Commissioners select location for Charters of Freedom

Macon County Commissioner and Vietnam Veteran Gary Shields presented the board of commissioners with the idea of erecting monuments to display the Charters of Freedom earlier this year.

“These documents define our country and I think having them on display in Macon County would be educational and a great resource for our community,” Shields said. “It shows pride in our country and gives people an opportunity to view the documents first hand, something they might not otherwise be able to do.”

Shields’ fellow commissioners approved the idea and work got started on the details with Foundation Forward, a nonprofit organization formed to establish the monuments around the country.

Last Tuesday night, the Macon County Board of Commissioners voted to enter into a Letter of Intent with Foundation Forward.

Annual Town Lighting festivities are Sat., Nov. 26 in K-H Founders Park

It was Thanksgiving in the Highlands School cafeteria on Thursday. The cafeteria staff dressed up as pilgrims and Indians to get students in the Thanksgiving mood. Students and staff enjoyed turkey, dressing, green beans, rolls and fruit ambrosia. From left are Lynn Vinson, Debbie Moss, Sally Zachary and Roberta Perkins.

County pays off Parker Meadows from hefty fund balance

During his tenure as commissioner, Macon County Commission Chair Kevin Corbin has championed for recreation opportunities in the county. From being instrumental in the renovations at the Highlands Pool to the construction of the new Parker Meadows Recreation Complex, Corbin has spent his six years as commissioner ensuring the citizens of Macon County have the appropriate recreation facilities.

Last Tuesday night, during Corbin’s last board meeting as a commissioner before taking his new role as a Representative for the North Carolina House of Representatives, Corbin asked his fellow board members to approve $1.35 million to pay off the remaining balance owed on the park.

County officials approved the request. The park is now open and welcoming residents.

School gym has a new roof

After 10 years of dealing with a leaking roof, Highland School is anxiously awaiting some rain to try out the new roof installed and completed by Benton Roofing.

On Monday night, the MC Board of Education said the roof has been completed and with no change orders on the project, it cost the county $249,000.

According to Todd Gibbs, Highland School’s School Gym received a needed facelift.

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Exciting things are happening!

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Contact Mal Phillips (828) 200-2642.
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Don’t miss the Tree Lighting, Sat., Nov. 26 at 6:30 p.m.
in K-H Founders Park on Pine St.

Highlands Plaza • Highlands, NC
(828) 526-3775 • (828) 526-0430 FAX

Mayor on Duty

Remember to give thanks for .... everything

With the beginning of the holiday season we will all be thankful for time with our families and friends. We can breathe a sigh of relief that the national elections are over, and be thankful that our republic has an enduring tradition of a peaceful and planned transition of power every four years.

The Highlands holiday events will kick off on Saturday with the town lighting at Kelsey Hutchinson Founders Park at 6:30. The lighting of the new town Christmas tree in the park can be viewed as either a new tradition, or a return to a past one.

Let me first express my appreciation to the Highlands United Methodist Church for graciously allowing the community to use the large tree in front of the church as the town Christmas tree for the past number of years. I know and understand that many people regret the change in venue, but hopefully a new tradition will follow.

Many years ago the town Christmas tree was the large tree behind Town Hall and next to the police department. Over the years, crowds for the lighting grew too large for the space, so the lighting was moved to the hill where Entegra Bank and a portion of the park are currently located. When Macon Bank built a new building on the site, and the current park did not exist, the lighting was moved to the Methodist church. So moving the event back to the park is not exactly a new venue, rather a return to a former site.

The ice skating rink will open Friday afternoon. It will also be open the Saturday afternoon of the town lighting, but be closed during the lighting ceremonies, and reopen afterward. The rink will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. Everyone, including town staff, should be at home with their families on this special holiday.

Our downtown Christmas Parade will begin at 11 am on the following Saturday, December 3. Like the town lighting, it will be a community extravaganza organized by the Highlands Chamber.

Western Carolina is in a historic drought. The Highlands Plateau continues to lead the region in below average rainfall. To exacerbate our situation, very little rainfall stays on the plateau before flowing down the mountains.

The town public works department is constantly monitoring this emergency situation. While stable for now, predictions of the drought continuing through the winter could create a historic weather event for Highlands rivaling any blizzard we have experienced. Lamar Nix, our public works director, has requested folks suspend the use of automatic irrigation systems until drought conditions pass. At this point there are no mandatory watering bans, but we do ask folks to use water judiciously.

Also, during the holidays please refrain from any outdoor burning such as fire pits. Also, shooting fireworks could have disastrous consequences and will guarantee a visit from law enforcement. In times of emergency like now, I know people in this community will work together so everyone can be secure and safe.

For an unforgettable expedition on the Highlands-Cashiers plateau call:

Highland Excursions
828.333.7980
www.overlandunlimited.com

Weekend Weather

For real-time weather and the extended forecast go to www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather
Billy Ray Rice, 68, of Cashiers passed away on Thursday, November 17, 2016. Born in Rabun County, GA, he was the son of the late Leroy and Nellie Kinsey Rice. He was employed for 30 years by Duke Energy at Oconee Nuclear Station in Seneca, SC. He loved to hunt, play golf and loved classic cars. He loved his family and was a member of Living Redeemer Assembly of God Church. Billy Ray was a U.S. Army veteran serving in the Vietnam War.

