

Sidewalks were a big topic at the Planning Board meeting

The June Planning Board meeting was short; mostly cleaning up verbiage in the Unified Development Code, until Chairman Brad Armstrong invited the public to participate. Since "Review of the Draft Community Plan" was on the agenda, citizens came to hear the Planning Board's take on the Plan. Stewart Company's work is near

• See SIDEWALKS page 20

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A crane hoists 4,500 lbs. of bronze bells onto the spire of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation at 5th and Main streets. — Photo by Brian O'Shea

Bronze bells are positioned at church

By Brian O'Shea
Plateau Daily News

It was quite a spectacle for onlookers who happened to see over two tons of cast bronze bells hoisted 40 feet into the air at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands on June 16. The four new bells weigh 4,500 pounds with the largest over 1,000 pounds and are part of a

• See BELLS page 24



Mayor Taylor addressed the crowd during Monday's pickleball court ribbon cutting at the Highlands Rec Park. — Photo by Brian O'Shea

New pickleball courts are met with enthusiasm

"I am amazed at the turnout for pickleball," said Mayor Pat Taylor at the official ribbon cutting of the new court system on Monday.

"Our Town Manager Josh Ward and Recreation Director Lester Norris told the board of the need to convert a little-used set of tennis courts to the pickleball court and the rest was history."

The money needed to make the conversion was put into the FY '21-'22 budget so work could begin in time for this season.

"This goes to show that the town and the Rec Dept. are open to the changing needs of its citizens," said Taylor.

The Rec Park now boasts a covered year-round pool, tennis courts, nine pickleball courts — three inside and six outside — and at skateboard park.

According to Norris, the final cost to build the six pickleball courts was \$123,580.69. This

• See PICKLEBALL page 27

Highlands

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

What it means to pursue happiness in Highlands

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," is in the preamble of the Declaration of Independence. That great document is the cornerstone of our celebration on Sunday.

The pursuit of happiness was a radical concept back in 1776. People have the right to pursue being happy? This notion of the pursuit of happiness was an individual freedom that was for everyone. It wasn't a guarantee, but everyone had, and has the right to pursue, follow and strive for what makes them happy.

As the Declaration of Independence asserts, laws and governments are to make sure one person's pursuit of happiness doesn't deny or impinge on another individual to do the same. Our personal desires for happiness and fulfillment cannot go against the constitutional protections that the government established following the American revolution.

Therefore, the pursuit of personal happiness becomes a balancing act between the public good and the rights of the individual.



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

I think this pursuit of happiness vision that Jefferson and the founders included in the Declaration of Independence has been a wellspring for personal creativity, that inspirational spark, that so many have embraced which has made this a great nation. It's the cornerstone of "American Knowhow," and the "Can do" spirit.

With the COVID pandemic we have encountered many days where this pursuit of happiness seemed to be a distant goal, but it was a goal that we all longed to get back to embracing.

I felt this renewed sense of happiness last Sunday when Sallie and I attended the kick-off of the 40th Anniversary of the Highlands Cashiers Chamber Music Festival. It was held at the Bascom Visual Arts Center where the previous paintings for the festival brochures were on display.

On the patio of the Bascom, the musicians performed Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition.

The music they played was moving, and I could see the creative glow and joy on the musicians' faces. They were happy to be back playing live music before an audience. All around me I felt a sense of joy and happiness. The creative director of the festival, Will Ransom, set the stage with an inspiring recount of the creation of the chamber music festival. He ended with an enthusiastic description of what we were about to hear.

I sat in the audience taking in the whole ambiance of this wonderful community venue and the commitment folks have had to bring the fine arts to Highlands. Simply put, moments like this make us happy to be alive. They trigger that creative and aesthetic spark that is within us all.





Happily celebrating the Fourth of July is a national holiday that Highlands embraces. It captures a great spirit. Whether it be in arts, cultural, or spiritual endeavors, or just being immersed in the natural beauty of the plateau, we are here in pursuit of our personal happiness. Happiness permeates throughout the community; it is contagious.

I hope everyone will have a happy and safe Fourth of July. See you at the fireworks.

• HIC'S VIEW •



• WEATHER •

Thu, 1-Jul	Fri, 2-Jul	Sat, 3-Jul	Sun, 4-Jul
			
73°F 63°F	70°F 54°F	73°F 53°F	74°F 52°F
A t-storm around in the p.m.	Cloudy, a shower and t-storm	Partly sunny and nice	Mostly sunny and pleasant
RealFeel® High: 82° Low: 67°	RealFeel® High: 74° Low: 60°	RealFeel® High: 82° Low: 62°	RealFeel® High: 82° Low: 62°

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Highlands Newspaper

www.highlandsinfo.com

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Digital Media/Circulation - Jim Lewicki

Locally owned and operated by

Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at

www.HighlandsInfo.com

265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703,

Highlands, N.C., 28•• 741

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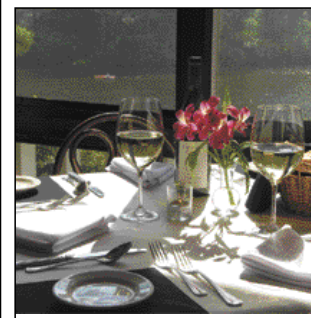
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• OBITUARY •

Henry Harrison Reese



ex-wife and mother to his first two children Louise Prince Cadanas and a grandson Samuel Cole Reese.

Henry is survived by the love of his life and mother to his third child Sandy Craig of Walhalla, SC, 3 children; Selena M. Kempton of Mountain Rest, SC, Aaron Reese and wife Justyne of Clayton, GA, Matthew Reese of Walhalla, SC, three Step-children; Travis Watkins and wife Joanie of Walhalla, SC, Shaun Watkins and wife Amanda of Walhalla, SC,

Ethan Watkins and wife Shelbi of Walhalla, SC, five grandchildren; Jason McMahan of Franklin, NC, Michael McMahan and significant other Julia Hixon of Franklin, NC, Amber Reese of Wilmington, NC, Trevor Reese of Clayton, GA, Jayden Kempton of Franklin, NC, eight step-grandchildren; Trey Gerrells of Clayton, GA, Thomas Watkins and significant other Aubrey Hawkins of

Walhalla, SC, Jacob Watkins and fiancé Deanna Shephard of Walhalla, SC, Lilee Watkins of Walhalla, SC, Austin Watkins of Walhalla, SC, Isaac Watkins of Walhalla, SC, Sawyer Watkins of Walhalla, SC and Emmalynn Watkins of Walhalla, SC, three great-grandchildren; Bryce Kaiser of Michigan, Lily McMahan of Franklin, NC, Owen McMahan of Franklin, NC, and two step- great grandchildren; Madison Rogers of Franklin, NC and Thomas Jay Watkins of Walhalla, SC, two brothers William "Bill" Reese and wife Gail of Highlands NC and Larry "Louch" Reese and significant other Karen Forrester of Virginia and lots of nephews and nieces.

The family will hold a Celebration of Life on August 6, 2021 at 11 am at Maranatha Church 240 Keowee School Road Seneca, SC with Pastor Shaun Watkins officiating. Once the church service is complete the family wishes to extend an invitation to take Henry on his last ride up Hwy 28 from Seneca, SC into Highlands, NC to the Highlands Memorial Park where at 2:30pm he will be given his final salute.



Highlands Community Plan
DRAFT PLAN
VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING
July 1st, 6-7:00 PM
Go to: www.highlandsc.org
Click on the Highlands Community Plan

• LETTERS •

Don't pave Upper Lake Road

Dear Editor,

I live on Upper Lake Road. Unpaved it's a racetrack. Paved will make it Grand Prix ready.

