Lake Sequoyah to stay full; the pool to be completed

Even though just one inch of rain over Highlands’ 11-mile watershed can cause Lake Sequoyah to rise five feet, the company contracted to do the Lake Sequoyah Water Intake and dam repair job promises that come Hell or high water, the lake will not be lowered; it will stay full from now on.

This promise came on the heels of an episode last week that drained the lake everyone thought was filling back up.

The morning of Wednesday, June 10, the town got a call from a citizen asking why the lake was once again without water.

The town soon learned that Langston had drained the lake by about five feet to install an elbow fitting for the water intake valve but were told once the part was installed — by 4 p.m., Wednesday — the valve in the dam would be shut and the lake would fill right back up.

However, according to Mayor Wallace, this promise came on the heels of an episode last week that drained the lake everyone thought was filling back up.

Local quilter goes ‘national!’

Liz View and her team of quilters is the area’s very own Quilters of Valor.

An avid quilter for 28 years, Liz View and her team of quilters is the area’s very own Quilters of Valor. She has displayed her quilts in Peducah, KY Aug. 20-Nov. 20. The Mountain Valor Quilters, Liz View, Lavona Larson, Linda Maddox, Maggie Nosbusch, Laura Palla, Chris Griffith, Donna Lehn, Lynn Katz, and Lynn Tidroski, display the quilt made by LizView which is one of 33 quilts chosen nationwide to be displayed in the National Quilt Museum “Quilts of Valor” display in Peducah, KY Aug. 20-Nov. 20.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

County expected to approve budget on June 25

The county’s $46.6 million budget is on the agenda for approval during a special meeting on June 25, and after public comment and a few minor revisions, it appears commissioners will pass the 2015-16 proposal.

Only one budgetary issue called for public comment last week, as the commissioners’ board room was maxed out with supporters of the Macon County Public Library. From library volunteers, to parents and their children, library supporters urged commissioners to increase funding to the county’s library system.

Cristen Dando and Maggie Kennedy, librarians in the children’s department took a colorful approach to asking for more money.

“You support our three libraries, we know, and we’re giddy, that we can be open for seniors and parents and kiddies,” the pair recited in a poem while dressed like Dr. Seuss characters, Thing 1 and Thing 2. “We’re grateful, believe us, but we need a bit more; We asked for an increase and the percent is just four. Our libraries lack copiers, we need laptops for classes. Our printers are dying, our servers are crashing. You’re trying, we know, but after inflation took hold, our equipment and tools have grown really old.”

Funds for the Macon County library system go to three libraries in the county and the mobile Reading Rover unit. Karen Wallace, executive director for the library requested a four percent increase this fiscal year, which would have brought her total budget to $1,168,059, $1,050,863 which would have come from the county.

Rather than increase the county’s allocation, however, County Manager Derek Roland recommended commissioners continue to fund libraries at the 2014-15 level of $999,390.

Wallace, spoke to commissioners during the budget’s public hearing saying if additional money is not provided by the county, libraries in the system may have to cut services or reduce hours to meet the growing demands.

Nantahala FD under investigation by SBI

In May of 2013, the Nantahala Volunteer Fire Department did not have enough money in the bank to make payroll. In June of 2013, the fire department United Community Bank told the department possible foreclosure proceedings were going to be started on property financed through the bank, which included the fire station and firetrucks.

At the time, Debbie Mosteller served as treasurer of the fire department and had served in that capacity for 15 years.

The financial discrepancies led to members of the Nantahala Fire Department to contact the Macon County Sheriff’s Department to review the matter further.

“After we were contacted, we began looking into it further and quickly found out that it was a po-
Two public hearings are on the agenda of tonight’s Town Board meeting. The meeting will begin at 7 pm at the Conference Center.

There is a public hearing concerning the town budget for 2015-2016. The proposed budget is $13,787,317. This figure contains everything necessary to operate the town year-round, including the utilities, street, police, recreation and fire departments, to name only a few town services.

To meet the proposed 1.4 million dollars budgeted for capital and equipment improvements, $304,000 has been moved from existing reserve funds to purchase essential equipment such as a new trash truck. One of our old trucks has been leaking offensive, foul liquids as it traverses through town. The solution was to budget for a new truck, and refurbish the old one as a back up. The new trash truck will cost around $200,000. A new line truck will cost the electrical department about the same. Now some folks may say, “Why are those departments always buying new trucks and wasting taxpayer money?” My answer for the line truck is that the town is replacing a 20-year-old truck that is on its last leg. Would anyone want the line truck to break down in the middle of a winter power outage and be out of service until new parts arrived?

The town constantly has to address the problem of depreciation of equipment, roads and buildings. Some things like rehabbing water tanks cannot be delayed indefinitely, so this year’s budget again encumbers funds for these recurring maintenance items.

One observation I want to make concerns budget growth in town operational areas.

For the last five or six years those areas have remained rather constant. For example, at this moment fuel costs have been low, but even when it has increased, ways have been found to hold down overall operating costs. Items like garbage collection fees have been relatively stable. This year there will be no increase in sanitation, water, sewer or electrical fees. There is always a caveat to electric rates; we can’t control wholesale costs that Duke Energy may levy against us in the coming years. The town’s healthy reserve funds also help hold down these service fees.

Also, the town workforce has remained steady for the last decade. Highlands employs about 70 workers, and has added only 4 or 5 new positions in the last decade.

Another public hearing tonight will be to change the commercial tree ordinance requirement of replacing dead trees. Currently, businesses must replace any trees that have been cut down and removed. Some believe it is unfair to require replacement of trees that have died from natural causes, like the hemlocks that have fallen victim to the woody adelgid. They stress it is expensive to remove these dead trees that are eyesores and pose safety hazards. Other folks counter the town cannot afford to lose any more trees and vegetation in business districts.

Our citizens will have the opportunity to share their views tonight. See you then.

Dear Editor,

The Highlands Motoring Foundation would like to express their thanks to everyone that made the Highlands Motoring Festival an enormous success. The level of comments from participants, visitors to the town, hotel owners, restauranteurs, retail shop owners and others were overwhelming. And may I say, 100% positive.

But, this was a joint effort of the entire community. From the Town of Highlands office to the Highlands Motoring Festival and Literacy Council of Highlands volunteers. And especially the sponsors.

When we were faced with the possibility of losing our venue at the Rec Park, Mayor Pat Taylor and Town Manager Bob Frye, said let’s move this to the Kelsey-Hutchinson Park. The move was great, and I received dozens of comments, how great the location was. Our plans are to make this a permanent site. Not a single negative comment was received.

Speaking of comments, the Festival brought a substantial number of visitors to Highlands. Some for just the day, but many for several days. I received comments from several saying that they were impressed that there was no price gouging that you often find when a major event is hosted in some other cities. Room and restaurant rate remained constant.

Retail store owners were very willing to provide incentives to attract the visitors of the Festival and the proximity of the venue to the business district attracted shoppers to the stores. One person, told me, while her husband looked at cars, she spent over $500 on dresses.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the support of our many sponsors. Harmony Motors of Asheville, BMW of Asheville, and Land Rover of Greenville, were our Platinum Sponsors. Additionally, I want to thank the other sponsors that provided financial or in-kind sponsorship. The Highlands Chamber of Commerce, WHLC, Wilson Gas, Bryson’s Food, Mitchell’s Lodge and Motel, the Park on Main, Passion Performance, Highland Cove Realty, Highlands Automotive, Creekside Casual Dining, Old Edwards Inn, Highlands Decorating Center, Mountain Motorwerks, Cashiers Printing, Ugly Dog Public House, and Franklin Ford.

Additionally, the support of the print media, specifically the two papers, the Highlands Newspaper, The Highlander, and the Laurel Magazine for their many articles and news coverage increasing the exposure serving to make this year’s event the largest on record.

The Literacy Council of Highlands is the sole beneficiary of the Festival, and we expect this year’s revenue to substantially increase, thanks to all the support and efforts of those listed above. In closing, it should be noted that this success could not
Frank W. Norris

Loved by many, he passed away peacefully, at age 95, on May 31, 2015, at Hospice in Atlanta after a brief illness. He was surrounded by close family members. Mr. Norris was born and raised in Highlands, NC. His great-grandfather, Stanhope Hill, was one of the early pioneers in Horse Cove and became the first mayor of Highlands. His mother, Helen Hill Norris, was a true matriarch.

