Happy Mother's Day!

Highlands Newspaper

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Special Town Board meeting outlines changes to stay-at-home order

It's official: Gov. Cooper's Phase 1 plan to go into effect May 8

Highlands Town Board held a special meeting Friday morning to discuss modifying some of the aspects of the state-of-emergency the town first proclaimed on March 28.

The town's modifications were expected to – and do – match

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Highlands PD Chief Harrell leaving for Franklin PD

By Brittney Lofthouse

The Franklin Police Department has been searching for a replacement for Chief David Adams since January when he announced he would be resigning from his position in Franklin to take a new position with the Waynesville Police Department.

The town of Franklin's search for a new Police Chief saw a variety of applicants — from seasoned members of the Macon County Sheriff's Department, high-ranking officers within the Police Department – and members of the Highlands Police Department.

The town of Franklin held a closed session during Monday night's monthly meeting – but

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Valedictorian Camren Dalton

Valedictorian Sayla Roman

Salutatorian Morgan Olvera

Highlands School Class of 2020 announces its Vals and Sal

Every year Highlands School announces the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the school year.

For the first time two Valedictorians were announced, Camren Dalton and Salya Roman and one Salutatorian, Morgan Olvera.

The Valedictorian is the student(s), typically having the highest academic achievements of the class and the Salutatorian(s) is the student who ranks second highest in a graduating class.

"All three of these young ladies are hard-working, high achieving, and exceptionally smart," said Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter. "All three have been involved in other aspects of the school so they are very well rounded."

In 2018, Highlands School had two Salutatorians and now the class of 2020 has two Valedictorians.

Highlands School Guidance Counselor Nicole Lui said she looks forward to calculating Valedictorian and Salutatorian each year.

"When I first came to Highlands School, our future Valedictorians and Salutatorian were in 6th grade. Since then, I was able to watch them grow into the young women they are today," she said.

• See VAL & SAL page 7

Seasoned GCRS worker loses life attempting rescue

After decades of faithfully serving Western North Carolina as a member of the Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad, Eldon Jamison lost his life Monday night while attempting to rescue a 24-year old who had fallen into the water at the base of Whitewater Falls in Transylvania County.

Jamison responded to a 911 call to Jackson County Emergency Management shortly after 9 p.m. on Monday requesting mutual aid in Transylvania County regarding a person who had gone over Whitewater Falls. The Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad and other responders worked diligently to locate the victim un-

• See RESCUE page 6

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• The Plateau's Position •

• Mayor on Duty •

Zoom meetings on the rise

Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor

I am hopeful that Governor's Cooper's Phase 1 plan will be on tract to go into effect tomorrow at 5 p.m. I know our merchants will be glad to open their stores, albeit on a limited basis.

I have received multiple inquiries as to why the town has not required wearing face coverings. At last Friday's special meeting, the board endorsed and reiterated that face masks/coverings are highly recommended but not mandated. The board had received a recommendation from the Highlands Chamber of Commerce that they, too, supported not mandating a mask requirement.

Face coverings and social distancing in public spaces is still an important practice. Dr. Deborah Birx, who along with Dr. Anthony Fauci advises President Trump, recently expressed her concern that some members of the public feel that these measures should not be followed. She stated such behaviors, if practiced, will likely translate into a resurgence of COVID-19. So, my advice remains the same, please practice social distancing and use face covering in enclosed public spaces such as stores. Also, please do wash hands frequently.

Last Friday, I presided over a special Town Board meeting to address issues related to our state of emergency. It was held by way of ZOOM at 8:30 a.m. A typical in-person Town Board meeting usually has no more than 30 attendees. Special meetings, like the one on Friday, normally have no more than a handful of visitors.

The person coordinating the Friday ZOOM meeting believed that setting the participant level at 100 would be more than enough. I suspect he was also trying to save the town money. To everyone's surprise over 100 people signed on, so some other folks could not sign into the meeting. I liken it to us having an in-person meeting in a room designed for 40, but 100 people show up. There's another way to look at it. If we had had a face to face meeting at the Highlands Community Center, practiced social distancing, and over 100 people came, the same problem of not having enough space might have occurred.

A budget workshop meeting is scheduled for this afternoon at 3 pm by way of ZOOM. Five hundred spaces have been allotted for the meeting. I apologize for the meeting problem last Friday. It was not intentional; our staff had no idea that over 100 people would want to attend.

I suspect the board meetings will go back to in-person sessions either in June or July. With that said, the ZOOM-type option for distant attendees will still be in place.

I encourage everyone to sign up for the Town of Highlands Sunshine List. Signup can be done by calling Town Hall at (828) 526-2118 and asking to be placed on the Sunshine List. Our staff will take down your name and email address. From that point on you will receive all town notices, ZOOM information, and all materials commissioners review at any given meeting.

The budget workshop ZOOM information is on the town website.

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• Hic's View •

• Weather •

Thu, 7-May	Fri, 8-May	Sat, 9-May	Sun, 10-May
57°F / 36°F	52°F / 29°F	52 °F / 24°F	59 °F / 34°F
Cool with plenty of sun	A shower and t-storm around	Cool with sunshine	Mostly sunny and cool
RealFeel® High: 65° Low: 37°	RealFeel® High: 54° Low: 40°	RealFeel® High: 58° Low: 30°	RealFeel® High: 68° Low: 38°

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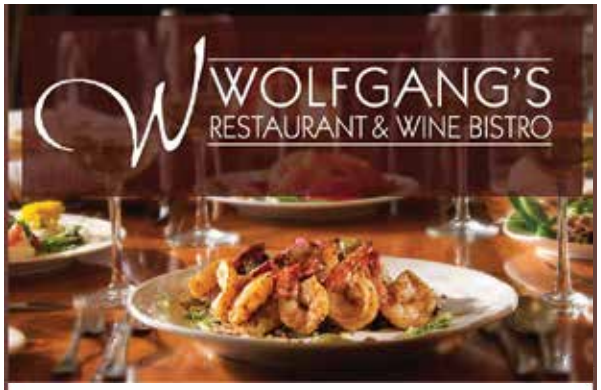

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...STAY-AT-HOME continued from page 1

Governor Roy Cooper's Phase 1 stipulations set to go into effect 5 p.m., Friday, May 8.

The board discussed the opening of accommodations, abolishing the 14-day quarantine requirement for second-home owners, allowing inside take-out at restaurants, opening non-essential businesses and opening public restrooms.

The town is allowing hotels and short-term rentals to open May 8. These were technically closed in North Carolina to all but essential, emergency personnel including hospital workers.

Mayor Pat Taylor said short-term accommodations can reopen after they register with the town and only if they and hotels, follow certain safety requirements as part of a phased plan developed by The Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center. The short-term rental registration form in on the town website: https://highlandsnc.org under the brown leaf – forms/application documents.

The Chamber's plan exceeds protocols outlined by The Center for Disease Control and Prevention . The purpose is to protect business owners, staff, residents and of course, patrons.

Those protocols will be included in the town's modified state-of-emergency proclamation which was the subject of Wednesday's Special Town Board meeting. The results of the vote were not available by press time, but Mayor Taylor said he expects all points to be voted on unanimously.

Aspects of the proclamation modification regarding accommodation operations regard sanitation; including but not limited to registration and concierge, point of sale, guest services, public spaces, food and beverage, housekeeping, occupancy, and internal operations.

Consequently, with hotels and short-term rentals opening at the end of the week, the 14-day self-quarantine regulation in town will be lifted.

"If you're allowing hotels and motels to open up, I think the quarantine is done," said Commissioner Donnie Calloway.

However, commissioners stressed that quarantining for 14 days is highly recommended for second-home residents and visitors that have resided in other states and counties.

In addition, the board voted unanimously to lift restrictions that limited restaurants to curbside delivery, so now inside takeout will be allowed.

Restaurants that open for inside, take-out must follow protocols for social distancing and hygiene outlined by the CDC. However, commissioners said enforcing these protocols would be a challenge.

