Volume 16, Number 38

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Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019

County funds to fast-track broadband for Highlands, Scaly and Otto

filled the board room at the September 10th meeting of the Macon County Board of Com-

Scaly Mountain residents missioners to show support for Little T Broadband Services, Inc. (LTBS). Anthony Deacons, chief executive officer for LTBS, made a formal request for funding to help support bringing broadband internet to the residents of Scalv

• See BROADBAND page 2



Highlands Hurricanes finish strong at the 2019 Junior Olympics

By Steve Hott

This is the third year that the Highlands Hurricanes have competed in the AAU Junior Olympics. Three years ago 4 swimmers made their debut in Detroit, Michigan and 10 swimmers were in Des Moines, Iowa for the 2018 games. This year 31 members of

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the Mountain Swim League (of which the Highlands Hurricanes are a member) banded together and swam as one team, Team MSL. The 12 Hurricanes scored 527.5 of the 840.5 points scored by Team MSL. FAST (Franklin Amateur Swim Team) added 209, CCAC (Cherokee County Aquatics Club) added 80, and ICST scored 24. The Hurricanes led "Team MSL" to a 7th place overall finish in Greensboro, NC in late

Chase Kenter, 5th grader in Ms. LeQuire's class at Highlands School, brought home the Gold

• See HURRICANES page 19

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Suspect arrested after fleeing the scene of fatal motorcycle accident

By Brian O'Shea Plateau Daily News

Jorge Hernandez Hernandez, 20, was arrested by Jackson County Sheriff's Deputies after fleeing the scene of a fatal-motorcycle accident on Highway 107 N. approximately one mile past Pine Creek Road in Glenville on Sunday, said JC Sheriff's Office (JCSO) Major Shannon Oueen.

NC State Highway Patrol Trooper Tyson Crawford said the victim is 78-year-old Richard Bartnik from Florida who owns a house in Macon County and lives there part-time. Hernandez is from the Cashiers area. Hernandez was traveling northbound on Highway 107 shortly after 5 p.m. on Sunday and crossed over the double yellow line in a GMC Sierra pick-up truck colliding head on with Bartnik who was on his motorcycle.

Crawford said alcohol is believed to be involved and it is unknown where Hernandez works

because he does not speak English. Crawford added that immigration services have been notified to assist.

Hernandez's truck was found wrecked down the street from the crash site turned sideways in the middle of the road. Bartnik's body was recovered in the southbound lane and his motorcycle was wrecked along the guardrail of the southbound side of the highway.

Hernandez is currently being held in Jackson County Jail on a \$30,000 secure bond and is scheduled to appear in Jackson County Court on Nov. 4.

Hernandez is charged with:

- Driving While Impaired (\$20k secure bond)
- · Reckless Driving to Endan-
- Misdemeanor Death by Ve-
- Failed to stop at the scene of a crash
 - See ACCIDENT page 13

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PLATEAU'S POSITION

How to handle VRBOs and AirBnBs

Highlands Mayor

Patrick Taylor

the Highlands Town Board meeting is tonight at 7pm. It will be held at the Community Building next to the ball field. The agenda is very light.

Since we only have a few business items, I have placed a discussion of VRBO and vacation rentals on the agenda. Here is an update on where the process stands.

First, there is no proposed ordinance at this point. The land use committee has not met to consider the issue. The town staff and myself have been doing research on AirBnB and VRBO. We have looked at what actions other communities have taken around the state and country. Our planner has also studied related materials from the NC School of Government.



At tonight's meeting our Town Manager and planner will present an informational report. They will review what other towns have implemented as AirBnB and VRBO ordinances. There are a wide range of op-

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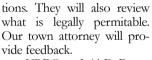
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VRBO and AirBnB was the topic of my last community coffee. Members of the board and I want more public feedback before the staff and public works committee grapples with the issue. Tonight's meeting will provide time for public comment.

Here is my plan. Prior to the meeting folks wishing to make brief comments, 5 minutes or less, should see me and signup on a list. After the staff and board discusses the issue, I will call on the people on the list to come to the podium and express their views. The process will be like a quasi-public hearing. I will not recognize multiple im-

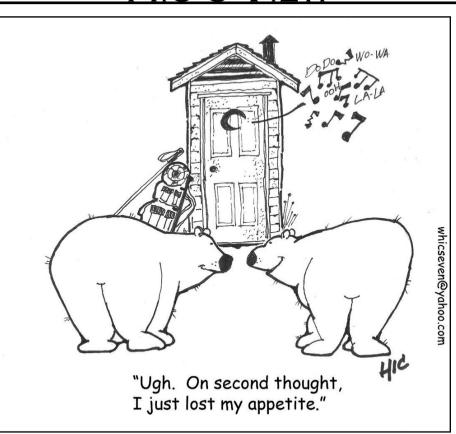
promptu responses from the audience. So, if anyone wants to weigh in on the issue, be sure to see me and signup before the meeting begins.

Also, folks have already contacted me about their view on VRBO and AirBnB. If a citizen is uncomfortable about making a public comment, please know I or the board of commissioners can be contacted in a confidential, nonpublic manner. It is a fundamental principle of a constitutional republic that citizens can confidentially express their views about an issue.

This concept brings me to my next topic. I recently came to my desk and found a letter with no return address. I opened it to discover the letter was unsigned and from a person from out of town. The letter stated they drove up Sunset Rock Road and were upset that it wasn't maintained better.

I would have been happy to respond privately to the person. Since I do not know their name, I will do it publicly. The board reviewed this issue last year and discovered Sunset was not a town road, and for the town to continue graveling the road was not good environment

policy. The sign pictured below was placed at the beginning of the road to warn motorists. I wish the anonymous writer would have read and comprehended the



...BROADBAND continued from page 1

Mountain and the Otto area.

