Highlands School hosts Little Smokey Mountain Conference

Senior basketball players and cheerleaders were honored at the Friday, Feb. 12 game at home.

Last Friday night at the Senior Night home game, Highlands Varsity Boys beat Blue Ridge 76 to 63 tying them for first place in the Little Smokey Mountain Conference.

High scorers were Johnny Lupoli with 21 points.

As is tradition, Friday night senior cheerleaders and Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball players and their parents were honored after the Varsity Girls game and before the Varsity Boys game.

The first round of Conference games was Tuesday night at Highlands School which is hosting the conference this year.

The Little Smokey Mountain Conference consists of schools in Highlands, Nantahala, Blue Ridge and Hiwassee Dam – schools that don’t have a football team.

Leaders in Highlands set out to create a green space and park for residents and visitors 10 years ago and with a $50,000 allocation from Macon County Commissioners, they are one step closer to finalizing Phase 2 of the Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park.

Phase 1 of the project started in 2006 with the original purchase of the property. The entire project was given a $1,800,000 price tag and over the last decade, Founders Park has been developed into much more than just a green space, with restroom facilities, covered stage, a respite area with benches and game tables and most recently an ice rink. The park on Pine Street has become a focal point for Highlands.

To date, Friends of Founders Park have raised $1,400,000 for the project.

Despite experiencing some of the worst flooding over the Christmas holidays in 15 years, Macon County was informed by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety that it didn’t qualify for financial assistance to clean up damages.

“Macon County has been notified that damages that occurred as a result of severe weather during the Christmas holidays will not be eligible for assistance through the individual assistance program of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety,” said Warren Cabe, Emergency Management Director for Macon County. “Although the county is on its own.
US Cellular to outline plan tonight at 6:30p

Tonight’s Highlands Town Board meeting has a light agenda. I want to remind everyone that US Cellular representatives will be at the Conference Center at 6:30 p.m. to share their proposed design for a cell tower. It would be located between and behind the EMS and Fire Department.

The board will also have a public hearing for the proposed addition to First Baptist Church.

We will also review the contract and plans for the proposed cell tower.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting. I also want to share my recent observations about our downtown area.

I have lived here for 17 years. Not too long ago, if I was on Main Street on a cold Saturday afternoon in February, I could look straight down the street without seeing cars in the middle parking area. Last Saturday afternoon I looked down the center of Main Street and all the center parking was full, as was the curb side parking.

Several thoughts came to mind. First, as I slowly drove down the street I noticed most car tags were from out of state. Second, I also rode down Spring Street, an employee parking area. It, too, was practically full. My conclusion was that the filled parking spaces on Main Street was not due to employees parking there because our parking regulations are not in effect this time of year, but rather because, now, even in winter, there are still many visitors in town.

One other wonderful observation was that the sidewalks were filled with people carrying shopping bags. What a great sight! The cold, but sunny weather, also resulted in our new skating rink being filled with folks enjoying skating.

Also, unlike the past, people are downtown well into the evening hours. Not too many years ago, at five in the afternoon the lights of the shops went out and everyone went home. Now, especially after this cold weather leaves us, people will be in Highlands enjoying refreshingly cool spring, summer and fall evenings.

My predecessor, David Wilkes, undertook several initiatives to enhance the downtown area. We continue enhancements such as the development of the park. Better communications throughout the town is an enhancement just around the corner. The Chamber, as well as our merchants who continually bring in new merchandise, promote events, such as musical concerts, all of which enhance downtown. Other amenities, like a movie theater showing first run movies, help make downtown the place to be while on the plateau.

I must also salute our downtown church congregations who add a special character to our hometown as a caring community.

Highlands has many good things happening all over, including downtown. Let’s all work together to keep the momentum going, and hope that the economy in the downtown area is enhanced.

Vic Drummond
Franklin

Vote against ‘Connect NC’ bond March 15

Dear Editor,

Voters should vote AGAINST the $2 billion “Connect NC” bonds on the March 15 ballot.

Gov. McCrory’s original “Connect NC” bond proposal was primarily for transportation. However, the legislature removed every transportation project. Now WNC University would get $110 million for a new building, but EVERY UNC university would also share in a $1.065 billion honey pot for buildings.