Commissioner Buz Dotson said if it doesn't work out, the board can put the restrictions back into place.

"We're trying to help them," said Dotson. "If they don't want to abide by the protocols we can go back to curbside takeout."

Dining outside at tables on the restaurant's premises is still not permitted.

Also, non-essential businesses will be allowed to open as long as they follow safety protocols – masks, social distancing and sanitizer.

"I don't have a problem with it as long as they mark the floors to maximize social distancing and minimize interactions and as long as businesses follow proper protocols," said Commmissioner Amy Patterson.

Commissioners also discussed requiring people to wear face covers in public but decided it should be "strongly encouraged" instead of mandatory; no action was taken.

"The Town can set a good example by everyone using a mask," said Patterson. "I think it's a good idea, but I don't know how to go about mandating it and enforcing it."

Businesses can make their own regulations regarding masks, they said, but in his press conference Tuesday evening, Governor Cooper encouraged people to wear masks when they go out.

Though recreation facilities in the state and in the town are still closed – inside the Rec Park, the pool, the playgroud – the tennis courts at the Highlands Rec Park are open and public restrooms are set to be open by May 8.

"I think that will help out business owners," said Commissioner Patterson.

Throughout all this, area parks have been open for outdoor exercise but the tables at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park and the stage remain closed

On Tuesday, Gov. Cooper said his decision to proceed with Phase 1 Friday, May 8, is data-driven because the data shows the virus curve flattening in North Carolina. However, if subsequent data indicates the virus is on the rise again, he could extend Phase 1 for another two weeks, rather than

• See STAY-AT-HOME page 6

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• OBITUARIES •

Grover Ray McCall, Sr

Mr. Grover Ray McCall, Sr. 95, passed away Monday, April 27, 2020. Mr. McCall was born June 9, 1924 in Cherokee County, NC to the late Samuel Richmond McCall and Dovie Smith McCall. He was married to his first wife, Della Keener McCall who preceded him in 1992. Ray worked in logging, he also worked at Burlington Industries for 22 years, and for McCall Builders for 20 years. He loved to hunt and work in his garden. Mr. McCall was a member of Goldmine Baptist Church where he was a deacon, Sunday School teacher, and Sunday School Superintendent.

Survivors include his wife, Linda Dendy McCall of the

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...RESCUE continued from page 1

til storms rolled in around 1 a.m. Due to safety concerns, the search was temporarily suspended. The rescue team returned at 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning.

During the search for Manuel, a rugged remote high line operations repelling team, which included Jamison, was searching for the victim. Jamison fell from a rope during the search and did not survive the fall.

The original victim, 24-year old Chandler Manuel from Rockwell N.C., has been identified, but the search for his remains was ongoing as of Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

Jamison's nephew, Dale Curtis, wrote about his uncle and his unwavering dedication to public service.

"To say the world has lost a wonderful human being would be the epitome of understatement. Eldon was more than a first-responder. He was in fact, a paramedic, and long-time member of the Glenville - Cashiers Rescue Squad. He was a member of their high-line rescue and swift-water rescue teams. Still, he was so much more. He had hundreds of hours of advanced training, and even more actual experience. Still, he was so much more.

"What I'd like you to know isn't just how we lost Eldon. No, I'd like you to know the man he was. He was, as I said before, 'so much more.' As was the all-to-frequent norm, he heard the call for help go out, and without hesitation or thought of self, he answered that call. But unlike the thousands of times before, today would be different. Today, he would once again be traversing the familiar descent down the highest falls east of the Rocky Mountains. Today, like a thousand times before, he would be attempting to rescue someone he'd never even met. More even than that, no one honestly expected to find the victim alive. And so, Eldon was in truth risking his life to recover a victim's remains. He wasn't risking his life for money; they're not paid all that well. He wasn't risking his life for fame; for as we've seen, even the ultimate sacrifice barely gets him a mention on the local news channels. No, he risked his life so that victim's loved ones would have closure and know what had become of them. That, my friends, is who he was.

"Growing up, I remember many, many Christmas and holiday family gatherings when my uncle had to leave in the middle of dinner to answer that very same call. My family worried about him the entire time he was out, but I never did. You see, Eldon was a hero to me. He was indestructible, and I just knew he'd always come home safe. I knew that because of him, someone else's loved one would come home, too.

"Later in life as I grew older, my confidence in and admiration of my uncle only grew. I studied and learned all I could about high angle rescue, and that knowledge served to solidify my confidence in Eldon's skill. More importantly, I came to know him as a devout man of God, exemplary in the way he lived his life. He was a quiet man, talking very little, but always, and I do mean always, walking the walk. So, I didn't worry about my uncle. Then, today came.

"Today, just like thousands of times before, my Uncle again answered that familiar call. Without hesitation, he went over those falls, clinging only to a half-inch rope, to rescue another as he'd done so many times before. But today, God had other plans for my uncle. Today, Eldon answered the higher call that awaits us all. Today, with little or no thoughts of self, he died as he had lived his life; giving his all to aid his fellow man. That's just who he was. That's what I want you to know about my Uncle Eldon.

"Like most, I took our men and women in these roles for granted, never truly appreciating what they did. Even though many years ago, in my younger days as a volunteer fireman, I went headlong into numerous burning buildings. My friends and I saw our share of death and tragedy. Even then, I didn't truly appreciate the gravity of the situation. It never occurred to me we might not be coming home. Years after leaving the fire department, I still took our firemen, EMS, and rescue personnel for granted. The dangers I faced were never real to me, and I gave little thought to the dangers they faced. Then, today came. Today, the exuberance, arrogance, and naiveté of my youth gives way to a painful and bitter truth. That truth is every time any of these brave men and women choose to answer that call, it could easily be at the expense of their very lives. Today, that truth was driven home to me with painful and everlasting clarity. After all, if this could happen to my Uncle, the best trained and most knowledgeable person I had ever known, it could happen to anyone.

"And so it is that today, in remembrance of my uncle, and in honor of him and all the other men and women who answer that call, I ask you for just a minute of your lives. Only a minute, that's all it takes. Take that minute and pray for them. Pray for their safety. Be thankful God saw fit to send them here to answer that call, despite the very real chance they themselves might not return home. Like my Uncle, they deserve that minute.

"My uncle was a kind and wonderful soul, and I shall miss him tremendously. I wish everyone could have known him as I did. Perhaps not as a hero, but as the loving, giving, selfless soul he was. Godspeed, and God bless you, Uncle Eldon Jamison. I love you."

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...STAY-AT-HOME cont. from page 5

going into Phase II on May 22.

Meanwhile, in Phase 1, there is no longer a distinction between non-essential and essential businesses, so retail can reopen as long as inside capacity is kept to 50%, social distancing is maintained and people understand frequent washing of hands is mandatory. Child care centers can also open as long as they follow strict sanitary protocols.

Cooper said the stay-at-home order is still in effect and he encourages those who can do so, to telework, but he recognizes the need for people to get out and for businesses to open back up.

"Modifications in Phase 1 give people more reasons to go out but remember the the stay-at-home order is still in place because we still have to be careful," he said.

Gatherings are still limited to no more than 10 people, but outside, open-air worship is now allowed as long as people adhere to the social distancing parameters being six feet apart.

Inside take-out is now allowed at all restaurants in North Carolina but inside dining in restaurants, personal care businesses like barbers, spas, bars, gyms, hairdressers, manicurists, etc., are

• See STAY-AT-HOME page 8

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•Word Matter•

HCA and HCH

Before our lives became immersed in the coronavirus pandemic a bunch of space in the Highlands Newspaper was dedicated to the HCA purchase of Mission Health, and how this purchase has impacted healthcare in Western North Carolina, especially here on the plateau.

