with insurance companies, are paid a predetermined set rate per person to provide all services. Transforming NC's Medicaid program to managed care is the most significant change made since its inception.

...PAC continued from page 14

as a whole. In addition, the gravel-pave pervious paving system has other great environmental benefits including a lesser heat island when compared to black tar pavement and is a more conducive growing environment.

The existing and future plantings will enhance the natural landscape in the neighborhood. We preserved much of the existing native shrubs and plants by designing around them or when needing to be moved, storing for future planting. We have been able to preserve approximately 1/3 of the mature trees on the property such as the largest Bald Cypress; six large Red Maples along the east and west property boundaries; two Yellowwood trees, the Striped Maple and the signature 100 foot Norway Spruce on Chestnut Street. Future development in the former Mann property will preserve the large oak and hickory trees at the corner of Chestnut Street and Fourth Street.

The preservation of the mature Red Maple trees for vegetative buffers near Laurel Street is an important example of tree conservation in our planned green parking lot. In addition to the maples, established and new plantings will be added for edge buffers. Rhododendron, Mountain Laurel, Clethra, Azalea and other

natives will appreciate the shade and soil profile around these trees. New large size native trees such as Princeton American Elm, Bald Cypress and Streetwise Red Oaks will be put within the new parking lot for shade and cooling effects.

We are also proud to say that the new parking lot trees have been carefully sourced from one of the best shade tree nurseries in the country, Select Trees of Athens. Select Trees grows top quality plants with extraordinary root systems designed to thrive in difficult urban planting sites. In addition, Select Trees was co-founded and managed by Highlands' own Tim Patterson. We are proud to plant these native trees knowing that the grower has "roots" in Highlands.

The signature Norway Spruce on the former Beck property has been pruned and protected with construction fencing and will be monitored for good health throughout the construction process. The existing vegetative buffer, behind the former Wilson property, includes numerous large native Azaleas. The buffer has have been protected during the construction. Conservation of these plants is essential because they produce seedlings with a wide range of genetic diversity. We hope to propagate these plants to continue the heritage of this important collection.

Medicaid's fee-for-service format meant that the state would pay every individual bill, regardless of cost. Under the new changes, the state will pay a flat fee for members no matter how often they go to the doctor or get medicines. Ultimately, the idea is that this will result in reduced spending for Medicaid across the state.

Local health departments in Macon County, are not able to answer questions or provide information. According to Macon County's office, questions should be directed to the state.

Medicaid beneficiaries will begin to receive communications from the enrollment broker, a company called MAXIMUS, which will help them select their Prepaid Health Plan and Primary Care Provider.

The PHPs available are AmeriHealth Caritas North Carolina Inc., Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, UnitedHealthcare of North Carolina Inc., WellCare of North Carolina Inc., and Carolina Complete Health.

An enrollment website is available to help people enroll in a health plan and select a primary care provider.

For questions about open enrollment, call the Medicaid Managed Care Call Center at (833) 870-5500 or visit ncmedicaidplans.gov.



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Halloween in Highlands 2019



The town turned out for a fall-lit Halloween; Annie and Daddy Warbucks; Superheros Batman and Wonder Women; Pre-historic visitors being seranaded by Hurricane Creek and the Literacy Coucil reminding us that reading is important even on Halloween!



Highlands very own Spice Girls from left: Reese Schmitt as Carolina Sunshine, Jeslyn Head as Cinnamon Sugar, Julia May Schmitt as Chamonile Tea, Bailey Schmitt as Pirate Bite, Gracie Forrester as Green Tropical Tea, Alyson Dayton as Herbal Garden and Ava Schmitt as Birds-Eye Chili.



Halloween in Highlands 2019



A red card for tossing the baby; heads turning at Tugs Proper; a family of scarecrows; a new born chick just out of her shell; magnificent, Maleficent characters; Farmer Brown and witchy wardrobes in Town Square.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Who can save a soul?

Acts 4:10-12

By Pastor Sam Forrester

Whiteside Presbyterian Church

After Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, the disciples went around Jerusalem preaching the gospel. They called those who were lost in sin to come and repent and believe in Jesus Christ. You can see their boldness as they go into the temple to preach the truth among the very people who crucified Christ. While in the temple, Peter and John healed a man in Jesus' name who was lame from birth. They were arrested and brought to trial before the Sanhedrin. When asked about this, they said, "let it be known to you all and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole" (Acts 4:10). They were filled with the Spirit of God and spoke boldly of their faith.