Southwestern CC would get $7.2 million for “New Construction, Repairs, Renovations,” but EVERY NC community college would share in a $350 million honey pot for the same. EVERY state park would share $75 million for undefined projects, and the NC Zoo would get $25 million for a new building. Other state entities would share the remaining $485 million.

This is the first state bond in fifteen years, since the legislature had been appropriating money for these types of projects through its budgets. Depending on the terms of the bonds sold over the next four years, adding in interest payments the $2 billion in projects could cost taxpayers as much as $3.5 billion.

These bonds will provide special interest vote-buying and résumé enhancers for the governor and every state legislator running for re-election in November. Why else place the bonds on the March ballot when only about half as many voters will vote on the issue versus in November? Bond opponents also have less opportunity to educate voters on the facts about these bonds with a March vote.

With this Christmas-in-March shotgun cash distribution, our legislators are abdicating their responsibilities to select the true “needs” versus the “wants” of those seeking taxpayer money.

Vic Drummond
Franklin

2016 Voting Regs

REGISTRATION OR PARTY CHANGE DEADLINE:
Residents who are not registered or those registered who need to make changes such as party, name, or address must do so by Friday, February 19, 2016 at 5 pm to be able to vote on Election Day.

ONE STOP LOCATIONS, DAYS AND TIMES
Macon County Board of Elections Office
(Macon County Courthouse)
5 W Main St, Franklin
Dates: March 3 - March 12
Monday-Friday 8AM to 6PM
Saturdays, March 5 and March 12 9AM to 1PM
Highlands Civic Center, 600 N 4th St., Highlands, NC
Dates: March 3 - March 12
Monday-Friday 9AM to 4PM
Saturdays, March 5 and March 12 9AM to 1PM

NOTE: Any registered voter in Macon County may vote at the Highlands One Stop site, you do not have to be a resident of Highlands.

For real time weather and the extended forecast go to www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather
Nights on Main

Call 828-787-2625 | Or Visit 200Main.com

*Rate varies depending on rooms and dates booked.
Package available: Sunday - Thursday Nights, excluding holidays. Based on Double Occupancy. Does not include tax or gratuity.

Martha Reese Lamb

Martha Reese Lamb, age 78, of Highlands, NC, passed away Sunday, February 7, 2016. She was born in Macon County, the daughter of the late Joseph Reese, Jr. and Lucille Pierson Reese. She was a hairdresser and a member of Highlands Presbyterian Church, where she sang in the choir.

She is survived by a daughter, Gina L. Thacker (Greg) of Virginia, a son, Brett D. Lamb (Cheryl) of Highlands, NC; four grandchildren, Cole Lamb, Quinn Thacker, Brent Sleigh and Kirstyn Lamb; two brothers, Louis W. Reese of Atlantic Beach, FL and Daniel Q. Reese of Lawrenceville, GA; several nieces and nephews also survive.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph R. Reese.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 20th at 3:00 pm at Highlands Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to a charity of your choice.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is serving the Lamb family. Online condolences may be made at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

...FOUNDERS continued from page 1

the completion of the park, with $690,000 used to build out Phase I. The remaining balance of the money is slated for the completion of Phase II of the park with $510,000 used to purchase and clear the Phase II property and approximately $200,000 to date for Phase II construction.

“The park has clearly been well received and is seen greater and greater use over time,” said Nicholas Bazan, president of Friends of Founders Park, Inc. “In addition, I believe that it has begun to attract a younger visitor population to our town that tends to spend more in our restaurants, hotels and retail stores.”

Last Tuesday night, MC commissioners voted to allocate a one-time donation of $50,000 to keep the project moving forward which will allow Phase 2 of the project to be completed on time.

Friends of Founders Park plan to continue raising money to ensure that the entire budgeted cost is secured. Commissioner Jim Tate, whose company Tate Landscaping is working on the project, abstained from voting or discussing the project.

The park was opened to the public last spring after the first phase of the park was completed. Since then, contractors have been working diligently on the second phase of the park and with the recent completion of the new square upon which the seasonal ice rink now stands, contractors can move on to the rest of the area.

The fundraising arm of the park, the Friends of the Founders Park has additional work to do to complete the park project including the construction of a central water feature, the addition of the reproduced Kelsey two-story fireplace, the extension of the pavers on Pine Street and Pine Street Alley, connecting walkways to tie the two phases of the park together and completion of plantings on the lower two levels of green space.