A series, which began in the February 13th edition of the Highlands Newspaper highlighted findings of an independent monitoring firm, Gibbins Advisors, that held meetings throughout the Mission system to hear from stakeholders. The articles focused on HCA's billing practices (2/13), on elimination of services at Angel Medical Center in Franklin for victims of sexual abuse (2/20), and on a letter from NC Attorney General Josh Stein requesting information from HCA on a number of issues (2/27). In the March 5th issue, the newspaper reported deficiencies and concerns over patient transport requiring EMS assistance. There also was a two-page, paid advertisement from HCA updating readers on some of the company's activities since acquiring Mission Health. Suffice it to say we're not done hearing about this.

Way back in the September 20, 2018 issue of the paper, when HCA's acquisition of Mission was first reported, I wrote of concerns with moving from a community hospital to a non-profit facility operated by Mission Health, to a property owned by HCA, a large, national, for-profit chain of hospitals and other healthcare facilities.

All this coverage highlights the importance of what the Highlands Cashiers Hospital means to residents, especially in the shadow of Covid-19, and especially as restrictions are relaxed and visitors and part-time residents are expected to return to the plateau.

Bud Katz

The terms non-profit and for-profit have meaning in our economic system. First, non-profit and for-profit indicate a business's tax status. Non-profit is NOT a business model. EVERY business, in order to survive, must produce revenue that exceed expenditures, otherwise the business goes out of business.

The difference lies in the focus of the organization. For-profit businesses are there, not to put too fine a point on things, to earn a profit. They exist to maximize revenues, control expenses, and produce a profit for the benefit of ownership and senior management. Non-profit businesses, in order to obtain non-profit tax status under Sec. 501(c) of the IRS code, must "address the public good" and must return excess revenues (profit) to the organization.

This is not to say that for-profit businesses don't often provide for the public good. For-profit hospitals, for example, must provide a percentage of revenues for indigent services in order to receive reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid. This is certainly in the public's interest.

I have nothing negative to say about the healthcare services dispensed at HCH in any of its incarnations. I visited the ER when it was a community hospital, again when it was owned by Mission, and received exemplary care both times. I was a patient during the Mission/HCA transition, and also was very well taken care of.

This is not about that.

My concerns involving the transition from a non- to a for-profit hospital have to do with the focus of the business; public good versus return on investment.

I'm certain HCA will do its absolute best to meet the healthcare needs of the communities where it operates facilities. I trust, though, that they will also do their best to maximize revenues and control expenses for the benefit of owners and managers. These two imperatives can, and sometimes do conflict with one another.

For-profit businesses have different pressures than non-profits. HCA is not only a for-profit company; it's publicly traded and therefore subject to expectations regarding quarterly Wall Street earnings targets. It's not difficult to imagine those pressures manifesting themselves in ways that don't necessarily go hand-in-hand with dispensing the highest possible quality of healthcare services in our admittedly small marketplace.

America's healthcare system is always under one microscope or another. We pay way more per capita than any other nation in the developed world, and that excess hasn't translated into better healthcare outcomes. This isn't an HCA or HCH issue. It is but one of the factors in a complex and extremely important industry.

I wish HCH well, and I wish HCA well, especially as we enter what could become a challenging moment for healthcare here on the plateau. I hope, as do all Highlands and Cashiers dwellers and visitors, that we can expect the best possible healthcare services from our community's hospital, especially since most of us have had little input regarding from whom we are to receive those services.

...VAL & SAL continued from page 1

Once Camren, Sayla, and Morgan entered high school, they joined the Interact Club which follows the same motto as the Rotary Club, "Service Above Self."

"Over the years, they have been involved in numerous service projects and always willing to lend a helping hand," said Academically, Camren, "Sayla, and Morgan have challenged themselves year after year by taking some of the most rigorous courses offered in our strong college preparation curriculum. I am confident they will continue to work hard while they are in college."

Camren Dalton will be attending North Carolina State University and will be majoring in Environmental Engineering.

Sayla Roman will be attending Columbia University, majoring in Biology, and working her way to veterinary school.

Morgan Olvera will be attending North Carolina State University and will be majoring in Sports Marketing with a minor in Communications.

– Kim Lewicki

NC Governor Cooper announces COVID-19 relief package

Members of the General Assembly reconvened in Raleigh last week and while dozens of matters are on the agenda – priority was given on distribution of federal stimulus dollars to provide relief to businesses and individuals in North Carolina adversely impacted by COVID-19. Both the House and the Senate released relief bills for consideration – and in bi-partisan fashion, quickly came to an agreement to send to Governor Roy Cooper's office for final approval – which was given on May 4.

"I am signing into law two critical relief bills that will provide assistance to families, schools, hospitals and small businesses as our state battles COVID-19," said Governor Cooper on Monday. "There is more work ahead of us, and I hope the spirit of consensus behind these bills will continue."

The Governor was joined by House Speaker Tim Moore, Democratic House Leader Darren Jackson, Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger and Democratic Senate Leader Dan Blue who all spoke highly of the bipartisan effort to help stablize North Carolina's economy on its path to recovery and help its citizens in true North Carolinian style.

The relief package, which was passed unanimously, includes almost $1.6 billion in relief measures for critical expenditures related to public health and safety, educational needs, small business assistance, and continuity of state government operations. Of this amount, $1.4 billion has been appropriated and $150 million is set aside in a reserve fund for future local government needs.

The package also contains key policy changes to support North Carolinians as the state battles COVID-19. HB 1043, the spending package, allocates federal funding sent to the state from the CARES Act. It includes:

• $50 million to provide personal protective equipment and sanitation supplies

• $25 million to support enhanced COVID-19 testing and tracing

• $125 million in small business loans administered through the Golden LEAF Foundation

• $50 million in health support for underserved communities including rural areas and minority communities

• $95 million to support North Carolina hospitals

• $20 million to support local health departments and the State Health Lab

• $75 million for school nutrition programs

• $70 million for summer learning programs

• $30 million for local schools to purchase computers and other devices for students

• $6 million for food banks

• $9 million for rural broadband

•$85 million for vaccine development, antibody testing, community testing, and other COVID-19-related research at Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill, East Carolina University, Campbell University, and Wake Forest University.

Senate Bill 704 contained provisions to help North Carolinians. It includes:

• An extension of driver's license and registration expiration deadlines

• Waived interest on tax payments normally due in April

• Modifies end-of-grade testing requirements for public schools

• Adjusts the 2020-21 K-12 public school calendar- All North Carolina public schools will reopen Aug. 17 -- and add five days to the school year.

• Allows pharmacists to administer a COVID-19 vaccine once it is developed

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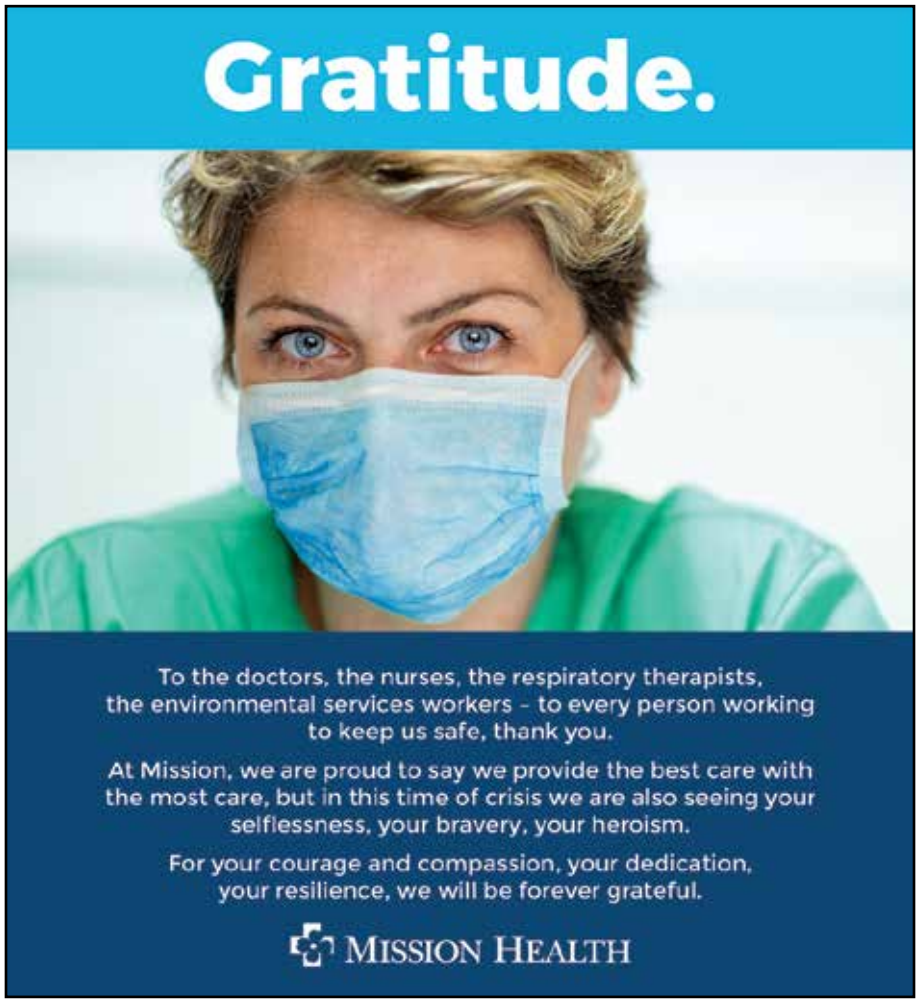

