Pink Ladies take Polar Plunge for Relay for Life

On Monday, March 24, The Pink Ladies plunged into icy Lake Sequoyah to raise money for their Relay for Life team.
To donate to their cause like Pam Chastain (in the pink) on Facebook.

Photos by Jim Lewicki

The teacher tenure war wages on...

By Brittany Burns

With their heads down and visible disappointment wearing on their faces, the Macon County Board of Education introduced a plan for the state mandate of selecting 25 percent of teachers in the district to receive a 4-year contract.

Board of Education Chairman Jim Breedlove introduced the agenda item. “Now on to something we are all dreading,” he said. Board members shared his reluctance in approaching the topic by letting out sighs and shifting uncomfortably in their chairs during Monday night's March Board of Education meeting.

Macon County Director of Personnel presented board members with the four-year selection plan that outlined the requirements and timeline needed to select teachers. The plan clearly defines that 272 teachers in the district are considered eligible for consideration for a four-year contract. The plan also explains that the state mandates only 25 percent, or 68 teachers, be selected.

Another change to the ordinance involves the penalty. Violators will have 15 days to pay the $50 ticket not 30 days like before. Though the enforcement of the ordinance will remain consistent.

New appraisal shows Parker Meadows deal was a steal

By Brittany Burns

When MC commissioners voted to purchase the Parker Meadows property this past year they knew the value was probably less than the 2006 appraisal value of $750,000 done by Guy Duvall.

Despite the 2006 appraisal, Macon County purchased the property for a fraction of that cost at only $550,000.

However, Commissioners Paul Higdon and Ron Haven both thought a new appraisal would come in far lower than the asking price of $550,000 and so were against its purchase.

With North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) funds paying for half the amount, the state requested a new appraisal of the property which was conducted by Vinson Appraisals.

As of March 13, the property was appraised at $595,000 which means the county got it for $45,000 less than it is currently worth.

County Manager Derek Roland said since the county got state funds through PARTF, two appraisals for the Parker Meadows property were required. The 2006 appraisal was submitted as part of the grant request and the...
How did we get to the recent 22% electric rate increase?

Highlands entered the electric business in the late 1920s by generating power at the Lake Sequoyah hydro plant. In the 1950s the town supplemented its generating capacity by purchasing additional power from a big hydro electricity producer, Nantahala Power. In 1963 the town stopped producing its own power and entered into contract with Nantahala Power to supply the town. Through the 1990s the town had a fixed rate contract with Nantahala that resulted in Highlands maintaining low and stable electric rates.

Over a decade ago Duke Power purchased Nantahala Power and put Highlands under a new wholesale contract. Duke’s did not allow us to have a fixed rate like the Nantahala contract. It was the same variable rate structure other Duke wholesale customers had. To their credit, Duke said they would slowly phase in the rates so the town could make graduated adjustments over a period of years.

Instead of implementing these graduated increases, town decided to hold the line on the extremely low Nantahala rates as long as it could. Nevertheless, rate increases started to accumulate until customers were hit with a 22% increase at the start of 2013. Like other folks, I was shocked at such a jump and could not understand why. Since that time, I have studied the problem and would like to share the information I have learned since coming to office. I intend writing a series of articles on our utility. I realize some folks may not agree with or accept my views, but I will try to be objective.

First, many think the cost of electricity in Highlands is one of the highest in Western Carolina. In fact, our per kilowatt rate we charge customers is in the lower third among western North Carolina. In fact, the per kilowatt rate we charge customers is one of the highest in Western North Carolina. In fact, we charge customers is one of the highest in Western North Carolina.

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First, many think the cost of electricity in Highlands is one of the highest in Western Carolina. In fact, our per kilowatt rate we charge customers is in the lower third among area providers.

So, the question is, would Duke, or Haywood EMC, be a better overall value than our current utility?

With the rate increase last year, some groups in town thought it was time for Highlands to sell our utility and get out of the business. That is rather ironic, because after Hurricane Sandy, several towns on the Northeast coast considered going into the electric utility business. Many small towns had their electric grid destroyed by Sandy. A funny thing happened, the towns with their own electric utility got their power back rather fast, while other towns had to wait days, even weeks, on the large utility companies. Assessments after the storm revealed that the small town electric crews knew their systems so well that they could quickly respond to the trouble areas and make repairs. As a result, some of the towns that depended on the big companies have explored creating their own locally controlled electric utility companies. The problem they have encountered is the prohibitive costs of doing so. Creating an electric utility today is an overwhelming expense.

