

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 13, No. 11

Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com

Thurs., March 17, 2016

Community's effort to stop resurrection of hydro power plant on Cullasaja River is successful

Wednesday of last week, Mayor Pat Taylor learned that Highlands' grassroots effort to thwart the resurrection of a

hydro power plant on the Cullasaja River in the vicinity of Bridal Veil Falls worked.

"We have filed a request

with the FERC to surrender our preliminary permit," reads an email from Colin Gaines with Advanced Hydropower to Ju-

lie Moore with the federal forest service. "Thank you for your help over the past couple of years."

• See **HYDRO** page 5

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Highlands Hurricanes swimmers upset Franklin

By Kristina Kaylor

The Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team upset Franklin (FAST) in the Spring Splash 2016 in Murphy on Saturday, March 12.

Led by Chase Kenter (33 points) and Kate Phillips (25 points), both who scored in all 5 events in which they were eligible to swim, the Highlands Hur-

ricanes Swim Team scored 126 points to Franklin's 106. The 5 team meet was won by the North Georgia Rapids.

Also scoring for the Hurricanes were Rylee Kay Watson (16 points); Conner Hughes (15 points); Sadie Green (11 points); Finneaus Garner (8 points); Mia Kaylor (6 points); Vivian Ken-

• See **HURRICANES** page 9



From left, Madison Lloyd, Whitney Billingsley, Emily Crowe, Coach Brett Lamb.

HS basketball season highlights

Varsity Girls Basketball

- 2nd place finish in conference

- Team advanced to the 2nd round of the state playoffs

- Whitney Billingsley and Madison Lloyd were named 1st team All-Conference

- Emily Crowe was named honorable mention All-Conference

- Whitney Billingsley was named to the 1A West All-Star team.

Varsity Boys Basketball

- Regular season Conference Champions

- Played 1st round of state playoffs

- Johnny Lupoli was named to the 1st team all-conference

- Jose Jimenez and Colin Weller were named honorable mention All-Conference

- Johnny Lupoli, Colin Weller and Dylan Vinson were named to the 1A West All-Star Team.

- Brett Lamb: Coach of the year



From left, Colin Weller, Jose Jimenez, Johnny Lupoli, Coach Brett Lamb.

Photos by Carol Bowen

2016 Primary election results

Less than half of the registered voters in Macon County showed up at the polls on Tuesday for the primary election, with only 9,718 of the county's 24,554 registered voters casting a ballot. The nearly 40 percent of residents who voted on Tuesday determined the Republican candidates for two county commissioner seats.

With 3,151 votes, Karl Gillespie beat Ron Haven for the Republican spot on the November ballot for Macon County

District II board of commissioner seat. Gillespie will appear on the November election against Charlie Leatherman, a Democrat and former county commissioner. In Highlands, 250 ballots were cast on Tuesday in the District II race, 118 for Gillespie and 132 for Haven. In Flats, 77 ballots were cast on Tuesday in the District II race, 28 for Gillespie and 49 for Haven.

With 2,618 votes, Republican incumbent Paul Higdon secured his place on the November ballot

• See **RESULTS** page 6

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Mal Phillips, Broker-in-Charge

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

The arts are alive and well in Highlands

Many years ago as a graduate student in the University of Georgia Art School, I was the setup man for Lamar Dodd, the famous Georgia artist and school director. I accompanied Dodd to various venues to set up his slide presentations. His presentations always had the theme of the value of the arts in civilizations throughout the world. Even to this day, Dodd, in my opinion, is the most inspiring advocate for the arts whom I have ever heard of, although the late Robert Shaw of Atlanta Symphony was an equally passionate advocate.

In every presentation Dodd would stress that art is hard work. If a student was in a Lamar Dodd art class, he or she had better be physically and mentally engaged in making art whether it be painting or drawing. I have heard legendary stories from members of Shaw's chorale that he too had similar demands.

I was a part of an art production this week where everyone was working very, very hard like Dodd and Shaw would have expected. I am a participant in the March Medley Dinner Theatre that is being pro-



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

duced by the Highlands/Cashiers Players.

While my colleagues in these one-act plays are volunteers, they perform at a high level of intensity, professionalism and commitment. Everyone, the actors, directors and support staff work very, very hard, without financial compensation. They work hard for the sheer joy of artistic creation.

You might say I am a participant/observer in that this is my first theatrical performance. The experience has given me a renewed appreciation of all the arts in our community. Everyone in our arts community work unbelievably hard to bring first-rate arts experiences to Highlands and Cashiers.

We have been identified as one of the best small town arts venues in the entire nation. As we move toward a new arts season on the plateau, I hope everyone will support these outstanding organizations and the upcoming events. The folks working in the arts are our friends and neighbors. They expend their time and energy because they love the arts.

All of these organizations are preparing for the upcoming season. The Performing Arts Center has a great lineup of live, touring performances this year which are augmented by their highly successful arts simulcasts from national arts venues.

The Highlands/Cashiers Players has a great schedule of plays for the coming year. The Chamber Music Festival and Bel Canto are planning a fabulous lineup of nationally acclaimed performers. The Highlands Playhouse has, as always, a wonderful series of summer stock productions, in addition to

a year round schedule of first run movies.

The Bascom will be presenting a full array of exhibitions and a complete schedule of workshops and classes. Highlands is also blessed with many creative arts groups like the Men's and Community Choruses, the Highlands/Cashiers Art League, the PAC Youth Theatre, Center for Life Enrichment, the Highlands Writers Group, and area art galleries.

The arts are essential to a community dedicated to maintaining a high quality of life for its residents. Let's support them all.

By the way, the dinner theatre play I

am in continues to run this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Call the HCPAC box office at 526-8084 for tickets. Your mayor has had visions of moving to the governor's mansion, but now after this came with the Highlands/Cashiers Players, it's on to Broadway!

Back down to earth, the Town Board meeting is tonight at 7pm at the Community Building. The agenda is very light with a revisit of the First Baptist Church conditional zoning request and hearing a report and request from the fire department.

• MILESTONE •

Vote for Dr. 'Dr. B!'



Dr. John Baumrucker was nominated to receive the North Carolina "Doctor of the Year" award. He has been placed in the top 10 from 300+ nominations. Voting is March 18-27. The award presentation will be March 30.

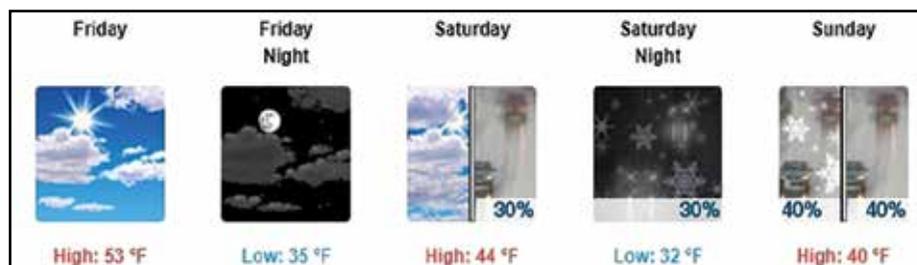
To vote, go to ncdoctorsday.org.

The winner receives a large cash award to be used in the community to improve health care.

Dr. Baumrucker was the second doctor to locate in Highlands and has practiced in the area for 45 years.

He has also spearheaded the Bolivia Mission in Montero, Bolivia.

• WEEKEND WEATHER •



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

Highlands Newspaper

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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.

• OBITUARIES •

William 'Bill' Wolfrey



William "Bill" Wolfrey, 71, of Clayton, GA died March 4, 2016.

