

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 11, Number 39

Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com

Thurs., Sept. 25, 2014

Fri.-Thurs., Sept. 26-Oct. 2

• Movie at Highlands Playhouse. "Trip to Italy." Showtimes are Fri.-Mon. & Thurs. 2, 5, 8p. No movies on Tues. & Wed.

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 26-27

• At Sidelines Gameday/Hen House on Main Street, Emerson Street Trunk Show. 11a to 4:30p. With \$75 purchase a free Game-Day headband of your choice. With a \$150 purchase, a free headband of your choice and 50% off a Game-Day scarf.

Fri., Sept. 26

• At The Bascom, a Bascom benefit, MoTown Dance, 6-10 p.m. Tickets are 2 for \$300 or 4 for \$500. Call 526-4949.

Sat., Sept. 27

• The Junior class of Highlands School will be having a car wash at the First Citizen's Bank. The funds will be used to support the various activities such as Prom and Graduation and more. Donations accepted. Bring your dirty cars to support Highlands School.

• Operation Medicine Drop 10a to 2p at Main Street Pharmacy or at the Highlands Police Department on Oak Street.

• CHHS Stop-N-Adopt Event at Hudson Library 10am - 2pm in the parking lot. 27 pets available.

• At PAC the Bluegrass band, Seldom Scene at 8 p.m. For tickets call PAC: 828.526.9047.

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club will host a Pancake Breakfast at the Scaly Mountain Community Center at the Corner of NC 106 and Buck Knob Road from 7:30 -10:30a. Adults \$5.50/Child. \$3.50.

Sun., Sept. 28

• Highlands Empty Bowl Pre-Sale before and after Sunday morning services in Coleman Hall of the Presbyterian Church.

Verizon agrees to Town's lease terms

The Verizon 20-ft. extension on the Big Bearpen Tower is a go.

At last week's Town Board meeting, commissioners learned instead of pulling out when its terms weren't met, Verizon decided paying rent to the town made

better business sense.

At the August meeting, Verizon had requested free rent for two years to offset the cost of erecting the 20-ft. extension on the town-owned Big Bearpen Tower.

Thanks to the insistence of Commissioner Amy Patterson that Verizon pay rent for use of the town's tower, the town will now get \$21,600 per year in rent from Verizon.

• See TERMS page 9

HS Soccer is having great season



Varsity Soccer is currently 7-4 and 4-0 in conference. Teams we have beat: Pisgah, Tallulah Falls, Erwin (twice) both of which are non-conference and 3A, and in conference we have beat Swain, Hayesville, Andrews and Murphy. We have lost to Franklin, Brevard, Rabun Gap, and East Henderson. Pictured are: Kenan Lewis, Philip Murphy, Jacob McElroy, Colin Weller, Dylan Vinson, Remy Adrian, Harrison Renfro, Austin Nichols, John Murphy, Tucker Johnson, Andy Marquez, Jody Thorske, Benjamin Miller, Wes Hedden, Ryan Houser, Brandon Dorau, Juan Garcia, Manuel Contreras, Max Renfro, Jose Jimenez. Managers: Pablo Toman, Eluterio Flores.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Cochran charged with with first-degree murder

Brittany Raby

Nearly two months after his initial escape, Charles Andrew Cochran was indicted by a grand jury Tuesday morning. Cochran, who

escaped from the Macon County Detention Center on July 30 and remained a fugitive for five days, was formally charged on Tuesday with first degree murder.

Cochran, 21, was also charged with first degree arson, assault by strangulation, felony breaking and entering, felony

• See MURDER page 9

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PB calls for 'attitude' and policy changes

Green is coloring the Planning Board's discussions lately.

At Monday night's meeting, the board was asked to consider where to install a couple of Electric Car Charging Stations in town. According to Planning Director Josh Ward, providing this service is something the town wants to do.

"These would be installed in a parking space close to Main Street, but not on Main Street," said Ward. "The idea is that people could come into town, park and charge their vehicles while they shop or dine."

According to Town Manager Bob Frye, the parking spaces won't be reserved for electric cars, because they typically have long electric cords which can reach the station from either side of the designated space.

• See CHANGES page 8

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Who gets paid for what?



and have mistakenly jumped to conclusions. I visited the work-site on Chowan Road repair and saw workers sitting around, and wondered what was going on? I learned they were on break from rappelling down the side of the road embankment working about an hour installing metal pins to stabilize the road. Naturally, doing manual labor while suspended from a rope was exhausting. Their willingness to do this very hazardous job helped the town significantly hold down the cost of the project.

So, am I Pollyanna Pat, the apologist for town workers? Some may think so, but I strive to be accurate and objective about what town workers do. I have also learned that dedicated town workers have no tolerance for a slacker either. If they discover someone not doing their job, a department head and town manager finds out very fast. With that said, there are ways we can improve. If someone is not doing their job, I want to know. There is no room for slackers on the town payroll.

I get emails, phone calls and cards concerning town issues. Sometimes I don't have an immediate answer and have to learn more about the issue myself.

Such has been the case about town employees receiving overtime on holidays. Some folks may suspect a boondoggle with workers clamoring for the extra holiday pay, only to sit around doing nothing.

Many town employees make extra money working second jobs after hours for private employers. Conversely, almost all of our workers do not seek holiday or weekend overtime. When it comes to making overtime pay or spending time with their families, workers understandably prefer the latter.

A case in point is our sanitation department. On holidays Highlands has a huge influx of people and businesses are very active. If the garbage trucks do not run during these peak times, even on Saturdays during the summer, a backlog will put the regular trash pick up behind schedule. So, the town manager orders the garbage trucks into service on certain holidays. Workers pressed into duty receive overtime.

Also on holidays, nights and weekends, especially during the winter, designated workers are on call. The water, sewer and electrical departments always have personnel ready for immediate response after business hours. Workers on call must remain within minutes away from town in case of an emergency. They receive on-call pay and overtime if actually summoned to work. Be assured that during below zero winter nights, electrical crews pray for no overtime. In addition, with impending bad winter weather, crews spend some nights in the town maintenance shed prepared to work. It is not considered a fun overtime pay activity either.

The town manager includes anticipated overtime pay in each year's budget. Some years we are below estimates, while in other years of bad winters, we go over the estimate.

In regard to worker productivity, I too have observed town workers sitting around on the tailgates of pick up trucks

• LETTERS •

Take elected officials to task ... vote Nov. 4!

Dear Editor,

I find it hypocritical that our leaders in Raleigh want to limit local government's ability to rule themselves but they are quick to chastise the federal government when they limit the ability of states to rule themselves.

With regard to fracking, education and many other issues, our statewide elected leaders should leave as many policy decisions as possible to the counties and municipalities. The further you take government away from the people, the less effective government becomes.

Additionally, it is much more effective to hold special interest groups in check at the local level than it is at the state and national level.

We all have a chance to send a message to our statewide and national leaders in November and I would encourage everyone to exercise this amazing freedom.

Jerry Moore
Highlands

• FORUM •

Stormwater utility needed for Highlands

By Robert Brotherton
rhbrotner@verizon.net

I have been coming to Highlands several times a year for many years and my wife and I are considering purchasing a home in Highlands. As a licensed Civil Engineer in Tennessee and Florida (with experience in water treatment and storm water pollution), when I visit Highlands, my attention is focused on things that many other people would not notice. Over the years of travel, (on about every street within Highlands corporate limits and surrounding Macon County), I have noted a very serious problem that is not being properly addressed and which has drastically impacted and continues to impact the natural and developed resources of Highlands.

