Trash Ambassadors needed to fight litter problem

Those of us who grew up in the '60s remember the national anti-litter campaign on television featuring an American Indian looking at litter along the byways with tears running down his face. Now, community-minded High-landers are crying because there is litter everywhere on the Highlands Plateau.

If you don’t like litter defaming the roads, then Mayor Pat Taylor wants your help.
The last two Coffee with the Mayor talks, which are held at 11 a.m. in the meeting room at the Hudson Library the last Friday of every month, talked trash – that is, the trash littering the plateau.

With the great recession in the rear view mirror, construction and litter are on the rise.
The consensus is that aside from people deliberately tossing empty cans and food wrappers out the windows of their vehicles, trash tossed in the back of pickup

First Baptist Church to get final word on zoning change at April TB meeting

The rezoning of the First Baptist Church needs a final vote from the Town Board at the April meeting before it can become a reality.

The church wants to expand its Fellowship Hall and since there isn’t room to incorporate parking, it requested its B2 zone be changed to B1-Conditional Zone – the condition being an OK that it can’t provide on-site parking.

All the steps were taken to achieve that goal – the planning board OK’d the plan, the Zoning Board OK’d the plan, a public hearing was set and heard at a Town Board meeting – and that’s when the process fell apart.

Commissioner Amy Pat- • See BAPTIST page 5

County to broadcast commission board meetings

In the spirit of celebrating Sunshine Week, the Macon County Board of Commissioners announced a move to support and encourage transparency and open government.

Beginning in April, all Macon County Board of Commissioner meetings will be broadcast live online and the meetings will be recorded and available for later viewing on the county website.

"Government always functions best when it operates in the open," said Commission Chair Kevin Corbin. "After talking with county leaders across the country at the National Association of County officials last month, we wanted to make sure the citizens of Macon County have full access to everything we do as elected officials. Larg-

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Town kicks off Easter with annual Egg Hunt

Every year the Town of Highlands sponsors an Easter egg hunt on the grounds of the Rec Park. This year it’s set for Saturday, March 26 at 11 am for ages 0-9 years old. Aside from the hundreds of eggs filled with treats, there are prize eggs for the three age groups. Participants should bring their own baskets. In addition, the Easter Bunny will be on hand for pictures. Other Easter related activities include the annual Stations of the Cross at noon on Good Friday where participants walk through town stopping at all the churches for scripture readings. On Easter morning, there is the annual Sunrise Ecumenical Service, this year at the K-H Founders Park on Pine Street at 6:45 a.m. All the churches in town will then celebrate Easter with their own Sunday morning services and events.

• See LITTER page 2

• See BROADCAST page 2
Last Friday's Mayor's Community Coffee was a follow-up session on the plateau trash and litter problem. I want to thank Jennifer Cunningham of the Chamber of Commerce and Kristin Bowen for serving as an advisory committee in developing strategies for combating this problem.

Highlands has declared war on trash! Highlands needs soldiers in the fight. Call me at 828-506-3138 to enlist. I have your battle gear and plan. A growing legion called the Trash Ambassadors of the Highlands Plateau is dedicated to waging an ongoing battle in our streets and neighborhoods. A huge trash battle is planned for Saturday, April 23rd with the Annual Gorge Pickup. We want to transform it into the "mother of all trash battles." It will now be called the Highlands Gorge and Plateau Pickup. With enough volunteers this pickup can be extended to all our major highways. Sign-up sheets are at the Chamber and Town Hall.

As with all military operations, there is a psychological operations component. An educational and awareness campaign is on the way to stop and reform litterbugs. More information to follow.

Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

The states of Tennessee and North Carolina have filed a suit in the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals challenging the FCC ruling that opened the door for the creation of municipal broadband utilities like Highlands Altitude Broadband. The NC League of Municipalities filed an amicus brief with the court supporting the FCC decision. I appreciate the League's position.

Overturning the FCC broadband ruling would be a setback for small towns languishing in the "digital desert." It is not just a matter economic development. Upon further study and discussion with our consultants, I now view it more of a matter of economic and community survival. Either a community will have unlimited broadband capacity, or they will wither and dry upon the "economic vine."

Nationally some 200 small town governments are doing exactly what Highlands is doing. State legislators this past session changed the sales tax distribution formula so poor communities could receive more sales tax revenue for economic growth. I have a suggestion, don't create laws that obstruct the development of broadband networks in these underserved communities. It is counter productive the their economic development. Instead, why not allocate funds to bring broadband to these isolated areas? What's that Chinese proverb about give a man a fish...?

I know some leaders report that the private sector is a better provider than government. The dilemma has been that companies have been unwilling to make the investment.

...BROADCAST continued from page 1

er counties have television stations that broadcast their meetings, but being from a rural part of the state, that isn't possible for us. This is just one way for us to make sure Macon County operates with an open government.