Mr. Wolfrey was a builder of homes and shopping centers in Virginia; he loved cars; was involved in bus ministry and worked with teens for 35 years. He played the bass guitar and was 30 years old when he trusted in Christ as his Savior.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Betty Jewel Wolfrey; one daughter, Barbara Carol Maggard of Clayton; two sons, William Roger Wolfrey, Jr. (Melissa) of Clayton and Russell Lyn Wolfrey (Ronda) of Sylva; grandchildren, Brent Maggard, Ethan Maggard, Cody Maggard, Amanda Wolfrey, Andrea Wolfrey, Anthony Wolfrey, Josh Wolfrey and Kaitlyn Wolfrey; one brother, Charles Franklin "Butch" Wolfrey (Cathy) of Ladysmith, VA; one aunt, Geraldine Kagey of Dade

City, FL; a sister-in-law, Earline Wolfrey of Manassas, VA. He was preceded in death by his parents, Barbara Stewart and William Robert Wolfrey; a brother, Robert Fred Wolfrey and an infant child.

A funeral service was held Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Macedonia Baptist Church with Rev. Troy Nicholson, Rev. Roy Lowe, Rev. Clinton Owens and Rev. Rusty Wolfrey officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Pallbearers were Dennis Ivester, Ralph Reed, Morris Nix, Anthony Wolfrey, Josh Wolfrey and Ethan Maggard. Honorary pallbearers were Russ Shaw, Dennis Campbell, Henry Russell, Steve Nix and Alvin Moore.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is serving the Wolfrey family. Online condolences are available at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

William Louis Bumgarner



William Louis Bumgarner, age 79, of the Locust Creek Community, Sylva, NC, died at the Homestead in Clyde, NC, Monday, March 7, 2016. He was born November 21, 1936 in Jackson County, NC, to the late Joseph and Hattie Worley Bumgarner. He is survived by his wife of 49 years and 9 months, Judy Scott Bumgarner.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Jack, Alvin and Robert, two sisters, Sallie Bumgarner and Evelyn Lupo; and one nephew, Logan Bumgarner.

He retired from Western Carolina University as a Ground Maintenance Supervisor.

In all situations, Bill was a quiet, pleasant and patient man, rarely complaining, always smiling. Bill was dedicated to his family. He took care of his mother, sister, and brother and his in-laws Robert and Inez Scott.

He loved to be in the woods with his wild animals. His favorite pastime was on his farm tractor or on his riding lawn mowers. Bill was a perfectionist in every-

thing he did, even taking care of injured and abandoned animals. He was always looking for ways to help the sick and elderly. He would buy food or donate wood from his farm.

His favorite homes to visit were those of Mattie Buchanan and Ann Sanders. Special thanks to his good neighbors and friends Doug and Mabelle Samuels, Earlene

Deitz, Johnny Brooks, Margie Arrowood, Rose Garrett, Butch Rhinehart and Scottie Buchanan.

Graveside services were held Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Watauga Baptist Church Cemetery, with Rev. Mike Farmer and Rev. Wesley Price officiating. Pallbearers were Ed Scott, Danny Keener, Allen Mashburn, Melvin Mashburn, Jonathan Painter, Dwight Cassada and Norris Clouse. Honorary pallbearers were Johnny Brooks, Sam Deitz, Butch Rhinehart and Scottie Buchanan.

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

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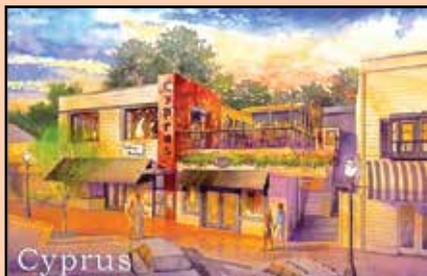
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...HYDRO continued from page 1

The town got wind of Advanced Hydropower's plan in November of 2014 and began a concerted effort to stop it. The company wanted to lease the site from the US Forest Service and rebuild the plant the town officially abandoned in 1996 to generate green energy which it planned on selling back to Duke Power. Under their proposal, Advanced Hydropower would generate 775 KW at peak times, and make over \$200,000 a year by selling power and green energy credits back to Duke.

Though the plan was to resurrect the mode of power generation – that of hydro power – Gaines objected to the term.

"I think it is important to distinguish between "resurrecting" the previous hydroelectric facility and establishing an almost entirely new hydroelectric facility on the Cullasaja," he said in an email. "It is our opinion that under the Federal Power Act, only the Town of Highlands has the ability to "resurrect" the facility they once owned for several statutory reasons. We were attempting to build a new, smaller facility downstream of the town's property on National Forest Lands. We feel that we were up front about this from the very beginning."

As filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, (FERC) the reason for surrendering its preliminary permit is as follows: Advanced Hydropower has recently completed the feasibility analysis of 10 different waterpower project configurations of the natural resource covered by the preliminary permit. After careful consideration and evaluation of the results, we have determined that while development and operation of the potential project is economically feasible in the long term (30-50 years) it is not in our best interest to continue with the licensing process at this time. In order to allow other potentially interested entities the opportunity to proceed with development of the natural resource covered by our preliminary permit, and in accordance with the intent of a preliminary permit as outlined by the Federal Power Act, we hereby request that the Commission accept this

letter as our formal request to surrender the preliminary permit effective immediately.

Landscape Architect Hank Ross, who spoke often at Town Board meetings against the proposal thanked everyone for applying pressure against the idea. "It worked but took a while longer than expected. Well done," he said in an email.

Now what to do to keep it out of other developers' sights?

"One way to preserve the power plant and protect it from future attempts by outside speculators to develop it might be to nominate it for the National Register of Historic Places," said Ran Shaffner with the Highlands Historical Society. "I'm working on a similar nomination for the Prince House, which includes mention of the power plant as an integral part of the historical development of

• See HYDRO page 14

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School board looks to reallocate 2016-'17 funds to meet personnel needs

Last month, principals across the district submitted a list of personnel requests for the upcoming school year to the Macon County Board of Education during the board's annual retreat. Similar to how the school system prioritizes the capital outlay needs of the county, each respective school site submitted comprehensive personnel requests, and then, as a group, prioritized each request based on existing funds that could be reallocated within the budget.

In total, the district's 10 schools, as well as the bus garage and maintenance department, identified the need for 27 new positions totaling \$852,450. After prioritizing each request, the final personnel list submitted to the school board totaled \$444,850 and includes 16 positions ranging from teachers to mechanics.

Highlands School initially requested a Kindergarten teacher in the amount of \$48,500. Principal Brian Jetter explained that the need for the position was based on the enrollment for the coming year. "If we get 32 to 33 kindergarteners, we're going to need another teacher because of numbers," he said to the board. However, after the prioritizing process, the position did not make the list for the coming year.

However, at the close of kindergarten registration at Highlands School, Tuesday, Principal Jetter said he expects about 22

new kindergarteners for the 2016-'17 school year so he doesn't think an extra teacher will be needed.

Cartoogachaye Elementary School asked for \$55,000 to fund a new assistant principal/lead teacher position. The board priority list funded half of the position in the amount of \$24,250.

East Franklin Elementary's initial request included \$48,500 for a new teacher position and \$25,000 for a new teacher assistant position. Both positions made the final cut. East Franklin's request for a clerical position in the amount of \$21,000 was not included in the final list.

Iotla Valley Elementary School requested an assistant principal/lead teacher position costing \$55,000 and a custodian position at \$35,000, both of which were approved. Iotla's \$32,000 request for a teacher assistant and \$24,250 request to cover half of the cost for an ESL teacher was not included in the final list.

South Macon Elementary School was granted a 4th grade teacher position totaling \$48,500 and a teacher assistant position at \$32,000. South Macon's initial request for \$48,500 for a new kindergarten position was not approved.

Macon Middle School requested three new positions, \$24,250 for half of an ESL position, \$4,100 for one month salary for the guidance position to handle a transition period over

the summer, and \$5,000 to cover the cost of an assistant principal/lead teacher for one month. All three funding requests were granted.