Highlands, like other towns in the United States, has suffered from the current economic downturn resulting in the loss of income and decreased property values which also results in reduced income to local governments who work hard to provide public services without reduced levels of service. Therefore, while income to local government is in decline, impacts to land, streams and lakes in Highlands continues at a high or even increasing rate. Two significant examples of erosion are the siltation of Mirror Lake and the siltation of Big Creek. These two problems have become visible to the public due to the size of the problem, however, the same issue is present in all ponds, streams, and lakes in Highlands. It is just that these problems have not yet become noticeable to the public. A second problem relative to stream and lake pollution has become somewhat recognized and that is the pollution resulting from septic tank systems due to the number of these systems, soil conditions, steep slope of the land, and the failure of these systems with few repair options. The Town of Highlands is in the process of installing a sewer collection system to service homes and business in Highlands, however, these efforts need to be accelerated. During the process of the installation of these sewer collection lines, the construction needs to be closely controlled to prevent additional

• See FORUM page 6

Highlands Newspaper

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• OBITUARIES •

Judy Ann Bryant

Judy Ann Bryant of Franklin, passed away Saturday, September 20, 2014. She was the daughter of Betty Rowland of Franklin and the late George Rowland. Judy was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother; she loved the beach and camping.

In addition to her mother, she is survived by one daughter, Sacha Branum and husband Brad of Highlands; three sons, Clay Bryant and wife Falon, Elmon "Trey" Bryant and wife Patti, and Bryan Bryant and wife Kimberly all of Franklin; five sisters; two brothers; 17 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by a son, Jay Bryant, and one grandchild.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Bryant-Grant Funeral Home, 105 West Main Street, Franklin, NC 28734.

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

Joan Dickinson Levinson

Joan Dickinson Levinson of Highlands, N.C. died Monday Sept. 14 at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center in Highlands. She was born in Terre Haute, IN. Preceded in death by her husband, Frank K. Levinson, Jr. and by her daughter, Jeanne L. Sheaffer. She is survived by her daughter and son in law, Barbara and Bruce Werder, three grandchildren, Randolph William Werder, Orlando, FL, Stephanie Sheaffer, Las Vegas, NV and Steven Sheaffer, Denver, CO, and a great grandson, Chase R. Werder. Joan received her Bachelor's degree from Principia College, Elmhurst, IL and went on to attend Mass. School of Design. She began her career as a furrier at Cherry's department store in New England. After her marriage, she moved several times before they moved to Clearwater, FL. Her husband was an avid Sailboat Racer and they bought a marina as well as started to design sails for the Snipe and Flying Dutchmen racing class. Joan went under the name of Levinson Sails and formed an all women sewing company and began making sails along with some sportswear that held up under heavy sea conditions. She became known as the only woman sail maker in the country and had many articles written about her skills. Levinson Sails won numerous national championships and soon they shipped sails all over the world. After her husband's death, she expanded her sportswear business under the name of Sail Loft Sport Fashions. Her patterns and designs translated into a showing in catalogs which included, Lands End, Eddie Bauer, Norm Thompson, Ships Wheel Fawcett Boat Works and The Sporting Life as well as exporting to Japan and Europe. She ran the marina with her two daughters as well. She was voted one of the Best Dressed Women in Clearwater and was a volunteer for 6 years with Clearwater Jazz Holiday. She was a member of the Belleair Rotary Club

in FL as well as Highlands Rotary for over 26 years. After moving to Highlands, she opened an antique shop, Three Wishes in Cashiers, and she and her daughter owned and operated the 1891 Stewart House in Highlands. She was a member of the Christian Science Church. She belonged to The Bascom, Art League, and was Treasurer of the Mountain Garden Club of which she was a member for 17 years. In her life time she traveled to 24 different countries, but Highlands was her special place and she loved being in the mountains.

• See OBITUARIES page 14



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Annual Book Fair at Highlands School through Oct. 3



Highlands School Media Center is sponsoring a Scholastic Book Fair Thursday, Sept. 25 through Friday, Oct. 3 with the theme: "Sir Readalot's Castle!"

The Book Fair will open on Thursday at 8 am and runs daily from 8 am to 3 pm. The Book Fair will also be open from 4:30 - 6 pm before the PTO meeting on Sept. 25.

Everyone is welcome to come and shop at the Book Fair! There is a Book Fair homepage, <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/highlandsschool2>, and also an online Book Fair shopping site, <http://onlinebookfairs.scholastic.com/default.aspx?f=3157683>.

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The Dry Sink Main Street Highlands, NC

...FORUM continued from page 2

erosion of the soil in the attempt to reduce pollution of streams and lakes from septic seepage.

I would like to suggest that there are practical solutions to these pollution problems that happen when it rains. The public simply needs to become aware of the problem and then take ownership and accept responsibility and implement solutions. With the demands and personal plans that we all have, it is difficult to even take the time to become informed on the subject of the pollution that results from rainfall in the communities where people live and work. Is there a group in Highlands that will take up this Public Education effort?

Erosion is a natural process that has happened for thousands of years even on lands never touched by people. The problem comes as erosion and pollution increase above natural levels from the impact of people as land is developed by the construction of roads, homes, town centers, farms, and yes, even recreation facilities. In the mountains, as the concentration of people becomes higher, dams are built to both store water for treatment and consumption as well as beautification which encourages further land devel-

opment. Homes, roads, farms, towns, and recreation facilities are all good things to have if construction, operation, and maintenance is properly managed to prevent pollution of the very resources that have been developed for the people. As more people occupy the community, the discharge of pollutants increases including wastewater discharges, fertilizer and pesticides use for homes, recreation facilities, and farms, and erosion of soil from all types of construction and maintenance of road systems.

I would suggest that the Town of Highlands needs to consider the implementation of a "Stormwater Utility" to finance needed repairs of past erosion through dredging and improved erosion control during ditch and road maintenance and other needed improvements to the Town drainage system. The implementation of a "Stormwater Utility" for the Town of Highlands is a reasonable approach but would be expected to encounter some political resistance. With the current economic challenge that we all face, the correction of past and current neglect will be difficult to overcome but is possible. The failure to make a decision is a decision "not to" which is almost always the wrong decision.



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• THE FREDSTER •

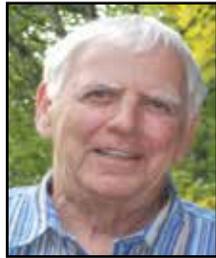
The Grammy Awards

And the winner is.... drum roll, please....my li'l missus!!

My wife, Maddy, would really, really, really like for me to keep her name out of the paper because she is, and always has been, a more private person than li'l ole me. As you might know, my life is an open book and a sometimes tacky one at that. But being the wife of "The Fredster" means that, on rare occasions, it's gonna happen. This is one of those times. Hey, after all, don't forget she is "the li'l missus."

After giving birth to two boys and a girl, we knew the day would eventually come when we would have to face the music. For us, becoming grandparents translated into becoming....well, grandparents. In our minds, being a grand anything meant we're older than thirty-nine. I thought about offering my kids a lifetime supply of protection to put off the event for as long as possible but since we raised them to be pro-life, I couldn't figure out how to tell them that using protection, in this case, was okay without sounding hypocritical. So I just cringed, held my breath and waited.

When our first grandchild was born in December twenty-two years ago, my son held out his new baby and said, "Meet Alex Noel Wooldridge, your first granddaughter. (Fa la la la la....la, la la la.) What do you want her to call you?"