Sunshine Week is a national initiative to promote a dialogue about the importance of open government and freedom of information.

"We understand that it isn't always easy for people to attend our monthly meetings and often times we get calls from citizens wanting to know about things that happened," said Macon County Manager Derek Roland. "By installing cameras in the boardroom and having the county's excellent IT staff manage the recordings, we will be able to record and store county meetings not just in the interest of transparency, but to have those records on file for the county as vital resources for the future."

Roland said the videos will be online in a timely manner.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners meet in the boardroom in the MC Courthouse in Franklin the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m.

...LITTER continued from page 1

trucks ultimately blows out onto the roadways.

Both intentional and unintentional littering is against the law and it's punishable with a fine and/or community service. Of course law enforcement has to see the act which is near impossible.

However, according the General Statute § 14-399. Littering. (a1) No person, including any firm, organization, private corporation, or governing body, agents, or employees of any municipal corporation shall scatter, spill, or place or cause to be blown, scattered, spilled, or placed or otherwise dispose of any litter upon any public property or private property not owned by the person within this State or in the waters of this State including any public highway, public park, lake, river, ocean, beach, campground, forestland, recreational area, trailer park, highway, road, street, or alley.

“Any person who violates subsection (a1) of this section in an amount not exceeding 15 pounds within three years after the date of a prior violation is an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than $200. In addition, the court may require the violator to perform community service of not less than eight hours nor more than 24 hours. The community service required shall be to pick up litter if feasible, and if not feasible, to perform other labor commensurate with the offense committed.

“Any second or subsequent violation of subsection (a) of this section in an amount not exceeding 15 pounds within three years after the date of a prior violation is an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than $200. In addition, the court may require the violator to perform community service of not less than eight hours nor more than 24 hours. The community service required shall be to pick up litter if feasible, and if not feasible, to perform other labor commensurate with the offense committed.”

Nontoxic and biodegradable agricultural or garden products or supplies, including mulch, tree bark, and wood chips are not considered litter.

Though not littering in the first place is the ultimate goal, for now Mayor Taylor is looking for Trash Ambassadors – groups of people who will commit to picking up trash on a particular portion of a roadway on a consistent basis – several times a year.

“The strategy is to get teams assigned to not only cleaning the Gorge Road, but also NC 106 to Sealy, NC 28 and the Cashiers Road to the Jackson County line,” he said. “We will need at least 50 participants to clean up all of the above roads.”

Any group who wishes to participate is urged to call the town a day ahead and arrange vests, orange bags, spiked trash sticks and litter pickup warning signs will be made available.

In addition, if the orange bags of trash can't be deposited by the group next

For real time weather and the extended forecast go to
www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather
Nelson David Stiles, 81, of Franklin, died Sunday, March 20, 2016.

Born in Macon County, he was the son of the late George T. Stiles and Agnes Angel Stiles. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Patsy Drake and Pru Anderson and a brother, Steve Stiles.

Nelson was a member of Longview Baptist Church, the Macon County Horse Association, and Mounted Search and Rescue.

He compassionately tutored adult basic education and volunteered with children. He was an integral member of 4-H, continuously displaying his vast bank of equestrian knowledge through an inspiring passion for helping others. He also helped raise extensive funds for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Nelson was an avid horseman; he loved a horse race, judged many horse shows, and often participated as ringmaster. He owned Nelson Stiles Construction Company.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Betty Ruth Barker Stiles; seven children, Judson Stiles of Franklin; David Stiles and wife Ann of Pikeville, TN; Stephanie McCall of Highlands; Kim Guyer of Franklin; Gretta Nelson David Stiles Hurst and husband Floyd of Otto; Adam Yonce and wife Jessica and Tommy Yonce and wife Joanne of Franklin; two brothers, Fred Stiles of Franklin and Dan Stiles of Waynesville; five sisters, Becky Holland, Alma Bryson, Joanne Hubbs and Jean Wells all of Franklin and Margaret Banks of Fletcher, NC; 21 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Nelson was a devoted husband to a wife that he loved dearly, an adoring father, and a proud grandfather. He thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his family when he wasn't riding horses or throwing shingles. His family, friends, and co-workers loved and respected Nelson as he was a man of immeasurable integrity and value.

Funeral Service were held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Dan Stiles and Rev. Carson Gibson will officiate. Burial will be in the Longview Baptist Church Cemetery.

Grandsons served as Pallbearers.

Memorial donations can be made to the Hospice House Foundation, PO Box 815, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

• See OBITUARIES page 5
**Highlands Area Dining**

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OBITUARIES from page 3

Richard Lawrence

Richard Lawrence, 82, of Scaly Mtn. died Monday, March 21, 2016. He was a US citizen born in Hamburg, Germany, he was the son of the late Newbold and Mary Evelyn Cromwell Lawrence.