Billy Ray is survived by his wife of 47 years, Linda Rice; one daughter, Jody Williamson (Jeff) of Franklin; one son, Merritt Rice (Tracie) of Cashiers; four grandchildren, Sydney Rice, Olivia Rice, Mason Williamson and Avery Williamson; two sisters, Janice Dillard and Sharon Garren and three brothers, Robert Rice, Donnie Rice and Bennie Rice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to American Legion Post #370, 220 Main Street, Highlands, NC 28741.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Rice family. Online condolences may be made at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.
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THREE COURSES FOR $30
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OPEN YEAR ROUND!

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Breakfast: 7:30:10:30am
Lunch: Until 2:30pm
Full cooked-to-order breakfast &
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WARD, who plans to gift the monuments to Macon County at no charge to the county.

Macon County Manager Derek Roland informed members of the board that the location of the monuments was selected, and the display will be featured on the courthouse plaza in front of the flag poles.

“This is an excellent central location for these monuments and we believe will give the community easy access to enjoy the Charters of Freedom,” said Roland.

The Charters of Freedom monuments will be erected in brick as to match the current aesthetics of the courthouse.

The goal of Foundation Forward is to bring life-size replicas of these documents currently housed in the National Archives -- the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights -- to local communities.

Charters of Freedom Monuments are usually placed in a location central to the community, with 24-hour access, high visibility, high foot traffic, and easy access for school children.

Based on the letter of intent, a bank account will be established at Entegra Bank to fund the project. Vance and Mary Jo Patterson, the founders of Foundation Forward, will make the first deposit into the account in the amount of $10,000 and other deposits will be made during the construction to cover the costs of the brick monument that will be gifted to the county.

Once building permits are granted and the process begins, construction will take six to eight weeks.

Parker Meadows in February 2014 in a three to two vote to spend $2.5 million to construct the park.

“Ninety percent of the people I talk to are in favor of us doing the entire project. If we are truly listening to the people, I vote we move forward with the project,” said Chairman Kevin Corbin during the debate in 2014 to build the park. “Two reasons I support this project are we need this facility for our citizens and also for the huge economic gain the park will generate for the county estimated at six to eight million dollars a year, a figure I feel is low. We won’t realize this gain unless we move forward with the entire project,” he said.

Corbin also said it was important to consider the money that will be saved from completing the entire project all at one time, as it will cost more to do the park in phases especially grading and lighting costs.

Now, two years later, Corbin asked his fellow commissioners to pay off the loan on the park and got a unanimous vote to do so.

The $2.9 million project had $2.4 million coming from county dollars and $500,000 coming from state Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grants. When the park was approved in 2014, the county voted to pay $1 million of the project upfront out of the county’s fund balance, and to finance the remaining $1.8 million needed to complete the project.

By last Tuesday night, the county still owed about $1.35 million on the project, paying 2.2 percent interest on the loan that was housed at Entegra Bank. County Manager Derek Roland noted that if the commissioners voted to pay off the loan early, it would free up the more than $200,000 ear-
ANNUAL STOREWIDE SALE

A portion of our sales will go to the Highlands Fire Department and US Forest Service

Join us Now through Saturday, December 3rd

Tent Sale Opens at 9am Friday, November 25th

Monday - Saturday: 9am to 5pm • Sunday: 10am to 5pm

Sunday, November 27th: Last Sunday Open Until May

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This is a special time of the year to offer our greatest savings just to you - our most valued customers
That subtitle for a Wall Street Journal article on how not to stress about preparing the quintessential Thanksgiving meal caught my eye. Yes, I have stressed over that meal in the past, but not to the extreme outlined in the WSJ.

For me, the stressful part was making the gravy. I only make gravy to accompany a roast turkey, and doing that every year or so is not enough “practice to make perfect.” Add to that my mother and my two sisters hovering over my shoulder offering input, often conflicting, and you get the picture. The times I’ve made decent gravy were the times I cooked dinner only for my husband, his elderly aunt and myself. Being able to follow a gravy recipe from the newspaper, without interruption, did the trick.

I was never one to try new recipes at Thanksgiving, as my family and friends always wanted the tried and true, which was fine by me. What does that mean? Turkey, gravy, the Pepperidge Farm dressing recipe with minor adaptations, baked sweet potatoes vs. a casserole, green beans or roasted veggies like Brussel sprouts, carrots, onions plus cranberry sauce and rolls. Who needs more than that? Truth be told, none of us really want to eat anything beyond turkey, dressing and gravy, but feel obligated to at least put something green in our mouths.

I haven’t cooked a Thanksgiving dinner the past few years, as my husband and I have been invited to eat with friends or family for several years running. The two years we spent with friends at their mountain house, I was only in charge of the dressing and baked sweet potatoes. One year when we spent the day with friends locally, I was asked to make my specialty—Greek salad.

Last year, I couldn’t believe my good fortune when the same friends asked me to bring Greek pastries from Zukerino. That Greek bakery has become my go-to spot any time I need dessert, which is pretty much only when I entertain or take dessert to someone else’s house.