After a lengthy discussion, commissioners voted unanimously to give \$178,000 to fund the project over two years. The money will be taken from funds set aside in the current county budget for economic development. The funding will allow LTBS to acquire additional funding for grants and loans.

"I think that the only way that we are going to have broadband in our area, because we get penalized for our topography is through folks like you stepping up and doing it," said Vice Chair Ronnie Beale when making his motion for the vote. "We have kicked this around for five or six years and you see local communities making it happen. The only way

• See BROADBAND page 6

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BHHSMMR Realtors Rank in the Top Percentage of Sales for the Third Year in a Row!

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty (BHHSMMR) agents won big once again at the Berkshire Hathaway HomeSer-vices (BHHS) national awards with 13 realtors ranking in the top percentage out of more than 50,000 agents nationwide.

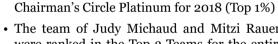
Judy Michaud and Mitzi Rauers were both Chairman's Circle Diamond for 2017 (Top 1/2 of 1%)











- · The team of Judy Michaud and Mitzi Rauers were ranked in the Top 3 Teams for the entire state of North Carolina for 2018
- · Betty Holt was included in the Leading Edge Society for 2018 (Top 8%)
- · Mary Abranyi, having only been with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty since August 2018, received the Honor Society award for 2018 (Top 14%)
- Judy Michaud and Mitzi Rauers were both Lynn Kimball, John Bynum, Brooks Kittrell, and Don Collins were all Honor Society for 2018 (Top 14%)

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices was awarded the Harris Poll "Real Estate Brand of the Year" in 2017 and 2018. BHHS was also awarded JD Pow-er Awards in 2017 and 2018 for "Highest Overall Satisfaction for Repeat Home Buvers Among Na-tional Full Service Real Estate Firms." In addition to the JD Power and Harris Poll awards, BHHSM-MR has had several agents win the annual BHHS awards for production.

Pictured below (left to right) Mary Abranyi, Betty Holt, Brooks Kittrell, Mitzi Rauers, John Bynum, and Judy Michaud at the Cashiers office location







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NEW ON MARKET: Overlooking the 17th fairway of the beautiful Highlands Falls CC golf course with a long-range mountain view, this stunning home is located on a private cul-de-sac. The great room features shiplap walls, a coffered ceiling, and a striking floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. The kitchen is worthy of a magazine spread and boasts custom cabinetry, an incredible glass backsplash, Viking appliances, and much more. Too many incredible features to list here — must see!

MLS# 91903 | Offered for \$1,895,000



PRICE CHANGE: This amazing historic property features three completely updated homes; the main house boasts five bedrooms, a guest house holds one bedroom, and a charming cabin offers two bedrooms. The main home's living room has two huge walls of windows and the back opens to a great screened porch and stone patios. The compound sits on over 8 acres of cleared and forested land and is located just a short two miles from Main Street.

MLS# 89607 | Was \$2,395,000 NOW Offered for \$2,295,000

NEW on MARKET & PRICE CHANGES!

PRICE CHANGE: The living room of this 3BR/3.5BA home has soaring wood ceilings, a stone fireplace, and beautiful wood flooring. It opens to a large, perfectly private screened porch which runs the entire length of the home. The kitchen has granite countertops, SS appliances, and beautiful wood cabinetry. The lower level is partially finished and has a private entrance and a kitchenette. The yard boasts a lovely waterfall feature and a stone patio with fire pit.

MLS# 90910 | Was \$797,000 NOW Offered for \$747,000



PRICE CHANGE: Great value in Highlands Country Club located close to the club amenities (available with membership approval)! This mountain contemporary home is light and bright with skylights and clerestory windows. The kitchen is open to the great room and there is a den adjacent which could double as a separate dining room. The screened porch is large and has access from both the great room and the master bedroom. Two guest rooms and one guest bath are upstairs.

MLS# 91051 | Was \$647,000 NOW Offered for \$597,000





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...BROADBAND from page 2

we are going to achieve this is to do it locally."

LTBS is a 501(c)3 non-profit enterprise and North Carolina Corporation run by volunteers whose goal is to facilitate access to high-speed broadband internet for residents and businesses of south Macon County. LTBS was launched last fall with plans to provide internet to the Otto community and added the Scaly Mountain community to the project in August 2019.

The rugged terrain and low population density of the area have made it economically unattractive for large internet service providers to deliver consistent and usable internet services. In addition, this has also discouraged telecommunication companies from making the investments needed to deliver consistent cellular service to the area. As such, there are many areas of the community with little or no internet service, and poor or no cellular service.

The population demographics of Otto and Scaly Mountain are diverse, containing younger residents, fami-

• See BROADBAND page 9



HIGHLANDS CC This magnificent home is just perfect in every way! Completely renovated, the home sits at the top of the Brushy Face Ridge at an elevation of over 4,200 feet with amazing views of Whiteside Mountain and beyond. The home was restyled in 2016 with top-of-the-line Thermador appliances, dual fuel HVAC, Rinnai tankless hot water heaters, and more. There is a massive stone fireplace in the living room as well as a wall of windows that showcases the views.

MLS# 90776 | Offered for \$2,950,000

CULLASAJA CLUB This incredible luxury home is sited on Lake Ravenel with 350 feet of lake frontage. A picture of good taste and style, this superbly positioned house is surrounded by enchanting scenery with gardens and trails, plus babbling water features, a gazebo, and dock. The living room ceiling soars two stories with a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace and a wall of windows which opens the room to the spacious covered deck. This home is a true masterpiece!

