

# Highlands Newspaper

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Volume 19, Number 44

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Thurs., Nov. 3, 2022

## ELECTION COUNTDOWN

# Meet the candidates for NC Senate - 50, U.S. House of Rep - 11 and U.S. Senate

By Brittney Lofthouse

Early voting in North Carolina ends at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5 and Election Day will be

held on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Besides the local races for MC Board of Education, MC Commissioners, and the sales tax

referendum which were covered in the Oct. 6, 13, and 20 editions, respectively, Macon County vot-

• See **CANDIDATES** page 12

## Food & Wine and music to highlight 4-day event

*New venues include 'the pit' and K-H Founders Park*

By Brittney Lofthouse

Over the last several years, the Highlands Food & Wine Festival has grown into a premier event for all things food, wine, and music the second week in November.

The 4-day festival, features top chefs and beverage partners from across the Southeast and draws thousands to Highlands.

Casey Reid, Founder of Eleven Events, which produces the festival, said work for the 2022 festival kicked off back in January

• See **FOOD & WINE** page 14



Representatives from 46 founding families gathered to remember.

## Highlands celebrated its heritage with its first 'Heritage Day' Oct. 29

By Harry McDonald  
President HHS

This past weekend Highlands celebrated its inaugural Heritage Day – a special day that will be celebrated again in 2023 – to single out Highlands' families who are still here after 100 years.

Nowadays, what's new and exciting is celebrated in Highlands as it should be. There are cultural events in arts, music, theater, nature, and education that most large cities would love to offer.

There are four country clubs with premier golf courses and a

world-class hotel that offers several spectacular wedding venues. And then there's what nature has to offer – area mountains like Whiteside, rain forest vegetation, waterfalls, and cool summers which have all sparked tremendous

• See **HERITAGE** page 16

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## Pre-season viruses empty classrooms

By Brittney Lofthouse

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services reported the first flu related death last week. According to NCDHHS, an adult in the western part of the state died due to complications of influenza during the third week of October.

While influenza cases and deaths were historically low during the 2020-'21 and 2021-'22 influenza seasons, the number of influenza deaths reported in North Carolina ranged from 186 to 391 during the five prior seasons. Currently, North Carolina is seeing an increase in illnesses caused by respiratory viruses other than COVID-19, including influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), that is greater than at

• See **VIRUSES** page 30

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

## • HIC'S VIEW •

### Highlands came together for Halloween

I rediscovered the community core and future of Highlands this past Monday. I encountered it at the annual Halloween Main Street Celebration. This annual event had a tremendous turnout where folks were able to just have fun and enjoy one another.

We have had a rather contentious year with all the controversy over short-term rentals and other issues facing the town. But I was gratified and rejuvenated to share the joy and happiness coming forth from the Halloween celebration-goers.

As a Rotarian, I helped in the production and distribution of several thousand hotdogs for all the celebrants of Halloween. The Rotary clubs in Highlands joined forces to provide free hotdogs to all, as well as having volunteers to help manage traffic in the downtown area.

I also appreciated the police and fire departments for securing Main Street for the event. In this day and age, having complete security at such events is absolutely es-



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

sential. Our first-responders do a great job in protecting the public.

I also want to thank the Highlands Chamber of Commerce for again organizing and sponsoring this traditional event. The Highlands Halloween Main Street Celebration is a truly unique event that brings folks from all over the area to visit Highlands. I would also be remiss not to thank all the merchants in the downtown area that provided candy and favors to both our young and old kids.

I say young and old because this Halloween spectacular brings out the child and wonder in all of us.

So, as Mayor, I do believe I encountered the community core and the future of this community on Halloween night.

Despite all the differences we may have about the town and what directions we should follow, I suspect we all realized during this holiday celebration that Highlands is a unique and special place. Now I know across the nation other folks have the same view of their towns, but as Mayor I have to declare we are the best. (Don't tell other mayors about my assessment, they will take me to task.)

Finally, we saw the future of the community Halloween night with all the kids who were dressed up in costumes and having a great, marvelous time. What struck me was that I met so many of the kids' parents that I remember as local high school students. I went to some of their weddings and celebrated the births of their children. I found myself in a time warp of a sort on Monday night. I would see these young people with children and think, hey, didn't they just have a little baby? As a senior citizen I fail to, or maybe more accurately, realize that time moves fast.

These young parents with children in Halloween costumes are the future of our community. It is not in a distant future, but very soon they all will be the core, the foundation, and the leadership of the community.

Halloween was not frightening to me, but rather uplifting and life affirming.

HIC

whicseven@yahoo.com



Our wealth management consultant advised us, our retirement will now be an adventure.

## • WEATHER •

Thu, 3-Nov	Fri, 4-Nov	Sat, 5-Nov	Sun, 6-Nov
63°F 45°F	65°F 51°F	66°F 56°F	65°F 57°F
Partly sunny and beautiful	Beautiful with periods of sun	Cloudy, showers around; mild	Cloudy with a shower or two
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High: 68 Low: 47	High: 68 Low: 47	High: 66 Low: 54	High: 67 Low: 57

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### Highlands Newspaper

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### All About Books

## • INK PENN •

### Heaven is a good book and a roaring fire

It's the time of year when I want to lie on the couch with a fire going in the wood-burning stove and read a good book or two or three. Add a pair of cozy socks, a blanket, and perhaps a cat tucked by my side, and I'm in heaven. If you can forgo watching football or raking leaves, I highly recommend you give it a try. You'll need a good book, and I'm happy to help with a few suggestions.

#### All the Queen's Men

I read this mystery before Queen Elizabeth's death, and I enjoyed the details of her day-to-day life. How can you not like a novel featuring the Queen as an intelligent, kind amateur sleuth—one that gives you glimpses of the inner workings of and relationships in the palace? Her role as an amateur sleuth may be pure fiction, but her many duties, her unbelievably busy days, and her kind heart were, I believe, based on fact. She was one busy lady!

Set in 1616 when Prince Philip is still alive, the portrayal of him is especially poi-



Kathy Manos Penn

gnant. I enjoyed learning about his varied interests. I knew he was an outdoorsman and was, of course, interested in history and the Royal Navy but didn't know he was an artist.

I smiled at the description of Theresa May in her kitten heels as well as the asides about the tumultuous US presidential election and who Queen Elizabeth would wind up dealing with when it was over.

Tidbits like these are sprinkled through-

out the book as the complex mystery unfolds. A dead body by the swimming pool at Buckingham Palace is just the beginning. Is the dead staff member somehow connected to a missing painting—one of the Queen's favorites?

I found this follow-up to "The Windsor Knot" another entertaining read and am delighted to see that a third mystery will come out in 2023 — "Murder Most Royal."

#### Two Nights in Lisbon

"Ariel Pryce wakes up in Lisbon alone. Her husband is gone--no warning, no note, not answering his phone. Something is wrong." Thus reads the book jacket for this page-turner.

I was pulled in from the first paragraph and stayed up late several nights to finish this intriguing thriller. The husband's disappearance plays out with everyone asking questions, even his wife. The police want to know how well she knows her new, younger husband. She wonders the same.

• See INK PENN page 17

## • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

### Speakers talk 'Shop with a Cop'



From left is Highlands Police Chief Andrea Holland, Caroline Cook, President Chris Wilkes.

Recent guest speakers at the Rotary Club of Highlands were Highlands Police Chief Andrea Holland and Caroline Cook.

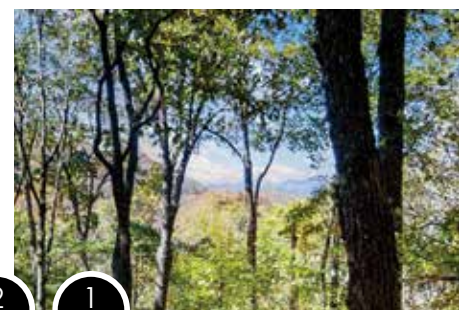
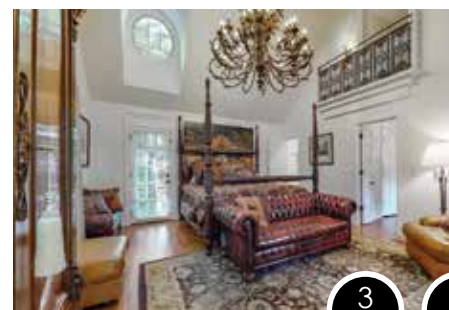
They shared the history, significance, and importance of the Shop With A Cop program.

The program, which has enjoyed our Rotary Clubs support for many years, takes on the task of providing a Christmas for children whose parent or parents have been removed from their home by the police.

The program which started some 20 years ago by our Macon County Sheriff, Robbie Holland served three children that first year has grown to serving between 300 and 400 children annually.