Fred Wooldridge

I already had a whole nine months to ponder this question and decided that "Poppy" would be appropriate. Poppy is a fun name and easy to pronounce. But the li'l missus was not ready to be called anything that had a "grand" attached to it. She held her new grandbaby in her arms, hesitated and finally said, "How about Mrs. Wooldridge?" She was kidding, of course.

After much pondering and hand wringing, she became "Grammy." Warning to readers: Do not, under any circumstances, call her "The Gramster" without serious repercussions.

Well that was over twenty-years ago and now we have nine grandchildren. Now, the li'l missus is more than comfortable with her title and she is actually acting younger than ever. Keeping up with nine grandchildren can be a great exercise program.

And here's the good news....I hope....I think! They're done having babies. No more kids. Nine is enough.

But now she's sweating out great grandchildren and that's always a possibility. Any word with "great" in it is a huge no-no. Thank God the economy is so horrible they can't afford to get married or have kids. We are safe until the economy improves and that ain't happening anytime soon. Oh, and they'll not have babies until after the marriage. I know, I know: how old fashioned!

*Bluegrass band, Seldom Scene 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 27 at PAC*

Liz Callaway is a Tony®Nominee and Emmy Award-winning actress, singer and recording artist. She made her Broadway debut in Stephen Sondheim's Merrily We Roll Along, received a Tony Award nomination for her performance in Baby, and for five years, won acclaim as Grizabella in Cats. She has also starred in the original casts of Miss Saigon, The Three Musketeers, and The Look of Love.

Broadway and More: Liz Callaway Highlands PAC, Saturday, October 4, 8pm Tickets available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047 Check out our website for a full description and schedule of everything going on at Highlands PAC: www.highlandspac.org



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Liz Callaway

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online:

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828.526.9047

*Presented by: Jim & Marsha Meadows
Wade & Geri Coleman*

Highlands PAC

507 Chestnut Street Highlands NC

He also wanted the board to consider spaces on separate ends of town.

Since the objective depends on the availability of power, the board suggested three areas: on 3rd Street below Spring; in the Town Hall parking lot; and in the Kelsey-Hutchinson Park area either on Pine or Fifth street.

The stations would be a Level 2 station (the most common type) – 240 VAC, 40amp, 6.5kw – which depending on the size of the vehicle's battery, its on-board charger and the vehicle model, can take 3 to 21 hours to charge.

The charging stations would take credit cards and users would be charged for power used. This sparked discussion about having the user also paying a surcharge to help offset the cost of the \$4,000-\$6,000 stations.

Since this is just in the discussion stages, Ward said details still had to be worked out – that charging station companies may put them in so they could add them to the nationwide map showing Electric Vehicle drivers where they can charge.

As part of the Comprehensive Plan, members continued to discuss the town's utility policies expressing the need for an "attitude change."

"The town's enterprise funds [water, sewer, garbage and electric] generate income so there is no incentive on the town's part to encourage the conservation of energy," said Chairman Thomas Craig. "I talked to a Town Board member and suggested the town collect water from the Community Building roof and to use it to irrigate the ballfield [the idea being that homeowners could do the same] and he said 'Why would we do that? We want people to buy as much water as possible.'"

Craig said currently, with the town only using 62% of its water capacity, there probably isn't a reason to conserve but suggested it become a mindset in the community starting with the town government.

Members said the town doesn't really encourage the idea of sustainability and discussed ways to make Highlands a more sustainable community.

Discussion ranged from pushing for net metering where a regular meter is replaced with a bidirectional meter that measures the two-way flow of electricity so customers are only charged for the "net" power they consume from the town which

encourages green energy options.

Instead of a bidirectional meter used for net metering, the town installs two separate meters, pays consumers electricity saved at the wholesale rate that Duke charges it and also charges the homeowner an extra \$8.75 a month to read the second meter.

This policy, which was written by the town's electric consultant who acts as the go-between the town and Duke, is the way it is done in most small towns like Highlands.

Since that's the case, for now, the only way for people to conserve and use green energy, would be to collect energy from solar panels or roof top wind turbines, to heat their water heaters which would decrease their electric bills since less town-owned electricity would be used to heat the water.

The board also discussed the need for in-town recycling – either a center in town or on county property near town or preferably, substituting one of the two residential pickups each week to one for "garbage" and one for "recyclables" grouped together rather than separated by type.

Craig said he drives to the recycle center in Glenville each week to dispose of his recyclables because sorting isn't required. Ward is going to talk to the county to see if that is an option for Highlands.

Acting as the Appearance Commission, the board unanimously approved plans submitted by Dr. Robert Buchanan of the Center for Plastic Surgery & Medi-Spa, who is seeking to purchase and expand the building at 273 Spring Street to house his practice.

In a written statement, Buchanan said changes to the H-C Hospital since merging with Mission Health have left him without a place to do surgical procedures. Those changes include closing the OR this month and restrictions that prevent him from developing a place to perform procedures either in his current office or elsewhere on the hospital campus.

The building will include a reception/retail area, examination and treatment rooms, spa and procedure rooms, offices and storage.

Next Buchanan will seek a Special Use Permit from the Zoning Board.

– Kim Lewicki

Macon Aero Modelers RC aircraft air show

Come out on Sat. & Sun., Sept. 27 & 28 for the Macon Aero Modelers radio-controlled model aircraft air show on Saturday September the 27th and Sunday, after church at the OTX Aerodrome On 441/23, across from the Otto Post Office. Take Tessentee Road for 1/2 mile and the airfield is on the left. Bring some lawn chairs Parking is \$5. BBQ lunch is \$7 and Hotdogs lunch is \$5.

...MURDER continued from page 1

larceny, two counts felony larceny of a firearm, and possession of a firearm by a felon.

The charges handed down on Tuesday stem from a string of crimes connected to Cochran during his five-days as a fugitive in Macon County. Cochran allegedly burned down the home of and strangled 71-year-old Day Williamson of Franklin.

During his first appearance before a judge Tuesday afternoon in Macon County, Superior Court Judge Mark Powell read Cochran the list of charges he would be facing and asked if Cochran understood. Cochran responded, "Yes."

Judge Powell then explained the maximum penalty for each charge, which included life in prison or the death penalty for 1st degree murder to Cochran and asked if he understood. Cochran confirmed, "Yes."

Judge Powell informed Cochran that he was not to be allowed bail and that he would remain in custody until his next hearing which is tentatively scheduled for the November 3rd Superior Court date. Cochran will be given a state court appointed lawyer after an application to do so is approved.

Although Cochran was taken back into custody on August 4, five days after he escaped, Tuesday's True Bill of Indictments were the first charges brought against Cochran. Sheriff Robert Holland and his staff conducted a thorough investigation into the events which occurred when Cochran was a fugitive and meticulously gathered evidence for the case before presenting it to the District Attorney's Office. Once the investigation was

...TERMS continued from page 1

"Why should we abate rent for two years?" she asked. "If they had to erect a tower themselves they would be paying for it."

The board thanked Patterson for her diligence and also agreed to change verbiage on the contract from \$1,800 a month to \$21,600 per year.

New Fire Substation

The contract for the new fire substation was completed and approved, so the fire substation is happening.

A group of homeowner associations located on the Jackson County side of the fire district have purchased property at Cherrywood Drive and US 64 east to build a fire substation which will house two fire trucks and be manned by the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. Having a substation in the vicinity will dramatically cut the cost of fire insurance premiums for homeowners outside the 5-mile fire district.

complete and in the DA's hand, the DA's office considered all the evidence before filing charges.