If we were to sell our electric system the NC Local Government Commission would only allow us to sell the system at a fair market value. We have been told by Duke that they cannot pay us what the system is worth as they simply could not justify such a purchase in light of how long it would take to realize any form of return on their investment.

Even if we manage to agree on price, Highlanders would still be facing constant rate increases from Duke, the wholesale provider.

For the foreseeable future, Duke forecasts increases of about 3 to 6% a year. They pass these costs on to their wholesale and retail customers. It is not just Highlands that is facing rate hikes, everyone is. In Duke’s and the town’s defense, just about everything goes up 3% or so each year. Since the 22% rate hike, the town has absorbed another 6% increase without passing it to customers. Food, gas, propane, natural gas do not have fixed costs. Natural gas, a fuel Duke uses for power generation, is projected to go up about 10% in coming months due to the severe winter in the Midwest. Everything we consume on this high, isolated plateau has to be transported up the mountain by truck. What commodity remains at a flat price here, or anywhere? As we are constantly reminded, power will not remain at a flat rate either, although new natural gas reserves may bring some stability in the long term.

In my next article, I will discuss ways to manage future rate increases and alternative power sources.
Virginia Annette Hedden

Virginia Annette Hedden, age 89, of Franklin, passed away Friday, March 28. She was the daughter of the late Roy and Lilly Stanfield Keener. She was preceded in death by her husband, Theodore Hedden. She loved cooking for family and church friends; she was also a pink lady at Angel Medical Center. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Harley Hedden.

Virginia is survived by two daughters, Lillie Tallent and Martha Keener and husband Grant all of Franklin; six grandchildren, Missy Sanders, Angie Pickens, Joe Tallent, Wes Keener, Brooklynn Hopper, and Perrin Keener, and nine great-grandchildren, Dustin Sanders, Cory Sanders, Luke Sanders, Jordan Pickens, Daniel Pickens, Gabe Pickens, Abby Tallent, Maddy Tallent, and Kya Keener.

Funeral services were held in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home on Monday, March 31 with Rev. Don Moffitt and Rev. Michael Lee officiating. The burial took place at Sugarfork Baptist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers were Joe Tallent, Greg Rogers, Perrin Keener, Brooklynn Hopper, Daniel Pickens, Steve Maney, and Mack Stanfield.

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

Laurel Garden Club issues challenge to the community

The Laurel Garden Club of Highlands has issued a challenge to the community to assist the Highlands Biological Foundation in raising funds to reconstruct the wetland boardwalk in the Highlands Botanical Garden.

For every dollar donated by individuals or organizations towards the completion of the wetland boardwalk, the Laurel Garden Club will match up to $5,000. Over the past two years, Mountain Findings and Kent and Alice Nelson have also donated funds towards this project.

The current boardwalk is falling apart and is now a patchwork of boards in varying states of deterioration. If the existing boardwalk is not replaced, it will need to be closed to the public for safety reasons. Closing this portion of the boardwalk would be a loss to the community.

This trail provides continuous access to unique wetland habitat and to the Coker Rhododendron Trail, an old-growth hemlock-hardwood cove forest. Labeled plants provide an educational resource for aspiring botanists and plant enthusiasts of all levels.

In addition, the Upper Lake Trail is a part of both the North Carolina Birding Trail and the Highlands Plateau Greenway, and this specific portion of the trail has been designated an “Important Birding Trail” by the North Carolina Audubon Society.

If you would like to donate your time or money to help with this project please contact us at (828) 526-2221 or visit our website at www.highlandsbiological.org/boardwalk/where you can also find details about the construction materials that will be used.
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Pre-party 12:30
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plaint-driven, it now has sharper teeth.

From April 15 to May 15, violators will be issued one written warning. During this one month, if a violator has to be warned again, he or she will be issued a citation that carries a civil penalty of $50.

After May 15, there will be a “zero tolerance” for any parking violation. Every violator will be issued a citation and given 15 days to pay the fine. If the fine isn’t paid in 15 days, a civil summons will be issued from the magistrate. The violator will then have to appear in district court and not only pay the fine for the Class 3 misdemeanor, but court costs, too, which comes to -- a total of $230.