... STAY-AT-HOME continued from page 6

still closed

"These rules in Phase 1 will allow people to socialize while boosting the economy with safety restrictions in place," said Cooper.

NC Secretary of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Mandy Cohen encourages those who go out to remember the three Ws – Wear a face covering, Wait six feet away from others and Wash hands frequently.

Meanwhile, the town is still working on the FY 2020-'21 budget which must go into effect July 1.

A Budget Workshop meeting is scheduled for today, Thursday, May 7 at 3 p.m.

– Kim Lewicki

... HARRELL continued from page 1

didn't announce a new Police Chief, which was highly anticipated. By Tuesday morning, rumors began circulating that all but one candidate who applied for the position had been notified that they were not selected – the one person still on the Town of Franklin's radar – Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell.

By press time Wednesday morning, after multiple attempts to receive confirmation from either the Town of Franklin or the Town of Highlands – and Chief Bill Harrell himself – we were able to confirm from both Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor and Chief Harrell that he was offered the job as Franklin PD chief and he has accepted.

Wednesday morning Mayor Pat Taylor said the Franklin PD was expected to release a statement late Wednesday night and the mayor would follow with his own on Thursday.

At a mandatory meeting at the Highlands PD Wednesday night at 6 p.m., the Chief addressed his department.

• Investing at 4,118 ft. •

The New Normal…is anything but

When the world anticipated the year 2000, some looked forward to tout living in two different millenniums while many others feared the changes. Part of human nature is a fear of the unknown. Some people mask their fear better than others. Millions of people sighed relief when they awoke January 1st, 2000, and now as we jump ahead twenty years, we are all waiting for that same sigh of relief. This time, it will not be in an instant, like the anticipated ball drop, it will be months and months of dreaded, yet hopeful anticipation.

Governor Cooper's three-phase system makes sense to me, and IF all goes well, and IF we're good, we should be able to be OPEN by the July 4th weekend, meaning we will be in Phase 3 by that time. (Does anyone else feel like we've been sent to our room?)

During the three phases, we will be taking baby steps to cross the finish line, this is not a sprint.

During Phase 1, we will be doing more of what we have been doing for the last six weeks, with the exception of stores being open, restaurants can have diners come inside to order take-out, parks are opening up, motels can start having guests with limited occupancy.

At press time, the short-term rental dates are still a little fuzzy. We are taking tentative reservations in hopes of being able to fulfil them (FILL is the operative word).

Phase 1 is sort of like having a driving permit. You can start to drive, but only if you follow other rules.

Phase 2 relaxes the rules even more, giving us a little more freedom. This is when we move to the restricted license, as we are being trusted to handle ourselves. You know, act like an adult.

Phase 3 will be our full driver's license. There are some people who make driving offenses, and I bet there will be plenty of people who make Phase 1, 2 or 3 offenses as well. We are human, after all.

Even though Macon County, as well as neighboring mountain communities have had very few cases/hospitalizations/deaths due to the Coronavirus, we do not want to those statistics to spike, during any phase.

Jeannie Chambers
Chambers Realty &
Vacation Rentals
828-526-3717

We expect the public and visitors to our town and across the nation to respect and follow the rules that have been set.

By the time we get to Phase 3, we will be in our new normal. There have always been rules to follow, we will just have to get used to following a few more. There are some things brought on by our sheltering-in-place that may stick around for a long time, if not forevermore.

Certainly, people will be better at practicing better hygiene and hopefully employers will encourage more working from home.

As far as real estate and home rentals go, there will be stricter protocols followed.

During the first two phases (at the least), people viewing homes for sale will be asked not to touch anything, not use the bathroom, and possibly to wear shoe covers and gloves, especially if the home is occupied by the owner, guest or renter. For vacation rentals, rented through our office, stricter cleaning will be done using CDC/EPA approved disinfectants, and more time will be allowed for cleaning.

There will be no back-to-back (aka same day check in/check out) rentals. Depending on the home, there will be a 24-hour to a 72-hour vacancy period between rentals.

All our vacation rentals have a signed lease, but for 2020, there will be an additional page added as an amendment. To be in compliance with the Fair Housing Act, we are able to ask buyers/renters if they've been sick, have traveled out or in the country in the last 14 days, as long as we ask all of them.

In other words, we can't treat a prospective buyer or renter coming from New York, China or is an alien from outer space any differently than any other buyer/renter.

The general public should treat any-

• See INVESTING page 21

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Senior Spotlight: Highlands School Class of 2020

Bailey Schmitt

Bailey has been involved with volleyball, basketball, cheerleading and track.

She plans to attend Cape Fear Community College for Criminal Justice.

Her favorite Covid-19 activity is being in quarantine with her bestie, Gracie.

Good luck, Bailey! You will be missed.

Morgan Olvera

Salutatorian Morgan was involved in Interact Club, Beta Club, SGA, and Volleyball during her years at Highlands School.

She plans on attending North Carolina State University in the fall to major in Sport Management and minor in Communications.

Her favorite memories were made in the classrooms of Mrs. Ford and Coach Green, and on the Boston trip, and her trip to Peru "with the best kind of people."

Her favorite COVID activity is watching Netflix and movies while also getting back to reading new books.

Jordan Powell

Jordan was on the high school swim team, and swims on the Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team, Youth Theater at the Performing Arts Center (PAC), and cheerleading for Highlands High School

He plans to pursue his pilot license while taking the next year off.

His favorite memory was when he put vanilla pudding in a mayonnaise jar and ate the "mayonnaise" at lunch!

His favorite Covid-19 activity has been building a ninja warrior course with his Dad.

Good luck, Jordan! We will miss you.

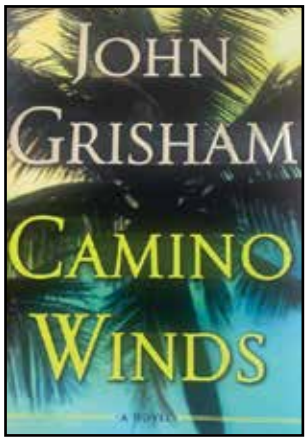
Camren Dalton

Valedictorian Camren has participated in Beta Club and Interact throughout her high school career. She has served as club president of each at one time or another.

She plans to attend NC State University in the fall.to pursue a degree in Environmental Engineering while continuing to further her passion for visual arts. Her favorite high school memory was listing grievances against Coach Green in true American fashion.

Her favorite Covid-19 activity is reading and hiking – "Absolute essentials for combatting quarantine boredom!"