With the support of the Highlands and surrounding communities, each child in the program is given a \$100 gift card to purchase items for their families and themselves. Children can be nominated in many ways, and if a child is nominated from a family and that family has additional children in it, those children get the same benefit as the originally nominated child. Rotarians are not the only folks donating to this program, merchants and individuals may also help. For information on how you can help, contact the Highlands Police Department or Caroline Cook at josephkcook@gmail.com.





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# • MILESTONE •



## Highlands School student finishes near the top

Highlands middle school student, eighth-grader Timmy McDowell, competed October 22 at the NC Runners Middle School XC Festival 2022 in Kernersville, NC.

McDowell finished 5th out of 98 middle school runners. He ran a two-mile course with a time of 11:23.94.

Even though the competition was fierce, he made it in the finals. Way to go Timmy!

# • LETTERS •

Dear Editor,

I'd like to thank in standing ovation form, Reverend Jim Murphy for highlighting Italy's vote honoring God, country and families, in the Thursday, Oct. 6 Spiritually Speaking column.

It was a life embracing nod to democracy, freedom and Judeo-Christian values and in his words, a rejection of "full blown, forever failed communism."

May Highlands, too, fly our American flags with pride, uphold constitutional rights and be a family one to another.

Thank you Reverend Murphy

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## • ON THE SUNNY SIDE •

### Daylight Saving Time

**Y**ipes! It's that time of year again. Sunday, November 6, we have to adjust our clocks. Do we move up an hour or back an hour? I can never remember. And is it only twice a year? It seems like more.

The very first time Daylight Saving was mentioned was by Benjamin Franklin in spring of 1784. He was visiting Paris, France and mentioned "time change" in an essay he wrote. He suggested Parisians change their sleep schedule to save money on candles and lamp oil.

The first city in the world to adopt Daylight Saving Time was Port Arthur, Ontario, Canada July 1, 1908. Soon other cities in Canada adopted Daylight Saving time.

Germany adopted Daylight Saving time April 30, 1916, to conserve coal during World War I.

The USA adopted Daylight Saving Time 1918 also during World War I. However, Arizona and Hawaii refused to honor Daylight Saving Time and they don't.

The proponents of Daylight-Saving Time argue that longer evenings motivate people to get out and get involved. The extra hour of daylight can be used for outdoor recreation like golf, soccer, baseball and other activities. The tourism industry profits from longer evenings. The retail industry



**Kenny Youmans**

benefits because people have a tendency to shop more.

However, the facts are that lack of sleep causes more auto accidents, more workplace injuries, suicides, heart attacks, strokes and miscarriages among other health problems.

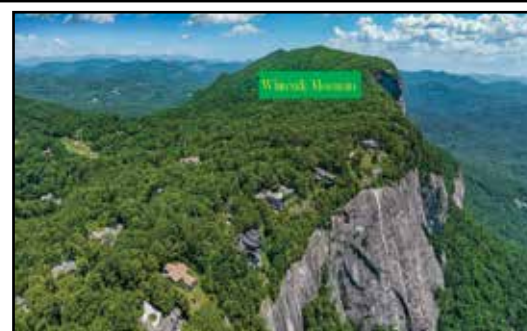
Maybe it has something to do with stress. I know I get a little stressed trying to decide to adjust clocks forward or backward.

Many states have passed a state law to have only one time during the year. Some states want year-round Standard Time and some want year-round Daylight Saving Time. The states are waiting for Federal approval.

I say "what's the big deal?" Let each state do what they want. Today when it is 9 p.m. in Highlands, NC, it is 6 p.m. in California. That seems to work OK.

Peggy Boquist, wife and legislative assistant for state senator Brian Boquist, who supports a bill to lock in daylight-saving year-round, said "Changing the time on our clocks twice a year does only one good thing, in my humble opinion: It reminds me to change the batteries in my smoke alarms."

Personally, I don't really care. Just don't make me change all my clocks twice a year.



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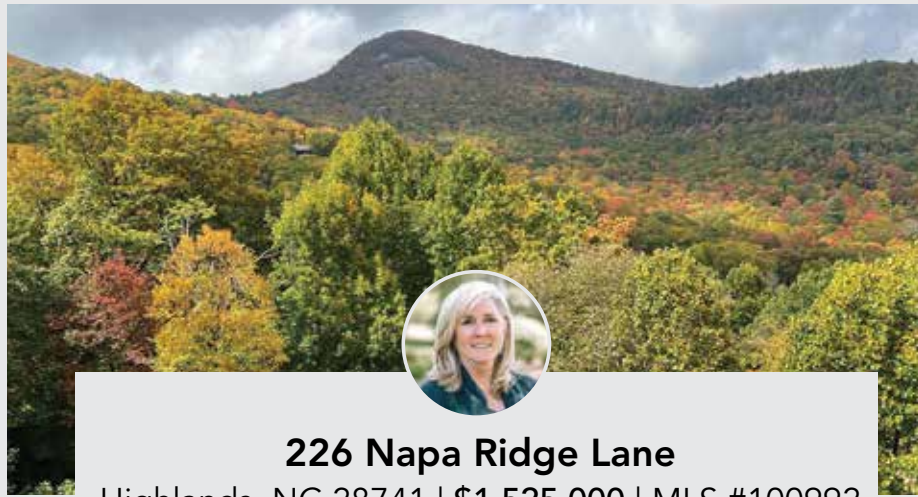
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## • INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft •

### Investing for generations

My daughter, Jenrette, was seven at the time we purchased our tiny cabin in the Mirror Lake neighborhood back in October 2001. At the time, I had no idea how important it would become to our family and creating memories. It was just intended as a place we could escape to and enjoy the area more than when we were here visiting friends over a weekend once or twice a year.

That first year we experienced Halloween trick-or-treating on Main Street, which has grown to an even bigger event than it was then. Our first Thanksgiving here was cooked on a 24" electric stove, with a power outage just after the turkey was taken out of the oven. Some neighbors told us about the lighting of the town on Saturday night with caroling and a visit with Santa. And, of course, we ventured out to one of the many tree farms to find our Christmas tree to take back to Gainesville. Our cabin had limited heat and insulation and had to be winterized after Thanksgiving, which didn't really matter at the time, as the town shut down for the season.

As an only child, Jenrette almost always brought along a friend for the weekend and her favorite place to go (other than the Toy Store) was the Nature Center and Botanical Garden. We would go see all the waterfalls, do our favorite hikes on Satulah and Whiteside, and of course, get an ice cream on Main Street. We often brought along grandparents or invited another family to join us, and quickly realized two small bedrooms and one bath wasn't sufficient for four adults and one or more children. We started looking for a larger place and were drawn to a fixer-upper that had four bedrooms and three baths.

That house enabled us to enjoy coming up here during the winter, which became one of our favorite times to be here. Town was quiet and it was cold outside, so we would have a fire going, play dominoes, work puzzles and read or watch the Harry Potter series. On more than one occasion we had large sleep-over birthday parties. We expanded our Thanksgiving tradition and started to include extended family. We added New Year's Eve as a favorite time to gather and got to know many neighbors with families in the neighborhood and surround-



**Carl Romberg**  
Landmark Realty

ing area.

As Jenrette grew up, she wanted some independence and we would let her go to town on her own or with a friend. Her favorite place to go was the pottery studio where she could paint a bowl or mug. The book store was another favorite as well as the usual ice cream. During the high school years she wasn't as interested in coming up as often, but still would on those special occasions and

always to find that Christmas tree which usually provided some sort of memorable circumstance like the year we ended up in a ditch.

By the time she was a young adult, our family had changed with a divorce, remarriage and the addition of a step-sister. We had relocated here full-time and she was getting started out on her own back in Georgia. That was about the same time she had a renewed interest in coming here, but in a different sort of way. She would bring her boyfriend and they created their own things that they liked to do, including coffee in town and ice cream after lunch. However, we added in some new family things like going to concerts in the park, walks around the neighborhood, our dogs playing together and introductions over dinner to some of our new friends. Before long there was a marriage proposal, made on Whiteside Mountain; followed by their wedding which was here. Until about a year ago, they lived just over an hour away and would bring their friends once or twice a year and always came after Thanksgiving to get their Christmas tree.

As I started writing the article, she was in labor in a Savannah hospital. As I am wrapping the article up, I have received a text with a photo of their baby boy, my first grandchild. He will be the third generation of our family to make memories here. I can't wait to see what traditions continue and to see what new things we add to the mix, but have no doubt that this will be a special place for him to visit.

• Carl Romberg is the Broker-in-Charge of Landmark Realty Group's Highlands Office. Stop by his office on Main Street to say hello or reach him at 678-936-9309 or [carl@landmarkrg.com](mailto:carl@landmarkrg.com).



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## ...CANDIDATES continued from 1

ers will be casting their ballots for NC Senate District 50, U.S. House of Representatives District 11 and U.S. Senate.