He was President of BBW Concrete Materials; a Freemason, Rotarian, Knight Templar and Shriner. He was a very active member and volunteer in The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands, NC.

Mr. Lawrence is survived by his wife of 29 years, Barbara Dell Lawrence; much loved two stepdaughters; six children, and numerous grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter, Baby Alice.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Newbold Lawrence, Jr.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 4pm at The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands with Rev. Dr. Bruce Walker officiating and Masonic Rites performed. Friends are invited to a reception following the service at the church.

Memorial donations may be made to Highlands Cashiers Humane Society, PO Box 638, Cashiers, NC 28717 or the Pastoral Care Committee of the Highlands Church of the Incarnation.

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

BAPTIST continued from page 1

Patterson reminded the board that years ago, the board ruled that Main Street churches, regardless of their zoning district, weren't required to provide on-site parking. Since that is the case, at Patterson's urging, the church was directed to request a Special Use Permit for new construction from the Zoning Board instead of a zoning change. She also said according to the way she reads the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) a Special Use Permit is required regardless.

However, Town Attorney J.K. Coward believes it is debatable whether a SUP is needed in the conditional zoning process. He said there is a super-technical glitch in the UDO where in the flow chart for the process an SUP is needed, but it isn't in the conditional zoning text in the UDO and therefore the UDO needs to be amended so all portions match.

However, since the Conditional Zoning process was already in the works, commissioners asked Coward to advise them.

At documentation presented at last week’s Town Board...
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– Photos by Kim Lewicki


– Photos by Kim Lewicki

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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

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

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...LITTER continued from page 2

meeting, Coward indicated that conditional zoning decisions are legislative and the Board of Commissioners are required to act after prerequisites have been met, basically that the Planning Board and in this case also the Zoning Board signed off on the plans.

Furthermore, since the church requested the legislative action from the Town Board in the first place and since actions were taken in that regard, it must remain with the board instead of changing course and requesting a SUP from the Zoning Board. Coward said at this point the church only needs approval from the Town Board.

Therefore, in three separate votes, Commissioners voted 3-2 with Commissioners John Dotson and Amy Patterson voting no and Commissioners Donnie Calloway, Eric Pierson and Brian Stiehler voting yes to allow the conditional zone change, to amend the zoning map to reflect the change and that the change is consistent with the town’s ordinance.

However, since it’s a zoning matter and since the votes were not a super majority – that of 4-1 – all three aspects must be voted on again at the April meeting. At that time the votes can be 3-2 to pass.

Coward also suggested that the Unified Development Ordinance be amended so that the words in the text part of the ordinance match the flow chart.

– Kim Lewicki

...BAPTIST from page 5

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Holy Week Schedule

Thursday, March 24
7pm Maundy Thursday in the Chapel

Good Friday, March 25
12 noon Community Stations of the Cross
1:30 Good Friday Liturgy in the Chapel

Easter Sunday, March 27
Holy Eucharist Rite II
9am & 11am
In the Nave
*No Sunday School

Easter Egg Hunt on the Playground after the 11 a.m. service

Centering Prayer Monday-Friday at 9am in the Chapel

First Presbyterian Church of Highlands Holy Week 2016

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 WCU Brass Quintet & Mario Gaetano, Timpanist

Call 828-526-3175 for more information.

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'Spring Fever: Mating and Dating in the Animal Kingdom' at Nature Center

Spring is in the air here in Western North Carolina. For most creatures, warm temperatures, bright sunshine and flowers all lead to Spring Fever!

Certainly Mark Twain understood the yearnings of spring when he said: “It’s spring fever. That is the name of it. And when you’ve got it, you want—oh, you don’t quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!”

Come celebrate the arrival of spring with the Highlands Biological Station! Bring your friends for an entertaining program called “Spring Fever: Mating and Dating in the Animal Kingdom.” On Saturday, April 2 at 7:30p in the Highlands Nature Center.

This game show mash-up promises to be filled with adult-only hilarity delving into the seductive world of animal courtship rituals. The lengths that animals go to in order to impress a member of the opposite sex are truly awe-inspiring.

Roses and chocolates don’t stand a chance when compared with the fantastical, and sometimes sleazy, wooing practices among our fellow animals.

In this game show-like program, test your knowledge, trivia and acting abilities with your friend or significant other as your partner for this fun filled evening.

Desserts and drinks will be offered along with a prize for the top couple. Registration is required. So find your mate (friend or other) and call (828) 526-2623 to register.

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
- 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.

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, 4688 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.occupy-wnc.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 6:30p. 468 Dillard Road (828) 526 9698.

Tuesdays 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 3:30p. 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 a.m. 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.

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, Judgement 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.

