

# Highlands Newspaper

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Thurs., Oct. 1, 2015

## Board of Ed gets final word on budget from state

*Restores some teacher assistant positions, allocates textbook funds and more*

Although school districts across the state had to wait a little longer for their 2015-'16 funding allocations, the wait proved beneficial, at least for Macon County.

At Monday night's Board of Education meeting, Macon County Schools finance director Angie Cook told members of the county board of education that

the school system would experience a \$540,497 increase in funding levels over last year.

In 2014, North Carolina allocated \$24,608,382 to Macon

County for an ADM (Average Daily Membership) of 4,354. This year, Macon County Schools received funding for an ADM of

•See **BUDGET** page 7

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Fall begins at Cullasaja Falls.

Photo by Linda Barden

## Foliage forecast: one of best leaf seasons in recent years

Fall leaf color in the mountains of Western North Carolina should be the best it has been in a number of years because of generally drier-than-normal conditions during 2015.

That's the word from Western Carolina University's autumnal

season sage Kathy Mathews in her annual prediction of how foliage around the region will perform as the sunlight of summer wanes and days become frosty.

Mathews, an associate professor of biology at WCU, specializes

•See **FOLIAGE** page 9

## Study predicts increased fall tourism for Smoky Mtn. gateway counties

Although many of us still may be shaking the sand out of our bathing suits from summer's final trip to the beach over Labor Day weekend, a few students and faculty members at Western Carolina University have turned their attention to autumn and the mountains.

Students in a senior-level "Tourism Strategies" class taught by Steve Morse, economist and director of the Hospitality and Tourism Program in WCU's College of Business, are predicting a noticeable increase in hotel occupancy rates in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park gateway counties of Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee.

The students analyzed October hotel room demand trends

•See **TOURISM** page 9



Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin with Teacher of the Year, Andrea Chalker.

## Chalker named Macon County 'Teacher of the Year'

At Monday night's Board of Education (BOE) meeting at Highlands School, HS Teacher of the Year and Great Beginnings teacher Andrea Chalker was selected Macon County's Teacher of the Year. Each of Macon County's schools' Teacher of the Year (who is selected by their peers) was in the running. The county's Teacher of the Year is then selected by the BOE and goes on to represent Macon County in the North Carolina Teacher of the Year competition.

Board member Tommy Cabe said though all Macon County teachers shine, Chalker stood above the rest.

Board member Stephanie McCall said Chalker is everywhere – in the classroom, the booster club, the community – everywhere. "She shows a unique passion for her school and her community."

Chalker, who taught in Franklin prior to coming to Highlands School said, "I am only as good as the people I am surrounded by. I am proud to be in Highlands School and to represent Macon County."

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### Does Duke care what we think?

You have heard the phrase, "The mouse that roared." When it comes to dealing with the Duke coal ash issue, Highlands may be, "The flea that roared." It gets down to the economy of scales.

Highlands accounts for about a half of a percent (1/2%) of the total usage for Duke Energy in Western Carolina. Apply that figure to the entire state and we may not even account for a quarter of a percent (1/4%). So, in their eyes Highlands might be viewed as just a blip on their huge radar screen.

Yes, we will continue to openly and constructively engage Duke over the coal ash surcharge issue. But, keep in mind, our resources pooled with that of others, could not match Duke's in a protracted legal confrontation. There is a strong possibility that FERC will grant them some kind of rate increase for coal ash clean up. The ultimate issue could be how much.

A similar item is the chemical spraying right-of-ways. Last week I saw workers with backpacks of chemicals spraying vegetation growing in the Duke transmission line right-of-way north of Highlands. Those transmission lines supply Highlands. Some folks want



Mayor Pat Taylor

Duke to stop that practice.

By comparison, Highlands electricity department does not use chemicals, but rather does limited trimming around our power lines.

At the risk of being labeled an apologist for Duke, there is a big difference in the economy of scale. Highlands has a relatively small service area so we employ a crew of five that constantly trims around power lines. Duke, on the

other hand, has thousands of miles of transmission lines. For them not to use chemical spraying and rely on trim crews would be very expensive and in some cases be very dangerous for their workers in negotiating extreme mountain terrain. I have been told before to get Duke to stop using chemicals in their right-of-ways. My effort would be no more than a flea bite in Duke's broader commitment of delivering energy to their customers. Neither can I tell the U.S. Forest Service, N.C. DOT or the N.C. Highway Patrol how to operate on their rights-of-ways.

I can see it now, customers outraged with a rate increase. By Duke abandoning spraying, an army of tree trimmers had to be hired. Duke would point back to that mayor of Highlands for causing a rate increase for millions.

As winter approaches, both Duke and Highlands want to make sure power lines are free and clear. One tree limb covered with ice or snow can shut down an entire electrical system.

Getting back to coal ash clean up, I wish the state had not passed a sweeping law mandating Duke to clean up all their coal ash sites. Rather, I would prefer legislation where assessments by independent experts identified those sites posing environmental problems requiring coal ash removal. Maybe cost to consumers could have been reduced or even avoided.

**P.S. I just had a discussion with DOT administrators about road maintenance in the Highlands area.**

### Highlands Newspaper

Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913

Phone: (828) 200-1371

Email:

HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor: Kim Lewicki

Copy Editor: Glenda Bell

Digital Media - Jim Lewicki

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Kim & Jim Lewicki

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265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703,

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#### Letter Policy:

We reserve the right to reject or edit letters-to-the-editor. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands Newspaper.

## • LETTERS •

### Thanks for letting Fred write

Dear Editor,

Please allow me to be but one of the many that will thank you for allowing Fred to expound politically in his column in the Sept. 24 edition entitled "Black Lives Definitely Don't Matter." His article was most profound. From one that was involved in the judiciary for 20+ years, that rode Saturday evening with police officers and viewed violence from the bench, being confronted with reality may be the prescription that is required for those that continue to support and look the other way as the moral fiber of this nation is eroded from within. The truth may hurt "some" to read and hear... what really hurts is for the facts to be ignored.

Judge John Williams (Retired)  
Sky Valley, GA

### Disappointed ....

Dear Editor,

I am as thankful as anyone that we live in a nation that provides for the freedom of the press. Nevertheless, I am really surprised and disappointed you would publish such racist ranting as today's column by The Fredster in the Sept. 24th edition.

Charles M. Phillips  
Atlanta, GA

### What does evil have to fear from you?

Dear Editor,

The purpose of this letter to address the Church Universal. Those that claim the name of Jesus, no matter the doctrinal distinctions. My burning question is, what does evil have to fear from you?

History is rife with examples of the Church encountering evil, and how those events have revealed the true character of those assembled in the name of Christ.

One such event occurred in the last century. While many sat in their cushioned pews, the disabled, homosexuals, and millions of Jews, etc., were being marched into the gas chambers. As they breathed the noxious fumes that spelled their doom, too many churches comforted themselves with their pretentious piety. One can almost imagine phrases like, "Such things just aren't spoken of in a polite society," or, "We wouldn't want to risk offending anyone, or make anyone uncomfortable," reverberating off the walls of their sanctuaries.

There were, however, those that weren't afraid to call out evil for what it was, and many paid with their lives to do so. One such person was Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a man who was moved to action because he had a firm belief that his loyalty was to God, not to another man, or institution. One of the more tragic facets of his story is that he had to work around, and oftentimes against, those that bore the name Christian. Sadly, many of us today face the same battle. Bonhoeffer made a profound statement that should be seared on the heart of all Christians, "Not to speak is to speak, not to act is to act." His courageous story serves as an inspiration to this day for those Christians that are engaging the culture.

So, where am I headed with this? Well, it isn't a revelation to discover that the tenets of Christianity are pro-life. Since its beginning, the Church has championed the protection of life from conception to natural death. Whether they were rescuing babies in ancient Rome that were left to die, or selflessly tending to those dying of various diseases, Christians have led the way on human rights. I am hoping to inspire the Church to do so again.

We find in scripture where Jesus is laying the foundation for the Church, and he says that the "gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18) The wording here implies that the gates of hell are stationary, and the Church is what should be mobile. It seems that we are seeing just the opposite!

The Planned Parenthood videos have exposed an evil industry. What has been on



# • OBITUARIES •

## Albert H. (Yokum) Edwards

Albert H. (Yokum) Edwards, age 83, of Highlands died Monday, August 31, 2015. He was born in Highlands, the son of the late Daniel Garner Edwards and Hazel Hedden Edwards. Albert was employed by C. A. Wilson Electric and Edwards Electrical Service and was a US Navy Veteran. He attended Clemson University and North Georgia Technical Institute. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Gene and Dick and one sister, Mary Ann. Albert was an avid golfer, loved horse racing and even fishing.



GA; Virginia (Jim) of Highlands and Frank (Kristin) of Highlands. Albert was also survived by 56 nieces, nephews, including a few great nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 2 pm at the Highlands United Methodist Church. Reverend Paul Christy will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials may be sent to the Highlands United Methodist Church or the Edwards Family Scholarship Fund. Online condolences may be made at [www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com). Bryant Grant Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

He is survived by his siblings: Bud of Daytona Beach, FL; Haze (Shelby) of Smyrna, GA; Hazel Rogers of Marietta, GA; Robert (Emily) of Powder Springs,

## Teddy R. McConnell

Teddy R. McConnell, 90, of Grayson, GA passed away Monday, September 21, 2015. He was born in Scaly Mountain, NC. He was the son of the late Raleigh and Elmina Jane McConnell. He was a member of Stone Mountain First United Methodist Church. He was preceded in death by his wife Virginia Nicholson McConnell. He graduated from Highlands High School, NC, and enlisted in the United States Navy in 1943.