Please reconsider this danger!

Louise Wood Royal
Highlands

Gatlinburg vs. Highlands

Dear Editor,

In the June 24 "Investing at 4,118 Ft." column, Pat Gleeson made the astounding statement, in trying to differentiate Highlands from Gatlinburg, that "What we lack in donut shops, we make up for with fresh beignets and croissants."

En garde, Monsieur Gleeson (I assume your contributor is French). All the beignets and croissants in tout le monde would not make up for Highlands's lack of a reliable, all-day source of fried American goodness.

"Non," not even if The Bascom were stuffed with Poussins and Monets, and every lecturer at this season's CLE had the Prix Goncourt.

Stuart Ferguson
Highlands

Henry Harrison Reese of Clayton, GA passed away on June 17, 2021 at the age of 74, in Seneca, SC surrounded by his family. His battle with serious medical issues throughout his life showed his courage in facing life challenges with a smile. Despite the pain, Henry came out a hero and stayed strong until the end. Henry was a Vietnam veteran and very proud of his service to this country. He served in Vietnam in the United States Army as a Sergeant E-5, from May 12, 1967 to December 23, 1967.

He was permanently retired in 1970 by reason of physical disability after spending several years at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC from injuries due to the War. Henry was awarded the Air Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device 1960, Combat Infantryman Badge, Sharpshooter Rifle M-14, Marksman Rifle M-16 and a Purple Heart.

Henry loved the outdoors and loved animals of all kinds. He was an avid hunter, beagle lover, and fisherman. He also loved auctions, flea markets and was an avid collector of everything. He enjoyed racing, he was a Jimmy Johnson fanatic, and he was a firm believer that there was two sides to every story "the truth and his side." But by far out of all of his hobbies he loved his family with everything he was. Family meant the most to him his whole life. Family time included camping, boat rides on the pontoon, motorcycle rides, dirt track racing, horseback riding, tractor rides on his farm and the list could go on.

Henry was preceded in death by his father William "Bob Hoss" Reese, his mother Nona Poindexter Reese, 2 older brothers Thomas "Greasy" Reese and George "Spud" Reese, his



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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Energy talk at Rotary



From left: Zach Claxton, Jeff Watts and Tay Bronaugh..

At the Rotary Club of Highlands meeting on June 22, 2021, Rotarian Tay Bronaugh introduced Jeff Watts, who gave a virtual presentation titled "Energy Today & Tomorrow."

Feasts

"Zukerman Trio @ Freesia Ridge"

Monday, July 5th – 7 PM

\$150/person - 16 Places

Special Guests: Pinchas Zukerman, Amanda
Forsyth, George Li

Hosts: Judy & Louis Freeman

"Bastille Celebration"

Thursday, July 15th – 6:30 PM

\$125/person - 10 Places

Special Guests: Luke Fleming,
Amy Schwartz Moretti
Hosts: Olivia & Bob Holt,
Kathleen & Ray Michaels

"Virtuoso Pianist"

Sunday, July 25th – 7 PM

\$125/person - 15 Places

Special Guest: Michael Gurt
Hosts: Cathy & Mike Crosby



"Bailey Times Two"

Saturday, July 31st – 7:15 PM

\$125/person - 12 Places

Zuill and Allison Bailey
Hosts: Martha & Al Pearson

"Dynamic Duo: David and Sara"

Friday, August 6th – 12 Noon Brunch

\$100/person - 16 Places

Special Guests: David Coucheron,
Sara Sant'Ambrogio
Hosts: David & Jill Krischer

Salons

"Yo Yo Ma of the Harp" Thursday, July

July 22nd – 6 PM

\$75/person - 25 Places

Special Performing Guest: Bridget Kibbey
Hosts: Kay Kramer & Frank Cohen

"Rhapsody in Blue"

Tuesday, July 27th – 6 PM

\$75/person - 35 Places

Special Performing Guest – William Ransom
Hosts: Teri Dolci, Sibyl Fishburn, Sam Hollis
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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

There's a new bank coming to town!



Last Thursday Highlands Banking Company held a capital campaign kick-off at Highlands Country Club's Hudson House. The importance of having a local bank led by local people in Highlands was stressed as was the historical fact that local banks provide a good return for investors. Proposed leadership includes Robby Robbers, Tony Potts, Susan Gibbs and Deanna Mote. Proposed Board of Directors include Ted Gammill, Jimmy Garner, Jim Tate, Jeffery Adams, Melissa Delany and Anita Lupoli. Highlands Banking Company is offering to the public a minimum of 1,380,000 shares (max: 1,480,000 shares) of its common stock at \$10 per share to capitalize the new bank (proposed.) To receive a copy of the Offering Circular, contact Tony Potts at 828-526-0300 or tpotts@highlands.bank or Lee Bradley at 770-310-9574, lbradley@communitybankcapital.com.

— Photo by Kim Lewicki

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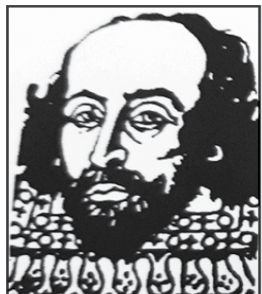
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• INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

2023

It is barely past the first half of 2021, and I'm looking at the 2023 calendar? Whoa... slow down, you may say. Live in the moment. And you are right. Totally. Almost.

As far as real estate investments go, 2023 could be an important year, and it is the kind of important you do not want to let slip up on you. Here are a few things to look forward to:

- 2023 – Macon County tax revaluation. Why it may be important: In 2019, the last time the property taxes were revaluated, the tax office was quoted, "The market for each house is different depending on the location. Properties will not increase the same percentage county wide. Location is still a big factor." Whether the same will hold true for the 2023 revaluation remains to be seen. In 2019, Highlands Township made up 46% of the tax base. Based on prior years, revaluation may be completed by December 2022, and after a period of time for appeals, the tax bills are sent to the property owner in August and are due by the end of the year. This is probably where I should mention that I am not a tax expert in any shape or form. The Macon County website has information and links to further your knowledge on these matters. The current tax rate is .00349. In 2015, the tax rate was .00279.



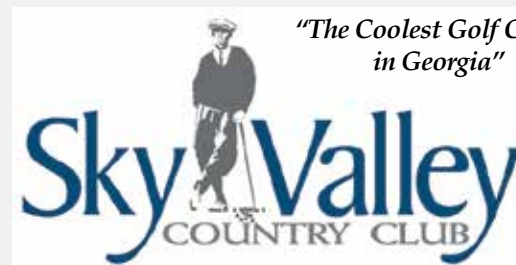
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- 2023 – the Federal Reserve may be upping the interest rate. Why it may be important: We have been enjoying ultra-low interest rates for a while now. What goes down, must go up? In our topsy-turvy world, that may be happening in 2023. In the 1970s, the rates went from 7% to 9%. And then up to 16% in the 1980s, remember those days? We knew when the rates dropped so low that it could not last forever. If you are considering refinancing or buying a home using a mortgage, now may be the time to act.

- Capital gains. You can get some tax relief if you live in your primary residence for at least two of the last five years before selling. The years do not have to be consecutive, but the home must be your primary home. Most maintenance expenses are deductible, but not everything. A capital improvement increases the value of the house and extends its useful life.

