

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

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Thurs., May 28, 2015

Mama bear with cubs kills dog; wounds two others

This past Sunday a beautiful, balmy day turned grim.

Between noon and 1 p.m., a family on Satulah Road – who lives about three blocks from the Ugly Dog Public House – was

visited by a mama bear and a cub. Within minutes one dog was dead and two others were injured.

Lynn Kimball and her husband Kerry Wedge consider themselves a bear friendly but wary fam-

ily and think little of it when they see bears in their driveway or in the yard – but this encounter was different.

“We bring the birdfeeders in before dusk and don’t let the dogs

out after dusk,” said Lynn, “But this was in broad daylight.”

On this Sunday afternoon, the front door was open and so the dogs were free to come and

•See MAMA BEAR page 4

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Board finalizes budget cuts; clarifies use of K-H Park

At Thursday’s last budget worksession, the Town Board made the final cuts to the capital projects list and solidified what revenues will come in and what will go out for fiscal year 2015-’16.

Since so much has been spent on recreation over the past year, the board decided to nix two major projects on the Recreation Department’s capital project wish list – the stage renovations and

the lower level renovations.

With the help of Art and Angela Williams as well as money earmarked from last year’s property tax increase, funds were allocated to renovate the pool house, enclose the year-round pool, build a new baseball field house, install a new gym floor including a cover and new bleachers, as well as new bathrooms on the upper level of the Civic Center.

•See BUDGET page 6

Jackson County agrees to pay Highlands for fire protection

Each year, Jackson County cuts a check to the Highlands Fire Department in the amount of \$7,300 for the services provided to homes that fall on the county-line. While the check has always been appreciated, it has fallen short of how much the department actually spends to service the 330 parcels of land that border Macon County.

This year, after a unanimous

vote by Jackson County Commissioners last week to approve a new fire district, Highlands Fire Department will receive \$50,000.

“I am very pleased that the Highlands Fire Department will finally be getting their fair share of revenue for the services that they provide,” said Macon County Commissioner Jim Tate. “Since the fire department’s inception,

•See FIRE page 5

School names ‘Fan of the Year’



Each year athletes at Highlands School name someone in the community who has been the biggest fan at sports events throughout the year. At last week’s Athletic Banquet, Highlands School math teacher Gina Billingsley was honored.
Photo by Stephanie McCall

‘Richard’ the bear cub is doing well

By Cynthia Strain
Chairwoman B.E.A.R. Task Force

The B.E.A.R. Task Force wanted to do a follow-up to the article that ran in the May 14 edition of Highlands Newspaper about the little bear cub that was rescued from a tree and sent to a rehabilitator in Winston Salem. I have received many questions as to how he is doing and am glad to report “Richard” is doing quite well.

I spoke with Dana Sims of Kindred Spirits Wildlife Center on May 23rd, who told me they decided on the name Richard because he was considered royalty to the folks in Highlands. She described him as a “very pretty” cub, but very assertive and definitely an alpha personality type. He shares a “den” with Regina, with whom he plays and tussles, and he is very happy.

Richard had a couple health

•See BEAR CUB page 3

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UPCOMING EVENTS

• **APPROPRIATION ART:** Join Margaret Browne curator for The Bascom's exhibition Contemporary Collage: Found Images, Mutable Meanings, as she addresses the question: How did we get from Picasso to Post-modernism? The audience will gain a greater understanding of Post-modern art by contrasting its characteristics and goals with those of Modernist art, illustrating concepts with examples of artworks at all points on the Modern-to-Post-modern spectrum. Thursday, May 28, 4-5 Cost \$10

• **PRIVATE LIFE IN ANCIENT PHOENICIA:** Are you a lover of history? Don't miss the lecture given by Helen Dixon, who is a professor in the History Department at NC State where she has spent 2 years teaching ancient Near Eastern and ancient Greek civilization. Dr. Dixon will share the details of the lives of one our most influential ancient civilizations. Friday, May 29, 10-12, Cost \$25/\$35

• **EPIC RUSSIA THROUGH EPIC FILM:** Come see visions of the magnificence of Russia through the eyes of filmmakers both past and present. Colin Mackey has presented classes on film for CLE for the past four years. He begins the film tour of Russia with the revolutionary Soviet propagandists Vertov, Kuleshov and Eisenstein and will show how their work influenced the visions of Russia as seen in David Lean's Dr. Zhivago, King Visor's War and Peace, Warren Beatty's Reds and Joe Wright and Tom Stoppard's Anna Karenina, with many other stops along the way. Monday, June 1, 2-4, Cost \$25/\$35

• **MOVIE - REDS:** Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture in 1981, Reds was co-written, produced and directed by Warren Beatty. The film centers on the life and career of journalist John Reed, who chronicled the Russian Revolution in his book Ten Days that Shook the World. Beatty stars in the lead role alongside Diane Keaton and Jack Nicholson. Tuesday, June 2, 2-4 Cost \$10 Location: CLE Lecture Hall

• **BIRDING BEYOND THE FEEDER:** Your yard and the kinds of plants in it matter to birds! Curtis Smalting, a life-long bird watcher and current director of the Land Bird Conservation with Audubon will discuss why the Highlands Plateau is considered an "Important Bird Area" and explore ways to enjoy the birds in your own backyard. Friday, June 5, 10-12, Cost \$25/\$35

• **BRIDGE: POLISHING YOUR BASICS (INTERMEDIATE):** Is your Bridge game a little rusty? If you need a little help in stepping up your game then join Bridge expert Duane Meeter for 4 sessions to help you improve your skills by practicing some simple rules and principles. Mondays, June 8, 15, 22, and 29 (4 sessions) 9:30-11:30 Cost \$80/\$100 Location: Highlands Civic Center

For more information on classes or The Center for Life Enrichment please stop by our office located in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center at 348 S. 5th Street, call 828-526-8811 or visit www.clehighlands.com

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

It's what you do that counts

The budget for the new fiscal year will be presented at tonight's board meeting. As usual, the meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building.

I encourage everyone to arrive early around 6 p.m. for a reception honoring Captain R.L. Forrester of the Highlands Police Department. He is retiring after 30 years of distinguished service. A brief ceremony will start at 6:45.

Day after day and year after year, R.L. has always been on duty, most of the time putting in routine shifts. But, I want to share with you a story about one shift early in his career that was far from routine.

The young Patrolman Forrester was pulling a night shift by himself back when the town thought it was economically sensible to have just one officer on the night shift. What could possibly happen in this little town? Well something did happen, a drug deal that had gone bad resulted in an innocent person being murdered just north of Highlands.

A 911 call went out to all law enforcement officers in the area that a murder had just happened. Included was a precise description of the murder suspect and a warning that he was armed.

Patrolling late that night, R.L. saw a person matching the suspect's description making a call on a downtown pay phone. How R.L. responded was amazing. There is a saying that character is what you do when no one else is watching. Working alone, R.L. could have easily driven by this dangerous suspect avoiding any confrontation. Nobody would have known. But, R.L. Forrester had taken an oath to protect his community, so he didn't look away. Instead, he confronted the murderer, while his associates in the crime circled the block in their gangster car observing what was taking place.