It’s been so many years since I’ve had to prepare an entire Thanksgiving meal that I was taken by surprise last year when I ran into Trader Joe’s on the Sunday before Thanksgiving to pick up Greek olive oil and found the store packed. Finally, it dawned on me that everyone was stocking up for Thanksgiving. That experience prompted me to give thanks that I was once again off the hook for the big meal.

This year, we’re heading to St. Simons Island to spend the holiday with my sister and brother-in-law in their newly purchased vacation condo. With the just four of us plus a few pets, I know we won’t be stressing over the Thanksgiving meal. My sister discovered last year that lots of island restaurants are open that day, so we may well go out. That would leave most of Thanksgiving Day free for bicycling the island, watching the parade on TV, walking on the beach, and all the activities we enjoy. We keep vacillating about cooking, as we all enjoy the leftovers as much as the original meal.

Decisions, decisions. We’ll figure it out eventually and enjoy a relaxing week regardless of where or what we end up eating on Turkey Day. I wish you all a stress-free Thanksgiving too.

Kathy Manos Penn is a Sandy Springs resident now happily retired from a corporate career in communications. Find her book, “The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday,” locally at The Molly Grace or on Kathy’s website at www.theinkpenn.com. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com.
B R E A K F A S T
Full breakfast made to order every morning until 11:00 am
Cage-free eggs, waffles, french toast, sausage, ham, homemade biscuits, muffins, croissants. Espresso bar and coffee roasted in-house.

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Every day from 11:00 am - close
Fresh angus burgers, fresh
Natural chicken breasts, fish or chicken tenders, cooked to order, hand-cut fries, salads, homemade soups, daily specials.
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Pizza
Every day from 11:00 am - close
Authentic Neapolitan and NY deck oven pizzas made from scratch. Pasta bowls, daily specials and weeknight dinner specials.
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Soup & Salad Bar
Mon-Sat 11:00am - close
Fresh salads, homemade dressings, soups, chili and more.
$9.99 each (dine in) or $9.99 a pound (to go)

Weekday Lunch Special
Monday - Friday 11am to 2pm
Pizza, pasta, soup and salad bar
Continuous fresh pizza from our pizza ovens, pastas, fresh breads from our bakery, plus the entire soup and salad bar...
$9.99 each (dine in) or $9.99 a pound (to go)

SUNDAY SOUTHERN BRUNCH BAR
Every Sunday from 11am – 3pm
Skillet fried chicken, country angus steak, skillet corn, biscuits & preserves, mashed potatoes, veggies, cobbler, plus the entire soup & salad bar.
$11.99 (dine in) or $9.99 a pound (to go)

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

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

Monday: choose either:
Four chicken and four cheese enchiladas, refried beans, monterey rice, homemade tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream.
Or...
24 buffalo wings or 2 lbs chicken tenders and hand cut fries.
$21.95 serves four.

Tuesday: Made in-house Italian sausage lasagna and a large house salad.
$21.95 serves four

Wednesday: Chicken or steak pot pie and a large salad.
$21.95 serves four

Thursday: Roasted meatloaf with mashed potatoes, gravy and a large salad.
$21.95 serves four

Friday: Wild caught fried shrimp, baked potatoes, hush puppies & coleslaw. $24.95 serves four

Saturday: In-house smoked bbq, coleslaw, apple and bacon-baked beans, and yeast rolls. $21.95 serves 4

Weeknight Pizza Special:
Available Monday - Thursday from 4:30 to close
16” NY style pizza with up to 5 toppings.
Comes with garlic bread & salad $21.95 or Baked Linguini: Meatballs, tomato sauce & cheese. Comes with garlic bread and salad $21.95 or Baked Penne Pasta: Italian sausage, onion, bacon and mushrooms in white sauce. Comes with garlic bread & salad $21.95

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Browse our Wine Spectator award-winning selection of wines w/ the best pricing in town.
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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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25% off  Wood Furniture
In-stock furniture only

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Pretty hanging lights

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Rugs, tabletop, lamps,
bedding, art, florals, pillows,
basically everything else!

25% off  Christmas Decorations
Time to trim the tree...

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**THANKSGIVING SALE**

Our shop will close – Our design studio expands

This means we have furniture, Chaddock upholstery, art, designer rugs, antiques and accessories to move, and we are willing to make you a great deal. All items are marked down and prices are being cut to our invoice plus freight. You don’t want to miss this sale.

Please visit us on Facebook to see images.

Open Through Saturday, the 26th
9:00am to 5:00pm
Closed Thanksgiving Day

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**HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS**

**First Mondays**
- Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men’s Meeting at 7 pm

**Mondays**
- The Food Pantry of Highlands is located behind Highlands United Methodist Church and is open 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Donations may be dropped off in the drop box at the Methodist Church (Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.).

**Mon. & Thurs.**
- The Joy Program at HUMC from 11:30a to 1:30p. Includes a free lunch and a variety of programs and games. All seniors are welcome. For more information, call Tricia Smith at 828-338-8167.