Mr. McConnell enlisted in the Navy during WWII and served in the South China Seas and post occupation Japan. He served on the U. S. Lexington as a Squadron Chief. He retired from the Navy after 28 years of service. Mr. McConnell worked for the State of Georgia Department of Industry and Trade for 15 years until his retirement following his service to his country.

He is survived by his daughter, Beverly Jane McConnell of Grayson, GA; his son, Jerry McConnell and his wife Mary Beth McConnell, and three grandchildren, Chris, Scott and Jenna McConnell.

Mr. McConnell is the last surviving sibling of 13 brothers and sisters.

Funeral services were held Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 11 am in the chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with Rev. Forest Jones officiated. Burial followed in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://bryantgrantfuneralhome.com)

## Annette Coleman

Annette Coleman, age 80, of Highlands, NC, died Thursday, September 24, 2015. She was born in Fulton Co., GA to Johnny William and Fanny Hageman Robertson.



Mrs. Coleman was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and best friend. She was a professional actress for 45 years in Atlanta, GA and Highlands, NC. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Highlands where she sang in the choir.

She is survived by her husband and best friend of 57 years, Wayne Coleman; two sons, Chris Wayne Coleman (Rodney) of Vancouver, WA and Kelly Jackson Cole-

man (Dedi) of Atlanta, GA; a brother, Jack Robertson of Reidsville, GA and four grandchildren, Christine Chandler and Caleigh Chandler of Knoxville, TN and Chase Coleman and Devin Coleman of Atlanta, GA.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Cathy Coleman Chandler.

A memorial service was held Monday, September 28, 2015 at 3 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Highlands. Rev. Dr. Curtis Fussell and Rev. Emily Wilmarth officiated. Burial followed in The

•See OBITUARIES page 6



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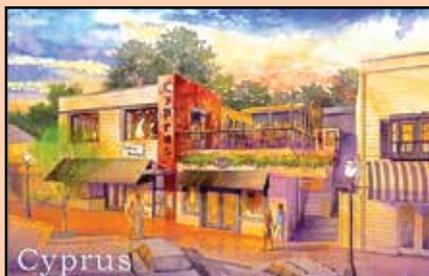
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## ...OBITUARIES from page 3

Memorial Garden of First Presbyterian Church.

Memorial donations may be made to the Mission Ministry at First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 548, Highlands, NC 28741.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is serving the Coleman family. Online condolences may be made at [bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

### Jean Ellen McNaught Mitchell



Jean Ellen McNaught Mitchell, age 88, of Highlands, NC, passed away peacefully on September 18th, 2015. She was born on September 26th, 1926 to the late General Warren Henry McNaught and Marion Ray McNaught. Jean was preceded in death by her loving husband of 50 years, James Robert Mitchell Sr. of Friday Harbor, WA and her brother David Alger McNaught.

Arrangements have been made through Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Franklin, NC. Online visitors may sign the guest register at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com). Jean and her late husband James will be interred at a National Military Cemetery.

Jean was a raised in an Army family, and made many moves in her lifetime. She was graduated from Mills College, with an undergraduate degree in Psychology, then earned her Master's Degree from Claremont Graduate University in California. Jean followed in her Father's footsteps, served as an Army Officer, as a Clinical Psychologist for several years, before going into private practice. Jean was an environmental activist, a member of the Ozark Society, Sierra Club, Cousteau Society, and Nature Conservancy. She was active in the cause against the fluoridation of water, an active member of the Natural Food Organization promoting the raising of organic foods which she accurately predicted would one day become mainstream. Jean was an avid reader, world traveler and student of the spiritual realm. She was a lifelong Unitarian.

Jean and James retired to Friday Harbor, WA, in the beautiful San Juan Islands, where they enjoyed over 20 years of retirement. While living in Friday Harbor, they captained their yacht on many trips to Canada and to Alaska. They particularly enjoyed their trips when family members joined them. Jean also served in an elected capacity as Water Commissioner. After the passing of her husband, Jean moved to NC, to be near her son, James Jr, Catherine and Grandchildren. In 2013 she traveled by Amtrak train from East to West Coast into Vancouver, BC, to board a cruise ship bound for Alaska with James, Catherine, Deena and 6 of her Grandchildren, to visit her other son Frank in Anchorage.

Jean is survived by her son Frank Warren, wife Deena Elkholy of Anchorage, AL, their children, Liam, Charlotte, Gretchen, and by her son James Robert Mitchell Jr, wife Catherine Lee Jones Mitchell of Charleston, SC and Highlands NC, their children James Robert Mitchell III, (wife Jen, Great Granddaughter Alexandra) Ashley, Courtney and Hunter. She is also survived by her sister Marion McNaught and a niece and nephew of Winston-Salem, NC.

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# • THE FREDSTER •

## I'm 79 but who's counting ... All about li'l ole me

No, no, no, that's not my IQ, it's my age. And the best part about being 79 is that I don't have to hold my breath while lying around in a pine box rotting away. I hate when I have to do that. Instead I'm walking around Highlands and rotting away. And should you be a fellow geezer, remember that you cannot build muscle mass at my age but you can slow down the loss with exercise. Swimming is good and Highlands has the year round swimming pool to get it done. That's my health message for this week. Are you writing this down?



Fred Wooldridge

You'll know you're near the end when you wake up one morning in a nursing home and some fat nurse with bad breath (Not from Highlands, of course.) is leaning over you, patting you on the head, speaking in baby talk, shouting, "Good morning, Mr. Fredster, and how are you today? Are you ready for your enema?" Oy! I'm not there yet!

If you're much younger than 79 then you should start feeling sorry for yourself because there's a good chance you'll never have the privilege of experiencing my age. Thoughtless fellow humans will blow up this planet long before you reach my age. Sorry to have to tell you that.

And if you haven't had a brain MRI you should put it on your bucket list. Fun, fun, fun! They clamp your head, the one containing your brain, in a tube while scary explosions take place all around you. I was using the "S" word a lot. After my MRI, I wound up in a North Palm Beach, FL. neurologist office. She was a real cutie and tinier than my li'l missus, if you can believe that. She looked to be about 16 years old. But before she walked into the examining room, I had already read about her many degrees from the University of Miami and her state board of surgery degree...blah, blah, blah. ("I'll bet she has to stand on a coke box to do her brain surgeries," I thought.)

Then she brought up an image of my brain (also

scary stuff but I have copies if you want) and started pointing out all my strokes that should have killed me but didn't. She said, "This is most interesting. You are a very lucky man, Fred, because I am counting a total of four."

I didn't want to tell her about my guardian angel 'cause she would think I'm a loony... which I am, of course. Pulling my MRI disc from her computer she handed it to me and said. "If you start behaving (ha, fat chance of that happening), take your blood thinners on time, stop drinking alcohol to excess and do lots of moderate exercise, there's no reason you can't live until your mid-nineties."

So here's why I'm a lucky old geezer and you're probably not. I have memories upon memories upon memories. In the quiet, just before dawn each morning and after having my conversation with my Lord, I think of my long police career and all the fun and scary moments I've experienced. I know I've mentioned that criminals were actually afraid...sometimes even terrorized of the police. I wouldn't have had it any other way.

I have awesome memories of the wonderful people the li'l missus and I met while teaching rappelling on the cliffs of Highlands for a magnificent 13 years. WOW... what a ride that was!

I also have the memories of three successful children and nine grandchildren who have yet to prove their value. And best of all, I have the memories of my sweet baby, my li'l missus, I met on the sands of Miami Beach back in the '50s.

So don't write me off yet, folks, I have 16-plus years to go and have a Bridge partner that tolerates my bizarre behavior. No, you can't borrow him.

• Note: Fred only has a few copies left of his zany book, "I'm Moving Back to Mars." Stop him and ask for an autographed copy 'cause he's heading south soon.

and although the state decreased 2015 levels to \$1,090,725, a decrease from \$1,116,415 in 2014, Macon County will have enough funding to either hire eight teacher assistants to be distributed where needed in the county, or based on recommendations from principals in the county, could use the money to hire up 20 29 ½ hour part-time staff positions.

Dr. Baldwin met with principals on Tuesday to discuss the funding for teacher assistants and how it will be used in the district. Each school administrator will discuss staff needs and based on an assessment of the needs in the county, the teaching assistant funding will be used to hire positions that would best serve the district's needs.

According to Dr. Baldwin, the state now funds two teaching assistants for every three kindergarten classrooms, one teacher assistant for every two first and second grade classrooms, and one teacher assistant for every three third

• See BUDGET page 9

## ...LETTERS continued from page 2

display should move the Church from asking, "How could you?" to declaring, "How dare you!" Instead we find too many quivering in the corner, afraid of making someone uncomfortable. Yes, the Gospel message is one of forgiveness and healing, but that isn't the only role of the Church. We are the hands and feet of an almighty God, the Creator of the universe! We must remember our place, and whom we serve... the Lion of the tribe of Judah! How dare we declare His name if we aren't willing to be reflections of the God that said, "Thou shalt not kill."

A wonderful way to be a light in this ever darkening world is the Life Chain. This annual event is a simple, silent protest of abortion. We will be meeting at the First Baptist Church, this Sunday afternoon, at 1:30. The entire event will only last around one and a half hours. This isn't an end all by any means, but it is a start!

It is my prayer that pulpits will be set ablaze with a fervor that will put evil on notice. What America, and the world, needs today is not a Church that will tiptoe around evil. No, what is needed is a Church that is indignant and is no longer content to be lukewarm (Revelations 3:16)! I ask again, what does evil have to fear from you?

Waylon Chastain  
Highlands

## ...BUDGET continued from page 1

4,442 at \$25,148,879.