He graduated from the University of Georgia in Forestry and was very active in the Blue Key Club and Fencing Club which he lettered in and in the Sigma Nu fraternity.

In 1976, Frank founded Timber Mart South, a publication which provided private land owners with the value of timber on their land. This publication still exists at the University of Georgia under the auspices of the Frank W. Norris Foundation.

He truly loved his family home, Hill House, in Horse Cove. He was preceded in death by his first wife Vivian Constanbater and his second wife, Kathy Saviano. He is survived and will be deeply missed by his daughter Sarah Norris Uzun and her husband Osman of Tallahassee, FL; his nephew Luther Turner, Jr and wife Ann; second cousin, Robin Phillips; all of Horse Cove, step-son Michael Saviano and wife Roxene; step-grandchildren Julian Saviano and Marjorie Saviano all of Atlanta GA; Satu Saviano Muldrow of Seattle, WA; and three step great grandchildren.

Friends are welcome to attend the graveside services at Horse Cove Road Church in the Wildwood on June 20, 2015 at 11 a.m. After the service, a reception will follow at the Hill House in Horse Cove.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Horse Cove Cemetery.

Charlie William McDowell

Charlie William McDowell died Monday, June 15, 2015. He was born November 3, 1924 in Pineville, WV, Wyoming County; the son of the late Jeter E. McDowell and Margaret Kirby McDowell, and grew up in Highlands, NC. His father came here as foreman to build the gorge road between Highlands and Franklin.

After graduation from high school, he joined the Army and was one of the “Greatest Generation”, having served his country well during WWII in the Pacific. After his discharge from the service, he went to University of NC at Raleigh and became a professional land surveyor. His career included several years with Alcoa then back to Highlands and opened McDowell-Potts Real Estate and Land Surveying.

Charlie was chairman of the first Zoning Board of Highlands and also served on the Planning Board. He was president of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, and longtime board member of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. He was instrumental in reviving the interest and fund raising for the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund. This group also started the annual golf tournament for the Scholarship Fund. He was Presbyterian.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Mark Shannon McDowell; sisters, Tessie Hanley and Margaret Earls; brothers, Elmer, Roy and George.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys; daughter, Susan and husband Mark G. Parrish; granddaughters, Coree McDowell, Brittany Dryman and Savanna Parrish; grandson, Mark Shannon Parrish; great-granddaughter, Scarlett Porter, and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held Thursday, June 18, 2015 11 am in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Franklin with Rev. Ronnie Branson officiating. The family will receive friends Thursday from 10:00 - 11:00 am, one hour prior to the service, at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund, PO Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741 or Highlands Historical Society, PO Box 670, Highlands, NC 28741.

...LETTERS continued from page 2

have been accomplished without the support of scores of volunteers from both the Literacy Council, and the Highlands Motoring Festival.

Steve Mehder, Highlands Motoring Festival

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  - www.LogCabinHighlands.com

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- **Paoletti**
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  - Serving Dinner from 5:30p
  - 7 days a week

- **Asia House**
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  - Fri., & Sat., 11a to 11p
  - Sun., noon to 10p
  - 828-787-1680 or 828-787-1900
  - We Cater!
  - 151 Helen’s Barn Ave., Highlands
Liz and a number of quilters from the Cashiers Quilters Guild broke away at the end of 2014 to form the Mountain Valor Quilters whose sole purpose is to make quilts of valor for the Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF).

The mission of the QOVF is “to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.” Since 2003, almost 120,000 veterans and those in active duty have received a quilt.

Coming from a military family, the QOVF mission and its slogan: Quilting to Honor and Comfort Service Members and Veterans – just made sense to Liz. After all like the QOVF website says “It is a wonderful form of national service and anyone can do it!”

Well, anyone who likes to sew and has the ability to pay attention to detail.

There are basic requirements to make a QOVF quilt including – fabric type, pattern, size, binding, quilting, label, the note to the recipient, washing and the presentation case – the specifics of which can be found on its website qovf.org.

A Quilt of Valor is a generous lap-sized quilt (minimum of 55” X 65”) made by a quilt-topper of quality fabrics and beautifully hand or machine quilted. After it has been bound, washed, labeled and wrapped in a presentation case, it is ready to be awarded.

Quilts are awarded at many different levels: they may go to military hospitals where chaplains award them to service members; there may be awards of QOVs to entire service units returning from deployments; they may be awarded at veteran institutions or awarded individually. But no matter how a Quilt of Valor is given, the impact it delivers is unequivocal.

Mom Catherine Roberts, began the Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF) from her sewing room in Seaford, Delaware in 2003. Her son Nathanael’s year-long deployment to Iraq provided the initial inspiration, and her desire to see returning warriors welcomed home with the love and gratitude they deserved, provided the rest.

She hit upon the idea that linking quilt-toppers (those who make the “top” of the quilt) with machine quilters (those who bind and quilt it together) in a national effort could achieve her goal to cover all returning service men and women touched by war.

For Roberts, these wartime quilts would be a tangible reminder of an American’s appreciation and gratitude. This all-volunteer national grassroots community service effort connects the home-front with warriors and veterans.

Here in Highlands, working together, The Mountain Valor Quilters can make the tops for two quilts in a day. Liz, who is a quilter on steroids, can make a top by herself in a day.

Once the topper is complete, it takes the group a week...
...SBI continued from page 1

potential case of embezzlement,” said Sheriff Robert Holland. “Because several of our officers are friends or relatives with members of the fire department, we asked the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to take over the case.”

The MCSO requested the assistance of the SBI on May 7, 2014, and by May 15 of that year, the SBI had begun its investigation.

SBI Special Agent Schick first interviewed Patrick Graham and Pam Odell, members of the Nantahala Volunteer Fire Department on May 15. During those interviews, the SBI learned about the 2013 financial troubles of the department. Based on bank statements provided to Schick, it was discovered that several payments were made to American Express from 2009 until 2013. The checks were endorsed by Mosteller and listed one of two account numbers.

Over 40 checks were located that were made payable to American Express from the Nantahala Fire Department account.

After obtaining a search warrant for the American Express account, Schick found that two of the purchases in question included $242.64 for the Walt Disney World Lake Buena Vista, FL theme park and $6561.85 for reservations at a resort with arrival and departure dates of October 15, 2011 - October 21, 2011.

While over 40 checks were made out from fire department account to the American Express account, only three checks totaling $6,000 have been identified on court documents at this time. The total amount of the 40 checks isn’t known at this time.

In addition to the checks made to American Express, Schick filed an additional search warrant application that revealed that more than $20,000 was paid out to Dell, Dell Business, or Dell Preferred from the Nantahala Fire Department account.

Based on the same bank records that uncovered the 40 checks made payable to American Express, Schick found an additional 34 checks, all of which were endorsed by Mosteller, had been made payable to Dell, which totaled over $20,000 from 2010 to 2013.

While interviewing Pam Odell, Schick said she informed the SBI that she was aware of two Dell computers and possibly older Dell computers at the fire department, but that she was not aware of any purchases from Dell that would total $20,000. Odell said that as a board member, she never saw any invoices from Dell.

Schick also interviewed Patrick Graham, who said the proper procedure for the fire department was to notify the board of all purchases, and all receipts are supposed to be turned in for all purchases – but that was not the case regarding Dell purchases.

Both search warrant applications on file at the clerk’s office were filed and issued on June 11, 2015. The search warrants requested additional records from American Express and Dell to further investigate possible embezzlement.

At this time, no charges resulting from the investigation have been filed against Mosteller. The case is open and ongoing.
I’m a slut on the bridge to nowhere

No, no, no, this is not about the infamous Alaskan “bridge to nowhere.” And this is not a re-write or a re-print but more of an update. I’m talkin’ about another bridge to nowhere just as outrageous where people assemble in great numbers and play a card game called Bridge and get absolutely nowhere for spending their hard earned money, not to mention their hard work. Since I’m a fellow player, I’m qualified to report on these loonies.