**Tuesdays**
- FREE Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.

**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. For info call 369-7385.

**2nd and 4th Tuesdays**
- OccupyWNC meets at the Jackson County Justice Center. For more information, visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524

**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.

**2nd Thursdays**
- Sapphire Valley Needlepoint Guild meets at the Highlands Rec Park at 10 a.m.

**3rd Thursdays**
- Kidney Smart Classes in Franklin: from 4:30-6pm, Angel Medical Center, Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 120 Riverview St. 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

**Friday-Tuesday**
- Movies at Highlands Playhouse, 2, 5, 8 p.m. SUNDAYS, 2 & 5 ONLY.

**Fridays**
- Open Duplicate Bridge at 1 p.m. Be seated by 12:45 a.m.

**Third Fridays**
- The Senior Dinners are held the third Friday of each month at 12 noon through April.

**Saturdays**
- At MountainTop Wine Shoppe on

**See EVENTS page 11**

---

**Creative Concepts Salon Inc.**

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**OPENING AT 9A · TUESDAY - SATURDAY**

Owner/Stylist: Lacy Jane Vilaro
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The Metropolitan Opera HD Live!

Saturday December 10
12:55pm

Adults: $22 Members: $19 Students: $12

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Tickets available online: highlandspacec.org by calling 828.526.9047
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In Store & Courtyard SALE!

On the Ladies side ....
20% - 70% OFF Storewide
(Certain Exclusions Apply)

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Sport coats
by Samuelsohn & Hickey Freeman
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Shirts & Sweaters
by St. Croix, Robert Talbott & others

Main Street, free wine tastings from 1 - 3 p.m.
• At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.
• Highlands Marketplace at K-H Park 8a to noon.
• The Bascom Knitters at The Bascom from 10 am until noon downstairs in The Bascom Library.

Fri., Nov. 25
• At PAC, Retro Rock: The Drifters at 8 p.m. Call 828-526-9047 for tickets.

Sat., Nov. 26
• At PAC, Live via Satellite, Three Penny Opera at 1 p.m. Adults $22, Members, $17. For tickets call 828-526-9047.
• Annual Town Lighting and visit Mr. and Mrs. Claus at K-H Founders Park. Festivities begin at 6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 1
• At PAC, National Theater Live via Satellite at 1 p.m. The Deep Blue Sea. Adults $22, Members, $19 and Students $12. Call 828-526-9047 for tickets.
• Annual Christmas Parade on Main Street at 11 a.m.
• At the Episcopal Church, “A Food Pantry’s Christmas” from noon to 3 p.m. A BBQ lunch and entertainment by The WellStrung Band for $10 with all proceeds benefiting the Highlands Emergency Council’s Food Pantry and the Highlands Food Pantry. Also available for purchase will be casseroles, pies and a variety jams, jellies and pickles. To purchase advance tickets or make a donation, call 828-526-2968.

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 10-11
• The Highlands Community Christian Chorale Concert is at Highlands First Presbyterian Church at 5p on Saturday and Sunday. Dr. Michael Lancaster, conductor of the Asheville Symphony Chorus, is serving as the Artistic Director for this year’s concerts. Dr. Lancaster also serves as Director of Worship/Music at First Presbyterian Church. The concerts will be accompanied by a 16-piece orchestra. Pianist Bryan Heller is serving as Chorale accompanist. A reception will follow the Sun., December 11 concert. Be sure to put these dates on your calendar!

Sat., Dec. 10
Kick off the Holiday Season by Shopping in Highlands!

Come pre-shop for Christmas! New arrivals in home decor, jewelry, gifts and art

End of Season SALE

At Carolina Way

Lighting
Lamp Shades
• Pottery
• Rugs
• Pillows
& Meridith’s Custom Painting

828-526-2665
442 Carolina Way

Shop Black Friday SALES!

In Highlands: On Main St. in Town Square behind Kilwins
828-526-9122 • www.corrico.com

Come visit Peak Experience for Fine American Handcrafts including Pottery, Jewelry, Fun Gifts and More!

Fall Sale!
20% - 40% Off Collections throughout the Store

A Highlands tradition since 1940
Our 76th season on Main Street
Monday-Saturday
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Register to WIN one of two THYMES gift baskets!

Come pre-shop for Christmas!
New arrivals in home decor, jewelry, gifts and art

End of Season SALE

At Carolina Way

Lighting
Lamp Shades
• Pottery
• Rugs
• Pillows
& Meridith’s Custom Painting

828-526-2665
442 Carolina Way

Shop Black Friday SALES!

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Fall Sale!
20% - 40% Off Collections throughout the Store

A Highlands tradition since 1940
Our 76th season on Main Street
Monday-Saturday
828-526-3160

Kick off the Holiday Season by Shopping in Highlands!

New Velvet Arrivals

Bos. & Co.

FLY LONDON

Johnny Was

Ask About Our Winter Pass!

Lulu Bleu

All the stylish sumptuous brands you love!

the boutique

Ask About Our Winter Pass!

Order online at www.facebook.com/LuluBleuNC

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All Merchandise is on SALE!

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  - Joes
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  - AG
  - Hudson
  - Mother

355 Main Street
(in The Galax Theatre)
526-4660

Please stop in for a hot toddy Friday and Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend!