Sat., March 26
- Highlands Rec Park Annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday at 11 a.m.

For ages 0-9 years old.

- Mountain Synagogue is having a Purim Service at 10 am in the Parish Hall of St. Cyprians Church, 216 Roller Mill Rd, Franklin, NC.

For more information, call (828) 524-9463

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 6-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike, elevation change 700 ft., in Panter 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 Appalachian Trail.

Contact Elena Marsh for information, 369-8915.

Sun., March 27
- Sunrise Easter Service ~ 7am. Join all the churches at K-H Founders Park

Mon., March 28
- North and South Jackson County Republican Monthly Meeting The monthly meeting of the Jackson County Republican Party will be on Monday, March 28th at Ryan’s in Sylva 6 PM to eat; 6:30 PM to meet. Come to meet the two Republican candidates running for Commissioner in Jackson County. Mickey Luker is running for the District 4 seat now held by Mark Jones and Ron Mau is running for the District 3 seat held by Vicky Green. Say hello also to Mike Clampitt the newly elected Republican candidate for District 119 NC House. Plans will be made for the District and State Conventions. Republicans, unaffiliated voters and others interested are invited.
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 Forrestor

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

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 eh.chastain86@gmail.com/(828) 200-6277

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.

Mating and Dating in the Animal Kingdom” at 7:30 in the Highlands Nature Center. Desserts and drinks will be offered along with a prize for the top couple. Registration is required. So find your mate (friend or other) and call (828) 526-2623 to register.

Sundays, April 3-May 29
- Change Your Money, Change your Life. Applying God’s word to your money...
S...Hopping Around Highlands this weekend!

Egg-Citing Easter Basket Alternatives

- Pokemon
- Legos
- Edible Bubbles
- Awesome Swim Goggles
- Paintable Bird House
- Whiffer Sniffers
- Books & Mad Libs

All at The Toy Store
Daily 10a to 5p
365 Main Street • 828-526-9415

Spring has Sprung!

- Free People
- BB Dakota
- Michael Stars Tees
- CP Shades • THML

Jeans by:
- Joes
- 7 for All Mankind
- Citizens • AG • Hudson
- Mother

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- Bedstu • Free People
- Matisse • Diba

355 Main Street (in The Galax Theatre)
526-4660
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**Come and See Our New Spring Fashions Arriving Daily!**

**Great Sales Still Going on!**

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Highlands’ Fun Place to Shop!
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**Dress it Up!**
Your Easter Style and Beyond....

Winter Clearance Continues 75% Off

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**Wilt’s End**
A Highlands tradition since 1940
Our 76th season on Main Street
Monday-Saturday
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---

**SOUTHERN PROPER**
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---

**Cabin Couture**
Shop for gourmet Easter treats and gifts at CABIN COUTURE, just a HOP off Main Street, on Carolina Way, your shopping stop for art, jewelry and home decor.

Open Daily: 10a to 5p
526-3909

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**Aquatalia**
468 Carolina Way
(Between N. 4th & N. 5th streets)

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**The Custom House**
Lighting Lamp Shades
- Pottery
- Rugs
- Pillows
- Meridith’s Custom Painting
828-526-2665
442 Carolina Way

---

**For IPhones**
As Seen on Shark Tank!

---

**BAGS on MAIN**
Next to The Toy Store
Main Street
828-526-9415

---

**Shop for gourmet Easter treats and gifts at CABIN COUTURE, just a HOP off Main Street, on Carolina Way, your shopping stop for art, jewelry and home decor.**
3 bedroom, 2 bath cottage style home, 4 miles from downtown Highlands with easy access to Highway 64. Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath with bonus loft, meticulously maintained and featuring a large back deck, a balcony off the loft and two wood burning fireplaces. Offered at $335,000. mls #83304

Great mountain views of Shortoff and surrounding mountains with this 3bed/3bath. Open floor plan with master and guest bedroom on the main level. Lower level has sitting room/bedroom and bath and 2 car garage. Loft upstairs. Offered at $619,000. mls #83337

In the Webbmont community, only a few minutes from downtown Highlands, this home was renovated in 2006 to include an expanded master bedroom; the living room has vaulted ceilings and a wood burning fireplace. Offered at $375,000 on .87 +/- acres. mls #83330

3 bedroom, 2 bath within walking distance to Skyline Lodge. Large stone fireplace, living room, kitchen, dining room, laundry, 2 bedrooms and 1 bath on main level. Large master bedroom and bath upstairs. Offered at $349,000. mls #83294

In Highlands Falls Country Club on the 13th green, this spacious home has high ceilings, black and white kitchen. 4 bedrooms. 4 baths, family room on lower level. 2 car garage. Huge porches and decks. Offered at $750,000. mls #81943