Latest releases available at The Book Nook / The Toy Store on Main



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Online Library Resources are Available

All Fontana Regional Library locations in Macon, Jackson, and Swain Counties, including Hudson Library in Highlands, remain closed per Governor Cooper's order and public health advice, but eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming video, and other electronic resources remain available at all times, as does public wi-fi outside library buildings. Library staff are busy planning how best to extend services to the public once it is safe to re-open. Look for future announcements of when and how libraries will re-open their doors.

For information on how to access online resources for children and adults, and for information about COVID-19, go to www.fontanalib.org.

Community COVID-19 Outreach

Community Resources at hand

Mike Carroway

Jeff Hall

Wildlife Commission Director Urges Continued Compliance with COVID-19 Restrictions

Across North Carolina, residents are adapting to practicing social distancing and avoiding mass gatherings, including while using Wildlife Commission game lands, boat ramps, public fishing areas and other areas. Agency Director Gordon Myers urges residents to continue to comply with social distancing requirements when using Commission-related outdoor areas, particularly after the U.S. Forest Service announce it was closing specific roads, trails access, recreational areas and camping in Pisgah National Forest. These closures may result in people visiting nearby game lands, which could lead to overcrowding. It is paramount that people visiting agency access areas continue to follow social distancing and mass gathering requirements.

Be BearWise: How to Co-Exist Peacefully with Black Bears

The Wildlife Commission is offering tips on how to become BearWise now that the weather is warm and bears are on the move. If left alone, most bears that wander into a neighborhood will quickly retreat to their natural habitat, particularly if no food source is around. While bears are not inherently dangerous and are rarely aggressive toward people, biologists are urging people to be cautious and follow the six BearWise Basics to reduce potential conflicts and live responsible with black bears.

See a Snake Outdoors? Don't Panic! Get Tips on What to Do

If you see a snake while outdoors, don't panic. Leave it alone and walk away. Most snakebites occur when a person picks one up, steps on one accidentally or tries to kill one. Snakes, even venomous ones, are reluctant to bite, instead using their energy or venom to acquire food. Snakes are an important part of the ecosystem, eating mice, rats and other rodents, and serving as in important food source for animals like foxes, raccoons, eagles and hawks.

Expect to See More Coyotes as Pup-Rearing Season Gears Up

Coyotes are raising their pups now so many people may see them more often, with sightings peaking in May, as coyote parents begin hunting day and night to feed their young. However, Wildlife Commission biologists say there is little to fear as coyotes rarely attack humans, although small pets, such as cats and small-breed dogs, can be taken as prey if left outside or unsupervised.

Wildlife Commission Is Asking the Public to Report Pine Snake Sightings in Western North Carolina

The Wildlife Commission is asking the public to report sightings of pine snakes in southwestern North Carolina. Biologists want to learn more about the distribution of northern pine snakes, which are large, non-venomous snakes that spend most of their time underground. Spring is the best time to see one as they are more likely to be above ground this time of year, seeking mates and food, basking in the sun, or moving from burrow to burrow. They typically range between 4 to 5 feet long, although some can get as large as 7 ½ feet. They have a white, tan or yellowish background color with dark brown or black markings that begin as heavy mottling on the head before gradually becoming distinct blotches toward the tail.

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Daily 'dealings' during t

Making the most of life during mo

Loving the great outdoors!

Critter-lover Statten captured a frog and tried to camoflage salamanders on his striped shirt.

Happy Birthday Keeley!

Four "besties" -- Brynn, Riley, Keely and Aubree – on the last day of 2nd grade ... before social distancing and stay-at-home orders.

On Tuesday of last week, members of the Mountain Laurel Club began work landscaping the exterior of the old jail on Maple Street. With their motto "We dig, we dance, we plant ... alot," wearing masks and practicing social distancing, the group planted boxwoods and lay pine straw. Pictured are: Ellie Houston, president, Ann Brissey, Ester Gooch, Jill Hargis, Joey Schwartz, Canty Worley and Sonja Carpenter.

Stay-at-Home gourmet dining with ambiance.

the COVID-19 Pandemic

dified, social distancing in Phase 1

My husband came home with a bottle of liquor this weekend.
I said, "Wow, where did you get that on a Sunday?"
He said, "At the liquor store cuz it's Saturday!"
".....Oh."

And the people stayed home.

And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.

And listened more deeply.

Some meditated, some prayed, some danced.

Some met their shadows.

And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

– by Kitty O' Meara

Teachers continue to send their students love and encouragement

For the Perkins family, homework time continues and it's a family affair.

Dear 5th Graders,

When we started the year, your teachers were nervous and excited. We had 32 new faces and personalities to meet, and we couldn't wait to start the new year.

We would have never guessed how much we now love those 32 faces! This year was full of laughter, learning, and semi-terrible dancing. Things were going so well, and spring time was making us all excited!

However, a few days before your Charleston trip, school was temporarily closed. We know how much you were looking forward to that trip, and you spent so much time and effort raising money for this experience. We know you are disappointed... and we are too. In fact, there are a lot of emotions for us right now that you may be experiencing as well. Sometimes, we are frustrated and angry that the school year was taken from us - especially the really fun, end of the year part. Sometimes, we are sad and can't stop from crying that we don't get to see you for maybe several more weeks.

However, there is another feeling that we have that we need to hold onto: grateful. We are so grateful that we spent almost 8 months with you. We are grateful that we heard each one of you laugh, and saw each one of you learn something and overcome a challenge. We are grateful that we were chosen to be your teachers, because you are an incredible class of students.

There are some things we want to remind you of, because the memories we had with you will be held close to our hearts!

• The day that we joined you in P.E. and dominated at dodgeball

• Blame it on Kevin Day!

• The time that Ms. Swain spilled her lunch, and a whole table of students put together a new lunch for her.

• Staying after school to watch a movie with Ms. LeQuire and spilling chips and cake all over the room!

• Spending the whole afternoon together practicing for the DARE graduation (which you guys rocked!)

• Drinking hot chocolate and making yummy smoothies as rewards for your hard work.

• Spending the morning listening to veterans and learning how to properly raise the flags.

• Everybody talking too loudly at lunch and driving your teachers crazy!

• Curling up with a blanket and reading our book every day in ELA class.

• The super fun science experiments and tasty Chex Mix mixtures.

• The hugs, high fives, and fist bumps that you gave us each and every day.

We will hold onto these memories, and we hope you do too. We don't know when we will see you again, but it will be the best day ever when it comes.

P.S. tell your parents thank you. They are extra tired.

Love,
Your teachers
Ms. LeQuire and Mrs. Swain

School days are everyday now and homework is a constant done everywhere and anywhere.

Community COVID-19 Outreach

Community Resources at hand

Staying Connected with The Bascom

The Bascom is connecting with the community even when we can't be physically together.

"When it became clear that we needed to close our doors for the safety of the public, our students, and our staff, we immediately began to look at creative ways to share our exciting new exhibitions and programming with the public," said Executive Director Teresa Osborn. "While we are ready to serve the community in person when we can open our doors again, we didn't want to lose our connection when people need connection now more than ever."

The staff began utilizing technology in new ways and have released virtual tours of three new exhibitions: Narrative / Abstraction / Iteration, curated by Jean McLaughlin; Three Potters Retrospective, curated by Frank Vickery, Director of Ceramics; and Fuzed By Water, a solo exhibition by Photography Resident Ben Bookout.

"We are using our email newsletter, Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram to share virtual exhibition tours and artist highlights as well as additional digital programming" said Billy Love, Director of Education and Outreach. "We took nine months of plans and pivoted in two weeks to serve the community in a different way. While this meant the staff needed to learn how to film and edit, we have gotten such a positive reaction we know we will continue with these going forward."

Tune in to the next episode of The Bascom's 'Mr. Bill vs. The Box'

- https://www.facebook.com/The.Bascom.Highlands.NC/
- https://youtube/GCkEEAj2Z70

#Giving Tuesday Daily Generosity

While heroic people are performing essential services people sheltering in place, want to help.