I love to play Bridge so I seek out friendly games with kind, nice people who will give me hugs, not test my Bridge knowledge (not so much) feed me candy and allow me to bond with like-minded folks. Hey, I’m an over-the-top happy guy who loves to have fun and this is not good if you’re a serious ACBL member. Remember, when serious Bridge players smile, they probably have a buildup of methane gas which can be highly explosive. I guess this is why smoking is not permitted in a Bridge room. I’m such a NOT serious player, my lil’ missus has divorced me from the game, forcing me to become a Bridge slut.

Because the czars who run the ACBL are just a tad too tight-ass for my liking, I never joined. Sue me! Yes, I’ve been around over three quarters of a century and have zero…. nada…. zilch ACBL points. I am sooooo proud of that.

More serious players think I’m a Bridge slut because I’m constantly looking for someone who will play with me. And my motto is “know your game.” In my defense, here’s an example of how the system works. If I decide I want to play Bridge at the new Cashiers Recreation Center, I must know about using your iPad but taken at slower pace with extra time to ask questions. Taught by Nigel Sixsmith

Dr. David Ambaras will provide an update on the changing political, territorial, and resource disputes involving China, Japan, Vietnam and other countries in the East and South China Seas and connect it to important developments beyond the region.

Upcoming Events

• Rublev to Faberge: A Six-Century Survey of Russian Art & Culture, Fri., June 19, Time: 2-4p Cost $25/$35
  Learn the story behind the creation of these lavish eggs that have become Russian icons as well other Russian cultural and artistic highlights. Presenter Erin Rodman Jones is the Director of the Bob Jones University Museum and Gallery in Greenville, SC where she oversees one of America’s finest collections of European Old Master Paintings.

• Intermediate Conversational Spanish: Mondays, June 22-Aug. 10 (8 Sessions) Time: 4:30-6p Cost $130/$150
  This course continues where Beginning Spanish left off, focusing on past and future tenses using the text book Easy Spanish Step-by-Step. Taught by Laura Denenholtz, a retired professor of languages and linguistics.

• Conflict in the China Sea: Tue. June 23, Time: 10a-noon. Cost $25/$35
  Dr. David Ambaras will provide an update on the changing political, territorial, and resource disputes involving China, Japan, Vietnam and other countries in the East and South China Seas and connect it to important developments beyond the region.

• Piracy and the Contemporary World: Wed. June 24, Time: 10a-noon. Cost $25/$35
  This talk examines the ways the Vietnam War and the fall of Saigon have been remembered in Vietnam and the U.S. since its end in 1975 and the conflict that surrounds its commemoration. Dr. Hayden Cherry received his Ph. D from Yale and is a professor of History & S.E. Studies at NC State.

• iPad Short Course: Basic and Advanced: Wed. & Thur. June 24/25 (2 Sessions) Time: 10:30a-3:30p Cost $125/$140
  This new iPad course will cover everything you need to know about using your iPad but taken at slower pace with extra time to ask questions. Taught by Nigel Sixsmith

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• iPhone / iPad Short Courses: Basic and Advanced: Wed. & Thur. June 24/25 (2 Sessions) Time: 10:30a-3:30p Cost $125/$140
  This new iPad course will cover everything you need to know about using your iPad but taken at slower pace with extra time to ask questions. Taught by Nigel Sixsmith

• Fundamentals of Wine: Thr. June 25, Time: 3-5p. Cost $40/$50
  Join the Saucy Sisters, Barbara Nowak & Beverly Pittman in a class you are sure to enjoy! They were hosts, creators, and executive producers of the radio show Sauced! for 10 years and have published several books written on “the social side of wine.” While tasting a variety of wines you will learn about wine tasting rituals, how wine is made, aroma and taste and so much more with these fun ladies

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GRILL - EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK STARTING AT 11:00 UNTIL CLOSE FRESH ANGUS BURGERS, FRESH NATURAL CHICKEN BREASTS, GRILLED FISH, CHICKEN TENDERS, COOKED TO ORDER HAND CUT FRIES, SALADS, HOMEMADE SOUPS, DAILY SPECIALS, SALAD BAR

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A DIFFERENT FULL DINNER FOR TWO EVERY NIGHT, MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY FROM 4:30 UNTIL WE SELL OUT. CALL AHEAD TO RESERVE...

MONDAY - LOW COUNTRY LOBSTER / SHRIMP BOIL MAIN LOBSTER TAILS, WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP, RED BLISS POTATOES, SUMMER CORN, HOUSE MADE SAUSAGE, ALL STEEPED IN OUR SEASONING, SERVED WITH DRAWN BUTTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE. $33.95 SERVES TWO

TUESDAY - OVEN OFF NIGHT TWO NATURAL CHICKEN BREASTS GRILLED WITH OUR TUSCAN HERB INFUSED OLIVE OIL, SERVED ON A BED OF GREENS WITH STUFFED BRIE, SPICED PECANS, OUR EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL AND BALSAMIC VINEGAR ON THE SIDE WITH TWO CUPS OF HOMEMADE GAZPACHO AND A BAGUETTE FROM OUR BAKERY. $23.95 SERVES TWO

WEDNESDAY - PRIME RIB WITH BAKED POTATOES AND SALAD. PREMIUM ANGUS STANDING RIB ROAST, COOKED MEDIUM RARE WITH RED WINE AU JUS. TWO BAKED POTATOES AND A LARGE CAESAR SALAD. $33.95 SERVES TWO

THURSDAY - TWO RACKS OF BABY BACK RIBS - COOKED UNTIL FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER. SERVED WITH HOUSE MADE BACON/APPLE BAKED BEANS AND POTATO SALAD. $25.95 SERVES TWO

FRIDAY - WILD CAUGHT SHRIMP: FRIED OR STEAMED. WILD CAUGHT NORTH CAROLINA SHRIMP EITHER LIGHTLY BREADED IN OUR SEASONED CORN FLOUR MIXTURE, AND THEN PROPERLY FRIED IN PEANUT OIL AND SERVED WITH HUSH PUPPIES; OR STEAMED TO ORDER IN OUR LOW COUNTRY SEASONING. BOTH COME WITH COLESLAW AND ROSEMARY SEA SALT BROILED RED POTATOES, TARTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE. $26.95 SERVES TWO

**SATURDAY** - IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ. HAND RUBBED PORK BUTT, PIT-SMOKED OVER NIGHT AND HAND PULLED TO ORDER. COMES WITH COLESLAW, APPLE BACON BAKED BEANS, AND YEAST ROLLS $22.95 SERVES TWO

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Class of 2015 Graduation – Saturday, June 12

Photos by Kim Lewicki
Dear Editor,

On June 10, an unexpected fire caused an unusual service interruption that lasted for more than 10 hours to our Frontier customers. This outage started at noon and impacted High-Speed Internet service for about 1,700 Frontier customers in the Highlands area.

We appreciate our customers’ patience and understanding while our technicians isolated the problem, replaced the damaged equipment and restored service as quickly as possible. We commend our technicians and all employees who helped restore service by 10:30 p.m.

Internet service is a critical part of our personal and business lives. We rely on it for learning, gaming, shopping, banking and e-mailing. We certainly understand the inconvenience and frustration an outage can cause.

We are pleased to provide communication services to the Highlands community. Thank you for being our customers.

Ken Maxwell
General Manager

Will someone please fix our roads?

Dear Editor,

In the last several days, I’ve found it necessary to travel from my home in Highlands to both Franklin and Cashiers and back by way of US highway 64. At many points along the way, I felt like I was driving thru an obstacle course of potholes and uneven patches. On
to 10 days to machine quilt and bound the piece.

It takes Liz, who hand-quilts, two to three weeks to complete a piece.

Liz recently entered a quilt of her own creation, which is pictured on the front page, in a QOVF national competition. Hers was one of 33 quilts selected from 77 quilts submitted from all over the country to hang in the National Quilt Museum in Paducah, KY, in its Quilts of Valor display Aug. 20-Nov. 11. Three quilts crafted by three ladies in Franklin were also selected so that's four from this area alone!

The display coincides with the annual Quilts of Valor conference set for Aug 16 in Paducah.

After November 11, the quilts will be distributed to veterans and active-duty service people in the Paducah area.

Like the national QOVF, the Mountain Valor Quilters is an all-volunteer organization which depends on donations to make the quilts. It costs between $100 and $125 to make one quilt. To support its effort, send donations to Quilts of Valor Foundation, 596 Flat Mountain Road, Highlands, NC, 28741.