Years later when I was the magistrate, R.L. told me the whole story. "Your honor," he always called me much to my bewildered amazement, "if those guys would have known I was the only policeman on duty, they would have killed me and freed their buddy."

In making the arrest, R.L. drew his weapon and ordered the suspect to stop trying to put his hand in his right pocket. Once the criminal was in handcuffs, a pistol was found in that same pocket.

My point is that the nicest cop you would ever meet, R.L. Forrester, always did his sworn duty. The Captain may not have been a "TV super cop," but he would do anything, even jeopardize his life, to serve and protect the people of



Mayor Pat Taylor

Highlands.

Over the years he has been a model of high professional standards and integrity. The Captain has provided leadership in the best trained, honest and committed police force the town has ever had.

Tonight R.L. should not call the mayor, "your honor." The truly honorable person is being honored tonight.

Our appreciation and prayers go out to Captain Forrester and his family.

• LETTER •

Let's keep Highlands from being 'trashy'

Dear Editor

Trashy seems like a good description when I see bits of paper, beer cans, coffee cups, straw covers, candy wrappers and so on, tossed to the sidewalks and grassy areas along Highlands sidewalks. That's the word used by Mayor Taylor on his Sunday radio program - Ask the Mayor. There was a recent major project of cleaning up the Gorge which I did not attend. However, at the previous Community Coffee (held on the last Friday of each month at the Hudson Library 11am), Mayor Taylor said he has incorporated trash pickup on his weekly "walk with the Mayor" jaunts throughout our town.

The idea of taking a bag with me on my daily walks through town appealed to me as something I could do with very little effort. So, with bag in hand I decided to pick up those trashy pieces left behind by thoughtless folks. Lo and behold, on our 2-mile walk, I picked up a plastic bottle, paper coffee cup, candy wrapper, straw cover, used tissue (yuck) and more.

This sounds like such a little amount; but, if other walkers took Mayor Taylor's suggestion and used that walking time to help beautify our town of Highlands, we would have much cleaner views of what is already a beautiful spot in the mountains.

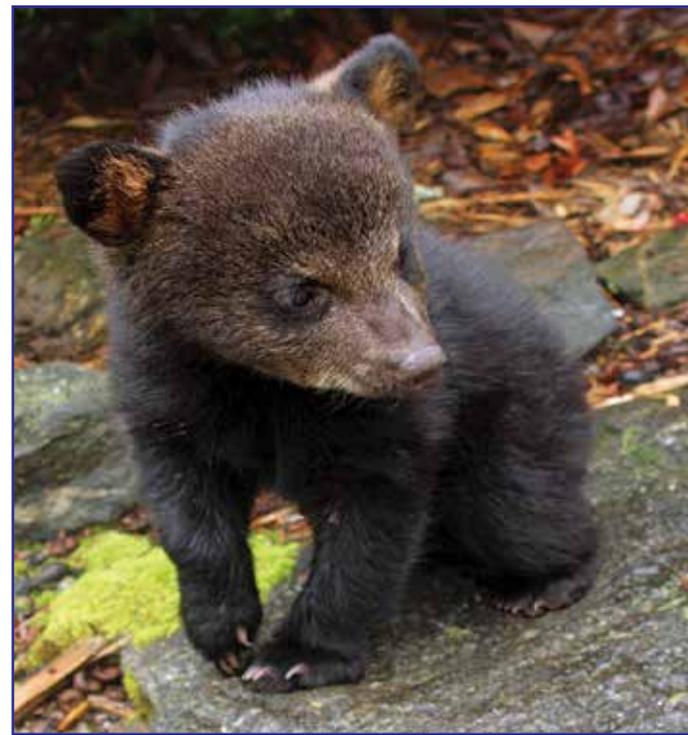
Let's see if his 'trash pickup idea' catches on and becomes just one of those things we do on our daily walks throughout this beautiful place we call Highlands!

Marleen Salo
Highlands

Weekend Weather from NOAA



...BEAR CUB continued from page 1



Richard was rescued by the All Seasons Landscape crew who found him entangled in plastic root ball mesh which caused him to get tangled in a tree. Though they tried to give him to the mama, she didn't take him back so he was turned over to Kindred Spirits. (See story in the May 14 edition of Highlands Newspaper.)

Photo by Cynthia Strain

issues when he arrived. He had developed a cough, which she presumes was the result of over-feeding. According to Dana, that is easy with a bear cub since they have voracious appetites and don't know when to quit, sometimes causing them to aspirate their formula. But the cough cleared up with the use of herbal remedies.

He also had wounds from the plastic he'd been entangled with, and they needed regular debriding—not easy with a bear who doesn't understand that it is being done to help, not hurt him. Fortunately, none of his wounds were infected, and they are healing well.

Dana is his only caregiver. In order to prevent the cubs from getting accustomed to humans, she wears a furry suit when handling them. The only sounds she makes with the bear cubs are those that a mother bear would make. Dana has developed techniques over 25 years that are very effective in keeping animals wild, so that when they are turned out into the wild they will not desire to associate with humans. Little Richard, she says, will stay absolutely wild.

There are six bears currently housed at Kindred Spirits, all of which came from western N.C. In a few months Richard and Regina will be put in an outside pen with the other four. There they will learn

to forage for food and develop the skills necessary to survive in the wild. There will be no adult bears with them, just Dana, their "mom." If all goes well, they will be released to the wild a year from now.

Kindred Spirits is the only bear rehabilitation center in North Carolina. It is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with permits at both state and federal levels. Unfortunately, they get no funding from the state or federal government for the valuable work they do; it is strictly voluntary.

B.E.A.R., a task force of Mountain-True (previously named Western NC Alliance), has decided to send them a donation of \$250 to help with little Richard's care. We are asking the community to pitch in to help out, too. We would love to send Dana a check for \$2,000 or more. Please consider sending a generous contribution made out to "BEAR-MountainTrue" at PO Box 1238, Highlands, NC, 28741. All the funds will go to Kindred Spirits, and every penny will be used to provide care for the animals. Donations are completely tax deductible.

I will keep in touch with Dana and provide another up-date in the fall. In the meantime, we want to remind people to mind your garbage and bird feeders so we don't wind up with "problem bears," possibly creating more orphaned bear cubs due to mothers being shot.



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...MAMA BEAR from page 1

go, but suddenly their seven dogs were all outside barking like crazy.

"We went to see what was going on and saw a bear standing on its back legs with its paws up on the trunk of a tree," said Lynn.

The barking scared the bear off and they grabbed up all the dogs, took them inside and shut the door. When there was no more barking and it was quiet, the bear returned and a cub that was up the tree came down.

They put all the dogs on a bed but only had six of the seven dogs.

"We realized we were missing a dog," said Lynn. "Between grabbing all the dogs and the bear, we missed Bella, the 4lb, six-year-old schnoodle. I also realized there was blood on a pillow case and our 15lb, 10-year-old schnauzer poodle had gashes everywhere."