NC Senate District 50 is currently held by incumbent Senator Kevin Corbin (Rep.) who faces a Democratic challenger in Jackson County resident, Karen McCracken.

The U.S. House of Representatives District 11 race is between incumbent Chuck Edwards (Rep.) and Jasmine Beach-Ferrara (Dem.).

The U.S. Senate race for North Carolina is between incumbent Ted Budd (Rep.) and Cheri Beasley (Dem.).

### NC Senate District 50 Kevin Corbin (Rep.)

Kevin Corbin was born and raised in Macon County. He was sworn into his first term in the House of Representatives in January 2017 and as a freshman member of the House, Corbin was appointed to several leadership roles. Corbin was overwhelmingly elected to a second term in the House and continued his leadership by serving as a member of committees for Appropriations on Education/Higher Education, Commerce and Insurance, Education/Higher Education, and State and Local Government committees.

Keeping the promises he originally campaigned on, Rep. Corbin has been a champion for WNC on the state level and has been instrumental in introducing legislation to benefit the western portion of the state in the areas of broadband expansion, education, school safety, and more.

A dedicated public servant, Corbin has been committed to numerous civic and community organizations both in his home county and on the state level.

For the six years prior to being elected to the House of Representatives District 120, Corbin served on the Macon County Board of Commissioners, being elected as chairman of the board for the last four years of his tenure. Corbin has also served as Chair of the Region A Council of Government, which is comprised of all of



**Kevin Corbin**



**Karen McCracken**

the County Commissioners, Mayors, and Town Board members from the seven Western Counties of NC. Rep. Corbin was elected to this position by his peers in that group.

In 2010, Corbin was appointed to the Blue Cross Blue Shield NC Agents Advisory Board where he was involved in developing lower cost plans for citizens of North Carolina. Corbin was Inducted into Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC Hall of Fame in 2013, with only 21 inductees in history.

### About Karen McCracken

McCracken was born and raised and raised in Jackson County and got her first taste of politics in middle school when she was elected to student council. She continued that role into high school when she participated in the American Legion's leadership program, Girls State.

McCracken has a bachelor's degree from Garden-Webb University in Religious Education and a Master of Divinity from Campbell University's Divinity School. McCracken served as a teacher after completing college for a few years and now works at her family-owned radio station, WRGC radio.

### U.S. House of Representatives District 11

#### Chuck Edwards (Rep.)

Born and raised in Western North Carolina, Chuck Edwards has lived, worked, raised a family, and maintained a successful business in the mountains. At the age of 16 he entered the business world, working at McDonald's in Hendersonville while attending West Henderson High School.

Years later, he purchased the very same McDonald's franchise where he began, along with other locations in Henderson, Transylvania, and Haywood counties. He studied business at Blue Ridge Community College.

Sen. Edwards is a Republican and was first elected to the N.C. Senate in 2016 and was re-elected in 2018. In 2020, he defeated Democrat Brian Caskey by 59% to 41%.

### Jasmine Beach-Ferrara (Dem.)

Jasmine Beach-Ferrara is a western North Carolina county commissioner, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and the founding Executive Director of the Campaign for Southern Equality (CSE).

Beach-Ferrara was raised in North Carolina by a single mom who worked as a public health nurse. Her mom instilled in her the importance of faith-driven empathy and service that shaped the trajectory of her life. Jasmine initially went to college to become a doctor but then felt called to ministry and went to divinity school, becoming ordained as a minister.

Service and faith are the driving forces in her work, from teaching in prisons to founding an organization to advocate for LGBTQ equality across the Deep South. By showing up— especially in small towns — and telling the stories of families, Jasmine's organization (CSE) helped win marriage equality in North Carolina and Mississippi. Her background as an organizer shapes how she

• See CANDIDATES page 14



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## ...CANDIDATES continued from page 12



**Chuck Edwards**

approaches breaking through entrenched fault-lines to create change.

### **U.S. Senate**

#### **Ted Budd (Rep.)**

Ted Budd represents North Carolina's 13th Congressional District and is serving his third term in the 117th United States Congress.

When an opportunity presented itself after redistricting opened up North Carolina's 13th



**Jasmine Beach-Ferrara**

Congressional District in 2016, Ted decided to run and bring a businessman's outlook to our nation's capital.

Ted sits on the Financial Services Committee, where he uses his real world experience to roll back the restrictive regulations that strangle job creation in our country. Working at a young age on his family's cattle and chicken farm and for their janitorial and landscaping business, Ted learned the importance of work ethic and common sense decision making. He brings his strong belief in God, family, and country to his job each and every day.

Ted and his wife Amy Kate have three children and live in Davie County, NC. He holds an MBA



**Ted Budd**

from Wake Forest University and a Masters of Theology and Educational Leadership from Dallas Theological Seminary.

#### **Cheri Beasley (Dem.)**

Cheri Beasley is the first African-American woman in the North Carolina Supreme Court's 200-year history to serve as Chief Justice. She served on the state's highest Court beginning in 2012 and was named Chief Justice in March of 2019.

Justice Beasley also served four years as an Associate Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, and was a District Court Judge for a decade in the 12th Judicial District in Cumberland County. Before beginning her judicial career in 1999, Beasley was a public defender in Cumberland County.



**Cheri Beasley**

A graduate of The University of Tennessee College of Law and Douglass College of Rutgers University, Chief Justice Beasley earned a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Judicial Studies from Duke University School of Law. She has held several leadership roles in the American Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Association and has received a number of awards for her leadership and public service.

Cheri Beasley and her husband, Curtis Owens, are the proud parents of twin sons, Thomas and Matthew, who are college students. They are members of First Baptist Church in Raleigh.

## ...FOOD & WINE continued from page 1

when negotiations with various talents first began.

From January through March, Reid and her team worked on talent acquisition for music, vendors, and of course, the top chefs and beverages purveyors in the industry, in order to meet the event deadline of announcing this year's festival lineup by May.

Reid said originally the Highlands Food & Wine Festival was developed as a way to bring visitors to Highlands during the "shoulder-season." Historically, the town of Highlands experienced a sharp drop-off in tourism after October.

Events such as a Culinary Weekend, hosted by the Highlands Chamber, worked to extend the Fall and Winter tourism season.

However, it still wasn't quite enough to ensure retail, hotels, and restaurants could remain operational after the busy summer and fall months. That is when Highlands Food & Wine Festival was born.

Building on the foundation laid by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, a 501c3 called Highlands Festivals Inc led by a board of local Highlands' shareholders and Eleven Events, kept the luxury experience associated with the Culinary Weekend and paired it with music and exclusive opportunities that extended the life of the town.

"Everyone feels like a VIP," said Reid. "Everything we work to create keeps that in mind, which is partly why Highlands has grown over the years to really be a year-round tourist

destination."

All summer Reid and her team work to line up the top chefs in the industry — working to book their contracts, secure the needs for their sets, and handle the logistics of getting not only the chefs — but the equipment needed to Highlands.

On average, the festival brings in 10 to 15 chefs per event to ensure a lot of culinary talent and variety. To get that done, Eleven Events coordinates and staffs a large team of professionals to make the 4-day festival possible.

"We need anywhere from 30-40 people to work the event to handle everything from set up

• See FOOD & WINE page 15

### Family Classes at Scaly Mountain Crafters

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Each class lasts approximately 90 minutes and provides 25 meals locally for each item made.

## Goodbye, 'Cowboy' Rick Miller

Rick Miller passed away October 17, 2022.  
An outdoor memorial service will be held Sunday, November 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Clock Tower Park, Main Street, Franklin, NC.  
Reception to follow at Diva's on Main.

Sarah Miller 777-757-7500



## ...FOOD & WINE continued from page 14

and production to serving and bartending,” said Reid. “A lot of the people we first hired come back to work the event each year, which really adds a personal touch, as our guests see familiar faces when they arrive.”

In May 2022, festival organizers announced the dates and musical lineup for this year’s event — with headliner Old Crow Medicine Show being a welcomed new addition. Tickets went on sale beginning in June, and like years prior, as quickly as the tickets were available for purchase — they sold out.

While music isn’t marketed as a main attraction for the festival, with a greater emphasis put

on the food and wine, Reid said the music component has helped to grow the festival brand and introduce new fans to the annual celebration.

“Over the years we have booked all genres of music — Bluegrass, Americana, Alternative Rock, Gospel — you never really know who is going to come,” said Reid. “The music is a supplement to the food and wine experience, and because music is the great communicator, we have had people come for the music and then discovered everything else the festival has to offer. If they didn’t already know, they came for what they thought was going to be a great weekend of music, but then

discovered Highlands.”

In fact, because music has grown to become such a huge part of the festival, Highlands Festivals, Inc launched a sister-event called Bear Shadow, a Spring music-centered festival held throughout the town and last year at neighboring Scaly Mountain, NC.

