

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 12, Number 38

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Thurs., Sept. 17, 2015

Duke Energy is using strong-arm tactics to recoup losses

Highlands must decide whether to roll over or to fight

On May 14, 2015, Duke Energy pleaded guilty to nine violations of the Clean Water Act due to coal ash dumps and was fined \$102 million – the largest such

penalty in North Carolina history. Stockholders paid the fine.

Now it has to clean up the mess – to the tune of \$3.6 billion – and it wants its consumers to foot

the bill.

The issue? It wants to amend contracts with utility providers like Highlands without divulging what the amendment would entail and

is demanding a Confidentiality Agreement be signed before details are exposed.

Furthermore, it doesn't want

•See DUKE page 6

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Bel Canto nets \$107,000 for area music programs



The 23rd Bel Canto sold-out recital performed at the Performing Arts Center Sunday evening, netted \$107,000 for the music programs at Highlands' pre-schools – HCCDC and The Gordon Center – as well as the music program at Highlands School. Bel Canto proceeds also support the permanent art collection at The Bascom. Performers Audrey Babcock, Jennifer Black, Jonathan Burton and Mark Walters delighted the audience with their incredible performance peppered with humor. With the cast above is Artistic Director Stella Zambalis, Bel Canto Steering Committee Chair Stell Huie and Bel Canto pianist for 23 years now, Stephen Dubberly.

– Photo by Kim Lewicki

MC commissioners considering request to affix motto 'In God We Trust' to county buildings

Local governments across North Carolina are voting to put the nation's motto, "In God We

Trust," on government buildings and soon, Macon County may be following suit.

Rick Lanier with the United States Motto Action Committee

•See MOTTO page 14

An update on rescued bear cub 'Prince Richard'

By Cynthia Strain
Chair of the B.E.A.R. Task Force

Remember little Richard? He was the cub that got tangled up in plastic netting and stuck up a tree for several days in May. Since his rescue he has been living at Kindred Spirits Wildlife Center in the Winston-Salem area under the care of volunteer Dana Sims. Dana reports that he is healthy and doing well, up to 60 pounds, considerably more than the six pounds when he arrived! He and his best friend, Regina, will soon move to a large pen to be with the six other bear cubs they've taken in this year. Both are expected to be released to the wild next summer. Maybe they will become a couple!

Learning the skills needed to survive in the wild as well as remaining "wild" are uppermost in Dana's mind, and she feels certain that by next summer, Richard will be ready to be released to live on

his own.

Kindred Spirits is the only facility in N.C. licensed to take in bears. They also take in other wild animals. Since it receives no funding from the state or federal governments, the B.E.A.R. Task Force has collected \$1,100 in donations to help with Richard's care. It has urgent needs, and we'd like to help more, so are asking people to send donations to: MountainTrue-BEAR; PO Box 1238, Highlands, NC 28741.



All contributions are tax-deductible and very much appreciated!

Dana says it's important to immediately contact wildlife officials and/or a rehabilitator if you find a cub or other wild animal you think needs help. The contact for reporting an injured bear or a serious human/bear conflict situation is Justin McVey, District Wildlife Biologist, NC Wildlife Resources Comm., (828) 273-7980 or justin.mcvey@ncwildlife.org.

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Concerning Duke's proposal ...

Tonight's Highlands Town Board meeting includes several interesting agenda items. It begins at 7 pm at the Highlands Conference Center adjacent to the ball field.

Agenda items include a request from the Land Stewards for funds to control the invasive

Japanese Knotweed, and the Park Coalition's request to transfer the deed of the Sossoman property to the town. The new property will become a part of our existing park.

A critical agenda item is a request from Duke Energy for the town to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to entering negotiations for amending our existing contract to pay a surcharge for coal ash cleanup. North Carolina is requiring Duke to clean up the coal ash pits next to their power plants. These costs will be passed to customers.

Under the confidentiality agreement, the town could not publicly discuss costs for the cleanup and not show the resulting surcharges on customer statements. Highlands could not discuss the surcharge contract modifications with other organizations, such as EMCs and municipal utilities. If we refuse to sign this agreement, Duke has stated they will re-



Mayor Pat Taylor

quest the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to grant them the authority to levy those surcharges without any input from the town.

Our town manager, Bob Frye, and I have communicated the following points to Duke. By state statute, we cannot sign a non-disclosure agreement. There can be no hidden charges. The town has an obligation to our customers

to show exactly what is being charged on their bills. To that point, the coal ash surcharge will be clearly posted on our customers' bills. I am certain all our commissioners are fully behind this position of being open and supportive of our customers' right to know.

We will not resolve this controversy tonight. Our representative, Kevin O'Donnell, of NOVA Energy Consultants, will seek board guidance on how to proceed. The surcharge will not go into effect immediately. The approval process for implementing such a fee may take a year or longer. Duke will eventually be granted a coal ash cleanup surcharge. The question is how much will it be.

A critical option for the Town Board is to monitor and possibly contest the requested surcharge when Duke goes before FERC. Appealing to FERC would entail legal fees, but a coalition of small utilities may be able to pool resources to challenge the surcharge amount. If the town has no representation when FERC hears the request, we will have no input moderating amount. At this time we do not know what the total amount will be.

As your mayor I want to assure everyone the town will represent our customers above all. There will be no closed sessions where a secret deal is negotiated to hide costs. The town leadership is an elected body with a charge to keep the public informed. Citizens and customers will have the opportunity at future meetings to express their views. As always, customers can contact their local electric utility representatives, the Highlands Board of Commissioners.

• LETTERS •

In response to traffic check letter

Dear Editor,

In response to the traffic checkpoint article and letter in the Sept. 3 edition of Highlands Newspaper: the N.C. State Highway Patrol which has no per se "state police" agency has jurisdiction anywhere in the state of North Carolina and is one of the largest divisions of public safety in North Carolina.

The primary mission of the N.C. State Highway Patrol is to reduce traffic collisions and make the highways of North Carolina as safe as possible. Highway safety checks are an important way to keep North Carolina highways safe for all of us. No town or county official can tell the N.C. Highway Patrol where to go or what to do.

As a young man, I was told if you are afraid or nervous around any law enforcement agency, you have done something, are about to do something or are running or hiding from something. I do not fear, hide or run away from law enforcement. Some people do not have an appreciation for law enforcement. I appreciate and respect all law enforcement agencies.

Thank you N.C. Carolina Highway Patrol and Highlands Police Department for keeping my family, friends and myself safe. Keep up the good work and stay well.

Robbie Forrester
Highlands, NC

Another traffic check angle

Dear Editor,

In response to the traffic checkpoint article and letter in the Sept. 3 edition of Highlands Newspaper: I, too, was stopped on a Friday night between 8 and 9 p.m. by two of Highlands finest. The check point was set up on US. 64 west.

