Potential sediment release and build up plagues town

Though Highlands didn’t suffer as much as other areas hit by Hurricane Ivan September of 2004, the hurricane left Ivan Island in the middle of Big Creek as a reminder that sediment will forever plague the town’s water supply. During the watershed review portion of the town’s mid-year review in February, the dredging of Big Creek and Randall Lake – further up Big Creek off Flat Mountain Road – was outlined by McGill Associates representative Mike Waresak.

Every year since 2004 the prospect of dredging Big Creek has been discussed but the cost of taking on the project is daunting. Preliminary budget estimates are $2.1 million to dredge Big Creek; 400,000 to dredge Randall Lake; and $800,000 to replace Randall Lake Dam for a total of $3.3 million – and that doesn’t include the dredging to start at 8:30 am. Thursday, April 10

- Candidate Q&A sponsored by the League of Women Voters at First Presbyterian Church of Franklin’s Tartan Hall at noon. Bring your own lunch.

- Voter registration deadline for the 2014 May 6 primary. If mailed, must be postmarked by this date. Registration forms are at the Election Office in the MC Courthouse or available online at www.maconnc.org, click on the Board of Elections link. Call 828-349-2034 for more info.

- Annual Gorge Clean Up. Call Jennifer Cunningham at 526-2112 to sign up. Clean up will start at 9 a.m. Lunch at Cliffside Lake for the cookout. Meet at the Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center at 8:30 a.m.

- At First Presbyterian Church, Service of Passion Narrative at the 11 a.m worship service.

- Deadline to apply for the Town of Highlands Scholarship. Applications received after this deadline won’t be accepted.

- Highlands Dialogue meets at the Hudson Library at 10 a.m. “America After The Bomb.” (Handout available at the Hudson Library). Coordinator: Bill West.

- EvEnts

• What makes you the best candidate?

The May 6 Primary will determine who will be on the ballot come November 4 of this year. Republicans incumbent James Tate and John Shearl, are facing off for the Macon County Commission seat for District I. Democrats Nichol Tallent, incumbent Philip “Todd” Raby, and Kenneth Blaine are running for Register of Deeds.

Republicans incumbent Robert Holland and Bryan Carpenter are running for Sheriff of Macon County.

Democrats Jane Hipps and Ron Robinson are running for Senator Jim Davis’ seat for District 50.

Each was asked the following question:

“What are you the best candidate for the office you are seeking?”

- See CANDIDATE page 5

County OKs funds to get B of Elections through 2014

With between $50,000 and $55,000 missing from the Board of Elections office coffers, and with the May 6 Primary looming, members of the board came to the MC Commission meeting Tuesday night with hat in hand.

Luke Bateman, chairman of the Board of Elections board, asked commissioners for a budget amendment of $41,458 to get through the rest of FY 2013-14. That figure was arrived at after staff and board members whittled down expenses to bare bones and appropriated $15,089 from its election fees account. The figure would have been $56,547.

“We are being as diligent as we can with what we have left,” said Bateman. “We have made all the cuts we can. There are election expenses with conducting the Primary – ballots, absentee paper work, poll workers – it’s money for election expenses; what we need to conduct this election.”

MC Finance Director Lori Hall said the $41,458 can be appropriated from the county’s FY 2013-14 contingency fund and about $63,000 will be left.

“By state statute, we have to make this department whole,” said Hall.
I have been told that outside the box questions have to be asked about the town’s electricity issues. Such as, what are the alternatives to depending on Duke? How can Highlands generate its own power?

I have asked the same questions and have learned that all power resources involve substantial investment, and all have environmental implications for this beautiful plateau. Besides, I suspect any power enterprise located in Highlands would generate the outcry of, “not in my backyard.”

For instance, no one wants to be near a nuclear power plant. Even green technologies like wind turbines raise concerns, such as appearance and harm to wild birds. Similar concerns can be raised about big solar farms located in large swaths of land like sides of mountains. Furthermore, all these power options would take huge amounts of capital to become operational.

Many people have suggested we go back to generating power from a new, modern hydro plant built on or below the lake Sequoyah dam. There are issues with this plan too. The town would have to get an operating license since the original permit expired years ago. If we start the license application now, we would have it within a decade and about a million dollars later. While the town has the title to the dam, the title to the old power plant site cannot be found. A title may not exist, and no one knows who authorized its operation back around 1926. The old plant is on US Forest Service property.

Some entrepreneurs considered hydro generation from Sequoyah in the 1990s. Even an expert in hydro generation from Norway was consulted. The group discovered that Lake Sequoyah would pretty much have to be continuously drained for the plant just to financially break even. Given Highlands was buying additional power by the 1950s to meet demand, 10,000 summer residents depending on hydro power could trigger problems.

What to do about Highlands’ utilities... continued
Mayor Pat Taylor

California type brownouts.
Our problems would not be solved by getting back into hydro generation. We would have to continue buying Duke power, but after a couple of decades a small profit could be realized from the sale of power back to Duke.

The state is currently engaged in discussions with the town about cold water release from the Sequoyah Dam. Solving this problem and operating a hydro plant would be very problematic, along with obtaining other environmental permits.

The painful truth is there are no immediate alternatives to supplying the power needs of Highlands. We can reduce our personal power consumption, but most of us are caught in the trap of modern living. We are boxed in whereby reducing power consumption is not very feasible.

In this current budget planning cycle, we...
Obituary

Ulmer Hamilton Parrish, Jr.

Ulmer Hamilton Parrish, Jr., 83, of Highlands, NC died Saturday, April 5, 2014. Born in Dade Co., FL, he was the son of the late Ulmer Hamilton and Grace Nichols Parrish. He was a graduate of Stetson University; a veteran of the US Army; a member of the American Legion and a Realtor.

Mr. Parrish is survived by June Lee Parrish; three sons, Ulmer Hamilton Parrish, III, William Davidson Parrish, and Mark Grayson Parrish all of Warner Robbins, GA and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Thank You

who helped make our recent Classic Movie Soiree a success. Despite a little cool weather, it was a great kick off to our campaign to raise the funds to complete Kelsey-Hutchinson Park. It could not have happened without the cooperation of the board of the Highlands Playhouse, who provided a truly wonderful movie venue for the screening of West Side Story. The Playhouse staff was great as well, from the projectionist to the folks in the box office.

We especially want to thank the local restaurants that participated by providing a wonderful array of tasty treats and beverages. Thanks to Buck’s Coffee Shop, Nick Figel of Cyprus, Debbie Grossman of Fressers, Jerry Moore of Kilwins and Thomas Craig of The Ugly Dog Pub. We also want to thank all of our media sponsors: Steve Day of WHLC Radio, The Highlander Newspaper, and Highlands Newspaper for helping to spread the word. Special thanks also goes to the staff of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for preparing the posters, ads, and other printed materials for the event. And I would like to personally thank all the volunteers from the Coalition, and beyond, who worked so hard to make the event enjoyable.