Close to town, on over 3 acres with a ridge line view and easy care yard. The dwelling is spacious, with a mountain contemporary flair. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3 car garage, plus an office, family room, and outdoor living room. 2 possible additional building sites. Offered at $995,000. mls #82990

3/4 bedroom, 3 bath on a knoll lot with a nice mountain view of Whiteside, Bearpen and mountain vistas. Custom kitchen and wood floors with vaulted ceilings, large covered porch. Terrace level has a guest suite. 2 car garage. Owner wants an offer! Offered at $945,000. mls #83356

Located in the popular Mirror Lake area, this 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath is quality appointed. The floorplan is open and airy, with huge decks for outdoor living. Master has private balcony and a bath. 2 bedrooms with a bath and huge family room downstairs has a separate entrance. Offered at $699,900. mls #83064

This house has huge stone fireplaces, granite kitchen and bathrooms, stainless steel appliances. Waterfall with water wheel and pond and boat dock with large screened porch across the whole back of the house. Privacy with your own lake on 1.25 acres. Offered at $789,000. mls #82534

This home has beautiful views of Fish Hawk and Buttermilk Mountains on nearly 2 acres just a 15 minute drive to Main Street Highlands. Custom milled Cyprus siding, gorgeous hard wood floors, upscale kitchen, great room, Master suite on the main with guest suite on upper level. Lower level has 1 bedroom and a spacious living room with workshop. $449,000 MLS #82911.

In town living in the heart of Highlands with this lower entry level Highlands Manor Condo. Open great room with dining, stone faced, wood burning fireplace with oversized windows. A screened porch overlooks Mill Creek accessible from the living room and both of the bedrooms. Offered at $335,000 mls #83138

This house has huge stone fireplaces, granite kitchen and bathrooms, stainless steel appliances. Waterfall with water wheel and pond and boat dock with large screened porch across the whole back of the house. Privacy with your own lake on 1.25 acres. Offered at $789,000. mls #82534

Located in the popular Mirror Lake area, this 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath is quality appointed. The floorplan is open and airy, with huge decks for outdoor living. Master has private balcony and a bath. 2 bedrooms with a bath and huge family room downstairs has a separate entrance. Offered at $699,900. mls #83064

This house has huge stone fireplaces, granite kitchen and bathrooms, stainless steel appliances. Waterfall with water wheel and pond and boat dock with large screened porch across the whole back of the house. Privacy with your own lake on 1.25 acres. Offered at $789,000. mls #82534

In town living in the heart of Highlands with this lower entry level Highlands Manor Condo. Open great room with dining, stone faced, wood burning fireplace with oversized windows. A screened porch overlooks Mill Creek accessible from the living room and both of the bedrooms. Offered at $335,000 mls #83138

Tucked away in the woods with a nice mountain view, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath is in move in condition. Lovely great room with screened porch off side and large deck to enjoy the mountain view. A great first house for our mountain getaway. Offered at $350,000. mls #83217

2 Bedroom 2 Bath sits on 1.11 +/- acres with tremendous mountain views. There is also a brand new 1 Bedroom 1 Bath guest house with 2 car garage and workshop. Offered at $515,000. mls #83267

This home has beautiful views of Fish Hawk and Buttermilk Mountains on nearly 2 acres just a 15 minute drive to Main Street Highlands. Custom milled Cyprus siding, gorgeous hard wood floors, upscale kitchen, great room, Master suite on the main with guest suite on upper level. Lower level has 1 bedroom and a spacious living room with workshop. $449,000 MLS #82911.

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Selling Highlands Real Estate, Anything in Your Way?

Is anything getting in the way of you selling your Highlands home? Making the decision to sell is one thing, getting it sold is another. From preparing a home for sale to negotiating a contract there are many things sellers do unknowingly that get in the way of arriving at the closing table.

The common goal in mind is to sell your home quickly for the most money. Pay attention to how to remove roadblocks that can keep your home from selling. Many forget or don’t know how to remove these roadblocks. These things you do before you list can help or hurt the process.

Assuming you have prepared your home for sale and it looks its best, the most important thing is making it accessible for potential buyers. If your home is not available at the drop of a hat it makes it more difficult for buyers. It’s the home that is available that gets seen and placed under contract. Your Realtor® will help you value your asset to help you get rid of the roadblocks between you and a successful contract to purchase your home.

Get your home ready to sell so it is appealing to a buyer and • See INVESTING page 17

NEW LISTINGS!