– Kim Lewicki
ESTATE & YARD SALE!
June 19, 20, 21
9a to 4p
Highlands Creek Village
460 Dillard Road (Across from Dusty’s)
Kitchen Items, Furniture, Antiques, Clothing
Many One-of-a-Kind Treasures

For Sale
ESTATE & YARD SALE!
June 19, 20, 21
9a to 4p
Highlands Creek Village
460 Dillard Road (Across from Dusty’s)
Kitchen Items, Furniture, Antiques, Clothing
Many One-of-a-Kind Treasures

Thurs.-Sun.
• Movies at the Playhouse: Thurs-Sunday. 2, 5 & 8 p.m. Call 526-2685 for weekly movie.
• 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.

First Tuesdays
• Donation Based Family Fitness Class at The Nature Center every Monday at noon and Wednesday at 7pm for Teens and Adults.
• FAMILY and Caregiver Support Group Meets: for Individuals that have a friend, family member or loved one living with mental illness. Learn how peers deal with stress and emotional overload. First Tuesday of Every Month 7-8 pm. Call Ann for more info (828) 369-7385

Tuesdays
• Growing Stronger Together- A support and learning group for women who have physical or mental difficulties including depression or high stress. $5 per session. Meets weekly on Tuesdays through August 4 at the Peggy Crosby Center, Rm.203. Led by Bonnie Gramlich, LPC and sponsored by HUMC and the Counseling and Psychotherapy Center of Highlands. Call 828.342.0546 to register or for more info.
• Free Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.
• FREE Yoga in the Park Tuesdays starting June 23 at the Highlands K-H Park on Pine Street. Bring the whole family (along with a towel and a bottle of water) for a gentle, community stretch!

2nd and 4th Tuesdays
• OccupyWNC meets at the Jackson County Justice Center. For more information, visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524
• Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park at 8a. $5.
• Pickle ball is played from 9:30-11a in

• Every Monday in June: T-Ball at 6 p.m. for 3-5 year olds. Co-ed. All equipment is provided. $10 registration. Meet at Zachary Park.

Ongoing
• Church of the Incarnation and the First Presbyterian Church are collecting food items for the Highlands Emergency Council and the Food Pantry. Drop off boxes are in the Ravenel Room at First Presbyterian and in the downstairs lobby at the Church of the Incarnation. Monetary donations also accepted. Make checks out to Highlands Mountain Top Rotary.
• The Cub and Boy Scouts of America have three drop-offs for worn and tattered flags. They properly retire them. Drop-offs at Highlands Doors and Windows 2242 Dillard Road, the Highlands Fire Station or Highlands United Methodist Church office. Contact Phil Potts for more information 828 526-3719

Highlands Area Events •

Broadway by Jeri Sager
Saturday, June 20 8pm
Sunday, June 28 7pm
Bluegrass: Rhonda Vincent & the Rage
Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street
Tickets available online: highlandsper.org or by calling 828.526.9047

PREMIUM ARTS CENTER at The Playhouse
June 25th - July 11th
Music & Lyrics by Cole Porter
Book by Guy Bolton, P.G. Wodehouse, Howard Lindsay & Russell Crouse
Play is produced by arrangement with TAM - WITMARK MUSIC LIBRARY INC.
560 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022
Sponsored in part by Susie Day

ESTATE SALE
Saturday, June 20
9a to 4p
460 Dillard Rd (across from Dusty’s)
Antiques, art, rugs, decorative accessories, Lamps, china, silver, crystal & more
For Sale
CT&T E-Zone City 2
Total Electric
110 volt plug in – recharge 5-8 hours.
35-mile range. (Street legal under 35mph)

Great for country clubs and in town!
Available in additional colors.
Call 828-421-1709 or 828-526-1029

Highlands Events

the gymnasium at the Rec Park.
Mon., Wed., Fri.
• Heart Healthy Exercise Class Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am-9:30am
• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Wednesdays
• Children’s Book of the Month Club and Story Hour with Nonnie (Diane McPhail) at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square at 11 a.m.

1st Wednesdays
• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:15pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

2nd Wednesdays
• General Audience Movies at Hudson Library at 2pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.

Thursdays
• Storytimes with Miss Deanna at Hudson Library 10:40am. Open to the public.
• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at 6pm at the Cashiers Community Center. Questions? Call Lisa 828-506-3555.

NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness: depression, bipolar, schizophrenia, etc. and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 – 8:15 pm. Call Donita for more info (828) 526-9510.

2nd Thursdays
• Sapphire Valley Needlepoint Guild meets at the Highlands Rec Park at 10 a.m.

3rd Thursdays
• Kidney Smart Classes in Franklin: Every 3rd Thursday of month, 4:30pm-6pm, Angel Medical Center, Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 120 Riverview Street, Contact Majestic 828-369-9474
• Kidney Smart Classes in Sylva: Every 3rd Thursday of month, 7:30am-9am, DaVita Sylva Dialysis Center, 655 Asheville Highway, Contact Sue 828-631-0430

Last Fri. of each month
• Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor from 11a to noon at The Hudson Library.

Fridays
• Live music in Town Square from 6-8p.

Saturdays
• Highlands Marketplace in the vacant lot next to K-H Founders Park on Pine Street from 8a to 2p.
• Children’s Book of the Month Club and Story Hour with Nonnie (Diane McPhail) at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square at 11 a.m.
• Music in the K-H Founders Park from 6-8p. Bring a picnic.

Thurs., June 18
• At the Nature Center, “Whats that Bug?” Free. 2-3p.

Fri., June 19
• Live music in Town Square, Highlands from 6-8p. Mountain Dulcimer.
• The High Mountain Squares will host their “Beginning of Summer Dance,” Friday night at the MC Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC from 6:30 to 9 PM. Dr. Caller is Jim Duncan. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome.

Sat.-Sun., June 20 & 21
• Highlands Village Square Art & Craft Show. Regional artisans, music, food. 10 - 5 in

See EVENTS page 14

Pizza & Italian Street Food at Mountain Fresh Grocery

NEAPOLITAN PIZZAS
AUTHENTIC THIN CRUST PIZZAS WITH FRESH HAND-CUT INGREDIENTS $11.95

CHOOSE CLASSICS LIKE:
RED MARGHERITA: FRESH MOZZARELLA, CRUSHED TOMATO & FRESH BASIL
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:
FIG & PIG: FIGS, PANCETTA, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, CRUSHED TOMATO, GORGONZOLA, TOPPED WITH ARUGULA TOSSED IN EVVO.
BBQ CILANTRO CHICKEN: PULLED CHICKEN, BBQ SAUCE, GRANDE MOZZARELLA, RED & GREEN ONION, FRESH CILANTRO.

...OR BUILD YOUR OWN.

N.Y. DECK OVEN PIZZAS
10 INCH $10.95 / 16 INCH $19.95

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

ITALIAN STREET FOOD $10.95

LEMON ROSEMARY SAUTÉED CHICKEN, CRISPY CHICKEN FRITTE, ITALIAN SAUSAGE OR MEDITERRANEAN STEAK

ADD YOUR SAUCE: POMODORO, PESTO BASIL, ITALIAN WHITE CREAM, CREAMY PESTO

THEN IT’S ALL SAUTÉED WITH FRESH ANGEL HAIR PASTA, TOPPED WITH PARMAGIANO & SERVED WITH FRESH BAKED PIADINA

Pizza available from 11am until close every day

Store Hours: Open Mon - Sat 7am, Sunday 8am

Corner of Fifth & Main, Highlands NC • 828.526.2400
Altitudes Restaurant
at Skyline Lodge

Fine Dining with a View!
Full Bar, wine & beer

Open for Dinner
Wed. thru Sat. & Brunch on Sunday

Appetizers
Cajun maple shrimp and avocado • $15
Marinated beef tenderloin crostini
w/brown shiitake mushroom • $16

Friday & Saturday Specials
Filet Oscar w/lump crabmeat and
garlic hollandaise sauce • $40
Maple pecan trout • $25

Prepared to order by Chef Kirtis
Reservations recommended but not required

470 Skyline Lodge Drive • 828-526-2121
Call about our wedding & event packages

K-H Park on Pine Street, downtown Highlands, NC. Admission free. Sponsored by Macon County Art Assn..