Because many of the guests overlap with the two festivals, this year Reid noted that the full musical talent lineup for Bear Shadow is going to be announced exclusively at the Highlands Food & Wine Festival.

With prior year data tracking guests attending the festivals from as far away as Alaska, and from around 40 states, Reid said the

overall impact on the Highlands community, both economic and in terms of general exposure, has been tremendous.

Both the Highlands Food & Wine Festival and Bear Shadow not only offer an economic boost, selling out hotels and requiring wait lists at local restaurants, Reid said it is also important to ensure a philanthropic arm of the festivals.

Over the last few years, the Highlands Food & Wine Festival has provided donations to the Highlands Food Pantry and other local non-profits.

To establish something long-term and impactful for the Highlands community, Highlands

Festivals Inc launched a Culinary Endowment in honor of Louis Osteen to provide scholarships for students pursuing careers in the culinary arts — giving preference to Macon County students.

The Endowment was named in honor of the James Beard award-winning Chef Louis Osteen, who retired to Highlands after a culinary career that elevated and really shaped Southern cuisine. Osteen died in his Highlands, NC home in 2019 after a long battle with liver cancer.

This year’s festival will also benefit the Friends of Founders Park, as Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park has served as ven-

• See **FOOD & WINE** page 16

# JERRY MOORE



## FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER



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U.S. Courts Leadership Development Program  
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Chairman - Highlands Chamber of Commerce  
President - Highlands Little League  
Secretary - Tourist Development Commission  
President - Highlands Rotary Club  
Chairman - Highlands Zoning Board  
Finance Chair - Highlands-Cashiers Health Foundation



### EXPERIENCE

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5 Years Insurance and Financial Services  
15 Years Owner of Small Businesses  
B.A. Criminal Justice & Masters of Public Administration



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Youth Baseball, Basketball and Soccer Coach  
Member of H.E.L.P. Committee  
Highlands School Baseball & Asst. Golf Coach  
Macon County Economic Development Council



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## ...HERITAGE continued from page 1

growth in Highlands.

With all that is new, in the last 50 years, many of our “newcomers” know very little about Highlands’ rich heritage which is what was celebrated Saturday, Oct. 29.

Highlands has many families who trace their heritage back more than 100 years. This past weekend, Highlands Historical Society had a reception for those families in the Fellowship Hall of the Highlands United Methodist Church. Close to 50 families were represented when they came together to share stories about growing up in Highlands.

Historian Ran Shaffner shared letters dating back more than a hundred years and Highlands Historical Society’s historian Lance Hardin gave an overview of living in Highlands in 1922.

The families who were represented were: Anderson, Baty, Bennet, Benson, Bolick, Bryson, Cabe, Chapman, Chastain, Clarke, Compton, Crunkleton, Dulaney, Edwards, Gordon, Hancock, Harbinson, Hedden, Hender-



The Picklesimer family had 13 family representatives at the Heritage Day reception. The oldest was 90 and the youngest was 7 months old.

son, Hicks, Hines, James, Kenner, Lowe, Lyman, McCall, McKinney, McClure, Norton, Owens, Phillips, Picklesimer, Potts, Rice, Raul, Reese, Rogers, Stewart, Tal-  
lent, Thompson, Wilson, Wright, Young, Zachary, Zoellner and Ravenel.

The family with the most representatives was the Picklesimers who had 13 attendees. Wilma Gordon was the oldest attendee at 90 years old, and her great-grandson JW LaCoe was the youngest to attend, at 7 months old.

The families who celebrated that 100-year heritage have been a huge factor in creating the Highlands we know today. They were and are the contractors, electricians, merchants, educators, road builders, bankers, hotel operators,

Realtors, and more that helped Highlands grow.

Saturday included a throw-back to Helen’s Barn days where dancing, clogging and blue grass music were the norm. Those who gathered at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park were entertained by the Mars Hill clogging team that demonstrated high energy and talent. The young people – and some of Highlands own – joined them to celebrate back days with music and clogging.

Nowadays Highlands has something to offer everyone but it’s Highlands’ rich heritage and its people that were the foundation and are the backbone of the community.

Stay tuned for next year’s Heritage Day!



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## PLANET

by Lauren G



## ...FOOD & WINE from page 15

ue for the festival since its inception in 2016.

The festival kicks off in Highlands, Thursday, Nov. 10 with venue now located in “the pit” at 2nd and Spring streets and K-H Founders Park.

- The Grand Tasting is Thursday, Nov. 10, 7-10 p.m. at the corner of 2nd & Spring streets
- The ‘Truckin’ event is Friday, Nov. 11, 12-3:30 p.m. in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park on Pine

Street.

- A Generous Pour is Friday, Nov. 11, 8-10 p.m. at the corner of 2nd & Spring streets.

- The Main Event is Saturday, Nov. 12, 12-3:30 p.m. on Main Street like usual.

- The Sunday Shindig is Sunday, Nov. 13, 12-3 p.m. at the corner of 2nd & Spring streets

To learn more about the festival, visit <https://highlands-foodandwine.com>

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## ...INK PENN continued from page 4

As we get glimpses of her life before she married, readers are set up to ask these and other questions. The plot swings back and forth convincingly as clues surface about her husband's whereabouts, and oddities about his background are revealed. And then there are the revelations about Ariel's past life.

The question: How does it all connect? The answer: In an explosive-wow-gut punch way. I predict that, like me, you won't be able to read this book fast enough. Author Chris Pavone has done it again!

### The Love of My Life

You know going in that lies have been told in what seems like a strong, stable marriage. The story unfolds in chapters voiced by Leo and Emma, husband and wife.

Chapter one opens with the stuff of everyday life, depicting their professional lives, their relationship with their adorable 3-year-old daughter and each other, and the trauma of dealing with illness. The love between them rings true.

But the thread of deception snakes through the day-to-day and soon erupts into a full-scale mystery that calls into ques-

tion everything Leo has ever believed about Emma. If she has deceived him about so much, how can he believe she loves him?

My heart ached for both of them, and I rooted for them to make it as a couple. At the same time, I read as fast as I could, wanting to know the truth about Emma's life, past and present, and why she lied about it.

The book is billed as romantic suspense and women's contemporary fiction. Call it what you will, the mystery of who Emma really is pulled me in. At the same time, I smiled at the sweet day-to-day gestures and humor that comprise a strong relationship. Now, I want to find Rosie Walsh's first book, "Ghosted."

Now, I'm off to find my fuzzy socks and choose another book. Will you be doing the same?

• *Award-winning author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her cozy mysteries in Franklin at Franklin Office Supply & Gifts, at Shakespeare & Company in Highlands, and on Amazon. Contact her at [inkpenn119@gmail.com](mailto:inkpenn119@gmail.com), and follow her on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/KathyManosPenn.Author/](https://www.facebook.com/KathyManosPenn.Author/).*



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## Highlands Chamber of Commerce now taking applications for Leadership Highlands 2023 Class

Leadership Highlands, a Highlands Chamber of Commerce community engagement program, is now accepting applications for its 2023 class.

The educational program is for emerging and existing leaders in the Highlands community, offering them an opportunity to enhance their civic knowledge and network. Those selected will commit to and engage in a seven-month curriculum, from February through October, that will include a retreat, day-long classes each month, a variety of enrichment workshops and projects, and a graduation ceremony.

"We're thrilled to once again offer Leadership Highlands and begin the process of reviewing and selecting the next class of participants," says Kaye McHan, executive director of Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC. "We will engage staff, our Board of Directors and Leadership Highlands alumni in the selection process."

Resurrected in 2022 after

a hiatus, Leadership Highlands brings local experts to engage with the class on topics such as Highlands' history and cultural resources, economic development, government and public safety, health and human resources, education, arts, and outdoor recreation. Personal leadership skills are developed through principle-based decision-making and team-building exercise. Members of the 2022 class enjoyed the experience.

"Being a member of Leadership Highlands 2022 has shown me that there is a great depth to our little town," says Ginger Moseley of Old Edwards Inn. "It has been a wonderful experience to meet so many people from so many backgrounds and to learn about all the activities and organizations. I feel I'm a better resident, as well, now that I better understand the forces and personalities that impact our town's government, business leaders, and decision-makers."

Leadership Highlands pro-

vided "a great look behind the scenes of what makes the Highlands work," says John Muir of BHHS Meadows Mountain Realty. "The unique mix of students provides a diverse look at the community, past and present, with a strong focus on the future. I cannot recommend the program enough."

Twelve members were selected as part of the 2022 class. The Chamber expects the 2023 class to be about the same size. The selection criteria will include civic involvement, leadership potential, diversity of perspective and commitment to the program and the Highlands community.