I, too, called Mayor Pat Taylor who was most gracious and returned a second call. The Sheriff's Dept. is the top law enforcement agency in any county. Road checks and accident investigations are the purview of the NC Highway Patrol.

The mayor is not privy to information on road blocks and check points conducted by the Sheriff's Dept. or the NC State Highway Patrol, nor should he be. Someone needs to check with the Police Chief for that.

I remarked to the mayor that the Highlands Police officers were courteous and professional but in my opinion the department is too large and over staffed.

If the police department has the manpower to conduct road checks on their own, then perhaps a downsizing is in order. I suggested we reduce the force by 50% or perhaps the chief could take an early retirement.

I proposed we offer the downsized officers a position with one of the town's other departments and mentioned that it would be cheaper to offer our out-of-town officers a gas allowance. At the very least have them drive one of the older patrol cars.

I see our town's patrol cars in at least two counties, even as far away as Sylva. I don't know if this is Rent-a-Cop or what? I have noticed a Highlands patrol car directing traffic at the Pine Grove Church on at least one occasion.

This needs to stop immediately. For this reason, town employees should use our town's vehicles like their own.

Phil Powell
Highlands

Kudos to emergency crews

Dear Editor,

I would like to publicly thank our medical response teams and let Highlands know how fortunate we are to have them.

Recently, while watching me work in my yard, a good friend had a heart attack. He was unconscious and unresponsive, but with labored breathing.

I called 9-1-1 and a wonderful lady responder calmly instructed me as to what to do until the EMS, fire and police arrived. They immediately took charge, stabilized him, then transferred him to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital where the

•See LETTERS page 3

Highlands Newspaper

Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913

Phone: (828) 200-1371

Email:

HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor: Kim Lewicki

Copy Editor: Genda Bell

Digital Media - Jim Lewicki

Locally owned and operated by

Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at

www.HighlandsInfo.com

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

Highlands, N.C., 28741

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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.



• DEATH NOTICE •

Albert H. (Yokum) Edwards

Albert H. (Yokum) Edwards died on Aug. 31st. A memorial service has been set for Sunday, Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. An obituary will be printed closer to the date of his memorial.

In Memory of Clem Henry

JUNE 1, 1946 - SEPTEMBER 12, 2010

Those we love and hold most dear never truly leave us! They live on in the kindness they showed, the comfort they shared and the love they brought into our lives. We miss you brother.

...LETTERS continued from page 2

staff and numerous medical personnel took over. After running tests and treating him, they immediately arranged to have him flown to Mission Hospital in Asheville, where he again received excellent emergency care.

Due in large part to the excellent care he received, he is doing well today.

We all should be grateful that we have such a great medical team working for us in Highlands.

George Janvier
Highlands

A day for those who serve us

Dear Editor,

There is currently a proposal being suggested to our House of Representatives and Senators that a day is set aside to honor all those who serve us. That would include all First Responders such as our Police Forces, Emergency Responders and Firefighters to name a few. These devoted men and women often put their lives on the line to save us from whatever our situation may be. Yet, in today's world we stay in silence as our minister said recently instead of backing up and honoring those who protect us. As was also stated "silence is taken as approval" and I'm most certain the majority of us don't approve what is happening to our First Responders yet, what have you and I done about it? I suggest you call or write those in Washington that represent you and let them know you are in favor of having one day a year set aside as a celebration for our First Responders. You can obtain their phone number and other contact information by going to <http://www.congress.gov/members> or by going to <http://congress.org> and follow the links.

Let's acknowledge our support for those that are so important to us by contacting our Representative and Senators and have them set aside a special day just for them.

Paul S. Horvath
Highlands

Citizens! Say 'NO' to Duke

Dear Editor,

I wish to call your attention to Item #8: Duke Energy Contract Modification for Coal Ash on the Sept. 17 Town Board agenda.

I needn't remind you of the painful experience for all Highlanders – residents and businesses alike – a few years ago when the town chose to institute an immediate nearly 30% electric rate hike resulting from the renegotiation of the Utility Contract with Duke Energy.

Although Duke's new request to the town to renegotiate the current contract is not an apples to apples comparison, it is surely a request that should be an emergency CALL TO ACTION to all Highlands citizens and businesses to be part of the discussions to take place at this Thursday's meeting. It is clear that Duke's interest is to seek to recover the losses in the corporate bottom line for its investors at the expense of the consumer.

Given the time demand posed by Duke (60 days) to the town to negotiate a revised contract or face whatever Duke chooses to impose for recovery fees on this community, a post Commission meeting report is completely inadequate to make the citizenry aware this serious issue.

I applaud Town Manager Bob Frye's position opposing Confidentiality Agreements and closed door negotiations as requested by Duke Energy. While I am completely confident the Mayor, Commissioners and Town of Highlands staff will do its very best for Highlands citizens, I also believe that this discussion should involve the public. Come and express your opinion at Thursday's Town Board meeting.

Bob KIELTYKA
Owner of The Christmas Tree



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• HIGHLANDS AREA DINING •

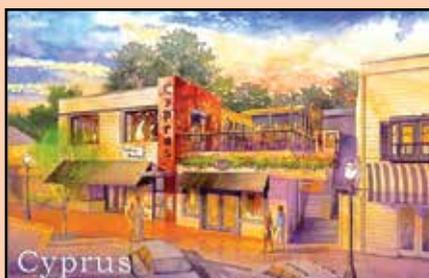


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UPCOMING EVENTS

"A curious mind knows no bounds"

• THE SUBLIMITY OF A SHORE-LESS

OCEAN: Thomas Cole's The Oxbow and the Anglo-American Culture, Friday, Sept. 18. Time: 4-5p. Cost \$10 Seth McCormick returns to The Bascom as a guest art historian. He will talk on the concept of the sublime and its influence on Thomas Cole and other Hudson River School artists. This talk is in conjunction with Sublime Beauty: The American Landscape.

• INTERNET SECURITY AND

APPLEPAY: Tuesday, Sept. 22. Time: 10:30-3:30. Cost \$70/\$80 As identity theft becomes more prevalent the smartest thing you can do is learn how to protect yourself and keep your personal information safe. Nigel Sixsmith will teach you everything you need to know to about internet security. This is something you CAN'T afford to not know about!

• A FUN GUIDE TO THE BEST APPLICATIONS FOR IPAD AND IPHONE:

Thursday, Sept. 29. Time: 2-4. Cost \$70/\$80 iPads and iPhones are cool tools and can be used to do so many different things but to enhance your product you need to know about the apps! When it comes down to it, it's all about the apps and Nigel Sixsmith knows the best ones out there.