Sat., June 20
- NO MUSIC IN THE PARK TONIGHT.
- The Highlands Plateau Greenway will conduct its monthly work day from 9a – noon this Saturday followed by the Greenway annual meeting and picnic. If you are interested in participating and in joining us for the picnic lunch, please email Ran Shaffer at highlandsgreenway@ncvt.com or leave a message at 828-526-5622. Meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) in the Recreation Park at 9 AM for orientation session and equipment.
- The Broadway veteran, Jeri Sager, will be giving a Stage Makeup Class for the youth interested in the theater. Jeri is best known for her role as Grizabella in Cats. The class will be on Saturday at 10am. It’s free. The class is limited but if you are interested please call 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center.
- A Rummage and Bake Sale at First Christian Church of Franklin to benefit youth campers. It’s 8a to noon.
- Annual Reese Family Reunion, 10 AM to 2 PM at the Highlands Rec Park
- An evening of Bubbles & Jazz at the Highlands Playhouse. Doors open at 6p.m. Champagne & Dinner -- All you can eat Low Country Seafood Boil, Live & Silent Auction. Tickets are $125. Tables of 8 for $850. For tickets call the box office at 828-526-2695.
- Volunteers Get Free Beer! Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Stewardship Coordinator, Kyle Pursel, will lead a volunteer work day at either Satulah Mountain Preserve or Kelsey Trail. Thanks to a partnership with Highlands’ Satulah Mountain Brewing Company, afterwards volunteers get a free beer at the brewery. For more information, contact Kyle at stew.hitrust@earthlink.net or 526-1111.

June 21-25, Sun.-Thurs.
- Highlands United Methodist Church invites all children to Move, Act, Care, Follow, and Share at G-FORCE: GOD’S LOVE IN ACTION Vacation Bible School. Young people and adults will explore and experience serving God and others with active love! The fun begins June 21st and ends June 25th from 5:30-8pm at Highlands United Methodist Church, 315 Main Street. Dinner will be served from 5:00-5:30pm. The adventure includes music that will energize your ears, interactive Bible fun, super science projects, cool crafts, hands-on mission work, delicious snacks, great games, and more! To be a part of the excitement at G-FORCE ADVENTURE PARK call (828)526-3376.

Mon., June 22
- At the Botanical Garden at the Highlands Biological Station, “Garden Tour: Five Senses in the Garden” from 10:30am to 11:30am. Free. For information call 828-526-2221.

Tues., June 23
- At the Highlands Biological Station Botanical Garden, “A Garden Workshop” from 2 to 4p.m. The cost is $10 for members, $35 for new members. For information call 828-
Highlands Events

- Downton Abbey Afternoon Teac fundraiser is Tuesday. Tickets for this Downton-style benefit are $75 and available at event sponsors in Cashiers: High Hampton Inn, GG’s Consignments, The Consignment Market, Victoria’s Closet/V.C. for Men, and Cashiers Chamber of Commerce. Contact Diane Stumm, 828-226-4411.

- Eco Tour: “The Road to Franklin”. Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for an historic stroll along a forgotten path - a portion of the old road that once lead from Highlands to Franklin. $35 for new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on the trail and a year membership to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust! HCLT members: $10. Reservations required: Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net, 526-1111.

- Give blood at Southwestern Community College Macon Campus and the Macon County Public Library 44 Siler Farm Road, Franklin from 10 am to 7 pm. To schedule an appointment please call (828) 306-7017 or visit redcrossblood.org.

- At the upcoming Ladies Night Out Program, the topic will be “How Not To Be A Victim.” The guest speaker will be Bonnie Peggs. Join Ladies Night Out this month to learn more about this important topic. This program will be held in the cafeteria at AMC two times this date. One will be at 4:00 p.m. and one will be at 6:30 p.m., so you can choose which one you want to attend. The same presentation will be given at both meetings. All women are invited to attend one of these meetings and are asked to encourage all the women in their life, who are over the age of 13 years, to attend with them. If you can, please bring donations for REACH of Macon County. Preferred items are feminine products, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent and dish detergent. Please visit http://reachofmaconcounty.org/data/documents/Shelter-Needs.pdf to see a list of shelter needs. You will receive extra door prize tickets for donated items.

- See EVENTS page 16

Nonnie’s Book of the Month Club and Story Hour through August

Children’s Book of the Month Club and Story Hour with Nonnie (Diane McPhail) at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square next to the K-H Founders Park on Pine Street at 11 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday through August. Children can pick out books from her selected pile. It’s Free!

Photo by Kim Lewicki

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY

DINNERS-TO-GO SUMMER MENU 2015

MON

$33.95
SERVES TWO

TUES
OVEN OFF NIGHT
2 Fresh Chicken Breasts, Grilled with Rosemary Infused Olive Oil. Served on a Bed of mixed greens, with Stuffed Brie, Spicy/Sweet Pecans, Mountain Fresh Oil and Vinegar on the Side and Two Cups of House Made Gazpacho, with a Mountain Fresh Bakery French Baguette

$23.95
SERVES TWO

WED
PRIME RIB WITH BAKED POTATOES & SALAD
Premium Angus Standing Rib Roast, Cooked Medium Rare with Red Wine Au Jus, Two Baked Potatoes and a Large Caesar Salad.

$33.95
SERVES TWO

THURS
BABY BACK RIBS
Cooked Fall-Off-The-Bone-Tender. Served with House Made Bacon/Apple Baked Beans, and Potato Salad.

$25.95
SERVES TWO

FRI
SHRIMP; FRIED OR STEAMED
Wild Caught Large Shrimp Either Lightly Breaded in Our Seasoned Corn Flour Mixture, and Then Properly Fried in Peanut Oil and Served with Hush Puppies; or Steamed to Order in Our Low Country Seasoning, Both Come with Cole Slaw and Rosemary Sea Salt Broiled Red Potatoes, Tarter and Cocktail Sauce.

$26.95
SERVES TWO

SAT
IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ
Served with Cole Slaw Bacon/Apple Baked Beans and Yeast Rolls.

$22.95
SERVES TWO

COME BY OR CALL IN YOUR DINNER ORDER!
AVAILABLE FROM 4:30PM - 8:00PM MON - SAT
STORE HOURS: 7AM-9PM MON - SAT, 8AM-6PM SUNDAY

CORNER OF FIFTH & MAIN, HIGHLANDS NC • 828.526.2400
• Highlands Events •

call Gay Kattel at 828-526-2746 or email gmkattel@frontier.com.

- At Hudson Library at 2:30 p.m. - Ron Cromer will present “Snakes Alive,” which includes a lecture dispelling common myths about snakes and an opportunity for attendees to hold the snakes. This program is sponsored by the Hudson Library but will take place at the Highlands Civic Center.

- The Literacy Council of Highlands presents Randall Atcheson in concert at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center from 4-6 p.m. General Admission is $50. Reception with the Atchesons following the concert. For tickets call 828-526-0863.

Sunday, June 28

- A WCU Faculty Showcase Concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Highlands at 3 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Featured will be Mario Gaetano, marimba; Will Peebles, bassoon; Michael Lancaster, baritone; and Lyn Burkett, piano. The concert is free.

- At the Performing Arts Center Bluegrass by the Queen of Bluegrass, Rhonda Vincent and the Rage at 7 p.m. Tickets for all events are available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street.

Beginning June 30


Tuesday, June 30

- The Hudson Library’s Book Club Topic of the Month is “Parks, Wilderness, and the Public Lands” and a book discussion on Bill Bryson’s “A Walk in the Woods” at 10am.

- Village Nature Series: “The Bear Necessities” – an open dialogue about bears with Bill Lea. Bill is a nationally recognized nature photographer and author. More than 7,000 of Bill’s photos have been published. No reservations are necessary, everyone is welcome, rain or shine. Programs begin at 5:30 PM and usually last about an hour. All programs are family friendly.

Sat., July 4

- A 5K Run/Walk on Saturday at 8 AM at the Preserve at Rock Creek. Registration is at 7 a.m. All of the proceeds will benefit local charities and we will have refreshments and a bluegrass band after the race. Fees are $20 through June 26 and $25 on race day. For more info or to register go to www.preserveatrockcreekNC.com.