In addition, plans include the construction of memorial alcoves honoring the founding pioneers of Highlands — Samuel Truman Kelsey and Clinton Carter Hutchinson.

Major portions of the funding has come from the Town of Highlands, several foundations, members of the park coalition and over 450 private citizen donors. Art and Angela Williams of Old Edwards Hospitality Group (OEI) donated over $300,000 some of which went toward the completion of the ice rink project including the ice rink, the building and storage for the rink as well as the cost of ice-skates for the rink.

According to Bazan, the group plans to continue raising money to ensure the park is fully funded and completed on time – plans are for it to be completed by May of this year.

...MAYOR continued from page 2

region continues to remain strong.

I will have the honor of attending the Annual Highlands Fire Department Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday night. On behalf of all Highlanders, I thank these fine people for all the work they do throughout the year.

Mountaintop Wine Shoppe

Napa Technology Wine Stations
Always 16 wines to taste and enjoy!

Free Wine Tasting
Join us Saturday from 1-3pm as we taste some Winter favorites

Saturday Night Flights
Five wines with a cheese/meat/chocolate plate - $25 per person

Winter Sale continues
Stop by for some of the lowest prices of the year on great wines!

Open Tuesday - Saturday
269 Oak Street
Across from Reeves Hardware
www.mountaintopwineshoppe.com
Like us on Facebook
(828) 526-4080
Facebook.com/mountaintopwineshoppe
**Highlands Area Dining**

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**Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro**

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Bistro Service Starts at 4 pm • Dining Room Service Starts at 5:30 pm
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Town Square at 343-D Main St. • Highlands

828-526-4035

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Hand-tossed - thick, thin, pan
Gluten-free & Whole Wheat, too

6•10•14•16•20pies
Specialty Sandwiches, Hot Dogs & Salads,
Domestic & Imported Beers
Open 7 days a week from 11 a.m.
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Serving Breakfast & Lunch.

Monday: Saturday
Breakfast: 7:30-10:30am
Lunch: Until 2:30pm
Full cooked-to-order breakfast &
Daily Lunch Specials.

314 main Street, Highlands
(828) 526-3555

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Open DAILY for Lunch
11am - 4pm
Fri. & Sat. for dinner 'til 9p

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595 Franklin Road • Highlands, NC

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7 days a week • 7a to 6p • 526-0020
Highlands School Athletic Director and Head Coach of the Boys & Girls Varsity team Brett Lamb, all four teams make it into the tournament — they are seeded from the outcome of the regular season conference games.

The Tuesday night Varsity Girls game against Blue Ridge was postponed due to a wintry mix of snow and sleet. However, Varsity Boys did play Hiwassee Dam as scheduled. Highlands lost to Hiwassee 60 to 62. High scorers were Jose Jimenez with 21 points and Johnny Lupoli with 15 points.

The girls play tonight, Thursday, at 5 p.m. against Blue Ridge. If they win they will play in the championship game tonight at 6:30 p.m.

The boys are currently tied for 1st place with Nantahala and since both teams were eliminated from the conference tournament they have to break the tie. The boys will play Natahala at Franklin High School this Friday at 7 p.m. This will determine who gets the #1 seed from the conference. The game has to be played on a neutral court by conference by laws.

— Kim Lewicki
MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY
COOKING FOR HIGHLANDS

BREAKFAST
Full breakfast made to order every morning until 11:00 am
Cage-free eggs, waffles, french toast, sausage, ham, homemade biscuits, muffins, croissants. Espresso bar and coffee roasted in-house.

LUNCH & DINNER
Grill
Every day from 11:00am - close
Fresh angus burgers, fresh
Natural chicken breasts, fish or chicken tenders, cooked to order, hand-cut fries, salads, homemade soups, daily specials.
See our website for more info.

Pizza
Every day from 11:00am - close
Authentic Neapolitan and NY deck oven pizzas made from scratch. Pasta bowls, daily specials and weeknight dinner specials.
See our website for more info.