They immediately took the dog to Veterinarian Dr. Amy Patterson who began doctoring it.

Back home the search continued for the missing schnoodle.

"We finally found Bella ... she was inside our property line on the grassy part within the invisible fencing. She had been clawed and her side was busted out," said Lynn.

Sunday night they picked the wounded dog up from the vet.

"She had many gashes and many stitches, but she is going to be OK," Lynn said.

In the meantime, they found a superficial wound on another dog, but Lynn said she is fine.

"Our conclusion, as sad as it is, is that this is nature. The bear would not have attacked if she wasn't fearful for her cubs. And seven dogs barking, I am sure, startled the mother bear."

They buried Bella in their pet burial place. Lynn said based on the severity of her wounds she doesn't believe she suffered long or at all.

Just before the confrontation Lynn got a call from a

neighbor on Many Road who said a mama bear with two cubs was headed their way. "So we are sure the bear and cub in our yard was the same," said Lynn.

According to Mike Carroway, Wildlife Biologist with the NC Wildlife Resource Commission, this is a bumper year for cubs so there will be a lot of mama bears foraging for food and parking their cubs in trees to protect them while they are gone.

He said there is nothing his department can do when a bear kills a dog and a bear wouldn't be killed for tangling with a dog.

"Dogs are like nails on a chalkboard for bears and since they bark, a lot of times dogs are the instigators," he said.

He suggests keeping dogs on a leash when outside and if in a penned in area, use electric wire to deter a bear.

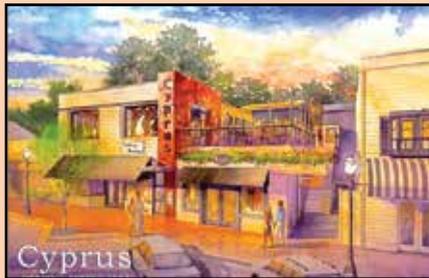
Lynn and her family harbors no malice for the bear.

"It's just not often we hear of something like this happening in town and I want people to be careful and be aware. This was heartbreaking and scary," she said.

- Kim Lewicki

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...FIRE continued from page 1

the Macon County taxpayers have been funding the vast majority of the money needed to operate the station and now all of the Jackson County property owners who the Highlands Fire Department has been servicing will now pay the exact same rate as the Macon County taxpayers. This is fair and equal from the fire department's stand point."

Chuck Wooten, Jackson County Manager, said that Highlands Fire Department asked Jackson officials for \$50,000 for the services provided to their residents. While the 330 parcels of property fall within Jackson County borders, in the event of an emergency, Highlands Fire and Rescue can respond to the homes in half the time as Jackson County service people. The properties are completely landlocked by national forest or Macon County roads, making it impossible to reach the homes without first crossing into Macon County.

To solve the budget problem, Jackson County Commissioners approved a new fire district specifically for the

homes in question, and levied a just below 1 penny fire tax. The tax will allow the \$50,000 needed to be recouped, without altering the county's existing budget.

"Since the Highlands Fire Department already provides fire response and coverage to the new fire district, it is simply a matter of recouping funds that are already expended in providing the protection," said Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor.

The new fire tax is just one of recent efforts to provide better service to the Macon/Jackson border homes. Macon and Jackson counties have also worked together to erect a new fire sub-station to service those homes. While the land the substation is on, and the construction of the building was paid for by residents, the staffing for the department will be handled by the Highlands Fire and Rescue Department.

"We will provide equipment for the new substation, which will lower the fire insurance rate for residents near the substation," said Mayor Taylor. "There will be no round

the clock staffing of the station, although volunteer fire fighters who live near the substation could respond to a fire using the equipment housed in the new facility."

The \$50,000 will help with costs associated with the fire needs for that area of the county, but it does fall short of the county's original budget plans. Macon County Manager Derek Roland put a price tag of about \$160,000 the county spends to provide policing, fire protection, and other services such as trash pickup for those 330 parcels.

He said the fire tax will lessen that burden, but still leaves Macon County footing the bill for more than \$100,000 annually for homes that are technically in Jackson County.

"Because those homes are in Jackson County, Jackson County receives the taxes for those properties, whose land value is estimated at \$244,257,010. With homes on those properties factored in, the tax value exceeds \$445 million," he said.

•See FIRE page 22

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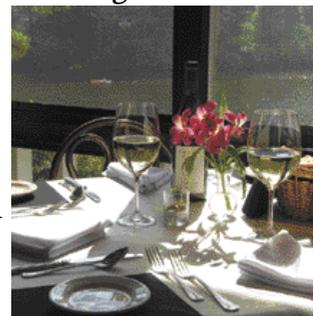
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...BUDGET continued from page 1

To get the buildings and programs up to par and to best service citizens, last fiscal year the Highlands ad valorem tax rate was increased by 1.5 cents. So, 13.5 cents became 15 cents per \$100 valuation with the understanding that revenue raised by the additional 1.5 cents be earmarked for capital projects within the Parks and Recreation Department. It is scheduled to sunset in FY 2016-17. Whether it continues will be up to the sitting Town Board at that time.

"We OK'd the tax increase so we could build up the fund to be used for recreation, but there has been no chance to build up the fund because it was spent even before it came in," said Commissioner Eric Pierson who spoke in favor of nixing the two projects suggested. "We haven't neglected the Rec Park facilities this year, so now let's build up the fund so we don't have to pull from the

General Fund to finance projects in the future."

In his budget message, Town Manager Bob Frye suggested nixing from the Recreation Department and the MIS/GIS Department to decrease the amount of money the town would need to pull from the undesignated fund balance to fund this year's capital projects.

To pay for everything on the capital projects wish list across departments, \$610,037 would have had to be pulled from the undesignated fund balance.

"Frankly, I am not comfortable with pulling the entire projected revenue shortfall from the fund balance," said Frye. "I would feel more comfortable with an appropriation of around \$300,000. This will leave us with sufficient reserve and not place too much stress on our fund balance."

MIS/GIS Director Matt Shuler said the \$60,000 for the downtown Wi-Fi project could be deleted because be-

sides the hotspots provided by the town, there were plenty of places in town that offered free Wi-Fi and those businesses should be able to reap the benefits of offering that free service.

In addition he and Commissioner Amy Patterson said most people have data plans on their phones and many use them as hotspots.

He also suggested and the board agreed to reduce the amount of renovations to repurpose the bathroom building by Town Hall which will house components for the broadband/fiber project.

He said it's looking like municipalities will be allowed to move forward as internet providers, but the issue is still pending so the project can be phased in.

Shuler suggested \$40,000 to \$50,000 in renovations rather than the original \$70,000; the board agreed.

With deletions, that puts the amount needed from the undesignated fund balance at around \$375,000.

• See BUDGET page 9

• HIGHLANDS AREA DINING •

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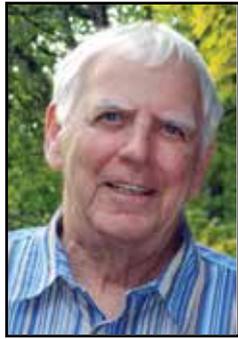
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• THE FREDSTER •

Everything is "hunky-dory" in Highlands...almost

(More outrageous babel)



Fred Wooldridge

ning in Highlands, we can finally cut the cord from Duke Power....or not. Have you already forgotten we're already flushing all our pooppy water down the river toward Franklin? Ha, what do we care? Everything in Highlands is "hunky dory."