"The officers assigned to the case have done a tremendous job thoroughly investigating all facts and evidence available in this case," Holland said. "I am confident that our department has given the District Attorney an in-depth report, and the DA's office will have a thorough report to prosecute this case."

Cochran, who was serving as a trustee at the detention center at the time of his escape, was considered to be an ideal inmate. Prior to his escape, he gave officers no need for concern regarding his behavior.

Cochran was being held at the Macon County Detention Center on charges stemming from violating his Colorado parole for a felony trespassing charge. His previous record in North Carolina consisted of non-violent misdemeanor crimes, but he had been previously arrested and convicted of felony burglary charges in Georgia.

Since Cochran's escape, the Sheriff's Department has ceased all inmate programs including the trustee program. Holland said now all inmate programs are being reviewed by him. Prior to the incident, command staff at the detention center made the decision as to who participated in the trustee program which included duties such as laundry and taking out the garbage.

"It's really the only privilege inmates get for good behavior within a jail population," said Holland. "But for now, in addition to their regular duties, detention officers are doing all of the chores once conducted by inmates in the trustee program."

Two of the department's four trucks will be stationed there. There are 28 volunteers in the department and by law the main station must have 20 volunteers and the substation must have eight, so guidelines have been met.

The building, which will be funded and built by the homeowner associations, will be turned over to the town upon completion and if the town decides it doesn't want to be responsible for utilities and maintenance in the future the building will revert back to the homeowners.

Lake Sequoyah

The town awarded the bid for the construction of the new raw water intake, raw water main, and dam repair to Langston Construction Company in the amount of \$2,534,615.40.

The cost of the project, is \$2,893,320. The \$824,870 lacking will be appropriated from the Lake Remediation Fund

• See TERMS page 14

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THURS	<p>ROASTED MEATLOAF WITH MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY AND A LARGE SALAD</p>	<p>\$19.95 serves 4</p>
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• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church hosts a non-denominational Men's Meeting the first Monday night of each month at 7 pm and all men are invited to attend.

Tuesdays

• Free Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.

Tues. & Thurs.

• Aerobics at the Rec Park with Tina Rogers 5:15. \$5.

Mon.,Wed., Fri.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Tues.,Wed., Fri

• Zumba at the Rec Park at 9:05a. \$5

Mon.-Sat.

• Nantahala Tennis Club meets 9a a-12 noon, at Highlands Civic Center, tennis courts. \$2 per person, and all visitors are welcome!

Wednesdays

• First Baptist Church is happy to present a new season of X-treme Games at the Highlands Rec. Park. The games will be held Wednesday nights from 6 to 7:15 pm, starting September 10th. For more information or to pre-register your k - 6th grade child, please call 526-4153.

1st Wednesdays

• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:30pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

3rd Wednesdays

• General Audience Movies at Hudson

Library at 2pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

1st & 3rd Thursdays

• Free local ongoing support group for caregivers. Are you involved with the care of a loved one who is physically or mentally facing challenges? Sponsored by The Counseling and Psychotherapy Center of Highlands and the Highlands United Methodist Church, this group meets at 4PM at Room 203 at the Peggy Crosby Center. Facilitated by Bonnie Gramlich, a licensed professional. Drop in or call for further info, 828.342.0546.

Thursdays

• Storytimes with Miss Carol at Hudson Library 10:40am. Open to the public.

• Highlands Writer's Group meets every Thursday from 1-3:30 pm at Hudson Library. Writers of all genres welcome. For info call 526-8009 or 526-2295.

• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at 6pm at the Cashiers Community Center. Questions? Call Lisa 828-506-3555 Last Fri. of each month.

• Free wine tastings from 5-7p at MountainTop Wine Shoppe.

• NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) offers a peer support group for individuals that are dealing with depression, anxiety, PTSD, bipolar, schizophrenia, etc. and the family members or friends of loved ones dealing with these challenges. Join us in a safe, confidential environment to share con-

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For more information, please contact Tracy Ryan, Events Manager, at tryan@thebascom.org or by calling 828-526-4949. To purchase tickets, please visit www.thebascom.org/celebration

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

cerns and gain insight. Join us for our Weekly Support Group from 7 – 8:15 pm @ 14 West Palmer Street in Franklin NC, email dcwithnami@yahoo.com, Donita (828) 526-9510.

2nd Thursdays

• Sapphire Valley Needlepoint Guild meets at the Highlands Rec Park at 10 a.m. Newcomers welcomed.

Fri.-Sun.

• Hal Phillips on the piano at Skyline Lodge during dinner and Sunday brunch.

Fri. & Sat.

• The Historical Society Museum is open.

Saturdays

• The Farmers Market, 9a-1p in K-H Park. Organic vegetables, eggs, honey, cheeses. home-made food and hand-made items. For information call 482-0555 Maxine Davidoff.

• Cashiers Local Farmers tailgate market through October at the Anglican Church Parking Lot Hwy 64 E next to Macon Bank.

• Free wine tastings at MountainTop Wine Shoppe from 1-3p.

Sundays

• At Highlands Inn, Sequoyah Room at 4:30 pm. Multi-denominational, Interactive Bible Study and Fellowship. Open to all.

Thurs. Sept. 25 - Fri., Oct. 3

• Highlands School Scholastic Book Fair. Theme: "Sir Readalot's Castle!" at 8 am until 3pm. Also open from 4:30 - 6pm before the PTO meeting on September 25. Everyone is welcome to come and shop at the Book Fair! There is a Book Fair homepage, <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/highlandsschool2>, and also an online Book Fair shopping site, <http://onlinebookfairs.scholastic.com/default.aspx?f=3157683>. All proceeds directly benefit the Library Media Program at Highlands School.

Thurs., Sept. 25

• At the Cashiers Village Green, a sculpture of Al Balestiere, visionary behind the formation of the Village Green, will be at 5p.

• Commissioners' debate at 7p at SCC in the Burrell Center.

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 26-27

• At Sidelines Gameday/Hen House on Main Street, Emerson Street Trunk Show. 11a to 4:30p. With \$75 purchase a free Game-Day headband of your choice.

With a \$150 purchase, a free headband of your choice and 50% off a GameDay scarf.

Fri., Sept. 26

• At The Bascom, a Bascom benefit, MoTown Dance, 6-10 p.m. Tickets are 2 for \$300 or 4 for \$500. Call 526-4949.

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 27 & 28

• Macon Aero Modelers radio-controlled model aircraft air show on Saturday September the 27th and Sunday, after church at the OTX Aerodome On 441/23, across from the Otto Post Office. Take Tessentee Road for 1/2 mile and the airfield is on the left. Bring some lawn chairs Parking is \$5. BBQ lunch is \$7 and Hotdogs lunch is \$5.

Sat., Sept. 27

• The Junior class of Highlands School will be having a car wash at the First Citizen's Bank. The funds will be used to support the various activities such as Prom and Graduation, just to name the two biggest. Donations will be taken for car washes so come bring your dirty cars out and support your Highlanders!

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 6.5 miles hike with elevation change of 1200 ft. to LITTLE CATALOOCHEE in the Smokies, a rarely visited part of the park with old home sites, barns, churches, cemeteries, as well as wildlife. Meet at Waynesville Ingles at 9 a.m., drive 50 miles round trip. Call leader Keith Patton, 456-8895, for reservations.