Mountain View Intermediate requested funding for half of an ESL position salary in the amount off \$24,250, which made the prioritized list.

Union Academy requested three positions; funding for .75 of a teacher position at \$36,350, \$35,000 for a custodian, and \$17,500 for a clerical position. The final list included \$17,500 to meet half of Union Academy's request for a custodian position.

Macon Early College was granted \$24,250 to fund half of the initial request of \$48,500 for a new teacher position.

Franklin High School requested \$48,500 for a new language arts teacher, \$5,000 for one month funding for an assistant principal, \$5,000 for part of a custodian salary, \$48,500 for a history teacher, and \$24,250 for an ESL teacher. The only position funded from FHS request was for the ESL teacher.

Both the district's maintenance garage and bus garages requested additional personnel, \$48,000 for a mechanics and \$5,000 for an assistant. Both requests made the final list.

Nantahala School did not submit any requests.



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...RESULTS continued from page 1

where he will face Democrat Bobby Koppers. Higdon defeated Mary Carrion (1,719 votes) and Greg Boyer (1,400 votes). In Highlands, 277 ballots were cast on Tuesday in the District III race, 124 for Higdon, 75 for Carrion, and 78 for Boyer. In Flats, 78 ballots were cast on Tuesday in the District III race, 55 for Higdon, six for Carrion, and 17 for Boyer.

Current Macon County Commissioner Kevin Corbin secured the Republican nomination for the North Carolina House of Representative District 120 seat with

73.85 percent of the votes. Corbin beat challenger Elliott Southworth who received 3,550 votes to Corbin's 10,028. In Highlands, 279 ballots were cast on Tuesday in the District 120 race, 245 for Corbin, and 34 for Southworth. In the November general election, Randy Darrell Hogsd of Andrews will appear on the ballot challenging Corbin for the District 120 seat. In Flats, 82 ballots were cast on Tuesday in the District 120 race, 59 for Corbin and 23 for Southworth.

"I credit our overwhelming

• See RESULTS page 9



William "Pops" Shaheen of Scaly Mountain did his part on Tuesday ... did you?

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Holy Week Schedule

<p><u>Palm Sunday, March 20</u> 10:30am in the Nave</p> <p><u>Monday, March 21</u> 5:30pm in the Chapel</p> <p><u>Tuesday, March 22</u> 5:30pm in the Chapel</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 23</u> 5:30pm in the Chapel</p> <p><u>Thursday, March 24</u> 7pm Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>in the Chapel</p> <p><u>Good Friday, March 25</u> 12 noon Community Stations of the Cross</p> <p>1:30 Good Friday Liturgy in the Chapel</p> <p><u>Easter Sunday, March 27</u> Holy Eucharist Rite II 9am & 11am In the Nave *No Sunday School</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt on the Playground after the 11 a.m. service</p>
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Centering Prayer Monday-Friday at 9am in the Chapel

Macon County mourns the death of a toddler

Funeral services for two-year-old Mason Powell were held in Franklin on Monday, nearly a week after Mason was first taken to Angel Medical Center by his parents, Jeromy and Audrey Powell.

Last Tuesday, the Franklin Police Department, along with the State Bureau of Investigation launched an investigation into Mason's death, after Macon County Medical Examiner Jim Ledford determined that Mason was taken to AMC after being deceased for at least 24 hours.

The investigation into Mason's suspicious death was labeled as a homicide after Mason's father showed up at Angel Medical center with him on Tuesday afternoon. According to search warrants, Mason was pronounced dead by hospital staff when no heartbeat was detected. After arriving at the hospital, hospital staff said Mason was green and black-colored and the skin on his legs blistered and peeling.

The search warrant on file, reports that Mason was napping with his mother Audrey on Tuesday beginning at noon, according to Audrey. Audrey reported to police initially that when she woke from her nap that afternoon, she found Mason to be blue colored and unresponsive. She then woke her husband who was also sleeping. She told investigators that she couldn't locate a phone to call 911, so instead they

couple drove Mason to Angel Medical Center.

Jeromy stayed with Mason at the hospital while Audrey told investigators she returned home in the couple's vehicle before having a neighbor driver her back to the hospital.

Because of the suspicious nature of the death, a search warrant was issued for the couple vehicle and home. The search warrant called for authorities to seize items such as pictures, blood, clothing, and items that could be used to cause blunt force injuries, prescriptions and any other items that could be related to Mason's death.

Authorities collected a number of items from both the vehicle and the home including assorted medications, two tablets and a lap top, green towel and blue wash cloth from the carpet in living room, a clear plastic bag with green vegetable matter, and bedding material containing red stains from the bed in master bedroom.

As of Tuesday, Franklin Police Chief David Adams said no charges have been filed in the death as no cause of death has been determined. Authorities are waiting the results of an autopsy, which could be several weeks before being returned from Winston Salem, NC.

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Nominate your 'Public Health Hero'

April is Public Health Month in NC and to raise awareness about the important role public health plays in our lives, Macon County Public Health will recognize a "Public Health Hero" in the month of April. Citizens may nominate community volunteers for this award by completing the short nomination form found at: <http://maconnc.org/images/health/PublicHealthHero-2015-Nomination%20Form.pdf>.

Tell us your stories about people who've made a difference in the health of our community, so nominate a deserving volunteer by April 4th. For more information, you can contact Lynnda Baker, Population Health Section Administrator, at 828-349-2437.

Highlands named one of south's 'Best Small Towns'

Southern Living has named Highlands, NC as one of its top small town destinations. Highlands is a retreat in every sense of the word. Less than 1,000 people live year-round in this mountain town, which has perfected the art of relaxation, from the plush digs at Old Edwards Inn to the impressive number of fine dining options. Downtown is lined with upscale boutiques and galleries, all of which sit within striking distance of some of North Carolina's most dramatic peaks and rivers. highlandschamber.org



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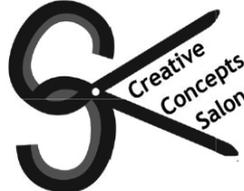
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...HURRICANES continued from page 1



Back row from left is Head Coach Steve Hott, Asst. Coach Jordan Kenter (with son and youngest swim team member Blake Kenter on his shoulders), and Landon Green. Front row from left is Peyton Kaylor, Mia Kaylor, Finneaus Garner, Sadie Green, Conner Hughes, and Chase Kenter. Not pictured are Kate Phillips, Vivian Kennedy, and Rylee Kay Watson

nedy (5 points); and Peyton Kaylor (4 points). Each swimmer was entered in 3 to 5 events including Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Freestyle, and the Individual Medley (IM, all 4 strokes in one race). 7 points were awarded to 1st place finishes, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 3 for 4th, 2 for 5th, and 1 for 6th. Injured or too ill to compete were Ansley Hughes and Landon Green.

The Hurricanes won 7 of the 22 events they entered, scored in 32 of the 41 times they swam (multiple swimmers were in some events) and broke 12 team records. Chase Kenter set new team records all 5 times he swam. Kate Phillips set team records in the 100 yard IM and the 50 yard Breaststroke. Conner Hughes set team records in the 25 freestyle and the 25 breaststroke. Finneaus Garner set team records in the 50 free and the 50 fly. Rylee Kay Watson set a team record in the 25 free.

...RESULTS continued from page 6

victory in Macon County to the exceptional job my fellow commissioners have done," said Corbin. "I give them credit for working alongside me to make Macon County a better place. As a county commissioner, it has been a team effort. I thank the entire board for this big victory for Macon County."