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



INTRODUCING:



Thirty one years ago, Judy Michaud began her career in real estate in Highlands. She spent years honing her skills as one of the two top broker/agents in the area, working tirelessly for her clients at Signature Properties of Highlands. But deep inside, she had a desire to have her own real estate firm. Judy purchased Meadows Mountain Realty and began to assemble a team of professionals that are the elite in the Highlands-Cashiers real estate market. In 2015, Judy decided to take her company to the next level by affiliating with one of the world's most respected and trusted companies, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices (BHHS); thus BHHS Meadows Mountain Realty was formed.

In 2018, Judy teamed up with Mitzi Rauers to form **Five Star Real Estate Team** — a "boutique" real estate team within BHHS Meadows Mountain Realty that brings a higher level of service to their clients. Together, Judy and Mitzi bring a combined experience unprecedented on the Plateau. Just as BHHS is "Real Estate's FOREVER Brand^{5M}." **Five Star Real Estate Team** will become your forever real estate team.

JUDY MICHAUD

BROKER/OWNER

Mobile # (828) 371-0730 E-mail judy@bhhsmmr.com Office 488 Main St., Highlands

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BROKER

Mobile # (404) 218-9123 E-mail mitzi@bhhsmmr.com Office 488 Main St., Highlands



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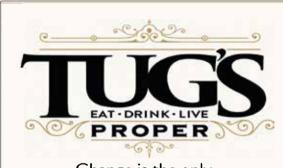
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•OBITUARY•

John Wendell Cleaveland



John Wendell Cleaveland of Highlands passed away Wednesday, September 4, 2019, at Transitions HospiceCare in Raleigh, North Carolina. He was born in Highlands on February 21, 1942. He graduated from Highlands High School and attended Clemson University before ioining his mother to open The Highlander Restaurant and Big John's Sirloin Room which were local favorites. John was a devoted advocate for the community, always striving to make Highlands a thriving and welcoming place. He served 2 terms on the Highlands Town Board from 1979-1983 followed by 7 consecutive terms as Mayor from 1983-1997. His leadership and commitment were also demonstrated through his role on multiple boards including the Hospital Foundation, Town Zoning, Highlands Playhouse, as well as through being a founding member and Elder of the Community Bible Church. The final chapter in John's long and productive career was as broker and owner of John Cleave-

John leaves behind a dynamic and unforgettable legacy. He had a courageous spirit and tremendous heart. Known for his booming laughter, he brought joy to everyone he met. He will not only be mourned by those closest to him, but by an entire community which has lost one of it's anchors. Our world was a brighter place when he was with us and paying tribute to him is our greatest honor.

John was preceded in death by his father, Wendell Palmer Cleaveland and his stepfather, Magnus Stribling Meriweather Thompson. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Wynn Cleaveland; mother, Mary Thompson of Highlands; daughters Kristy Cleaveland of Washington, DC and Marty Smith and husband David of Raleigh; son, John Caye of Chapel Hill; grandsons, Sam Smith of Chapel Hill and Luke Smith of Raleigh; sisters Pam Duke and husband Mike of Lilburn, GA and Mary Lee Billingsley and husband Lamar of Scaly Mountain; brother, Mike Thompson of Highlands; and 8 nieces and nephews and their children.

A memorial service and celebration of John's life will be held at the Community Bible Church on October 5, 2019 at 2:00 pm with Rev. Gary Hewins officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the Community Bible Church for the John Cleaveland Benevolence Fund that has been set up to specifically help people in the Highlands community. Online condolences may be made at www.CremationSocietyNC.com/resource/obitu-

...BROADBAND continued from page 6

lies with children, and a sizable senior/retired population. For all members of the community, reliable communication and internet services are critical for education, medical care, emergency services, and general safety.

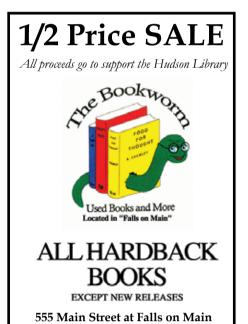
"The motivation for doing what we have done and continue to do is simple," said Deacon, "Broadband access is no longer a discretionary service for those looking to enhance their personal entertainment venues. It is critical to the economic and social vitality of rural communities such as ours. It is essential to our ability to attract new businesses and to allow existing businesses to compete and thrive.

"We also know that real estate values are affected by having or not having access to the internet access and just as importantly how much bandwidth/broadband is accessible," he added. "Access to the internet is essential to our ability to sustain real estate values, modernize public education, support public health and provide for the safety and welfare of rural communities."

Through a combination of partnerships, grants, and sponsored loans for capital components of the infrastructure, LTBS will facilitate the development, construction. and operation of a high-speed broadband network. A primary goal of this network will be to provide the communities with access to medical, emergency, and voice over internet (VoIP) services, making the area safer for residents. This network will also improve access to educational, news, entertainment, and ecommerce services.

An additional goal of LTBS is to cre-

• See BROADBAND page 10







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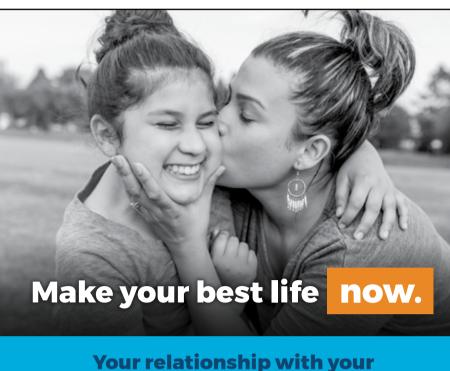
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...BROADBAND continued from page 9

ate a development and operational model for a rural broadband network that may be used by other communities within Macon County and the Western North Carolina region. LTBS will share information, experience and knowledge gained from the work from the Scaly Mountain and Otto communities.

After a several months of meetings, reviews, and discussion with five different prospective service providers, LTBS has selected Balsam West as the primary provider. Balsam West in conjunction with Haywood EMC, will work





with LTBS to implement the Otto pilot network and then continue through Scaly Mountain. Both Otto and Scaly projects lie within the Haywood EMC service area.