Soup & Salad Bar
Mon-Sat 11:00am – close
Fresh salads, homemade dressings, soups, chili and more.
$9.99 each (dine in) or $9.99 a pound (to go)

Weekday Lunch Special
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 each (dine in) or $9.99 a pound (to go)

SUNDAY SOUTHERN BRUNCH BAR
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.
$11.99 (dine in) or $9.99 a pound (to go)

PREPARED FOODS
A large selection of take-away items fully prepared, ready to take home including grilled pork loins, homemade mac & cheese, mashed potatoes, herb-rubbed chicken, made-in-house bbq, chicken salad deli salads & much more!

DINNER TO GO
A different full dinner every night. Serves four serving Monday through Saturday from 4:30 until we sell out – Call ahead to reserve.

Monday: choose either:
Four chicken and four cheese enchiladas, refried beans, monterey rice, homemade tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream.
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.
$20.95 serves four

Weeknight Pizza Special:
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.
Serves four for $20.95

WINE MARKET
Browse our Wine Spectator award-winning selection of wines w/ the best pricing in town. Run by a friendly & knowledgeable staff. Beer & wine available by the glass while you dine & shop.

BUTCHER
We sell only 100% premium angus beef, hand-cut in house. Stock up for the weekend on Angus Thursday with deep discounts on all of our steaks and ground beef every Thursday. Then stop by the take-out case to complete your dinner with twice baked potatoes, fresh salads and more!

SPECIALTY CHEESES
Dozens of cheeses, tapenades, olives and specialty items to choose from including our made in-house crackers.

BAKERY
Fresh loaves, baguettes, pastries, pies, layer and specialty cakes. Everything made from scratch.
The year 2015 was a strong one for real estate sales on the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau. Those homeowners who want to sell but have waited for the market to improve before listing their home might be tempted to jump in the market for 2016. The following factors may help those homeowners decide whether to come out of the shadows this year by objectively considering the market value of their home.

The True Market Value of Your Home IS:

- What a buyer is willing to pay for the property – TODAY
- Based on today’s market
- Based on today’s competition
- Based on today’s financing
- Based on today’s economic conditions
- Based on the buyer’s perception of property condition
- Based on location and amenities
- Based on normal marketing time

The Market Value of Your Home is NOT:

- What you have in it
- What you need out of it
- What you heard your neighbor’s house sold for
- What the tax office says it is worth
- What it is insured for
- What it is appraised for

Work closely with your real estate professional to determine a fair listing price as your home will attract the most attention when it is first listed. This selling season will still be, in all likelihood, a “Buyer’s Market,” so do not test the market by listing your home with an unrealistic asking price.

As a Seller, you do not control the market conditions, the motivation of your competition or the value of your home. As a Seller, what you do control is the price you ask, the condition of the property, access to the property and the broker you choose to sell your home.

Jody and Wood Lovell own Highlands Sotheby’s International Realty, the top producing real estate company in Highlands in 2014 and 2015 per the Highlands Cashiers MLS. With over 20 brokers and a new location at the corner of Main Street and Highway 64 in the heart of downtown Highlands and at the gate of Cullasaja Club, they are poised to help you with the sale of your home in 2016. Call their office at (828) 526-4104 or (828) 526-8300 to help with any of your real estate needs.
Winter Pool Schedule

Through May 26, 2016
LAP SWIM – ADULTS ONLY
Monday thru Friday
7 – 10 am, 6 lanes
AND Monday thru Thursday
5 – 6 pm, 1 or 2 lanes
Sharing pool with water
aerobics @ 5:15 on
Mondays, Tuesdays, and
Thursdays
PUBLIC SWIM
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
3 – 5 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
6 – 8 pm
Saturday 11 am – 6 pm
Sunday 1 – 5 pm
WATER AEROBICS
Monday-Friday
10:15 am
Monday - Thursday 5:15
(Sharing pool for public swim)
Saturday 11:15
(Sharing pool for public swim)
Fee: $4 per class or
$30 for 12 classes
POOL PARTIES
Pool available on
Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays
6 – 8 pm
Fee: $75 / $50 deposit required
$50 non-refundable deposit if party is cancelled or a no show less than 2 days before
1st Wednesday of the month—
Kayak Clinic
2nd Wednesday of the month—
Youth Night
3rd Wednesday of the month—
Water Volleyball
4th Wednesday of the month—
Senior Night
6:00 – 7:30 pm
Call us about membership fees
ICE SKATING RINK
Open Thursday 1-8p
Friday & Saturday 1-10p
Sunday 1-5p

Ongoing
• Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is open to all levels of swimmers ages 6-18. To sign up contact Coach Steve Hotz 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.