For more information about the Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Highlands, or to obtain an application, visit [highlandschamber.org/chamber/leadershiphighlands](http://highlandschamber.org/chamber/leadershiphighlands) or call 828-526-5841. Applications for Leadership Highlands 2023 are due to the Highlands Chamber no later than November 30, 2022.

## PAC construction from start to finish



From left: Guest Gardner Davis and Rotarians Mary Adair Trumbly, Rick Trevathan, and President Chris Wilkes.

At the meeting held on October 25, the Rotary Club of Highlands speakers included Rotarians Rick Trevathan, Mary Adair and guest Gardner Davis. Together they presented a wonderful slideshow on the Highlands Performing Arts Center construction from start to finish. They also provided information on upcoming performances and prospective projects.

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# Halloween Highlands Style! Monday, Oct. 31



Hudreds of people from all over converged on Main Street Monday night to enjoy what might be the best Halloween celebration yet.

Thanks to Visit Highlands NC, Highlands School PTO and HS Booster Club there was something for everyone – candy, popcorn, a first-ever kids zone with a multi-room bounce house, popcorn and goodies, two live bands and a DJ. It was a party on Main and S. 4th street 6-8 p.m.

– Photos by Kim Lewicki





# • OBITUARY •

## Delia England Frederick



Delia England Frederick, 62, passed away Monday, October 31, 2022 at her home in Aiken, SC, surrounded by family.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, November 5 at First Presbyterian Church with her son Paul R. Frederick officiating.

Born in Aiken SC, Ms. Frederick was a daughter of Dorothea England and late Eugene England. She grew up in Aiken and attended the University of South Carolina earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. In 1993, she and her family moved to Highlands, NC from Lexington, SC. She lived in Highlands for nearly 20 years, raising her two children Paul and Claire in the Appalachian Mountains. She continued her education earning a Master's and Doctorate of Nursing at University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Upon earning her degrees, she became a Professor of Nursing at Southwestern Community College and the University of South Carolina at Aiken.

She is survived by one daughter, Claire E. Sepulveda, Johnson City, TN; one son, Paul R. Frederick, Good Hope, GA; three grandchildren, Zechariah, Ezekiel and Logan Frederick; two sisters, Esther E. Morris, Aiken, and Alice E. Smith, Panama City, FL; two brothers, Byron A. England, Aiken, and Charles A. England, McAllen, TX; and her mother Dorothea England, Aiken.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to 108 Furches Drive, Unit 3, Johnson City, TN, 37615. Memorials will be used for the purpose of establishing a scholarship for nursing students in Delia's name.

# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## NEW Rec Pool Schedule

• Public Swim: Sat. 11a-6p; Sun., 1-6p. Adult Swim: Tues & Wed 11a-5p and Mon., Thurs., Fri., 11a-2p. Lap Swim: MOn-Fri 6a-9:45a and Sat. 10-11a. 828-526-1595.

### Mondays

• ESL classes are held at the Presbyterian Church in Highlands from 5:30-6:30pm. No registration required – just show up and participate. Questions? Visit [www.maconncliteracy.org](http://www.maconncliteracy.org), call 828-526-0863 or email [info@maconncliteracy.org](mailto:info@maconncliteracy.org)

### Second Mondays

• The local chapter of PEO, an off-campus sorority founded in the 1800s that provides grants and loans to women with financial need who want to return to school or further their education meets at 10 a.m. More meeting places call president Paula McDonald at 706-372-3004

### 1st Tuesdays

• Indivisible Highlands from 5-6:30 pm at the Hudson Library.

### 2nd Tuesdays

• Highlands Writers Group meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 3pm. Writers still uncomfortable with in-person gatherings may participate via Zoom meetings held on the second or third Tuesday of each month at 3pm. Members receive weekly notification regarding when and how the group will assemble. "We welcome participation from anyone interested in writing, or just hanging out with writers," said Bud Katz. For more information contact Bud Katz at either 828-526-3190 or at [budandlynn@me.com](mailto:budandlynn@me.com)

### Tuesdays

• Strength Training 8:15-9:15am. Aim for strong, lean muscles using light weights, body weight, and high repetition to shape and tone.

### Wed. & Sat in October

• Autumn Amble" leaf tours this October. Every Wednesday and Saturday at 4 PM, staff will lead an exploration of the Highlands Botanical Garden to discover what leaves are already changing and (the science of) why. All are welcome to participate in these free guided tours, and no registration is necessary.

### Mon-Fri

• Water Aerobics 18 years plus 10-11am. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• Pickle Ball inside and outside. 10am-1pm, everyone is welcome so come out and enjoy a game of Pickle Ball.

## Mon., Tues., Thurs.

• The Food Pantry behind the Methodist Church on Spring Street is open from 10a to 6p,

### Mon. & Wed.

• New Mobility Class with Anna Norton It's all about movement. 5:30-6:30pm and Wednesday 6:45-7:45. For more information, call Anna 267-825-0716.

### Mon, Wed, Fri

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class 8:30-9:30am. \$25 a month, The class is led by Cathy Hodgson. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• Aerobics w/Tina Rogers 8-9a. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more info.

### Tues. & Thurs.

• New Zumba class with Gay Chalpin from 4:30-5:30p. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:30. A combination class with different types of exercise. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information

### Thursdays

• Kickboxing 8:15-9:15am. An exhilarating and fun mix of martial arts for a calorie-burning workout. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• At Hudson Library, Family Storytime at 10:40a. For more information about any of these summer activities, contact Hudson Library at 828-526-3031.

• At Hudson Library, Kids Zone at 3:30 pm with a wide variety of STEAM, nature, and craft activities. For more information about any of these summer activities, contact Hudson Library at 828-526-3031.

### Fridays

• Friday Night Live Concerts in Town Square on Main Street. 6-8:30 p.m. Bring chairs.

### Saturdays

• Saturdays on Pine in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street. 6-8:30 p.m. Bring chairs, blankets and a picnic.

• Live music at Frog Quarters just before the bridge over the Little Tennessee River in East Franklin.

### 2nd Saturdays

• The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club meets in Highlands at The Bascom at 10 a.m. March thru November.

### 3rd Saturdays

• The American Legion Post 370 meets at the First Methodist Church at 315 Main Street in their Community Room/ 909 Chapel. We serve breakfast at 9AM and hold our monthly meeting at 10AM We invite ALL Veterans to attend. Contact Ed McCloskey, Commander for any information @828-787-1660.

### Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 3 - 5

• Smoke Stories - Calliope Shorts: Campfire Stories at the Full Spectrum Farms Pavilion, 1185 Wayehutta Rd. in Cullowhee. Performances are at 7 p.m. and take place outdoors. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$25 for VIP seating and \$16 for children, students and seniors. For tickets: Calliope Shorts | Campfire Stories ([ticketspice.com](http://ticketspice.com))

### Thurs., Nov. 3

• FAME Jr., starring Highlands School Middle School students Thursday at 7:30 at the Performing Arts Theatre on Chestnut Street. The show is FREE but please reserve a seat at [highlandsperformingarts.com](http://highlandsperformingarts.com).

### Fri.-Sat., Nov. 4-12

• At the Highlands Playhouse "A Wrinkle in Time is 7 p.m. on Friday and 2p on Saturdays. All student tickets are free for under 18 and adults pay what they can. School performances are Tues.-Fri at 10a and 1:30p.

### Fri., Nov. 4

• At the Highlands Performing Arts Center, Great Art on Screen: Botticelli Florence & the Medici at 5:30p. For more information call 828-526-9047.

### Sat., Nov. 5

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 2 mile out and back easy hike on the Cove Forest and Anselm's trails. There are several gentle ups and downs. You do not need to be a member to join our hike. Meet in the Piggly Wiggly parking lot in Dillard, GA, at 10 AM and carpool to Patterson Gap out of Dillard, GA on Betty Creek Road. After the hike we will drive a short distance up Betty Creek Road to Barker's Creek Mill to see the mill operate and have lunch (bring your own lunch). Visitors and well behaved dogs are welcome. Bring food and fluids as needed. There is no charge. Reservations are not needed. For more information or in case of foul weather, call hike leader David Stearns at 828-349-7361.

• At the Highlands Performing Arts Center Live via Satellite Met Opera La Treaviata at 1p. Call 828-526-9047.



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Sun., Nov 6

• Join North Carolina's very own Chatham Rabbits fireside at the Highlander Mountain House for the latest in their Salon Series at 5:30p. Tickets on the hotel website [www.highlandermountainhouse.com](http://www.highlandermountainhouse.com)

## Thurs., Nov. 10

"Slippery Salamanders of the Southern Appalachians." Did you know that WNC is the salamander capital of the world? Speaker: Jason Love, Assoc Dir Highlands Biological Station. Thursday at 6pm, Franklin Library. All are welcome. <https://www.nantahalalikingclub.org/>

## Fri., Nov. 11

• Highlands American Legion Post 370 will have a ceremony honoring Veterans Day at 11am at Veterans Plaza across from the Police Station. The Highlands Post 370 veterans invite the community, and veterans families and friends to attend this important Veterans Day recognition ceremony.