**MLS #83168 - Highlands Falls Country Club**

$559,000  3BR/ 3 baths
Golf course view of 16th hole/ fairway
New kitchen, generator, and more

**MLS #83342 - just outside HFCC gates**

$785,000  4 BR/ 3 baths
Views of Golf course, lake and mountains
2 levels of covered decks, custom details

**MLS #83344 - WALK to town condo**

$235,000  2 BR/ 2 baths
Entry level condo w/full size W/D
Upgraded unit. this is a MUST SEE

Beautiful Building Lot, In-Town

Beautiful lot, 1.03 +/- acre building lot situated on one of Highlands’ most popular, walk-to-town, quiet lanes. Paved, easy access and adjoins The Bascom Campus (you are just a few steps from The Bascom’s Sculpture Trail that leads from Oak Lane to The Bascom’s main building). Tuck your home amongst the trees for privacy, while enjoying proximity to Highlands’ Main Street.

**Offered at $325,000. MLS #80540.**

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Ideal Escape with Mountain View

This fabulous log cabin, on 6 +/- acres, is charming, unique, and possesses the power to heal the most beleaguered spirit. With interesting design elements, cozy interior, and spectacular mountain views, this 3BR/2BA home is a real retreat. Features include hardwood flooring; new, wood stove with honed granite platform; front and back porches; fire pit; extensive stone work; and surrounding woods for privacy. NOW REDUCED. Offered at $289,000. MLS #81561.

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Best Location In Town

Beautiful 1.03 +/- acre building lot situated on one of Highlands’ most popular, walk-to-town, quiet lanes. Paved, easy access and adjoins The Bascom Campus (you are just a few steps from The Bascom’s Sculpture Trail that leads from Oak Lane to The Bascom’s main building). Tuck your home amongst the trees for privacy, while enjoying proximity to Highlands’ Main Street.

**Offered at $188,000. MLS #82512.**

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Easy Living in Highlands Falls Country Club

Short walk to town with winter views of Sunset Rock, this house sits on .32 +/- acres. Yard is fenced in and well manicured. With a short walk to Main St. and even shorter walk to beautiful Harris Lake. Very convenient to town yet very private. Investors, with the rental market booming, this home is ideal for a great rental property. This 2BR/2BA could easily be converted to a 3 bedroom. This home has unbelievable potential and the BEST location in town.

**Offered at $279,000. MLS #83123.**

Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

**NEW LISTINGS!**

**MLS #83185 - Highlands Falls Country Club**

$679,000  4BR/ 3 baths
Newly remodeled, open concept living, pool, new HVAC, newly landscaped.

**MLS #83243 - just outside HFCC gates**

$599,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Pool, hot tub, with roof top deck.

**MLS #83244 - just outside HFCC gates**

$499,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Spectacular mountain views, pool, hot tub, with 2 levels of covered decks.

**MLS #83245 - just outside HFCC gates**

$459,000  2BR/ 2 baths
Beautiful, corner lot townhome in convenient location.

**MLS #83246 - just outside HFCC gates**

$479,000  2BR/ 2 baths
New construction, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83247 - just outside HFCC gates**

$499,000  2BR/ 2 baths
New construction, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83248 - just outside HFCC gates**

$549,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83249 - just outside HFCC gates**

$469,000  2BR/ 2 baths
New construction, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83250 - just outside HFCC gates**

$425,000  2BR/ 2 baths
New construction, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83251 - just outside HFCC gates**

$459,000  2BR/ 2 baths
New construction, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83252 - just outside HFCC gates**

$499,000  2BR/ 2 baths
New construction, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83253 - just outside HFCC gates**

$549,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83254 - just outside HFCC gates**

$579,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83255 - just outside HFCC gates**

$599,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83256 - just outside HFCC gates**

$609,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83257 - just outside HFCC gates**

$639,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83258 - just outside HFCC gates**

$679,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83259 - just outside HFCC gates**

$749,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83260 - just outside HFCC gates**

$779,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83261 - just outside HFCC gates**

$839,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83262 - just outside HFCC gates**

$879,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83263 - just outside HFCC gates**

$949,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83264 - just outside HFCC gates**

$979,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83265 - just outside HFCC gates**

$1,029,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.

**MLS #83266 - just outside HFCC gates**

$1,049,000  3BR/ 2 baths
Golf course view, pool, hot tub, needs some finishing touches.
Amazing waterfalls and bold streams with 700 feet on Buck Creek and 700 feet on other side of the creek and bordering USFS. Exceptionally built home on 5.48 acres with all the bells and whistles. $995,000 MLS #82444

Sequoyah Point Way. Homesite on Lake Sequoyah with exceptional views of the lake, privacy, city water and sewer. Great reduced price! $347,000. MLS# 77522

4/3 home located in the private gated community of Whiteside Estates. Home features beautiful hardwood floors throughout with pine wood walls and brick fireplace. Great deck with a covered area of the master bedroom. MLS #82461 $347,500

Every space in this 3/3 home was updated. Two tired deck with views of the mountains the lake and the 5th fairway at Highlands Falls Country Club. The floor plan is perfect for entertaining. In addition, there is a one bedroom guesthouse with a new kitchen. MLS #82523 $759,000