Finally, thanks to all of you who bought tickets and came out to support this effort to make Kelsey-Hutchinson Park a special place that will be enjoyed both now and for many generations to come.

Nicholas G Bazan
Chairman
Founders Park Coalition

MAYOR ON DUTY

the town board and staff will be evaluating options for managing and containing electric costs. In my next article I will address several of these options, such as electric rate and/or tax increases, cutting back town services, or the town absorbing these persistent rate increases for as long as possible.

Sediment

include property acquisition. The lake and dam are currently owned by Bob Nass who owns Skyline Lodge off Flat Mountain Road.

If funding was attained, agency approvals for the project would be needed from Army Corps, NC Dept. of Water Quality, NC Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources and the NC Wildlife Resource Commission.

It’s estimated that there are over 4.9 acres – or 42,400 cubic yards – of sediment in Big Creek which causes drinking water treatment issues. In fact, it is the main reason the town is putting another water intake valve in Lake Sequoyah.

Some years ago, when it was hoped that funding for dredging Big Creek would come through, acquiring private property on each side of the creek for easements halted plans and so the town turned to Lake Sequoyah.

But according to McGill Associates, sediment in Big Creek will always be a problem, unless the town takes control of the “source” of the sediment, which is Randall Lake and its dam.

“Randall Lake is the source of a lot of sediment,” said Waresak.

He estimates that Randall Lake now holds two acres of sediment – 8,000 cubic yards -- which could find its way into Big Creek. Taking control of the lake would be optimum, but it would require significant repairs and funding, he said.

Frye said the town would have to borrow the money to fund such a project. “We
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Jim Tate

**MC District I Commissioner**

I would love the opportunity to continue to serve Highlands and Macon County for the next four years. The experience and knowledge that I have gained thus far will only help me to improve my ability to work for Highlands and for Macon County.

I believe my record and work ethic speaks for itself. Some of the accomplishments that I am most proud of are:

• Macon County currently has the lowest property tax rate in North Carolina while still providing the services that we all expect.

• Macon County is in excellent financial condition with an A+ credit rating, a healthy fund balance and an operating budget that is less than 2007’s operating budget.

• Macon County’s total debt has decreased by almost $4 million since I took office.

• During my service as a Macon County Commissioner we have provided significant funding for Highlands School renovations as well as assisted the Town financially with various projects such as the pool renovation and the Hudson Library security system. Also, with my aid, the County was able to add over 3 acres of contiguous property to Zachary Park for Highlands’ future recreational needs.

• In the years I have been serving Macon County, the county’s unemployment rate has dropped significantly and our revenues from occupancy and sales tax have increased dramatically.

• I have an insatiable desire to serve our community and I hope that the voters of Macon County will offer me the opportunity to go back to work for them.

John Shearl

I am a true conservative candidate. To the best of my knowledge Commissioner Tate has never voted against any spending measures while serving on the Board of Commissioners. He has voted in favor of spending and borrowing millions of dollars on the taxpayer’s backs. I disagree with the increase of the budget and excessive spending by our County Government.

I feel that my conservative values and ideas would better protect the taxpayers of Macon County.

Nikki Tallent

I am a people’s person who enjoys making a difference. I am self-motivated and I also motivate the people working with me. I can assure you that I will be an asset to the Register of Deeds Office. I would appreciate your vote on May 6th.

Todd Raby

I am the Incumbent; I was elected to the office in 2006 and have 7 1/2 years’ experience working for Macon County.

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CANDIDATE continued from page 5

I am seeking re-election for my third term as Register of Deeds and I am asking the people of Macon County for their support so I can continue to serve them in this awesome capacity. Early voting starts April 24, 2014 – May 3, 2014. Please get out on this Midterm Primary election and make your vote count, let’s have record turnout numbers in 2014! And remember I am asking for your vote too.

Kenneth Blaine
I am a native of Macon County. This is my home. I graduated from Franklin High School in 1980, I served three years in the military. I worked for Penland Contracting for 24 years. I have an Associate degree in Business and in Gunology. I was the sole owner and operator of Misty Mountain Gun Works for nine years. The Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) has very strict guidelines in maintaining and keeping accurate and safe records. I have always had a passion to serve Macon County. I think that stems from my childhood and growing up around the courthouse. The Register of Deeds would provide me with that opportunity. In my opinion, it is the most important office in Macon County. It is the tractable history of our county. I will head the office of Register of Deeds proudly, courteously, accurately, and in an efficient and timely manner.

Robert Holland
I want to be Sheriff because this is where I live and I want my community to be the safest community it can possibly be. We have worked extremely hard to accomplish great things. We have seen our property crimes decrease. We have seen our violent crimes decrease. We have seen our drug arrests increase. I established the Sheriff’s Narcotics Unit shortly after I was elected which has allowed us to focus on drugs in our county. We have seen our prevention efforts increased along with the numerous programs implemented. We have a successful conviction rate for crimes committed against our citizens. We have seen an increased effort in patrols throughout our community and that extends to Highlands where there has been a deputy assigned 24/7 since the moment I took Office, just as I promised. We have seen more officers getting involved with our youth and in our schools. While this only names a few, these examples prove that I am an effective leader. I see to it that tasks are assigned and completed and that our goals are accomplished. Under my leadership, the MCSO has, and continues to be a “Pro-Active” law enforcement agency. I have a great group of professional, hardworking, dedicated individuals working for me who strive daily to keep Macon County one of the safest communities in North Carolina. I’m proud of each of them and our community should be as well.

My stance has remained the same my entire career, even long before being elected Sheriff. I have always remained committed to making a difference in my community. I truly believe we are making a difference and I am proud of the many accomplishments we have made. While we have accomplished many great things we still have additional work ahead of us. I am confident I am the candidate that has the experience and the ability to continue leading our agency in the right direction. The Citizens deserve the very best of the fair, honest and professional law enforcement officers that I have serving along side me and this is what the citizens will continue to receive as long as I serve as Sheriff.

Bryan Carpenter
I would like to see a positive difference in our county and communities. Drugs have somehow made their way in and I will do everything I can to STOP the flow of them. I also believe I can do the job as good or even better for up to 25% less; saving the taxpayers of Macon County money, which can then be put toward our schools, library and county youth programs for after school and during school hours.

I would love to have more community involvement such as community watches, programs for our youth to help prevent drug use from an early age and to show them that there are officers out there who care. Some of what they hear and see on television is negative. I would also try to improve our county by having more inmate roadside programs, faster response times and improving the relationship between our officers and the citizens by having them stationed in their communities. I would be proud to serve as Sheriff of Macon County.
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Established through the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation Employee Campaign in 2013, a scholarship fund was created with Dr. David M. Wheeler’s foresight in mind and offers financial assistance to current employees giving them the opportunity to expand their professional education. Awards are made for a wide range of instructive activities and endeavors based on the availability of funds.