• Farm Harvest Dinner & Barn Dance. Book at the Farm. For tickets go to [OldEdwardsHospitality.com/chefdinners](http://OldEdwardsHospitality.com/chefdinners)

## Sat., Nov. 12

• Michael Davidoff's Magic Lantern Productions presents "View from the Highlands" interviews with a few of Highlands WWII Veterans at 3 p.m., at the Highlands Community Building. RSVP at [michael.davidoff225577@gmail.com](mailto:michael.davidoff225577@gmail.com).

• The Literacy & Learning Center will be hosting a Golf Ball Drop fundraiser that will take place on November 12th at Kelsey & Hutchinson Park in Highlands, where one lucky winner, whose ball lands closest to the target will receive \$5,000! Festivities will begin at the park with live music, drinks, food, and fun games that the whole family can enjoy! At the end of the evening, the golf balls will be dropped from a Highlands Fire Department truck ladder, and the ball closest to the target will win the grand prize! Balls are available for purchase at \$10 each and there is no limit to the number of balls one individual can purchase in order to increase their odds. Additionally, you do not have to be present to win. A live stream will be available for you to watch the drop from home!

• Chef Dinner at OEI's Half-Mile Farm, New Orleans Kitchen Collab with Chef Sue Zemanick. Book at [OldEdwardHospitality.com/chefdinners](http://OldEdwardHospitality.com/chefdinners).

[OldEdwardsHospitality.com/chefdinners](http://OldEdwardsHospitality.com/chefdinners).

## Fri., Nov. 25

• At the Highlands Performing Arts Center, Masters of Soul at 7:30p. For more information call 828-526-9047.

## Sat., Nov. 26

• Light Up the Park from 6 to 8 p.m. in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park. Anticipation will fill the mountain air as the community gathers in the park to enjoy treats and a program that includes live music and carols led by Silly Ridge, a display of children's artwork and a reading of the Christmas story. Then, Santa arrives atop a firetruck to usher in the lighting of the park and Main St. Watch the park come alive with thousands of holiday lights that will stay up all season, along with ice skating and photo-op fun.

## Fri., Dec. 2

• At the Highlands Performing Arts Center, Great Art on Screen. Venice: Infinitely Avant Garde at 5:30p. For more information call 828-526-9047.

## Saturdays in December

• Santa in the Park in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park. Santa will appear in the park each Saturday to hear wishes from children of all ages. He will also periodically stop by to retrieve letters placed in a special mailbox in the park.

## Sat., Dec. 3

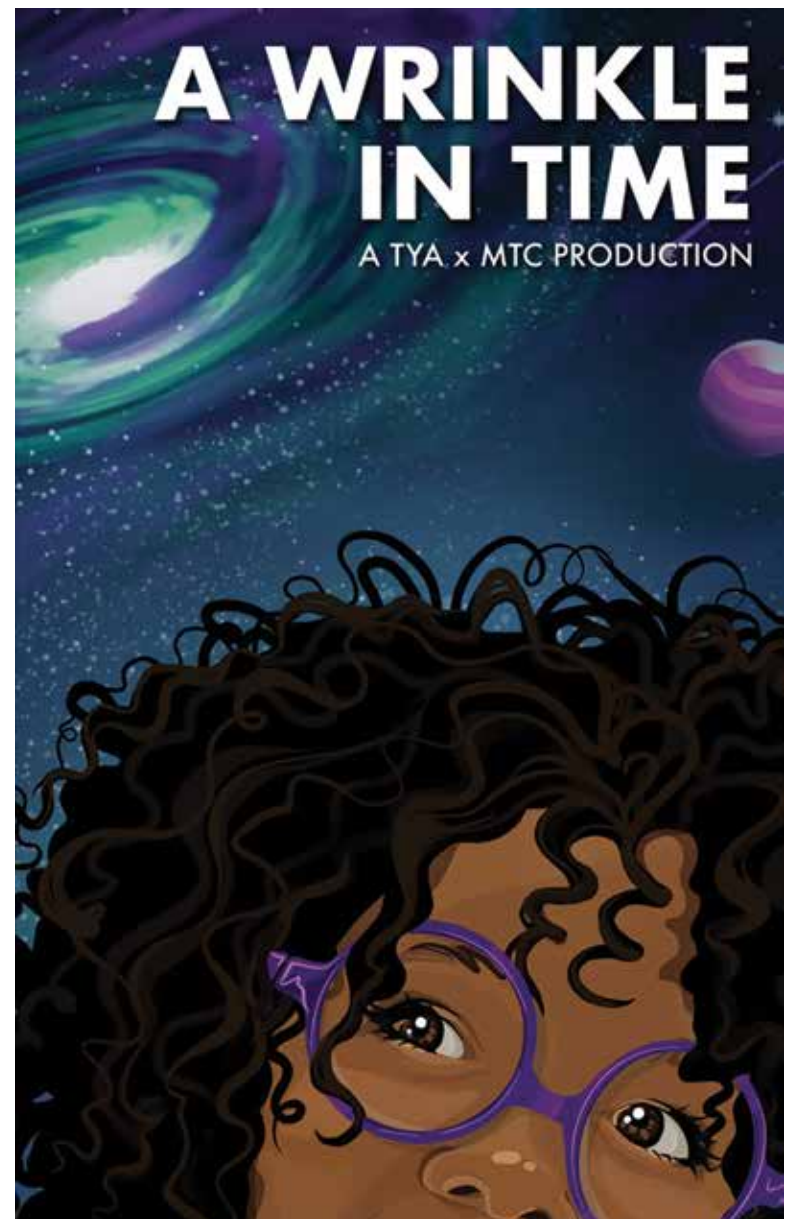
• Highlands Christmas Parade from 10:30 a.m. to Noon along Main St. Marching bands, llamas and camels, creative floats and – of course – Santa Claus as part of this longtime tradition. Those who want to participate in the parade must submit a completed application to the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC no later than Nov. 17. To apply and for more information, email [events@highlandschamber.org](mailto:events@highlandschamber.org) or call 828-526-5841.

## Sat., Dec. 10

• At the Highlands Performing Arts Center Live via Satellite Met Opera The Hours at 1p. For more information call 828-526-9047.

## Dec. 16-31

• The Mountain Theatre Company presents Home for the Holidays, a Christmas Tradition. Celebrate the season as we make magic in the mountains this holiday. at The Playhouse on Oak Street. Wednesday - Saturday @ 7:30p and Saturday & Sunday @ 2p. For tickets go to [www.mountaintheatre.com](http://www.mountaintheatre.com).



## A WRINKLE IN TIME

A Theatre for Young Audiences by Mountain Theatre Company Production  
November 4 - 12

Public Performances:

Fridays @ 7PM | Saturdays @ 2PM

School field trip performances:

Tuesday - Friday @ 10AM & 1:30PM

It was a dark and stormy night when the story of one of literature's most enduring young heroines begins. Meg Murry is a short-tempered math nerd who doesn't fit in. Her scientist father vanished over two years ago, under mysterious circumstances. When a bizarre stranger arrives at Meg's home in the middle of the night, she beckons Meg on a dangerous and extraordinary adventure across time and space. Aided by her gifted younger brother, Charles Wallace, and her friend, Calvin O'Keefe, Meg Murry finds herself on a mission to battle the forces of evil, rescue her father, save humanity, and maybe – just maybe learn something about herself. Madeleine L'Engle's Newberry Medal winning novel comes to life on stage in this breathtaking and exciting theatrical adaptation.

Ticket Information

All student tickets (under the age of 18): FREE

Adult tickets: Pay What You Can!