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The World's Finest Faux Fur

HappyThanksgiving

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Description</th>
<th>Price &amp; MLS Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk to town from this 4BD/2 1/2 BA home on almost one half acre with pond, gazebo and garden area. Offered at $349,000.</td>
<td>mls #84709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great in-town 3BR/3BA mountain style home! Offered at $375,000.</td>
<td>mls #84685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great log cabin in Rocky Knob. Offered at $299,000.</td>
<td>mls #83801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In town 4BD/3BA. Great location for year round living or great rental potential. Offered at $325,000.</td>
<td>mls #84767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3BD/3BA with stupendous view of Whiteside Mountain and Cashiers Valley. Offered at $1,275,000.</td>
<td>mls #84533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In town! 5BD/2BA. Frontage on Hwy 64. Ideal for home/office/retail. Offered at $895,000.</td>
<td>mls #77981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3BD/3BA home with Clear Creek in your backyard. Addition and garage. Offered at $389,000.</td>
<td>mls #84483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the 5th Fairway HFCC. 3BD on main level with family room downstairs. Offered at $575,000.</td>
<td>mls #82562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2BD/2BA, open floor plan. Offered at $180,000.</td>
<td>mls #82152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designer finishes are evident throughout this charming 3BD/2.5BA plus a loft cottage. Offered at $399,000.</td>
<td>mls #79665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trillium Place master on main. 2BD/1.5 BA. This is a must see for walk to town living! Offered at $389,000.</td>
<td>mls #84281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Located in Historic Satulah Mountain 4BD/5BA, 2 half baths. Extra lot included for a total of 2.91+- acres. Offered at $3,600,000.</td>
<td>mls #84632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Located on a nice level lot with good mountain view. 3 bedroom 2 bath all on one level. Workshop and carport. Offered at $295,000.</td>
<td>mls #85026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In town. 3BD/2.5 BA, one car garage. Offered at $545,000.</td>
<td>mls #83999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3BD/2BA plus full basement. Cathedral ceiling with fireplace. Offered at $349,000.</td>
<td>mls #84595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main house has 3+bedrooms and 4 baths with Master Suite on Main level, 2 guest bedrooms upstairs and Bonus bunk room above carport. Guest cabin has 3 bedrooms/2 baths on pretty wooded knoll. 16 acres of meadow/pasture lands, pond and stream. 5-6 wooded building lots. MLS# 82521 Offered for $2,195,000.</td>
<td>mls #84827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Log cabin with 4BD/4.5 BA. Master on main with fireplace. Offered at $575,000.</td>
<td>mls #84827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 bedrooms plus den 4 baths. Exceptional mountain view. Beautifully landscaped yard. Old mountain charm exudes with this unique home located on 4.71 acres with pond and great gardens. Offered at $1,150,000.</td>
<td>mls #85028</td>
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A few years ago I was blessed with a family vacation in Alaska. It was my first time there and I was in awe of the glaciers, the snow-capped mountains, the natural beauty, the slower pace and the quaint fishing villages. I imagined what it would be like to live there.

When I arrived back in Highlands, I fell in love all over again. This has been home for 31 years and I’ve always loved it here, but sometimes getting away puts things into perspective. I enjoy travelling, but no matter where I have visited, every time I come back home I count my blessings, realizing that there has never been another place I would rather live.

Contemplating the TV shows I have watched about Alaskan real estate, I was reminded of homebuyers scrambling to find a second home on remote islands, without bathrooms, running water or even electricity in some instances.

• See INVESTING page 17

Thanksgiving…Thankful for Highlands

This 2BR/2.5 BA cabin is on .66+/- acres close to town and move-in ready. Open living room with cathedral ceilings features a stone, floor-to-ceiling, wood-burning fireplace and large covered deck. Master is on the main level with a jacuzzi sun room. Upper level has a second bedroom and bath. Could add a third bedroom which shares the upstairs bathroom (please email us for a copy of the drawing).

Offered at $350,000. MLS #84129.
Please contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

Close to town on a private road in desirable Webbmont neighborhood. Enjoy the pastoral, mountain and pond views from the spacious decking. Gorgeous, stone fireplace in the living room, with lots of windows. Open and spacious floor plan with plenty of room for entertaining. Enjoy morning coffee or evening wine on the dock. Wonderful workshop could be converted to a writer’s or artist’s studio!

Offered at $360,000. MLS #83812.
Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.

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Close to town on a private road in desirable Webbmont neighborhood. Enjoy the pastoral, mountain and pond views from the spacious decking. Gorgeous, stone fireplace in the living room, with lots of windows. Open and spacious floor plan with plenty of room for entertaining. Enjoy morning coffee or evening wine on the dock. Wonderful workshop could be converted to a writer’s or artist’s studio!