Two recipients at the Hospital, Cindy Barloga, RN and Nursing Officer Bonnie Simonson are the latest to benefit from the Dr. David Wheeler Scholarship fund.

For Patient/Employee Case Manager Cindy Barloga, RN, BSN, CCM, CPHM the scholarship will offer the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) training course for Infection preventionists at the CDC global headquarters in Atlanta in March. “We, as a facility, input denominator data for various surgical cases and any resultant surgical site infection into CDC’s National Health Safety Network,” said Barloga. “We also input data on catheter acquired urinary tract infections, central line associated blood stream infections, and any multidrug resistant organisms. All data must be correctly submitted to the CDC NHSN web portal. The Wheeler Scholarship will ensure that I have the training and tools to stay up to date in my career field.”

For Bonnie Simonson, MS, RN, Interim Chief Nursing Officer, the scholarship afforded her staff the opportunity to expand the scope of their nursing skills. All nursing staff will benefit from having the ability to complete continuing education through a service company that provides online learning for nurses. There are over 700 courses for continuing education and over 40 nursing certification programs available. Most importantly, they will have the flexibility to access accredited continuing education programs either from the Hospital or at home, which has been an ongoing struggle as our nurses, in the past, have traveled great distances to complete educational requirements and further their career.

To date the fund holds nearly $9,000 with more than seven employees receiving help for educational training/courses. In order to qualify for assistance from the Dr. David M. Wheeler Scholarship, an applicant must have a minimum employment of 12 months at HCH and work a minimum of two days per week at the time of their application submission. Members of the Scholarship’s Committee, who are employee peers, will then review scholarship applications. Quarterly awards are based on performance, demonstration of personal character, financial need, and availability of funds.

...CANDIDATE continued from page 6

**Dr. David Wheeler Scholarship Fund benefits nurses at HCH**

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Jane Hips
NC Senate District 50

I am running for the State Senate because I believe that Western North Carolina deserves strong education, a clear plan for economic recovery, and increased access to quality healthcare. My late husband, Charles Hips, told me a few months before his death in 2003 that it was time for me to run for political office. I always kept this in the back of my mind and with a surge of public encouragement after the regressive bills being passed that impacted education from early childhood to the university level, restricted voter rights, voted away health care benefits for half a million of our neediest adult citizens, ignored the need for pay raises to our teachers and state employees, disregarded our environmental quality, reduced unemployment benefits for those struggling to find new employment and gave tax cuts to the wealthy and large corporations, I accepted the responsibility and decided to run for public office in order to restore stability for our citizens in these far western counties of Western North Carolina and our State.

Ron Robinson

North Carolina was a national leader until this General Assembly began its campaign to tear down everything that made our state a great state. I am running to reverse the damage and pure hostility directed toward our families, children, teachers and schools and our neighbors in need. I want to help our state become a great state once again and to bring prosperity and respect to our seven westernmost counties.

– Kim Lewicki
Highlands Cashiers Hospital announces schedule for the upcoming season of health screenings

Area residents will have the opportunity to find out if they are in good health, as Highlands-Cashiers Hospital again hosts complimentary community health screenings in the area.

This will be the 20th season that the Hospital has offered free health screenings. Nearly 400 people took advantage of last year’s series of screenings. HCH has planned two screenings this season, one in Highlands and one in Cashiers. The Highlands screening will take place on the first floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic Wednesday, May 28th. The Cashiers screening will be held at Blue Ridge School on Wednesday, June 18th.

Each screening will begin at 7:15 a.m. and will be limited to the first 150 registrants; however, priority will be given to those with addresses in the hospital’s service area. For the Highlands screening, priority will be given to residents in Highlands, Scaly Mountain and Sky Valley areas. For the Cashiers screening, residents with zip codes for Cashiers, Glenville, Sapphire, Mill Creek and Yellow/Cullowhee Mountain areas will be given priority. Those from other areas or residents who cannot attend their local screening will be placed on a waiting list and accommodated if a slot should open up or go unfilled.

Community residents can begin registering for one of the two screenings now. The Hospital’s Foundation Office schedules participants by time slots to help reduce waiting times.

Participants will be checked for height and weight, BMI (body mass index), blood pressure, blood oxygen saturation level, cholesterol and triglyceride levels, glucose (blood sugar) levels, and white and red blood cell counts (to detect anemia and infection). Men over the age of 50 will also receive a blood test to help detect prostate cancer (PSA).

In addition to the various tests, a dietitian/nutritionist will be on hand to discuss healthy eating and exercise habits, and a physical therapist will be available to evaluate balance and strength. Hearing tests and ear examinations will also be conducted at the screenings as well as several other health services. Everyone will enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast.

A wealth of health information is also available. There is no age limit, but minors require parental consent.

Due to the nature of the tests being offered, those participating in screenings are asked not to eat or drink anything but water after midnight the night before. Confidential results of screening tests will be reviewed by the participant’s own family physician/provider (or another local physician/provider if no family doctor is specified) before being mailed out.

Those wishing to take advantage of either screening MUST register by calling (828) 526-1435 or visiting the Hospital’s website at www.highlandscashiershospital.org.

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• See DINING OUT page 21
can’t ‘pay as we go’ for this,” he said.

Waresak said sediment has been released into Big Creek in the past and it will likely happen again. He said Randall Dam is severely deteriorated and leaking significantly, which isn’t helping the situation.

Mayor Pat Taylor said he realized this would have to be addressed “down the road, but our water supply won’t take care of itself.”

“If nothing is done, we could be looking at another case of man-made wetlands like in Mirror Lake,” he said.

“Luckily, Waresak said Ivan Island isn’t growing.

Frye said the town’s stance at this time is that it’s a good idea, but it’s expensive.

“So if it were to happen, it would be several years into the future before it could be done,” he said.

– Kim Lewicki

...SEDIMENT continued from page 3

financially. This is due to the money that was misappropriated — money the Board of Elections no longer has,” she said.

The board unanimously voted to appropriate the funds and make the budget amendment. Commissioner Ronnie Beale made the motion and Commissioner Ron Haven seconded it.

“It is what it is at this point. The department has to have the money,” said Beale.

Bateman said they just want to get this election done and get the office running as it should be, and it is currently being run correctly, he said.

“I’d like to publicly commend Deb George and Melanie — they picked up the pieces and are really doing a stellar job,” he said.

The State Board of Elections and SBI are conducting the investigation involving money that was found missing from the Board of Elections office in January of this year. To save the county money, the State Auditor is conducting a forensic audit — an audit that would have cost $25,000. The outcome of the investigation is expected to be released in three weeks.