This timeles home was once owned by the renowned botanist Thomas Grant Harbison and is on the National Registry of Historic Places. Enjoy the 3+ acres of lush native plantings combined with colorful annuals and perennials in several gardens. Professional style stove, along with open kitchen and dining area that include a stone fireplace. 5/3 & sleeping porch. MLS #82122 $960,000

Beautiful pastoral view of the paddocks and stables plus Shortoff Mountain. Newly remodeled chefs kitchen plus sizable bedrooms and exquisite views and proximity to town make this property a BAR-GAIN! MLS #82080 $525,000

Highlands Mountain Club with great mountain view. Spacious 3br/2ba, two bath spacious condo. Enjoy the pool, tennis, and clubhouse. It comes furnished, with dishes and linens, so just move in. $249,000. MLS #82270

Highlands Falls condo with 3br/3ba and great golf course view, sunroom, stone fireplace, vaulted ceiling. Just reduced to an amazing $295,000! MLS# 73808

This cottage has been remodeled & updated throughout. The main house has 2br/2ba, vaulted & beamed LR w/stone fireplace, newly appointed kitchen. New screened outdoor living space with mountain view. The guest house has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths $649,900

Highlands Falls Golf Villa has the best view of all with golf, lake and mountains plus an easy walk to all amenities. Golf or Social Membership is available but optional. Easy living, all on one floor with a large kitchen and open greatroom. MLS #78624 $350,000

Great in town location, completely remodeled in 2008 on nearly 2 acres. 3BR, 3BA, 2 Half BAs plus an office and 2 car garage. New kitchen, hardwood floors, new custom cabinets with granite countertops, SS appliances, French doors and new baths. MLS #66051 $697,000

Great mountain views from this 13.8 acres with a creek and three streams. Home has 3 br/2 ba with beautiful native stone fireplace and great stone barbeque outside. Owner will consider financing. MLS #74052. $325,000.

Walk to Downtown Highlands. Impeccably maintained 2 br/3 ba home with additional lovely guest suite, extra sleeping quarters and bath. Granite countertops in kitchen and baths, wood floors, additional fireplace on porch and two car garage. MLS #83227 $545,000

Immaculate home just a short distance from town down Highlands. Vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace in living room. Porches on upper and lower levels. Hardwood floors throughout, granite counter tops in kitchen and baths. MLS #81068 $265,000

The perfect walk to town cottage, just minutes from Main Street and Harris Lake. Totally updated with two living areas in this open floorplan. Upscale kitchen, two bedrooms, three baths. $575,000 MLS #81068

Charm exudes from this 2013 remodel. 3/2 Main house with fantastic Master Suite plus two studio bedroom cottages with full bath for guests. Very private setting on road with more expensive homes. MLS #82269 $399,000

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Highlands NC 28741
(828) 526-1717
(828) 526-4101
www.MeadowsMtnRealty.com

Wildwood Forest home with beautiful mature landscaping. Open deck and covered porch. Features 2 master suites. Home is fully furnished, well maintained and would be a great investment opportunity. MLS #81577 $400,000
not needing deferred maintenance. When you put a home on the market that requires repairs, it may stay on the market for a good while and you may have less showings.

This is the time to emotionally remove yourself from your home. It is tricky to remove ourselves from our environment, however it is very necessary. Yes, you still need to impersonalize your home by taking down personal photos and items. But also think about updating bedspreads, possibly paint inside or out and clear the clutter. You may not appreciate the change, but buyers will respond better.

I am personally in the same situation in considering selling my own home. I feel the same as anyone else in this position. It’s hard pill to swallow to make our homes impersonal, when it’s one of the most personal places in our lives! But to sell, we need to do it. I’m preaching to myself as well.

• Lynn Kimball has over 42 years of real estate experience, with 31 years serving the Highlands area. She has gained Emeritus Status with the National Association of Realtors and is a past Vice President for the Highlands Cashiers Board of Realtors. Whether you are interested in searching properties or comprehensive information about our area, you are invited to visit her user friendly website at www.sig-natureproperties-nc.com. Meadows Mountain Realty has three locations, at 41 Church Street in the Old Edwards Inn complex, or at 488 Main Street or visit Lynn at her 2334 Cashiers Road location across from Highlands Falls Country Club. Lynn Kimball may be reached at 828-421-8193 or by email at Lynn@MeadowsMtnRealty.com.

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HS students visit FELC

On March 10, the Highlands School Teen Living class, art students and the Interact Club went to the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center to give gifts they made to the residents. With fabric that donated by Irina Taylor at Village Kids of Highlands, the students made over 115 items which took over a month to finish. These items include dog bone pillows, neck pillows, dignity bags, lap throws and walker bags.