Offered at $360,000. MLS #83812.
Contact Susie deVille (828) 371-2079.
1br/1.5ba beautifully furnished townhome at The Woods has been completely remodeled. Stone fireplace plus vaulted wood ceilings, wood floors, granite countertops and new appliances. $139,000. MLS #84819

20 acre Gentleman’s Farm in Scaly Mountain complete with pasture and fencing. Privacy with rolling land…. a rare thing in the mountains. Live in the barn while you build your dream home. $289,000. MLS #78793

Private location and mountain view in prestigious Cullasaja Club. This 4 br/ 4.5 ba Lupoli built home is decked out in beautiful stone and exudes quality. Spacious screened porch with a second fireplace and a lavish master suite. MLS #84382. $1,695,000

In exclusive HIGHLGATE, only 4 minutes to downtown Highlands. 5br/6.5ba home with open floor plan with high ceilings and a “walkout” terrace level w/ separate entrance. ‘His’ and ‘hers’ baths and closets. $1,275,000. MLS #83155

Privately located 5br/5.5ba home in exclusive Highlands Falls Country Club! Lovely 2br/2ba overlooking the 13th fairway with vaulted ceilings, stone-face fireplace, sunroom plus an open deck. $224,000.

Located in Highlands View, this 2br/1.5ba cottage with rustic wood floors with mountain allure and large fireplace which easily warms the house in this open concept plan. $184,500. MLS #79163

Great location in Chestnut Hill in this 3br/2ba with a level lot, private cul-de-sac location. Rocking chair front porch plus a screened porch. Landscape care done by HOA. $290,000. MLS #82769

Conceived from a barn brought down from Pennsylvania, this 5br/5.5ba home in exclusive Highgate is the epitome of a mountain home. Beautifully landscaped, large covered decks w/fireplace and an amazing guest cabin with everything you need! $2,175,000. MLS #77222

Located in Highlands Falls Country Club. Cathedral ceilings, new carpet, wood flooring, granite counter tops, new appliances, updated baths, fireplace an 2 car garage. $399,000. MLS #85031

Renovated 3 bedroom, 2 bath immaculate home in Highlands Falls Country Club. Cathedral ceilings, new carpet, wood flooring, granite counter tops, new appliances, updated baths, fireplace an 2 car garage. $399,000. MLS #85031

Very cute and compact River Run efficiency condo, completely furnished and ready to occupy. Gas fireplace, wood floors and walls and nice back deck. $43,500. MLS #85020

Walk to town, popular Mirror Lake area with gentle building site on .89 acre directly across the street from Mirror Lake with appx. 250’ on Cullasaja Drive. Lake and view access. City water and sewer. $147,000. MLS #84287
INVESTING continued from page 15

places. Although daily living in the wilderness is not for most of us, there is only one reason why someone would want to live there...why?...because they love it!

In October of 1984, I came to Highlands for a three-day getaway. I was enamored with the mountains, the natural beauty, the slower pace and the quaint, friendly little town. I moved here the next spring and have never looked back. Why?...because I love it!

Steeped in history, Highlands offers a rare combination of scenic beauty, ideal climate and a variety of outdoor recreational activities, all with a charming blend of cultural amenities, fine dining, specialty shops and choice accommodations.

Perhaps the greatest natural asset found in Highlands is the warm and welcoming spirit of its people. There is truly no place like Highlands.

If you are visiting Highlands over the Thanksgiving holidays and have been thinking about making Highlands a second or permanent home...why not now? Time is ever-changing and easily gets away from us and today is all we really have. Although our real estate market is trending upward, take a look and you will still find some of the best real estate values we have seen in several years. Why?...because you love it!

- Lynn Kimball has over 43 years of real estate experience, with 31 years serving the Highlands Cashiers area. She has gained Emeritus Status with the National Association of Realtors and previously served as Director and 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.signatureproperties-nc.com. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty has three locations, at 41 Church Street in the Old Edwards Inn complex, 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

The Highlands Performing Arts Center will screen, Live via Satellite the National Theatre of London's production of The Three Penny Opera on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 26 at 1pm.

Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill's classic musical theatre piece is adapted by Simon Stephens (The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time) and directed by Rufus Norris (Everyman, London Road).

As London's East End scrubs up for the coronation, Mr. and Mrs. Peachum gear up for a bumper day in the beggary business. Keeping tight control of the city's underground – and their daughter's whereabouts. With Olivier Award-winner Rory Kinnear (Hamlet, Othello, James Bond) as Macheath, alongside Rosalie Craig (As You Like It, My Family and other Animals) as Polly Peachum and Haydn Gwynne (The Windsors, Drop the Dead Donkey) as Mrs Peachum. Contains explicit language and behavior. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands Run time: 3 hours
Dr. Joseph H. Wilbanks, D.D.S.
278 East Doyle St. • Toccoa, GA

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For information, email: highlandseditor@aol.com
**A Thanksgiving Prayer**

By Pastor Randy Lucas  
Highlands United Methodist Church

The smell of the turkey filled the room. In that moment he realized how easy it is to miss the sweet aroma of the moment, the tender, savory aroma of roasted turkey, mingled with the smells of fresh-from-the-oven browned-crusted dressing, lashed mashed potatoes, thick brown gravy, carefully seasoned green beans, thick-sliced cranberry sauce, and the bellowing steam rising from biscuits piled precariously high on a plate.