I know you must be wondering why I would use a term as childish as "hunky dory" to describe our town. It's because I'm a child in an adult body. Sooooo, wonder away high altitude breathers wearing rose colored glasses with not a care in the world, everything in Highlands is splendid. Oh, and I still haven't decided what I'll be when I grow up!

We do know that the term hunky dory wasn't conjured up from nowhere. The word "hunky" means fit and healthy and may have come from the Latin term "hunkum-bunkum." Also, my li'l missus uses the term "hunk" to describe a really over-the-top hot guy. This ancient phrase, roughly translated, means, "if you're coming to Highlands, bring loads of money." Am I making this up? Please, write in.

Also, the phrases "just swell" and "okeydoke" in describing our magnificent town can also be translated from Greek mythology in meaning "up your nose with a rubber hose," a phrase started in the early thirties by an anesthesiologist not from Highlands.

The term "hunky-dory" is closely related to another term called "peachy-keen." These ancient terms, loosely translated, can mean "We eat fresh road kill." Also, those terms can also mean "hide your women and children 'cause there are drunken US secret service agents heading for Highlands."

PS - For the record, kindergarten children are not normally called sand people and I only wrote that to piss off the progressives

Isn't it just swell to live in a tucked-away high altitude mountain town away from the maddening crowds and all those obnoxious dangerous foreigners....like from Florida or Atlanta....or Syria?

While planet Earth appears to have gone completely and totally mad, becoming a scary place to live, we ask, "Who cares?" Do we concern ourselves with terrorist attacks, deadly climate change and awesome killer sales at Macy's? Ha, do we give a big fat rat's butt about any of that? Ha, again. Eat your heart out, America, 'cause, while the rest of our country continues to unwind, Highlands is the Camelot of our planet. And when I put on my rose-colored glasses, (I have two pair.) I see and hear no evil.

When merchants step out of their shops onto Main Street, what do they see? Do they see terrorists beheading Christians or shooting them in the head at point-blank range? I think not. Do they see people in cages being burned alive?

Remember this rule. If you don't see it or hear it then it's not occurring. What Highlanders do see is a soaring stock market and tourists with fat wallets looking for a good place to eat and lighten their pockets. In Highlands everything is peachy keen. Let the tourist season begin!

And should any of those scary, radical sand people accidentally wander into our beautiful beloved town, always remember we have a small army of volunteer mountain men who are on our side. Those guys can shoot the eyeballs on a squirrel's head from a football field away. Oh, and here's a serious question for you to ponder. Is saying or writing "sand people" a racial slur? After all they could be kindergarten children....or not!

As soon as we get our own power plant up and run-

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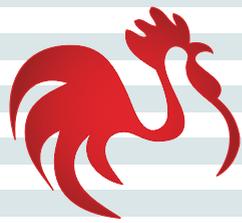
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FULL BREAKFAST MADE TO ORDER EVERY MORNING UNTIL 11:00AM
CAGE FREE EGGS, WAFFLES, FRENCH TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM, BISCUITS, MUFFINS, CROISSANTS
ESPRESSO BAR AND COFFEE ROASTED IN-HOUSE

LUNCH

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

DELI - SERVING ALL DAY

FRESH CUT NATURAL MEATS, HOMEMADE DELI SALADS, PANINI MELTS, HOMEMADE POTATO CHIPS, DAILY SOUP SPECIALS

WOOD FIRE PIZZA OVEN -

EVERY DAY FROM 11:00 TO CLOSE
AUTHENTIC NEAPOLITAN PIZZA MADE FROM SCRATCH, FRESH MOZZARELLA, BASIL, CRUSHED TOMATOES, HOMEMADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE, PANCETTA, AND DAILY SPECIALS

SUNDAY SKILLET FRIED CHICKEN

EVERY SUNDAY FROM 11:00AM UNTIL WE SELL OUT
FRESH ORGANIC HAND CUT, HAND BREADED CHICKEN COOKED IN A CAST IRON SKILLET. SERVED WITH GREEN BEANS, MASHED POTATOES AND GRAVY WITH A WARM HONEY BISCUIT...\$8.95

PREPARED FOODS

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

DINNERS TO GO

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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...BUDGET continued from page 6

At tonight's Town Board meeting the 2015-'16 budget will be finalized incorporating the 1.4 cent per \$100 valuation to keep the budget revenue neutral while adjusting for the decrease in property values due to the revaluation.

Frye said he doesn't believe town fees will have to increase.

Mayor Pat Taylor said he is hearing that the Sales Tax redistribution plan will be a no-go, so Highlands and Macon County will have dodged a huge bullet.

If that's the case, most of the money collected in sales tax would continue to be appropriated to the municipalities that collect it – about \$850,000 for Highlands and \$1.2 million for Macon County.

K-H Founder Park

At last Thursday's final budget work-session, Nick Bazan of the K-H Founders Park Coalition, came for the final OK for the upcoming activities planned for the dedication and opening of the park on Saturday, May 30.

There was some confusion about co-mingling alcohol and money (as in donations for the K-H Park/Sossomon property renovations.)

After going back and forth with the ABC Commission and its delegates, Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell said that beer can be given away by Satulah Brewing Company as planned and people can bring beer or wine to the concert in the park from 7-9 p.m., but buckets for donations can't be where the beer is distributed or alcohol consumed. Furthermore, people can only bring beer or wine into the park, not liquor.

In addition, the town's ordinance concerning events in the park was reiterated by Frye and Town Planner Josh Ward.

Though the ABC Commission allows alcohol to be sold and consumed at events with a special permit, the town only allows libations to be brought into the park by citizens during the Music in the Park series from 6-8 p.m. which begins Saturday, June 6 – ABC Commission permit or not. This will also be allowed from 7-9 p.m. on Saturday, May 30.

Furthermore, no food vendors are allowed to sell meals in the park during the Music in the Park series or at any other time.

– Kim Lewicki



323 Franklin Road
Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-4949
www.thebascom.org

Lands Beyond: Other Worldly Landscapes FREE Reception and Artist Talk: Saturday, June 6; 5 - 7 pm

FREE Hors D'oeuvres and Spirits



Michael Noland, The Storm Seer (Oklahoma) (detail), 2010, courtesy of American Primitive Gallery, New York, NY

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MEMORIAL DAY SALE

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STOREWIDE!**

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Tuesday, June 2**

**Monday through Saturday • 9a to 5p
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'Bubbles and All That Jazz' fundraiser at The Playhouse June 20

Dinner • Drinks • Jazz • Auctions – Tickets available now

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.

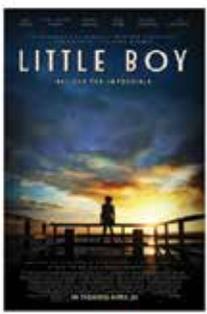
2015 Highlands Playhouse Classic Film Festival

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 here 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?