The funding increase includes an additional teaching position, and an additional position for a district instructional support staff and nine additional months of employment for monthly employees such as career and technical education and school building administration.

Cook highlighted that the new budget nearly doubled funding for textbooks, which will allow the county to update and improve books throughout the district. While driver's education funding was decreased from \$72,783 to \$70,471, the program still received enough funding to continue operations into the current school year.

"The recovering economy is reflected in our state allocations for 2015-16," said Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin. "While we are not in the position that we were before the recession, this is a budget that will allow us to address some pressing needs in our school system."

Teacher Assistants have remained a priority locally,

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Every day from 11:00am - close  
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Monday - Friday 11am to 2pm  
Pizza, pasta, soup and salad bar  
Continuous fresh pizza from our pizza ovens, pastas, fresh breads from our bakery, plus the entire soup and salad bar... *\$9.99 dine in only*

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Every Sunday from 11am - 3pm  
Skillet fried chicken, country angus steak, skillet corn, biscuits & preserves, mashed potatoes, veggies, cobbler, plus the entire soup & salad bar.  
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A different full dinner every night.  
Serves four serving Monday through Saturday from 4:30 until we sell out -  
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Four chicken and four cheese enchiladas, refried beans, monterey rice, homemade tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream.

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24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken tenders and hand cut fries.  
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**Tuesday:** Made in-house Italian sausage lasagna and a large house salad.  
*\$20.95 serves four*

**Wednesday:** Chicken or steak pot pie and a large salad.  
*\$20.95 serves four*

**Thursday:** Roasted meatloaf with mashed potatoes, gravy and a large salad.  
*\$20.95 serves four*

**Friday:** Wild caught fried shrimp, baked potatoes, hush puppies & coleslaw.  
*\$23.95 serves four*

**Saturday:** In-house smoked bbq, coleslaw, apple and bacon-baked beans, and yeast rolls.  
*\$19.95 serves four*

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Monday through Thursday 4:30 to close  
16 inch New York style pizza with up to 5 toppings or baked pasta with either italian sausage or chicken. Both come with garlic bread and salad.  
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## ...TOURISM continued from page 1

since 2009 using data supplied by Smith Travel Research, a leading source of information for the hospitality industry, to develop the third annual October tourism forecast for 21 counties in WNC. New for this year's forecast is the inclusion of three counties on the Tennessee side of the park.

"The class took into account factors that influence travel demand during October in the area including dramatically falling gas prices, an expanding array of fall festivals and events, new attractions and venues, new destination marketing and promotion programs, and, best of all, predictions of a vibrant fall color show in the Smoky Mountain and Blue Ridge region this year," Morse said.

"Gas prices in the Southeast are about 22 percent lower now than at this time last year," he said. "The lower gas prices in 2015 means that the average family has an additional \$1,100 to spend in disposable income that they are not spending on gas."

Among the fall foliage forecasters cited by the students is Kathy Mathews, WCU associate professor of biology, who is calling for one of the best leaf-looking seasons in recent years because of drier-than-normal conditions in 2015.

In the tourism study, the WCU students divided 21 WNC counties into five groups, adding a group for the Tennes-

see counties. The students examined the total number of hotel rooms sold and the overall occupancy rates for October 2014; compared weekday and weekend occupancy rates from last October; and determined the average change in the number of hotel nights sold for October during the previous three years.

The students' predictions for North Carolina regions:

Region 1 – Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Macon counties: A 5.2 percent increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. Among the reasons for the increase, the students said, is the opening this fall of the new Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino in Murphy.

Region 2 – Haywood, Jackson, Transylvania and Swain counties: A 4.4 percent increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. Among the factors, the students said, are increased entertainment options this fall at Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Resort and three home football games at WCU this October.

Region 3 – Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, Watauga and Wilkes counties: A 5 percent increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. Contributing factors include proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway coupled with falling gas prices, the students said.

gists are predicting a light hurricane season in the Atlantic this year, partly because of dry air over the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean caused by El Nino, and that reduces the chances of heavy rain and big wind storms in the mountains in August and September – good news for the leaf display, Mathews said.

Leaf peepers always want to know when the "peak color" will happen, but the timing of the color change is highly dependent on the decreasing amount of sunlight that comes with the passing days, plus the elevation of a particular location, she said. "The peak of fall color often arrives during the first and second week of October in the highest elevations, above 4,000 feet, and during the third week of October in the mid-elevations, 2,500 to 3,500 feet," Mathews said. Visitors can look for leaves to be peaking in color intensity a few days after the first reported frost in any particular area, she said.

Regardless of all the factors that affect leaf color, visitors to Western NC will always find a pleasing leaf display somewhere in the mountains from September into November, with a wide range of color made possible by the region's elevations ranging from 1,500 feet to over 6,000 feet and the more than 100 tree species, Mathews said.

Region 4 – Burke, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell and Yancey counties: A 5 percent increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. The students again cited proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway and cheaper gasoline as reasons behind the expected increase.

Region 5 – Buncombe and Henderson counties: A 4.2 percent increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. "A 4.2 percent increase for this October over last year is a very significant uptick for an already-strong tourism market in the Buncombe and Henderson areas," Morse said. "They have launched new destination advertising and promotions programs and have extended their media reach into new feeder cities, with an increase in festivals and events around the growing craft beer industry."

The students' predictions for the three Tennessee counties:

Sevier County: A 4.2 increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. The students cited the strong tourism market in Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge and Sevierville supplemented by new attractions and restaurants including Dollywood's new four-star family resort hotel called Dream-More, the Jimmy Buffet-themed Margaritaville hotel and restaurant in Pigeon Forge and the Rocky Top Sports World complex

in Gatlinburg.

Blount and Monroe counties: A 4.1 increase in October 2015 tourism compared to last October. Contributing factors include the expected vibrant fall colors and lower gas prices, prompting more travel along Cades Cove in Great Smoky Mountains National Park and along the Cherokee Skyway from Tellico Plains in Tennessee to Robbinsville in North Carolina.

The October tourism forecast is part of a series of reports about travel trends in the mountain region provided by Morse and his students. For more information about WCU's Hospitality and Tourism Program, visit the website [hospitalityandtourism.wcu.edu](http://hospitalityandtourism.wcu.edu). For a copy of the tourism forecast report, call 828-227-3386 or email Steve Morse at [scmorse@wcu.edu](mailto:scmorse@wcu.edu).

## ...FOLIAGE continued from page 1

in plant systematics and bases her color forecast on both past and predicted weather conditions. She believes the formation of higher levels of pigments in the leaves correlates with dry weather throughout the year, but especially as fall arrives.

"This fall could be one of the best leaf color seasons in Western North Carolina in recent memory," Mathews said. "Three words explain it – unusually dry weather."

U.S. Geological Survey records indicate that the region had been drier than normal for most of the year, but with enough rain, particularly in the months of April and June, to avoid drought and keep the trees healthy, she said.

Sugar concentrations in the leaves increase during dry weather because the trees are not taking up as much water through their roots, Mathews said. The abundance of sugars leads to the production of more anthocyanins, the red pigments that appear when green chlorophylls begin receding. "That's what causes the leaf colors to really pop, along with the simultaneous appearance of orange and yellow pigments on the same or different tree species," she said.

Some foliage fans may be wondering if the much-publicized El Nino weather pattern may affect the fall colors. Meteorolo-

## ...BUDGET continued from page 7

grade classrooms. Once that requirement is met, the additional eight teacher assistant positions will be distributed where needed.

Dr. Baldwin noted that as a county, Macon County education leaders make it a priority that all Kindergarten classrooms have teacher assistants, which would be a priority when debating where the additional funding will be spent.

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## Sept. 17 Town Board tidbits

Following a long discussion about Knotweed at the Town Board meeting last Thursday, commissioners agreed to provide \$2,500 toward the eradication of knotweed on town rights-of-way within the town limits.

Members of the Land Stewards were present and passionately discussed the need to reinstate the eradication program that was recommended and started in 2006.

Complete eradication of the plant that smothers native plants and thereby affects habitats of native birds, rodents and insects, requires a multi-year program.

Commissioners didn't have a problem with resurrecting the program, they just didn't want town employees doing it.

The Land Stewards said as in the past they would hire a licensed person to perform the task which would involve erecting barriers behind the knotweed to keep the

poison – Round Up – from killing neighboring plants.

Commissioner Brian Stiehler, who is licensed to apply pesticides, was appointed as a liaison to ensure the right person and correct techniques were used to eradicate the plant.

Applications of Round Up must be done in two 3-week cycles before the first frost.

### Recreation Fee Update

Now that the pool is up and running Parks and Recreation Director Lester Norris said it was time to look at and possibly adjust the recreation fees.

The board agreed and so adjustments were made.

Most of the adjustments involved the pool. Those who have already purchased memberships to the pool or the pool and

• See TIDBITS page 11



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# Bird flu precautions could cause shortage of turkeys

Since it was first identified in the United States in December 2014 in the Pacific Northwest, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), aka, the Bird Flu, has been detected in commercial and backyard poultry flocks, wild birds, or captive wild birds in 21 states.

While the impact has been felt across the country, in Macon County, fairgoers noticed that the traditional poultry entries at the fair were missing this year due to the state's ban on poultry exhibitions to avoid spreading the Bird Flu.

Although a new case of the Bird Flu hasn't been detected since June, since December 2014, 211 commercial and 21 backyard poultry premises have been affected, resulting in a depopulation of 7.5 million turkeys and 42.1 million egg-laying and pullet chickens. The outbreak has resulted in devastating effects to businesses in the industry, and a cost to federal taxpayers of over \$950 million.

With migration season for birds beginning in October, Dr. Jimmy Villiard, personal health section administrator for the Macon County Health Department, updated the board of health last week on the county's preparedness and response plan to prevent further impact in Macon County.