The committee thinks after paying $230 once or twice, habitual violators will soon toe the line. “It should only take a few of those tickets and subsequent costs for the problem to correct itself,” said Keiltyka.

Though there has been some talk about the constitutionality of issuing parking tickets and taking violators to court, Police Chief Bill Harrell said legislation has been passed allowing municipalities to enact and enforce ordinances and Highlands’ parking ordinance passed all merits.

He also said employers can’t be held responsible for their employees’ actions because they have to “know” they are violating the ordinance. “The key word is ‘knowingly,’” said Harrell. “That would be hard to prove.”

Committee member Julian Franklin said Highlands is a four-legged stool consisting of – environment, accommodations, restaurants and parking. “Without parking, the other three legs wouldn’t be possible. Parking is regulated everywhere and the town has the responsibility to regulate and control parking,” he said.

Mayor Taylor said no one is above the law, and though previous administrations allegedly told violators to “rip up the tickets,” that won’t be the case anymore.

“It is very important to hear that with this policy no one is above the law,” said Harry Bears owner of Xtreme Threads. “The police are the authority for enforcement and no one should be able to ‘make a call’ and it go away.”

Committee member and Commissioner Brian Stiehler, said the zero tolerance policy is crucial.

Since the ordinance is still complaint-driven, Chief Harrell said to report a violator, people should call 9-1-1 not Town Hall.

• See TOLERANCE page 13
in Jackson County, Tomas said the community college’s goal is to offer a similar-sized campus in Macon County next to the library and the public school system’s Early College.

SCC sits on 19 acres of Macon County owned land, and the Macon Campus was first constructed in 2007.

During the 2012-13 school year, more than 1,000 students from Macon County registered for classes at SCC. Enrollment numbers for the Fall semester hit an all-time high with more than 500 students taking classes at the Macon Campus.

“Since 2007, the Macon campus has experienced a 74.4 percent increase in enrollment of 72.9 percent over the last six years, averaging a 12 percent increase per year,” explained Tomas. “We have already outgrown the Groves building [on Siler Road] and are currently in the process of creating a master plan of what the expansion here would look like.”

During discussion regarding the MOA, Commission Kevin Corbin said he believed the county purchased the land with education in mind. “I think we can all agree that we do not have any other plans to use this property for anything other than educational opportunities,” said Corbin.

The board agreed and moved to develop a partnership with Tomas to allow the college access to the property surrounding the current location for expansion. Tomas noted that while funds to grow the campus are not currently available, such an agreement will allow the process to move forward more quickly as grants money is released.

The 30-year master plan for the campus calls for the property to double the campus’ size and utilize the full 40 acres of county owned property.

The college’s program areas targeted for growth are centered around the Public Safety and Training Center courses currently being offered at SCC.

The Public Safety Training Center has seen an increase in enrollment of 72.9 percent over the last six years, averaging a 12 percent increase per year in enrollment numbers.

With the significant demands on the program, Tomas said new facilities were needed. The plan calls for a 35,000 square foot expansion of the Macon Campus so it can offer the same courses and curriculum as the Jackson Campus.

Further expansion plans include a 50,000 square foot Public Safety Training Center Building, and a 33,000 square foot facility to include an indoor firing range for students. Tomas said various departments, both local and in neighboring counties, use SCC’s outdoor firearm training facilities and an indoor range would better suit the department’s needs.

The Center for Life Enrichment (CLE) is jumping into spring, beginning its 2014 season in early April. The Center for Life Enrichment is a continuing education, non-profit organization. CLE has been offering continuing education opportunities to Highlands/Cashiers communities since 1992.

This year CLE will present approximately 106 lectures in Art and Architecture, Current Events, Literature, History, Philosophy, and Music. Hands on workshops will be offered in the areas of Art, The Game of Bridge, Computer Technology, Culinary Arts, Gardening and Nature and Spanish language courses.

The CLE season begins Friday, April 4, with a class offered in conjunction with The Bascom’s exhibition Out of the Ordinary. Curator Rebecca Dimling Cochran will be screening the film “The Cardboard Bernini”. This exceptional documentary by the filmmaker Olympia Stone follows artist Jimmy Grashow through the construction, exhibition, and planned destruction of his monumental sculpture based on Bernini’s famous marble fountain in Rome. The cost of the class is $10 and will be held 4-5pm April 4 in the CLE lecture hall in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center at 348 S. 5th Street.