So, should you rush and buy quickly? Not necessarily. Yes, there is still time to buy a house, or a lot on which to build before the new tax values are posted. With that property, you can do many things. Live in it, improve it with additional rooms or repurposing rooms that are already there (based on the county codes, of course.) You

• See **INVESTING** page 27



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This beautiful 3BD/2BA log cabin on the Atlanta side of Highlands on buck knob road in scaly mountain is the perfect hideaway with almost 10 acres of land and a great view to the west. The covered porch across the entire back of the log cabin is a great place to enjoy the long-range mountain views. The log cabin is furnished with a few exceptions. Offered at \$530,000. mls #95272



Lovely Old Orchard estate Over 9 acres with spectacular mountain views, this house is in move in condition, with 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths. Fully renovated kitchen with dining area and cathedral living room with fireplace. Immaculate grounds. Do not miss this one if you want privacy and usable yard. Offered at \$1,875,000. mls #94043



Jack Wilcox Road on Billy Cabin Mountain. This offering is truly "The Sweet Spot" on the Highlands Plateau. Close to Main Street above Mirror and Randall Lakes, these 19 +/- acres rest upon one of Highlands most coveted mountain top locations. A well known generational property, the land was lovingly home-steaded and farmed centuries ago. Long range views from a gentle ascent afford numerous private home sites and a lovely pasture and barn rest at the base. Build your dream home here on Billy Cabin or subdivide to your liking. First time offering! Asking \$1,120,000. MLS #85372



23.06+/- acres with a 1 BR 1 BA home that was started in 1972 and completed around 1995, additional 3 BR 1 BA farmhouse on the property built in early 1900's. Property has been in the Cash family since 1930. Great views. Property adjoins USFS lands. Offered at \$850,000. mls #95443



Perched upon a knoll, and close to town is the 2 bedroom 2 bath plus a loft home that sleeps 8 comfortably. Living room, kitchen dining that has a main floor bedroom and bath, huge glass porch and grilling deck. one car garage. new concrete driveway, seasonal mountain view. city sewer and power. a great getaway and rental. Offered at \$650,000. mls #96475



Fabulous 6 bedroom 6-1/2 bath log cabin on historic Satulah Mountain. 3 large stone fireplaces including one in the master bedroom. This log home is a rare find in the town of Highlands on 2 acres of land. Old heart pine, wormy chestnut and charm throughout from the gourmet kitchen to the large great room with dining area and adjoining sun room that all open out to the deck with a fabulous view to the west for those wonderful sunsets. The owners have added a large 2 car garage. Offered at \$2,900,000. mls #94319



Apple Mountain Shoppes is investment property that doesn't fade away in these volatile times. Great high traffic location on Highway 64 near all of the Country Clubs and the Briar Patch Shop is this great complex for you to own and operate or just rent out for a steady income. Offered at \$1,199,000. mls #92678



Located in HFCC, this lovely home was built for the architect for his family by Schmitt Building contractors, it is very good quality, with great space and well thought out rooms. Craftsman style with loads of stone and glass to bring the outside in, and a great screen porch with fireplace and open deck to get to the fresh mountain air. Great room features Heart pine floors and 2 stone fireplaces. Custom kitchen with lp cooktop and huge island workspace. Bar, powder room, and master suite complete with gas fireplace. Upper level kids playroom, 2 bedrooms with an adjoining bath. Lower level has Laundry, huge storage room that doubles as a kennel. Family room with pool table, sitting room with fireplace. 2 bedrooms each with ensuite baths. A two car garage and a view of Whiteside mountain round out this wonderful package. Offered at \$1,895,000. mls #95669



New home construction. Located truly walk to town, this 2 bedroom 2 bath home on a 1/2 acre lot is almost dead flat. Allowances will be given for finishes. Offered at \$895,000. mls #96476



Turn of the Century 480 Winfield Farm has 4.7 acres and borders USFS land. View, frog pond, awesome perennials, fenced garden plot, fire-pit, porches, room for yard games, dogs, kids, horses? Main house has 3+BR/2.5Bath with 1 car attached garage, Stone wood burning fireplace, wood floors and large master suite on Main. Guest house is perfectly placed on property and has 1 BR/1 Bath with 2 car garage, a canning basement with keeping room. All has been renovated, updated, and made neat as a pin. Offered at \$679,000. mls #94617



5 Bedroom 5 bath home located at Highlands Country Club. Usable lot with lovely landscaping. Seller has golf membership. 45 KW Generator. Sophisticated irrigation system which allows full property irrigation and a 19 station window and deck flower box irrigation drip system. Do not miss seeing this one! Offered at \$1,495,000. mls #96652



The view will knock you over with 4 building sites with the same view. It has a very nice 2 bedroom modular home on one lot and a rustic cabin. This property joins National Forest with views of GA, SC and NC. Roads are cut to each lot and gates are in place. A deep well and spring and underground power and phone lines are in place. Offered at \$795,000. mls #81838.

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

NOTICE

• The Church in the Wildwood, Horsecove Road, will not be holding June services. Please check papers and radio for possible July opening. Questions? 1-828-506-0125 and leave message.

Ongoing

• A 20-year Highlands tradition is coming back to life! On Sunday, July 4, the Church in the Wildwood, Horsecove Road, will open its doors for its Sunday evening hymn sing at 7pm with Tillie Arwood at the piano. Anyone entering the church should have had the Covid 19 vaccine, have a natural immunity or wear a mask. Non-vaccinated guests may sit on the porch (limited seating). Hymn singing will take place each Sunday night from 7-8 pm until Memorial Day. Call Mary Bean if questions at 1-828-506-0125.

• Movies at Highlands Playhouse Friday-Sunday. Fri. & Sat., 4 &

7 p.m., Sun. 1 & 4 p.m. Tickets are \$12.

• American Legion 370 meets every 3rd Saturday at 10a at the Highlands United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall. All veterans are welcome.

• The Bookworm at 555 Main Street is now open Thursday-Saturday 11a to 3p. For more information, call 828-526-3031.

• Mountain Findings Thrift Store at 432 Spruce Street is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10a to 1p.

• 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. In person meetings have resumed and are held at 12 Noon Wednesday And Friday at 1st Presbyterian Church Library, 471 Main St., Highlands. On line meeting information can be found @ www.aawnc80.org or to speak with a

member of A.A. call (828) 349-4357.

Every Thursday

• Free ESL classes at the Presbyterian Church 5:30-6:30 p.m. There is no registration required; students can just show up and participate. Set at a time that is convenient for students to attend after work, TL&LC also provides snacks for this kid-friendly event. The classes are for all ages, and anyone who wishes to learn English is encouraged to participate. For any questions, visit www.maconncliteracy.org, call (828) 526 - 0863 or email info@maconncliteracy.org

Every Saturday

• Highlands Marketplace in K-H Park on Pine Street. 8a to 12:30p.

Through Sat. July 10

• At The Summer House, 4th of July sale with savings throughout the store.

Thurs. - Sat., July 1-3

• At ACP Home Interiors, 3rd Anniversary Sale 11a to 5p.

Thurs., July 1

• Highlands Community Plan Virtual Public Meeting 6-7p.m. Go to www.highlandscnc.com to join.

Fri.-Sun. July 2-4

• Movie at The Playhouse, is Queen Bees, Fri. and Sat., 4 & 7p and Sunday at 1 & 4p.

Fri., July 2

• At the Highlands Historic Village at 524 N. 4th Street, GRAND OPENING at 11 a.m. Featuring Bobby Jones exhibit, native plant gardens, Highlands History panels and a military uniform exhibit.

Sat., July 3

• At Potpourri Eyewear on Main Street a Vuarnet Trunk Show 11a to 5p.