#Giving Tuesday Daily Generosity sends subscribers a daily website portal to different ways they can help from patterns for sewing masks to giving the gift of music to help that can be done from home.

To get daily ideas for things you can do to help your neighbors, community and the world text "giving Tuesday" to 33777.

The 'phasing' of getting back to normal

According to Governor Roy Cooper, beginning May 8 at 5 p.m. if data suggests the virus continues to level off in North Carolina, the state will enter into the three-phase reopening plan:

In Phase 1

• Modify the Stay-at-Home order to allow travel not currently defined as essential, allowing people to leave home for commercial activity at any business that is allowed to be open, such as clothing stores, sporting goods stores, book shops, houseware stores and other retailers.

Town is following the governor's order – stores may open May 8 at 5 p.m. They must implement appropriate employee and consumer social distancing, enhanced hygiene and cleaning protocols, symptom screening of employees, accommodations for vulnerable workers, and provide education to employees and workers to combat misinformation

• To limit gatherings to no more than 10 people, instead of five.

• Reopen parks that have been closed subject to the same gathering limitation. Outdoor exercise will continue to be encouraged.

• Continue to recommend face coverings in public spaces when 6-foot distancing isn't possible.

• Encourage employers to continue teleworking policies

• Continue rigorous restrictions on nursing homes and other congregant care settings

• Local emergency orders with more restrictive measures may remain in place.

Phase 2

To begin, at least 2-3 weeks after Phase 1 which began May 8– May 22-29

• Lift Stay-at-Home order with strong encouragement for vulnerable populations to continue staying at home to stay safe

•Allow limited opening of restaurants, bars, fitness centers, personal care services, and other businesses that can follow safety protocols including the potential need to reduce capacity;

• Allow gathering at places such as houses of worship and entertainment venues at reduced capacity;

• Increase the number of people allowed at gatherings

• Open public playgrounds;

• Continue rigorous restrictions on nursing homes and other congregant care settings;

Phase 3

To begin at least 4-6 weeks after Phase 2 – June 19 or June 26 or July 3 or July 7.

• Lessen restrictions for vulnerable populations with encouragement to continue practicing physical distancing and minimizing exposure to settings where distancing isn't possible;

• Allow increased capacity at restaurants, bars, other businesses, houses of worships, and entertainment venues;

• Further increase the number of people allowed at gatherings;

• Continue rigorous restrictions on nursing homes and other congregant care settings.

Motoring Festival off but fundraising still on!

Highlands Motoring Festival has cancelled the 2020 festival. All registration and sponsorship fees will be refunded. Planning is already underway for the 2021 Highlands Motoring Festival which will be held on June 10-13, 2021.

However, every effort should be made to fundraise for HMF charities in their time of greatest need. To that end, Highlands Motoring Foundation will be hosting "Mountain Motoring,",an event that will include two days of "One Lap of the Mountains" driving tours and a "High Octane" car show in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park. The dates are September 11-13, 2020. To register for the driving tours visit the group's website: www.HighlandsMotoringFestival.com. The "High Octane" car show will be open to public with no registration necessary. Vehicles will not be judged.

Supporters of the Highlands Motoring Festival are urged to make contributions to the group's charity partners: Highlands Literacy Council, Community Care Clinic, and REACH of Macon County.

•Ink Penn•

Decision-Making Friction

I was fascinated by a Wall Street Journal article on this topic. Who knew there were "Many older couples [who] face friction over difficult decisions: where to live, where to go, what to throw out, how to spend money, what information to share."

I do have one pair of friends for whom that friction exists, but only the one, so I was surprised to see the word "many." I worked for a big bank when I married twenty years ago, and I set up all our accounts and wound up paying the bills and managing the money, especially after the advent of online banking. Sure, my husband keeps a separate checking and savings account at his credit union as he always has, but we freely share all that information back and forth.

Thankfully, he trusts me to handle the rest of our funds. When he suggests taking a cruise or another big vacation (you remember what those are, right?), he leaves it to me to make an informed decision as to whether we should or shouldn't. I give him a brief overview of our finances and my recommendation about what to do, and that's always good enough for him. I'm not sure how I'd handle it if he were the type to second-guess me.

Kathy Manos Penn

I guess it helps, that I've never yet said, "Have you lost your mind? No, we can't afford to do that." More often, I know enough about where we stand that I can render a quick decision—typically "Yes, let's go."

As for sharing information, we both know what we have and how to access it. I've always been horrified by the stories I've heard of wives who lose their husbands and have no idea about their finances. I saw what my mom went through when my dad died at age 51, back in the 80s. Even though she knew a fair amount about their finances, she still needed help to sort things out. Perhaps that's one reason my husband and I have worked to keep each other informed.

Where to live? We spent years toying with the idea of moving out West because my husband had always wanted to live in Colorado. We scanned the internet looking at property, but never got very serious about it—mostly because our families are here, and it just didn't seem realistic.

Years ago we bought property in the mountains with plans to retire there. We even went so far as to work with a builder on designing the home. Because I worked from home and my husband was already retired, we decided we'd go ahead and move—until we changed our minds. I noticed him talking about missing his friends and activities here, so before pulling the trigger on starting the house, I asked, "Do you really want to do this?" When he said no, that was that. Is anyone interested in a piece of property on a trout stream in Young Harris?

Everything else is easy. Typically inspired by me, we regularly purge household items and make trips to Furkids and Goodwill. We've remodeled the house several times, and those decisions have always been pretty easy.

Several times, we've debated moving to a smaller home, but after much back and forth and research, we always wind up deciding to stay put. Much of the recent remodeling has been to make the house more accessible as we age. I know one day we'll have to make a tough decision, but I anticipate we'll do that as we usually do—by weighing the pros and cons.

Are these decisions easy for us because we're both so agreeable? Or because we're so much alike in our thinking? Or maybe we just haven't stumbled across anything we vehemently disagree on. Hopefully, at this stage, that's not a situation that will occur.

• *Author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her cozy mysteries on Amazon. Locally, "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" is available at Highlands Mountain Paws. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com, and visit her website https://kathymanospenn.com/.*

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Spring Home Improvement 2020

Color Choices for your Interior Painting Project

There are many choices you will need to make if you are going to remodel your bathroom. One of the main choices you will have to decide upon is the color scheme.

Instead of giving you a lesson on color theory and defining some terminology, we can skip all that and get down to the real root of picking colors that will please you.

Painting your bathroom isn't that complicated. But choosing paint colors can be pretty scary because most of us know that when the wrong colors are used, the area just doesn't seem right or look right and the whole project just seems to fall apart.

Better than to advise someone on what color is perfect for their bathroom, is to advise them on ways to figure out what is perfect for them. To figure out what is right for you, the best road to success is to answer some questions and get to know your likes and dislikes. Every person is different, which is represented by the design in their homes.

Color choices are often as original as the individuals making them. Soon after answering some questions, you can begin to figure out and narrow down what colors you should at least start looking at as options.

A color scheme is just a set of colors that go together. If you take a look at nature, there are all the colors in the world put together. It seems that even though there are so many colors, they all go together pretty well.

Have you seen any colors in nature that look ugly? There are a few, but not many.

This should put your mind at ease, because you know then that there really are only a few ways you can mess up the paint color scheme and if you avoid doing them you will likely get good results out of your favorite picks.

One way to mess up your scheme is to choose too many colors. Think of a really ugly thing in nature that looks gross. Now that you have the image in your mind, what's a characteristic of it that might add to the fact that it looks gross?