• CHHS Stop-N-Adopt Event at Hudson Library 10am - 2pm in the parking lot. 27 pets available.

• At PAC the Bluegrass band, Seldom Scene. The Scene began as a non-touring bluegrass band. PAC Memberships are available with five levels of benefits. For more information and or tickets call PAC: 828.526.9047.

• The Scaly Mountain Women's Club will host a Pancake Breakfast at the Scaly Mountain Community Center at the Corner of NC 106 and Buck Knob Road from 7:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. on Saturday. Adults \$5.50, and Children \$3.50. Proceeds benefit scholarships for area students and human service agencies.

Sun., Sept. 28

• Highlands Empty Bowl Pre-Sale before and after Sunday morning services in Coleman Hall of the Presbyterian Church.

Thurs., Oct. 2

• The Rotary Club of Highlands

will partner with Highlands Cub Scout Pack 207 to offer Cub Scout Bingo on Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Highlands Community Building next to the ball park. Half of the Bingo money goes to Highlands Cub Scouts and the other half will go to Bingo winners.

Fri., Oct. 3

• At Hudson Library, Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor.

Sat., Oct. 4

• At PAC, Broadway and More with Liz Callaway, a Tony Nominee and Emmy Award-winning actress, singer and recording artist. For tickets call PAC: 828.526.9047.

• At the Nature Center, "Fall Leaf Colors" program 2 – 4 pm. Fun activities about how leaves change color, deciduous versus coniferous trees, and winter survival strategies of each. Afterwards, visitors will be led on a walk through the Botanical Garden to identify many species of trees by leaf type, shape, and color. Fun and educational for the entire family; cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. Advanced registration is required; please call 526-2623 to sign up.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6-mile hike through pleasant forest to BEE COVE FALLS in SC, an 80 ft. high multi-layered falls. Meet at Cashiers Rec Center parking lot at 10 a.m., drive 22 miles round trip. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

• Macon County Poultry Club All Breed Show at the Macon County Fairgrounds. Sponsored by the Macon County Poultry Club and the Macon County Fair Board. For more information and to register your birds call Adam Peak at 828-342-9090. Deadline to register is Sunday, September 28th.

• NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will have an "indoor yard" sale on Sat. Oct. 4, 9-4 in the Breezeway at Palmer St Mall, between Habitat Resale Store and Smart Pharmacy, 14 W. Palmer St., Franklin. Proceeds go to support our educational programs and support groups. Items and financial donations would be appreciated. Ann 369-7385

Sun., Oct. 5

• National Life Chain Sunday 2014 2:30 to 3:30 pm at the First Baptist Church of Highlands. Meet at 2p. Any questions contact Emily Chastain 828-200-6277.

• At First Presbyterian Church, WCU faculty members who will be performing at 4p The performers will be Mario Gaetano, percussion; Michael Schallock, tuba; Shannon Thompson, clarinet; and WCU School of Music Director Will Pee-

bles, bassoon. Lillian Pearson, piano, will be the collaborating musician for this program.

• Highlands Empty Bowl Pre-Sale before and after Sunday morning services in Coleman Hall of the Presbyterian Church.

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Emerson Street Trunk Show
Friday, Sept. 26 & Saturday, Sept. 27
11a to 4:30p



FREE Game Day Headband with
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Fall Home Improvement

Beautifying Your Home's Outdoor Spaces

(StatePoint) In the warmer months, the importance of your yard and patio becomes top-of-mind as you spend more free time outside. While there's no better place to read a book, meditate or simply kick back with some lemonade, you can only truly enjoy those activities if the space inspires tranquility and relaxation.

Here are some great ideas for some alfresco upgrades.

Grow a Garden

While the fruits of your labor can inspire relaxation, the act of gardening itself can be a stress relief.

Spend some time working in your yard and you will be rewarded with beautiful flowers and the tranquility of nature that come with it.

Sculpture

Art can inspire relaxation. Sculpture, in particular, is especially beneficial. Luckily, these days you don't need to be a Rockefeller to afford high-quality artwork for your yard and lawn. New designers are creating affordable, but high quality options.

For example, Hypnartic Artwork creates visually serene, kinetic wind sculptures within reach for the today's homeowner. Ray Iannetta, founder, was inspired by the great dynamic wonders of the world to create quality art.

Two of the more popular sculptures are the "Concord Swan," which can also serve as a weather vane, and "Spinning Leaves," which swivels 360 degrees and complements other



landscape artwork. More information about lawn art and installation tips can be found at www.HypnarticArtwork.com.

Lawn Furniture
Ditch the traditional

picnic table and install more luxurious alternatives to complement your new lawn art. From chaises and daybeds to bar stools and tables, you can basically extend your home's living spaces outdoors with style, comfort and functionality. Add a fire pit to extend the daytime into outdoor evening activities.

If your yard doesn't get enough use, consider the reasons why. Like any room in your home, some care and planning in the design can make the space more attractive, inviting and ultimately more livable.

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Fall Home Improvement

Some Home Upgrades Can Improve Your Health

(StatePoint) Small changes to your surroundings can have a strong impact on mood and overall health, say experts. A relatively new movement in design and construction, called “designing for health,” aims to make homes and communities have positive impacts on the way people live, work and play.

“Encouraging movement, social interaction and physical health can address problems like obesity and our increasingly sedentary lifestyles. Thoughtful design and home improvements can solve these issues,” says Cyril Stewart, President at Cyril Stewart, LLC and member of the American Institute of Architects’ (AIA) Design and Health Leadership Group.

Spaces that promote movement -- walkable and livable communities -- are an idea gaining steam, as noted by the AIA’s most recent Home Design Trends Survey. Increasingly, designers and developers are creating pedestrian-friendly communities with access to recreational activities.



Want to foster healthy, active spaces in your own home and community? Stewart is offering a few tips:

Extend the Home

Adding porches, patios or balconies improves access to the outside world. This provides great health benefits, ranging from maximizing natural light to extending living spaces.

“Many people retrofit homes with these amenities, to allow for more space and fresh air and improve ventilation,” says Stewart.

Add Strategic Seating

Strategic seating is another interesting trend design professionals are employing to encourage movement in and around a home or community.

For example, public seating in the middle of

spaces that mix residential, dining and entertainment establishments ensure people need to get up and walk to those services before enjoying them. In other communities, areas designated for more quiet activities, like reading, are on the rise.

Sleep-Friendly Bedrooms

Ensure your bedroom promotes healthy sleep by making it a tranquil place. If possible, avoid sleeping in a room that is along a busy street.

Install soundproof windows and use drapes. And leave the entertainment center out of your bedroom. It’s hard to get quality sleep alongside the lights and sound of the television.

Breathe Quality Air

An easy, but often

overlooked solution for ensuring better health, is keeping air quality high. Fresh air aids sleep and lessens the occurrence of diseases like asthma. Simple ways to improve air quality include:

- Finding the optimum setup to promote fresh air flow and ventilation in a building
- Regularly replacing and cleaning filters on air conditioners and heating systems
- Confirming radon and carbon monoxide detectors are present and in working order

When it comes to home upgrades and interior decorating decisions, make your health a top consideration alongside visual appeal and functionality.

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(Just before HFCC)

... TERMS continued from page 9

(\$468,580.00) and a transfer from the Sewer Reserve fund for \$356,290.

Draining of the lake will begin in October.

Third Street Wall

Demolition of the 3rd Street wall along the perimeter

of Main Street Inn, will begin around Nov. 2. The wall is to be relocated six feet further toward the property to widen the street.