# Highlands School Fall Teams



**Middle School Soccer**

## **MS Soccer**

Ian Batista, 17; Rowen Carnes, 11; Aidan Dendy, 5; Blaine Dendy, 16; Josh Doerter, 4; Francisco Gooch, 8; Walker Kittrell, 15; Chase Kenter, 13; Timmy McDowell, 7; Michael Munoz, 14; Stephen Pierson, 1; Felix Reyes, 12; Jack Sumner, 19; Hudson Tilley, 9; Tucker Wilson, 3

## **MSVB**

Jordyn Borino, Aubrie Brooks, Mia Craig, Taylor Hayes, Isabella Lopez, Aubrie Potts, Cecilia Torres-Zamudio, Alejandra Valerio, Charlotte Westendorf, Miley Zagal-Damian



**Middle School Volley Ball**



**JV Volleyball**



**Varsity Volleyball**

## **V Soccer**

Inman Ahrens, 2; Alex Barranco, 19; Aiden Crook, 1; James Earp, 25; Finneas Garner, 3; Landon Green, 10; Cooper Hall, 00; Connor Hughes, 18; Bryan Jarqin, 6; Nathan Keener, 5; Aniyah McKim, 7; Owen Munoz, 14; Paulo McCrae, 12; Peyton Naron, 21; Jim DeLa Cruz, 9; Andrew Reyes, 15; Isaiah Vilardo, 8; JD Head, 11; Head Coach: Caleb Brown; Asst. Coach: Brian Crook



**Varsity Soccer**

## **V Volley Ball**

Ezra Branham, India Clark, Olivia Cole, Karmen Jenkins, Aislynn Wyatt Luck, Anna Nichols, Caitlin Tingen, Ashlynn Wilson, Bella Wilson, Caroline Woods, Mackenzie Woods

## **JV Volleyball**

Layla Babac, Olivia Corbin, Catelynn Couch, Shirley Diaz, Katie Earp, Karen Gomez, Cayden Pierson, Jaylin Raby, Birdie Sherwood, Mallory Shriver (manager), AE Woods, Claire Worley, Callie Zachary (manager)

Photos by Brian O'Shea



## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



Mountain Theatre Company Executive Artistic Director Scott Daniel, Marketing and Outreach Director Lindsay Garner Hostetler and Company Manager Emanuel Carrero accept the \$20,000 grant from Visit Highlands, NC as part of its Tourism Grant Program

### Visit Highlands, NC awards grant to Mountain Theatre Company

Visit Highlands, NC today announced its latest nonprofit grant – \$20,000 to Mountain Theatre Company to support its year-round productions

Each year, Visit Highlands, NC supports local nonprofit organizations through its Tourism Grant Program and sponsorships. The grants are funded by occupancy taxes collected from guests staying in Highlands' accommodations. A committee comprised of staff and board members reviews the grant applications and recommends approval to the full Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC Board of Directors.

"It's an honor and a privilege to award these grants," says Kaye McHan, executive director of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC. "Grant recipients such as Mountain Theatre Company provide residents and visitors with important educational and cultural experiences that are vital to a thriving community. Tourism grants are an investment in economic stability and growth, helping to make Highlands a great place to live, visit and do business."

This year, Mountain Theatre Company expanded its programming and evolved

from a summer-only organization to a year-round, full operating regional theatre.

"This year has been the most successful in our organization's 84-year history, and we are thriving in this community, in no small part, thanks to the support of our patrons and incredible organizations like the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC. Our goal at Mountain Theatre Company is to be the crown jewel of this incredible community, and our friends at the Chamber/Visit Highlands are helping us reach that goal with not just their generous grant, but their endless efforts to ensure that the arts are at the forefront of what this beautiful town has to offer to visitors and residents alike."

So far, Mountain Theatre Company has presented three successful shows as part of its 2022 Mainstage Season: "Jersey Boys," "Sentimental Journey" and "BKLYN: The Musical." Next, it will present "A Wrinkle in Time," as part of its Theatre for Young Audiences initiative, Nov. 4 through Nov. 13. All student ticket prices (age 18 and under) for this performance are free, and adult tickets are "pay what you can." The theatre will close its Mainstage Season with "Home for the Holidays," Dec. 16 through Dec. 31.

### COREY JAMES GALLERY & Estate Consignments

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**Go to [www.highlandsinfo.com](http://www.highlandsinfo.com).**

**Click on Local News.**

**Delivered and uploaded every Thursday AM**

### Chestnut Hill,

a residential retirement community on a quiet mountain top in Highlands, NC, has spacious Independent and Assisted Living Apartments. It is a full-service, Medicaid Certified community.



**For further information call Linda Tiffany at  
828-526-5251 or 904-514-4896  
[www.chestnuthillofhighlands.com](http://www.chestnuthillofhighlands.com)**



## Want Natural, Sexy Lips?



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## • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

### Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation, Nantahala Health Foundation & Dogwood Health Trust collaborate for critical home repairs for citizens

Grant applications will be accepted through November 14, 2022

Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation (HCHF), Nantahala Health Foundation (NHF) and Dogwood Health Trust are pleased to announce a continued collaborative initiative to address the need for home repairs in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties and the Qualla Boundary.

Dogwood Health Trust is supporting the Healthy Homes Initiative and the work of HCHF and NHF with a \$400,000 grant. The initiative is targeted to owner-occupied homes of individuals at 60 percent of the area median income (AMI), including a slate of USDA-qualified allowances. This funding assistance is intended for homeowners who are unable to afford the repairs needed to maintain the health and safety of their home's occupants, as well as home modifications required to address physical challenges, disabilities or barriers to aging safely in their homes.

"Our partnerships with Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation and Nantahala Health Foundation are vital to our ability to help create a region where everyone can live, learn, earn and thrive, with-

out exception," said Dr. Susan Mims, CEO of Dogwood Health Trust. "We know that having safe and stable housing is a key driver of health outcomes. HCHF and NHF have deep relationships in their communities and are already working closely with local partners to help keep residents safely in their homes and on a path toward better health."

HCHF and NHF have launched a new grant cycle specifically requesting proposals from non-profit, governmental and faith-based organizations that have demonstrated success in the past identifying and implementing critical home repairs and rehabilitation projects. Both Foundations' leaders say they look forward to reviewing applications, awarding grants, and working together to address safe, equitable and affordable housing for those in need throughout their service area.

"We are grateful to collaborate with Dogwood Health Trust and Nantahala Health Foundation in this very important initiative" says Robin Tindall, CEO and Executive Director of HCHF. "The need for this important initiative

is eye-opening and too often goes unnoticed. Good health starts at home, and we are excited to continue to work with many of our local no-profit partners to improve the health and well-being for those who struggle with the costs to make the necessary repairs to their homes."

"Our region's low-income individuals and families with children, our senior population and those with physical challenges have enough to think about every day without the added burden and expense of home repairs to ensure their health and safety," said Nantahala Health Foundation Executive Director Lori Bailey. "In partnership with non-profit home-repair specialists and with this generous support from Dogwood Health Trust, we can safeguard home ownership and preserve our region's existing housing stock, both of which are essential components of our mission to improve health and wellbeing for all who call Western North Carolina home."

Grant applications will be accepted through November 14, 2022. Information regarding the grant application process can be found on both HCHF and NHF's websites.

### The plight of Mirror Lake

At the meeting held on September 27, 2022, Rotary Club of Highlands welcomed Pat Gleeson, President of the Mirror Lake Improvement Assoc. Gleeson spoke of the efforts and challenges of cleaning up and dredging Mirror Lake and the importance of improving it not only for health of the lake but for the public to enjoy for years to come. Gleeson was presented at the meeting by rotary host, Marjorie Christenson.



From left: President Chris Wilks, Marjorie Christenson and Pat Gleeson.





# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •



## Why Be a Spoke in the Wheel?

**Fr. Jason Barone**  
Our Lady of the Mountains  
Catholic Church

Reverend Mark Ford in his Spoke in the Wheel article in the Spiritually Speaking column of the Oct. 27 edition of Highlands Newspaper made salient points regarding the need for the Church to speak up against harmful ideologies plaguing society.

As a priest and pastor, this article made me reflect upon the ultimate reason for this grand responsibility.

Some people are contrarian and disagreeable by nature – they are eager to admonish or simply adopt the opposite position in seemingly any situation. (For humor's sake, I have been waiting to accuse a contrarian for being a contrarian just to see their response.)

Perhaps some are tempted to think of the Church as needlessly playing the societal gadfly whenever offering an admonishing voice in the secular sphere. However, being combative for combativeness sake is not the mission of the Church, but rather to “preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching” (2 Tim 4:2).

Being pulled into the vortex of politics or conidian controversies is quite easy, but in these matters taking a step back and keeping perspective is in order.

The Church's voice rightly sounds like a voice in the wilderness sometimes because her origin is not from this world. The Church, as a supernatural society, has one object as its origin, mission, and teleological purpose: Christ. So, the ultimate question is: who is Christ?

If Jesus of Nazareth was merely an itinerant preacher, who did great things, but was only a human person, then calls for his church, as any other earthly institution, to stay in its lane and not meddle in politics may make more sense. But if Jesus is truly God who took on human flesh, then what He founded is unlike any other society. Like Christ Himself, His Church looks human and visible; however, like her Master, she too is divine and invisible. It is therefore the role of the Church to keep her nature and mission in mind when interacting with the world.