Commissioner Chair Kevin Corbin asked if a party or parties are found responsible for the missing funds, would they be asked to make restitution.

County Attorney Chester Jones said yes, potentially. “I expect the District Attorney would request that, so the missing money could come back to the county, but I wouldn’t count it until you have it in your hand.”

Commissioner Paul Higdon said the whole affair bothers him and Commissioner Corbin said the entire board agrees with his sentiment.

“We are entrusted by the taxpayers to save and guard their valuable dollars and we failed them,” said Higdon.

Board of Elections board member Gary Dills said the affair represents multiple failures along the line.

As to safeguards for the future, Bateman said there are now measures in place to keep this from happening again and Finance Director Hall said she has made changes in the Finance Department as well.

“Once we get the reports back from the investigation, we are going to see what we can do to ensure that this never happens again,” said County Manager Derek Roland.

– Kim Lewicki

**The Community Table is set for Tues., April 22**

“A Community that Feeds the Body and the Soul”

People in Highlands are hungry. There are widows and widowers who eat alone every night. There are people who work hard for a living and find it hard to put food on the table. There are people who have lost jobs due to cutbacks and business relocation.

After sharing stories of how many people could be affected by a simple meal once a week, the group of concerned citizens are ready to feed people both physically and spiritually.

At the March 20 Town Board meeting the board voted to allow the Community Building to be used once a week and the first meal will be April 22 at 6pm and each Tuesday thereafter. It’s free and for everyone — rich, poor, young and old. It will be a time to fellowship and a time to break bread together.

Each week a different community group will cook and serve. Reservations aren’t needed. Participants will simply be fed physically as well as spiritually within this sense of “community.”

“We are hoping that this will be such a big event that others will want to model this; to simply feed people in their community” said Jennifer Forrester Children and Youth Director at Highlands United Methodist Church. “It is not over organized; it is simple, we all need to eat, why not do it together?”

For more information on the Community Table, contact Kristy Lewis at Sports Page or Jennifer Forrester at HUMC.
On Palm Sunday April 13, Highlands First Presbyterian Church will present a Service of the Passion Narrative. The service will begin with a silent procession of palms as an echo of the day, and then will commence with the observance of the Passion of our Lord. There will be readings from the 18th and 19th chapters of John’s gospel interspersed with choral responses by the choir and congregational hymns. The Passion Service will be led by Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor, accompanied by the Chancel Choir and guest Oboist, Kelly O’Dell. Everyone is cordially invited to attend this special service. The church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

Students rehearse for ‘Little Women’

Katy Potts, Taylor Crawford, Destiny Ferra Martin, Raina Trent and Tiffany Preda rehearse Little Women. A PAC Youth Theater production, April 24, 25, 26 & 27. Tickets available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands
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Preventing Drainage Problems this Spring Season

(StatePoint) Drainage problems in and around your home are not just an eyesore, they can cause costly damage, health issues and “surprise” repair costs in the future.

“The causes of excess water are numerous, and at this time of year, many parts of the country can be affected by snow melt and spring showers,” says Ryan Larsen, a civil engineer. “Luckily, you can take steps to prevent these issues from cropping up, as well as permanently solve current problems.”

Known as “Dr. Drainage” at NDS, Inc, a nationwide leader in landscape drainage solutions, Larsen is offering timely tips for spotting and addressing home drainage issues:

**Your Yard**

Low points can easily turn into “water reservoirs,” forming muddy puddles that can potentially attract pesky insects and even destroy your lawn.

If improperly addressed, this can eventually cause serious property damage.

You can prevent lawn drainage and landscape drainage concerns by optimizing the grading of your yard. Additionally, consider replacing impermeable surfaces, such as concrete, with materials that can absorb water, such as a vegetable garden, or gravel. A catch basin can be added to collect excess rainwater and irrigation.

Above all, it’s crucial to collect excess water away from the area and disperse it in a safe manner. Your best bet is to install a drainage system.

**Basements and Crawl Spaces**

Rainwater runoff from your roof or landscape soaks into the ground and often collects near your home against basement walls, crawl spaces, or in the soil beneath your home’s foundation. Basement and crawl space flooding can lead to mosquito breeding, termite damage, dangerous mold and mildew growth, or worse, your foundation settling and cracking.

Damp, musty smells and wet walls are signs that water is getting into your basement or crawl space. Don’t ignore the problem or attempt a quick-and-dirty solution that won’t correct the situation long-term. Certain temporary fixes can actually make the problem worse.

Luckily, there are do-it-yourself drainage kits available, such as Flo-Well and EZ-Drain, which are usually better performing and easier to install than a traditional, gravel dry well or French drain. However, when dealing with more complex drainage issues, consider hiring a contractor.

“Just be sure to check online ratings and references to ensure you’re going with someone qualified and experienced,” stresses Larsen.

**Neighbor Runoff**

Water flows from higher to lower ground, so drainage problems are likely if your property is lower than neighboring properties. In general, neighbors are not responsible for water runoff onto your property unless alterations to their landscape have changed the natural flow of water. This unsuspecting threat can cause a variety of serious drainage problems.

Larsen recommends visiting www.ndspro.com for free resources and videos, product recommendations, installation instructions, and links to local home improvement retailers where you can find the right tools.

Ignoring standing water in and around your home won’t make the problem disappear. This spring, be proactive. Invest a moderate amount of time and money into smart home drainage solutions to protect your property long-term.
Five Quick Fixes for Big Improvements Around Your Home

(StatePoint) When it comes to home improvement, you don’t need to do a complete overhaul to make a big impact. A “less is more” approach may serve you better, say experts.

“Sometimes quick fixes are the ones you need most,” says Lou Manfredini, host of “HouseSmarts TV” and home improvement contributor on NBC’s “The Today Show.”

According to Manfredini, there are five small projects you can do yourself that can make a huge difference in your home:

• Clean the Disposal: Your kitchen sink and disposal work hard, but sometimes they can stink. Every few months, eliminate odor and freshen things up by pouring half a cup of general purpose disinfectant cleaner down the drain. Using a small nylon pipe cleaning brush or clean toilet brush, reach in between the sink drain assembly and scrub the sidewalls of the pipe below it, paying special attention to the underside of the rubber flap on the disposal.

• Patch in a Snap: Unsightly holes in walls can ruin the look of a room. Luckily, patching those holes doesn’t have to be time-intensive.

For holes smaller than a dime, apply wall spackle with a putty knife. For larger holes, you may need to use a self-stick metal patch to cover it, and then apply spackle to smooth it out.

“Achieving professional looking results quickly and on-budget requires the right products,” says Manfredini.

Use a high-quality wall patch like 3M Patch plus primer spackle and primer in one, now available in a kit for holes up to three inches wide. It applies smoothly and has a built in primer, so once the wall is dry and sanded, you can paint immediately, cutting the repair time in half. More information can be found at www.3MDIY.com/patch.