"Our fall planning activities assumed a worst-case scenario beginning in mid-September, with HPAI occurring simultaneously in multiple sectors of the poultry industry throughout the nation," said Villiard.

## ...TIDBITS continued from page 10

fitness center package can either get a refund or apply the balance to another Rec Park amenity.

The fee for an individual to swim for a month was reduced from \$50 to \$35; \$85 for three months in the summer and \$250 annually.

A family (regardless of its numbers) can swim for \$7 a day, \$55 for a month, \$140 for three months in the summer or \$425 per year – that is down from the original \$500 a year.

Water aerobics is \$4 per class or \$30 per month (12 visits)

Pool parties are \$75 with a \$50 deposit.

Pool with Fitness memberships are \$10 per day for an individual; \$55 for a month, \$120 for three months in the summer or \$300 annually.

Pool with Fitness for a family is \$18 per day; \$90 per month; \$200 for three months in the summer or \$525 annually.

Corporations with 10 or less employee

"Under this scenario, 500 or more commercial establishments of various sizes across a large geographical area could be affected, including commercial high-volume poultry establishments, the live bird marketing system, and backyard flocks."

The additional local impact due to bird migration possibility spreading the Bird Flu won't be known until it hits, but according to Macon County Board of Health Director Jim Bruckner, the migration path for birds is a direct flight through Macon County. With a devastating loss in mid-west states already, the Bird Flu has a potential to impact the availability of turkeys this Thanksgiving.

According to Villard, stockpiling turkeys for Thanksgiving begins in December, and with knowledge of the outbreak in Dec. 2014, the industry began preparing for 2015, which as of May, has resulted in a 3 percent increase in turkeys. But with turkeys in the midwest and soon to be North Carolina still awaiting further impact, it is likely that turkey prices will increase this Thanksgiving and a shortage will be experienced across the country.

As part of the county's response plan, signs to look for in birds were identified as a lack of energy and appetite, decreased egg production or soft/mishapen eggs, swelling of the head, eyelids and comb; purple discoloration of the wattles, combs and legs; stumbling, falling down, diarrhea; and sudden death.

can pay \$1,000 annually for a pool/fitness pass; those with 10-25 employees pay \$1,500 and those with 25+ employees pay \$2,000 per year.

The monthly cost for tennis was reduced to \$20 from \$60.

Fees for the After School Program were adjusted, too.

The daily charge is \$2 per child. The Rec Camp is \$3 for the first child per hour, \$24 daily or \$135 weekly. Each additional child is \$2 per hours, or \$18 per day or \$90 per week.

There are also pre-paid specials for Rec Camp. The full session is \$800 for the first child; \$450 for 4 weeks, or \$120 per week. For each additional child it's \$400 for the full session, \$224 for 4 weeks and \$75 per week.

The K-H Founders Park rate is now \$200 for the weekend instead of \$250 per day.

Lastly, Friends of the Park officially signed Phase 2 of the park over to the town.

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# HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS

## Ongoing

• Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. To sign up contact Coach Steve Hott at 828-421-2121.

• Anyone interested in taking Adult, Child and Infant First Aid/CPR/AED certification class needs to contact the Highlands Recreation Department and get on the list for the class. You will learn how to respond to first aid, cardiac and breathing emergencies. Upon completion attendees receive certification from the American Red Cross. Please pre register we need a minimum of 6 for the class and a maximum class size of 16. Once we have enough signed up for a class we will schedule the class.

### Mon.-Sat.

• Nantahala Tennis Club meets at 9a.m to noon each day. All visitors welcome.

### Mon. Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun.

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

### Mondays

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

• The Humanist Discussion Group meets every Monday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 in the Meeting Room in the back of Hudson Library. Interested persons are invited to participate.

### Mon. & Wed.

• Zumba with Mary K. Barbour at the Rec Park from noon to 1p. For more information, call 828.342.2498.

• Donation Based Family Fitness Class at The Nature Center every Monday at noon and Wednesday at 7pm for Teens and Adults,

### Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class 8:30am-9:30am at the Rec Park.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.\

### First Tuesdays

• The monthly family support group for those with family members, friends, or loved ones living with the

challenge of mental illness meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7p.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Road, Franklin. This group is sponsored by the local affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). For more information: Ann 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 K-H Founders Park Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. 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](http://www.occupywnc.org) or call 828.331.1524

### Tuesday and Thursdays

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

• Pickle ball is played from 9:30-11a in the gym at the Rec Park.

### 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.

### 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.

• Live music at Satulah Mountain Brewing Company with Jimandi, a local duo, 7:30-10:30p.

### Thursdays

• Storytimes with Miss Deanna at Hudson Library 10:40 am. 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

### Fridays

• 99ers Bridge at the Rec Park 9a to noon.

### Last Fri. of each month

• Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor from 11a to noon at The Hudson Library.

### Fridays and Saturdays:

• The Highlands Historical Museum is open every Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.. On display is a Botanical History of the Highlands Plateau, a gallery of local photographs by George Masa, and presentations of Mary Lapham's TB Sanatorium, the Moccasin War of 1885, Abraham Lincoln's alleged origins, Joe Webb's tools, and books and DVDs about Highlands history. For more information, email [highlandshistory@nctv.com](mailto:highlandshistory@nctv.com).

### Fridays

• Live music in Town Square from 6-8p. (Through Oct. 23, weather permitting)



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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Saturdays

• Highlands Marketplace in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street from 9a to 2p.

• Children's Story Hour with Nonnie (Diane McPhail) at Shakespeare & Company in Village Square at 11 a.m.

• At the Rec Park, MMA Fitness Class is being offered Saturdays at 1:30pm with Moses Machida. NHB Pankration, Muay Thai, Boxing and BJJ combined into an hour long fast paced interactive class. The class combines plyometric, strength training, MMA techniques, explosive cardio and self-defense into one class. • At Mountain-Top Wine Shoppe on Main Street, free wine tasting from 1-3 p.m.

## Thurs., Oct. 1

• Life Chain at 1:30p in front of the First Baptist Church of Highlands. Prayer hour is 2-3p. LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

## Fri., Oct. 2

• The Macon County Public Library, Nantahala Community Library and Hudson Library will be closed for staff training.

• At PAC, Fifty Years of the Beatles *Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience* at 8pm. Tickets are available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047. Presented by Dan & Beth Riley. This show takes the incredible music of The Beatles and personalizes it with the stories and perspectives of audience members. Depending on the audience's participation, the show will last 2 1/2 to 3 hours.

## Sat., Oct 3

• Roll Into Reading on Saturday from 10a to noon at the Macon County Public Library. For more information, call the library's children's

department at 828-24-3600

• Highlands School Fall Festival at the Rec Park from 5-9p.

• At PAC, Live in HD Series. At 12:55p Il Trovatore and at 7p, The Audience. For tickets call 828-526-9047.

## Sun., Oct. 4

• Empty Bowls, 11:30a - 1:30p at the First Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$20 and includes hand-pottered bowl, soup, bread, dessert and a drink. Proceeds go to the Food Pantry of Highlands.

• "Highlands on the Half-Shell" the Highlands Biological Station. Oysters, gumbo, jazz & Bloody Mary bar. 12:30-3:30p. Tickets are \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. To purchase tickets, visit [www.highlandsbiological.org/half-shell/](http://www.highlandsbiological.org/half-shell/).

## Mon., Oct. 5

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will meet at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. The speaker will be Dan Rankin, Region 1 Fisheries Coordinator for the SC Depart. of Natural Resources. will present "Overview of Trout Management in Upstate SC" at 6 PM with a fly tying demonstration followed by Dan's presentation at 7 PM. A raffle will be held after the presentation with a chance to win the grand prize of a day's fishing on the private waters of the Davidson River Outfitters. Call Doug at 828-787-1230 or John at 678-353-4313 with your questions.

## Tues., Oct. 6

• The October meeting of the Western North Carolina Woodturners Club, Inc. will be on Tuesday at 6PM at the Alternative School in Sylva, N.C. The school is located on Skyland Drive, Sylva NC. Drive to the back of the school to the wood working shop. Visitors are always welcome. The club meets in Sylva the first Tuesday of every month.

## Through October 7

• Macon County Youth Girls basketball registration at the Highlands Recreation Department, Macon County Community Building or on-line at [maconcountygirlsbasketball.com](http://maconcountygirlsbasketball.com).

• Instructional Basketball Registra-

tion for boys and girls ages 4-5 at the Highlands Recreation Department. Players must be 4 by October 1st, 2015.

## Wed., Oct. 7

• At Kilwin's a fundraiser for the

5th grade trip to Charleston, SC. 50% of all sales on Wednesday will go toward the trip.

• Kayak Roll Clinic at the Rec Park pool from 6-7: Bring a friend

• See EVENTS page 21

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## All Male Beauty Pageant coming Oct. 12

The Highlands Bolivian Mission is announcing its All Male Beauty Pageant to be held at the Highlands Playhouse on Monday, Oct. 12 at 8PM. There will be a complimentary wine bar beginning at 7PM sponsored by Bryson's Food Store.

Tickets are available at Wil-

son's Gas, Dr. Baker's office at the Woodruff Building, second floor and by calling 526-3605. Order early as the Playhouse holds only 220 seats.