• **HONORABLE TREACHERY:** Tuesday, Sept. 29. Time: 2-4. The U.S. Intelligence Community is something that intrigues us all in one way or another and we have an expert who can dish on the role of the CIA and the other 16 members of the U.S. Intelligence Community. Presenter Ira Cooperman is a former intelligence officer and has worked with the CIA, NSA, and the military. This will be one of the most interesting lectures of the season and you will not want to miss it!

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...DUKE continued from page 1

consumers to know how much it will cost them – in other words it wants everything to be decided in closed session – nor does it want the subsequent surcharge, which is the evidence of what it would levy to recoup its losses, to show up on monthly utility bills.

At tonight's Town Board meeting, commissioners must decide whether to accept Duke's terms or to join utility providers across the country and fight.

Town Manager Bob Frye's recommendation is to fight.

"Last year, Duke suffered a coal ash spill at their Dan River plant which resulted in significant fines and legislation requiring Duke to clean up and close all of its coal ash basins.

"As part of that process, Duke has notified us that due to the costs associated with the cleanup, our current contract will need to be amended to include a series of cost recovery methods to enable Duke to charge us for a portion of the cleanup.

"Duke has also insisted that we sign a Confidentiality Agreement which would forbid us to discuss with the public what the contact amendments are or the costs associated with the amount of cost sharing that Duke plans to pass onto us and our customers.

"This is problematic to say the least as it violates the spirit and intent of the Open Meetings law; if not the law itself," said Frye. "I don't understand how we can amend a public contact in closed session and be bound by a Confidentiality Agreement that doesn't allow us to inform our citizens of the modifications made and more importantly, how much the said contract amendment will cost them."

According to Frye, depending on a number of things, the costs that Duke could pass on to Highlands could be as little as \$50,000 or as much as a million dollars over the life of the contract...which goes until 2029.

• See DUKE page 7

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• THE FREDSTER •

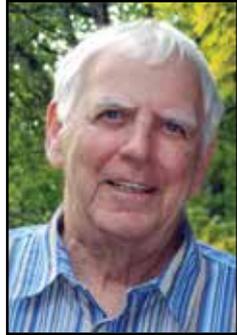
Going to Miami and need a friend? Buy yourself a gun!

I was stunned to learn that our mayor, Pat Taylor, went to North Miami on a short vacation and didn't seek my advice. Pat, Pat, Pat, are we not friends? What were you thinking? My youngest son was a cop in that city and was "down in the dirt" several times a week. I'll assume things might look shinier but the crime is atrocious. Don't be fooled by the glitz. But you did make it out unharmed, alive and without my help. That's awesome. You were lucky. Hey, even a blind squirrel stumbles upon a nut every now and then.

For starters, you missed a perfect opportunity to wear your prison orange - shirt. Half of the people who live down there are very familiar with that color. Next, here's a list of things I would have advised you on if you had sought out my advice. First, would be "don't go at all." I moved out of the Miami area long before my retirement so I could raise my three children in a safe environment with good schools. Your son must be very brave.

Next on my list would be your selection of guns to bring with you; one for you and one for your li'l missus. Oh, wait, you didn't mention your li'l missus went with you. Could she be smarter than you and stayed in beautiful Highlands?

When I return to Palm Beach County from Highlands in the fall, my S&W semi-automatic is not far from my reach. I can get off 14 rounds in 10 seconds if I have to and so can my li'l missus. But my guess is that if you really are the gentle person you portray yourself to be, you don't even own a gun. That's fine but I do have a tip about guns



Fred Wooldridge

should you ever go back. Go to Walmart and buy the most authentic toy pistol you can find. Take it home and saw off the handle. Throw the gun away.

This next part is important so pay close attention. Wrap several rubber bands around the toy gun handle and shove it in your waistband making sure a small portion of the handle is exposed. Doing this will immediately remove you from "gentle mayor" status to "bad ass." In Miami, few people will mess with a guy displaying the tip of a gun handle showing and displaying a toy gun handle is not a violation. WARNING: If you're stopped by a cop, do not mention my name or tell him I gave you this tip.

Next, if you had gone to that pool party at your motel, you probably would have been the only unarmed person there. And remember, no one speaks English so you wouldn't know what's going on if pushing and shoving started over a girl getting her butt grabbed by another man. Find a child and ask what's going on. English is now taught as a second language and they speak it fluently.

And here's a fun story you might find interesting. Years ago, when I was just a rookie cop, the li'l missus and I were out dancing in a nightclub when my hidden snubnose revolver slid down my leg and, before I could grab it, slid out on the lit dance floor. I casually walked over, picked up the weapon and shoved it back in my waistband.

There were two kinds of people on that dance floor; those who didn't see the gun and those that did but didn't want to get involved. No cops were called and life went on as usual. That's how it is in Miami. Later, when I spoke

with senior officers about the incident, they gave me the rubber band idea.

And here's something you can take to the bank. If I ever take up creative pottery, you will be the first person I will seek advice from and I suggest you do the same with me when heading to Florida.

Fun note: Fred has only a few copies of his zany book, "I'm Moving Back to Mars." Ask him for an autographed copy.

Highlands Marketplace







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Food

Crafts

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Live Entertainment*

...DUKE continued from page 6

"Unfortunately, Duke has been adamant that we must sign the Confidentiality Agreement before any meaningful negotiations can take place and we have now been informed that we have 60 days -- until the end of October -- to do so or accept whatever terms they choose to give us. Furthermore, it plans to request the authority to proceed from the Federal Energy Regulation Commission (FERC)."

Frye said there is nothing that forces Highlands to amend its contract with Duke, however, due to Highlands' stand and the stand of others across the state who are also refusing to sign the Confidentiality Agreement, Duke has decided to go to the FERC and Washington to force the issue.

One of Duke's key lobbyists is ex-Congressman Heath Shuler who represented North Carolina's 11th District. He retired from Congress Feb. 2, 2012 and was named Duke's Vice President of Federal Affairs effective Jan. 4, 2013.

Shuler's focus is using his federal affairs team to work with leaders in energy associations in which Duke is involved to support federal issues important to the company's customers and shareholders.

"Last week Duke informed us it will be asking the

FERC to allow it to add the cost recovery for ash into contracts. If the FERC agrees then it's a done deal," said Frye.

Kevin O'Donnell with NOVA Energy Consultants, Inc., which is Highlands' liaison with Duke, will be discussing options at tonight's meeting.

"Part of what Mr. O'Donnell will be discussing with the board is whether or not to oppose this," said Frye. "I believe his recommendation will be that we do oppose it."