The network will be implemented predominantly as fiber to the home or premises with some fixed wireless delivery where necessary. Initially the network is going to run from the Tessentee Middle Creek Valley down to east side of Highway 441 down to the state and run back up to the Haywood line over into Scaly Mountain forming the backbone for the network.

The first place LTBS plans to light up are at the Scaly Mountain and Otto community centers. According to Deacon, LTBS is hoping to do with a minimum 50 Mps of download services to providing a hotspot as wells as a platform for the communities to pursue grants and programs for after school, telemedical supported health programs and serve as a new business incubator for local startups.

"It is kind of strange that technology can make these kinds of differences on the lives of communities, but it can." said Deacon. "Without it you are kind of stuck in time; you can't move forward while the rest of the world is moving forward."

In addition to funding Scaly Mountain, last Tuesday commissioners voted to provide funding to the town of Highlands for their broadband project with Wide Open Networks. Mayor Pat Taylor originally asked commissioners to help offset the funding cost by providing \$1 million over four years, however commissioners voted to provide half of the request over a 2-year period to be able to monitor the progress.

Over 3,000 residents and businesses in the Highlands area should have access to fiber through the town's plan.

Taylor noted that the project has experienced some delays due to the backlog of getting the materials needed to actually build out the infrastructure.

"The materials are in high demand, but they are expected to be here very soon and as soon as we get them, we are ready to go," he said.

- Kim Lewicki



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• Word Matter•

Buying American Isn't Easy

Ye come to terms with the notion that, at least sometimes, American life is an exercise in contradictions.

It's fair to say that most Americans, present company included, want the best deal possible on what we purchase. We want well-made, stylish, comfortable clothes, right? Offered the choice, we'd probably like those clothes to have been made in America, by American workers, right? And, we'd also like those American workers to make enough of a wage so as to be able to buy the very things we purchase for ourselves, right?

I wonder if most Americans know where the clothes they wear come from. I, for example, am a fan of the clothing brand, Nautica. I also like to wear clothing by well-known American designers such as Polo and Tommy Hilfiger. I don't purchase my clothes from discount retailers because they don't carry these brands. However, my Nautica shirt, purchased in Dillard's, was made in Mauritius. It's an island in the Indian Ocean off the east coast of Africa. My Hilfiger jeans came from Mexico. We know where that is. Apparel by other brands hanging in my closet have labels indicating they were fabricated in Guatemala. Bangla-

desh, Vietnam, India, China, of course, and other exotic locales distinctly NOT within any of the 50 United States of America. Do we really care what those workers are paid for their labors? That's a question we may not be entirely comfortable answering.

I believe most of us know at least on some level, that very little we consume in the United States, save for a slim majority

(but not nearly all) of our food supply is manufactured or grown in America. Many of our household appliances, even heritage brands, come from abroad. Virtually all our smart technology comes from abroad. Several "household name" brands are now owned by foreign companies, headquartered abroad.

It's almost impossible to find an automobile that isn't either manufactured abroad or doesn't contain a majority of its technology or integral parts which are manufactured abroad. The 'American-made' or 'Americanowned' ideal is less and less important to younger generations, many of whom are either offspring of immigrants or are im-



Rud Katz

migrants themselves. What's important to Millennials is whether it meet their needs, and that it's affordable.

The marketplace is now global; it has been for a while, and the truth is, there's no turning back. Most of the largest providers of merchandise consumers purchase are all over the world. Frigidaire, a heritage American appliance brand, is

owned by Electrolux, a Swedish company. Its dishwashers are built here, in Kinston, NC. Some of its refrigerators are built in Anderson, SC. But many of its products are actually manufactured in, and are imported from Juarez, across the border from El Paso, TX. in Mexico.

I know that this is not news to many. I also understand that it's a frustration to some. We all remember when "Made in the U.S.A." was not only a desirable brand element, it was a point of pride for Americans. That was when unions flourished, choices were fewer, marketing wasn't as much of a pressure as it is today, and people were willing to pay a bit more so we could support our fellow citizens

and workers. That's no longer the case. For political reasons, unions are not as big a part of our economy as they once were. Wages, over time, haven't kept pace with prices. But we American consumers still demand desirable brands at affordable prices.

I recall joining an organization back in the 1990s where a car was part of my compensation. At the time I was happily driving a 4-year-old Honda Accord. It was a fine, dependable car. The car I was provided with was a brand-new Chevrolet Lumina. As it turned out, it was also a fine, dependable car. When I mentioned that I didn't need a new car and would be just as happy with the value of the benefit added to my paycheck, I was informed that the company's owner wanted its executives driving American cars. I think you can see where this is going.

The Honda I was driving was assembled in Indiana, as is the Subaru I'm driving now. The Lumina I was given was assembled in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Chevrolet no longer makes the Lumina. Each of those cars contained both American and foreign parts.

This isn't how things used to be. But then, what is?

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Fall Home Improvement 2019

On-Trend Ideas for Updating Your Home Exterior

(StatePoint) If it's time to upgrade your home exterior, you may need some guidance, particularly if you want to make on-trend choices that will instantly boost your curb

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Bear in mind that many vounger, trend-setting homeowners are gravitating toward the natural, earthy look, and they are achieving this with

manufactured stone. As you make vour own upgrade, consider the following:

Prioritize Authenticity

Not all manufactured stone is of equal quality. Do a close inspection to ensure the products you select are molded and colored to look and feel like natural stone.

Select Your Cut

Choices abound when it comes to the cut of manufactured stone veneer. However. linear shapes that provide a sense of calm and order are very popular right now, making profiles such as the Chisel Cut offered by Pro-Via a smart move for staying on-trend. The natural texture complements the chiseled form, and looks great grouted or dry stacked.