Dr. Baumrucker stated, "This is our big fundraiser for the year. Every other year we have an auction at one of the country clubs

and on the odd numbered years (not a coincidence that it is the odd years) we hold the beauty pageant. This is a fun filled event with 12-15 well known men from the community who care enough about the mission and all its good works to make fools of themselves for the good of the mission. We compete in three categories, evening gown, talent, and lingerie. It is all good fun and it is an easy way to support the mission. The \$100 donation per ticket is all tax deductible as we guarantee the patrons will receive nothing of value for their donation. This year's

theme will be "Show Tunes and Classics." Normally we don't allow previous winners of the coveted title of "Missed Highlands" to win again, but this year's competition is going to be open to all and there are 6 previous winners in the show this year so it should be a great event. Cynthia Rosen will be the MC again and she brings a little class to the show."

The mission supports medical concern of the poor in Montero, Bolivia and 12 houses have been built, but the main focus of the mission in now the foster home where 21 boys now re-

side. Three of the boys, having reached 18 years old, have now come to the United States as exchange students to learn English well and to see the possibilities of what life can be like. Dr. John said, "I want our boys to become great Bolivians, not good Americans. English will be a great advantage as they go out into their world as adults."

Tickets are available at Wilson's Gas, Dr. Baker's office at the Woodruff Building, second floor and by calling 526-3605. Order early as the Playhouse holds only 220 seats.



## Highlands Own Arts & Crafts Show and HomeTown Day Nearing

With less than two weeks to go, the Town of Highlands has been working hard to gather crafters from near and far to join the 33rd annual Highlands Own Arts & Crafts Show and to make the 3rd annual HomeTown Day another success. On Saturday, October 10th, 2015, the Town hopes residents and visitors alike will come out to support both events.

The Highlands Own Arts & Crafts Show will be held at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 North 4th Street, from 9am until 4pm. With closet and profes-

sional crafters showcasing a variety of merchandise from jams, jellies, bread, to paintings, jewelry and crochet or knitted items. There is sure to be something that appeals to all. The Highlands Chapter #284 Order of the Eastern Star will be serving breakfast and lunch featuring Dennis "Doc" Wilson's famous barbeque.

HomeTown Day activities will be hosted at Kelsey Hutchinson Founders Park, 441 Pine Street. Activities will include craft and farmers' market vendors, food,

music, clogging and activities for the whole family. This year's performers will be the Boys from Tuckasegee and Highway 74, also featured at this year's Mountain Heritage Day at WCU.

Information can be found at [www.highlandscnc.org](http://www.highlandscnc.org) or by contacting Rebecca Shuler at Town Hall by phone (828)526.2118, by email [rebecca.shuler@highlandscnc.org](mailto:rebecca.shuler@highlandscnc.org), or mail PO Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741. All proceeds and donations will benefit the Highlands Scholarship Fund.

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## Highlands on the Half Shell, Sunday, Oct 4 at the Highlands Biological Station

On Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> a group of Highlands residents and supporters of the Highlands Biological Foundation are hosting "Highlands on the Half-Shell" on the campus of the Highlands Biological Station. Feast on oysters and gumbo while enjoying the energetic tunes of Asheville's Firecracker Jazz Band and our Bloody Mary Bar. The Highlands Biological Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides critical support for the Biological Station and it's three facets: the Nature Center, Botanical Garden and Biological Laboratory. Thanks to the generosity of members and



community residents, admission to the Nature Center and Botanical Garden is free and numerous students and research projects are funded at the Highlands Biological Station. Please Join us to support the mission of the Highlands Biological Station: "To foster research and education focused on the rich natural heritage of the southern Appalachian mountains." Knowing that your support is directly contributing to conservation efforts, research and education to better understand the exceptional organisms in the southern Appalachian Mountains, you'll find that oysters and gumbo have never tasted – and jazz never sounded - so good.

The fun starts at 12:30pm and will last until 3:30. Come dressed in your favorite "Cajun casual." Tickets are \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. To purchase tickets, visit [www.highlandsbiological.org/half-shell/](http://www.highlandsbiological.org/half-shell/). This event is hosted by Nancy & Lyle Nichols, Martha & Hal Stibbs, Jennie & Sto Stowers, Cookie & Harrison Jones, Julia & Bill Grumbles, Amanda & Greg Gregory, Vevie & Lawrence Dimmitt, Paul Sanger, Diane & Ray McPhail, Miriam & Vernon Skiles, Glenda & Griffin Bell and Ruth and Barry Edwards.



### Fill an 'empty bowl' with food

The Empty Bowls Project is an international effort to fight hunger. Come share a bowl of soup and bread in one of 400 bowls meticulously hand-crafted by regional potters.

Guests are encouraged to keep the hand-crafted bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Food Pantry of Highlands, a project of the International Friendship Center & the Highlands United Methodist Church.

For tickets may be purchased day of the event Sunday, Oct. 4 from 11:30a-1:30p at the Presbyterian Church office or by calling 828.482.0558

**Homecoming at  
Blue Valley Baptist Church  
is this Sunday,  
October 4th at 10:am,  
featuring Heartstrings.**

## Read2Me "Reading Matters in Macon"

According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a division of the U.S. Department of Education, children who are read to at home enjoy a substantial advantage over children who are not.

Since their inception, Read2Me has been working to spread their mission, "Reading matters in Macon," across the county. Each fall, Read2Me teams up with the Western Mountain Reading Council and the Macon County Public Library to host a fun, family-filled parent training event to teach parents of preschool children the importance of raising a reader.

This year's parent training event is themed "Roll Into Reading," and is entirely free to the public. The parents and children will

"We are so excited to be teaming up with Smoky Mountain Bicycles this year to host a bicycle safety course in conjunction with our parent training," said Brittany Raby, member of Read2Me. "Western Mountain Reading Council will be hosting activity tables inside the library for parents and their preschool children, and then families can step out into the library parking lot to get their helmet's fitting checked and have their bike's inspected by the pros from Smoky Mountain Bicycles."

There will be door prizes and snacks and every child in attendance will be given a free book to take home.

"We encourage families to bring their bicycles out to take a ride on the course that will be set up and to make sure their helmets are fitted properly and our safe," said Raby. "The arts and crafts planned for the event will all fall into the 'Roll Into Reading' theme and will be great for all ages. We are so excited to be hosting our 4th annual parent training event!"

Roll Into Reading is scheduled for Saturday, October 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Macon County Public Library. For more information, call the library's children's department at 828.524.3600.



The Metropolitan Opera **HD** LIVE

*Il Trovatore*  
Verdi

Saturday  
October 3  
12:55pm  
Pre-Opera  
Discussion 12:30

\$26 Adults  
\$22 Members

**Live in HD Series**

With Special Permission an  
Encore Screening of :

**National Theatre of London**

*The Audience*

Saturday  
October 3  
7pm

\$22 Adults  
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Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street  
Tickets available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047

# Shop & Leaf Look through Highlands



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Sat., Oct. 10, artist Lisa  
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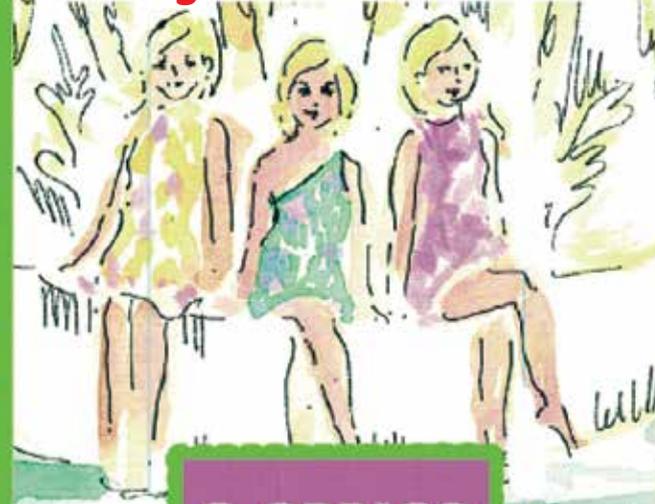


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## Double billing Live in HD at PAC Sunday, Oct. 3: Met Opera Il Trovatore and later The Audience

Highlands Performing Arts Center's Live in HD Series presents two performances on Saturday, October 3. MET Opera: Il Trovatore (Verdi) at 12:55pm with a Pre-Opera discussion at 12:30pm. The National Theatre of London: by special permission, another Encore screening of The Audience starring Helen Mirren at 7pm. Tickets available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047.



Helen Mirren in *The Audience*.



## Fifty Years of the Beatles Yesterday & Today

*The Interactive Beatles Experience* at the Highlands Performing Arts Center on Friday, October 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047.

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# • INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

## Highlands is Truly Heaven!

One of the benefits of being a real estate Broker in this special area is the remarkable clients one meets. A special couple came into my life six weeks ago, and the lure of Highlands started the relationship.



**Jody Lovell**  
Highlands/Sotheby's  
828-526-4104  
highlandssir.com

on the Plateau, I insisted on picking her up at the Asheville airport: I was concerned about a first-time visitor to the state of North Carolina, let alone this area, feeling comfortable by herself driving on our mountain roads. After a delightful, chatty trip to Highlands and dinner at a club full of

welcoming people, we started our home search the next day. By the end of the day, she had picked out a home, made an offer (with her husband in tow by phone) and we successfully negotiated the contract the next day.

This darling couple came this week and closed on their home. They keep enthusiastically claiming that they feel "they died and went to heaven." They have traveled extensively and said that none of the towns including Nantucket, the Hamptons nor Aspen compare to our sweet town of Highlands. This constant validation of why we are all here reminds me daily not to take our environment for granted.

Wood and I visited Monticello last year. Thomas Jefferson's quote on October 12, 1786 still resonates in my heart about Highlands this

October 1, 2015:

"How sublime to look down into the workhouse of nature, to see her clouds, hail, snow, rain, thunder, all fabricated at our feet! And the glorious Sun, when rising

out of a distant water, just gilding the tops of the mountains, and giving life to all nature!"

Happy Fall to everyone!!