Wed., July 7

• The Interlude Concert Series will get underway at 2pm on Wednesday, July 7 with a special presentation entitled "Musical Fireworks" featuring Charae Krueger, Cellist; Alice Hong, Violinist;

and William Ransom, Pianist. Co-sponsored by the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and First Presbyterian Church, the concert will take place at the Presbyterian Church. There is no admission charge for the Interlude concerts, which constitute a ministry in music to the community. Dress is casual- come as you are. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

Thurs., July 8

• Macon County EDC meeting will be held at the Highlands Community Building Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

• First Presbyterian Church of Highlands will host the Highlands-Cashiers Music Festival's FREE Family Concert and Ice Cream Social at 3 p.m., Thursday. This is a free family concert and will feature

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July 2nd

6 - 8:30pm

Live Music- Foxfire Boys Town Square

July 3rd

9 - 11am

Boy Scout's Water Rocket Launch Town Ballfield

11am - 12pm

Traditional Field Games Town Ballfield

11am - 2pm

Hot Dog Lunch Town Ballfield

12pm - 1pm

Helicopter Landing (Mamma and Med Vac Team) Town Ballfield

2pm

Rotary Duck Derby Mill Creek

6 - 8:30pm

Live Music- Blaze the City Kelsey Hutchinson Park

July 4th

6 - 8:30pm

Live Music- Moon Dance Kelsey Hutchinson Park

After Sunset

Fireworks!

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Peter & the Wolf and Ferdinand the Bull, with violinist Alice Hong, pianists Julie Coucheron and William Ransom, and narrator Lois Reitzes. Kilwin's Chocolate & Ice Cream will be providing the ice cream, and the Highlands Community Child Development Center is co-sponsoring. For information on these concerts, and information and tickets for the performances and events that comprise the remainder of the Festival's 2021 season, visit h-cmusicfestival.org or call (828) 526-9060.

Fri., July 9

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Southern Highlands

Sat., July 10

• At Acorns on S. 4th Street, Highlands, Theresa Forman Trunk Show, 10a to 5p. As a child, Theresa Forman had a passion for art and the process of creating something beautiful. However, it was not until later in life that she was able to pursue fine art and painting. Theresa most enjoys painting inspiration from life where she can observe both the colors and subtle nuances in the landscape or in a still life. Working primarily in oils, she uses the plein air studies and photographic references to produce studio pieces that reveal the harmony found in nature. For more info: call (828) 787-1877.

• Saturdays on Pine. 6-8:30p. Kurt Thomas Band

Fri., July 16

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Johnny Webb

Sat., July 17

• At Acorns on S. 4th Street, Highlands, Carol Misner Trunk Show, 10a to 5p. There is no mistaking Carol Misner's botanical paintings. Each is her unique interpretation of flora, in monochromatic tones, reflecting the simple beauty, gracefulness and fragility of the botanical it portrays. Ms. Misner so delicately layers her acrylics to achieve a diaphanous, gossamer quality that it has been said her works resemble x-rays in watercolor. The majority of Ms. Misner's subjects come from the beautiful flora she finds in her community and in her travels. For more info: call (828) 787-1877.

• Saturdays on Pine. 6-8:30p. Shane Meade

Wed. - Sat. July 21-24

• Gem Show at Jannie Bean Fine Custom Jewelry at 152 S. 2nd Street, Highlands. Wednesday Kick Off 5-8p with food and beverages. Thurs.-Sat. 9a-4p. For more information, call 828-526-5858

Sat., July 21

• At Acorns on S. 4th Street, Highlands, Phillip Curcuro Trunk Show 10a to 5p. Philip Curcuro, artist and owner of Upland Nature Lab, focuses on celebrating natural specimens by dramatizing objects through isolation, light, and backdrop. All specimens are found in the southern Appalachian Mountains, and photographed at a home studio in Highlands, NC. For more info: call (828) 787-1877.

Fri.-Sun., July 23-25

• At Acorns on S. 4th Street, Highlands, Monica Rich Kosann Trunk Show 10a to 5p. Monica Rich Kosann's collection of 18k gold and sterling silver fine jewelry is rooted in the idea that every woman has a story to tell. Call (828) 787-1877.

Fri., July 23

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Sycamore Flats

Sat., July 24

• Saturdays on Pine. 6-8:30p. Silly Ridge Roundup

Thurs., July 29

• At OEI's The Farm, Laurent-Perrier Champagne Dinner at The Farm at Old Edwards, 6:30p cocktails, 7p dinner. Old Ed-

wards Inn and Spa welcomes Champagne Laurent-Perrier's Executive Vice President of Sales Camille Cox back to the mountains for a summertime soiree and Champagne dinner at The Farm on Thursday evening. The Midsummer Night's Dream pink and white themed evening will include an array of fine Champagne poured from special large format bottles alongside a menu featuring the height of season produce from the Garden at Old Edwards and the ever delightful talents of Chef Chris Huerta and his team. \$185 per person including Champagne throughout the evening. Plus tax and gratuity. Limited seating. Book online today. <https://www.olderdwardshospitality.com/calendar-of-events/food-dining/champagnedinner>. Event is for guests 21 and older.

HCCMF launches 40th season with The Pinchas Zukerman Trio

Drawing upon its characteristic aplomb and demonstrating the verve that simply couldn't exist in last year's Covid-cancelled summer, the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival launches its 40th season with a concert by The Pinchas Zukerman Trio at 5 P.M. Monday, July 5, at the new Village Green Commons in Cashiers.

The Pinchas Zukerman Trio – composed of Violinist Pinchas Zukerman; Cellist Amanda Forsyth; and Pianist George Li – will perform Shostakovich's Trio in E Minor, and Tchaikovsky's Trio in A Minor.

This opening gala concert sets the stage for the remainder of the 2021 season – audiences will be treated to internationally-recognized musicians performing compositions that have been cherished for centuries.

Highlands concerts will be staged Fridays at 6 P.M. and Sundays at 5 P.M. at the Highlands Performing Arts Center at 507 Chestnut Street.

Cashiers performances will be staged Saturdays and Mondays at 5 P.M. at the Village Green Commons on Frank Allen Road.

The exuberance demonstrated at the opening concert will be on full display at Martinis & Mozart, set for 5:30 P.M. on July 13th at The Orchard House at Old Edwards Farm in Highlands.

This event, in collaboration with Old Edwards Inn & Spa, is a special concert featuring the Rasa String Quartet.

Reservations are required and limited – call (828) 526-9060. In fact, it's a good idea to reserve your seating for all of the 2021 performances, though tickets for these will be available at the door.

Masks will not be required for concert attendees who provide, at the door, proof of vaccination for Covid 19. Anyone who cannot provide such proof will be required to wear a mask. Masks will be available at the door for anyone who did not bring one. Vaccinated attendees who prefer to wear a mask are welcome to do so.