April classes continue in the evening with popular Apple instructor Nigel Sixsmith. Need a little help figuring out your iPad? Then the iPad course: at a slower pace, is perfect for you. This class will cover everything you need to know about how to use your iPad and iOS7, but with time to ask questions and make sure you are using your iPad to its fullest advantage. The class will be Tuesdays & Thursdays, April 8-17 6-8pm. Cost: $125 for members/$140 nonmembers.

Updated for 2014 is the iCloud and Computer Security Class, covering everything you need to know about iCloud, sharing photos, music etc. Security issues, malware protection and other possible security risks will be addressed. The class will be Tuesday & Thursday, April 22 & 24, 6-8 pm. Cost $70 members/$80 nonmembers.

Finishing up the technology classes in April will be A Fun Guide to the Best iPad and iPhone Applications. Learn about the best iPad and iPhone apps and how to use them in this fun and informative class. Class will be held Tuesday & Thursday, April 29 & May 1, 6-8 pm. Cost $70 members/$80 nonmembers.

*All classes are held in the CLE Lecture Hall unless otherwise noted.

Art & Technology in April at Center for Life Enrichment

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Extraordinary Exhibition at The Bascom

Arts 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.

From items as banal as water bottles, shredded tires and bubble gum, artists Chakaia Booker, Matthew Brandt, Long-Bin Chen, Willie Cole, Mary Engel, Vik Muniz, and Guerra de la Paz (the collaborative team of Alain Guerra and Neraldo de la Paz) make two and three-dimensional works that are fantastically inventive and deceivingly simple. The materials they use, however, are not merely found but chosen specifically for the symbolism or iconography that they add to the conceptual meaning of the work.

In conjunction with the exhibit, there will be a screening of the film “The Cardboard Bernini” on Friday, April 4, from 4 to 5:30 pm, at the CLE Lecture Hall. Afterwards, Cochran will lead a Q&A on the film, which documents the creation and eventual disintegration of a monumental work of sculpture intended to be left to the elements. She will also moderate a panel discussion with several of the attending artists at a reception on Saturday, May 31, from 5 to 7 pm.
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**THURSDAY:** ROASTED MEATLOAF WITH MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY AND A LARGE SALAD $18.95 SERVES FOUR

**FRIDAY:** WILD CAUGHT FRIED SHRIMP, BAKED POTATOES, HUSH PUPPIES, AND COLESLAW $21.95 SERVES FOUR

**SATURDAY:** IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ, COLESLAW, APPLE & BACON BAKED BEANS, AND YEAST ROLLS $18.95 SERVES FOUR

**MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY:** TWO WOOD FIRE PIZZAS, FOUR HAND-MADE BREAD STICKS WITH HOUSE TOMATO SAUCE, AND A HOUSE SALAD $19.99 SERVES FOUR

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Ways to Make Your Home’s Entryway Stand Out

(StatePoint) Impressions count when visitors arrive at your home’s front door. It’s the first and last space they see, and it has the power to make a positive or negative impression.

This season, consider an easy, cost-effective home improvement project that can add value to your home and boost curb appeal -- upgrading the main door and entry of your home.

Upgrade the Door

Start with the basics. Evaluate the look and condition of the front door to determine if it needs to be replaced. A front door should have good energy efficiency features, a snug fit to the frame, and an appealing color.

While wood was once the most popular material for doors, homeowners are shifting to alternatives. And for good reason -- a secure fiberglass door, such as those from Therma-Tru, can resist denting and scratching, is easy to maintain, is energy efficient and can help keep your home quiet. Smooth fiberglass finishes are available for painting along with a variety of woodgrain finishes that have the look of wood, but all the benefits of fiberglass. More information on their ENERGY STAR qualified doors can be found at www.ThermaTru.com.

Trim the Door

Consider transforming a ho-hum home entry into a stylish entryway in less than an hour. With a door surround kit, such as those from Fypon, you can accessorize your entryway in various architectural styles. Available in Craftsman, Colonial, Stone and Empire styles, each kit offers weather-resistant polyurethane pieces that resist rotting, warping, cracking, insects, moisture and peeling.

The kits include trim, such as pilasters, crossheads and keystones, and are a dynamic and quick way to enhance an entry door.

As an alternative to a kit, you can order durable pilasters and pediment pieces individually. This allows you to select from dozens of decorative pediment designs to top off your door, such as a sunburst, rams head or peaked cap. For more information, visit www.Fypon.com.