• Peace and Quiet: Plagued by squeaky wood flooring? Try pouring baby powder over the noisy area. Then, wrap a block of wood in a dish rag and tap the boards down with a hammer to drive the powder between the tongue and groove of the flooring and tighten the nails holding it in place.

“It may not work in all instances but I’ve had great success with this process,” says Manfredini.

• Accent with Paint: To update a room without investing much time or money, paint one wall an accent color. Half of all paint sold in the US is white, so why not add bold color to your home like blue, red or even tangerine?

Prep by lightly sanding the entire surface. Patch any holes and then paint using a paint and primer in one. Two coats will give you the depth of color you want and should take only an afternoon.

• Light it up: To save money and help the environment, switch to LED light bulbs. With all the improvements in color, they can now mimic the warm lighting associated with incandescent bulbs, using two-thirds less electricity.

You don’t have to spend lots of time or money to spruce up your home this spring. Small projects can go a long way towards making it look great.
Earth Week at the Highlands Biological Station

This year the Highlands Biological Station is offering three ways to celebrate earth week: get your hands dirty, save the shrews, and go on a garden tour.

The Highlands Botanical Garden will have an “Earth Day of Service” on Saturday, April 19th from 10 am until 4 pm. Celebrate Earth Week by volunteering in the Botanical Garden in exchange for a free lunch! We are getting ready for the summer and we need your help with weeding, pruning, and other desperately needed tasks! No matter your level of experience, there’s a needed tasks! No matter your level of experience, there’s a job with your name on it. Let us know if you wish to attend or for more information about particular tasks. You may volunteer for any amount of time between the allotted hours.

Contact Kelder Monar (828) 526-0188 or keldermonar@gmail.com to save the shrews.

Bottles discarded along roadways have been recognized as a cause of small mammal deaths since the 1960s. Each year, many such animals enter bottles in search of food or water and become entrapped, resulting in the deaths of hundreds of animals over time. This phenomenon has been found to be widespread and affect numerous species, particularly shrews.

On Earth Day, April 22 at 7 pm at the Highlands Nature Center (930 Horse Cove Road), director Patrick Brannon will be presenting a talk on the impact of discarded bottles along our mountain roads on the mortality of small mammals.

Over the last few years, he and his students from the UNC Institute for the Environment at the Biological Station have searched roadways in our region for bottles containing the skeletal remains of shrews and rodents. Mr. Brannon will discuss the research he and his students have done to examine the conservation implications of this phenomenon in our region, and how you can help alleviate the problem. This program is appropriate for all ages and is free.

Celebrate Arbor Day at the Botanical Garden with a “Living with Trees” guided tour 2-4p. We will discuss noteworthy trees of the Highlands Plateau, as well as their identification, residential use and care. In the spirit of Arbor Day, visitors will leave with a native tree to take home and plant. Visit highlandsbiological.org/earth-week for more information.

Educators are invited to a “Project Wild Workshop at Highlands School from 8:30a to 3:30p in the school’s outdoor classroom between the shops and middle school building. It is free. To sign up contact Science teacher Stephanie Smathers at 526-2147 or Stephanie.smathers@macon.k12.nc.us.

Join Macon County Public Health’s Healthy Carolinians Coalition for a new community walking program called “Leading the Way to Wellness”. Mayor Pat Taylor and Commissioner Jim Tate will lead walks through downtown Highlands in an effort to improve fitness and encourage healthy lifestyles. The kick-off event will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Highlands Town Hall. Join us for registration, free pedometers, a group walk, and the chance for door prizes; then join us for weekly fitness walks. To learn more, call 349-2426.

Dining Out for Life Benefit at Cyprus, On the Veranda, The Ugly Dog and the Doghouse will contribute 20% of your bill to support WNCAP, the AIDS Service organization for WNC.

Thurs. – Sun., April 24, 25, 26, 27
• A PAC Youth Theater production of “Little Women.” Tickets available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands.

Fri., April 25
• Celebrate Arbor Day at the Botanical Garden with a “Living with Trees” guided tour 2-4p. We will discuss noteworthy trees of the Highlands Plateau, as well as their identification, residential use and care. In the spirit of Arbor Day, visitors will leave with a native tree to take home and plant. Visit highlandsbiological.org/earth-week for more information.

Sat., April 26
• Educators are invited to a “Project Wild Workshop at Highlands School from 8:30a to 3:30p in the school’s outdoor classroom between the shops and middle school building. It is free. To sign up contact Science teacher Stephanie Smathers at 526-2147 or Stephanie.smathers@macon.k12.nc.us.

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Tues., April 29
• Highlands Dialogue meets at the Hudson Library. Season Wrap-up, Social Gathering, and Conversation about the future of the Dialogue.

Thurs.-Sat. May, 1-3
• Highlands Annual Three River Fly Fishing Tournament. For information call Town Hall at 526-2118.

Mon., May 5
• Rotary Golf Tournament

Wed., May 28
• The Highlands-Cashiers Annual screening will take place in Highlands on the first floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic Wednesday. Those wishing to take advantage of either screening MUST register by calling (828) 526-1435 or visiting the Hospital’s website at www.highlandshearthospital.org.

Through June 15
• At The Bascom, artists transform everyday objects into amazing works of art in the exhibition, Out of the Ordinary, which runs from April 5 – June 15, 2014. Organized by Independent Curator Rebecca Dimling Cochran, the show includes pieces by eight internationally recognized artists who use worn and often discarded materials as the building blocks of their creations. For more information, to register for workshop offerings or for more details on all Bascom activities, visit www.TheBascom.org or call 828-526-4949

Wed., June 18
• The Highlands Health Screening will take place at Blue Ridge School on Wednesday. Those wishing to take advantage of either screening MUST register by calling (828) 526-1435 or visiting the Hospital’s website at www.highlandshearthospital.org.

Thurs., June 19
• The Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament

is at Wildcat Cliffs CC. 9am Shotgun start. Anyone interested, please contact co-chairs, Rebecca Shuler at 526-2118 or Brian Stiehler at 787-2778. Cost is $150/player.

Friday, June 20
• At PAC, the International Bluegrass Music Award (IBMA) 2014 Album of the Year winner, Balsam Range. PAC Memberships are available with five levels of benefits. Members will receive advance notice of the 2015 Season and the opportunity to purchase tickets before the general public. For more information and or tickets call PAC: 828.526.9047. Call today, most of the concerts last year were sold out! Highlands PAC 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands www.highlandspac.org.