He thought to himself how easy it is to miss so many good things, to let so many moments pass by unnoticed. Everyone was so busy, which made it a bit easier to succumb to the distractions of the day. There were pots to pour into bowls, bowls to set on the table, table-settings to place, ice to put into glasses, iced tea to pour, children to gather, places to assign, and finally - a prayer to pray.

The thought he held captive was from his childhood. He was small, his feet dangling back and forth as he sat in his highchair. He had never remembered a moment so early in life, but there it was. And in the heartbeat of that moment he saw his parents, young and vibrant, full of life and vitality. His father, preparing to carve the turkey. His grandfather, holding his own, and he heard the quiet sobs filling the room.

He gave thanks for childhood days of innocence and wonder, thanks for the strength and vitality of youth, for days of love and romance. He gave thanks for the days of adulthood, for days of work. He gave thanks for the years spent raising children and for family vacations. He gave thanks for praying hair, for grandchildren and retirement. He thanked God for love that nurtures, provides and sustains in days of strength and days of weakness, in seasons of health and illness. He gave thanks for the spring, summer, fall and winter of life.

And when the prayer of his heart ended, he tried to say “amen”, but speech would not come. There would be no more words. Confused at first, he remembered the memory that had danced across his mind moments earlier, of the happy, carefree child dangling his feet at the Thanksgiving table.

And he understood.

He felt again the gentle touch of loving hands that held his own, and he heard the quiet sobs filling the room.

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### Proverbs 3:5

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

**BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor

**CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY**  
Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999  
Sundays: 10 a.m.; Worship: Holy Communion  
1st Sunday of the month

**CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011  
464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers  
Sun.: 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship w/ Music  
Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

**CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS**  
Pastor Steve Kerhoulas • 743-5470  
Sun.: 10:45am, SS: 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.  
Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

**CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Pastor Jim Kinard

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

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**  
The Rev. Dr. Maurice L. Goldsmith, Interim Rector  
526-2968

**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;  
Church 5 pm

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

**GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)  
Sunday School: 10 a.m., Worship Service: 11 a.m

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

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

**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

**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

**HONDO COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
Pastor M. Christiansen • 706-904-4000  
Sat.: Worship: 10 a.m.; 5th Sunday of month

**MADEIRA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
150 Box 53, Highlands NC 28741  
Pastor: Dr. Mark Ford, 743-2968  
Sun.: Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.;  
6pm Wednesday Worship

**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 a.m.; 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 p.m.  
Weddays: 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 a.m.  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study:6 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359  
Rev. Rob Wood  
Oct-May: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8 a.m; Rite II, 10:30  
June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8 a.m; Rite II, 9:15 & 11 a.m  
Nursery available for Rite II services

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**  
85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

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*See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 21*
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email: allandearth@msn.com

Whiteside Cove Cottages
5 new log cabins nestled in the hemlocks on 25 acres at the base of Whiteside Mountain.
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Bonuses to classified employees in the Macon County school district meeting to update commissioners on the project.

The board of education will be meeting with the MC Board of Commissioners for a joint facilities review committee meeting to update commissioners on the project.

All classified employees to get bonuses

When the state allocated $59,000 to provide merit-based bonuses to classified employees in the Macon County school system, the Board of Education was tasked with deciding what criteria to use to decide how the bonuses would be split between the eligible 142 employees.

The only two requirements handed down from the state were that to be eligible for the bonus, employees must be classified employees and paid out of state dollars. Classified employees are non-teaching positions – ones that don't require a teaching credential – bus drivers, custodians, and clerical staff.

Consequently, 91 employees in the district, who are either paid locally or federally, were deemed ineligible by the state. Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin said the 91 employees do the exact same work, in the exact same position, for the exact same amount of years, but since one employee is paid using federal dollars and another is paid using state dollars, one employee would be eligible for the bonus and the other not.

So, Monday night, the BOE voted to provide the same merit-based bonus plan for the remaining 91 employees out of local funds, which amounts to just over $33,000. All told the one-time bonus will cover 233 employees.

“All these people do an incredible amount of work in our district and make sure that things keep going day-to-day,” said Dr. Baldwin. “Recognizing their efforts and ensuring that the bonuses are fair across the board is the right thing to do.”

The amount of the bonuses to be given out is based on years of experience. Employees with 1-10 years are eligible for $250, 21-29 years $750, and employees with 30 or more years are eligible for a one-time, $1,000 bonus.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 19

in this sacred moment. They were all there, his wife of 60 years, their children and grandchildren, gathered around his hospital bed, holding his hands and embracing one another. And as the darkness that had filled his mind slowly morphed into light, he smiled a smile that only God could see, and offered one final thanksgiving prayer.

... COUNTY from page 5

marked in his budget for debt payments for other needs in the county.

Corbin cited significant increasing sales tax revenues since the park’s opening dates as a reason to pay the loan in full rather than finance it for the 10-year term of the loan.

“We have seen an increase month after month in our sales tax collections since Parker Meadows was opened for tournaments, and with the increase in revenue, I think we should pay off the loan now,” said Corbin.

In March alone this year, a month that typically sees little tourism, Macon County experienced a 34 percent growth in sales tax proceeds.