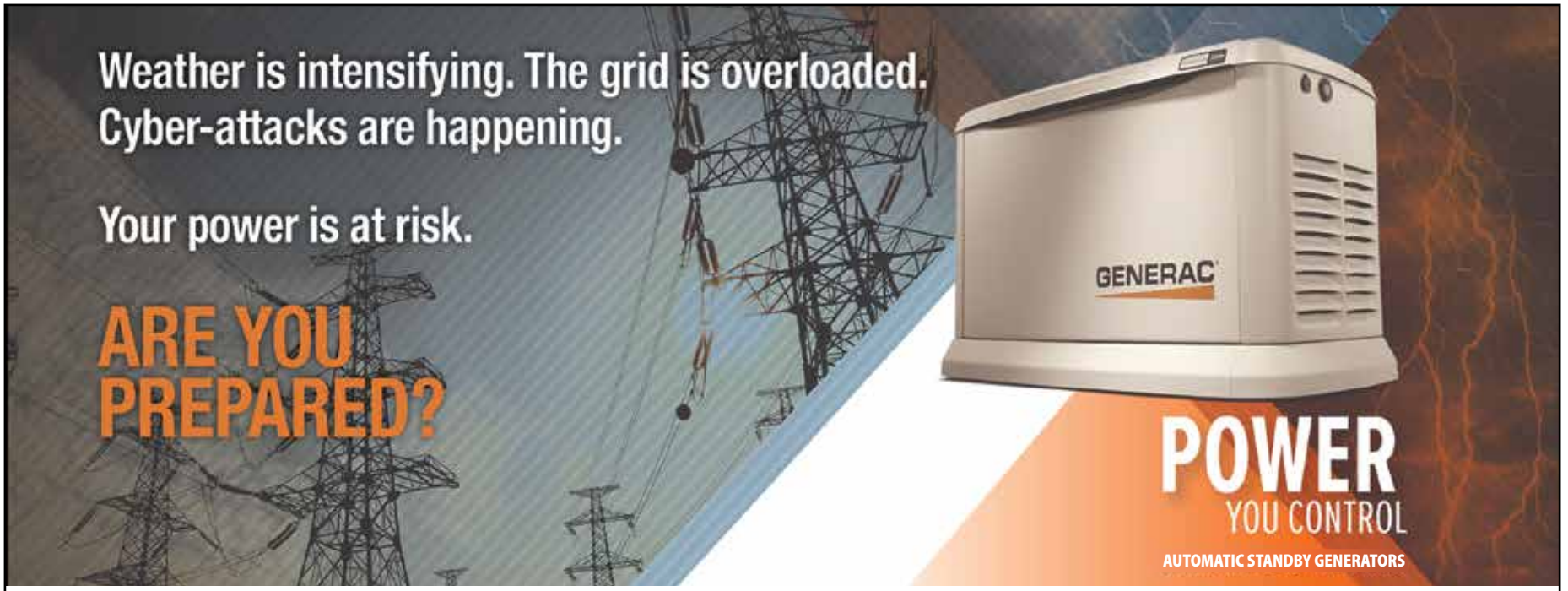
A Few Reasons Things Can Look Really Bad Because Of Color

One, like we said, is too many colors in the mix.

Two, there are too few colors with too little contrast between the colors.

When too many colors are thrown in, there is nothing to focus on and it triggers our minds to be unfocused and busy looking around for some shape or something to center on, something to grab onto or to help ground us.

When there's too little contrast between the paint col-



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Spring Home Improvement 2020

ors, especially in too few, the space or area is too bland and unappealing and tends to just go away or be uninteresting. And for some reason this can make our minds think it's gross.

So with this we can conclude that there seems to be a right number or range of numbers of colors we should use that will be most likely to succeed.

The best thing to do is keep in mind that simpler is better when it comes to designing your new look, especially if you have little design experience.

To keep it simple and have the best chance of successfully choosing the right colors the first time, narrow your limit of color choices down to three colors at most. Picking three colors that go together is a lot easier than picking five or more.

What Is The Simplest Way To Pick Three Colors?

One, pick one color you really like and go both up three shades for the lighter pick and down three shades for the darker pick.

Pick two colors that will go well together. Be sure there is enough contrast but not too much between them. You want them to look good enough to be put on the same wall, even though you likely won't do that. Let your trim be the third choice, which you will choose to paint either a shade of white or shade of wood.

Pick two colors that look good together for all the walls and one color you use only in accessorizing that will make a pop of color.

But, how do you even choose just those few colors? Next on the agenda is to ask those hard questions of yourself. The first one is easy however.

What colors do you know you don't like? Just avoid those.

Do you enjoy being outdoors? Then consider whether you would like mountains, forests in a lush valley, or beaches better.

Do you enjoy being indoors? What is your favorite area of the home?

What time of year is your favorite. Do you prefer winter, summer, fall or spring?

For question #2, if you like mountains, you are probably drawn to earthy colors of rock, hills, orange-red clays, blues, purples. Forests in a lush valley would mean you are drawn to thriving greens and darker blues. Oceans bring to mind mixes of blues and greens and reds and oranges and yellows of sunsets, the peaches of sea animals, the off whites of sand and weathered, dry wood.

In Question #3, thinking about your home and what your favorite room is will give you insight into what type of activity level you prefer.

Do you enjoy most your corner by the fireplace where you can read a good book? Or maybe your living room where you watch a movie or play on the computer. Or perhaps you enjoy most your exercise area where you walk your treadmill and have your home office.

If you're the kind of person who has the patience and loves to sit and read, you will probably be the kind of person who also would rather take a nice, hot bath than a quick shower and shave. The person who enjoys a quick shower, is drawn toward more activity and would be better

• See PAINTING page 22

• Spiritually Speaking •

Randy Lucas
Highlands United Methodist Church

A Prayer For Mother's Day

Today I pray for moms, all moms -
the moms both strong and weak.
I pray today for all the moms.
With simple words, I speak.

For tender tears and softer words -
for boo-boos kissed and cuddled,
the loving arms that sheltered us,
the safe place where we huddled.

And for those broken mothers -
who passed along the pain
of long past hurts they suffered,
soul's wounded, weary, rain.

I pray for children victims
of every human age,
still searching for some healing
on life's confusing stage.

And for the moms outside the womb
with no genetic traces,
who loved without condition
and saw Jesus in our faces.

I pray that God will bless again -
will bless and love and hold
all mothers and all children
with hearts, both pure and bold.

May this be a day of memory,
celebration and thanksgiving,
honoring our sacred dead
and cherishing our living.

Proverbs 3:5 • **Places to Worship** • **John 3:16**

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School:10 a.m., Worship:11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting:7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor
Sundays: School:10 a.m.;Worship:11

CASHIERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Wes Sharpe, Pastor 828-743-5298
Sundays: School at 9:30 Worship 10:30
Wednesday night Dinner and Service 5:30

CHAPEL OF THE SKY
Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999
Sundays: 10 a.m.:Worship
Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011
464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers
9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper in homes

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS
Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470
Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.
Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Jim Kinard
Sundays: School:10 a.m.;Worship:11a.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 School10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Child. Program, 10: 45am: Worship
Wed.: 5pm Dinner ($7 adult, $2 child), 6pm CBC U.

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.

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; Choir 5p; Prayer Mtg 6:15p

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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Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship
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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.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street
Sundays: Worship:11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Dan Robinson
670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)
Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45a., 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; Early-Bird Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols, Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:30 am.
All are welcome.
HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Zane Talley
Sundays: School:10 a.m.; Worship:11, Choir:6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.:7 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH
743-2583 • Independent Bible Church
Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,
4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone – 526-2418
Mass: Thurs. 12:10; Fri. 9am; Sun: 11 a.m.

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.

ST. JUDE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Mass: Thurs. 9am, Fri., 11am; Sun. 9am

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
1448 Highway 107 S., Office: 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood
June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a
Nursery available for Rite II services
Sept 6-Oct 25-Informal Evening Eucharist-5:30 p.m.
Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers
Sunday School:10 am, Worship Service:11 am

• Police & Fire Reports •

Highlands Police entries from March 23. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

March 23

• At 9 a.m., officers received a report of extortion and blackmail using personal videos if money wasn't sent.