Saturday, June 28
• At PAC, The HIT MEN, five amazing performers, superb musicians, superior vocalists, great arrangers and creative composers. PAC Memberships are available with five levels of benefits. Members will receive advanced notice of the 2015 Season and the opportunity to purchase tickets before the general public. For more information and or tickets call PAC: 828.526.9047. Call today, most of the concerts last year were sold out! Highlands PAC 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands www.highlandspac.org.
The utterly real and unique event of the resurrection:

A testimony of Pastor Mark Ford

Unlike those who attempt to understand the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead as a fabrication or a mythological depiction of a universal truth, I believe it to be the utterly real and unique event of the return of Christ from the dead, and His ultimate glorification and ascension to the right hand of God the Father. It is historical, and yet beyond history. While it is a real event in first-century Palestine, the resurrection of Christ is also a history-making event of the same order as the Divine act of creation that brought human time and space into being. What makes the resurrection unique in history is that it encloses and renews history—promising a new beginning through the power of His victory over the grave.

The resurrection can never be proven by historical-critical science, which concerns itself exclusively with so-called objective events and the scientific method. Such attempts coercively reduce the resurrection to a falsification. Faith in the resurrection is ultimately built on a belief in God and in His revelation in the Scriptures. What is irrevocably disclosed in the resurrection as a historical reality—witnessed and attested to by over 500 at the time and affirmed in the lives of millions since—is that the man Jesus was truly the Christ, the Son of God (Rom. 1:4). The resurrection is the center and point of departure for the Christian faith. Without it, there is no Christian faith, no creed (1 Cor. 15:12-19).

Counterintuitively, the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth is the scandal of the Gospel, for it means that this same Jesus acted in life and death as the sole, definitive representative and savior of all men and women. His resurrection is radical in its inclusiveness—receiving all who believe—and radical in its exclusiveness—there is no other name by which we can be saved. In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God as second person elected not to allow the work of reconciliation to remain distant or concealed from us. Rather, the “crucified God”—to quote Jürgen Moltmann—has drawn near to us in love, grace and forgiveness to restore us to Himself.
Ten things to consider when deciding whether to sell your home

(StatePoint) As the economy continues to strengthen, you may wonder whether to stay in your current home or sell while the timing seems perfect.

Since there are many things to sort out, the experts at Homes.com have put together a comprehensive overview of things to consider:

• Size: If your home is too small, moving may be a more affordable, less stressful option than additions, which can be costly and overwhelming. You can expect to recoup anywhere from 45 to 75 percent in additional home appreciation, depending on the project, according to Remodeling.com. However, the return on investment is not always immediate, which is something to consider if you’re planning to sell immediately.

• Renovations: If the necessary renovations to stay in your current home seem overwhelming, it may be time to move. For example, a new roof can cost anywhere from $5,000 to $30,000 or more, according to Choice Roofing Group. Large-scale home issues may decrease a home’s market value, but conversely, many home-seekers love the opportunity to customize their dream home.

• Competition: Do your research. Online tools such as Homes.com’s Home Values Channel can help determine your home’s worth. Then, work with a real estate professional to determine a competitive price point, and let the bidding begin.

• Lifestyle change: Just as growing families need more room, a shrinking family might mean it’s time to downsize. Retired and looking to travel? Downsizing can free disposable income for a world adventure.

• Demand: As demand picks up, builders are ready to keep up, and that means brand new homes at varying, competitive prices. Consider selling to take advantage of increased demand and tightening supply.

• Equity: Year-over-year home equity growth reached eight percent at the end of 2013, as reported by the Homes.com Local Market Index. If you love your current place, continue enjoying your home and reap the benefits of increased equity when the time comes to sell.

• Local economy: If you live in a growing town, it may be wise to stay put. Watch the local economy grow for a year or two and then decide if it’s a good decision to relocate.

• Updates: Home updates are an opportunity to add value to a home and make it feel brand new.

• Location: Consider your neighbors, school zone, proximity to work and daily life activities. Are you happy where you are?

• Availability: Keep an eye on the market by signing up for free email alerts on Homes.com; receive notifications when new homes meeting your specific criteria become available. Take your time and wait for the perfect home.

For home update ideas or to search homes for sale or rent, visit www.Homes.com.

Deciding whether to stay or sell is an important decision that shouldn’t be made lightly. Weigh all of the options to determine what’s best before taking action.

April Proclaimed Public Health Month

Statewide, April is when all Health Departments in NC celebrate Public Health Month by disseminating information about the role of Public Health in their communities.

"Many of the activities the health department does on a daily basis often go unnoticed. Most people don’t realize that Public Health infuses itself into many aspects of our day-to-day life by way of our State’s General Statutes," said MC Health Director Jim Bruckner. Public Health is: Identifying and working to reduce the greatest health risks; Detecting, investigating and preventing the spread of communicable diseases, like whooping cough, measles, and tuberculosis; Inspecting restaurants and other institutions that provide food or lodging to ensure food is safe to eat and facilities are clean and sanitary; Helping families plan for and have the healthiest pregnancies possible, so that all our children are born healthy; Helping residents learn how to improve and protect their health and the health of their families.
H as your mother ever told you, “Always chew your food thoroughly before swallowing”? 

There’s a word for that-mastication. In real estate, the same term could be ‘negotiation’. We all know we should chew, chew, chew… before swallowing, so why is it that many times, a Seller (or buyer in a counter offer situation) will either ‘chomp’ at the first offer and swallow quickly, or ‘spit it out’ without even tasting it first?

Here are some food for thought negotiating tips for sellers to aid your digestion process. (digestion = accepted offers = closing = happy sellers and buyers).

1) Always counteroffer. Some sellers are offended when a buyer makes a lowball offer, and will not even reply to the offer (except with the original price). Think about it this way- at least someone is interested in making an offer on your home, use the opportunity to see how interested by making a counter offer. (Believe me, sometimes the selling broker is offended as well, and it’s not even their home- but we have to go through the process of presenting every offer- please don’t shoot the messenger.)

2) Don’t get emotional. It may be true that you paid more for your home than the current listing price, (In these days, sometimes a good bit more), or you may have spent the last twenty or so summers at your house with your parents, now children or grandchildren. ‘Can’t these buyers ‘see it’? Don’t they KNOW how special your home is?’ Maybe yes, maybe no. Regardless- it will be THEIR memories that will be made in the home after the purchase. Memories are priceless- your home isn’t.

3) Work closely with your Broker. If you have chosen your listing broker carefully, you should have trust in them that they have your best interests in mind. They can help you with the negotiation process- make sure they know what your final objectives are, and are negotiating for you, not instead of you.