The painted sidewalk will also be located six feet back and since it's just paint, which will leave room for delivery, emergen-

cy and fire department vehicles to maneuver the street.

MJM Poured Walls got the job for the construction of the wall, steps, handrail, and rock facing for \$94,536.51 and ALT Electrical Contractor will install a recessed lighting system for \$4,045.85 so the total for the project is \$98,582.36 – under the budgeted \$120,000.

Parks & Rec Projects

Pool Enclosure and Bathhouse Winterization is on schedule with bids expected back and awarded at the October 16 Town Board meeting. Construction is scheduled to begin in late October with a completion date of May 1.

At the August Town Board meeting, commissioners heard suggestions about the ballfield

renovation. This project wasn't budgeted for in 2014-'15, so commissioners are waiting to see what bid packages entail before making a decision on whether to proceed.

If a bid is awarded at the October Town Board meeting, construction would begin No-

• See TERMS page 17

... OBITUARIES from page 3

Memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

In Memory of Clem Henry

6/1/1946 - 9/12/2010
4 years in heaven

When someone you love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure.

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DD: Do you Need One?

Whether you think 'DD' means designated driver after a few drinks, or due diligence in a sales transaction, it doesn't matter. They are both considered a safety net, and both 'put you in the driver's seat' —without compromise.

In 2011, our NC Offer to purchase forms changed to include a due diligence period clause- they even went one better and added a line for a due diligence fee- not to be confused with the earnest money deposit. I'll address all three:

Now, before we get too far, let me say that most buyers have been practicing due diligence way before 'due diligence was cool.' Let's compare buying a home to relationships. How many people do you know meet and marry the same day? Doesn't happen- it's a process- there's the first date, then there's a romance period, then engagement, then discovery, then there's the marriage- and hopefully many long years together. You have your 'first date' with a house too; some people can still remember their first encounter with a home they've bought. Then there's the 'romance' period where you envision yourself IN that house, maybe think about things you'd like to do to make it 'yours'. The engagement is the offer- hey, it's scary putting yourself out there on the line- the fear of rejection is always there, isn't it? (What if they say 'NO?') After getting an accepted offer they began their 'getting to know you better phase'- the discovery phase- that's called 'due diligence' With a marriage, there's usually clergy involved for the 'big day', compared to an attorney on closing day- one has the exchange of rings, and the other house keys. (In one scenario- DD is 'I Definitely Do' while the other is 'Due Diligence'- both may involve imbibing in libations of celebration-, which is where the other DD 'Designated Driver' comes in.)

Earnest Money Deposits: In the 'olden days' when a Buyer made an offer, he would include a check for earnest money deposit- meaning he was 'earnest' about buying the house. Even today, some Sellers feel the bigger the earnest money deposit, the more earnest the Buyer. So, What's the difference? The key word here is 'deposit'. Anytime you see the



Jeannie Chambers
Chambers Realty &
Vacation Rentals

word deposit, you should expect there's a chance you will be getting that money back. When buying a home you 'get the money back' by those funds being credited to your purchase price at the closing table.

Earnest money deposits are usually made out to the listing office, and are held in escrow until it is turned over to the escrow agent (attorney). The Selling office, or sometimes the closing attorney may also hold the deposit. The earnest money deposit must be deposited within 3 days of the effective date of the contract.

Every once in awhile, there's a snag, and a sale won't go through, and depending on the circumstances, sometimes the buyer would get their earnest money returned to them. Earnest money deposits still exist- not much has changed there.

Due Diligence Period- There has really always been a due diligence/discovery period, it just didn't have a name, and there really wasn't a designated time period. Selling Brokers would encourage Buyers to get a home inspection, a pest inspection, possibly a survey, septic tank evaluated, radon, etc. If there was any bank financing as a contingency to the contract, that was always considered the first hurdle. The buyer pays for all discovery/due diligence items, and there's no need to have any inspections if the buyer can't qualify for a loan to purchase the property. None of that has changed either- what HAS changed is there is now a designated time period the Buyer has to get all their discoveries done. Setting the time periods should not be done lightly, but rather deserve a great deal of thought from the Buyer with the guidance of their Broker. The Buyer needs to make sure they will have enough time to do everything they want to do, while at the same time not dragging the time out to discourage the Seller from accepting the offer. The clock starts ticking as soon as the contract has been signed/agreed upon by both Buyer and Seller (the effective date of the contract). The period is over at 5:00 on the date agreed by both Buyer and Seller. Some contracts have the due diligence period just a day or two before the settlement date, while others are more reasonable with at least a week in between to give everyone

• See INVESTING page 17

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PANCETTA: PANCETTA, ROASTED RED PEPPERS, MUSHROOMS, CRUSHED TOMATO & GRANDE MOZZARELLA

PROSCIUTTO ARUGULA: PROSCIUTTO DE PARMA, MUSHROOMS, GARLIC INFUSED EVVO, PECORINO, & FRESH ARUGULA TOSSED WITH EVVO

OR MODERN INTERPRETATIONS:

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BBQ CILANTRO CHICKEN: PULLED CHICKEN, BBQ SAUCE, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, RED & GREEN ONION, FRESH CILANTRO.

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CHOOSE YOUR SAUCE:

ITALIAN RED TOMATO, ITALIAN WHITE CREAM, PESTO BASIL, OR BARBECUE

CHOOSE UP TO 5 TOPPINGS:

PEPPERONI, ITALIAN SAUSAGE, GROUND BEEF, HAM, BACON, CHICKEN, CARAMELIZED ONION, FRESH ONION, ROASTED RED PEPPERS, GREEN PEPPERS, BANANA PEPPERS, OLIVES, MUSHROOMS, PINEAPPLE, SPINACH, EGGPLANT, ARTICHOKE, ANCHOVIES, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, GORGONZOLA, PROVOLONE, FETA, AND PARMESAN

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You don't have to go to church but ...

Rev. Emily Wilmarth
First Presbyterian Church

You don't have to go to church. (But, please keep reading.) In these mountains, or alongside our countless waterfalls and gorgeous streams and rivers, one can commune with God, no problem. If ever an opportunity to appreciate the goodness of creation presented itself, Highlands provides. Since moving here in June, I've been pinching myself. I have seen breathtaking sunsets and gentle misty mornings. I've been wowed by the late night views of the sky, too. I haven't seen this many stars in a long time. My sky views remind me daily that God has created a world so much greater than my own imagination. I didn't have to go to church to figure that out.

Throughout the summer, I've been amazed at the ever-changing landscape of wild flowers on my morning jog. Along the roads I traverse, the flora has progressively varied in three month's time. I've never lived in a place with such biological diversity. I'm reminded by the progression of wild flower growth that God continues to create new things. Not just in the physical sense, but in my new relationships, in my new experiences, in new insights and perspectives. I didn't need a sermon to pick up on that.

Since arriving in Highlands, I've also been amazed at how many connections I have made to people and places. I keep meeting friends of friends here; I've even met a high school classmate of my mother's and a man who graduated from the Naval Academy with my dad. Making a connection with someone makes me feel like I'm somehow less of a stranger in this new home. I feel known. It's the same thing with God, who knows my thoughts, my rising and sitting, my coming and going (Psalm 139); who knows the number of hairs on my head (Luke 12:7). I only had to open my Bible to come to that conclusion.

So, you don't have to go to church to find God, to experience God's presence, to grow in faith.