Be Serene

Gray is in right now, and this is likely due to its low-key aesthetic. Likewise, any color on the gray-scale will add instant appeal, including black and white.

Choose Your Grout

You can add a lot of design drama with the right a simple guide to help you choose:

· For an understated, elegant look, match the grout color with the dominant color shadings in the manufactured stone. This is a subtle-butsophisticated choice.

• To bring bold drama to the home, choose a grout color that's the exact opposite of the stone color. With light stone, use dark grout, and with dark stone use light grout. The effect is evepopping, and shows off the shapes and textures of the manufactured stone.

• Blend both approaches above to reflect an array of earthy colors. Choose a grout color that matches one of the shades found in the stone. It will naturally contrast with the other shades.

• For a pulled-together look, weave a matching color choice throughout the various home exterior elements -- siding, garage door, front entry door, roofing, etc. -- to reflect a designer aesthetic and provide instant curb appeal. Just like a well-coordinated suit, shirt and tie, this look projects confidence.

Visualize

The decisions you make regarding your home exterior are important, so do a bit of homework first before committing. Free online tools and resources can help you pick colors, cuts and other important features, by allowing you to get a better sense of how they will look on your home. provia.com/groutvisualizer to access ProVia's Grout Visualizer, a handy tool that allows you to mix and match stone and styles with grout options.

The exterior of your home makes a statement. Make sure it's making the right one. Select elements that suit your personality while also staying on-trend.



...ACCIDENT continued from page 1

• Felony Hit and Run Causing Injury (\$10k secure bond)

Authorities first responded to a call of a motorcycle accident on Sunday on a section of Highway 107 N. in Glenville known as Cabbage Curve. After arriving on site, JC sheriff's deputies found the driver of the motorcycle deceased laying in the road but the driver of the other vehicle (pickup truck) had fled the scene, said Queen.

Two JC sheriff's deputies and a K-9 unit arrived on scene and began to track Hernandez through the woods. Authorities received a report shortly afterwards of a suspicious person in the Cullowhee Forest area. Other JC sheriff's deputies responded and arrested Hernandez without incident.

"I wouldn't call him cooperative since he fled the scene, but he didn't cause any problems with any of the officers when they apprehended him," said Queen.

Deputies placed Hernandez in custody and handed him over to NC Highway Patrol.

Highway Patrol conducted an accident reconstruction on site Monday afternoon which took about five hours. Crawford said the results from that investigation will take time and that the reconstruction consisted of mapping and documenting the crash site.

"Highway Patrol does a reconstruction any time someone is killed in an accident," said Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad Chief, Jeff Stewart, "They have special people for that who come out and conduct an investigation." Cashiers-Glenville Volunteer Fire Department (CGFD) assisted with directing traffic during the accident reconstruction on Monday. Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad (GCRS) closed off Highway 107 at Pine Creek Road at the time of the accident on Sunday.

Crawford said the JCSO should be commended for its efforts in apprehending Hernandez.

"Highway Patrol is very appreciative of all their hard work, I mean, they're the ones who caught him," he said. "They all (CGFD, GCRS, and JCSO) helped us out and we're thankful for their support."





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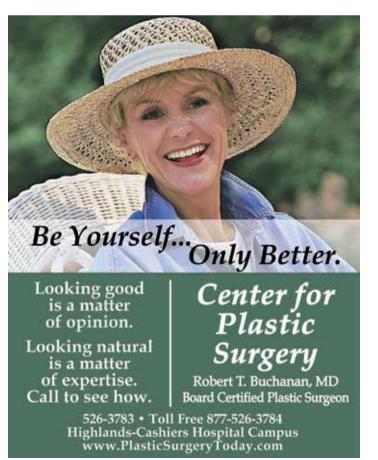


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Searching and Finding a Home

ow that Labor Day has passed, we are in a "lull" before the autumn leaf traffic begins. We can find parking on Main Street, get into restaurants without a long wait and enjoy the spectacular weather that September brings. This was the time of year that I first purchased on the Plateau.

Eighteen years ago, we started searching for a getaway here in Highlands. Initially we worked with a broker who didn't seem to understand what we were looking for. One Saturday morning I was searching the internet and came across a property that looked to be perfect. I contacted the listing broker and set an appointment for noon. On our way to town, we drove by the property and realized it wasn't in a location we were interested in. Not wanting to waste the broker's time, we went by her office to let her know. Her response was that she had pulled a couple other things that she wanted to show us. As it turns out, one was exactly what we had in mind even though we had crossed it off our

list. It was small but was in a great location with a view of the lake and needed some cosmetic work. Within a month we were spending our first weekend at our cabin sanding, painting and canoeing.

About three years later we realized we had outgrown our 660 square-foot cabin and we wanted something we could use in the winter. We drove all over checking out properties we came across in the

ties we came across in the Buyers Guide. Again, we contacted the broker and asked to see a particular property. Once we realized that one wasn't for us, she took us to a couple others. One we went in was vintage 1972 inside and out, including wall to wall shag carpeting. However, it felt right and there was potential. Soon we were on to our next project.

Many times, buyers have made the decision to buy a home and are desperately searching for



Carl Romberg Landmark, BIC 678-936-9309

the property that fits all their criteria — a particular size, location or view, and it must be turn-kev. We will look at numerous houses that they have selected by looking on one of the many real estate apps, yet when we see in person, they never live up to the expectation. Sometimes I will throw in a couple of listings that the clients were not open to, but once inside they realize that it is the prop-

erty they have been looking for, even though it doesn't meet every criteria.