About two-thirds of voters across North Carolina voted to approve the \$2 billion Connect NC bond package that

The Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team practices at the Highlands Recreation Park Pool all year round. Winter practices are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 6:45 PM to bedtime and Saturday AM from 9:30 to 11:30. Swimmers need not come to all practices. To qualify for the team a swimmer must be between the ages of 3 and 18 and be able to swim 1 length of the pool (25 yards) unassisted without stopping. We'll take it from there :-). The Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team is affiliated with the AAU (Amateur Athletes Union), the Highlands Recreation Park and the Mountain Swim League and is a 501c3 (not for profit Organization). It has members from Highlands, Cashiers, Glenville, Scaly Mountain, and Franklin.

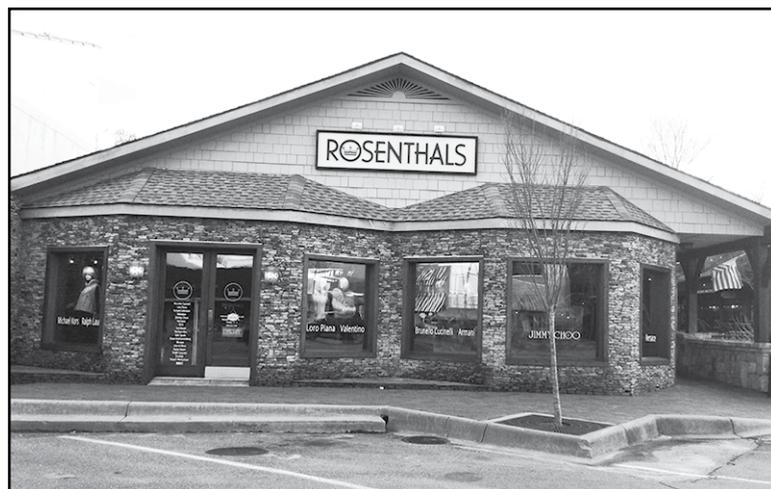
For more information feel free to contact Head Coach Steve Hott at 828.421.4121 or the Highlands Rec Park Pool at 828.526.1595.

calls for funding to the North Carolina University System, community colleges, water and sewer facilities, and state parks. The bond referendum passed with 65.56% in favor across the state. In Macon County, 5,403 voters cast "for" ballots with 3,436 voters casting "against" ballots.

Macon County voters joined the rest of North Carolinians in voting for Hilary Clinton in the Presidential Democratic Primary

• See RESULTS page 17

Current Location of Rosenthals on Main Street, Highlands.



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» GOOD FRIDAY «
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6 PM



» EASTER SUNDAY «
SUN, MAR 27
10:45 AM



The Trickle Down Effect – Land conservation serves up fresh water downstream

In the past five years, WNC's 10 land trusts completed 280 projects protecting more than 31,000 acres, surpassing their 30,000-acre, five-year goal. "That's nearly half the size of Rhode Island!" says Jess Laggis, Director of their collaborative campaign, known as Blue Ridge Forever.

The drop of water that falls from a faucet has made a long journey to reach that point. In fact, its journey is endless, but for simplicity, the cycle starts from rain. When rain falls on land it seeps into the groundwater and flows into creeks and streams to rivers and eventually, the ocean. Somewhere along the way, this drop was held in a well or reservoir, piped to the faucet, and will resume its journey afterwards. But upstream of the source, it was flowing in the soil and over land. Land use around water sources can benefit or damage water quality. Stable, vegetation filled stream banks shade and filter water, keeping it cool and clean. Streams with banks stripped of vegetation, trampled by livestock, or otherwise polluted yield hot, contaminated, and unhealthy water.

Enter not for profit organizations called land trusts. Land trusts protect land and water for present and future generations, forever. When a land trust protects property near a stream or river, the effects trickle downstream to people in the form of clean water from the faucet.

When 1 inch of rain falls on 1 square foot of surface, the total amount of water is 1 gallon. So the 30,000 acres WNC's land trusts aimed to protect harvest 814,620,000 gallons of water in every inch of rainfall.

The median rainfall for WNC is 64.5 inches a year. Which means that our land trusts protected the source of roughly 53 billion gallons of clean water per year, from now until forever.

But this story isn't over. As long as water keeps flowing to the sea, land trusts will be working hard to protect the places and resources we all love and need. Without clean water, we're all up the creek.

If you'd like to join the effort, learn more, or just take a hike to explore protected lands, contact Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust (HCLT) at www.hicashlt.org or 828-526-1111. HCLT is proud to be a part of the Blue Ridge Forever coalition.

Blue Ridge Forever is a collective campaign led by 10 land conservation organizations to engage the public and raise financial resources to safeguard land and water in the Southern Blue Ridge for present and future generations. It's members include Blue Ridge Conservancy, Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy, Conservation Trust for North Carolina, Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Mainspring Conservation Trust, New River Conservancy, Picolet Area Conservancy, River Link, and Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. Land Trusts need your support to continue serving fresh water to WNC.

Want to learn more about water? Check out the Forest Service's Forest to Faucets Project at www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/FS_Efforts/forests2faucets.shtml

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HCP's 'March Medley' runs through Sunday

Mayor Pat Taylor and Craig Eister discuss "what's in a name" at March Medley, HCP's winter production, a dinner theater performed Mar. 18, 19, and 20. For tickets call 828 526 8084.

Join us this Easter
celebrating the resurrection of Jesus
at Highlands United Methodist Church
315 Main Street with
Pastor Paul Christy and Asst. Pastor Jennifer Forrester

March 24

Maundy Thursday Service at 6pm

March 25

Good Friday Service at 6 pm

March 27

Sunrise Service ~ 7am

join us and other churches

at K-H Founders Park

Easter Services

The Living Cross~ 8:30, 9:09, & 10:50am

Bring a flower to place on the outside living cross
before each service.

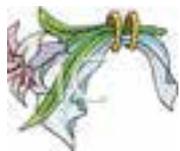
Easter Coffee Break ~ 9:45am

Come enjoy us for fun and fellowship

Children's Egg Hunt ~ 10am

The children will be off to hunt eggs
immediately after breakfast

For more information please call 526-3376



• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

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Balancing Hormones & Health

Ongoing

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

• Anyone interested in taking Adult, Child and Infant First Aid/CPR/AED certification class needs to contact the Highlands Recreation Department.

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

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

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

Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men's Meeting at 7 pm first Mondays.

• 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

• The Humanist Discussion Group meets every Monday morning from 10:30-11:30a in the Meeting Room in the back of Hudson Library,

• 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

• Recently 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 pm at Christ Church of the Valley Call Lisa 828-506-3555.

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

2nd Thursdays

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

3rd Thursdays

• Kidney Smart Classes in Franklin: 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 Pinterest Fridays 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., March 17

• The Walking of a Labyrinth at 5:30p at the Incarnation Episcopal Church. This is an ancient form meditating and /or praying in the church. The Cathedral in Chartes, France has a labyrinth in mosaic as the floor of the sanctuary. We are very lucky to have a visiting labyrinth available to us. Please come join us for a time of soft music, special lighting and peace. This is a practice for all seeking a time of introspection and meditation. All welcome.

Fri-Sun., March 18-20

• At PAC, Highlands Community Players presents a Dinner Theatre. with four one-act plays. Fridays and Saturdays at 6:15 p.m. and Sunday Matinees at 1:15 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. For tickets call 828-526-8084.

Fri., March 18

• The free Senior Dinner is on Friday at noon at the Rec Park. The menu is Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Mac and Cheese, Broccoli, Salad and Roll. Dessert will be Caramel Cake and Carrot Cake.

• The High Mountain Squares will host their "Shamrock & Gold Dance," Friday night, at the Macon County Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC from 6:15 to 8:45 PM. Jim Duncan from Otto, NC will be the caller.