O'Donnell has told Frye that by the end of October, Highlands must decide whether to litigate this matter at the FERC or pay what Duke wants it to pay.

Mayor Pat Taylor said one critical option for the Town Board is to contest the requested surcharge when Duke takes it before the FERC.

"Appealing to the FERC would entail legal fees, but there may emerge a coalition of small utilities who could pool resources to challenge the surcharge request," he said.

Richard Knight from Duke Energy will also be at tonight's meeting which is at 7 p.m. in the Community Building next to the ballfield.

– Kim Lewicki

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Starting Monday, Sept. 21!

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Every Sunday from 11am - 3pm
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Or...

24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken tenders and hand cut fries.
\$20.95 serves four.

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.
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Weeknight Pizza Special:

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Ongoing

• Anyone interested in taking Adult, Child and Infant First Aid/CPR/AED certification class needs to contact the Highlands Recreation Department at 526-3556 to 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 six for the class and a maximum class size of 16. Once we have enough signed up for a class we will schedule the class.

• 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.

Thursday, Sept. 17

• Eco Tour: "Bald Rock." Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust on this special access

hike to the summit of "Old Bald" through Camp Merrie-Woode. Learn about a number of rare plants from your botanist guide and be rewarded with a grand view from above. \$35 new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on the trail and a year membership to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust! HCLT members: \$10. Reservations required: Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net, 526-1111. Together we are saving mountains: www.hicashlt.org.

• The Sigma Chi Fraternity alumni in the WNC area has organized for informal social gatherings with representative from over 25 colleges and universities attending. Lunch will be served at 12:30. For more information and RSVP on the 'Blue Ridge Sigs' please Contact Dick McCarthy at 828.743.3070, Dick@Dick-McCarthy.com.

Sept. 19 - 25:

• Reserve these dates for one or more

Hawk Watches with Brock Hutchins of the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society, on Whiteside Mountain. These outings are highly weather dependent, so those interested must contact Brock so that last minute plans can be conveyed: 828-787-1387

Sat., Sept. 19

• Blood Drive in the Otto community 8a to 12:30p at Sport Clips. Get a free haircut coupon when you give blood. Appointments appreciated. Call 828-524-9307. Walk-ins well-

• See **EVENTS** page 10



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• At PAC, John McEuen with John Cart-er Cash at 8 p.m. Sponsored by Ray & Diane McPhail. Call 828-526-9047 for tickets.

Sun., Sept. 20

• Live in HD at PAC, "Everyman" at 1 p.m. For tickets call 828-526-9047.

Starting Sept. 22

• NAMI Appalachian South, the local affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), is offering a free 10-week course on recovery and wellness for adults challenged with a mental illness in Franklin on Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30p.m., Class size is limited. Registration is required. Contact Donita (828) 526-9510.

Tues., Sept. 22

• Eco Tour: "HCLT's Annual Elk Excursion." Join Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust on this enchanting journey that has become an annual tradition. We will travel to Cataloochee Valley at the peak of the rut. \$35 new friends includes the guided hike, lunch on the trail and a year membership to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust! HCLT members: \$10. Reservations required: Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net, 526-1111. Together we are saving mountains: www.hicashlt.org.

Thurs., Sept. 24

• The Glenville Area Historical Society 2015 Annual Meeting is on Thursday, at 6:30 pm at the Glenville Community Development Clubhouse. The program presentation is titled, "Ancestors and Descendants, a Photo Gallery of Glenville Notables and their Stories" GAHS members, guests and others interested are invited to attend to meet and greet neighbors and

other history fans, to enjoy refreshments and to hear about the Historical Society's museum plans. For additional information call 828 743-1658, or email historicalsocietyglenvillearea@yahoo.com.

Fri., Sept. 25

• Operation Christmas Child of Western North Carolina is having a Project Leader Gathering from 6-8 p.m. at the First Assembly of God Church, Fellowship Hall, 1150 E Main St., Franklin. A Project Leader is the person who promotes Operation Christmas Child for your church, school, community group, or business. There will be make-and-take crafts, patterns for making shoebox items, prayer, and lots more! Please RSVP, if possible, by Sept. 23 to June Trull, e-mail: wncocc@yahoo.com or call 342-6311.

• Beatlemania Celebration at The Bascom 6-10 p.m. Music begins at 7 p.m. \$50 per person Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and Black Bird Cash Bar. For tickets call 828-526-4949.

Sat., Sept. 26

• Scaly Mountain Fun Day, 10a to 4p at the Sky Valley-Scaly Mtn Fire House on Hale Ridge Road in Scaly. Pancake breakfast in the Old Scaly School House from 7:30-10:30a.; Indoor Yard Sale Call 526-8525 to reserve a space to sell your wares; Fire House Open House with firetruck rides and tours from noon to 2p.m.; Facepainting, Chili Cookoff - Call 526-8528 to enter; Bake Sale and the filling of a time capsule to be opened in 2025. Bring photos, predictions, etc. Also, music, food and beverages. For more information, call Grace Crouch at 526-8528.



Presented by Victor & Bertie Fransen
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Three Tenors & a Diva GALA

Saturday, September 26
Concert: 5pm
GALA: 7pm

GALA: Highlands Falls Country Club

Highlands Performing Arts Center
507 Chestnut Street, Highlands
Tickets available online: highlandspac.org
or by calling: 828.526.9047

...EVENTS continued from page 10

• A Gala Fundraiser for PAC. Concert featuring 3 Tenors and a Diva is at 5p at PAC and the Gala begins at 7p at Highlands Falls CC. For tickets call 828-526-9047.

Mon., Sept. 28

• The Jackson County Republican party will meet on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Ryan's in Sylva. Come earlier to eat. The guest speaker is Deon Dunn, who will speak for presidential candidate Senator Ted Cruz, Republicans, unaffiliated voters and others interested are invited to attend. For Jackson County GOP information, please call Ralph Slaughter @ 828 743-6491 or email: jacksonctygop@yahoo.com. Like us on Facebook at Jackson County Republican Party.

• The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society Annual Meeting will be followed by a presentation by William McReynolds entitled "Social Behavior in Birds: Murder, Dissimulation and Exaltation in the Avian World!" William, an Audubon member, is a retired professor and still practicing clinical psychologist. Highlands Civic Center for refreshments at 7 p.m.; program begins at 7:30.

Tuesday, Sept. 29

• Village Nature Series: "Sheepnoses & Timbertwigs" – all about heritage apples with Dana Holden at The Village Green Commons in Cashiers. No reservations; rain or shine. Programs begin at 5:30 PM and usually last about an hour.