Sat., July 5

- At Cliffside Lake, Live Birds of Prey with Michael Skinner with the Balsam Mountain Trust at 11 a.m. Program on the patio at Cliffside Lake. No pets allowed. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to program. Free by $4/vehicle admission to recreation area.

Saturday, July 11

- Volunteer Get Free Beer! Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Stewardship Coordinator, Kyle Pursel, will lead a volunteer work day at either Satulah Mountain Preserve or Kelsey Trail. Thanks to a partnership with Highlands’ Satulah Mountain Brewing Company, afterwards volunteers will enjoy a free beer at the brewery. For more contact Kyle at stew@hitrust@earthlink.net or 526-1111.

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Highlands students win poster contest

Two Highlands School students were North Carolina winners in the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest. McKenzie Woods was the state winner for 1st grade, and Allie Buck was the state winner for 3rd grade.

For more than 50 years the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest has helped students learn about caring for natural resources.

This is the fifth year Highlands School students participated in the contest sponsored by the National Garden Clubs and U.S. Forest Service. The Mountain Garden Club, which serves as the local sponsor, thanks all students who participated in the contest and the teachers who made it possible: Cynthia Henderson, Andrea Chalker, and Jamye Christy.
Shop local for Dad this Father’s Day!

Robert A. Tino Gallery
Paintings and prints by Robert Tino
Art Tiles
Custom Framing
Pottery
381 Main Street
Highlands NC
828-526-9333

At Carolina Way
Lighting
Lamp Shades
• Pottery
• Rugs
• Pillows
&
Meridith's Custom Painting
828-526-2665
442 Carolina Way

Sidelines
Gameday
Apparel and Accessories
Inside the Hen House on Main!
Give Dad his favorite team!

TRUE GRIT MENS
Available in assorted schools, colors and styles
488 E. Main Street
787-2473

Cabin Couture
Open Daily: • 10a to 5p
526-3909

338 Main St.
526-4777

468 Carolina Way
(Between N. 4th & N. 5th)

The SOUTHERN WAY

Come visit Peak Experience for Fine American Handcrafts including Pottery, Jewelry, Fun Gifts and More!

The Dry Sink
Highlands, NC

Grillight
GriLLight Stainless Steel Tongs & Spatula with built in flashlight!

SALE
50% Off Selected Items
Continues at The Dry Sink!

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Just down from Old Edwards Inn & Spa

ckswan.com

Just in time for Father’s Day

ANTIOQUES and FURNITURE
GARDEN • GIFTS • KIDS
BOOKS • ART • JEWELRY

Give Dad his favorite team!
**Falling Waters**

Falling Waters... is a newer well maintained 52 acre community just 2.8 miles from Main St. Highlands. Secluded but not remote, no road noise, no thru traffic...peaceful, quiet and private.

The land is well forested and gentle, easy building sites and a pleasant place to walk. Two waterfalls and several creeks add charm and interest to many home sites. Paved roads, Underground utilities & Gated.

Would love to build BUT....... Neil & Paula Van Hoogen (the developers) can help. We are knowledgeable, experienced and love the building process. We can assist with the many decisions, choices and options. In your absence, we will be your eyes and ears watching out for your best interest. Let's explore the possibilities!

Welcome...Come Visit.

GPS Address:
78 Black Bear Trace
Highlands, NC 28741

From Main St. take NC 106 toward Dillard. 1.8 miles turn R on Mt. Laurel Dr., 3 tenths mile, turn L on Moonlight. Entrance is on the R

www.highlandsnychomesites.com

Like us on FaceBook at Falling Waters Highlands

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**Unique Artisan Log home in Whiteside Cove**

3bd - 2.5ba - 2 car carport
Tranquil private setting
Unique designer touches
Cook's kitchen
2 screened porches
MLS# R81110A.
$499,000.

Contact David Levine, Landmark Realty Group, 828.482.2844
www.LandmarkRG.com

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**Get to know Glenville at Community Pot Luck Dinner**

Invitations are circulating all over Glenville from Big Ridge to Yellow Mountain and all around the lake inviting residents, local and seasonal, to a June 25, 6 p.m., Pot Luck Supper hosted by the Glenville Initiative Team (GI).

The event to be held at the Sawyer Family Farmstead is the centerpiece of the Initiative’s year-long efforts to engage volunteers in completing a mission crafted after a community public meeting in June 2014. Those meeting attendees confirmed that to preserve Glenville’s natural beauty, environment and rich heritage was the way to proceed. To learn more go to the website now up and running: www.glenvilletourism.com or email info@glenvillecommunity.com.

---

**Outdoor Furniture Sale**

SUMMER CLASSICS

40% off on special orders
30% off on all stock items
NOW THROUGH JULY 4th

Open on Monday - Saturday 9a to 5p
Sundays 12 to 5
(828) 526-5577
2089 Dillard Road, Highlands NC

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Author of ‘Miss Julia’ series at HUMC high tea fundraiser on June 27

On Saturday, June 27 there will be a high tea at the Highlands United Methodist Church from 2-4p featuring author Ann B. Ross, author of the “Miss Julia” series. Copies of “Miss Julia Lays Down the Law” will be available for her to sign. Tickets are $20. Last year’s event was a sell-out. For more information call Gay Kattel at 828-526-2746 or email gmkattel@frontier.com.
In-Your-Life.™

El Camino – The Highlands Way


No, I'm not talking about the automobile or music; I'm talking about a Pilgrimage.

When you decide to take a family vacation, where do YOU go? Why do you pick that spot? Why do you think most visitors come to Highlands?

I was recently lucky enough to attend a power point program on Pilgrimages. Alison Lee, a divinity scholar shared one of her journeys at The Church of the Incarnation. If you’ve seen the movie, ‘THE WAY,’ starring Martin Sheen, you have seen a part of what she shared, BUT it's different for each person that experiences a pilgrimage.

When you think of a pilgrimage, most people think of Mecca, Jerusalem, Stonehenge, or Rome. The one the speaker was talking about was El Camino de Santiago de Compostela in Spain. One thing I learned from her lecture is this: you don't have to travel thousands of miles. One can experience a pilgrimage right where you are; it just takes being mindful of where you are. A pilgrimage doesn't necessarily have to be a religious experience either. Wikipedia explains a pilgrimage can be a metaphorical journey into someone's beliefs.

Have you ever considered

• See INVESTING page 23

Lake House in Heatherstone

Seven miles from Highlands. 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Large Rec Room plus Bonus Room. Health Forces Sale.

$199,000 -- By Owner • 706-746-3046.

Real Estate Snapshots

Investing at 4.118 Ft.

Golf Course Frontage

Motivated Seller!

Leave all your cares behind & enjoy country club living at its best! Recently remodeled, this 4BR/3BA cottage in HFCC is right on the golf course. Enjoy outdoor living, mountain views & cool breezes on the covered porch. Open floor plan, completely new kitchen tile & wood floors, fireplace, double garage & paved access.

$495,000. MLS #77439.

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

The Best in Elegant Mountain Living

Elegant mountain living and an easy walk to Highlands Main Street. This custom home features three fireplaces, slate wet bar, soaring ceilings, a grand porch with expansive outdoor living space, mountain views, gentle topography & easy access, triple attached garage, artist's nook/studio, and privacy. Subdividing is possible, with room to add a guest house, if desired.

$995,000. MLS #78956.

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

In-Town Lakefront Acreage

Premier, in-town location and one-of-a-kind, private, lake estate on 12.12 +/- acres. Only a few minutes to Main St. Wooded trail leads to stunning, clear, 3+ acre lake ringed by lush rhododendron. Charming pavilion for enjoying a picnic, great book, or evening wine. Gentle topography, walking trails, and barn. Several choice building sites, and subdividing is possible. Tremendous investment potential!

$2,950,000. MLS #80931.

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Commercial Building w/Stream Frontage

Absolutely stunning commercial building. Soaring ceilings, light & bright, hardwood floors throughout, gas log fireplace, plus on a gorgeous lot with rushing stream. The open and airy floor plan enables investor multiple uses for this building: retail, professional service, and/or office space. Outstanding visibility from the highway on the ATL side of town.

*This property is also available for rent.*

$575,000. MLS #73176.

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Lake House in Heatherstone

Seven miles from Highlands. 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Large Rec Room plus Bonus Room. Health Forces Sale.