But, I hope you do because church has something

• See **SPIRITUALLY** page 17



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Large Lap size quilts
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Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor

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

CHAPEL OF SKYVALLEY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.; Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

Sun.: 8:30a Traditional (said) 1928 Service, including Communion; 9:30a Christian Education; 10:30a Faithful, Family Service w/ Music & Communion.

Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

Wed.: Men's Bible Study -8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470

Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

Wednesdays -7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School

10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Child. Program,

10:45am: Worship Service

Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC

University

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street

Sunday Service: 11 a.m.; Testimony Mg: 5 p.m. on 3rd Wed

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968

Sundays: Eucharist Rite I 8a in chapel; Education and choir

rehearsal, 9 am, Holy Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30

Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741

Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 am; Prayer Mtg 6:15 pm;

Choir 5 pm

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-3175 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship: 8:30 & 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

Mondays: 8 a.m.: Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays: Choir: 7

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd) • Rev. Carson Gibson

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

Bible Study: 6 pm

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Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

Pastor Nathan Johnson

Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)

Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45 a., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p.

Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell

rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH:ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;

Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Troy Nicholson, (828) 526-8425

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11, Choir: 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,

4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

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Parish office (Father Francis): 526-2418

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SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

Sundays: School -10 a.m.; Worship -11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore • 526-3212

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

Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth: 7 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359

Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe

Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a Rite II, 10:30

June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a

Nursery available for Rite II services

Sept 7- Oct 26- Informal Evening Eucharist-5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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Sunday Worship - 11 a.m. Child Care - 10:30a - 12:30p

Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Youth 8th - 12th grade meets 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30p

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

continued from page 16

to offer that you cannot find on your own. In addition to the sort of encounters one might have with God in nature, or in relationships, I believe you might meet God in new and profound ways within the heart of a community of faith. In a community of faith, you're likely to engage with folks who affirm your own experience of God. Your faith can be buoyed by the enthusiasm and encouragement of others. At church, you're likely to encounter folks whose beliefs differ in some ways from yours, too. If you're willing to share in thoughtful, respectful conversation, your faith might change a little – or a lot. It might grow and develop as you learn from the experiences and teachings of others who have genuinely studied and prayed. In a community of faith, you might meet people whose life struggles or whose theological questions allow you to connect with something deep within you. You might meet people from whom you want to learn, with whom you might want to study, around whom you might want to raise your children or figure out how you might age well.

“Two are better than one,” we read in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, “because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and

...TERMS from page 14

ember 1st with a construction completed by February 15.

Final recommendations and plans for the new gym floor and upper level restrooms will be presented at the October Town Board meeting. If approved, bid packages will go out November 21 and will be requested back by December 19 with bids awarded at the Jan. 15, 2015 Town Board meeting. Construction will begin the end of February and be finished May 1.

New Utility Bill Format
Starting with October's

• See **TERMS page 19**

falls and does not have another to help.” Jesus assures, “Where two or more are gathered in my name, there I am also.” (Luke 18:20) Together, in the presence of God, we find the strength of people united in a common mission to love our neighbors, to serve the poor and the outcast, to welcome strangers. It's a lot easier to do it together than alone.

Maybe you already have a church home. Maybe you're searching. I know of a great church at the southwest corner of 5th and Main. Wherever you go, my hope for you is that you find a community of faith that is right for you. I hope you find a community that welcomes you, that treasures the truth that you are made in God's image, that encourages you and challenges you, that inspires you to know and follow God.

You don't have to go to church. But I hope you do.

...INVESTING continued from page 15

time to get all the paperwork, wire transfers, overnight packages, etc. in order.

While homes in any phase of selling can be shown for sale, and back up offers submitted, most Buyers prefer to see homes that are 'readily available' to them. A home should be considered 'still on the market' during the due diligence period, and that fact alone should encourage the Primary Buyer to complete their due diligence as soon as possible and remove that contingency.

Due Diligence Fee- The key word in this phrase is FEE- a fee is something paid with no expectations of getting it back-ever-well almost. Since 2011, when the contracts added the due diligence fee in addition to the earnest money deposit, there have been some that have used the two interchangeably, but they are two different animals – until closing day.

The due diligence fee is paid directly to the Seller from the Buyer. The Seller can do anything he wants to with that money- it's his. Some liken the due diligence fee to a 'lay-away plan' if you go through with the sale, the money you've paid goes towards your purchase, if you change your mind, the 'store' keeps the money. (My husband's grandfather, Tudor Hall, used to refer to a 'law away plan' as the 'lay awake plan' because people would lay awake trying to figure out how to pay for the item.)

The Seller can use your due diligence fee to go on a vacation, a down payment of a new car, etc. If anything happens during the agreed upon due diligence period that the Buyer deems a negative to proceeding, the Buyer can terminate the contract, get their earnest money back, but the due diligence

fee is forfeited to the Seller.

If the sale continues to closing, the due diligence fee is applied to the Buyer's proceeds as a credit – just like the earnest money deposit.

How much should the due diligence fee be? How much should the earnest money deposit be? That's all up to the Buyer and even though written in the contract – both are negotiating items between the Buyer and Seller.

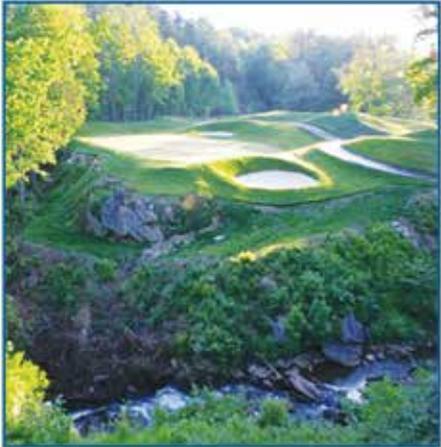
Buying and Selling homes in today's market doesn't have to be hard- don't let the verbiage confuse you. Jeannie and Tucker Chambers of Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals will be glad to answer your questions. 401 N. Fifth Street, Highlands, NC 28741 getit@chambersagency.net www.chambersagency.net 828-526-3717.



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Two lots sold this winter and a year round home is being built ... New cottage section opening soon!

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Owner/Stylist: Lisa L. Shearon; Stylist: Jane B. Earp; Stylist/Nail Tech: Kristi Billingsley;
 Nail Tech: Katie Baker Passmore
 828-526-9477 • 225 Spring Street, Highlands

Mtn. Findings donates \$89,000 to area nonprofits



Scaly-Sky Valley Fire Department



Thirty-eight organizations received donations from Mountain Findings this year totaling \$89,000. Pictured are representatives from these organizations together with some of the 59 volunteers who work to make these annual donations possible. Volunteers staff Mountain Findings and it is those volunteers who vote at the June annual meeting on the recipients and the amounts of the donations. Organizations are asked each year to submit letters of request and identify specific needs.

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A LARGE SELECTION OF TAKE- AWAY ITEMS FULLY PREPARED, READY TO TAKE HOME INCLUDING GRILLED PORK LOINS, HOME MADE MAC & CHEESE, MASHED POTATOES, HERB RUBBED CHICKEN, MADE IN HOUSE BBQ, CHICKEN SALAD DELI SALADS & MUCH MORE.

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BUTCHER

WE SELL ONLY 100% PREMIUM ANGUS BEEF, HAND CUT IN HOUSE. STOCK UP FOR THE WEEKEND EVERY THURSDAY WITH 35% ALL STEAKS AND GROUND BEEF. THEN STOP BY THE TAKE OUT CASE TO COMPLETE YOUR DINNER WITH TWICE BAKED POTATOES, FRESH SALADS AND MORE.