Last Sundays
• At The Wellness Center, donation based Sound Healing Concert. Learn how to use Music to heal your Nervous System and Reduce Your Stress Naturally at 3pm. 468 Dillard Road (828) 526 9698
• Low Stress...Fri., Sat., Sun.
• Movies at the Playhouse: 2, 5 & 8 p.m. Call 526-2685 for weekly movie.
• Mondays
• Shortford Baptist Church non-denominational Men’s Meeting at 7 pm first Mondays.
• The Humanist Discussion Group meets every Monday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 in the Meeting Room in the back of Hudson Library.
• High Cardio Zumba Fitness with Certified Instructor Tiffany Austin at 5:25 p.m.
• Mon. & Wed.
• Zumba with Mary K. Barbour at the Rec Park from noon to 1p. For more information, call 828.342.2498.
• 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 at 7 p.m. at Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Road, Franklin. Sponsored by the local affiliate of NAMI. For info call 828 369-7385.
• Tuesdays
• FREE Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.
• The Beyond the Walls Book discussion group meets at 4 PM at The Ugly Dog Public House. Each week a short story discussed.
• 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
• OccupyWNC meets at the Jackson County Justice Center. For more information, visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524
• Every 3rd Tuesday
• The Macon County Poultry club in Franklin meets at 7 pm at the Cooperative extension office on Thomas Heights Road. For more Information call 369-3916.
• Last Tuesdays
• At the Wellness Center, donation based Belly Dancing 101 at 6:30 p.m. 468 Dillard Road (828) 526 9698.
• Tuesday and Thursdays
• Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park 8:15 a.m.$5.
• Pickle ball is played from 11:30a to 1p in the gym at the Rec Park.
• Wednesdays
• At the Wellness Place at 6:30 p.m., donation based Art of Meditation. 468 Dillard Road (828) 526 9698.
• 1st Wednesdays
• Family Movies at the Hudson Library at 3:30pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.
• 3rd Wednesdays
• Recenty released movies at Hudson Library at 2pm. Call 828-526-3031 for titles.
• Thursdays
• Storytime with Miss Deanna at Hudson Library 10:40 am. Open to the public.
• Weight Watchers support group meets every Thursday at 5 p.m at Christ Church of the ValleyCall 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: from 4:30pm-6pm, Angel Medical Center, Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 120 Riverview Street, Contact Majestic 828-369-9474
• Kidney Smart Classes in Sylva: from, 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.
• At the Wellness Center, donation based Pinterer Friday at 6:30p. : Essential Oils, Appetizers and Crafts Night. 468 Dillard Road (828) 526 9698
• Every 3rd Friday
• Senior Dinners are at noon November through April.

Saturdays
• At The Wellness Place Donation based 9am Yoga For Dummies at 9 a.m. Fun, Judgment Free Zone, All Levels and All Ages! 468 Dillard Road (828) 526 9698.
• At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.

Thurs., Feb. 18
• Primary Candidates face off at the League of Women Voters Forum in Tartan Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin at noon.
• Taize at the Holy Family Lutheran Church in Highlands at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 704-516-7893.
• The Macon County Caregiver Group will be meeting at 6 PM at the Macon County Public Library. In the large meeting room.

Fri.-Sun., Feb. 19-21
• At PAC, the PAC Youth Theater will perform Ghosts & Grotesques. Adult tickets are $10 and all students and children are FREE. The PAC Youth Theater program is open to all students in the Highlands, Cashiers, Frank-
• Highlands Events •

lin areas free of charge. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands

Fri., Feb. 19
• The High Mountain Squares will host its annual “Rock n’ Roll 50’s Dance.” Friday night, February 19th. At the Macon County Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC. Work shop at 6:15, square dancing at 6:45 till 8:45 PM. The Jim Duncan from Otto, NC will be the caller. Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels.

Sat., Feb. 20
• The Highlands Plateau Greenway will conduct its monthly work day from 9a – noon this Saturday. If you are interested in participating, please email Ran Shaffner at highlandsgreenway@nctv.com or leave a message at 828-482-1451.
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 6.5-mile hike, elevation change 1000 ft., to Trimont Ridge on the Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell near Clayton, GA, passing a couple of waterfalls and interesting formations in the creek bed. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitors Center in Otto at 9 am, drive 35 miles round trip. Call leader Mary Stone, 369-7352, for reservations.