Wed., Sept. 30

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital community health screening on Wednesday on the 1st floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus. Men requesting a PSA check will need to bring a physician's order for this screening. Complimentary flu shots will be

available at the screening. Appointments are limited so please call Sheralee Norris at (828) 526-1498 for your appointment.

• Paoletti's Restaurant is having a charity dinner for the Hospice House Foundation of WNC from 5-7 p.m. Cocktails and Casual Grazing - \$150/person (\$100 is tax deductible). A come-as-you-are social cocktail reception with hors'doeuvres and select wines. At 7:30 p.m. it's Dining for Dignity - \$250/person (\$150 if tax deductible) This will be a relaxed dining experience where patrons choose from a decadent 4-course menu especially selected for the evening. For reservations are strongly recommended. Please call 828-526-4906.

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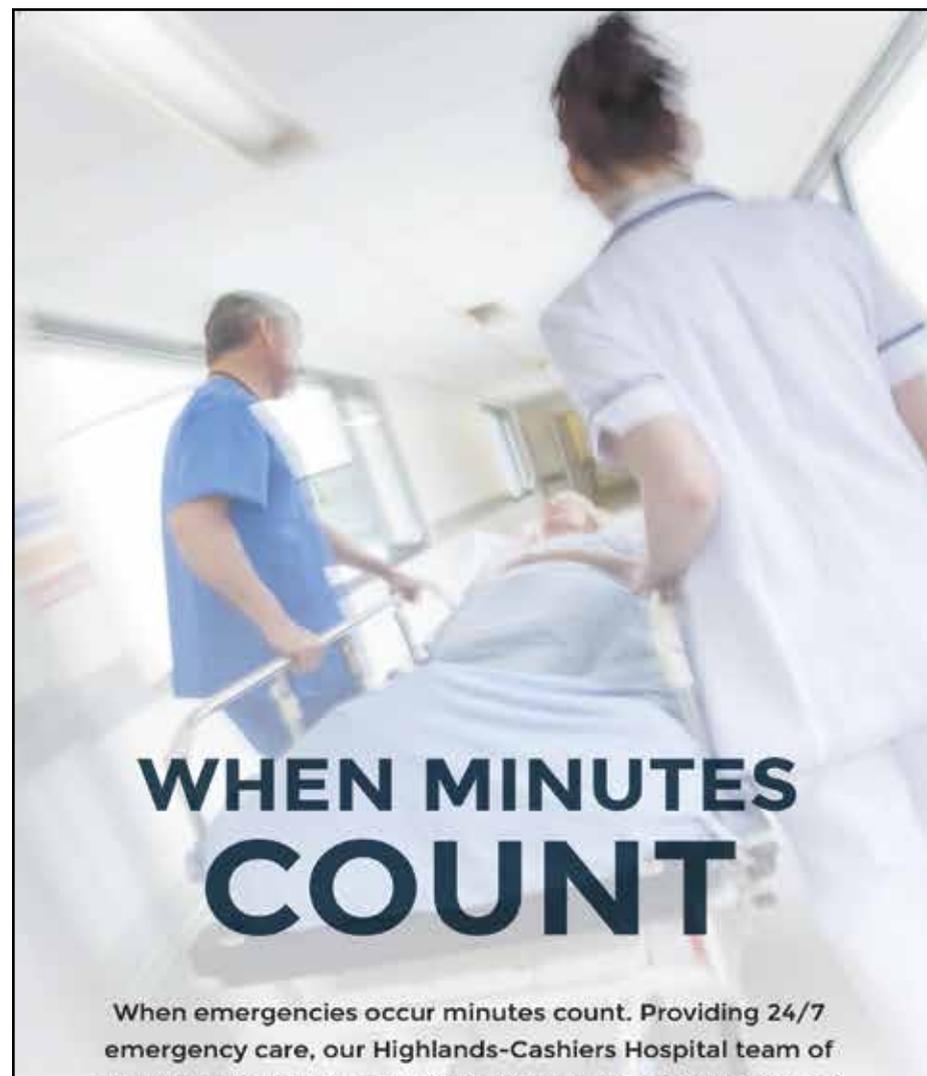
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Fall Home Improvement

Great Design Tips to Match Your Home's Architectural Style

(StatePoint) Adding the right design elements to your home can complete what its architecture hopes to accomplish. But knowing just what to incorporate to complement -- rather than detract -- from the style of your home can present a challenge.

For example, those who've embraced the recent resurgence of bungalows, Arts and Crafts-, Mission- and

Prairie-style homes will want to ensure that they maintain the simplicity and warmth of their building's construction when making upgrades.

Luckily, many manufacturers offer home products to match a wide variety of styles. If you have such a home design and are looking to make improvements, here are some ideas to think about:

Materials

Maintain the rustic feel of your home without sacrificing modern performance by seeking out manmade products that mimic nature. Energy-efficient fiberglass entry doors have the look of real oak, while polymer shake roofing -- which looks like real wood but is made of high-performance materials -- will resist deterioration, fire spread and fading from the sun.

Get the look of wooden trim, shutters, louvers and balustrade systems with easy-care polyurethane products that require minimal upkeep, while resisting insects, decay and moisture. Brands like Fypon offer exterior accents, as well as textured millwork for the interior, such as easily-stained crown mouldings and baseboards.

Style

Give a nod to your low-pitched roof and open eaves with perfect exterior accompaniments. After all, these are some of the first elements that visitors see. Consider fiberglass entry doors which have embraced different architectural trends in its current offerings.

Designer glass accents in doorlites and sidelites provide contrast and warmth, enhancing the entryways of Craftsman-, Prairie-, Bungalow- and Arts and Crafts-style homes.

Likewise, consider adding silkscreened Mission and Prairie style windows. They have the right architectural look and feel, yet still allow for light to filter through. Cre-

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ated from tempered privacy glass, they can match your home's architectural style while offering privacy.

Color

Relaxed and refined, Craftsman style homes offer a variety of opportunities to welcome color. While simplicity is the hallmark of this design style, that doesn't mean the colors have to be simple. Consider bright colors with contrasting white trim to add personality.

The roof offers a welcoming palette for starting "top down" color selections for the home. "Arts and Crafts style homes, as well as Bungalows, look great with the texture and color of a shake roof," says Kate Smith, chief color maven with Sensational Color.

Smith recommends a color palette that mimics nature, such as cedar, autumn or weathered gray hues in durable polymer roof products with the natural appearance of wood shake.

When it comes to home upgrades, the choices you make should not happen arbitrarily. Look for product offerings that will unite your home's design style and appeal.

Selling Your Home? How to Get Buyers in the Front Door

(StatePoint) Looking to sell your home? Then improve its curb appeal. That's the advice of Realtors who say that many home buyers won't even get out of their cars unless they like the way the house looks from the street.