For a full listing of performances and artists and special events, visit h-cmusicfestival.org

2021 Upcoming Events at the Center for Life Enrichment

June Schedule

- **Waterloo 1815: A Week in Belgium the Changed the World (Maybe)**
Tuesday, July 6 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Max Owre of UNC Chapel Hill
- **The Military Mind of Charles DeGaulle**
Wednesday, July 7 Time: 10-12 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Max Owre of UNC Chapel Hill
- **Supreme Court Updates**
Thursday, June 24 Time: 9-11 Cost: \$30/40
Presenter: Todd Collins of WCU
- **The Latest on the Chaos in the Middle East Friday,**
June 25 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Hrair Balian of the Carter Center
- **A History of Lighthouses with a Focus on the Georgia Coast**
Friday, July 9 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: William Rawlings
- **Felix Mendelssohn: Prodigy and Disciple of J.S. Bach**
Saturday, July 10 Time: 10-12 Cost: \$25/\$35
Presenter: Stephen Crist
- **Lame Duck Presidents**
Monday, July 12 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Daniel Franklin
- **D-Day in Normandy**
Tuesday, July 13 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Rod Andrew of Clemson University
- **Cyber Security, Intellectual Property and China Threat**
Wednesday, July 14 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Alfred Berkeley
- **Corporate Scandals**
Thursday, July 15 Time: 2-4 Cost: \$25/35
Presenter: Stephen Arbogast

Register online at <http://www.clehighlands.com> or call 828-526-8811

Center for Life Enrichment

www.clehighlands.com
828-526-8811
clehighlands@yahoo.com



THE CURIOUS MIND
KNOWS NO BOUNDS

Friday Night Live

OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

Town Square
343 Main St 6pm

JULY 2
Foxfire Boys

JULY 23
Sycamore Flats

JULY 9
Southern Highlands

JULY 30
Byrds & Crows

JULY 16
Johnny Webb Band

Saturdays on Pine

OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

Kelsey - Hutchinson
Founders Park 6pm

JULY 3
Blaze The City

JULY 17
Shane Meade
& The Sound

JULY 4 
Independence Day Concert
Moon Dance

JULY 24
Silly Ridge Roundup

JULY 10
Kurt Thomas Band

JULY 31
The Wobblers



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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

WCU waives tuition for summer students

CULLOWHEE – Western Carolina University will award approximately \$3.775 million in federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III) to students this summer. WCU is allocating the funds immediately to be utilized toward student success initiatives, including waivers for tuition for all eligible undergraduate students enrolled in any summer session term. The waivers do not include fees.

Also included in the allocation is nearly \$407,000 to support the summer 2021 Academic Success Program and Cata-mountain Gap programs. Program costs that are covered include tuition, fees, residential living (housing), and meal plan costs.

“With these funding opportunities, we’re able to continue our commitment to this region while providing accessible and affordable higher education to all students,” said Kelli R. Brown, WCU chancellor. “We understand the many challenges our students experience to obtain an education, even more so during a global pandemic, and we strive to eliminate the financial barriers so that our students are able to achieve their academic and professional goals.”

Eligible students who have already paid their summer tuition will be refunded beginning July 6. If summer tuition was paid by financial aid from a student, private or parent loan, the amount of the general grant will be returned to the lender for debt reduction.

The university is exploring the possibility of offering block grants to eligible students from HEERF III funds early in the fall semester. If students have not already done so, they are encouraged to complete the 2021-2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

WCU is planning a return to normal fall semester with in-person classes, homecoming activities, concerts, Freshman Run, sporting events, Pride of the Mountains Marching Band performances, Family Weekend, and more. The beginning of the fall semester will also mark the grand opening of the new Apodaca Science Building, a state-of-the-art facility to help further prepare students for careers in health sciences, engineering and more. Residential Living is planning a return to full occupancy with common area gathering spots, and all buildings and facilities, including dining operations, the library, and the recreation center plan a return to normal hours and increased capacity.

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OEI Live Concert Series continues

The Orchard Sessions Live Concert series continues on Thursday, July 22 with country music singer-songwriter Kristen Kelly. Settle into a musical evening under heirloom apple trees at The Farm at Old Edwards.

Enjoy Kristen Kelly’s heartfelt songs on at The Farm at Old Edwards. The \$25 ticket includes light bites, and a cash bar is available. The Farm at Old Edwards is at 336 Arnold Road in Highlands. To book online, visit oldeedwardshospitality.com/ORCHARDSESSIONS.



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As the rainforest goes, so are the beans.

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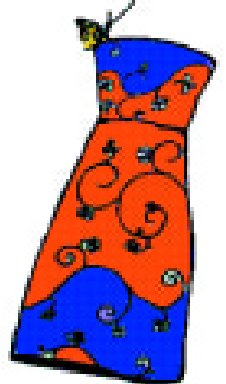
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...SIDEWALKS continued from page 1

the end of Phase 3 (Plan Development) in the 4-Phase continuum.

Two members of the Planning Board are on the Community Plan Steering Committee – Chairman Armstrong and Darren Whatley – so they have read it front to back.

Initially, talk centered around the extension or creation of sidewalks but included discussion about litter on Highlands' roadways and the town allocating money to do things – construct sidewalks for in-

stance “since it has no problem spending money,” which was an assumed reference to the new Fire and Rescue Department complex on US 64 west and Oak Street.

Currently, where the town constructs sidewalks is mostly determined by the Master Sidewalk Plan which was adopted in 2008. With Highlands' growth, Assistant Planning Director Michael Mathis agreed, as did the authors of the Draft Community Plan, that it needs to be updated.

According to the Master Sidewalk Plan,

which the town uses to construct sidewalks as money allows, developers of new construction in the downtown area within the confines of the Master Plan must build a sidewalk. To that end, the proposed Bryson cluster development on 5th Street was mentioned, but Mathis reminded the board that the development isn't part of the Master Sidewalk Plan so the developers aren't required to construct a sidewalk.

Citizen Chip Wilson asked if the Community Plan mentioned or if the town would consider constructing a sidewalk from Poplar Street where it ends, to the entrance to Little Bear Pen off US 64 east.

However, recommendations in the Community Plan include extending The Greenway from Poplar Street along US 64 east to Little Bear Pen – not extending the sidewalk. Mathis took note and said he would mention it to the Stewart Company.

Rick Siegel who lives in Shelby Place off NC 28 south asked if the town or the Plan considered extending a sidewalk from where it ends at Highlands Plaza down to Shelby Place and would the town consider doing that.

Sidewalk extensions on NC 106 from Spring Street to Hummingbird Lane and from The Bascom bridge to Mirror Lake Road were also discussed.

Both those extensions are in the Macon County Transportation Plan which was adopted by all required entities in the county, including Highlands at its May Town Board meeting, but the understanding is that it would take years, possibly decades for those two projects to be funded by the state.

That got everyone asking if NC DOT

would allow the town to do the job.

According to Public Service Director Lamar Nix, since those aren't town roads, the town would need an encroachment permit from NC DOT and be able to fund the projects itself.

“If laying sidewalks was cheap or easy it would have already been done,” he said “I estimated the one down NC 106 a few years ago. It was a million dollars then. I have not estimated the other two.”

Folks asked if federal infrastructure money could help fund such projects.

Currently, USDOT is seeking projects to award under the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America Grant Program (INFRA) to both large and small projects.

For a large project, the INFRA grant must be at least \$25 million. For a small project, the grant must be at least \$5 million.

Overall program guidelines require that at least 25 percent of INFRA funding be for rural projects so it's possible Highlands fits into that category.

INFRA grants may be used to fund a variety of components of an infrastructure project, however, the Department is specifically focused on projects in which the local sponsor is significantly invested and is positioned to proceed rapidly to construction (shovel ready).

Eligible INFRA project costs may include: reconstruction, rehabilitation, acquisition of property (including land related to the project and improvements to the land), environmental mitigation, construction contingencies, equipment acquisition, and

• See SIDEWALKS page 22



Trunk Show
Saturday, July 3
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Highlands Hurricanes suffer first loss of the season

Though out-numbered almost 4 to 1, the Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team did well Thursday, June 24 in Franklin against perennial conference champion Franklin Amateur Swim Team (FAST) even though they lost with a score of 794-533.

FAST scored approximately 6 pts per swimmer while The Hurricanes scored 15 pts per swimmer – outscoring FAST per swimmer.