Man, including every culture and generation, is fallen, sinful, and in need of a savior. Our societal sins, much like our personal sins, often have blind spots. A couple generations ago experienced institutional racism. Today we tolerate an ever-broadening variety of sexual license and the termination of innocent life in the womb. Imagine that...we tolerate over 90% of down syndrome babies in utero being aborted simply because they will require a special type of love. Society needs a voice unlike all others – one that has

• See SPIRITUALLY page 27

## 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. Aryn Williams-Reubel. 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**  
828-743-1701 • 464 Hwy 64E. Cashiers, NC 28717  
www.christanglicancashiers.com

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

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street - Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.  
Testimony meeting: 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard  
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.  
1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays – Supper at 6 p.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685  
3645 Cashiers Rd. Highlands, NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins  
Sundays: Service 10:45am, Children's 10:30am

Wednesdays: Youth 5:30-7pm; Women's Bible Study: Mondays  
4:30pm, Tuesdays 10am; Men's Bible Study: Wednesdays &  
Thursdays 7am @ Zookeeper Bistro

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

706. 746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447  
Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

Worship: Sun. 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion 2nd Sunday  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**

Rev. W. Bentley Manning, Rector • 526-2968  
5th and Main streets • www.incarnationwnc.org  
Sunday Services Chapel: Rite I spoken, 8a. Rite II with Choir in  
Sanctuary 10:30a; Morning Prayer Mon-Thurs 8:30a in Chapel

### 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  
828-526-3175 • fpchighlands.org  
Sun.: Adult Ed.: 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.  
Tues: Men's Group 10 a.m. Wed: Bell Choir 4 p.m.. Choir: 6p

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)  
Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am  
**GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS**  
Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship  
242 Hwy 107N. 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers  
www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter 743-9814  
Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed. Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street  
Wed. Bible Study: 6 p.m.; Sundays: Worship: 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson • 11339 Buck Creek Road  
The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily  
sharing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.  
Sunday Worship is at 9a. Wednesday Worship is 6:30p

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas. Pastor 526-3376  
In-Person and live-streamed Worship Services  
909a Bluegrass and 11a Traditional  
www.highlandsmethodist.org

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741  
Worship/Communion: 10:30 All are welcome.  
Visit our website: Holy Family Lutheran Highlands NC

### 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.

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

Franklin • 828-634-1312 • mountainsynagoguewnc.com.  
Services: 1st /Fri. and 3rd Sat.  
and Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur.

### 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: Wed. noon (Latin); Thurs. 9:30a; Sat. 4p; Sun. 11a  
**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: Tues. noon (Latin). Thurs. 9a.; Fri.. noon;  
Sat. 5:30p; Sun. 9a

### THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 S.. Office: • 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood  
Sunday Services: 8a. 9:30 & 11a  
Visit our website www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com for  
schedules of activities both virtual and in-person.  
Bazaar Barn is open Fri. & Sat. 10a -2p.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive. Franklin • ufranklin.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 Sept. 12. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

## Sept. 12

• At noon, officers received a call about a laptop being stolen at 200 Main.

## Oct. 14

• At 1:30 p.m., officers were called about someone cutting trees without owners permission on South Drive.

## Oct. 24

• At 9:30 a.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Poplar Street.

## Oct. 15

• A little after midnight, Modesto Nicar Torres, 36, of Highlands, was arrested for DUI when pulled over due to a stoplight violation. He was issued a \$1,500 unsecured bond. His court date is Nov. 9.

• At noon, officers were called about larceny of \$800 from a locker at a commercial building on Hummingbird Lane.

## Oct. 25

• At 9:30 a.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Main and S. 3rd Street.

• At 9:45 a.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident at Sherwood Forest road.

• At 1:13 a.m., Stephen Alonzo, 38, of Highlands, was arrested for DUI on Horse Cove Road. He was issued at \$1,500 unsecured bond. His court date is Nov. 17.

## Oct. 26

• At 3:30 p.m., officers received a call about credit card fraud at MidPoint Restaurant where \$926.88 was charged for purchases without permission.

## Oct. 27

• At 4:55 p.m., officers received a call about a cell phone being taken from a residence on Laurel Street.

## Oct. 30

• At 2 p.m., officers were called about a domestic disturbance in an apartment in Wright Square.

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Oct. 25.**

## Oct. 25

• At 9:36 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident between a vehicle and a pedestrian on Main Street.

• At 9:40 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 east.

• At 3:05 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location in Highlands Plaza.

• At 3:46 p.m., the dept. provided public on Clear Creek Road.

## Oct. 26

• At 8:51 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Highgate Road.

• At 10:53 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clear Creek Road.

• At 9:14 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of an unattended fire on Blue Valley Falls Road.

## Oct. 27

• At 3:19 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a possible gas leak at a loca-

tion on Oak Street.

• At 11:36 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.

## Oct. 28

• At 11:41 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

• At 3:07 p.m., the dept. investigated to location of smoke on NC 106.

## Oct. 29

• At 8:47 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Streamside Lane.

• At 9:19 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on NC 106.

## Oct. 30

• At 1:11 a.m., the dept. responded

to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Woodlilly Way.

• At 1:26 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a location on Spring Street.

• At 7:30 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Old Orchard Road.

## Oct. 31

• At 2:31 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Horse Cove Road.

• At 1:58 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Split Rail Row.

• At 2:54 p.m. the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Split Rail Row.

## Highlands Police Department Notice of Sale of Unclaimed Property

Notice is hereby given that the Highlands Police Department, Highlands North Carolina, has in their possession, Computer Equipment, Jewelry, Keys and Key Rings, Pocket Knives, Driver's Licenses, Books, Wallets, Purses, Credit and Debit Cards, Clothing, Eyeglasses and Sunglasses, Cell Phones, Electronics, US Currency, Firearms, and other various items which have been turned in to the department as found property and have been held for a time greater than the required preservation time as described by state law.

The Highlands Police Department will offer said articles for auction beginning on December 1, 2022. A more detailed list of items available is posted at the Macon County Courthouse, Highlands Police Department, Highlands Town Hall, and Highlands Civic Center.

Auction of suitable property will be handled by [www.govdeals.com](http://www.govdeals.com) and funds from the auctioned property will be turned over to the Macon County Public School System.

Unclaimed property will be donated to a charity organization. Property not suitable for donation or auction will be destroyed.

*This notice is given in accordance with provisions of the General Statutes of North Carolina, Chapter 15, Section 14.*

## ...SPIRITUALLY continued from page 26

the perspective to identify dangers and sins and to sound the alarm both for the health of society and the supernatural health of souls.

Jesus, who is God, founded the Church two millennia ago promising that "the gates of hell will never prevail" (Mt 16:18) against her and that He would "remain with ... [the Church] until the consummation of the world" (Mt 28:28). This divine promise of indefectibility gives the Church a timeless and universal character and therefore the perspective and prophetic charism to lead errant societies back to virtue.

G.K. Chesterton once warned: "He who marries the spirit of the times will soon find himself a widower." For the Church to succumb to the age in her rhetoric

or silence means forfeiting her nature and mission and thus divorcing her divine Spouse for a momentary fling with the passing culture.

The Church must remain wedded to the divine Christ "who is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Heb 13:8). She must therefore remain wedded to her mission as beautifully articulated by St. Paul: "For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own likings, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander into myths.

As for you, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry" (2 Tim 4:3-5).



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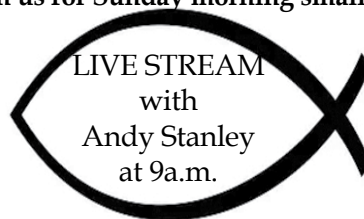
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## ...VIRUSES continued from page 1

any time since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020.

In fact, RSV and the flu are usually present in January and February so they are months ahead of the norm.

Walgreens launched the 2022-'23 flu index at the end of October to help communities track flu activity and after reporting numbers for nine years, this year the Walgreens Flu Index shows that to date, overall flu activity is more than 10 times higher nationwide when compared to the 2021-2022 flu season and has more than doubled over the past two weeks. The index also shows that North Carolina ranks 7th amongst all States with the highest flu activity.

On October 24, 518 of the district's 4,511 students were absent -- meaning 11.48 percent of the students in Macon County were out of school. That number increased to 522 on October 25. In the

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school's total enrollment being absent on the same day.

In North Carolina, flu infections are most common from late fall to early spring with activity usually peaking in January or February. The following precautions should be taken to protect against the spread of flu and other viruses:

Get your flu vaccine. Flu vaccines can be given at the same time as bivalent COVID-19 boosters for those who are eligible.

Stay home from work or school when sick to avoid spreading infection to others.

Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then discard the tissue promptly.

To layer up protection, people can practice the 3Ws — wearing a face covering over your nose and mouth, waiting 6 feet apart, and washing your hands often can help slow the spread of flu and other respiratory viruses.

## Highlands School Varsity Soccer advances to the 1st round of state playoffs

Congratulations to the Highlands Varsity Boys soccer team for their 6-1 win over Murphy Tuesday night in the 1st round of the state playoffs.

The boys advance to play Thursday vs. Union Academy. The game is at Highlands at 5 pm.

The cost is \$7 cash or digital tickets on GoFan. It's \$3 for Highlands School students cash only at the gate.



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