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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

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Sat., March 19

• 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. We'll meet at the large upper parking lot (near the pool entrance) in the Recreation Park at 9a for a brief orientation session, and you will be furnished with the necessary tools and safety equipment.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3-mile moderate hike, elevation change 600 ft., from Wallace Branch to the Bartram Trail, passing a couple of waterfalls. Bring a snack, meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 10:30 am, drive 5 miles round trip. Call leader Kathy Ratcliff, 349-3380, for reservations.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an 8-mile strenuous hike, elevation change 1000 Ft., to Laurel Fork Fall, SC, on old Horse Pasture Rd. following some of the Foothills Trail, perhaps seeing Oconee Bells in bloom. Meet at Dillsboro Huddle House at 8:00 am, drive 120 miles round trip. Call leader Don O'Neal, 828-586-5723, for reservations. Hike is limited to ten.

Mon., March 21

• At First Baptist Church of Highlands, Union University Singers at 6 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Tues., March 22

• Family Support Network of Region A is hosting an educational workshop to help both you and your child prepare for kindergarten. Open to all families with a child birth to 5 years old even if they are not going to be entering kindergarten this fall. Never too early to start preparing. The workshop will be from 6 – 8 pm at the Region A Partnership for Children's far west office located at 141 Peachtree Street Murphy. For more information or to RSVP contact Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or email jody@regionakids.org.

Sat., March 26

Highlands Rec Park Annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday at 11am For ages 0-9 years old.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 6-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike, elevation change 700 ft., in Pantertown Valley, from Salt Rock entrance to Schoolhouse Falls, up and over Little Green Mtn. and on to Wilderness Falls, passing by Granny Burrell Falls. Meet at Cashiers Recreation Park at 10:00 a.m. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations. Visitors welcome, no dogs please.

• Easter on the Trail. Meet at the NHC Club House at 8:30 am to assemble bags of food snacks for hikers on the Ap-

palachian Trail. Contact Elena Marsh for information, 369-8915.

Sun., March 27

• **Sunrise Easter Service ~ 7am.**
Join all the churches at K-H Founders Park

• At PAC, Bolshoi Ballet Live via satellite at 12:45 p.m.

Sat., April 2

• At PAC, The Met Live via satellite at 12:45 p.m.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 3-mile easy-to-moderate hike, elevation change 300 ft., to Alarka Falls and Walton Smith Memorial Trail, a unique bog area in Cowee Valley. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 10:30 am. Call leaders Kathy

Ratcliff and Bill Crawford, 349-3380, for reservations. Visitors and friendly dogs are welcome.

Sundays, April 3-May 29

• Change Your Money, Change your Life. Applying God's word to your money...This 9-week class will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely and more. 3pm-5pm at the Highlands Rec. Park. To sign up go to: www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1017675. For more information contact Emily Chastain at [\(828\) 200-6277](mailto:eh.chastain86@gmail.com)

Sun., April 10

• At PAC, Live in HD, Bolshoi Ballet at 12:45 p.m.

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

WATERAEROBICS

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

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Dinner Theatre
with 4 One-Act Plays
Directed by Donna Cochran

Friday—Sunday, March 11, 12, 13
Friday—Sunday, March 18, 19, 20
Fridays & Saturdays at 6:15 p.m.
Sunday Matinees at 1:15 p.m.

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Highlands NC

TICKETS: 828-526-8084
highlandscashiersplayers.org

One Day at the Christmas Party
by Henry Kimmel

Funeral Arrangements
by David Fleischer

Metaphorical Shoes
by Judith Pratt

Misfortune
by Mark Harvey Levine

...HYDRO continued from page 5

Highlands, and that could be easily expanded in a nomination for the power plant.”

The old hydroelectric plant was built in 1925 – the first of its kind in Western North Carolina -- and supplied Highlands with power until 1969 when the town opted to buy power from Nan-

tahala Power which has since been absorbed by Duke Power. The town’s FERC license was in effect until 1996 when it let it expire as did its lease with the USFS.

“I don’t think the town would need to lease the land from the Forest Service again for \$1 a year, but that might offer further

protection against someone else’s leasing it, the argument being that this lease from the Forest Service would be intended to protect a listing on the National Register rather than to renew the production of electricity,” said Shaffner in an email. “So it wouldn’t involve FERC at all, only the Forest Service. In any case, I think the Forest Service might want some input into whether the power plant becomes a National Monument or not, since it’s on their land. It’s just a matter of how or whether to protect it.”

According to Mayor Taylor, who outlined the town’s concerns in a letter dated Dec. 14, 2015 to Advanced Hydropower, the town is open to participating in an effort to make the plant a historic site.

“A historic, education and recreation venue would be a great way to stop another hydro company. And it would be good for Highlands – spotlighting the site of the first electric generating facility in Western Carolina! Maybe we can chart a trail from the park-

ing area by the Lake Sequoyah Dam that could lead to the plant,” he said.

However, Mike Wilkins, USFS District Ranger said as it stands now, he couldn’t support a proposal to have a recreation site in the vicinity of the old plant because the building has to be stabilized.

“The old building is very dangerous. Folks could stand on the old rotten wooden floor and fall in. The roof is ready to collapse. I am trying to secure funds to remove the unsightly metal from the pipe that brought water to the old power house, pull off the section of roof that has not caved in and just leave the rock structure secure so folks don’t get hurt,” he said. “The Gorge Road is already busy, narrow and dangerous as it is. We could not meet the required site distance for new entrances for state roads even if we had space for a parking lot in the vicinity of Bridal Veil Falls and we don’t.”

He also said encouraging

people to step over the guardrail to access the existing steps down to the site would not be allowed as an entrance to a USFS recreation site.

“Any renewed use would have to address these safety issues,” he said.

However, according to Mayor Taylor, Wilkins would be open to a new entrance way if it is safe perhaps from the Lake Sequoyah Dam.

Shaffner agreed that a new entrance to the power plant could be created from the parking area at Lake Sequoyah Dam and could be explored. He said inclusion on the National Historic registry couldn’t hurt either.

“Putting the plant on the National Register is not a new idea. It’s been on the Study List for the National Register since 1989, when it qualified for nomination. Being on the Study List already gives it some protection, but not as much as getting on the Register,” he said.

– Kim Lewicki

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

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By Jeannie Chambers
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You don't have to be Irish to believe in LUCK – FORTUNE – SERENDIPITY, and you've probably been kissing the Blarney Stone a little too much if you think that 'good fortune' comes without caveats.

According to the March 2016 AARP bulletin, it's estimated that the baby boomer generation is expected to inherit \$8.4 TRILLION

– a large portion of that is expected to be in real estate. One of the leading causes of disparity among siblings (and other family members) is an inheritance, often seen as a double-edged sword. The first cut is the loss of a loved one, and the second is dealing with people you thought you knew until money was in the picture. What a parent envisioned as continued years of love and good memories often turns into a war over the most trivial things. Emotions get in the way. A will is an important document, but all wills are not created equally. Some family members, (and even friends and other outsiders) feel that time and money spent before the demise of a love one should equal the inheritance. Just like life itself is a gift, an inheritance is also a gift, and not to be confused with a reward. A reward is usually given to the 'best', but a gift is a gift. The gift of an inheritance isn't an obligation of the giver, and shouldn't be construed as a 'given'. St. Gerome in 400 A.D. said it first- "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth". Translated: The value of a horse is determined by its age, and can be roughly noted by looking at his teeth. The true message: a gift should be appreciated for the spirit in which it was given, not



Jeannie Chambers
828-526-3717

the value.

In Highlands, otherwise known as 'second home heaven', there are probably as many good stories as bad when it comes to inheritance. The main thing is to plan for the future. Discuss everything as soon as possible, even if it means getting an estate planner involved. Some try to alleviate potential family problems by downsizing to a retirement community and//or liquidating their home(s), but some-

times the listing out lives the Seller.