$199,000 -- By Owner • 706-746-3046.

Real Estate Snapshots

Must see Lake House in Heatherstone – 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Large Rec Room plus Bonus Room.

Susie deVille
Broker-in-Charge
(828) 371-2079

Susie deVille
Broker-in-Charge
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Lake House in Heatherstone

Seven miles from Highlands. 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Large Rec Room plus Bonus Room. Health Forces Sale.

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Isn’t there some kind of Federal Trust Fund that our Fuel taxes go into to build and maintain our roads and highways or has it been plundered for some other purpose like the so called Social Security Trust Fund? Will someone please fix our roads?

Charles T. Wolf Jr.
Highlands
‘Bubbles and All That Jazz’ fundraiser at The Playhouse this Saturday, June 20

Dinner • Drinks • Jazz • Auctions

Tickets available now • Call 828-526-2695

The Highlands Playhouse is pleased to announce its biggest fundraiser of the year, ‘Bubbles and All That Jazz’!

The fanfare begins on June 20 at 6pm for drinks and browsing the wonderful items up for bids at the auction later in the evening. A champagne dinner will be served under the tent at 7, which will be an all you can eat Low Country Boil served family-style.

The live auction will take place during dinner. Some of the wonderful items up for bid include African Safaris, tickets to the 2016 Tony Awards, other vacations and beautiful artwork. There will be many more wonderful items that you will not want to miss out on.

Following the live auction, jazz vocalist Virginia Schenck will perform in concert.

After the concert, there will be a silent auction.

Tickets include dinner, a glass of champagne, both auctions and the concert by Virginia Schenck. The cost for the evening is $125 per person, or if you reserve a table for 8 people, the cost is $850 and comes with two free bottles of wine. We rely on the support of our community both local and nationwide, so come out and support the Playhouse, a jewel in Highlands for live entertainment and year-round fun.

2015 Highlands Playhouse Classic Film Festival is coming up Sept. 18-20

Tickets available now • Call 828-526-2695

The first annual Highlands Playhouse Classic Film Festival brings a never-before-seen celebration of film to Highlands Sept. 18-20. The Highlands Playhouse gives our viewers a rare opportunity to see these movies in the same way audiences experienced them back then: on the big screen, with the added plus of today’s digital technology. The following films will be shown during the festival: The Wizard of Oz, Stagecoach, Goodbye, Mr. Chips, Mr. Smith Goes To Washington, Gone With The Wind, The Hound of The Baskervilles, The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle.

In order to get the Town of Highlands involved, we are going to have a Trivia Stroll, where our attendees will be going around to local vendors, stores, restaurants and hotels to gather trivia questions in order to compete for the prizes. This gets people out and about, seeing what this town has to offer. We will also have book signings and lectures for people to attend located at a few different venues in Highlands.

Something special was in the water in the late 1930’s when these seven motion pictures were released, and they are only a fraction of the classics from that golden year of 1939. The total number of Academy Awards earned for these productions totals 14. They are from a variety of studios representing a variety of subjects. So join us on the Yellow Brick road to Tara, out west, to Washington, DC and to London…. popcorn anyone?

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Jeri Sager performing at PAC Saturday, June 20, 8pm

Jeri Sager is a veteran of Broadway and numerous national tours. She is best known for her portrayal of “Grizabella” in Cats, Andrew Lloyd Webber’s Tony Award winning musical.

Jeri was 12 years old when her love of singing, and her amazing voice, were first discovered. Her first public performances were in her local church. As she grew up, Jeri’s passion for singing grew into a lifelong love affair. She studied Opera (Vocal Performance) at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Ultimately, her profound love of performing led her to New York City. There she made her Broadway debut as “Frumah-Sara,” in the Tony Award winning, 25th Anniversary Production of Fiddler On The Roof. The New York Times review of this production said “When Fruma-Sara [Jeri Sager] scurries across the stage... ‘Fiddler’ levitates.”

Jeri has enjoyed critical acclaim for her portrayal of “Fantine” in Les Miserables and “Eva Peron” in Evita. She is delighted her career has allowed her to work with such theater notable’s as Tony/Oscar Award winning director Jerome Robbins, Tony/Drama Desk Award winning director Trevor Nunn and Tony/Drama Desk Award winning singer/songwriter and playwright Rupert Holmes. These collaborations, and Jeri’s diverse talents, have earned praise from critics in such leading publications as The New York Times, The New York Daily News, The New Yorker Magazine, The Los Angeles Times and The San Francisco Examiner.

In addition to her Broadway roles, Jeri has had the pleasure of working in other theatrical productions such as City Of Angels, Brigadoon, West Side Story, Pippin, The Mystery Of Edwin Drood, Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and Pump Boys And Dinettes.

Jeri has also enjoyed performing with celebrated artists such as Bob Hope, Gregory Peck, Michael Crawford, Betty Buckley, Theodore Bikel, Bill Anderson, and John James. She has had the honor of performing for such dignitaries as President Jimmy Carter, President George W. Bush and Pope John Paul II. Through her work with the USO, Jeri has performed for both American and British troops.

Jeri’s golden voice and infectiously joyful stage presence gives her a broad audience appeal. Combined with her stellar critical acclaim, this has resulted in her busy touring schedule. Jeri performs all over the United States, England, the Caribbean, Japan, the West Indies, Mexico and Canada. She has released three CDs: Swing It Like Sammy, Regards…Jeri, and Memory - A Special Live Performance. Currently she is working on the completion of her fourth CD titled Broadway By Jeri - Live!

“Wonderful, Just Wonderful”, Jerome Robbins.

In addition to the concert Jeri will be giving a class in Stage Makeup for the youth of the area. The class is Saturday, June 20 at 10am, no charge, but the space is limited so you must register.

Sunday, June 28, 7pm Bluegrass by the Queen of Bluegrass, Rhonda Vincent and the Rage.

Tickets for all events are available online: highlandspac.org or by calling 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street
what brought YOU to Highlands? I mean REALLY considered. If you were born here, how did your parents get here? (and so on, if you’re one of the multigenerational families) After you’ve considered what BROUGHT you here, consider why you’re STILL here. Highlands seems to have a gravitational pull- you can’t get too far away before you feel that tug to return.

In our real estate sales and vacation rental office, we often hear people say “We came here as a child, and I want to come back with our children (or grandchildren) so they can experience some of the same things we did.” Others say, “We’ve traveled all over the world, and there’s just something here in Highlands you don’t get anywhere else.”

There are renters that come back every year, some renters buy while here. Some renters and most second homeowners stay most of the season, and their Highlands home makes memories for another generation. Some don’t find Highlands until they retire, but they seem to lap up every bit of goodness they can while here.

When you see shoppers downtown, or in the grocery stores, do you ever wonder how they discovered Highlands? I do. I met a lady a couple of weeks ago and I asked her just that; turns out she met her husband in the 1950’s in Highlands, although neither one had ties IN Highlands. They had each attended separate summer camps, and met at a local church that both camps attended. They spent years visiting until buying their own home, and came back yearly with their children and grandchildren.

Some may call every summer season in Highlands a Pilgrimage. Each year, more and more first time visitors discover this area.
It seemed to happen so fast, or did it? America’s transition, from a nation built up on the tenets found in the scripture, to something else, seemed to occur overnight. But did it?

Our change was not a radical departure. It was a slow and methodical slide. I’m concerned about the future because we seem to be moving in the direction of criminalizing Christians who hold opinions contrary to the new direction.

Not long ago we held a belief that, “everyone is entitled to there own opinion.” Really what about mine? I remember when being “tolerant” meant you could disagree, and at the same time respect one’s differences? Christianity demands this from its adherents.

The gospel invites people to believe. No one is forced to become a follower of Christ. So why are Christ followers being forced to do things, and believe in things contrary to our faith?

Everyone should be up in arms defending my right to believe because when I lose mine, and I am, yours will be next. Something to think about!

...COUNTY continued from page 1

“While we understand that it’s an especially tight year for the county due to the property revaluations, it’s also a tight year for the citizens of Macon County,” said Wallace.

Macon County Public Library is part of the Fontana Regional Library system, which manages libraries in Macon, Jackson, and Swain counties. Within Macon County, there are three libraries, the main library on Siler Road in Franklin, Hudson Library in Highlands, and the Nantahala Library. Of the overall Macon County library budget, $220,069 was budgeted for the Hudson library in the upcoming year.