"Today, buyers can be choosy. Overgrown bushes, peeling paint or faded shutters are enough to stop some people from even getting out of the car," say Realtors.

How do you make sure that your home isn't passed by? Curb Appeal. The Three C's of Curb Appeal are Clean, Clutter-free and Colorful. Experts say that to

achieve those goals it's helpful to take a "top down" approach.

Start with the roof. Is it in good shape, clean and colorful? Does it complement the style of your home? If a new roof is in your future, consider a polymer slate or shake roofing product offered in a multitude of colors. These hardworking roofs are impact- and fire- resistant and are backed by a lifetime limited warranty.

Working your way down the home, make sure the siding, shutters and trim are in very good shape, making these upgrades before putting your house on the market.

"No buyer wants to look at a home and think that the first thing he or she will have to do is paint, or replace rotting wood trim," say experts. "Low-maintenance products like vinyl or fiber cement siding and polyurethane trim look great and have salability that can be passed on to buyers who don't want the hassles of long-term maintenance."

Other improvements to consider for beauty and functionality include vinyl windows and an updated porch balustrade system, which can offer clean lines and make a property really seem to pop.

For a clean, clutter-free exterior, power wash the driveway and walkways, trim back overgrown shrubbery and put away the yard art. Add pops of color around the outside, like new shutters, a fresh coat of paint on the front door and flowers in pots and window boxes

Consider a fiberglass door to improve the look and energy efficiency of your front entry with attractive accessories like decorative glass doorlites and sidelites that can boost curb appeal and increase light in your foyer.

"If you want to get buyers to take your house seriously, spend time to get them through the front door. It takes just seconds for a prospective buyer to either connect with or reject your home based on its curb appeal. Invest in your home exterior and you'll never go wrong."

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...MOTTO continued from page 1

tee (USMAC) spoke to commissioners last week urging them to consider placing the motto on government buildings in Macon County. Lanier said that 61 county and city governments in North Carolina have voted to display the motto with several poised to do so in the near future.

Lanier, a former Davidson County Commissioner, said the movement to have the motto displayed throughout the state originated in his home county of Davidson in 2002 and has since spread to counties from Haywood, Clay, Cherokee, and Polk as well as to city governments like China Grove, Harmony, and Elk Park city halls.

The USMAC's mission is "to defend, promote and assist in the awareness and furtherance of our U.S. Motto, "In God We Trust," on public buildings, structure, monuments, the printed page, and to encourage our Godly heritage in various other aspects."

If Macon County was to approve the measure, the USMAC would handle the cost associated with having the motto placed on public buildings in the county.

County Commissioners favored the idea and instructed County Attorney Chester Jones to look into the legalities of it. Although Lanier told commissioners that the motto has been reaffirmed by the Supreme

Court as recently as 2011, commissioners wanted the house counsel to investigate further.

When Davidson County first moved to have the phrase attached to their buildings, the American Civil Liberties Union attempted to stop it, but a district court and court of appeals upheld the move. Then, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected the appeal, giving Davidson County the green light.

While the U.S. Motto Action Committee has been working to have the phrase on buildings for the last decade, the motto itself isn't new at all. "In God We Trust" has been the country's national motto since 1956.

The motto first appeared on U.S. coins during the Civil War and now is inscribed on all coins and dollar bills. In 2002, the motto was reaffirmed by Congress, and then again in 2006, and again in 2011 when the House voted overwhelmingly, 396-9 to re-reaffirm the motto.

Despite the legal evidence Lanier presented to commissioners, Jones noted that he would review the case law and plans to have a recommendation to give the board at its October meeting regarding whether Macon County should legally explore the option further.



The Highlands Performing Arts Center presents Three Tenors & a Diva GALA

Saturday, September 26th brings the Performing Arts Center's first GALA featuring Three Tenors and a Diva. The concert begins at 5pm and the GALA cocktails and dinner at Highlands Falls Country Club begins at 7pm.

The Three Tenors have performed around the globe. Their careers have reached every continent and touched thousands of international audiences from Broadway, Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall to premier international venues such as La Scala.

Tenor Antonio Buonoauo, gifted with a naturally beautiful lyric instrument. His operatic debut was with the New York Grand Opera in Puccini's *Trittico*. And he appeared at New York's fabled Carnegie Hall in a gala Verdi concert. Buonoauo started his studies in Europe as a child and moved on to The Juilliard School and Mannes School of Music on scholarship. The New York Times reviews translated "Buonoauo as precious metal or good as gold voice. Luckily for the audiences, he is both a great actor and singer." Equally comfortable on the Broadway stage MBuonoauo spent three years there.

Tenor Thomas Bethman began singing as a child in theatre venues ranging from community, regional and dinner theatre to professional musical theatre all around the U.S., Asia, Europe and Africa. At last count, Mr. Bethman has performed in 44 countries. His formal training began at The Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY and later at The Juilliard School in New York City. Upon graduation from college, Bethman first appeared with the New York Grand

Opera. The roles in which he has performed range from Alfredo in *La Traviata* to Rodolfo in *La Boheme*.

A lyric tenor, James Gafgen brought a live audience of over 4,000 people to its feet at the Arnold Schwarzenegger Classic. He has also performed for three other Governors: Jim Florio, Christie Whitman and Ed Rendell. And he sang for the State of Pennsylvania House of Representatives, to a standing ovation. Mr. Gafgen is also proud to have opened for The Three Tenors Concert featuring Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras at The Giant's Meadowlands Stadium with 80,000 in attendance.

And the DIVA... Donna Buonoauo is a petite beauty with a huge voice that will shake the house down. Born into a musical family, she has a natural God given talent. Beginning her professional career at a very young age, she has entertained audiences all over the world, from New York to California and Atlantic City to Las Vegas. This Diva is equally comfortable in front of an orchestra or on a Broadway stage. Whether appearing as a featured soloist or with La Diva Tenors, her interpretation of a song is unbeatable. Her debut performance at Carnegie Hall's tribute to 9/11 was a triumph with her rendition of "God Bless America."

Highlands Falls Country Club is the site for the festival cocktails and dinner GALA following the concert. For tickets go online: highlandspac.org or call 828.526.9047. A true night of magic is guaranteed!



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A charitable dining event hosted by Paoletti's Ristorante is on Wednesday, Sept. 30

Paoletti's of Highlands, along with restaurant patrons, will be partnering on September 30 in support of Hospice House Foundation of WNC.

Please join us for this charity dining event honoring the compassion, dignity, and comfort that defines hospice care.

First it's Cocktails and Casual Grazing from 5-7 p.m. It's \$150/person (\$100 is tax deductible)

This is a come-as-you-are social cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres and select wines.