I always advise clients that the right house will come along, and they will know it when that happens. Months later, those clients that missed a property and finally found one have contacted me to say how happy they are, or even that they were glad that a particular property did not work out for them

My point is that sometimes desperate searching for a property does not lead to a result buyers are looking for. Buyers need to be open to seeing other options that might cause an unexpected reaction. Perhaps the view is so spectacular that the buyer is willing to give up the 4th or 5th bedroom that is rarely used. Or the floor plan, space and architecture are perfect and they are willing to replace wall to wall carpet with hardwoods and repaint. Maybe expanding the search area a couple of miles will turn up something that is in the price range.

As the old saying goes, sometimes when we search so much, we don't realize what we actually need is right under our nose. It is rare that a property will meet every one of our criteria and all houses need updating at some point. Maybe by looking at a couple properties that your broker suggests you will find that property that you connect with emotionally. Then, you can spend months or years making it the way you want it to feel and make many memories in the process.



• Biz/Org News •

Mission Health collects more than 22 pounds of opioids during take-back day



Mission Hospital along with sister hospitals in the region collected 22.44 pounds of opioid medications during its "Crush the Crisis" opioid take back day on Sept. 7 to help combat the nation's opioid crisis. Community members participated in the event by dropping off unused and expired prescription medications.

Here are the amounts collected at each location:

Mission Hospital – 5.2 lbs; Angel Medical Center – 2.99 lbs:

H-C Hospital – 3.0 lbs; Mission/McDowell – 5.0 lbs; Transylvania Hospital – 6.25

About 65 HCA Healthcare facilities participated in a "Crush the Crisis" opioid take back day in their communities on Sept. 7.





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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.

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 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-: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 - Ipm

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

'Take a Child Outside!' at Nature Center

"Take a Child Outside!" afterschool nature camp is at the Highlands Nature Center from

3:30-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Sept. 23-27. It's \$10 per day per child. Children in Kin-

dergarten through 5th Grade are invited to attend. Nature Center Education Specialist,

Paige Engelbrektsson, will lead campers as they take walks through the Botanical Gar-

den, help care for the Nature Center's live animal collection, and learn new and fun ways

to explore outdoors. The camp will be held at the Highlands Nature Center at 930 Horse

Cove Road in Highlands. To register or for more information, please call 828-526-2623.

- 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 attend-

es.

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.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 Sept. 5-Oct.

• The Church of the Incarnation next 6-week Grief Support Group meets in Jones Hall from 4-5:15 p.m. The Grief Support Group is offered to anyone dealing with grief. Anne Koenig, LPC, RPT-S, a local private practice counselor also affiliated with the Counseling and Psychotherapy Center Highlands will facilitate the group sessions. Anne has been in practice for several decades. She has led a number of groups, including groups to help relieve Post Traumatic Stress. For information and registration, please call the Church office at (828) 526-2968, or Anne Koenig at (404) 357-0728.

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
 - 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 Ip. 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

Fourth Thursday

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

Fridays

• Live music in Town Square, 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.

Last Friday

 Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor at the Hudson Library in the Meeting Room from I Ia 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 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.
- Church in the Wildwood, hymn singing each Sunday through Labor Day weekend from 7-8 p.m.

Thurs., Sept. 19

- Taize worship at First Presbyterian Church at 5:30 p.m. Dress is casual. All are welcome. For more information, contact Chaplain Margaret Howell at 704-516-7893 or email her at knytengale@aol.com.
- Live music at OEI's The Farm 6-8 p.m. featuring Mike Kinnebrew. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. \$10 cover. Cash bar. Free nibles.

Highlands Area Events

• Highlands Town Board meeting at 7 p.m. in the Community Building next to the ballfield

Fri. Sept. 20

- The High Mountain Squares will host their "Western Roundup Dance," Friday night at the Robert C Carpenter Community Building. GA Road (441 South), Franklin, NC from 6:15 to 8:45 PM. Mr Richard Smith from Gainesville, GA will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Our classes start Sept 16th. Everyone is welcome. For information call: 828-787-2324, 828-332-0001.706-746-5426
- Carolina Smokies Realtor Foundation Scholarship Fundraiser at Lazy Hiker Brewing 188 W. Main Street in Franklin from 7-10 p.m.Kamikaze karaoke. Live music, beverasges and door prizes. All proceeds will go to benefit the Carolina Smokies Realtor Foundation to provide scholarships to future students from Macon, lackson and Swain counties.
- · Live music at Town Square from 6-8 p.m. Johnny Webb Band.

Sat. Sept. 21

• Mountain Music in Glenville. Listen to and learn about mountain music on Saturday from 11am to 3pm at the Glenville Area Society Historic Discovery Event held at the Glenville History Museum

(on Hwy 107 next to Signal Ridge Marina). Guitar, mandolin, banjo and dulcimers plus clogging, fiddling and the Junior Appalachian Musicians. For more information contact the Glenville Area Historical Society at 828 743-1658, www.glenvilleareahistoricalsociety or email historical societyglenvillearea@yahoo.com•

- The Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center's Annual Fundraising Banquet will be held Saturday at Franklin Covenant Church, 265 Belleview Park Rd., Franklin, NC. Doors open at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6p. Guest speaker Kirk Walden has over 30 years of experience in the pro-life arena, working with hundreds of centers across the U.S. To attend, please RSVP by September 12 by calling 828-349-3200, or visit smpccpartners.com. The success of this event insures SMPCC's centers in Franklin and Cullowhee can continue offering its services free to clients.
- · Live music at K-H Founders Park on Pine Street. 6-8 p.m. Silly Ridge Roundup

Sun. Sept. 22

 The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike, elevation change 300 ft., to Kimsey Creek in the Standing Indian Recreation Area, starting at the Backcountry parking lot. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 2 p.m., drive 32 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations, Visitors welcome.