Now Showing! Highlands Playhouse



Little Boy

PG-13 1hr 46 min

All Tickets \$9

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May 30--2, 5 & 8pm
May 31--2 & 5pm
June 4--2, 5 & 8pm

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highlandsplayhouse.org

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These tiny microcurrent impulses trigger chemical reactions at a cellular level to enhance the production of natural collagen and elastin, provide circulatory benefits, and work directly on the nerves and muscle fibers. The result is visible firming and smoothing of the skin. It also helps tone facial muscles.

Although you will notice the treatment's tightening effects immediately, the more significant improvement will occur gradually over a period of several weeks as the new collagen forms.



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NC LMBT #1429

BearWallow wraps up K-H Founder Park opening with a free concert from 7-9p



Bearwallow, the bluegrass band and winners of Merlefest 2015 band competition, will be playing at the Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park Grand Opening Saturday, May 30th from 7-9pm - no charge. Their performance culminates a day of festivity that begins with the 5K Run for the Park at 8a, the Highlands Marketplace opening at 10a, the grand opening and dedication at 11a, the PAC Youth Theater performing at noon, the Community Table luncheon (bring a side dish) at 1p with entertainment by Ron Schott, HCP and clogging at 2p: entertainment and family fun and games all day long. No activities are planned between 4-7p but it starts up again at 7p with live bluegrass by BearWallow (sponsored by Ray and Diane McPhail). People are allowed to bring wine or beer to the BearWallow concert like during the Music in the Park series.

Shear Elevations

Color, Cuts, Highlights, Perms, Manicures,
Pedicures, Acrylics & Gel Enhancements,
Up-dos and Facial Waxing

Owner/Stylist: Lisa L. Shearon; Stylist: Jane B. Earp; Stylist/Nail Tech: Kristi Billingsley;
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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.

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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,
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• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

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

- **NOTE:** The Recreation Department is now accepting application for Lifeguards for the Summer.

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 MountainTop 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

Thurs.-Sun.

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

Monday

- 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

- 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 beginning June 2 through August 4 at the Peggy Crosby Center, Rm.203. Led by Bonnie Gramlich, LPC and sponsored by Highlands United Methodist Church and the Counseling and Psychotherapy Center of Highlands. Call 828.342.0546 to register or for more info.

- 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! Yoga in the Park is offered for free every Tuesday from 6-7 pm until October 1st, weather permitting. Certified Yoga Teachers: sign up to teach by calling #828-526-8880.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

- OccupyWNC meets at the Jackson County Justice Center. For more information, visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524 Tuesdays

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

Tuesday and Thursdays

- Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park at 8a. \$5.

- Pickle ball is played from 9:30-11a in 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.

- Zumba at the Rec Park at 9:05a. \$5

Wed. through June 3

- At The Bascom: After School Art Adventure, 3:15-4:30p. To register, call Anna Alig at 787-2865.

1st Wednesdays

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

3rd 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. Newcomers welcomed.

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

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• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

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 6-8 p.m.

Saturdays

• Highlands Marketplace in the vacant lot next to K-H Founders Park on Pine Street from 8a to 2p.

Sat. through May 30

• At the Bascom: Kids' Creation Station. 10a to noon. \$5. To register, call Anna Alig at 787-2865.

Thurs., May 28-Sun., May 31

• HCP's 'Welcome to Mitford' at PAC. 7:30p and 2:30p matinee on Sunday. Call 828-526-8084 for tickets.

Thurs., May 28

• Retirement Celebration for R.L. Forrester from the Highlands Police Dept. from 6-7 p.m. at the Highlands Community Building, 869 N. 4th Street, next to the ball field. Light refreshments will be provided. At 7 p.m., at the Highlands Town Board meeting, Captain Forrester will be recognized for his years of distinguished service.

Fri., May 29

• 12th Annual "Salamander Meander" at 9 pm at the Highlands Nature Center. Bring a

flashlight and go on a short night hike to search for salamanders along the Garden trails. Ages are 6 and up; cost is \$5 per person. Advanced registration is required; please call Patrick Brannon at 526-4123 to sign up or for more information.

• The High Mountain Squares will host their "Memorial Day Dance" Friday night, at the Macon County Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Stan Russell from Greer, SC will be the caller. Mike McDonald and Debbie McClain from Clayton GA will cue rounds and lines. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-371-4946, 828-342-1560, 828-332-0001

Sun., May 31

• At Blue Valley Baptist Church on NC 28, Special Singing featuring Heart Strings at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited.

Sat., May 30

• K-H Founders Park opening and dedication. 8a to 9p. 5K Run, Highlands Market Place, PAC Youth Theater, Community Table Lunchn, HCP and clogging, live music.

• Highlands Plateau Audubon. Car trip along Rich Gap Road led by Brock Hutchins. This is easy, roadside birding at one of our local "hot spots" featuring Scarlet Tanagers, possible Red-tailed Hawks, Black-throated Green Warblers.

• Do you have Slavic Roots? A meeting of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society "South" will be held on Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Macon County Library, 149 Siler Rd. If your ancestors immigrated from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Czechoslovakia, lived in the Carpathian Mountains, were called Lemkos, Galicians, Rusnaks, Russians, Slavic, Greek Catholics, Orthodox or Byzantines, you could be Carpatho-Rusyn! Did your ancestors bless Easter baskets and decorate Easter eggs (pysanky) and have a special Christmas Eve dinner (Velija/Svjatyj Vecer)? These people did not have a country of their own but resided within Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Croatia and Czech Republic as a minority. Most were Eastern Slavs living in Slovakia and emigrating to American in the late 1800's and early 1900s working in the coal mines or steel mills of PA, WV, OH, NJ or AL. Guests are welcome! For more information call George or Shelah Portoukalian, 828-369-3136 or email: checki@frontier.com. For more information about the Carpatho-Rusyns, visit www.C-RS.org.

Mon., June 1

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will meet at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers, NC on Monday, June 1st. It is open to the public. The speaker will be Allen McGee, a noted fly fisherman, fly designer, and fly fishing photographer and author. It will begin at 6 PM with a fly tying demonstration followed by Allen's presentation: "Fly Fishing Modern Soft-Hackles." at 7 PM. A raffle will be held for a chance to win the grand prize of a 5 wt. fly rod. Call Doug at 828-787-1230.

Wed., June 3

• Give blood at the State Employees Credit Union 245 Cunningham Road, Franklin from 10 am to 2:30 pm. For more information

• See **EVENTS** page 14

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.highlandshomesites.com
Like us on Facebook at
Falling Waters Highlands

HCP's 'Mitford' continues to draw large crowds



Highlands-Cashiers Players' production of "Welcome to Mitford" continues Thursday night and runs through Sunday. Performances are at 7:30p and at 2:30 on Sundays at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. For tickets call 828-526-8084.

**Whole
Life
Market**
Natural Products Store

Carrying a wide variety of natural products for your Mind, Body & Home.