4) Negotiate the ‘final’ price only once- you’ve finally agreed to a price you and the buyer can live with, then the buyers have a home inspection. No one is more surprised than you – but now it seems that it’s urgent for some repair work to be done. Your listing broker probably suggested you get a home inspection at the listing appointment, and whether you did or didn’t really matter at this point, one has been done now, and you must take action if you want to sell. You could lower the price (again- ugh), or have the items repaired.<enter the sound of screeching brakes > OR what you could have done: when negotiating the counter offer price, consider accepting the otherwise inconsiderable lower price, with the caveat: This price is <barely> acceptable, but the seller will not negotiate a lower price, no matter what. (The selling broker may still approach the listing broker with a lower price, but at least they’ll know your feeling on the matter. It’s according to how much you’ve already come off your price vs. the proposed expenditures, and how much you really want to sell at that point in time.

5) Act quickly: It may be tempting to wait and see what other offers may come in. (especially for new listings), but many times, the best offer could very well be the first offer. A real estate agent must’ve written the old adage, ‘A bird in the hand is better than two in the bush’. While it may be possible to revisit an ‘old’ offer, the buyer has most likely moved on.

With the first quarter of 2014 behind us, the year has already started with more offers than the last couple of years. Ask your listing broker to help you figure your net proceeds if you’re unsure and want to munch and crunch some numbers. Once your listing broker knows your bottom line, the negotiating process can be as easy as pie- and then you both should be able to enjoy the meal and move right along to dessert, in this case dessert = closing, and that’s the objective of the meal.

• Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are owners/brokers of Chambers Realty and Vacation Realty; the oldest family operated real estate and vacation rental firm in Highlands. Located at 401 N. Fifth Street, Highlands. 828-526-3717 www.chambersagency.net.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 15

The mystery of this utterly real and unique event in history is best seen in these dialectical terms. First, the delivering up of the God-man by the Father for godless and godforsaken humanity is simply because God in love did not spare His Son so that all the godless could be spared. We are godless, but not God-for-saken because God abandoned the God-man on the cross for our sin. Another way of putting it, the Father delivered up the Son on the cross in order to be the Father of the fatherless. And in His resurrection, we are made alive as He is alive – children of God, joint-heirs with Him.

This is my testimony and my faith stated succinctly in the Apostle’s Creed – “I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord who…was crucified, died and was buried…On the third day he rose again, ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father…”

Falling Waters is a newer, well-maintained, 52-acre community just 2.8 miles to Main Street; secluded but not remote. Two lots sold this winter – a year-round home is being built. Now is a great time to buy and build. Gentle homesites, well forested, creeks, and waterfalls. A nice place to walk!

Welcome…Come Visit!

GPS Address: 78 Black Bear Trace Highlands, NC 28741 From Main St., take Hwy. 106 (The Dillard Road) 1.8 miles just past the Glen Falls sign, turn right on Mt. Laurel Dr., go 3 tenths of a mile turn left on Moonlight. The entrance is on the right. www.highlandsnchomesites.com Contact (onsite owner) or your broker for plats, prices & a guided tour. 828-508-9952.
PAC has lined up another great season! Bluegrass, Broadway and Retro Rock. Kicking the season off on Friday, June 20th is the International Bluegrass Music Award (IBMA) 2014 Album of the Year winner, Balsam Range. A group of five outstanding musicians and singers from Haywood County, NC. From deep in the Appalachians where the Great Smoky Mountains meet the Blue Ridge comes the Balsam Range band, creatively blending Bluegrass, Folk, Gospel and Jazz into a new American acoustic music experience. Balsam Range consists of five friends with unique experiences and back-grounds that blend together effortlessly to form their distinctive sound. Since bursting onto the scene, Balsam Range has made a definite mark in the Bluegrass and Acoustic music world. Balsam Range is presented by Wilson Gas Service.

Saturday, June 28th: Back by Popular Demand is The HIT MEN, five amazing performers, superb musicians, superior vocalists, great arrangers and creative composers. Former Stars of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, Tommy James & The Shondells & other mega stars of the 60s, 70s, 80s. The Hit Men are not a tribute band. They are the real deal. They played and recorded with Tommy James, Carly Simon, Cat Stevens, Elton John, Jim Croce and other mega acts of the era. This brothership of musicians have a friendship that dates back over 50 years. They have reunited to go out on tour again, to relive the magic they created on stages around the world and in recording studios years ago. With THE HIT MEN, you can experience the hits of the 60s, 70s and 80s the way you first heard them, a musical Legacy that includes all of the great Four Seasons songs made popular again by Broadway's Jersey Boys... and so many other memorable solid gold hits.

When THE HIT MEN take the stage, it’s easy to see why their music has transcended generations. The notes are sharp, the vocals spot-on, the energy is high, and these guys are having the time of their lives sharing their Musical Legacy with audiences! The Hit Men are presented by: Beth & Dan Riley, Valerie & Peter White, Diane & Ray McPhail, Ruth Gershon & Sandy Cohn, Louise & Rick Demetriou, Jane Webb & David La Cagnina, Carole Simmons, Cindy & Rick Trevathan, Patsy & Bill Wolfe.

Join us this Easter
celebrating the resurrection of Jesus
at Highlands United Methodist Church
315 Main Street with Pastors Paul Christy & Beth Bowser

April 17
Maundy Thursday Service at 5 pm
April 18
Good Friday Service at 5 pm
April 20
EASTER SUNDAY
• 6:45 am – Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service
Join us and other churches at the amphitheater at the Nature Center.
• Worship Services / The Living Cross
Join us as we celebrate at 8:30, 9:09 and 10:50 am
Bring a flower to place on the outside living cross before each service.
• 9:45 am – Easter Coffee Break
Bring a coffee cake, muffins, bagels, croissants or danish to share as we have fellowship time together
• 10 am – Children’s Easter Egg Hunt & Storytime
The children will be off to hunt eggs immediately after breakfast.

For more information, please call 828-526-3376
Palm Sunday, April 13 – 10:30 am in the Nave

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday Foot Washing – 7 pm in the Chapel

Good Friday, April 18
12:00 noon Community Stations of the Cross at the Catholic Church
followed by 1:30 pm Good Friday Liturgy in our Chapel

Saturday, April 19 – Great Vigil of Easter – 7 pm in the Chapel

Sunday, April 20 – Sunrise Service at Biological Center Amphitheater
Easter Services Holy Eucharist Rite II
9 am & 11 am in the Nave
(No Sunday School)

Time for Dahlia enthusiasts to start growing!

Time to start planning and planting for the annual Dahlia Festival sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society. It is bound to be great fun so put September 20th on your calendar. This notice gives you plenty of time to plan and plant for the big show.

If you are adding to your garden of dahlias or just starting to grow them, you might think of planting a variety this year. There will be categories for all varieties including decorative, Cactus, Ball Dahlias, Waterlily Dahlias, Pompons, Single and Collerette, Anemone-flowered, Fimbriated, Star, Double Orchid, Paeony, and miscellaneous other varieties. You will want to choose your very best flowers to enter the show.