At 7:30 pm it's Dining for Dignity which is \$250/person (\$150 is tax deductible)

This is a relaxed dining experience where Dining for Dignity patrons will make a selection from a menu created especially for this evening.

This dining venue is limited; early reservations are strongly recommended.

Ticket prices include tax and gratuity.

Each dining venue will be complemented by music and accompanied by a silent auction for a wagon-filled assortment of distinguished wines.

All proceeds from this dining event will benefit Hospice House Foundation of WNC, Inc.

For reservations, we suggest payment in advance by check payable to: Hospice House Fdn of WNC. Mail to: Hospice House Fdn of WNC, Peaceful Journey, PO Box 815, Franklin, NC 28744.

Please respond by September 20.

For more information, email info@hhfwnc.org or call Hospice House Foundation at 828-524-8261 or Paoletti's Restaurant at 828-526-4906.

Hospice House Foundation of WNC (HHFWNC) is a 501(c)3. Its mission is to raise funds for a hospice inpatient facility that will serve western North Carolina. Financial information and a copy of its license are available from the NC State Solicitation Licensing Branch at (888) 830-4989. This license is not an endorsement by the State.

Thank You!

On behalf of the Hospice House Foundation Board of Directors, I would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the Franklin, Highlands and Cashiers communities for participating in the "Art for the Heart of the Hospice House" fundraiser, held at Carpe Diem Farms on August 23rd. The resounding success of the event, can be directly attributed, to those who made the decision to show their support through attending or making a donation, the donors and purchasers of the beautiful art, volunteers, including other local non-profits, local media, and donations of the venue, food, wine, florals, and music.

I would like to remind anyone who would like to join the community in support of the SECU Hospice House project, there are a wide variety of opportunities to become involved. We welcome all levels of support.

Your Hospice inpatient facility is a \$4.3M project. Most of you have seen the property on Maple Street in Franklin. We will be adding 15,000sq ft. to the existing building to provide patient suites and offices for support staff. The property is free and clear due to a generous donor. We have raised very close to \$1M to meet our \$2.2M challenge grant from the State Employees Credit Union. We will receive \$1M from SECU as soon as we meet the challenge. And, we have just received a second challenge to raise \$2.2M...receiving \$300,000 when met.

Macon County has amazing non-profits. All providing much needed services for our residents. We all depend on our community to make these services available.

Thank you again for your support of our mission to provide this much needed hospice inpatient facility for hospice patients and their loved ones.

Michele Alderson, President



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.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Progressivism In God's Eyes

By Rev'd Jim Murphy
Christ Anglican Church

It never ceases to amaze me how mankind, generally speaking, boasts of making great "progress" in virtually every area of life. Yet when we view said progress from God's perspective, we've made little or none. How can a world rife with violence, divisions of every stripe, and palpable hatred believe that we're "progressive?" How can the great mass of humanity think that we're moving forward when so many people face life every day with little hope (physically and spiritually), scant supply of necessities, and the prospect of having a meaningless life ending in a meaningless death when its all over? Are we not just humoring ourselves with this "progressivism" baloney?

Adam and Eve made no progress when they swiped the forbidden fruit. Instead, they went backwards as they lost the potential for an eternally sweet divine-personal relationship. Humanity did not make progress by the time God visited Noah. The world was rife with violence, divisions and hatred—every form of evil, according to the biblical record. And, as even the casual observer will know, things really have not changed since. Humanity has, by and large, consigned itself to a devolving circle of life that will end in meaningless death.

How sad, especially when it does not have to be that way. Real progress is achievable. It is there for the asking. Indeed, there is a simple solution that can change mankind's prognosis of meaninglessness. The solution is faith in Jesus Christ. That is the only place to start. It is step one, the Alpha step, in our progressive journey. Following faith in the Son of God, genuine, tangible progress gets easier and easier as that faith is applied to our life and world by individuals and groups yielding to the Holy Spirit.

Consider the Apostle Peter's words when he was speaking of Jesus' power, "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." (2 Peter 1:3, NIV) Faith, personal knowledge in and of the Son of God, gives us everything we need! The Creator of everything good gives us everything we need! That means nothing less than that genuine progress can be ours, alleluia! Meaninglessness, violence, divisions and hatred can be banished—real progressivism—alleluia!

Upon personal acceptance of Jesus as Son, Savior, and Lord, Christians receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Peter goes on to describe that gift as participation in "the divine nature and escape [from] the corruption in the world caused by evil desires." (ibid, v.4) Then the Apostle outlines for us the progressive nature of a personal relationship with God. In verses 5-7 he encourages the Christian to "... add to your faith, goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love." Now that is genuine, eminently valuable, progress!

I'm not naïve enough to think that all Christians have walked the progressive path to perfection. We have not. I have not. Nevertheless, mankind has consistently proven to ourselves that we're not making progress without God, we're only devolving into an increasingly evil meaningless-

Proverbs 3:5

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School: 10 a.m., Worship: 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999
Sundays: 10 a.m.: Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011
464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers
Sun.: 8:30a Traditional (Quiet) 1928 Prayer Book Service;
9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Family Service w/ Music
Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470
Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.
Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.
Wednesdays - Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC
Senior Pastor Gary Hewins
Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School
10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Child. Program,
10:45am: Worship Service
Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC University

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968
Sundays: Holy Eucharist (chapel) at 8 a.m.
Education and choir rehearsal, 9 am,
Holy Eucharist Rite II, (sanctuary), 10:30
Wednesday: 10 a.m., Morning Prayer
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist, (chapel), 10 am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org
Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor
220 Main Street, Highlands NC 28741
Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am
Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 am; Prayer Mtg 6:15 pm;
Choir 5 pm

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors
526-3175 • fpchighlands.org
Sun.: Worship: 8:30a and 11 a.m.; School: 9:30
Mondays: 8 a.m.: Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast
Wednesdays: Choir: 5:30p

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd) • Rev. Carson Gibson
Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am
Bible Study: 6 pm

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship
242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers
www.gracecashiers.com
Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814
Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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 Intercessory Prayer Ministry

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;
Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Troy Nicholson, (828) 526-8425
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11, Choir: 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.: 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin
828-524-9463

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church
Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,
4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish office (Father Francis): 526-2418
Mass: Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat. at 4p

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 a.m. & 7
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Jerry David Hall • 526-3212
Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 7

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359
Rev. Douglas E. Remer
Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a Rite II, 10:30
June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a
Nursery available for Rite II services

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

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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

Sept. 2

• At 5:45 p.m., officers responded to a call about a bear in a dumpster on Happoldt Drive where he was eating trash.

Sept. 3

• At 1:24 p.m., officers responded to a call about a person yelling and making verbal threats to another at a restaurant on NC 106.