Thurs., Feb. 21
• US Cellular to make a presentation about its proposed 80-ft. tower at 6:30 p.m. BEFORE the Town Board meeting at the Community Building.

Fri., Feb. 26
• Community Coffee with the Mayor Pat Taylor at the Hudson Library meeting room from 11a to noon.

Sun., Feb. 27
• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6-mile hike, elevation change 520 ft., to Martin Creek Falls on the Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell near Clayton, GA, passing a couple of waterfalls and interesting formations in the creek bed. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitors Center in Otto at 9 am, drive 35 miles round trip. Call leader Mary Stone, 369-7352, for reservations.

HCP’s March Medley features 4 one-act plays and dinner!

Wayne Coleman asks Vangie Rich “Are you really going to buy those shoes?” A scene from “Metaphorical Shoes,” with Lynleigh McLean, directed by Donna Cochran.

Highlands Cashiers Players is preparing for its winter production, “March Medley.” It will consist of a four course dinner(brunch) interspersed with four one-act plays to be performed downstairs at the Performing Arts Center March 11, 12, and 13, and March 18, 19, and 20. Each of the four plays: “One Day at the Christmas Party,” “Funeral Arrangements,” “Metaphorical Shoes,” and “Misfortune” poses a common question audiences will empathize with. As seating is limited, please plan to call 828 526 8084 for reservations. Dinner theater goers are sure to enjoy a pleasant evening of dinner and 4 “good plays well done.”

Flying high at 99

In WWII, Nels Glesne served in the Army Air Corps, training the greatest generation’s flyers. His passion for adventure continued in civilian life where he would walk ten miles a day through the backwoods of Wisconsin selecting trees to cut for timber. After retiring to western North Carolina, he continued to be active, playing tennis and hiking daily, well into his nineties.

One day he noticed his usual high level of activity was leaving him winded. His doctors at Mission Heart discovered one of his heart valves was failing. Just a few years prior, this would have meant the end of Nels' dynamic, athletic lifestyle and the beginning of gradual decline. But Mission Health had just become the first in the region to offer a revolutionary new treatment – TAVR – which could repair his valve without open-heart surgery.

Nels leapt at the chance to reclaim his former vitality. He underwent the elective surgery, and within weeks he was back on the courts, playing doubles tennis with men decades his junior. On his 99th birthday, Nels returned to the air by zip-lining through the trees, and for his 100th, he’s learning to kite surf.

Apparently, he’s not quite ready to come in for a landing.

Whether you’re trying to be well, get well or stay well, Mission Health offers you and your family access to the best people, resources and advanced technology to help you achieve and exceed your personal health goals.

To hear more personal stories like Nels', visit: mission-health.org/NelsHN

Trust God & the Highlands Police Force
By Pastor Gary Hewins
Community Bible Church

Our nation is going through a troubling time regarding our public perception of police officers. On one hand there has been an erosion of respect for police officers as our protectors and authority figures. On another hand, many are voicing their strong opinions that while there may be some “bad apples” out there, they don’t necessarily spoil the whole bushel. Some communities are demonstrating their strong support of their police force by placing our national motto on police cars, “In God We Trust.” Highlands as a community has chosen not to do so such a thing. Highlands police will not be seen patrolling our community with the words “In God We Trust” on their patrol cars.

Is it that important that such words be adhered to a police car? I have been thinking about that recently. Does having our national motto on our money or on some of our governmental buildings or police cars actually mean that we do in fact trust in God? Of course not. Such a debate is certainly secondary to the actual trusting in God whether the words are written or not. I suppose from an atheistic perspective it would be better not to make such words visible, at least it is honest and authentic. Who needs a farce? We have enough farces.

However, the decision to refrain from such offensive things like “God” or “trusting in God” on behalf of police officers does send a message of sorts to our officers who stand in harms way on our behalf. We should probably think about that, too.

When an officer draws his gun and in a matter of nanoseconds makes a decision whether to pull the trigger or not I would prefer we would trust in God not just on the officers training, mood, agenda, perception or what kind of sleep they had last night. Who wants innocent people shot or guilty people wasted for that matter? Trusting in God can’t hurt can it?