Add Some Flair

To complete the look of your warm and inviting entryway, don’t forget to stain or paint your door to complement your home’s exterior, as well as select decorative or privacy glass for the doorlites and sidelites. Next step, add some potted plants and a colorful welcome mat and you’ve transformed the look of your home entryway.

With a few easy upgrades, you can give your home a fresh new look that will leave a lasting impression.
New Color Trends in Home Exteriors

(StatePoint) One of the simplest ways to make a big impact on your home’s exterior is with your front door. But if you are tired of the old standards colors, you’re not alone -- experts predict bolder trends this year.

“Exuberant hues will be popular this year as a way for homeowners to show the world their energy,” says Kate Smith, a color trend forecaster and president of Sensational Color. “For those going for a classic feel, colors that are vibrant, yet at the same time, offer comfort, warmth and reliability will reign.”

For homeowners looking to express their “colorful selves,” consider selecting a paintable fiberglass door with a smooth finish. For example, those from Therm-a-Tru Classic-Craft Canvas Collection and Pulse, feature clean lines, crisp angles and attractive glass configuration options, and are ideal for adding personal expression to a home.

According to Smith, the top five door colors for the “exuberant homeowner” in 2014 include:

- Capri: A tropical blue that wakes up natural woods and neutral surroundings, this hue adds a splash of energy.
- Raucous Orange: This color demands attention with its energetic tone and makes the perfect punctuation point for homes with a modern look.
- Dynamo: This flirty violet hue instantly updates traditional color schemes for a trendier home front.
- Relic Bronze: A deep, almost brown mustard color, “Relic Bronze” reflects aged beauty.
- Classic French Grey: Stepping out of the shadows to stand on its own, this cool, neutral grey will continue to rule the palette in 2014.

The top five door colors for those following the more classic trend of comfort, as identified by Smith include:

- Georgian Bay: Brighter than dark navy, this step-above reserved blue is a trusted color when it comes to the welcoming message it sends to family and friends.
- Show Stopper: Like classic red at dusk, “Show Stopper” adds a touch of mystery to this bright hue. A slight spin on traditional red, this color warmly welcomes people to a home.
- Polished Mahogany: The deep, rich shade of brown has a staying power that traverses trends and captures a solid feeling for homeowners.
- Classic French Grey: Stepping out of the shadows to stand on its own, this cool, neutral grey will continue to rule the palette in 2014.
- Gulfstream: This bright, modern blue has an of-the-moment appeal. At the same time, it still feels rooted in something familiar and nostalgic for homeowners.

Whether you follow new trends or stick to tradition, don’t forget to take your entire home’s exterior into consideration. From roof to door, a “top down” approach can help you pick color combinations that are eye-pleasing and flow naturally to create curb appeal.

For tips on picking the perfect colors for your home’s exterior, including the front door, download a free copy of Smith’s e-book at www.thermatru.com.
Jesus will keep his promise to return

By Pastor Dan Robinson
Highlands Central Baptist Church

I recently conducted the funeral service for my second cousin. It took place in Candler, NC (just west of Asheville). We placed his body in the family cemetery. That plot of land (about an acre in size) was given by my grandparents for that precise purpose. They wanted the family to be buried together.

That cemetery is sacred to me. Not only are my various relatives buried there...but the bodies of my dad and first wife are likewise buried there. As I said: It is sacred. Upon concluding the graveside comments for my cousin, I remarked: “I hope I’ll be alive when Jesus returns and in fact standing on my mother's carport (just across from the cemetery) so that I can see those graves burst open and the bodies of the saints rise to meet the Lord in the air.”

And yes, friend, that really is going to happen. God Himself says so in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17. I often envision how the event of our Lord’s return might be interpreted around the world. The Bible indicates over and over that much of the world’s population will not be ready for that day. Hence, while those who are born again (living and dead) will go with Jesus Christ back to Heaven...many hundreds of millions won’t. The Bible further teaches that concurrent with our Lord’s return there will be a period of seven terrible years on earth. Those years are referenced respectively as the “tribulation” and then the “great tribulation”. Famine, disease, death, scorched earth, dried up waterways and more will characterize our earth during those unprecedented days. The atrocities of Hitler and the vulgarities of Sodom and Gomorrah will pale by comparison. It will be hell on earth.