Mon.-Fri., Sept. 23-27

• "Take a Child Outside!" afterschool nature camp at the Highlands Nature Center from 3:30-4:30 p.m. \$10 per day per child. Children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade are invited to attend. Nature Center Education Specialist, Paige Engelbrektsson, will lead campers as they take walks through the Botanical Garden, help care for the Nature Center's live animal collection, and learn new and fun ways to explore outdoors. The camp will be held at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Road in Highlands To register or for more information, please call 828-526-2623.

Mon., Sept. 23

Stop by the Crawford Senior Center from 8:30-11:30 on Monday. Fall Prevention Awareness Day, for a FREE balance test. For more information about services at the Crawford Senior Services Center, please call (828) 349-2058.

Wed., Sept. 25

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 8-mile hike, elevation change 1,000 ft., to Timber Ridge in the Standing Indian Recreation Area, hiking to the Appalachian Trail, then south to Beech Gap and down to Forest Service Rd. 67. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9 a.m., drive 45 miles round trip. Call leader Irene Brewi, 772-263-3478. for reservations. Visitors welcome
- · Peaceful Journey fundraiser for the Hospice House is being hosted by Paoletti's. Call for more information, 828-526-4906.

Thurs., Sept. 26

 Crawford Senior Center will start an 8-week Matter of Balance. a program to address fear of falling and teach fall prevention strategies, on September 26, 2019 at Ipm. For more information about services at the Crawford Senior Services Center, please call (828) 349-2058.

Fri., Sept. 27

- Please join us on Friday at 11 am in the Hudson Library Meeting Room for "Updates on Legislation in the NC House" with Mayor Patrick Taylor and guest speaker State Representative Kevin Corbin.
- Live music at Town Square from 6-8 p.m. Silly Ridge Roundup

Sat. Sept. 28

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will host an easy 2-mile FAMILY HIKE to Winding Stair Gap on the

Appalachian Trail to Moore Creek Camp, passing a lovely waterfall along the way and hopping over the creek. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 10 a.m., drive 22 miles round trip. Call leader Katharine Brown, 421-4178, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 7.5 mile hike from Sweat Heifer to Kephart Prong in the Smoky Mtn. Nat'l, Park, Car shuttle is needed. Limit 15 people. Total Hike Distance: 7.5 miles, Call leader Keith Patton. 456-8895, for reservations.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike. elevation change 100 ft., to Lower Whitewater Falls, viewing the falls from a platform that is several miles below the upper falls. Views of Lake locassee can be seen along the way. Meet at Cashiers Recreation Park at 10 a.m., drive 22 miles round trip. Call leaders: Mike and Sue Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations, Visitors welcome.



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Bolivian Mission 'All Male Beauty Pageant' **Fundraiser** at Highlands **Playhouse** Monday, Oct. 7

Free wine bar opens at 7 p.m. Show starts at 8 p.m. Donation: \$100 tax deductible.

Tickets available at The Playhouse, Dr. Baker's office on South Street and the Highlands United Methodist Church. Call 828-200-0902

For more information or tickets

• SPIRITUAL LY SPFAKING •

Taize Worship is returning to Highlands

By Chaplain Margaret Howell Holy Family Lutheran Church: ELCA

There is a tiny village in south central France, in the Burgundy region where, from April to October, up to 5,000 people spend a week to visit and worship with an ecumenical community of brothers who themselves number only about 100.

Conditions are primitive, with most visitors sleeping in tents or in rough barracks and sharing communal facilities. Meals are served field camp style and everyone pitches in with the chores involved in feeding and cleaning up after 5,000 people. If it rains, it rains.

What then, draws thousands of people a year, mostly young people, from all over the globe to this spot? Why do people of every race, religion and tongue gather here?

What are they seeking? To understand their reasons, one must first discover what Taize is all about.

History:

In 1940 Brother Roger Schutz, the son of a Lutheran minister, bought an old deserted house with a few outbuildings just outside the tiny Burgundian village of Taize, France. He and his sister Genevieve first started the community as a sanctuary for wartime refugees, including Jews and later, German POWs. Roger and some Christian friends, mostly Protestants, took monastic vows in 1949, and within years Taize had become a magnet for young travelers. It became known simply as Taize, named after the tiny French village nearby.

Taize is deeply committed to religious unity, and reconciliation and although its founders were all Protestants, it drew on many different Christian traditions, including Roman Catholic. Members of the community still belong to their own denominations, even though they take vows of charity and poverty.

The brothers work to support themselves, and accept no donations. The ultimate hope of Brother Roger and his community is that all people of faith unite in love and reconciliation. Pope John XXIII called it "That little springtime." Pope John Paul II paid a visit and praised "the transparency of brotherly love." The brothers have also welcomed Archbishops of Canterbury, Orthodox Patriarchs, Lutheran bishops and Methodist and Baptist pastors.

The very heart of the Taize community is the service of prayer, held three times daily. The emphasis of its style is on silence, light, and above all the meditative weaving together of prayer and music.

Meditative singing: Singing is one of the most essential elements of worship. Short songs, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting on God, without having to fix the length of time too exactly.

• See SPIRITUALLLY SPEAKING page 19

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Proverbs 3:5

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965 Sundays: School: 10 a.m., Worship: 11

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

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CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

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Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am, Wed, 6pm supper and teaching. Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street - Sunday Service: 11 a.m. Testimony meeting: 3rd Wednesday at 5 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor lim Kinard

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 1 la.m. 1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7.p.m. Wednesdays -Supper at 6 p.m.

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3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School I 0:30am: Middle & High School: 10:45am: Child. Program, 10: 45am: Worship Service Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC U.

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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

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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

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship 242 Hwy 107N, I/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814 Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Nathan Johnson Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p Wed. Kidsquest 6p.: Worship 7p.

ACES TO WORSHIP

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

John 3:16

Randy Reed, Pastor828-421-9172 • 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.

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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.