The Hurricanes brought home 190 ribbons, 54 first-place ones and set 75 personal records (PRs)

Three more Hurricanes were added to the National team headed to the Jr. Olympics in Houston. They were sisters Sophia and Lilliana Jandera Chambless and Mark Gross. That makes nine.

The Hurricanes were led by meet high-scorer Lilliana Jandera Chambless, Timmy McDowell, and Junior Olympian Chase Kenter, all who went undefeated in their five races. Lilliana scored 27 pts and had 3 PRs, both McDowell and Kenter scored 24. McDowell had 3 PRs, Kenter, 1.

Justin Powell also scored 24 pts. and 3 PRs.

Sophia Jandera Chambless, Jr. Olympian Aniah McKim and Jr. Olympic qualifier Mark Gross, Layla Babac and Blake Kenter scored 22 pts. Sophia broke a decades old Mountain Swim League (MSL) record in the 50 butterfly, and 3 team records. Babac broke 1 team record in the 50 free. Sophia and Gross had 3 PRs, Babac 2, Kenter and McKim 2.

Jojo Cohen scored 20 pts with 3 PRs.

Jr. Olympian Maddie Cohen and Corina Dearth scored 19 pts. Cohen had 3 PRs. Dearth 1.

Jr. Olympians Jelehna McKim, and Jack Sumner scored 18 pts. McKim had 1 PR; Sumner 3.

Brother and sister Ian and Bella Batista scored 17 pts. Bella had 2 PRs; Ian 1.

Jasmine Abranyi scored 16 pts. with 3 PRs.

Tate Wilson, Paolo McRae, Max Jestin, and Alex López scored 15 pts. McRae and Jestin had 2 PRs. Wilson had 1 PR.

Emilina Hernández brought home 14 pts. with 2 PRs; Cassie McDowell scored 13 pts. with 3 PRs.

Elias McKim and Vivian Kennedy, scored 12 pts; Jordan Powell scored 10 pts.

Samuel Kolusek, Mamie Pfohl and Jayce Powell scored 9 pts; Luke Highsmith and Bridget Kolusek scored 8 pts.

Emma Denisoff scored 6 pts; Penelope McRae, and Miley Zagal scored 5 pts.

The next meet will be back in Franklin Thursday, July 1 against FAST, Jackson County Swim Team (JCST), and Cherokee County Aquatics Club (CCAC).

The Highlands Hurricanes are a Highlands Recreation Park Team that practices in the evenings at the Highlands Recreation Park Pool. The only requirement to join is that a swimmer must be able to swim 25 yards (1 pool length) unassisted. For more information, please call Head Coach Steve Hott at 828.421.4121.

...SIDEWALKS from page 20

operational improvements directly related to system performance.

It's not clear if sidewalk construction falls into those categories.

Armstrong asked Mathis to also note that Sunset Rock and Nature Center parking need to be addressed as does a more defined sidewalk to those areas.

"That area deserves some attention," he said.

There is a ZOOM meeting about the Highlands Community Plan Thursday, July 1 from 6-7 p.m. Go to the town's website at highlandscnc.org and click on the plan link.

Citizens are encouraged to read the plan so they are aware of all the ideas put forth.

The Planning Board will meet with Stewart Company representatives to go over the proposed plan at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 13 in the Community Building.

The public is welcome.

— Kim Lewicki

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tpotts@highlands.bank

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...BELLS continued from page 1

\$6M renovation in the works at the Church.

The bells were manufactured by The Verdin Company out of Cincinnati and each are tuned to produce a different sound, said the Rev. Bentley Manning, Rector at Church of the Incarnation.

"For centuries, church bells have served the very basic function of calling people to prayer," said Fr. Manning. "Additionally, bells are used to mark occasions like weddings and funerals. It has been said that bells are a sort of 'singing icon,' as they create beautiful harmonic space around the church, just as art and architecture define it visually. In the mind of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 'bells are the voice of the church.'"

Hoisting them into position can be tricky, said Andrew MacColl, Sr. Project Manager at J Davis Construction Inc in charge of the renovations.

"Challenges are traffic control, proper crane lifting height, and verification that other components will fit," said MacColl.

Work began in Nov. 2020, and highlights of the project include increasing the capacity of the main Sanctuary from 220 to 290, installing a door on the Main Street side of the building, adding a spire to the new Main Street entrance to balance out the bell tower on the 5th Street side, creating an option for service overflow into Jacobs Hall with direct line of sight to the Sanctuary instead of viewing on a TV screen, and making improvements to the 5th Street

entrance.

Initial plans were to open the new sanctuary by June 1, but delays have pushed that date back to September.

"Minor delays on this," said MacColl. "It is just a long process with eight different subcontractors to coordinate each installed component."

Fr. Manning said at this stage in the project the new 5th Street entrance is nearly complete, the bells have been installed, the spire will arrive in mid-July, and new stone flooring is being installed in the main sanctuary.

He added that he's grateful the community has been so understanding and patient throughout construction.

"I would like to thank the community again for their grace and forbearance during this project," said Fr. Manning. "Construction can cause many inconveniences but I'm grateful for the encouragement and kind words we have received from so very many in the community."

MacColl said next on the list is installing new stone tiling in the Nave that was shipped overseas from Spain.

"We at JDavis are excited about this project and finishing up this early fall," said MacColl. "It has been quite the challenge to figure out the existing components to this building. There are three different additions here and all were built at different time, so the construction is unique."

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Free Annual Interlude Concert starts Wed., July 7



Clockwise: Charae Kreuger, Cellist; Alice Hong, Violinist; Will Ransom, Pianist.

The Interlude Concert Series will get underway at 2pm on Wednesday, July 7 with a special presentation entitled "Musical Fireworks" featuring Charae Kreuger, Cellist; Alice Hong, Violinist; and William Ransom, Pianist. Co-sponsored by the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and First Presbyterian Church, the concert will take place at the Presbyterian Church.

Covid has caused delays in getting Interlude musicians scheduled for the remainder of the 2021 season, so look for future announcements regarding additional Interlude concerts.

There is no admission charge for the Interlude concerts, which constitute a ministry in music to the community. Dress is casual- come as you are. First Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Let Freedom, Let Liberty Ring!



Likely, the most familiar part of the U. S. Declaration of Independence, reads as follows, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Amazing, there was unanimity among all of the representatives of the thirteen original colonies who endorsed the Declaration. Our beloved country was brought into being with the common understanding that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Creator-God, had baked into the cake, so to speak, as self-evident truths and rights: Equality, Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

In 8th chapter of John’s gospel, Jesus is quoted as saying, “If you abide in my word, you are my disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free... if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.” (31-36, NKJV) Jesus, the Son of God took that occasion to explicate the derivation of “these truths” that the authors of the Declaration found to be, “self-evident.” Equality, Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness find their nexus in God’s word. All of our liberty, every one of our freedom’s rest upon the foundation of he who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life: Christ Jesus, the Word of God. A robust, faith-filled relationship with God’s Word is the very definition of freedom.

Of course, this foundation is what animated many of the settlers who came to America. It was for the sake of religious freedom, for the sake of crafting an entire country upon the truth of God’s word. This foundation undergirds not only the Declaration, but also the U. S. Constitution and nearly all of the documents and correspondence of our formative years. Let freedom, let liberty ring!

How can it be then that we have failed so miserably in terms of equality? Where the voices of many are not heard in the public square. How can it be that we have failed so miserably in terms of life? Where millions of children have been denied their right to life, killed for the ‘right’ of another. How can it be that we have failed so miserably in terms of liberty? Where a declaration has been made recently on the floor of the U. S. House of Representatives that God’s will is of no concern to the proceedings of Congress. How can it be that we have failed so miserably in terms of the pursuit of happiness? Where federal agencies have been weaponized to intimidate law abiding citizens to do so.