Jody and Wood Lovell own Highlands Sotheby's International

Realty with a new location at the corner of Main Street and Highway 64. With a strong team of Brokers, please call 828 526 4104 or 526 8300 to have them help you with your real estate needs.

## • REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOTS •

### Beautiful Building Lot in Town



Beautiful building lot situated on one of Highlands' most popular, walk-to-town quiet lanes. Paved, easy access and adjoins the Bascom Campus (you are just a few steps from the Bascom's Sculpture Trail that leads from Oak Lane to the Bascom's main building). Tuck your home amongst the trees for privacy, while enjoying proximity to all of Highlands' Main Street offerings.

**Offered at \$188,000. MLS #82512.**  
Contact Susie deVile (828) 371-2079.

### Vacant Lot in Town



Incredible opportunity for vacant commercial land in town. Excellent access and visibility from Hwy 64W and Oak Street. Adjoins the Bascom Campus. Zoned B-4, multiple uses are permitted at this site.

**Offered at \$375,000. MLS #82405.**  
Contact Susie deVile (828) 371-2079.

### Easy Living in HFCC.



Beautiful home with lovely stream view in Laurelwood community of Highlands Falls Country Club. 3BR/2BA with open floor plan, large kitchen with breakfast areas and a wet bar. Master suite is on one end of the house; guest bedrooms on the other. Stone fireplace. Open and covered deck with double attached garage. Easy one-level living

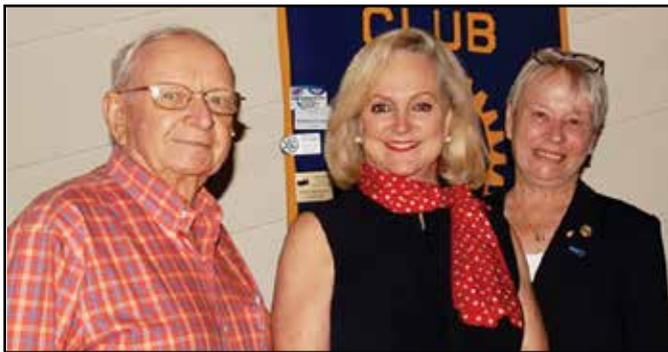
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Commercial Property w/Excellent Visibility



5-Star, undeveloped commercial property with excellent visibility from Hwy 64 West, egress/ingress from Hwy 64 West & Oak Street, and gentle topography for easy building sites. Zoned B-3, this 2.48 +/- acre parcel affords numerous opportunities for development. Comprised of two parcels [PINs 7540-22-2080 (.65 +/- acres) and 7540-21-4736 (1.83 +/- acres)].

**Offered at \$4,100,000. MLS #82404.**  
Contact Susie deVile (828) 371-2079.

## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



Luther Turner, Pat Allen and President Christy Kelly.

Pat Allen, who is known for her culinary skills as well as being a successful Real Estate Broker and owner of Pat Allen Realty, has written several cook books, the most recent being "Mouth of the South." Pat totally charmed the group of Rotarians when she expressed her willingness to join Rotary and participate in the many functions and good works done by the group. Her energy and many skills will be an asset to The Rotary Club of Highlands.



**Susie deVile**  
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## Familiar faces assume new roles at the Highlands Playhouse

You might see a familiar face, or two, if you come by the Highlands Playhouse this winter. Jimmy Lewis, a beloved stage veteran over the past three seasons, has joined the Playhouse team as they begin work on next year's season. Joining him is Kameron Stambaugh, who has served the Playhouse in a variety of roles over the past three years – including intern, performer, and Box Of-

fice Manager. These two up-and-coming theatre artists will be handling the day to day operations, while Artistic Director William Patti maintains his role on a part-time basis during the off season.

"I love the area and community," Lewis says, "so when they asked me to come back and ensure that next season is as incredible as the past three, I immediately said yes!"

Jimmy will take on the role of Outreach Coordinator, becoming the liaison between the town and the Playhouse. "After meeting so many patrons at the shows and interacting with other community members around town, I am excited to get to know each of them, make sure they know how important they are to the Playhouse, and to express how much their support means to people like myself."

The Outreach Coordinator is a new role that Playhouse President Scott Allbee thinks will revitalize community engagement. "Jimmy is perhaps the most popular performer we have had over the past five or six years. We wanted to bring him in to develop our patron base and engage with the Highlands community. The people of this town are our lifeblood, and we need to create, develop, and enrich those relationships. Jimmy is the perfect person for the job, and we are thrilled to have him." Stambaugh, who is being promoted to Theatre Manager, has spent the past few months as the theatre's Box Office Manager. Her original contract only kept her in Highlands through Labor Day. "I'm so thrilled to be taking this posi-

tion on full time. I fell in love with this theatre and community in 2013, and that love has only grown over the past few months," Stambaugh confessed. Her responsibilities will include overseeing the movie theatre, Playhouse staff, and advertising and social media. "Kameron is an incredible dedicated employee. She works long hours, and always commits to getting the job done. We were thrilled when she agreed to stay with us," Allbee said.

"The Playhouse has been moving in such a positive direction and I can't wait to continue moving forward," Lewis says. "We had such a successful summer that I think we can only keep moving up. I'm just excited to be a part of it," Stambaugh added. "The Highlands Playhouse is one of the oldest professional theatres in the country. We have grown leaps and bounds over the past few years, and this past year – I might argue, was our strongest season yet. This infusion of young blood, with fresh ideas and bold initiatives will give the Playhouse the ability to continue to grow. It is an exciting time for all of us," Patti concluded.

### CALLING ALL HIGHLANDS LEAF PEEPERS!



©Clay Bolt

Have you wondered about the science behind the natural artistry of fall foliage color change? Related phenomena like the reddening of Galax and other evergreen herbs in winter? How about the economics of leaf peeping? This is the program to answer these questions and more about seasonal foliage color change!

The Highlands Biological Station is pleased to team up with our friends at the CLE to co-sponsor "Appreciating Fall Foliage Color: Where Science Meets Art Meets Economics," with Dr. Howard Neufeld of Appalachian State University.

**Thursday, October 8th, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

The first half of this 2-hour program will take place in the CLE classroom at the Peggy Crosby Center. The second half will be enjoyed outdoors on a fall foliage walk through the gardens and grounds of the Highlands Biological Station.

For information about costs and to register for this program please go to:

<http://www.clehighlands.org/register-here.html>  
(Walk-in registrations are welcome)

*A member of the HBS Board of Directors, Dr. Neufeld is a plant physiologist who has studied the biology of leaves and their physiological adaptations. For many years he was the Alan Greenspan of fall foliage forecasting for the North Carolina Department of Commerce!*

**Don't forget the El Capitan class on  
October 6, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$70/\$80.**



The spacious grounds and unique buildings of The Bascom are available for rent. Large, medium and small-sized venues for receptions, weddings, meetings and other gatherings are available to the entire community.

The Main Building Atrium and Terrace can accommodate numerous guests, while The Horst Winkler Sculpture Trail's Pavilion would be the perfect site for an intimate ceremony with a small reception. Whether you are planning your only daughter's wedding, corporate board meeting and retreat, company party, or large birthday bash for your best friends, The Bascom has a unique setting for every special occasion.

The Bascom's list of approved caterers will provide many choices for you to have the perfect event.



## ...EVENTS continued from page 13

and kayak if you have one and enjoy the clinic. A couple of kids boats will be available.

### Tues., Oct. 8

• The Franklin Appalachian Trail Community Council (FATCC) will be meeting Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Lazy Hiker Brewery's Event Room.

• The October meeting of the Western North Carolina Woodturners Club, Inc. will be on Thursday at 6PM at the Blue Ridge School in Glenville, NC. The School is located at 95 Bobcat Drive, Cashers NC. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors are always welcome. The club meets in Glenville the second Thursday of every month March through November.

### Sat., Oct. 10

• The Christmas Tree "on Main" welcomes artist/designer Lisa Kelechava of joy to the World for a signing of her collectible designs including The Christmas Tree's sixth in a series of Highlands inspired ornaments. Hours 1PM to 4PM. Pre-orders are welcome. For information call (828) 526-3687.

• Highlands Own Arts &

Craft Show at the Rec Park from 9a to 4p.

• Highlands Home Town Day in K-H Founders Park from 11a to 3p.

### Mon., Oct. 12

• The Highlands Bolivian Mission is announcing its All Male Beauty Pageant to be held at the Highlands Playhouse on Monday at 8PM. Complimentary wine bar beginning at 7PM sponsored by Bryson's Food Store. Tickets are available at Wilson's Gas, Dr. Baker's office at the Woodruff Building, second floor and by calling 526-3605. Order early as the Playhouse holds only 220 seats.

### Sat., Oct. 17

• Fall Fest at Sky Valley, GA, from 10a to 4p. Cruise-In of antique vehicle, hot rods and classics begins at 10a; Live music on two main stages, arts, crafts and food vendors, hay rides and waterfall tours, children's area with pumpkin painting, games, inflatables and more. Hay Bale Trail and Scarecrow Row. For more information call 706-746-2204 or visit [www.skyvalleyga.com](http://www.skyvalleyga.com). Free admission.

### Nov. 5-8

• Highlands 9th Annual

## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



At the Highlands Rotary meeting, Thomas Craig introduced Bill Edwards of Southern Wine & Spirits. Bill provided interesting information on how the distribution of wine and spirits is handled. This very complex process is different from state to state; involving the federal and state governments. Bill also gave a brief history of the founder of Southern Wine & Spirits. He is self-made man who gives back to the community.



## Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience

Friday, October 2 8pm

Presented by Dan & Beth Riley

Highlands Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street  
Tickets available online: [highlandspac.org](http://highlandspac.org) or by calling 828.526.9047



All Audience Request

Join us Saturday, October 10, 2015  
from 9am until 4pm  
at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 N. 4th Street,  
Highlands, NC 28741 for

THE TOWN OF  
HIGHLANDS

33rd annual

## Highlands Own Art & Craft Show

and

from 11am until 3pm  
at Kelsey Hutchinson Founder's Park,  
441 Pine Street, Highlands, NC 28741 for

## HomeTown Day

Activities will include 60+ fine arts, crafts and farmer's market vendors,  
live music, clogging, tractor hay rides, inflatables for children, and

The Boys from Tuckasee and Highway 74 will be  
performing at 11:30am, 12:15pm, 1:00pm & 1:45pm

All proceeds benefit the Highlands Scholarship Fund.

WHAT'S *for* DINNER?MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY  
DINNER TO GO MENU*Made Fresh & Served Hot!*

Mon - Sat pick-up from 4:30pm until 8pm.

Don't forget our Grill and Wood Fire Oven are open  
Every night until close*Each dinner feeds a family of four!*

**Monday: Serves 4 ... \$20.95 - Choose Either:**  
(Mexican Monday!) Four cheese and four chicken enchiladas, refried beans, monterey rice, homemade tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream.

-or-

24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken tenders &amp; hand-cut fries

**Tuesday: Serves 4 ... \$20.95**  
In-house-made Italian sausage lasagna with a large salad

**Wednesday: Serves 4 ... \$20.95**  
Chicken or steak pot pie and a large salad

**Thursday: Serves 4 ... \$20.95**  
Roasted meatloaf w/ mashed potatoes, gravy & a large salad

**Friday: Serves 4 ... \$23.95**  
Wild caught fried shrimp, baked potatoes, hush puppies, and coleslaw

**Saturday: Serves 4 ... \$20.95**  
In-house smoked bbq, coleslaw, apple and bacon baked beans, and yeast rolls

*Walk In Or Call Ahead To Reserve***Weekday Pizza Special:**

16" New York style pizza with up to 5 toppings & a large house salad or baked pasta: tomato sauce, & cheese with a choice of Italian sausage or crispy chicken. Comes w/ garlic bread & salad \$20.95  
*Both specials available monday through thursday 4:30 to close*

STORE OPENS MONDAY - SATURDAY  
AT 7 AM & SUNDAY AT 8 AM

Corner of Fifth &amp; Main, Highlands NC • (828) 526-2400

www.mfgro.com

**Eckerd Living Center residents celebrate  
Dahlia awards**

The dahlia garden in a courtyard at the Eckerd Living Center yielded three awards including "Best of Show" at the Dazzling Dahlia Show on September 12. Several residents in the picture are proudly displaying the award ribbons while standing beside the winning plants. Members of the Mountain Garden Club assist the residents in the courtyard gardens.

**Cashiers Community Fund awards grants  
totaling \$127,575**

The Cashiers Community Fund is pleased to announce \$127,575 in grants to nonprofits, including schools, food pantries, medical clinics and more, serving Cashiers and the surrounding region. Since 1994, the Cashiers Community Fund has awarded \$914,225 to projects serving the Cashiers community.

The recent grants include:

- Blue Ridge School Education Foundation -\$10,000 to support the Communities in School program at Blue Ridge School.
- Summit Charter School - \$9,860 to purchase iPad units for each middle school student.
- The Boys & Girls Club of the Plateau -\$10,000 to support the Triple Play Program.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of WNC - \$5,215 to expand the one-to-one mentoring program for children in the Cashiers community.
- Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust -

\$5,000 for Kids in Nature educational programs.

- Hampton School - \$10,000 toward support of high-quality child care for children, ages twelve months to twelve years,
- Cashiers Valley Preschool - \$10,000 for improvements to its facility.
- Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society - \$10,000 toward the new Adoption Center.
- Blue Ridge Mountains Health Project - \$10,000 for staffing and dental supplies.
- The Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers, Inc. - \$10,000 to support free health care services to uninsured, low-income residents.
- Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry - \$10,000 to provide free food to people in need.
- Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation - \$5,000 to upgrade communication technology for Cashiers Medical Center.

• See FUND page 23

# • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## Highlands School Class of 2005 celebrates 10th year reunion

Some members of the Class of 2005 took a tour of Highlands School on Labor Day weekend while celebrating their 10 year class reunion. It was unanimous - the former graduates thought the school had changed quite a bit...and so had they.

From left Chris Mouchet, Iyali Ruiz, Jessica Ziebarth, Erin Munger, Britany Sackman, Alex Osteen, McKenzie Thompson, Kathryn Coppage, and Chris Houston.

– Photo by Cathy McIntyre-Ross



## It's time for flu shots

Macon County Public Health Nursing Supervisor, Jennifer Garrett, RN, gave flu shots to participants at the Board of Health meeting, on September 22. The Macon County Board of Health encourages everyone to make a flu shot appointment today! Call (828) 349-2081.

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

278 East Doyle St. • Toccoa, GA

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- SINGLE VISIT CROWNS!
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SYSTEM



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20% Off Obagi® Products  
During Open House

30% Off Blue Peel When  
Scheduled During Open House

Obagi® Open House at the  
*Center for Plastic Surgery*

**Friday, Oct. 9**

**10a to 4p**

## ...FUND continued from page 22

- Life Challenge of WNC - \$10,000 to provide residential shelter for at-risk women in Jackson County.

- The Bascom - \$7,500 for the Community Arts Education Initiative.

“Our independent grant cycle allows us to respond to community needs by funding a diverse selection of nonprofits,” said Board Chair Tommy Valenta. “The Cashiers Community Fund was created, in partnership

with The Community Foundation, to serve our county’s needs, large and small. We are grateful to all who have supported the Fund and who help us meet our community’s needs now and in the future.”

The local volunteer Advisory Board works to raise awareness of the Cashiers Community Fund’s, capital campaigns and operating expenses.

To learn more about The Community Foundation, visit [www.cfwnc.org](http://www.cfwnc.org).

# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## This Thing is from Me

By David Jeremiah

Excerpt from "A Bend in the Road"

Submitted by Pastor Dan Robinson

Highlands Central Baptist Church

**M**y child, I have a message for you today. Let me whisper it in your ear, that it may gild with glory any storm clouds which may arise and smooth the rough places upon which you may have to tread. It is short – only five words – but let them sink into your inmost soul; use them as a pillow upon which to rest your weary head. . .

This Thing is from Me.

Have you every thought of it, that all that concerns you, concerns me, too? For "he that touches you, touches the apple of his eye." (Zechariah 2:8).

I would have you learn when temptations assail you and the enemy comes in like a flood, that his thing is from me, that your weakness needs. My might, and your safety lies in letting me fight for you.

You are very "precious in my sight" (Isaiah 43:4). Therefore it is my special delight to educate you.

Are you in money difficulties? Is it hard to make both ends meet? This thing is from me, for I am your purse-bearer, and would have you draw from and depend upon me. My supplies are limitless (Philippians 4:19) I would have you prove my promise. Let it not be said of you, 'you did not believe the Lord your God' (Deuteronomy 1:32).

Are you in difficult circumstances, surrounded by people who do not understand you, who never consult your taste, who put you in the background? This thing is from me. I am the God of circumstances. You came not to this place by accident; it is the very place God meant for you. Have you not asked to be made humble? See, then, I have placed you in the very school where this lesson is taught; your surroundings and companions are only working out my will.

Are you passing through a night of sorrow? This thing is from me. I am the "Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with grief." I have let early comforters fail you, that by turning to me, you may obtain everlasting consolation. (2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17).

Has some friend disappointed you? One to whom you opened out your heart? This thing is from me. I have allowed this disappointment to come, that you may learn.

I want to be your confidant. Has someone repeated things about you that are unfair? Leave them to me and draw closer to me, they shelter out of reach of "the strife of tongues," for I "shall bring forth my righteousness as the light, and my judgement as the noonday." (Psalm 37:6)

Have your plans been upset? Are you bowed down and weary? This thing is from me. You made your plans, then came asking me to bless them; but I would have you let me plan for you, and then I take the responsibility; for "this thing is too much for you, you are not able to perform it by yourself." (Exodus 18:18). You are only an instrument, not an agent.

Have you longed to do some great work for me and instead been bid aside on a bed of pain and weakness? This thing is from me. I could not get your attention in your busy days and I want to teach you some of my deep-

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 25

## 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: 7p.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

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

## John 3:16

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

### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, Nc • 743-2729

Pastor Nathan Johnson

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Sundays: Worship: 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

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

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

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

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

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

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

7pm Interservice 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.

### 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 Sept. 10. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

## Sept. 10

• At 2:15 p.m., a computer was reported stolen from a place of business on NC 106.

## Sept. 11

• A little after midnight, officers received a call from a residence on Harris Drive concerning a possible overdose of a person in the home.

## Sept. 12

• At noon, a mail box at a residence on Horse Cove Road was reported stolen.

• At 8:30 a.m., officers responded to a call about trespassing when someone told not to return to the Highlands Market Place did so.

## Sept. 14

• At 1:40 p.m., officers responded to a call about a solicitor at a business on Main Street.

## Sept. 15

• At 10 a.m., officers received a call about a missing gift card and money.

## Sept. 16

• At 2 p.m., officers responded to a call about a extremely intoxicated man with multiple self-inflicting lacerations on his neck and arms at a residence on Oak Street.

## Sept. 17

• At 7:16 a.m., officers received a call about a person possibly using a stolen credit card to pay for service at Mountain Motorworks.

• At 11 a.m., a resident reported a scam concerning the promise of a lump sum of cash winnings for money.