Proverbs 3:5 • Places to Worship • John 3:16
A seller’s success is defined by the details

By Susie deVille
Owner/Broker-in-charge
White Oak Realty Group

One of my favorite tasks as a listing agent is to prepare for and deliver a listing presentation to a prospective Seller client. Clients love learning the process of how to become a savvy Seller. Recently, one property owner was so enamored with his newly-acquired expert status that he suggested I teach other Sellers the insider secrets.

As in all things, the first thing to cement into your mind is this: How you do anything is how you do everything. That is a credo that you as an expert status that he suggested I teach other Sellers the insider secrets.

There is plenty of chatter about life’s secrets to successful selling. But what is the reality? What do savvy Sellers do differently? And why is that important?

Let’s dive into the insights that can make the difference between a transaction and a buyer’s delight.

• Enhance your appeal
• Boost your confidence
• Increase your listings

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Selected in the district.

Macon County has decided that the 25 percent of teachers will be chosen through a lottery at random.

The selection plan does include an Opt-Out provision that would give teachers a chance to remove their name from any consideration regarding the 25 percent selection process. Board member Stephanie McCall asked why an Opt-Out provision was being included. “From talks I have had with teachers, they want to be able to turn the contract down outright, so why do we need an opt-out option?”

Breedlove explained that it was not so much about giving an opt-out option, but instead was a provision in the plan to not deny teachers the right to opt-out if they decide. Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin acknowledged that while there are some teachers who most likely fit your ideal Buyer client profile?

What is the Firm’s office culture? When you walk into the office, what kind of energy is there? Do you intuit a team environment and an entrepreneurial spirit? Do you sense passion, purpose, and vision? What is their reputation on working and living with ethics and integrity?


Ask to become educated on how a market analysis is conducted and participate in the decision-making process on price and position. Who is your competition and why? How may you enhance your property’s attributes? What will the Firm do to market in a laser-like focus to those most likely fit your ideal Buyer client profile?

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Highlands PD log entries from Jan. 1. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Jan. 1
• At 9 a.m., officers took a report of criminal damage to property at a residence on Sagee Woods Drive where two cables attached to a gate were cut.

Feb. 25
• At 6 p.m., officers responded to an attempt to obtain money or property fraudulently at Mountain Fresh Grocery where someone attempted to get money for a fraudulent charity with the intent of keeping the money.

March 7
• At 4:20 p.m., officers responded to a domestic altercation at a residence on Smallwood Ave. between a juvenile, his sister, mother and father.

March 20
• At 9:35 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west.
• At 9:40 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west.

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and not the police station.

“Because of TV, people think calling 9-1-1 is only if a masked man enters their homes with a gun, but in Macon County everything goes through 9-1-1. All you say is you want to report a parking violation and then we are dispatched,” he said. “Everything goes through 9-1-1; public utility problems and emergencies.”

Changes to the ordinance will be discussed at the April Town Board meeting and presumably accepted by the board.

The Parking Committee will meet again in the near future to discuss real estate exemptions to the parking ordinance – something the Planning Board also intends to consider -- the possibility of a trolley system to take visitors and employees to and from parking areas and even a parking garage.

Town Manager Bob Frye said all ideas will be considered but people need to think about who will pay for the ideas and what it would take to raise the money.

Committee members are Town Manager Bob Frye, Chief Bill Harrell, Planning Director Josh Ward, Chamber President Bob Kielytyka, Commissioner Brian Steihler and merchants/citizens Leslie Scott, Harry Bears, Jerry Moore and Julian Franklin.

– Kim Lewicki

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The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from March 27

March 27
• At 9:01 a.m., the dept. responded to a medical alarm at a residence on Peace Mountain.

March 28
• At 10:48 a.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident on NC 106. There were no injuries.

March 29
• At 5:19 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Flat Mountain Road. It was false.
• At 9:18 a.m., the dept. responded to a mutual aid call from Cashiers. It was cancelled en route.

March 30
• At 6:37 a.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident at US 64 east and Cherrywood caused by slick conditions. There were no injuries.
• At 6:44 a.m., the dept. responded to a call about a power line down on Cobb Road.
• At 8:26 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on Lucerne Drive. There was no damage.

HELP WANTED
MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY is accepting applications for full-time experienced Grill/Line Cooks and positions for the Wood Fire Pizza Oven. Contact Don at 828.526.2400 or jobs828@gmail.com

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CLASSIFIEDS

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