Wallace told commissioners that a bulk of the increase was needed to replace aging, broken, and outdated equipment at each library. Overall, Wallace said $20,000 of the $40,000 (four percent increase) needed in the coming year was to replace equipment. The replacement would be onetime purchases and would cover upgrades throughout the county’s libraries. The other $20,000 requested in the coming year included a 1.7% cost of living increase for library employees, most of which only make $10 an hour according to Wallace. $7,000 was also identified as being needed to help offset the cost of increases to health insurance associated with the implementation of the complying with the Affordable Healthcare Act.

Despite the library’s request for more funds, Roland noted that when considering debt service payments and other money to the library system, more than 3% of the county’s overall budget goes to the library. Macon County gives the libraries $999,930 for operational expenses each year. On top of that, Roland said the county also pays $371,658 a year to cover the debt payment for the construction of the Franklin area library. The county also pays for the salary of 1.5 maintenance workers at the library, as well as power and electricity bills for the Franklin library and power and sewer for the Hudson Library.

Commissioner Ronnie Beale said that he would like the board to reconsider the one-time $20,000 request when the county knows its sales tax allocation, which is currently being debated by the state.
The Highlands Police log entries from May 31. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

**May 31**
- At noon, officers responded to a call regarding vandalism to a stone bench and sign on Sun which was spray painted and broken.

**June 1**
- At 4:08 p.m. officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Main Street.
- At 5:55 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

**June 3**
- At noon, officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.
- At midnight, officers received a call about trespassers at a residence on Dog Mountain Road where offenders had entered the home and stayed there.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from June 5

**June 5**
- At 9:44 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Overlook Road.
- At 10:01 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Arnold Road.

**June 7**
- At 6:04 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cullasaja Club Drive.

**June 9**
- At 9:02 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Smallwood Ave.

**June 10**
- At 11:44 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid at a structure fire in Cashiers.
- At 1:36 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on South Drive.

**June 11**
- At 10:40 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on N. 4th Street.

**June 12**
- At 5:14 a.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident on NC 28 south.
- At 6:14 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on Cobb Road.

**June 13**
- At 6:51 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Paul Walden Way.
- At 10:09 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Mai Street.

**June 14**
- At 3:48 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hickory Knut Gap.
- At 12:46 p.m. the dept. stood by at the hospital for the MAMA helicopter.
- At 2:34 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.
- At 2:57 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence Ridge Lane.

**June 15**
- A little past midnight, the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Country Club Drive.
- At 12:21 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Country Club Drive.
- At 3:59 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Country Club Drive.
- At 9:25 p.m., the dept. stood by for the MAMA helicopter at the hospital.
- At 10:47 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Country Club Drive.
- At 6:38 a.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle accident on US 64 east.
On June 25th from 10am to 3pm the Highlands Biological Foundation will sponsor A Botanical Exploration of Blue Valley, led by renowned plant expert Jack Johnson. This moderate hike will introduce you to the beautiful summer camellia and many other rare botanical jewels of the southern Appalachians. We will also visit the Picklesimer Rock House which features a 40 foot free falling waterfall. Cost for this trip is $15 for members of the Highlands Biological Foundation and $35 for new members. For more information please call (828) 526-2221 or visit highlands-biological.org.

Highlands Biological Foundation presents two programs on Thursday, June 25 – A Blue Valley hike and a gardening class

On June 25th from 10am to 3pm the Highlands Biological Foundation will sponsor A Botanical Exploration of Blue Valley, led by renowned plant expert Jack Johnson. This moderate hike will introduce you to the beautiful summer camellia and many other rare botanical jewels of the southern Appalachians. We will also visit the Picklesimer Rock House which features a 40 foot free falling waterfall. Cost for this trip is $15 for members of the Highlands Biological Foundation and $35 for new members. For more information please call (828) 526-2221 or visit highlands-biological.org.
'The Backrow Babes' of Highlands Playhouse

The Highlands Playhouse introduced a wonderful new outlet for Highlands and the outlying areas in October of 2013, THE MOVIES! We gave everyone the opportunity to enjoy a widescreen, Dolby Sound, state of the art movie experience. Our movies are first release and our patrons have the luxury of popcorn, candies, sodas, nachos, and wine.

There is one special group of ladies that have enjoyed all the movies. They have been our constants and love to sit on the back row together and share their movie experiences. The “Backrow Babes” started out as a group of five, Puddin Bornheim, Betty Fugate, Peggie Payne, Jaine Shumate, and Pat Bollinger. Because the ladies enjoyed the movies so much they presented a gift of $100.00 each to the Playhouse last year to show their support. Last week the group made another wonderful donation in the amount of $1,200.00 representing a growing number of “Babes” to twelve! Our newest “Babes” are Cathy Crosby, Terri Dolci, Carol DeBolt, Brenda Manning, Eden Persons, Bennie Jo Murray, and Ann Watkins. The Highlands Playhouse Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank our “Backrow Babes” for their positive feedback, their never failing attendance, and networking in our community to make the Playhouse movies and also our live theatrical performance such huge hits! You are truly Highlands Playhouse Ambassadors.

...INVESTING continued from page 23

What does all of this have to do with Investing at 4118 and Highlands area real estate? Well, I'll tell you- the Pilgrimage has begun. People are flocking to Highlands. Some are ‘day trippers’, some stay two, or three days, while others stay for weeks and months. Some stay in motels, B&Bs and Inns, while a good many choose to stay in a vacation rental home to experience a more permanent Highlands feel. We’ve got renters that are looking to buy property, as well as renters that have had and sold their Highlands property, but still want to be here, so they choose to rent.

As far as real estate sales, the selling season is well under way. According to the Highlands-Cashiers MLS, there has been an 18% increase in sales, and a 46% increase in dollar volume. The interest rates are still low, and there are plenty of homes, condos, and land parcels ripe for the choosing.

What’s your Highlands Pilgrimage? Whether you’re practicing Shinrin-Yoku (the art of forest bathing; walking through the woods and being totally immersed in its beauty), hiking along the mountain ridges letting the miles and miles of views take your breath away, or playing a round of golf with people you only see in the summer, it’s all a pilgrimage. This year, try to be extra mindful of your surroundings- really absorb the surroundings.

You could say that Highlands is a privileged Pilgrimage. It’s not because only privileged people get to enjoy Highlands, but rather when you’ve found Highlands you are one of the privileged few in the world to have made the discovery. The Highlands Way- enjoy the journey.

Jeannie and Tucker Chambers of Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals would like to share their Highlands Way with others, and invite you to call or come by to see how you can start your pilgrimage, whether it’s a vacation rental or a home of your own. 401 N. Fifth St., 526-3717 or getit@chambersagency.net.
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**FULL AND PART TIME POSITIONS** are available. Send resume to Bardo49nc@gmail.com. Must be able to work weekends. And or Friday and Saturday nights. (st. 6/11)

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**CNA, MED AIDE, HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED** for Chestnut Hill of Highlands Adult Care Home. Please apply at 24 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC 28741. (6/18)

**HIRING FULL TIME**
**DELIVERY/WAREHOUSE PERSON** for retail store in Highlands. Must be able to lift and move furniture. Would prefer CDL. Send resume to shannon@dutchmansdesigns.com (st. 5/7)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Food Pantry, Highlands 1-2 hours per month Sharon Giddens. 828482-0558

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    - **HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDYMAN:** Repairs, remodeling, plumbing and electric, decks and Repairs, remodeling, HANDYMAN: Dusty 276-421-4667. (9/17)

**ALL AROUND OFFICE SOLUTIONS – Bookkeeping Services, Payroll Prep, Payroll Tax Prep, Billing Services, Virtual Assistant, Data Base Management, Administrative Services, Research Assistance, Quickbooks Set-up and Training. Call Mary James at 828-421-0002 or email mjames@allaroundofficesolutions.com (st. 1/15)

**HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN VINSON:** scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing. Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208. (st. 4/23)

**HIGHLANDS TAXI & SHUTTLE:** Let Charlie Dasher handle your transportation whether it’s to the airport, a special event, or just around town. Van service for weddings. Licensed and insured. 526-8645. (st. 7/18/13)

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