Sept. 5

• At 12:40 p.m., officers received a call about dogs barking at a residence on Wiggins Place.

• At 2 p.m., officers were notified of a canoe found on the property of resident on US 64 west.

• At 10:03 p.m., Jessica Michelle Owen, 32, of Franklin, was arrested for DWI when pulled over on Pine Road.

Sept. 6

• A little after midnight, Jesse Evan Welch, 28, of Franklin, was arrested for resisting, obstructing and delaying arrest by giving false information.

Sept. 7

• At 2:30 p.m., a breaking and entering at a residence on Bowery Road was reported. Sept. 8

• At 5 p.m., officers received a call about money being taken from a purse and a dress taken from Wits End on Main Street.

• At 10:29 p.m., Mark Anthony Stone, 31, of Walhalla, SC, was arrested for driving without a license, failing to stop a flashing red light and fleeing and eluding arrest.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Aug. 31.

Aug. 31

• At 10:36 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 south.

Sept. 2

**...SPIRITUALLY
SPEAKING from
page 16**

ness. Allow your mind to wander for a moment, if you will, around the idea of what a fully-engaged Christian world, that is a humanity laced with the "love" of God, could look like. Then, make your decision to be a progressive from God's point of view and allow Him to accomplish that progress in and through you by His Holy Spirit.

• At 7:42 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brookside Lane.

• At 7:56 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Shortoff Road.

• At 1:23 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Holt Road.

• At 7:14 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Turtle Pond Road.

Sept. 3

• At 8:38 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid at a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

• At 5:48 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on NC 106.

Sept. 4

• At 4:06 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mack Wilson Road.

• At 9:48 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Shortoff Road.

• At 10:32 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Bartram Way.

• At 12:16 p.m., the dept. stood by at the hospital for the MAMA helicopter.

• At 4 p.m. the dept. provided traffic control at N. 4th and Carolina Way.

Sept. 5

• At 9:20 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Rocky Ridge Road.

Sept. 6

• At 6:19 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cheney Lane.

Sept. 7

• At 8:06 p.m., the dept. conducted a smoke investigation in the Riverwalk area.

Sept. 9

• A little past midnight, the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mountain Laurel Drive.

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—or—

24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken tenders & 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

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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
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When it comes to selling, little things add up

When it comes to selling a home, it's those little things that add up. Whether you are talking chipped paint on a window sill, dirty windows, a torn screen, or a weed poking through on the front walkway, individually these things may not be a big deal, but together these small things add up to making a bad first impression. When making the decision to sell a home you are making the decision to prepare your home. A home is more likely to sell faster and at a better price after taking care of the small stuff.



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view it with as clear a vision as possible. Take in what looks great and pick apart the nitty gritty details. A clean and well-organized home that appears well taken care of is what buyers will be attracted to. Taking the time to prepare your home for potential buyers will pay off in the end.

Selling a home involves cleaning, inside and out. There are professionals in our area who specialize in this. Doing the cleaning yourself can be tedious, but it is an inexpensive way to instantly upgrade the look of your home.

Prior to hosting your first showings, start by walking around your home and when preparing the inside of your home

is the front entry. This is your home's calling card...the introduction to what a buyer will experience when he walks through your home. Walls, floors, and objects should be rubbed and dusted. If walls need a fresh coat of paint this will be a step you will not regret. Likewise a new runner or small area rug could add a pop and make a statement.

From your entryway continue on to the rest of your home. Pack away clutter, make sure drawers and closet shelves are organized and clutter-free. The more you can make your home shine the easier it will show. Cleaning is an important tool in your marketing kit.

Curb appeal gives a potential buyer the desired invitation to want to come inside. Yard clean-up, landscaping, trimmed bushes, etc are a great start. On the home's exterior, pressure washing and touch-up paint make a good first impression. Even subliminally, a clean and fresh exterior keeps a potential buyer from concentrating on negatives before they walk in the door. An exterior lack-

ing maintenance weighs on a buyer with concerns of all the things they will have to do if they purchase the home...thus it affects their offering price.

Last but not least, after getting everything in order, it is a good idea to have a Home Inspection. There are usually small things that can easily be corrected. You can be assured that a buyer will have an inspection. Your own inspection will avoid unnecessary surprises for you as well as the buyer. Most of us do not examine what goes on under a house, especially moisture issues which are common to our area. We also get used to things like those electrical outlets that don't work and a small crack or foggy window caused by a leak in the seal. The least their inspector finds will give a buyer comfort in closing on the property. Additionally, when a buyer hires an Appraiser, the Appraiser will take the condition and general "feel" of the home

• See INVESTING page 22

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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.

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Town of Highlands

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOB OPENING

Performs complex professional and administrative work directing the activities of the Planning & Development Dept.; facilitates the meetings of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board; and works closely with the Town's Land Use Committee, under the direct supervision of the Town Manager. Responsible for planning, zoning, watershed, floodplain, code enforcement, and all other related development and land use programs for the Town.

Job requirements are: Thorough knowledge of North Carolina's General Statutes and Planning Law; graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Planning or closely related field with a Master's Degree being a plus; currently certified or has the ability to obtain certification by the NC Association of Zoning Officials; 6 to 9 years of experience in planning, zoning, and code enforcement, or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities; must be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel software; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with Town employees, elected and appointed officials, other agencies, and the general public.

Open until filled. Applications and complete job description are available at the Town Hall or on our website at www.highlandsc.org. Resumes are accepted in addition to a completed application. The Town of Highlands is an Equal Opportunity Employer.(9/24)



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• every day 11 to close •

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Every day, 7 days a week.

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Starting Monday, Sept. 21!

☞ 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.



SUNDAY SOUTHERN BRUNCH BAR

Starting Sunday, Sept. 27!

☞ 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

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

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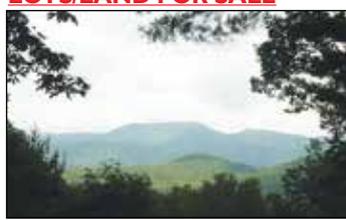
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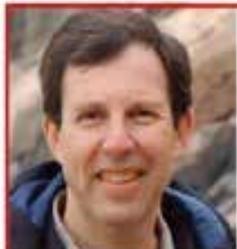
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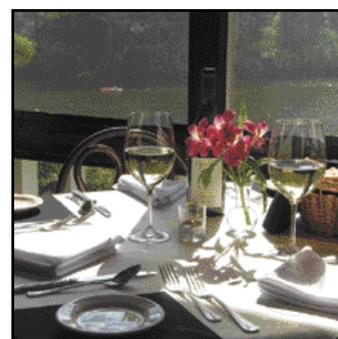
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