April 24

• At 3:27 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 28 near Cook Road.

April 26

• At 1:25 p.m., officers responded to a call for service at a residence on Galax Court about someone entering the house.

April 27

• At 5 p.m., officers responded to a call of larceny and first-degree trespassing at a residence on Big Bearpen where someone took firewood off a porch without permission.

• At 7:05 p.m., officers received a report of a motor vehicle theft from a residence on Chestnut Street. A 2016 Kawasaki Zx800 and helmet were taken.

April 29

• At 11:58 a.m., officers received a report of a simple assault in the post office parking lot of a 65-year-old man.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from April 28.

April 28

• At 4:17 p.m., the dept. embarked on a water rescue that was cancelled en route.

April 29

• At 9:25 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Spring Street.

• At 7:53 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

May 1

• At 3:04 p.m., the dept. investigated the source of smoke on Split Rail Row.

May 2

• At 10:05 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Horse Cove Road.

• At 6:19 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Azalea Lane.

• At 7:20 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree on a power line on Wyanoak Road.

May 4

• At 1:30 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehcile accident on Mirror Lake Road.

• At 11:12 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Bonnie Drive.

• At 7:38 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible vehicle fire on NC 28 south.

May 5

• At 1:59 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD at a residence on Wild Azalea Trial.

...OBITUARIES continued from page 5

home; two sons, John Wayne McCall and his wife Julie of Highlands, NC, and Grover Ray McCall, Jr. "Bodie" and his wife, Lynn of Franklin, NC; a stepson, Timothy Shirley of Franklin, NC; 9 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and three sisters, Elberta Chastain of Walhalla, SC, Edith McDowell of Franklin, NC, and Mavis Jones of Stone Mountain, GA.

In addition to his first wife, Ray was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Cynthia McCall; two brothers, Virgil McCall and Carey McCall; and a sister, Hazel Wright.

A private graveside service was held Friday, May 1, 2020 at the Mt. Moriah Cemetery with the Rev. Gary McDaniels and Rev. Gene Hawkins officiating. Pallbearers were Joe Brooks, Skip Keener, Jerry Arnold, Timothy Shirley, Weldon Keener, and Stephen McCall. Honorary pallbearers were Doyle Wayne McCall and Doyle Calloway.

A public memorial service will be held at a later date when all the health restrictions with the Covid 19 are over. Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the McCall family.

Robert (Bob/Bo) Merrill Sweeny

Robert (Bob/Bo) Merrill Sweeny, 71, unexpectedly passed away on April 27 in Portugal where he had recently moved. Born in Lenox, MA, Bob received his BFA in photography from the Rhode Island School of Design. During his lifetime he lived and worked in various scenic places (one of which was Highlands) where he spent his career photographing, drawing and painting architectural elements of places often gone unnoticed. Always one for travel and adventure, Bob recently relocated from San Miguel, Mexico to Portugal where he planned to spend his remaining years. He was a talented artist, a loyal friend and a loving son and brother. He will be greatly missed.

Shannon Paige Sticka

Shannon Paige Sticka, 50, of Highlands, NC, passed away Monday, April 4, 2020. She was born July 29, 1969 in Denver, Colorado to Dale A. Sticka and the late, Jane Lea Norman Sticka. Shannon was an avid lover of animals, especially her dog "Chiquita," she loved being outdoors, skiing, hiking and enjoyed coloring and painting. She attended the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands.

Shannon is survived by her father, Dale Sticka of Highlands, NC and her dog "Chiquita." She is preceded in death by her mother Jane Lea Norman Sticka.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at a later date.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Sticka family. Online condolences can be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

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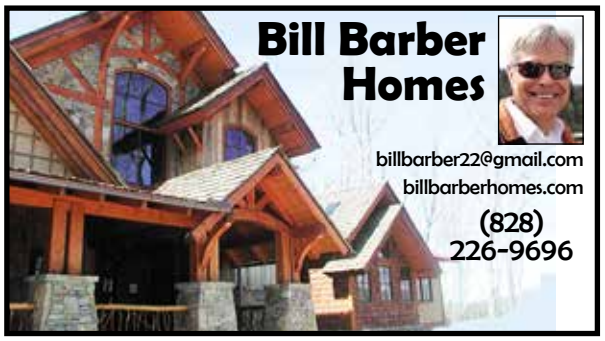

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... INVESTING continued from page 9

one they come into contact within our community (or the world) the same way. You know, the old 'Do unto others' thing. If we treat them as outsiders, like they're infected with anything, we should expect them to treat us the same way. The wearing of masks is completely voluntary, but it makes sense, even if it's to keep ourselves from touching our faces the-millions-of-times-every-day-we-never-knew-we-did.

The next 7-8 weeks will be the beginning of "the tale-to-tell." Unfortunately, for this virus, since it's a never-been-seen-before-not-the-common-cold-or-flu, type bug, hindsight is the best foresight for the next time. If you're not too dizzy after that last statement, grab your Magic-8 ball, because I hear crystal balls are on backorder along with toilet paper. The new normal. I can't wait.

• Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are owners/brokers of Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals at 401 N. Fifth Street in Highlands. Call or come by, and at a safe distance, we can discuss your real estate needs. Highlandsiscalling.com

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WE'RE READY TO OPEN AND HIRING! The Ugly Dog Pub and The High Dive in Highlands are looking for cooks who are ready to get back to work. The Dive-In food cart at The High Dive is a great opportunity for someone to show what they can do. Must be motivated, hardworking, and able to work nights and weekends. To apply, email bark@theuglydogpub.com or call 828-526-8364. (5/14)

FULL-TIME Security Guard position in Highlands. Please call 706-985-5526 for inquiries (4/30)

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT IN HIGHLANDS FALLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Maintenance Department wanted. Please Call 828-526-2203 or 828-200-9763. (st. 4/23)

PART-TIME MARKETING ADMINISTRATIVE AND PRINT PRODUCTION POSITION – 25 hours per week Marketing administrative and production assistant needed to oversee invoice coding and tracking and bookkeeping; manage in-house print production and inventory of all marketing collateral and external print ordering and vendor relationships; distribute collateral around Old Edwards properties and in town; lay out banquet menu cards for the special events department; and other administrative duties. Skill requirements include Excel proficiency; Microsoft Word and Outlook, knowledge of print production and print industry terminology, print-ready specs, paper types, color processes; experience in hands-on print production of materials such as brochures and newsletters, some experience in InDesign. More extensive experience in layout and design a plus and could be considered for a full-time position. Must be a stickler for high quality and details, work extremely well as part of a close-knit team and bring a consistently positive attitude, trustworthiness and integrity. References required. Apply online at www.oldedwardsinn.com

ALLISON DIANE CLOTHING at the corner of Fourth and Main is looking for part time help..Please stop by or call at (828)526-5404 (st. 3/19)

JOIN OUR TEAM!! Nectar Juice Bar (located inside Whole Life Market) is now hiring! Are you looking for a fun, healthy-minded individual looking for full-time, year-round work? Experience is not necessary, but kitchen or barista skills a plus. Competitive pay! Apply at Whole Life Market, 680 N. 4th St., Highlands.

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...PAINTING continued from page 17

suited to try brighter paint colors while the other would be better off picking from the softer colors.

The times of year in the last question bring to mind the white of snow, the wet dark woods, and the dark greens and reds of the holidays. Fall, the burnt oranges, golds, yellows, and rich browns.

Envisioning these favorite things of yours will tell you what colors you are drawn too. With this method, you can come closer and closer to narrowing down your choices. Once you have your choices narrowed down, then it's time to get a bucket or two of paint and give it a try.

Your best method of trying out the colors is to take a blank wall in the space and paint a large area with the first color and the darker color just below it to see if they look good in the space.

Keep going, you should find something pretty quickly! Just be true to the feeling you want to achieve for your bathroom and stick to the choices that would make you happy in the space. When its time, don't hesitate to call an interior painting contractor because they can help you along the way!

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