## Sept. 19

• At 9:10 a.m., Rutilla Rios Vasquez, 44, of Franklin, was arrested for driving without a license when he was pulled over at Bridal Veil Falls on U.S. 64 west.

• At 1:57 a.m., an assault on a female was reported outside The Lost Hiker on Carolina Way when she was thrown to the ground and the hand of a male trying to help was broken.

## Sept. 20

• At 1 p.m., the Highlands Smokehouse reported a patron leaving the restaurant without paying.

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

## Sept. 16

• At 7:20 p.m., the dept. investigated the cause of smoke at a residence on Oak Street. It was in an elevator but there was no fire.

## Sept. 17

• At 10:12 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at VZ Top.

## Sept. 18

• At 6:23 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Winterberry Court.

• At 9:52 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brookside Lane.

• At 10:26 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Church Street.

• At 3:08 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance on US 64 west where a tree had fallen on a car. There were no injuries.

## Sept. 19

• At 11:25 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brock Court.

## Sept. 21

• At 4:55 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire-alarm at a residence on Hummingbird Circle.

• At 10:48 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

## Sept. 22

• At 10:21 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.

## Sept. 23

• At 8:53 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Chestnut Street.

• At 11:10 a.m., the dept. stood by at the hospital for the MAMA helicopter as part of a demonstration.

• At 3:30 p.m., the dept. stood by at the hospital for the MAMA helicopter.

## Sept. 24

• At 10:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on Stoney Creek. It was called due to an odor from the furnace.

• At 2:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Spring Street.

• At 9:36 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Netsi Place.

## Sept. 25

• At 8:29 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 South.

• At 4:24 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Split Rail Road.

• At 7:04 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence

on Edwards Creek Road.

## Sept. 26

• At 4:32 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on NC 106.

## Sept. 27

• At 3:51 p.m., the dept. was

first-responders to a residence on Webbmont Road.

## Sept. 28

• At 10:56 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC. 106.



October, 4 2015

First Baptist Church

Highlands, NC

Prayer hour 2:00-3:00pm

\*LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

## HIGHLANDS EMPTY BOWLS Event

*An effort to fight hunger*



*Your bowl will help feed  
a family in need*



**To Benefit  
The Food Pantry of Highlands**

For more information call Sharon Giddens @828.482.0558 or  
Faviola Olivera at the IFC Office @828.526.0890

**All Ages  
Welcome**

**Cost**

\$20 –meal and  
keepsake bowl

Children under  
12 eat free but do  
not receive a bowl

**Tickets**

May be  
purchased day of  
the event

**When**

Sunday  
October 4th, 2015  
11:30 to 1:30

**Where**

First  
Presbyterian  
Church of  
Highlands

## ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 24

est lessons, "They also serve who only stand and wait." Some of my greatest workers are those shut out from active service that they may learn to wield the weapon of prayer.

Are you suddenly called upon to occupy a difficult and responsible position? Launch out on me. I am trusting you with the possession of difficulties. "for this thing the Lord our God will bless you in all your works and in all to which you put your hand." (Deuteronomy 15:10).

This day I place in your hands this pot of holy oil; make use of it freely, my child. Let every circumstance as it arises, every word that pains you, every interruption that would make you impatient, every revelation of your own weakness, be anointed with it! Remember, interruptions are divine instructions. The sting will go as you learn to see me in all things.

Therefore, "set your hearts on all the words which I testify among you today ... for it is not a futile thing for you, because it

is your life, and by this work you shall prolog your days in the land" (Deuteronomy 32: 46, 47.)

The moment we accept the fact that our ordeal has been permitted, even intended by God, our perspective on disruptive moments will totally change. We will find ourselves saying, "God, you have allowed this in my life. I don't understand it, but I know that It couldn't have happened to me unless it was filtered through your loving hands. So, this thing is for you."

# • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## Cullasaja Women's Outreach donates \$130,500 in support of Highlands; has donated over \$855,000 to Highlands-Cashiers not-for-profits since 2006

Cullasaja Women's Outreach (CWO) today announced the results of its 2015 fundraising efforts to advance the charitable works of not-for-profit organizations in the Highlands and Cashiers communities. The grassroots organization raised \$130,500 this past season. Since its inception in 2006, Cullasaja Women's Outreach

has invested over \$855,000 in the Highlands and Cashiers area not-for-profits—a phenomenal amount for an independent grassroots organization made up of about 80 women from the Cullasaja Club community.

Funds raised this year were awarded to 19 organizations in the Highlands-Cashiers area through a sophisticated grants process

led by CWO Grant Co-Chairs Nancy Harrison and Annette Lovell. Individual awards ranged from \$2,000 to \$7,000. This year's grant recipients included: Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic; Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau; Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society; Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers; Counseling & Psychotherapy Center of Highlands; Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry; Friends of Founders Park; The Gathering Table, Inc. Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music; Highlands Emergency Council; Highlands Historical Society; Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust; Highlands Playhouse; Hospice House Foundation of Western North Carolina for compassion care for Plateau residents; Literacy Council of Highlands, Inc.; Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center; The Peggy Crosby Service Center; Summit Charter School and The Bascom children's outreach program.

"Our goal is to maximize the impact we, collectively, have upon the Highlands-Cashiers community," noted Mrs. Harrison. "We work to leverage our knowledge, insights and resources for a greater impact than any one of us can make alone," added her co-chair partner, Annette Lovell.

"Cullasaja Women's Outreach members and supporters, once again, have enthusiastically responded to voices of need around us," commented Executive Director Frazer

McCrorey. "Together, we are touching the lives of many here on the plateau, by helping to cover costs for dental, medical and mental health services...by offering programs to children who otherwise might not have the opportunity to participate... and by supporting special cultural offerings here in Highlands."

"Moreover," noted Executive Director Margaret Eichman, "in giving, we transform our sense of self. Our members connect to the community in a special way. They truly feel a joy in giving."

Partnering with the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, CWO established a CFWNC-CWO Charities fund, which enables the group to raise funds each summer and award them through a judicious grants process to make a meaningful difference in the local community. To date, Cullasaja Women's Outreach has assisted thirty local not-for-profit and charitable organizations in their efforts to enhance the community.

Cullasaja Women's Outreach is an independent collective of women, who believe in reaching out to each other and to local organizations through philanthropy, volunteerism and friendship to build a stronger community.

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#### Protect your home from:

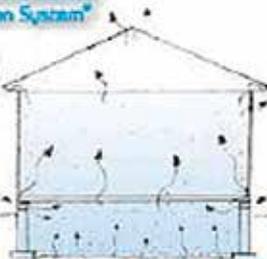
- ✓ Mold
- ✓ Bugs
- ✓ Structural Damage
- ✓ Smells & Odors
- ✓ Loss of Storage Space
- ✓ Radon Gas
- ✓ Rising Energy Costs



**CleanSpace®**  
Crawl Space Encapsulation System®

The earth in your dirt crawl space is the major source of moisture in your home! This moisture is carried up into your house from the natural upward air flow created from rising heat. CleanSpace® is the answer.

Call for a **FREE Estimate on the CleanSpace®**  
Crawl Space Encapsulation System



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CWO 2015 Grants Committee photo: Back row: Cris Hayes, Gail Hughes, Jo Hill, Lindy Colson, Stevie Hinel, Lee Driscoll and Martha Caire. Front row: Marilyn Cooper, Co-chair Nancy Harrison, Co-chair Annette Lovell, Kathy Bowman, and Sharon Loos.



# MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY

*opens the*

## **S O U P & S A L A D B A R**

• **every day 11 to close** •

🍴 Fresh Salad, with all the Toppings, Homemade Dressings, Homemade Soups & Chili. 🍴

*Every day, 7 days a week.*

\$9.99 each (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)



## **W E E K D A Y L U N C H S P E C I A L**

🍴 Pizza, Pasta, Soup & Salad Bar 🍴

Continuous fresh pizza from our pizza ovens, pastas, fresh breads from our bakery.

Plus the entire soup and salad bar.

*Monday-Friday 11am to 2pm*

\$9.99 Dine in only.



## **S U N D A Y S O U T H E R N B R U N C H B A R**

🍴 Skillet Fried Chicken, Country Angus Steak, Skillet Corn, Biscuit & Preserves 🍴

Mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies, cobbler, plus the entire soup and salad bar.

*Sunday 11am – 3pm*

\$11.95 each (dine in) or \$9.99 a pound (to go)

*Breakfast made to order every day from open until 11am.*

*The grill, pizza & deli are open every day until close.*

**STORE OPENS MONDAY- SATURDAY AT 7 AM & SUNDAY AT 8 AM**

**Corner of Fifth & Main, Highlands NC • (828) 526-2400 • [www.mfgro.com](http://www.mfgro.com)**

## Loma Linda Farm

Dog Boarding • Day Care  
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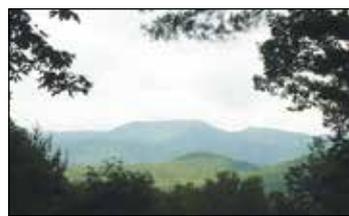
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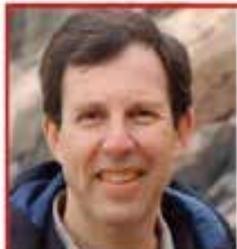


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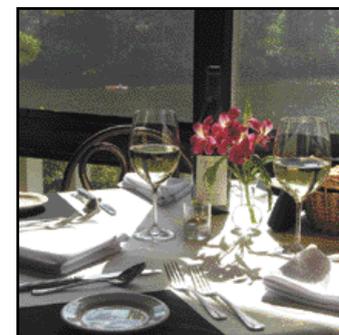
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