We've seen the whole gamut in our office. The most common is when families inherit second homes. These 'kids' ages range from the twenties to seventies, but they generally all act the same. Many have spent their lives coming here in the summer and enjoying everything about Highlands. Yeah, well it's all fun and games until the real responsibility comes into the equation. There's usually at least one that wants to sell the property (or at least have their sibling(s) buy their portion. Some families become estranged for the rest of their lives over inheritances.

According to the AARP article, there's a checklist to follow:

- 1) MEET- decide whether to keep or sell (easier said than done)
- 2) If the answer is KEEP, have legal documents drawn up such as joint ownership agreement, LLC, or trust.
- 3) Put management issues in writing (how and when the property should be used and how expenses are paid)
- 4) Settle basic operating rules (pets/ no pets, smoking/non smoking, usage, etc.)
- 5) Establish how ownership should pass to the next generation.
- 6) Determine how a sibling can 'opt

out'- VERY IMPORTANT to do this before the need arises. Life changes, as does the ability to hang on.

We've added a couple of more things from our experiences:

7) Have ONE spokesperson when dealing with brokers and property managers.

It's easy enough to cc an email or letter, but decisions need to come from one consolidated source.

8) When offering for sale or rent- walk into your newly acquired home with the eyes of a 'new homeowner. Just because Mom or Grandma hadn't changed the pinch pleated drapes or carpeting in the last 20-30 years doesn't mean you shouldn't. It's not a shrine.

9) If possible, discuss these things BEFORE the inevitable happens. You will be so glad you did after the fact.

After all, every silver lining comes from a cloud- how dark a cloud may be determined by your actions before the storm.

• Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are owners and operators of a 4th generation real estate and/or hospitality business.(vacation rentals), now known as Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals. We look forward to helping others with buying, selling, renting, or maintaining their homes whether they're inherited or not. On the subject of inheritance, we suggest you consult with an attorney that specializes in that aspect of the law.

First Baptist Church Highlands Hosts the Union University Singers Monday, March 21 at 6pm Free and Open to the Public



Union University Singers is an auditioned, mixed ensemble of sophomores, juniors, and seniors that tours each spring; internationally every third year. Over the past eight years, tours have included singing at prestigious venues such as the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, St. Louis Basilica in St. Louis, St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans, St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, and the San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio.

Union University Singers presents multiple feature concerts each year, performs regularly with the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, and has performed by invitation for both state and nation conferences of the National Association for Music Education.

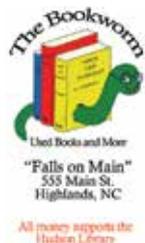
This spring, they will join with the Jackson Symphony to present Mozart's Requiem and will perform once again at the Annual Conference of the Tennessee Music Education Association.

March Madness at The Bookworm

Sales, bargains and deals through the
end of March.

Drop by to see our large inventory.

555 East Main Street, Highlands, NC



• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Neighbors helping neighbors, is the driving force behind the Highlands Community Fund

In an informative and eyeopening program this week at the Rotary Club of Highlands, Sid Nurkin, Chairman of the Community Fund of Highlands and Sheryl Aikman, VP Development, Community Fund of WNC, went over the workings of the funds and their connection. Sid explained the importance of the fact that new energy was important to the organization as the needs of the community continue to grow. He spoke of the upcoming fundraiser, the "RISE & SHINE" event to be held at the Bascom on August 7th. Save the date! He stressed the importance of the funds and that the allocation

of funds is handled by a local board, which is aware of the needs of the community. This past year the fund provided new dental equipment for our local dental clinic, scholarships and grants to various non-profits, such as Literacy, the Land Trust and the Peggy Crosby Center to name a few.

Sheryl Aikman, a former Rotary Scholar, has been working with the fund for the past 18 years. She stated that the CFWNC rates in the top 100 of such organizations in the US. She went over how the endowment works and the tax advantages involved.

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •



First Presbyterian Church of Highlands Holy Week 2016

Sunday, March 20, 2016

11:00 a.m.

Passion/Palm Sunday

A service leading to the Passion of our Lord from the Gospel of Luke

With guest musician Linda Lancaster, flutist,
choir, and congregational singing.

Thursday, March 24, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

Come for a light dinner followed
by a communion service
in Coleman Hall.

Friday, March 25, 2016

12:00 noon

Stations of the Cross

Sponsored by the
churches of Highlands.
Assemble at Our Lady of the
Mountain Catholic Church.

Sunday, March 27, 2016

6:45 a.m.

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service

Sponsored by the
churches of Highlands.
Service held at the Kelsey
Hutchinson Park.

*(Rain or cold plan: Episcopal Church of the
Incarnation Sanctuary)*

11:00 a.m.

Easter Celebration Sunday Service
Sacrament of Holy Communion &
Ministry of the Farthest Pew
With Brass Quintet & Timpani

Call 828-526-3175 for more information.

471 Main Street
PO Box 548

Highlands, NC 28741



Rev. Curtis Fussell & Rev. Emily Wilmarth, Pastors



From left, Nick Bazan, Chairman of the Founders Park Coalition and Hank Ross, Landscape Architect.

K-H Founders Park subject at Rotary

Nick Bazan and Hank Ross recently updated Rotary Club Members on Phase II of Founders Park. Bazan acknowledged the many non-profit, civic and service clubs in the Coalition for their leadership and funding support: Mountain Top Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Highlands, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Laurel Garden Club, Mountain Garden Club, Highlands Plateau Audubon Society, Highlands Biological Station, the Highlands Plateau Greenway, and the Highlands Historical Society. Creation of Founders Park has also been supported by a large number of individuals through fundraising events and personal gifts.

Ross, who has worked on this project for over ten years, designed Founders Park. Phase II is on the 1/2 acre where the skating rink is now located. When the skating rink is not in operation it will be removed, revealing a "Town Plaza" made of rippling paver patterns symbolic of the curves of our mountains and rivers. Also in Phase II is a second water feature that will be aesthetic and tranquil, creating a delightful spot for a picnic or an in-town meditation. Ross expects this water feature will be lit at night in a variety of changing patterns.

Three naming opportunities remain in Phase II and prospective donors are encouraged to contact Nick Bazan at Nicholas.bazan@gmail.com.

• BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Democrat Party Precinct Meeting

On Saturday March 5th, the Highlands Precinct of the Democrat Party held a combination precinct meeting, pot luck dinner party, and a "mock caucus."

Close to 50 people attended including three candidates for office: Jane Hipps, running for NC State Senate from

District 50, Ronnie Beale, Past Macon County Commissioner and recently elected President of the NC County Commissioners Association, and Bobby Koppers, Democrat Party candidate for the District 3 seat on the Board of Commissioners.

A mock caucus was held for those

attending. There was even a fence for the undecided. People who were clear who they wanted to be the candidate, Bernie or Hillary, tried to persuade the undecided voters to come to their side. It was an evening of fun

and fellowship and served to energize the Highlands Democrat Precinct as well as voters in nearby precincts. The overarching goal is to get out the vote, and get people interested in this year's political process.



...RESULTS continued from page 9

race/ Clinton secured 1,548 Macon County votes, beating Bernie Sanders by 120 votes. Sanders finished Tuesday's primary with 1,428 votes in the county. Statewide, Clinton received 616,568 votes to Sanders' 460,343.

The Republican Presidential Race in

North Carolina allowed Donald Trump to extend his lead in the primary after defeating Ted Cruz 458,233 votes to 418,783. Voters in Macon County fell in line with state voters in favor of Trump 2,870 votes to Cruz who received 2,004 in the county primary.