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SPECIALTY CHEESES & OLIVE BAR

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STORE HOURS: 7AM-9PM MON-SAT, 8AM-6PM SUNDAY
 MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY • CORNER OF FIFTH & MAIN, HIGHLANDS NC • 828.526.2400

Mtn. Findings donates \$89,000 to area nonprofits

This year the following organizations received donations: Cashiers Free Dental Clinic, Community After School Program, Community Care Clinic, Friends for Life, Glenville-Cashiers Fire Department, Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad, HCCDC Scholarship Fund, Highlands Biological Foundation, Highlands Nature Center, Highlands School Booster Club, Highlands Boy Scouts, Highlands Cemetery Fund, Highlands Cub Scouts, Highlands Emergency Council, Highlands Endowment Scholarship Fund, Highlands Fire and Rescue, Highlands Historical Society, Highlands Plateau Greenway, Highlands Playhouse, Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music, Highlands-Cashiers Community Players, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation, Highlands-Cashiers Humane Society, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Hudson Library, Macon County Humane Society, Peggy Crosby Center, Performing Arts Center, Performing Arts Center Youth Theater, R.E.A.C.H., Satolah Fire Department, Scaly-Sky Valley Fire Department, Sonshine After School Program, The Pantry, The Literacy Council, The Mountain Retreat, and the Rathbun Center.



Scaly Mountain Small Business and Welcome Center is now open



A mostly steady stream of local residents along with some visitors stopped in on Saturday, Sept. 6th, during the Grand Opening of the new small business and welcome center located next to the Scaly Mountain Post Office.

Scaly Mountain Computer Services, with Mark Gramlich at the helm, is fully operational. Life Matters Professional Counseling will soon open its doors. And the Scaly Mountain Welcome Center is up and running. Even with limited hours, many travelers have gotten directions, rest, and information. There is also a planned "Resource Room" at the center to benefit all in the local community (Scaly Mountain, Sky Valley and adjacent high elevation Rabun County), as well as folks visiting or just driving through. Feel free to stop in to check it out and experience a warm Scaly Mountain Welcome! Open from 10AM to 2PM daily or anytime you see the "Open" light turned on. 828.526.5630.



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...TERMS from page 14

utility bill, citizens will get a bill in an envelope in a new format showing the history of usage instead of on a post card and they can also request their bills be emailed instead of mailed.

Christmas Decorations

The Town Board voted unanimously to buy new Christmas decorations this year for Main Street, from 3rd to 1st, south and north Fourth Street and wreaths and pine swags for the entryway signs on NC 28, NC 106, US 64 east and US 64 west.

The total package will cost a little more than \$62,500 – \$23,500 was budgeted, so a fund balance appropriation will make up the shortfall.

Poles in town will be decorated with lanterns circled with wreaths and decorated with bows.

– Kim Lewicki

• FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from Sept. 16.

Sept. 16

• At 1:28 p.m., the dept. responded to a brush fire at residence on Turtle Pond Road.

Sept. 20

• At 10:07 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on N.C. 28 south.

Sept. 21

• A little past midnight, the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

Sept. 22

• At 3:47 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Holly Tree Lane.

• At 4:16 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to Main Street.

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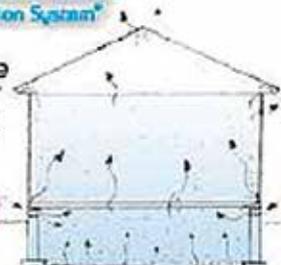
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PART TIME ADMIN POSITION - 20 hours/week - flexible hours - 12 month position - some nights/weekends - local organization - strong organizational skills needed - computer experience in excel, word, Quickbooks - work from home - send resume to - newhirecashiers@gmail.com (Oct 2)

NOW HIRING..HIGHLANDS INN...Front Desk staff and Housekeepers. Call 828 526 5899 for an appointment or email shawk32@aol.com with questions and resume. (st. 9/18)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY is seeking a cake decorator for their gourmet bakery. Full time, year round. Must have experience with wedding cakes. Must have portfolio & references. Candidate should be punctual and professional. Contact Christina at 828-526-2400. (9/25)

THE BISTRO AT MAIN STREET INN is hiring cooks, servers, food runners, bussers. Stop by to apply or call 526-2590. or email at info@mainstreet-inn.com.

HIGHLANDS PLAYHOUSE is now hiring part-time help for our winter movie season. Must have strong customer service and math skills. Call 828-526-2695 or come by the office at 362 Oak Street, Highlands. (st. 8/28)

EXPERIENCED HORSE/DOG HOUSE SITTER. Please call Nicole @ 252-637-2255 (st. 8/21)

WAITSTAFF NEEDED AT TOKYO RESTAURANT. Call Jimmy at 828-526-8800. (st. 7/31)

LEAD LINE COOK & DISHWASHER needed at casual fine dining, up to \$13/hour or salary B.O.E. jasoncancilla2012@gmail.com (st. 6/19)

PART TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE. Prior wait staff experience required. 20 - 30 hours with weekend availability. Call 803-389-0199. (st. 6/12)

CNA, NURSES, CAREGIVERS needed for Home Care Agency serving Older Adults in Macon, Jackson and Transylvania counties. Call 828-200-9000. (st. 5/15)

WOLFGANGS RESTAURANT is looking for experienced servers and a part-time host/hostess. Please call Robbie at 828.526.3807. (st. 5/15)

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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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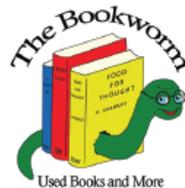
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MUST SELL 6+ acres at Lake Glenville. Lake and mountain views. \$130,000 or Best Offer. Call 706-348-3208. (st. 2/20)

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BIZ NEWS

New Executive Pastry Chef joins OEI



Chef Vinzenz Aschbacher

Old Edwards Inn and Spa is pleased to announce the appointment of Chef Vinzenz Aschbacher as the new Executive Pastry Chef. Aschbacher is a nationally-respected Master Pastry Chef with over thirty years of pastry experience. His culinary achievements will bring a new dimension to Old Edwards' restaurants, banquet and catering facilities.

Born and raised in the South Tirol, in Italy, Aschbacher learned the food and beverage business from restaurateur parents, then apprenticed as a pastry chef at the Café Konditorei Kühn in Wiesbaden, Germany. At 22, he became the youngest person ever to earn a master pastry chef certification in Germany, and he opened a pastry shop that supplied more than 70 top restaurants and hotels. In 1997, Aschbacher headed to the United States.

In the U.S., Aschbacher quickly became a sought-after consultant and in 2000 became the Executive Pastry Chef at the world-renowned Charleston Grill and Charleston Place Hotel. While in Charleston, he created desserts for the James Beard Foundation and earned the local distinction "the resident genius pastry chef."

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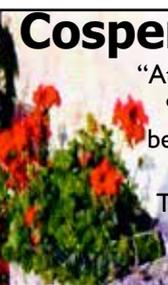
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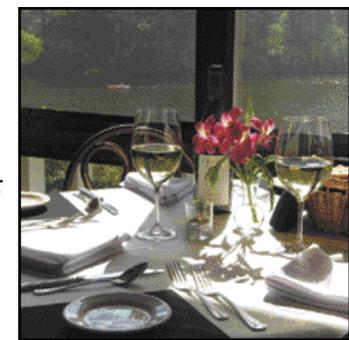
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