The apostle Paul encouraged the citizenry of Galatia

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 27

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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

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

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

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

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Rev. Aryan Williams-Reubel, Pastor 828-743-5298

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Wednesday night Dinner and Service 5:30

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School; 10:30am Worship Service.

Mon. Night Bible Study & Dinner, 6pm, call for details.

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470

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Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

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Testimony Meeting: 5:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wed.

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Pastor Jim Kinard

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Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

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Sun.: 9:30am - Adult Sunday School; Worship Service 10:45am;

10:45am Children’s Program, Youth- 12:15 – 2:30pm Tues:

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Thurs: Men’s Bible Study 7:30-8:30 a.m.

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Rite I, 8a; with choir, 9:30a; with choir, 11a.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

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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

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

Mons: Men’s Prayer Group & Breakfast 8 a.m. Wed: Choir: 6p

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Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

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

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Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

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

June 21

- At 10:55 a.m., officers responded to a two vehicle accident on US 64 west at Sequoyah Point Way.
- At 9:57 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east at Sherwood Forest.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from June 22.

June 22

- At 4:57 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Big View Drive.
- At 5:41 p.m., the dept. was called to Big Pine Lane to investigate the cause of smoke.

June 23

- At 9:23 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on N. 4th. Street.
- At 3:29 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a resi-

dence on Sagee Woods Drive.

June 25

- At 2:10 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Sassafrass Gap Road.

June 26

- At 1:19 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at residence on Arnold Road.

June 27

- At 1:29 p.m., the dept. helped with a search on the Bartram Trail.
- At 9:47 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Morewood Circle.

June 28

- At 10:12 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.
- At 11:26 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on N. 4th. Street.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 26

to “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.” (Galatians 5:1, *ibid.*) In many respects, it seems that through the years we have exchanged one yoke of religious oppression for another. Generally speaking, we have exchanged the God who grants liberty and freedom for shackles of a strawman without morality or divinity, the god of unbelief. The Creator whose “self-evident” truths undergird our “unalienable rights” has been effectively banned from the having a voice in the

proceeding of U. S. government.

The bondage of sin or slavery to the devil, the father of lies, has in many respects blinded 21st century America from attainment of the Declaration’s ideals. Nevertheless, on the occasion of Independence Day 2021, Jesus’ arms are open wide for all who seek to restore true freedom and liberty. A whole-hearted return to the Word and a living relationship with the Creator, will turn our miserable failures into fantastic successes. We can rebuild a free country on that.

...INVESTING continued from page 10

can also sell it before the new values are posted. Why in the world would you want to do that? Some astute buyers are very aware of the quality of work that has gone into a home. If they can buy now, and lock in a low-interest rate, they’re ahead of the game. Bank appraisals may appraise higher based on the condition of the home, but the taxes remain the same. Based on the soaring prices of building materials, it’s somewhat questionable whether the cost basis will be justified.

So, should you rush into selling your home? Not necessarily. Just because there are buyers out there willing to give you your asking price (or more) doesn’t mean you should sell right now. You would think most astute sellers would have thought of everything but guess again. I can’t

tell you how many people call or come by wanting to rent something because their home is selling quicker than they thought it would. If you are living in your primary residence or downsizing to another home after you sell your home, make sure you have somewhere to go!

So, yes, live in the moment, but consider the future when it comes to investing. Your home is probably your largest investment. Now is still a great time to buy a home, whether it is for your primary residence or a second or third home. Sure, there aren’t as many properties on the market right now, but those that are, need buyers. It’s also a good time to consider a refi and stay in the home you love. The money you save may help cover the costs of the additional taxes you may owe in 2023.

...PICKLEBALL continued from page 1

included removing the old fence, the old tennis courts, putting down a new gravel base where needed, a new layer of 2-inch binder asphalt, 1-inch asphalt, two resurfacing coats and two layers of acrylic, six new pickleball nets systems, 3-4 foot divider black-coated chain link fence, and a new black eight-foot coated fence with three gates for a total of \$114,560.69.

The town also spent \$9,020 moving the brick pad and bench, building a retainer wall, leveling and graveling the sitting area and reseeding the area around the courts for a

total of \$123,580.69.

There are 82 people on the pickleball group text; some are year-round some are seasonal.

Pickleballers play Monday-Friday 10a-1p but people usually come earlier and often show up in groups of four or more randomly throughout the day, said Norris.

For more information, call the Rec Park at 828-526-3556.

– Kim Lewicki

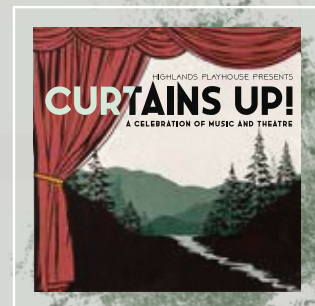


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Hello! I'm Susie Williams, this summer I'll be the Costume Designer for Highlands Playhouse. This is my second year with the Playhouse, and I could not be more excited! I was the Assistant Costume Designer in 2018 for Guys and Dolls and Damn Yankees. That summer, I joined Highlands to create memorable theatrical moments and made some lifetime friends. The community and patrons were so friendly, it truly felt like home! When not in Highlands, I am an Adjunct Instructor of Costume Design for Oklahoma City University and an Art Tech Teaching Artist for the Oklahoma State Department of Education. I have worked professionally for theatres across the US, including Oklahoma, Kansas, Ohio, and Virginia. My work has won awards through the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. I adore telling stories and creating characters through clothing. I am looking forward to revisiting Highlands and taking in the lush landscapes and waterfalls. (Along with grabbing some pastry and chicken tenders from Mountain Fresh Grocery.) I had such a great time in 2018, that I wanted to share the experience with my other half. My husband, Ben Williams, will join the company this summer as the lighting and sound designer. We have been making theatre together for 14 years. What could be better than sharing theatre with those you love most? Thank you for supporting the arts in Highlands, hope to see you all this summer!

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Office: 828-526-8784
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Pat Allen, Broker in Charge



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2012 HONDA CIVIC EX. Excellent condition. Sun/moon roof, navigation, cruise, blue tooth and more. Titanium grey, 57,924 miles. \$13,500. 520-975-0901. (st. 6/17)

CAMBRIDGE ROSEPOINT CRYSTAL: stems, plates, cups, serving pieces. Very good condition. Buy by stem, set, piece, lot. Serious inquiries only. bethb272@gmail.com (st. 6/10)

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FATHER/DAUGHTER looking for 2 bedroom long-term lease. No pets, non smoker. Contact Matt @ 727-421-2771. (st. 5/20)

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 30



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HOSPITALITY MINDSET: Highlands Country Club is looking for a few individuals for food service, bartending and housekeeping, who have a heart for service, want to be respected as professionals and know how to earn to your ability. Competitive pay, tips for F & B staff, uniform provided, and meals per shift provided to all. Golfing privileges are available. Wonderful, busy working atmosphere. Appreciative management to work with each person. Go to www.highlandscountryclub.com, select the Career tab at the top of the tool bar to fill out an application. Or, call 828-787-2782 and leave a message for Greg. See the Club's reviews on Indeed. (st. 6/24)

PART TIME BOOKKEEPER NEEDED for local business. Most work can be done from home. Call or text Tim Sharp 256-683-5885. (st. 6/24)

THE BUSINESS SPOT IS HIRING in both their Cashiers and Highlands locations. If you are a team player, have a good work ethic and a working knowledge of computers - particularly Gmail and file management, please contact us. We also need each candidate to be able to multitask (jumping from one task to another and back again) throughout the day. This position would be part time but could transition to full time. Will pay a gas allowance for anyone we hire that comes from further than 10 miles away. Please submit all inquiries to: Info@biz-spot.net. (st. 6/17)

THE HIGHLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISIT HIGHLANDS, NC is seeking a part-time employee to work in the Welcome Center on Saturday and Sunday. The ideal candidate should have excellent knowledge of the Highlands and Plateau areas and enjoy greeting visitors to our town. Hours are Saturday 10a.m. – 4p.m. and Sunday 11a.m. – 3 p.m. For consideration, please send resume to visitor@highlandschamber.org or call 828-526-2112. (st. 5/27)

POSH PAWS PET SPA IN HIGHLANDS, NC is now hiring full time, part time, and seasonal dog bathers. Our business hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 9-5, and we will be doing open interviews Tuesday - Friday from 10-3. We are not open in the evenings or on holidays, so you can expect to be able to enjoy those times with loved ones.