When someone pulls a gun on an unarmed officer, I wonder if the officer, after thinking of his/her children and spouse, wants to trust in the perpetrator’s judgment, rage, hurt, or altered state to make a decision to fire? I am thinking the officer might be trusting in God on some level in that moment.

When an officer is desperately searching for an abducted child, should we have the audacity to call upon God in such dyer circumstances? I hope that is OK. What would the parents prefer? I hope we don’t have to read a motto on our patrol cars to have license to believe.

When an officer enters a home with a warrant for a violent criminal, heart pounding, and adrenaline pumping, does he or she sense the backing of the local government and the sentiment of the community to perform their duties and return home after their shift knowing that the community of faith in the area appreciates them and prays for them? I hope so.

Words on cars can communicate ideologies that individuals in government despise. We all have this guaranteed right in this country. A flag, which we do not have

**Spirituallly Speaking**

**Proverbs 3:5**

**Places to Worship**

John 3:16

**BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.
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 a.m.

**CHAPHEL 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
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; SS 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching
Tues. Guys study 8am, Girls 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.: 9:30a: 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: Education for Adults, 9 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II, (chapel), 10:30 a.m.
8 a.m., services and Healing services will resume in the spring.

**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 Russell & 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

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**HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH**
Hwy 107N. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729
Pastor Nathan Johnson
Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p

**HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street
Sundays: Worship: 11 a.m.

**HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH**
Pastor Dan Robinson
670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)
Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45 a.m., Evening Worship, 6p.
Wednesday: Bible Study. 6:30p; Prayer Mtg., 7:30p.

**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 (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)
Wed: 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

**SCALLY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH**
Rev. Marty Kilby
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

**SCALLY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD**
290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Jerry David Hall • 526-3212
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. 
Wed: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

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

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
1458 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 & 11 a
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 a.m., Worship Service: 11 a.m.
The Highlands Police log entries from Feb. 2. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Feb. 2
• At 9:23 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 106.

Feb. 4
• At 8:30 a.m., criminal damage to property and a larceny was reported at Dusty's Superette where the locks on two drink machines were broken and money was taken.

Feb. 10
• At 9:20 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Wilson Road.

Feb. 10
• At 6:08 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers FD.

Feb. 13
• At 3:15 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cheyenne Drive.
• At 10:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cullasaja Club Drive.

Public Information from the Town of Highlands

Public Information Town Hall Meeting on the proposed US Cellular Cell Phone Tower. The meeting will be at 6:30pm, February 18th before the regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting in the Community Building. This is not a required meeting and is for information only.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 10

the freedom to burn is in no way a true symbol of freedom.

We all have the freedom of choice given to us by God. Given to us by God is the freedom to reject him. Why is that so? God wants a relationship with each of us and he wants to enter into that relationship when each of us is willing. Love without willingness isn’t love at all.

In the meantime we will go without our national motto on the Highlands police cars. But so what? The real question is whether or not we are supporting and praying for our first responders. If ever you need a potential hero in a grievous situation wouldn’t you want them already prayed for and trusting in God rather than operating on their own personal limitations? I know I would.

Here is a message for the police and first responders in Highlands. Thank you! The church in Highlands is trusting God on your behalf. Keep up the good work. Here are two verses that communicate the sentiment of those who appreciate you most:

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. John 15:13

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. Psalm 20:7

Dino A. Graziano, MD, has joined Highlands-Cashiers Hospital emergency department/hospitalist group in Highlands.

Dr. Graziano earned his medical degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, DC. He is board certified in family medicine, advanced cardiac life support, pediatric advanced life support and advanced trauma life support.

He is a member of the American Academy of Family physicians, as well as the American College of Emergency Physicians. Dr. Graziano most recently practiced at Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes in Danbury, North Carolina.

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is located at 190 Hospital Drive, Highlands. For inquiries, call (828) 526-1200.
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102 S. Main Street, Clayton, GA 30525
Mrs. Fletcher Wolfe honored at birthday celebration

Highlands residents Mr. and Mrs. John Maddox joined a group of 75 artists and educators who honored Mrs. Fletcher Wolfe on the occasion of her 85th birthday last week in Atlanta. Mrs. Wolfe, well known for her contributions to Atlanta's art community, taught art in Atlanta for many years there while also acting as the set and costume designer for the opera and ballet companies.