Since the county’s fund balance is far above the required amount the state mandates now at $18 million, Corbin asked the loan to be paid out of those dollars.

Vice Chair Commissioner Jim Tate noted that it just made sense to pay the loan off rather than paying the 2.2 percent interest rates.

The vote to pay $1.35 million to close out the loan was unanimous.
Moving Sale
Designer Handbags, Lingerie, Linens, bar stools, copper, rugs, china, games, clothing XL, books, mirrors, frames, rugbot, much more, rain or snow. 79 HiAmi Lane, Highlands, ccrs from Cullasaja CC, 9 am to 2 pm, Friday 25 and Saturday 26.

Tools for Sale
Table Saw, Wet Saw, Miter Saw, Oscillating Sanders, drills, pressure washer, etc. 828-482-0318. (11/23)


Mahogany Dining Table W/6 Chairs - $350, OBO, 828 526-4818. (st. 8/4)

All Furniture, home décor, carpets & more. Sky Valley, GA 304-9786 or 706 746-7451. (st. 8/4)

Maytag Gas Dryer, $100. Office furniture by Cashiers Custom Furniture. 2 desks, bookcase, file cabinet. Call 828-226-2083. (st. 7/28)

Kobalt Diamond Shield Regular Truck Bed Toolbox. Deep low profile full size. 17"x69"x19" fits most full size trucks OBO. Call Frank in Scaly Mountain 828-526-1953. (st. 5/11)

Help Wanted
Experienced Electricians Needed. Call 828-526-5147. (st. 11/22)

Have Openings for Wait Staff and Cook for Clubhouse dining. Also hiring for C.N.A. for Assisted Living. Apply at Chestnut Hill of Highlands, 24 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands NC. (828)526-5251. (st/24)

Church of the Incarnation in Highlands is seeking for a Nursery Attendant for the 10:30AM Sunday Service three Sundays a month for approximately 2.5 hours. Experience working with children 0-5 years old is required. Please contact the church office by phone 828-526-2968 or email at incarnation@incarnationwncc.org. (st. 8/25)

First Baptist Church of Highlands, NC, is seeking a part-time director of music, salary DOE. Musical training and experience required. Resumes, including references, may be sent to FBC Highlands, POB 625, Highlands, NC 28741 or emailed to info@fbhighlands.org. 828-526-4153 (st. 8/4)

Residential for Sale
Visit Falling Waters
A gated community 2.4 miles from Main Street, Highlands. Lot prices $139,000 to $379,000. 7 available. 3 homes for sale: $748,000-$1.3
Directions: From Main Street and the Dillard Road go south 1.8 miles to Mountain Laurel Drive. Turn right, go .3 mile turn left on Moonlight. 100 feet entrance on the right. For more information and photos, go to highlandscottages.com or 828-508-9952. Owner Developer. (st. 10/20)

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

150 Turtle Pond Road. Updated 2BD/2BA cottage. 10 minutes to Main Street with easy access year round. Just off Dillard Road. Spacious floor-plan, fully designer furnished throughout and totally stocked kitchen, Central H/A, large deck, private yard. Tenant pays gas/electric (energy-efficient windows/doors)/No Smokers. No Pets. Available year round $1,000/month and $1,000 deposit. Call 615-243-2006. (st. 11/10)

CASHIERS/SAPPHIRE: 2/2 unf. Condo, SV amenities, pets ok w/approval, 850+ utilities, available now 843-816-4553
CASHIERS/SAPPHIRE: Furnished Split level 3 Bed/3 Bath home. Year round Mountain Views. Yearly lease $1,850 per month. Will consider renting 2 Bed/2 Bath level for $1,250. (561) 346-6400. (12/1)

Commercial for Rent
1575 sq ft of commercial space available Jan 5 at The Shops at Kettle Rock. $950 per month. For inquiries call 828-526-9948. (12/1)

Approximately 900 s/f and recently updated. Ideal for retail/professional/service. Plenty of parking + excellent visibility for $1,750/month. Contact Susie deVille at White Oak Realty Group for details, (828) 371-2079. (st. 7/29)

Lots/Land/For Sale
Lot 3.4 miles from Highlands. 2 acres, beautiful mountain ride and meadow view with small pond and spring. Off of 64 between Dry Falls and Cullasaja Falls on Turtle Pond Road. Commission offered to agents. $59,900. (828) 200-0949. (st. 10/6)

Vacation Rentals
Town Place 3 bed/3 ba, walk to town condo. Book now! $2300 week. https://www.vrbo.com/489341. (12/30)

Services
Mr. Haulaway. Got a cluttered basement, crawl space, attic, garage or shed? Call us today and we'll haul it away! 828-371-2519 (12/1)

All Around Office Solutions – Bookkeeping Services, Payroll Prep, Payroll Tax Prep, Billing Services, Virtual Assistant, Data Base Management, Administrative Services, Research Assistance, Quickbooks Set-up and Training. Call Mary James at 828-421-0002 or email mjames@allaroundofficesolutions.com (st. 1/15)

High Country Photo/Key. In Vinson: scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing. Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208. (st. 11/17)

Mold and Musty Smell in Your Home? Call for free inspection. 828-743-0900.