As the season progresses there will be more information, which will help you enter. This is a perfect opportunity for every dahlia garden to show off its beauty to the Highlands Plateau.

giving... Back by Popular Demand, Jason D Williams. Enthusiastic, Reckless, Stormy...Rock & Roll in its natural state. Jason D has the same musical innovation and edgy attitude as Jerry Lee and Elvis. Jason's' style is difficult to describe, from Classical to Rockabilly to Country to Jazz and on to Rock & Roll. After seeing a live show there will be no doubt why fans and critics alike agree with that summation of the dynamic piano player from Memphis. Jason D adapts to each different concert setting he performs. The Beacon Journal dubbed him as “The worlds greatest piano player.”

Jason D. Williams has spent a lifetime behind the piano connecting with country and rock ‘n’ roll greats while creating a persona that’s 100 percent original. A wild man onstage, he has been compared to Jerry Lee Lewis so often that rumors started in Memphis that he was the Killer’s son. The influence of Lewis comes through in his high-energy performances, Williams says, but his songs get him to a different place. As he says, “It’s Jerry Lee Lewis meets Jackson Pollock and Jerry Lee Lewis meets Joe Namath.” “I will always revere Jerry Lee Lewis,” Williams says. “Jerry Lee always likes to say he did everything in one take and I like that approach. Jason D Williams is presented by Lyle & Nancy Nichols.

PAC Memberships are available with five levels of benefits. Members will receive advanced notice of the 2015 Season and the opportunity to purchase tickets before the general public. For more information and or tickets call PAC: 828.526.9047. Call today, most of the concerts last year were sold out! Highlands PAC 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands www.highlandspac.org.

Saturday, October 4
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Highlands PD log entries from March 18. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

March 18
• At 4 p.m., officers responded to a call of larceny of a 16-ft ladder from a residence on South Fifth Street.

March 19
• At 12:49 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west at First Street.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept.
log entries from April 2.

April 2
• At 1:43 p.m., the dept. was called about a possible brush fire at NC 106 and Kettlerock Road.

April 3
• At 5:06 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mountain Ashe Lane.

April 4
• At 11:09 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on NC 106.

April 6
• At 7:26 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on US 64 east.

April 7
• At 11:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a call about a possible fire at a residence on NC 28 south.

The “Buckle Up, Baby” event was held in Franklin and Highlands last Saturday. All tolled, 100 seats were checked and 18 were found to be broken, expired, or recalled. Those seats were replaced. The event showed that there was an alarming high rate of incorrectly installed car seats in the area.

HPD officers Jolly and Castle said citizens can go by the Highlands School or the Highlands Police Dept. to have their seats checked at anytime.

Highlands Police officers Mike Jolly and Ronnie Castle with 3-year-old Hudson Tilley at Saturday’s event held in the parking lot of the Hudson Library.

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...DINING OUT from page 9

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...tions will continue to benefit from the services offered. For a complete list of sponsors and other participating restaurants in other cities, please visit www.wncap.org/dofl.

Make your plans now to call your friends and neighbors and put together your group to dine out April 24. You just might help save a life! Also by attending you can be entered in a drawing for prizes including airfare for two people anywhere in the US. If you will not be able to attend, but want to make a donation to WNCAP you can do so by going to www.wncap.org and clicking on donate.
HELP WANTED

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY is accepting applications for full-time experienced Grill/Live Cooks and positions for the Wood Fire Pizza Oven. Contact Don at 828-526-2400 or jobs828828@gmail.com

SWEETTREATS is hiring servers and kitchen help. Call 526-9822. (st. 4/3)

FULL TIME HOUSEKEEPER FOR RETIREMENT COMMUNITY. Apply at Chestnut Hill of Highlands, 24 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC. (4/10)

SALES ASSOCIATE FOR HIGH END RETAIL CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS, NC. full time. must be available to work weekends. Retail clothing sales experience preferred. Please call 828-200-1703. (st. 3/13)

FULL TIME - FURNITURE DELIVERY AND MOVING PERSON NEEDED FOR BUSY RETAIL STORE IN HIGHLANDS, must have a clean driving history and valid drivers license, be physically able to lift, needs to be clean and presentable in appearance and have a happy and positive attitude, experience in lifting furniture a must. Please send resume and information to highlands@dutchmansdesigns.com. (st. 4/3)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY is accepting applications for full-time positions as a coffee/barista server as well as a specialty foods associate. Contact Don or JT at 828-526-2400.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT TJ BAILEY IN HIGHLANDS. Retail, On-line Sales and Multi-media Marketing positions available. Come grow with us. - full or part-time. 828-526-2262 or resume store@TJBmens.com (st. 2/13)

RES / COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

2BR/2BA VACATION RENTAL CABIN – Designer-furnished with upscale linens, tableware, Calphalon, Central H/A. Large Deck. Screened-in porch, and fireplace. Just off Atlanta Road on Turtle Pond 10 minutes to Main Street. Available monthly. $1,500. Call 615-243-2006. (5/1)

TWO SPACES FOR RENT on very busy US64 east in Highlands. Call 526-4889. (st. 3/27)

CASHIERS/SAPPHIRE - Furnished Split level 3 Bed/ 3 Bath home. Year round Mountain Views. Yearly lease $1,850. per month. Will consider renting 2 BR/2 Bath level for $1,250. (561)-346-6400 (4/17 pd)

BEST LONG RANGE VIEW SEASONAL OR MONTHLY RENTAL – May-October. Very quiet 3 BR/2BA cabin with huge screened porch. Klein Road off Dillard Road. 828-200-4266 (4/24 pd)

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT. Great location on Carolina Way between 64E and 5th St across from Bank of America. ±1480 sqft. Office or retail. $1500/month. Call Tom Clark (404)210-7979 or (828)526-4646 (st. 9/19)

RES / COMMERCIAL FOR SALE

MUST SELL 6+ acres at Lake Glenville. Lake and mountain views. $130,000 or Best Offer. Call 706-348-3208. (st. 2/20)

WANTED

SINGLE OLDER WOMAN (immaculate housekeeper, nonsmoker, no pets) with great local references, seeks affordable seasonal rental in Highlands, July through September. Must be on one level, with few stairs. Call 321-253-3818 or email: StuartMalcolmFerguson@gmail.com

ITEMS FOR SALE

SMALL COLEMAN GENERATOR 2250W. $150 or OBO. 526-4067 (st. 4/10)

3-IN-1, 21-INCH SELF-PROPELLED TROYBILT LAWNMOWER, $150 or OBO. 526-4067 (st. 4/10)

BX2230 DIESEL KUBOTA – Includes 60” mower deck & Kubota LA211F1 Front loader. Excellent condition, professionally serviced. Located in Scaly Mountain, NC. Local delivery available. $8,500. Call 828-526-0502. Richard Lawrence. (st. 4/3)

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