Mrs. Wolfe has received many accolades over the years for her art work abroad and they include the Jeanne D’Arc Gold Medal awarded her by the City of Orleans, France. She was also honored by Italy’s Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and had an audience with the Late Pope John Paul II. Other Highlanders attending this event were the speaker of the evening Reverend Brian Sullivan, former Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation and his wife, Mindy.

Following an hors d’oeuvres and cocktail hour in the Druid Hills home of The Atlanta Boy Choir, a seated dinner was given for all the guests. Some of those attending this event were Dr. James Mellichamp, president of Piedmont College and Dr. Joseph Meeks, Fine Arts dean at Kennesaw State University. Hans Fräbel, the internationally renowned glass artist, presented Mrs. Wolfe with a special creation of his incorporating life-like flowers.

After a documentary slideshow featuring Mrs. Wolfe’s life and works, the guests were entertained by recording artist Darrel McGhee and Highlands own concert Pianist, Dr. Robert Henry. Also attending this event was Highlands art gallery owner, Ann Jacob.

Maestro and Mrs. Wolfe, longtime Highlands residents, now reside in Sky Valley, GA. Maestro Wolfe still directs The Atlanta Boy Choir. The choir sings in Highlands on May 22nd at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.
HELP WANTED
FINE DINING RESTAURANT IN HIGHLANDS looking for experienced line cook, March through November. Please email resume to lakesiderestaurant@frontier.com (st. 2/4)

POSITIONS OPEN AT CHESTNUT HILL RETIREMENT CENTER for C.N.A., MedAide, LPN, transportation and waitstaff. Apply at 24 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC. (828)526-5251. (st. 1/28)

WOLFGANGS RESTAURANT IS REOPENING ON FEBRUARY 12TH. Looking for experienced waitstaff and bartender. Please call Jacque at 828.526.3807. (st. 1/21)

THE HIGHLANDS BBQ CO. is seeking Servers, Hosts, Bartenders and Line Cooks. If Interested, Please call 828-200-1500 or Send a Resume to HighlandsBBQCompany@gmail.com (st. 7/2)

SALES ASSOCIATE FOR HIGH END CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS, NC full time “with benefits. part time and seasonal. Must be available to work weekends. Retail clothing sales experience preferred. Please call 828-200-0928 (st. 4/30)

HOUSING NEEDED
HIGHLANDS SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINER needs housing Feb.–May. Has dogs. Please call Athletic Director Brett Lamb at 828-526-2147 ext. 306. (st. 2/18)

LOTS/LAND FOR SALE
LOT. 10 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN HIGHLANDS. 2.01 acres with Mountain Ridge and Meadow Views between Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls & Cullasaja Falls, Gorge. Lot cleared, driveway and new septic system. Tax Value is $89,410., Quick Sale at $49,900. Firm. 828-200-0949. (st. 9/3)

WOODED LOT W/ STREAM FOR SALE – MIRRORMONT AREA. Berit Ln., 1.45 acres, 4-Br septic permit, walk-to-town, Priced to sell. 770-861-4249. (st. 7/23)

ACRE LOT HIGHLANDS, NC Corner Lot Highlands Glen, level with some gentle slopes excavation and foundation expenses would be reasonable, underground power installed. Stream runs year round could be configured to make a small pond, good water sources for well. Space for outbuildings or RV, boat storage. 6 Miles to downtown. $27,000 possible owner financing 828-507-2066 (st. 7/2)

COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE TWO UNITS THAT COULD BE ONE – 1,200 sq. ft. each – on corner of 4th and Main, one of Highlands’ busiest corners. For information contact Jim Bryson at 828-226-2911 (st. 1/14)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT GREAT, 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT on Main Street, Highlands. Central Heat/AC, W/D, full kitchen, unfurnished. No smoking/no pets. Call John Dotson (828) 526-5587 (st. 2/18)

RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE 2 B/R, 2 BA CHALET WITH LOFT AND LARGE SCENIC DECK. Neat, clean and ready to move in. Elderly, long-time owner must sell before Spring season. Selling as is and fully furnished. Priced below appraisal. February price $142K firm, but price will be reduced $3,000/month through the end of April. Call owner at 770-393-4597 (Atlanta) (st. 2/4)

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Thank you for a wonderful 2015.
We are closed for the winter but will see you in the spring!

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