NECTAR
Juice Bar 

Organic Fresh Juices & Smoothies
and Salads To Go!

526-5999
Corner of Foreman Road & Hwy 64 east
Mon-Sat 10a to 5:30p

• EVENTS •

The Highlands Cashiers Players **HCP**
HIGHLANDS CASHIERS
Presents



Welcome to Milford

Adapted from the Milford novels by Jan Karon

by: **Robert Inman**
Directed by **Donna Cochran**

Performances at Performing Arts Center at 507 Chestnut St, Highlands, NC 28741

Thursday - Sunday May 21st - 24th & **Thursday - Sunday May 28th - 31st**

Evenings at 7:30 • Sunday Matinees at 2:30

For Tickets HCP Box Office: 828.526.8084 or www.highlandscashiersplayers.org

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois



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828.526.2083
ckswan.com

Just down from
Old Edwards Inn & Spa

KELSEY-HUTCHINSON FOUNDERS PARK



GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION AND DEDICATION OF PHASE I

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH

8 AM RUN FOR THE PARK 5K
10 AM FARMERS MARKET

11 AM GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION & DEDICATION
12 PM PAC YOUTH THEATER

1 PM LUNCH: BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE AND JOIN HIGHLANDS' FIRST OF ITS KIND COMMUNITY TABLE, LIVE MUSIC BY RON SCHOTT

2 PM HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS PLAYERS AND CLOGGING

ALL DAY: ENJOY LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND FAMILY FUN AND GAMES AT THIS FREE COMMUNITY EVENT,

4-7 PM SIESTA (NO ACTIVITIES PLANNED)

7 PM LIVE BLUEGRASS BY BEARWALLOW

(MERLEFEST 2015 BAND COMPETITION WINNERS) SPONSORED BY RAY AND DIANE MCPHAIL

RAIN OR CONSTRUCTION DELAY DATE 6/6— STAY TUNED TO WHLC
BROUGHT TO YOU BY KELSEY-HUTCHINSON FOUNDERS PARK COALITION



THE DRY SINK
HIGHLANDS, NC

Welcome Back to The Dry Sink!

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

The Dry Sink Main Street Highlands, NC

or to schedule an appointment please call Lawren Cress at (828) 369-3536.

Fri., June 5

- Give blood at the First United Methodist Church 66 Harrison Avenue, Franklin from 10 am to 2:30 pm. For more information or to schedule an appointment please call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org.

Sat., June 6

- Kids Fishing Day at Cliffside Park from 9a to 1p. Free for children 12 and under. Adults must accompany children. Bring your pole, though some will be provided along with bait.

- At The Bascom, Lands Beyond: Other Worldly Landscapes. Free reception (hors d'oeuvres and spirits) and artist talk from 5-7 p.m.

Sun., June 7

- The Highlands Community fund will be hosting 'Rise and Shine for the Highlands Community Fund' at the Bascom on Sunday at 6:30. Tickets to this event are \$75 and the dress is mountain casual. For more information contact the Highlands Community Fund Board member, Gayle Cummings, at 828-526-0247 or gayle.cummings@me.com.

Thurs.-Sun., June 11-14

- Highlands Motoring Festival. Go to www.HighlandsMotoringFestival.org for complete list of events.

Sat. June 13

- 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

- Annual Reese Family Reunion, 10 AM to 2 PM at the Highlands Rec Park

Mon.-Fri., June 15-19

- Kelsey Kids Camp for kids 8 to 11 years old at the Highlands Historical Village. 9a to 3p. It's free and includes lunch. To register go to www.highlandshistory.com or email Linda David at lindawd@hcgexpress.net

Sat. -Sun., June 20 & 21

- Highlands Village Square Art & Craft Show. Regional artisans, music, food. 10 - 5 in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park on Pine Street, downtown Highlands, NC. Admission free. Sponsored by Macon County Art Assn..

Sat., June 20

- 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.

- 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 information, contact Kyle at stew.hitrust@earthlink.net or 526-1111.

Tues., June 23

- 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. For more information, 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. Together we are saving mountains: www.hicashlt.org.

- 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. For more information or to schedule an appointment please call (828) 306-7017 or visit redcrossblood.org.

Bridge: Mental Gymnastics Taught at CLE

If your brain has become stagnant and your bridge skills a little rusty, The Center for Life Enrichment is offering you the chance to get your brain in shape and enhance your social life with bridge expert Duane Meeter. Duane has taught bridge in Highlands and Tallahassee, FL for the last fifteen years. He is a certified American Contract Bridge League teacher and director, a member of the American Bridge Teacher's Association and a Silver Life Master. Duane will be teaching you how to improve your bidding by practicing some simple rule and principles in Bridge: Polishing Your Basics (Intermediate) 4 sessions- Mondays, June 8, 15, 22 and 29, 9:30-11:30. Cost \$80/\$100.

A study by Berkeley University showed that there are significant health benefits from playing bridge. Bridge teaches you logic, reasoning, quick thinking, patience, concentration and partnership skills. Many people find that as they get older their brain seems to slow down. Like muscles, your brain requires exercise and playing bridge regularly stimulates your brain and helps keep your memory active and your brain alert. This brain activity also boosts your immune system.

Another benefit to playing bridge is meeting people and enjoying an active social life. Instead of sitting home and feeling miserable and lonely with no one to talk to, you will be engaging in conversations and getting out and about. Playing bridge can alleviate boredom and is played by millions- socially in homes and clubs and competitively in tournaments. The allure of the benefits of bridge has engaged the likes of Warren Buffet and Bill Gates who have both played for years.

To register for bridge or any of the other interesting classes CLE has to offer please call 828-526-8811 or visit www.clehighlands.com or stop by the office located in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center at 348 S. 5th Street.

Altitudes Restaurant at Skyline Lodge



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

**Open for Dinner
Fri. & Sat. and Brunch on Sunday**

Asia Week! Appetizers

Sesame seared tuna on wonton crisps with sriracha cream cheese and wasabi • \$10

Shrimp tempura with Thai chili dipping sauce • \$15

Friday & Saturday Specials

Sesame seared yellowfin tuna with seaweed salad and pickled ginger • \$20

Pork tenderloin with ginger scallion glaze • \$22

*Prepared to order by Chef Kirtis
Reservations recommended but not required*

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MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY DINNERS-TO-GO SUMMER MENU 2015

MON

**JAMES BEARD AWARD-WINNING CHEF,
LOUIS OSTEEN'S LOW COUNTRY
LOBSTER/SHRIMP BOIL FOR TWO**
LOBSTER TAILS, WILD CAUGHT LARGE SHRIMP, RED BLISS POTATOES, SUMMER CORN, HOUSE MADE SAUSAGE, ALL STEEPED IN LOUIS'S PROPRIETARY SEASONING. SERVED WITH DRAWN BUTTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE.

\$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 COLESLAW AND ROSEMARY SEA SALT BROILED RED POTATOES, TARTER AND COCKTAIL SAUCE.