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First Baptist Church HIGHLANDS

Holy Week

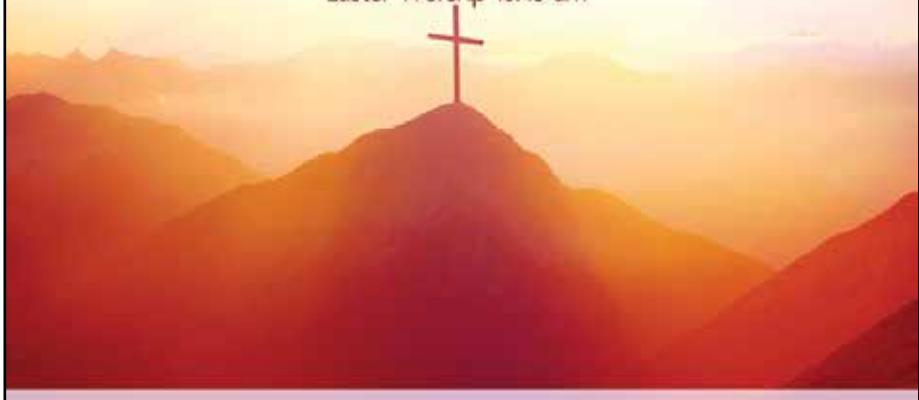
SERVICE TIMES

Sunday, March 20th at 10:45 am
Palm Sunday

Monday, March 21st at 6:00 pm
Union University Singers

Friday, March 25th at 7:30 pm
Tenebrae Service

Sunday, March 27th
Easter
Sunrise Service at 7:30 am
Bible Study at 9:30 am
Easter Worship 10:45 am



220 Main Street | Highlands, NC 28741 | P:828-526-4153 | www.fbchighlands.org

Our Lord lives and so do we

Dr. Mark Ford

First Baptist Highlands

The claim that “Jesus is Lord” (I Cor. 12:3) is not simply a confession of His deity through the Holy Spirit. It goes beyond this to the eschatological reality that in His resurrection, He fulfilled all the promises of God as our Savior, and will fulfill all the promises of the age yet to come. There are no powers or authorities that can thwart God’s purposes in our salvation, for they are all defeated – past, present and future – in the glorious words, “He is risen and He lives!” (Lk. 24).

When you meditate on the risen Christ, you are focusing on His glory past and His coming glory as Lord and God. But we are likewise acknowledging that in His person, the coming hope of the resurrection of the dead has already begun. With His resurrection from the dead, the Lord Jesus set in motion history’s last day – or as Paul would say, “He is the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep” (I Cor. 15:20) and “the first-born from the dead (I Cor. 1:18). He pioneered our salvation in His cross and resurrection! We simply await its fulfillment and pray with the apostle, “Come quickly Lord Jesus!” (Rev. 22:20)

So for Christians, Easter is not just that Jesus was raised from the dead, but that we too will be raised. Our salvation and future life is not to be a resuscitated existence where we simply pick up where we left off, nor a liberation of the soul from the body. It is a bodily entrance of the dead in Christ into a condition and place we cannot imagine – life everlasting, and the coming of the Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven, restoring creation to its full glory. This is why we as Christians can declare heartily that we have eternity in our hearts (Moltmann). We know a bit of the everlasting life we anticipate because we have the Living Lord in our lives through the Holy Spirit. You might say that as we walk in this life, we get glimpses of eternal life, yea, we can even taste it! This is because our Living Lord lives within us and has taken His abode in our hearts and minds. Easter is about being eternally alive now!

Next week is Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday and culminating with Easter the following Sunday. Between are days for you to contemplate our Lord’s Passion. First, there is Maundy Thursday - the day our Lord commanded his disciples to follow His example of service and to love one another. Then there is Good Friday – the day our Lord was crucified. Some churches commemorate this time with a Tenebrae or “darkness” service with the extinguishing of lights, readings from the Scriptures and taking communion. Some churches share in the Stations of the Cross, walking, praying, reading of appropriate Scriptures and singing of hymns. Traditions vary, but one thing is certain, our local churches will have services throughout the week to help you focus and meditate on our great salvation through Jesus Christ in His death on the cross for our sins. And most importantly, Easter will culminate all these events with the glorious celebration of our Lord’s resurrection – and ours!

BLUEVALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

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

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.: Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

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

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

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470

Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

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

Wednesdays – Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School

10:30am: Middle & High School; 10:45am: Child. Program,

10:45am: Worship Service

Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC

University

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Bruce Walker • 526-2968

Sundays: 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 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

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www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814

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

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N • Glensville, 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, 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 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 Feb. 27. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Feb. 27

• At 6:21 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on S. 4th Street.

Feb. 28

• At 3:30 p.m., officers received a call that through impersonation, someone attempted to purchase equipment and services from cellular retailers by false means.

March 2

• At 10 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on NC 106.

March 3

• At 3:42 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 east.

March 8

At 6:16 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 28 south.

March 9

At 2:55 p.m., Jahsiah Gabriel Murphy, 20, of Highlands, was arrested for failure to appear in court in Guilford County on a citation.

March 10

• At 7 p.m., officers conducted a welfare check at Highlands School.

• At 8:15 a.m., Sarah Anne Rutter, 31, of Highlands, was arrested for simple physical assault. She was issued a \$1,500 secured bond. Her court date is April 14, 2016.

March 11

• At 7:54 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Horsecove road.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Feb. 25.

Feb. 25

• At 8:06 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on N. 4th St.

• At 10:24 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on N. 4th St.

Feb. 26

• At 1:02 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mack Wilson Road.

• At 11:53 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Wilson Road.

Feb. 28

• At 11:37 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brookside Lane.

Feb. 29

• At 1:23 p.m., the dept. assisted a motorist on NC 106.

March 1

• At 7:58 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Buck Creek Road.

• At 9:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a business on Church Street.

• At 11:17 a.m., the dept. responded to a vehicle fire on US 64 east.

• At 2:37 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Crescent Trail.

March 3

• At 1:56 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 east.

• At 4:20 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 east.

• At 4:21 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 south.

• At 5:05 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

March 4

• At 9:26 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a motor vehicle accident on Lake Court.

• At 1:48 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Pierson Drive.

March 5

• At 9:41 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on NC 106.

March 6

• The dept. was first-responders to a business on Main Street.

March 7

• The dept. was first-responders to a residence on Flat Mountain Road.

March 8

• At 6:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 south.

March 9

• At 8:39 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brookside Lane.

March 10

• At 6:20 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Upper Brushy Face Road.

March 11

• At 2:57 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a business on Main Street.

March 14

• At 4:01 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on BigView.

• At 9:27 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on N. 4th St.



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As a school teacher, principal, wife, mother and daughter, Bonnie Johnston had gladly dedicated her time to improving the lives of others. After the passing of her mother, Bonnie caught her reflection in the mirror. The woman staring back at her wasn't who she wanted to be. Tired of feeling tired and struggling to shed those extra pounds, Bonnie wanted to be well and regain something she had lost – herself.

After attending Prime, a Mission Health education event for women, she enrolled in the MyHealthyLife program and began setting concrete nutrition and exercise goals. Now 23 pounds lighter, healthier and stronger than ever before, Bonnie didn't just find what she thought she lost – she created the vibrant person she wanted to be.