Gale Garrett, from the Art department, also had her students paint pictures of birds, using colors coordinating with the fabrics used, to brighten the rooms. The items were distributed to each resident and they were overjoyed to receive a gift and get a visit from the students.

Friday March 25, there will also be a Easter party and several of the students are planning on attending to volunteer.
By Sam Forrester
Whiteside Presbyterian Church

Jesus in speaking to Martha, the sister of Lazarus, after Lazarus’ death, before his resurrection, tells her this amazing truth about himself. He declares “I am the resurrection and the life.” This is a powerful statement. The way he puts this reinforces this teaching. He uses a predicate nominative where the subject and predicate are interchangeable. Like when I might say “I am Sam” which is the same as saying “Sam am I.” He does this to show that both the resurrection and the life are rooted in him. It is important to notice the order in which he gives these. The resurrection precedes life because without the resurrection their can be no eternal life.

Jesus is the resurrection, thus he is also the life. Both of these are completely dependent on him. In his person and in it alone do you find the blessed life of God. In him only can you find his glorious attributes; omniscience, wisdom, omnipotence, love, holiness, etc. Because he is all of these things, he is also the root or source of your marvelous resurrection. Without Jesus Christ there is nothing but death. With him there is resurrection, victory over death, and life, eternal life. Jesus came into this world as the Prince of Life to be the conqueror of death. He came from the Father to live the perfect life required by the law for man to enter into God’s presence. He went to Calvary’s cross to pay the price for man’s sin. According to what he told Adam in the Garden that penalty was to Calvary’s cross to pay the price for man’s sin. Accordingly to what he told Adam in the Garden that penalty was death. He went into the grave to show the debt was paid and through his resurrection opened heaven’s gate to all who would hear and believe his message of hope.

Jesus wants you to understand, eternal life is found in him and in him alone. To be a part with him, in the resurrection, you have to believe he is who he says he is. He is the only begotten Son of God. He was sent into this world to do for those who believe in him what they could not do for themselves. To come into this resurrection you have to believe on Jesus as the One sent from God. The apostle Paul declares in Romans 3:23 that all men are sinners. That means according to Ephesians 2:1 all men are dead in their transgressions and sins. What hope can they have? There is nothing in them that could cause God to look upon them. Psalm 14:3 says there are no men who do good, not even one. This means no one because of anything in his own heart can be saved. This is what makes Christ’s statement about him being the resurrection and life so important. Jesus opens the door of salvation by his perfect life, atoning death and resurrection victory. Only the person who sees himself as a sinner and his need of a Savior and recognizes that Savior as Jesus Christ can come through Christ’s resurrection into heaven and eternal life.

The hope of the Christian is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is the ground for everything Christ brought. Nothing else, in this world, carries such a powerful message. Open your ears and listen. Open your heart and believe. Jesus Christ came into this world to bring hope. He is, as he declares, “the resurrection and the life.” You must respond to his declaration as Martha did “Yes, Lord, I
Police & Fire Reports

The Highlands Police log entries from March 12. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

March 12
• At 1 p.m., officers were called to a home on Raoul Road where a bear had destroyed a shed door valued at $150 and a trash can valued at $25.

March 13
• At 2 p.m., a case of identity theft was reported when a false ID was given to a state trooper.

March 14
• At 9 a.m., officers were called to Reeves where someone used another’s account to make a purchase without permission.
• At 9:50 a.m., a breaking and entering with larceny was reported at a home on Dog Mountain Road. A 40” Samsung LCD TV valued at $350 was taken and a wooden entry door valued at $300 was destroyed.

March 15
• At 9:48 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east at Little Bear Pen.

March 16
• At 2:50 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from March 15.

March 15
• At 4:21 p.m., the dept. assisted in a search in Scaly Mountain.

March 16
• At 4:55 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a business on Main Street.

March 18
• At 9:43 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at the Hospital.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from 18

believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.” She confesses the full deity of Jesus showing she understood what he meant about being the only way into eternal life. I pray you see this also, for without it, you cannot know this wonderful One who is “the resurrection and the life.”
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It’ll be ready Nov. 10th.

We’re planning a new recipe for the 10th Anniversary of Culinary Weekend. Mark your calendars for Nov. 10-13th, 2016. Just wait until you taste it.
...MAYOR continued from page 2
vestment to bring full broadband to isolated areas like in Western Carolina. I understand the economic rationale, the return on investment isn't lucrative compared to metropolitan areas.

Some leaders contend that it would be acceptable for municipalities to partner with private providers in creating and delivering broadband networks. I agree. Highlands is open to those kinds of partnerships, so long as our partner is willing to deliver first rate and immediate service to our customers.

Speaking of service, Altitude Broadband is moving as fast as possible to setup initial service to customers. Winter weather and equipment back orders have slowed installation rates.

Larry Rogers
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