They held Christ Jesus forward as their hope. As an eternal hope. They, with great courage, told the Sanhedrin "This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone" (Acts 4:11). Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone is the foundation of life in this world. He was sent by God the Father to come into this world and do for men what they could never do for themselves. He lived the perfect life men could never live. He died the atoning death to pay the price for sins men could never pay. He won for men the right to enter heaven with him through His resurrection.

The gospel of Jesus Christ clearly shows that salvation from sin and death is its goal. Men because of their sin, which was started by Adam in the Garden, is the shackle holding them in spiritual darkness and depriving them of hope. It is indeed a fearful thing to be trapped in such darkness. How can one so trapped have any hope of a better life

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 19



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Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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Sundays: 10 a.m.; Worship

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Service; Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper in homes

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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;

Choir 5p

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship 8:30a Adult Ed.: 9:30a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

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

Wed.: Choir: 6p

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

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

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

Sun.: 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

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

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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.

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Rev. Jason K. Barone - 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.

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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.

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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

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands Police entries from Oct. 12. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.
Oct. 12

- At 10 p.m., a larceny was reported by Old Edwards Inn where a brown/black notebook was taken.
- Oct. 18**
- At 8:41 p.m., Angel Chavez-Zalapa, 20,

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 18

than he finds in this sin filled world?

Hell is a real place and it is a place of horror. It is a place devoid of any spiritual light, a place that leaves those trapped in it suffering in their own sinfulness. It is a dark and fiery place eating away at the soul for eternity. The one trapped in this place will know no relief. So, many today think they want a world with no God. That place is called hell. You can think of the most horrible torture, the greatest distress, the most agonizing circumstance and I can assure you that will be nothing like what hell will be for the one who finds himself in its chambers.

How can you be assured of avoiding such a terrible place? How can you find a salvation from its terrors? Who can save your soul? Peter in speaking to the Sanhedrin about Jesus tells them. "Nor is their salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

There are many ways, many paths that lead to hell. There is only one way, one path to heaven and that is through faith and trust in Jesus Christ and in him alone. The name Jesus Christ alone carries the power of salvation. You must see yourself as a sinner lost and without hope in yourself. You must turn to Jesus and confess your sins and repent of them. When you do this, He will hear and will forgive you, taking away the sin and its terrible load of guilt. Giving you hope, so you will know that heaven is open and ready to receive you, where you will live for eternity in the glory of your Lord.

Do you really want to go to hell, where your soul will be in agony forever? Would you not prefer heaven where your soul will be filled with grace and your life will be filled with love for all of eternity? There is only one way and His name is Jesus Christ, He alone can save souls. Open your heart and receive him today for tomorrow may be too late.

of Franklin, was arrested for underage driving under the influence. she was issued at \$3,000 buknsecured bond. Her trial date is Dec. 9.

Oct. 20

• At 2:02 p.m., an assault with a deadly weapon on N. 5th Street was reported when a motorist attempted to run a man off the road.

Oct. 21

• At 5:46 p.m., a shoplifting incident was reported from TJ Bailey for Men where an item valued at \$699 was taken.

Oct. 22

• At noon, a shoplifting incident was reported from LuLu Bleu where clothes valued at \$345 were taken.

• At 2:30 p.m., the unauthorized use of a vehicle was reported when it was taken from a location on Oak street.

Oct. 25

• At 1:08 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 and Little Bearpen.

Oct. 27

At 11:29 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident at the Exxon gassation at N. 1st Street.

Oct. 27

At 9:45 a.m., damage to property was reported at a restaurant in Highlands Plaza where tires of a vehicle were slashed.

Oct. 28

At 1:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 at Little Bearpen.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Oct. 29.

• See POLICE & FIRE page 22

MARC HEHN

for

TOWN OF HIGHLANDS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Highlanders,

I am immensely grateful to my wife, friends and supporters who so generously contributed their time and effort during this election.


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...POLICE & FIRE

continued from page 19

Oct. 29

• At 2:48 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.

At 6:27 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on N. Cobb Road.

Oct. 30

• At 9:44 a.m., the dept. investigated the source of smoke on US 64 east.

• At 7:43 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Cheney Lane, Oct. 31

• At 8:52 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.

• At 10:50 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on NC 28 south,

• At 11:22 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on Horse Cove Road,

At 12:12 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree on a powerline on Holt Circle,

Nov. 1

• At 1:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 east.

At 10:49 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on NC 28 south.

• At 3:20 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on the Bowery Road,

• At 10:23 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on NC 106.

• At 7:12 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Shortoff Road,

• At 7:38 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on N. 4th Street,

• At 10:40 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Shortoff Road,

Nov. 2

• At 9:44 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Cullasaja Drive,

Nov. 3

• At 11:11 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on US 64 east,

• At 5:36 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street,

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