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

To hear more personal stories like Bonnie's, visit: mission-health.org/BonnieHN



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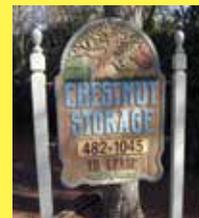
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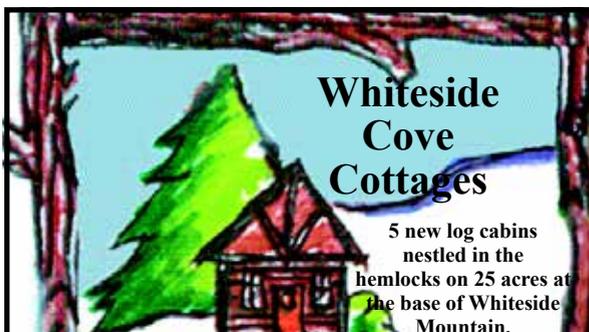
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• BUSINESS & ORGANIZATION NEWS •

SECU members help make VanDrake Shelter a reality for Macon and Jackson County families

A Ribbon Cutting held in Franklin yesterday marks the opening of a new home for a Macon County emergency shelter that serves women and children who are survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in both Macon and Jackson counties – the VanDrake Shelter. State Employees' Credit Union (SECU) members, via the SECU Foundation, partnered with the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency to provide REACH of Macon County, Inc. with a \$742,000 interest-free construction loan to aid in the construction of a new 20-bed facility. Representatives from the Credit Union joined REACH partners and community supporters for the celebration.

REACH of Macon County was established in 1990 as a non-profit with a mission to eradicate domestic violence and sexual assault crimes in Macon and Jackson counties through prevention, intervention and education. REACH provides residents with an array of services including counseling, court advocacy, assistance with employment, education and housing, helping women and children live independent and violence free. In the last fiscal year, the non-profit served 968 new clients, providing 2,910 shelter nights and 8,730 meals in its original 12-bed shelter.

"We would like to thank the members of State Employees' Credit Union for being part of the community effort that helped make VanDrake Shelter a reality," said Andrea Anderson, Executive Director of REACH of Macon County. "The Foundation's partnership in this project reflects the commitment of REACH and our community to ensure a welcoming, accessible environment that provides dignity and empowerment for survivors and their children."



Mike Williams, Senior Vice President of SECU's Franklin branch remarked, "We are proud to assist an organization that has the tools, resources and 25 years of experience in providing victims of abuse with the support they need to help strengthen and restore their lives. SECU Foundation's partnership with the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency for the construction of VanDrake Shelter will help ensure that REACH of Macon County has a stronger impact in communities served."

SECU and the SECU Foundation is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members. SECU has been providing employees of the State of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for nearly 79 years. The Credit Union also offers a diversified line of financial advisory services including retirement and education planning, tax preparation, insurance, trust and estate planning services, and investments through its partners and affiliated entities. SECU serves 2 million members through 255 branch offices, over 1,100 ATMs, 24/7 Contact Centers and a website, www.ncsecu.org.

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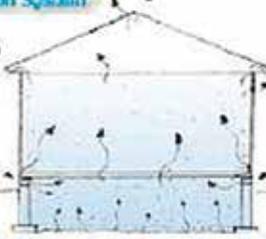
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THE HIGHLANDS BBQ CO. Is seeking Servers, Hosts, Bartenders and Line Cooks. If Interested, Please call 828-200-1500 or Send a Resume to HighlandsBBQ-Company@gmail.com (st. 7/2)

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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •



Champion Credit Union donates \$100,000 to public schools in Western North Carolina

Macon County Schools received \$6,530

Champion Credit Union has been a part of Western North Carolina for the past 84 years. As a financial cooperative, they are true to their roots and follow the principles and philosophies of credit unions, namely Concern for Community.

In 2015, they kicked off their Schooled on Savings campaign, which was designed to show their members how borrowing with their local credit union can help their community. Champion Credit Union set a goal to save their members at least \$100,000 in loan interest by refinancing with them. As members refinanced their loans with Champion throughout the year, the credit union tracked the amount of money that was saved in loan interest for each loan. "We were saving our members thousands of dollars sometimes," says Brooke Scott, Financial Service Specialist with Champion Credit Union. "It was so exciting to be able to show them that."

To take things a step further, Champion Credit Union decided to take the \$100,000 in savings and roll that directly into the communities that they serve in an impactful way. "We wanted to illustrate how borrowing with your local credit union helps your community," says Noralynn Gudger, Marketing and Communications Manager. "What better way

than to take the money that we saved our members by borrowing with us and give it directly back?" President and CEO Jake Robinson suggested the school systems and it immediately seemed like a natural fit. "The schools are struggling with the support given on a state and federal level," says Robinson. "While we can't fix it with this, we certainly want to try and do what we can."

In the fourth quarter of 2015, the goal was met and the savings number crossed the \$100,000 mark. "I was so excited when I saw that it had happened," says Gudger. As the holidays came to a close and January testing with the students finished up, plans to cut the checks began. "This is what we have looked forward to for a year," says Robinson. "We saved our members money, and now we get to play a small role in showing our support to the local public school systems."

On Thursday, February 25, Champion Credit Union met with superintendents and school personnel from the nine counties that they serve in Western North Carolina at The Imperial of Canton and presented each of them with their portion of the \$100,000, which is based on the number of students in each of the public school systems.



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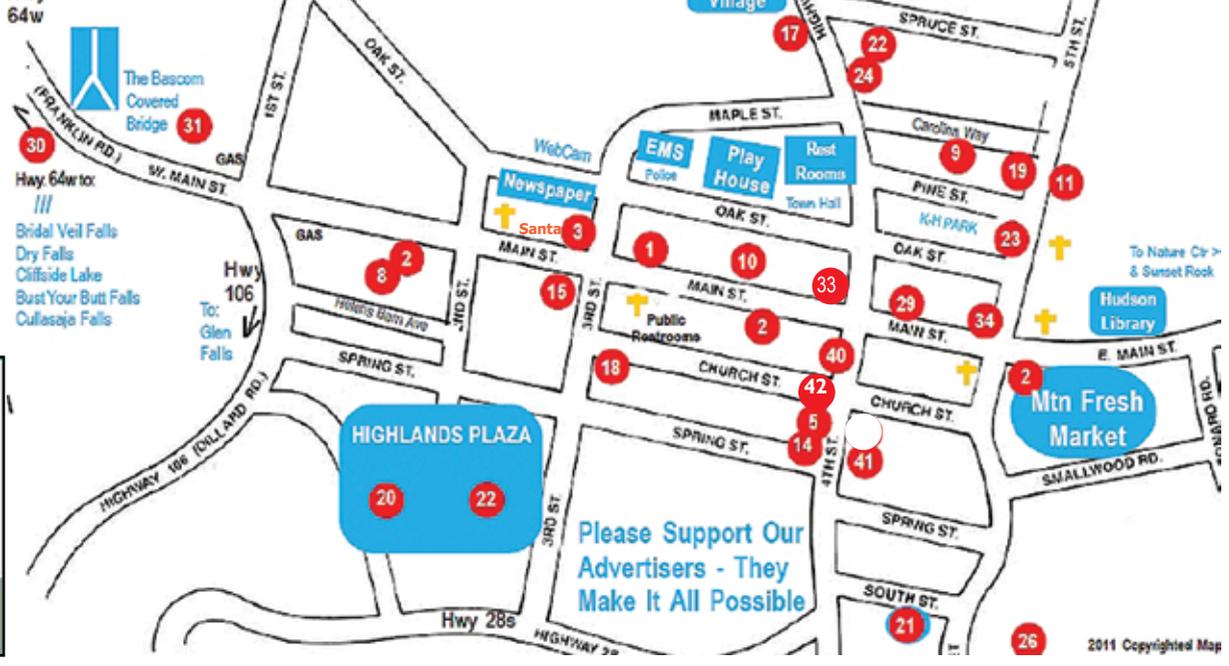
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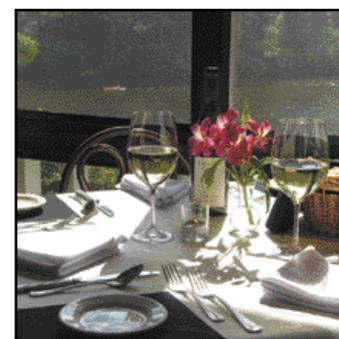
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