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

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

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Rev. Marty Kilby

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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 SKYVALLEY

706.746.3144• 696 Sky Valley Way #447, Pastor Gary Hewins Worship: Sun. 9 a.m., with Holy Communion the 1st & 3rd

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

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a

Nursery available for Rite II services

Sept 6-Oct 25-Informal Evening Eucharist-5:30 p.m. Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

UNITARÍAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

• Biz/Org News •

Playhouse wishes Patti a fond adieu; welcomes new Artistic Director Carby

For the past 8 years we at the Highlands Playhouse have been fortunate enough to have our friend Bill Patti as our Artistic Director. As we all know, life changes and situations evolve.

Following a stellar, record-setting 2019 summer season, and a total of eight years, it is with great fondness and appreciation that we bid Highlands Playhouse Artistic Director Bill Patti farewell.

Patti has played an integral part and been a guiding force in the evolution of the Playhouse and has been a beloved member of the Highlands Playhouse family. Patti has moved and delighted with his craft, and the board of directors wishes him all the best as he embarks on his new adventure as Artistic Director of the Shea's Buffalo Theatre in his hometown of Buffalo. NY.

Patti has prepared the Playhouse for his departure by hiring and guiding a gifted Assistant Artistic Director, Marshall Carby, who is ready and eager to move into Bill's role and continue to propel the playhouse to new heights.

For the past six years of his residency, Carby has been by Patti's side and has helmed several popular plays over the years, including last year's hit production of Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story.

In addition, Highlands favorite and Playhouse production regular Jimmy Lewis has signed on as Marshall's Assistant Artistic Director.

Marshall and Carby will take the reins this coming season to deliver another dynamic season of summer theater entertain-

...HURRICANES continued from page 1

in 8 out of his 9 races and a Silver in the other. Kenter was the highest scoring male swimmer in the AAU this year. The competition consisted of 4 days of swimming with 510 swimmers from all over the country. He scored 177 points for Team MSI

Jack Sumner (17th overall scorer in the meet) brought home a Bronze medal and scored 115 points. Matti Cohen won 2 Gold medals, 1 Silver and scored 80.5 points. Sophia Jandera-Chambless scored 28 points, Blake Kenter scored 23.5 points, Justin Powell scored 22 points, Dasha Halldin 20 points, Ben Halldin 17 points, Elias McKim 13.5 points, and Conner Hughes scored 4 points. Also swimming for Team MSL from the Hurricanes were Finneaus Garner and Jordan Powell. Next year's Jr. Olympics will be held in Hampton Roads, Virginia. To date, Chase Kenter, Sophia Jandera-Chambless, and Matti Cohen have already qualified to compete in the 2020 Games.

The Highlands Hurricanes are an AAU and USA Swim team that practices at the Highlands Recreation Park Pool in the evenings during the week and on Saturday mornings. All children through age 18 are welcome.



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...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 18

Prayer in Worship:

These songs also sustain personal prayer. Through them, little by little, our being finds an inner unity in God. They can continue in the silence of our hearts when we are at work, speaking with others or resting. In this way prayer and daily life are united. They allow us to keep on praying even when we are unaware of it, in the silence of our hearts.

Icons in worship: Icons contribute to the beauty of worship. They are like windows open on the realities of the Kingdom of God, making them present in our prayer on earth. Although icons are images, they are not simply illustrations or decorations. They are symbols of the incarnation, a presence which offers to the

eyes the spiritual message that the Word addresses to the ears.

So why then, have millions of people come to Taize and taken it's simple and beautiful form of prayer and music to every corner of the earth? Come and see for yourself.

Taize worship is returning to Highlands on: Thursday evening, September 19th 5:30 PM. Hosted by First Presbyterian Church

Dress is casual, and all are welcome. For more information contact: Chaplain Margaret Howell: 704-516-7893 or email her at Knytengale@aol.com.

"Let us never forget that this simple desire for God is already the beginning of faith"

– Brother Roger

Police & Fire Reports

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

Sept. 3

• At 7:35 p.m., officers were called about a shoplifting incident at Bryson's Food Store.

Sept. 8

• At 2:50 a.m., Taylor Thomas Earman, 44, of Highlands, was arrested for driving under the influence on Maple Street. He was issued a \$2,000 unsecured bond. His trial date is Nov. 4 in Macon County.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Sept. 10.

Sept. 10

- At 10:54 a.m., the dept. responded to a call about a gas leak at a residence on Poplar Street.
- At 4:59 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cullasaja Drive.

 At 11:08 p.m., the dept. was firstresponders to a residence on Stoney Creek road.

Sept. 11

• At 10:27 p.m., the dept. was first responders to a residence on Cherokee Dr.

Sept. 12

- At 7:47 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance to someone on NC 106.
- At 3:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.
- At 4:40 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.
- At 5:31 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Spring Street.

Sept. 13

- At 2:04 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.
- At 12:07 p.m., the dept. rescued someone at Cliffside.
- At 1:35 p.m., the dept. stood by for the

MAMA helicopter on Turtle Pond Road.

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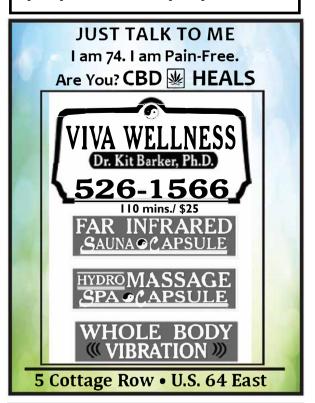
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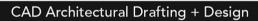
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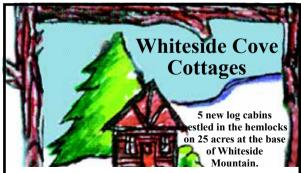
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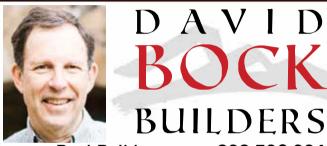
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