Have you ever been interested in working with animals or trying something new but weren't sure how to get into the animal care industry? Working as a dog bather may be the job for you! This is an entry level position that requires no prior experience. Fast advancement opportunities are available through our self-paced, paid, one-on-one apprenticeship. This is a great opportunity to learn a trade skill without accumulating educational debt! All of our employees (including the owners of the business) have started their dog grooming careers as a bather.

Dog bathers must be willing to learn and take constructive criticism. We currently employ a wonderful group of people that works well as a team, so being a team player is a must. Drama will not be tolerated. A love for dogs and a high level of patience is also required. Attention to detail is a necessity as we never want to send home a dog that isn't 100% clean.

This job does require standing for long periods of time and heavy lifting with help. The bather must be able to wash, rinse, and dry up to 8 large dogs per day plus small dogs. Daily duties will include bathing and blow drying the dogs, assisting the groomers when needed, and completing daily as well as weekly cleaning routines to keep our salon looking and smelling nice.

Still not sure if this would be the right job for you? Please give us a call at 828-526-9581 with any additional questions about the position or come by to take a quick no obligation tour before applying. We look forward to hearing from you!

SPARTINA 449. Now hiring Full time and part time positions. Apply at 394 Main St. Highlands. 828-787-1178. (5/27)

JOIN OUR TEAM! Whole Life Market is now hiring for full/part time positions. Are you a fun, healthy minded individual looking for a positive work environment? We are an organic health food store/ juice bar. Experience is not necessary but any grocery store, barista skills are a plus. Competitive pay! Apply at Whole Life Market, 680 N. 4th. St, Highlands.

FULL AND PART TIME RETAIL SALES ASSOCIATES WANTED. Contact Potpourri at 828-200-0044 to schedule an interview. Eyewear experience is a plus. (st. 5/13)

DO YOU LIKE TO CLEAN AND ORGANIZE? Private club seeking a few en-

ergetic individuals with a happy state of mind to join our staff in the housekeeping department. Early hours, routine schedule, competitive pay, benefits, one daily meal provided, and uniforms provided. If you are interested, please contact us at Highlands Country Club at 828-526-2181. (st. 5/13)

CALLING ALL MERMAIDS! Spartina 449 now hiring part time key and sales position. Apply in person. 394 Main St, Highlands. 828-787-1178 (st. 4/29)

THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT AND LEARNING CENTER - Are you looking for a summer job? We are still looking to fill the following positions: Kitchen Staff, Cabin Counselor, Health Center Coordinator (must be 21+, EMT certified or higher), CIT Mentor (21+), ASCENDER Mentor (21+) You can find more details about these positions and apply on our website: TheMountainRLC.org. Please reach out with any questions or concerns at youthcamp@themountainrlc.org. I look forward to seeing your application! (st. 4/1)

OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA, HIGHLANDS NC – Marketing Administrative Assistant (PT), Graphic Design & Layout Professional, Club Membership Marketer, Assistant F&B Manager, Banquet Captain, Banquet Supervisor, Restaurant Reservationist, Host, Server, Server Assistant, Bartender, Cook, Assistant Pastry Chef, Pastry Sous-Chef, Pastry & Bread Cook, Dishwasher, Reservations Specialist, Front Desk Supervisor, Front Desk Agent, Bellman, Room Attendant, Houseman, 2nd Shift Laundry, Retail Associate, Fitness Manager, Spa Concierge, Massage Therapist, Spin Instructor. **SPECIAL RETENTION BONUS, \$1000 Full Time / \$500 Part time, FOR THESE LICENSED POSITIONS:** COSMETOLOGIST * HAIR STYLIST * MAKEUP ARTIST * NAIL TECH. Benefits and PTO for FULL TIME. Apply online: www.oldedwardsinn.com/careers

PART OR FULL TIME SALES ASSOCIATE needed. – Retail experience preferred. Please call 828-371-2582. (st. 2/18)

WOLFGANGS RESTAURANT Looking for full-time hostess (great pay) dishwasher, prep cook, pantry and waitstaff. PM shift only. Call Jacque at 828.526.3807 or email wom2@me.com. (st. 2/4)

LUXURY LODGE MANAGER NEEDED FOR LIVE IN POSITION. – Prefer a local couple/individual to entertain and maintain facility while enjoying living in an exceptional facility. Strong people/communication skills needed. Must be flexible and have impeccable references and experience in hospitality/facility maintenance. Background/knowledge in wine and bar beverages a plus. Interest/knowledge in hiking/construction and outdoors is good also. Email mrpaulkrk@yahoo.com. (st. 2/11)

THE SUMMER HOUSE BY

REEVES FURNITURE STORE IN HIGHLANDS is looking for full and part time positions in sales and warehouse & delivery personnel. Must be professional appearing, friendly, self-motivated, and enthusiastic. Previous sales and/or customer service experience preferred. Competitive starting pay. Generous benefits for full-time positions. Apply in person at The Summer House, 2089 Dillard Road in Highlands. (st. 5/20)

RE FOR SALE UNBELIEVABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE! Imagine getting one of the best panoramic views in Highlands, 10 acres of land backing up to the national forest, a beautiful 5000sq ft main house with an available 2 bedroom guest house and a putting green and horseshoe pit for \$890,000! Better hurry before my wife changes her mind. mrpaulkrk@yahoo.com. (st. 7/1)

RE FOR RENT HOUSE FOR RENT TWO MILES FROM DOWNTOWN ON DILLARD RD AVAILABLE JULY 3: Upper Level: furnished 2BR (queen & single bed) 1BA, AC, gas heat, full laundry, upper level parking, no smoking. No pets. \$1,500 per month. Annual lease. **Lower Level:** Available July 3 furnished suite, AC, gas heat, with compact kitchen, full laundry, queen bed, lower level drive for parking, no smoking. Includes electricity and propane, water/sewer \$895 per month. Annual lease. Will consider leasing the entire home if lower level apt is needed however may not be subleased. \$2,000. Please call 828-342-4819. (st. 6/24)

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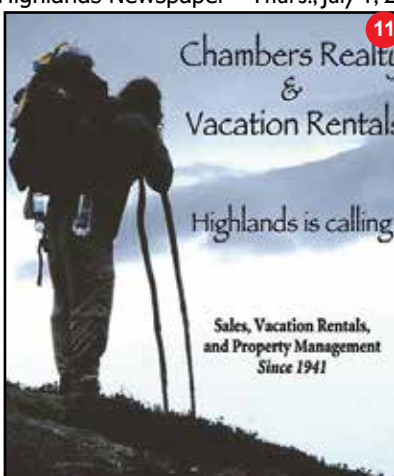


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