\$26.95
SERVES
TWO

SAT

IN-HOUSE SMOKED BBQ
SERVED WITH COLESLAW 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**

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Coming Home

By Pastor Paul Christy

Highlands United Methodist Church

As I write to you this week, I am excited because the town is beginning to fill once again. It is always good to see our friends and family return for another season.

That is one of my favorite things about living in Highlands; it is always like coming home. People actually greet one another with kindness; driving down Main Street cars stop to let walkers go from one side of the street to the other side; and it is like coming home when restaurants are full and church pews are packed. There is something about coming home, isn't there?

One of my favorite stories in the Bible was told by Jesus in the way Luke the physician wrote in the 15th chapter in his Gospel. It is a story about coming home and it is a story about God's love and grace. It's about two brothers. The younger brother wants his inheritance so he can go and make a name for himself. He was tired of working on the farm and he wanted to go to the city and get involved in his own business. As long as he stayed on the farm, he would just be the little brother. He wanted to leave because like all of us he wanted to make a name for himself and be his own person. Yet, in asking for his inheritance, he was really saying, "Dad, I wish you were dead because I want my money and I want it now!"

That was the custom of the time; the older brother got the real inheritance, and most fathers would not have given the younger son the time of day. But this father was different, he loved his sons and he wanted both of them to be happy and successful. In fact, he went against the local customs of the time just so his younger son could see the world.

The younger son, with a pocket full of cash, went to the city and he ate out every meal at the five-star restaur-

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 18

You're Invited to an OPEN HOUSE!

Saturday, May 30 • 1:30-4:30p

12 Hawks Nest Lane

Cole Mountain Circle off Buck Creek Road



This 2 bedroom/2 bath cottage with wood paneling and pine flooring is perfect for getaways in the mountains! A creek runs through it but room for garden on 1 acre of land with beautiful assorted native flora.

Priced to sell at \$195,000.

Don and Betty Fisher at Country Club Properties

Proverbs 3:5

BLUEVALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

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

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

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

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 (Quiet) 1928 Prayer Book Service;

9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Family Service w/ Music

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

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 a.m.

1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.

Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968

Sundays: Holy Eucharist (chapel) at 8 a.m.

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: 8:30a and 11 a.m.; School: 9:30

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

Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

Bible Study: 6 pm

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship

242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers

www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-

9814

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

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

John 3:16

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);

7pm Intercessory Prayer Ministry

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

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

828-524-9463

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

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

4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish office (Father Francis): 526-2418

Mass: Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat. at 4p

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 Jerry David Hall • 526-3212

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

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359

Rev. Douglas E. Remer

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 6-Oct 25- Informal Evening Eucharist- 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

Beginning Memorial Day weekend

Horse Cove - Kay Ward 743-5009

Old-Fashioned hymn-sing Sunday 7-8p.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Police log entries from April 27 Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

April 27

• At 12:15 p.m., officers responded to a hit and run collision with a stop sign on Satulah Road.

May 4

• At 1 p.m., officers responded to a call about a person entering a home on Vinca Lane without permission.

May 18

• At 12:59 p.m., officers responded to a call about a restaurant on NC 106 that was violating the liquor law by allowing brown bagging without a permit.

• At 5:14 p.m., officers responded to a call about shoplifting at Potpourri on Main Street where two pairs of sunglasses were taken: total value \$215.

May 20

• At 10:56 a.m., officers were called to Michael's for Hair concerning a civil dispute.

May 22

• At 3:08 p.m., officers responded to an animal complaint at a residence on Brushy Face Road where a bear was eating fish out of a pond.

May 23

• At 8:03 p.m., Jose Martin Feria, 22, of Charlotte was arrested for failure to appear on a misdemeanor in court. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond.

May 24

• At 11 a.m., officers were called to a residence on Raoul Road because a bear cub was up a tree all day and the mother wasn't present.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries from May 13.

May 13

• At 12:13 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cowee Ridge Road.

May 15

• At 9:22 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence in Highlands Mountain Club.

May 16

• A little past midnight, the dept. responded to a structure fire on Panther Mountain Road.

• At 11:23 a.m., the dept. returned to the structure fire location on Panther Mountain to check the site.

• At 12:56 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on BigView Drive.

May 17

• At 4:36 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Church Street.

• At 5:26 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Smallwood Ave.

May 18

• At 7:02 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on County Club Drive.

• At 4:33 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on BigView Drive.

• At 8:10 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Broadview Circle.

May 19

• At 5:13 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Horse Cove Road.

May 21

• At 12:37 p.m. the dept. responded to a brush fire started by a power pole fire on Dendy Orchard Road.

May 22

• At 6:54 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Holly Tree Lane.

May 23

• At 9:36 a.m. the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cook Road.

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

May 25

• At 3:06 p.m., the dept. assisted in a search on Holt Road.

• At 5:52 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers

Fire Department.

May 26

• At 9:12 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Falcon Ridge Road.

Dr. Joseph H. Wilbanks, D.D.S.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM

AN EVENING OF

BUBBLES & JAZZ

CHAMPAGNE & DINNER

LIVE & SILENT AUCTION

TICKETS: \$125
*TABLES of 8: \$850

Featuring Vocal Artist VIRGINIA SCHENCK

ALL YOU CAN EAT
LOW COUNTRY
SEAFOOD BOIL

Please stop by and pick up your tickets or call the Playhouse at 828-526-2695 and reserve your tickets now.

www.highlandspalyhouse.org

*Tables of 8 include 2 free bottles of wine at the table

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...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 16

rants and he slept at the Hilton every night and he had friends. But what he didn't realize was the reason he had so many friends was because he always picked up the tab. He invested some of his money in business that failed, and soon his pockets were empty; his friends left him and he realized he had made poor decisions.

This is why the stories Jesus told are ones that we can all relate to because I venture to guess that all of us have made

some poor decisions in life, haven't we? So the young man comes to himself and after working on a farm or in the city, he decided to venture back home. He talked to himself like most of us have done at times, and in that self-conversation, he said; "Now when I get home the first thing I will say is, "Dad I have sinned against you and God, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son, but I want you to hire me as one of your servants on the farm and I will work hard

and never again leave this place."

He had it all worked out, and he headed home with his head hanging down. But before he could even get home, his dad saw him and ran to greet him and he said; "Son I thought you were dead and now you are alive, I thought you were lost and now you are found."

Then the loving father said, "Bring a family ring and put it on his finger because my boy has come home, and we are going to have a party."

Now Jesus told that story to teach us what God was like but I also think Jesus told that story to remind us that we all have a home with God.

If we read on in the story, we see that the older brother who stayed and worked while the younger brother sowed his oats was not as welcoming as the father. In fact,

he was mad because he felt he did everything right and we all know if you do everything right life works out right?

But the wise Father in the story, (God) told the older son that his love for him was the same as it always had been and to be happy because family had returned home. I love that story because it is about coming home and I encourage you to read the story for yourself because this is the way I tell the story and let me assure you Jesus tells the story much better.

So I end this week's column by saying whether you have done everything right or whether you have done some things wrong in your life, God says to us "Welcome Home," when we make that journey back to God.

The good news is if we have been away for a while or even if we have always been close to God, the message is the same, welcome home!

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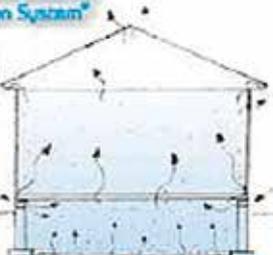
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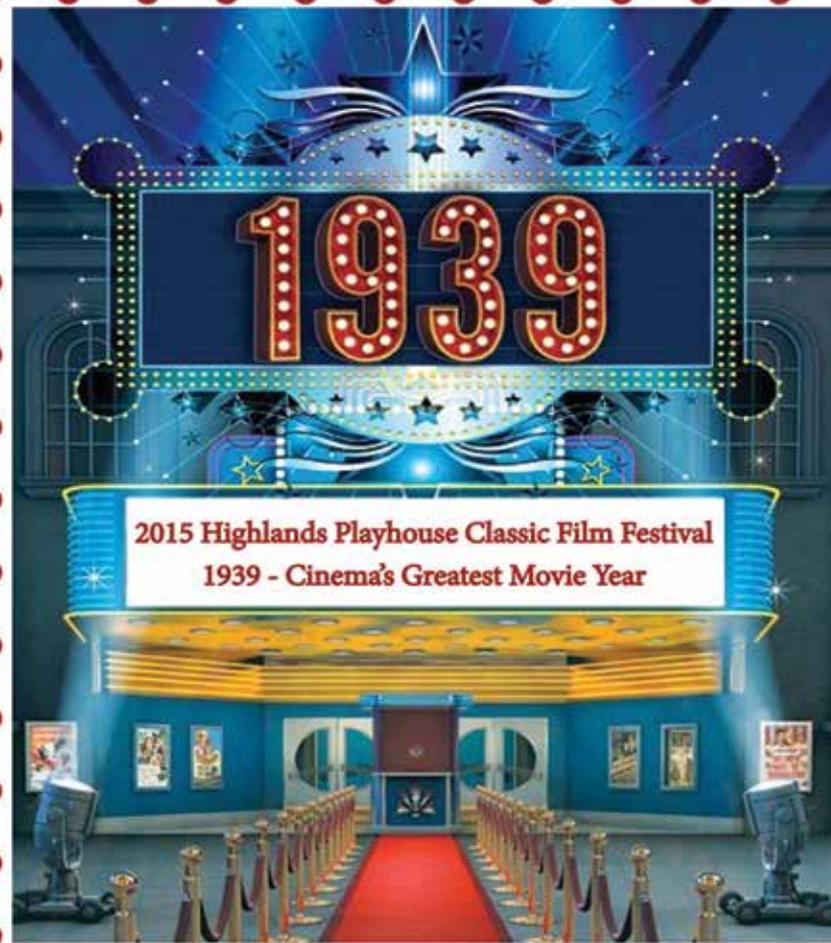
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• BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION NEWS •



From left: Front: Nicole Lui School Guidance Counselor, Trinity Dendy, Grace Brassard; Middle: Max Renfro, Montana McElroy, Cynthia Dendy Rotary Liaison, Rachael Foster, Hayley Hawkins, Cathy McIntyre-Ross High School Representative; Back: Tiffany Preda, Blakely Moore, Remy Adrian, Sawyer Wofford, Carter Potts, April Moss

Highlands School Interact Club presides over Rotary Club of Highlands meeting

The Rotary Interact Club from Highlands School “took over” the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Highlands with a fast-paced, fun-filled presentation that inspired everyone in attendance and gave Rotarians a glimpse of the exciting, positive leaders of the future. Interact Club members presented highlights of their community volunteerism in the past year including: the Christmas Tree Lighting; the Halloween Candy program; fundraising for school supplies; the Mouse Pad project; the church breakfast to raise awareness of homelessness; the “Goat Project” in Haiti; food and supplies drive for the Humane Society; donations to the Emergency Council; and the Gorge Road Cleanup. For more information, please visit the Rotary Club of Highlands website at highlandsrotary.org.



Wheeler part of Mission's Primary Care

Mission Health is pleased to announce the addition of Patti Wheeler, MD. Dr. Wheeler is joining Mission Medical Associates and Mission Community Primary Care – Highlands, a service provided by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital from Highlands Medical Associates where she served as a family medicine physician.

Dr. Wheeler is board certified in family medicine. She has also served as a hospice and home visit physician. Dr. Wheeler enjoys outdoor activities such as water sports, gardening, cooking and reading.



Jay Calloway and Lisa Northrup at Bardo, their new store on Main Street.

It's an eclectic collection of high-end, artistic home decor (indoor and outdoor items) including lighting, furniture, and objects d'art. Some consigned; some re-purposed, all meant to electrify the senses. Bardo is on Main Street in the old pharmacy building next to Dry Sink.



From left: Patsy Kever, NC State Democratic Party Chair; Dr. June Atkinson, NC Superintendent of Public Schools and Keynote speaker at the Gala; Mrs. Shirley Ches, MC Award recipient -- MC Democrat of the year; and Mr. Joseph M. Collins, MC Democratic Party Chair

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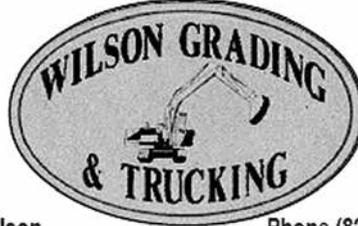


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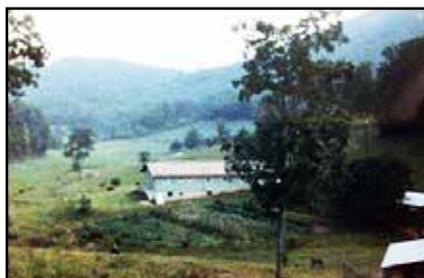
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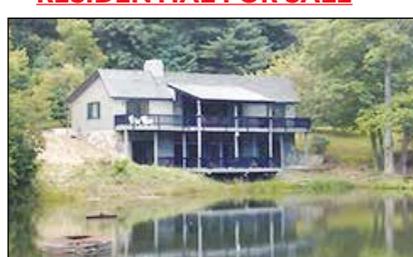
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...FIRE continued from page 5

According to Wooten, the discussion between the two counties will continue. Wooten said Jackson County is still in the budget process, and are including conversations regarding an allocation for Macon County based on budgeting costs associated with EMS and 911 services.

"The proposed reimbursement is not based on tax value since that is immaterial as to cost of the service," said Wooten. "To my knowledge there has been no discussion about the Sheriff's office."

Jackson County is also considering different options for solid waste collections.

As it stands, the houses in question are using Macon County landfills for trash disposal. Wooten explained that Jackson commissioners are looking at eliminating the required Jackson County solid waste fee for these parcels, allowing residents to contract with Macon County for those services.



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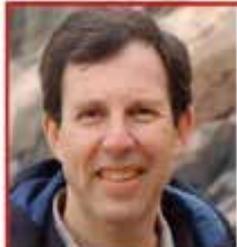


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