

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

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Thurs., Sept. 14, 2017

Hurricane Irma comes to Highlands

Though the projected areas of destruction shifted west and supposedly far away from Highlands, the farther Irma barreled north out of Florida, the more states were affected by high winds and flooding.

That's because Irma was almost the size of Texas maintaining wind speeds of 185 mph for 37 straight hours. At one point its eye, was wide enough to affect both sides of Florida with

peak winds at the same time.

Hence flooding and wind damage in Jacksonville, FL, Hilton Head and Charleston, SC and even here in Macon County.

Initially, the influx of Florida refugees that started arriving in Highlands Thursday night continuing through Sunday was a boon to business.

Mark Gramlich, director of The Mountain

INSIDE

Mayor on Duty.....	2
Events.....	8-9
HS Sports.....	10
Fall Home Imp.....	12-13
Investing at 4,118 Ft.	19
Police.....	18
Fire.....	21
Classifieds.....	22

Learning & Retreat Center said a number of hurricane refugees were staying at The Mountain.

"We reduced our rates to help people being evacuated," he said.

Like at OEI which had cancellations Monday through Wednesday, Jeannie Chambers of Chambers Realty and Vacation Rentals said they had some can-

•See IRMA page 3



NC 106 was cleared of the fallen tree that settled on the power lines.



One-lane passageway under another tree that downed power lines on NC 106.



The limb of an oak tree busted out the back window of this car parked on Oak Street.

Photos by Kim Lewicki

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

The importance of having reliable, affordable utilities

I'm home on Monday afternoon waiting for Irma to arrive bringing high winds and heavy rain. My primary concern is for the power to remain on, or rather to restore it if it fails.

The recent hurricanes and resulting damage remind me the old Joni Mitchell song lyrics, "That you don't know what you've got till it's gone." We take for granted basic utilities like water and electricity until they are taken down in a storm.

Please remember our town crews are working as fast and as hard as they can to restore service. They face complicated challenges where one mistake could have tragic consequences. There is the story of a former Highlander who would stand by and watch the power crews working. He constantly asked them when the power would be back on? It was not very helpful and somewhat distracting for the linemen.

Power is essential for a community, and over the last four years I have learned about electric power issues. The town's Duke En-



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

ergy wholesale contract ends in 10 years. Looking for a new contract will start in five years. It's a long, complicated process, and alternatives will be considered.

It is interesting how the power industry is already amid change. The way the town gets power in 10 years may be very different from now. I was reading about some of these changes in a recent industry publication called Power. What struck me was that most

people think these new changes will come from solar and wind sources. That may be, but there are rival technologies emerging.

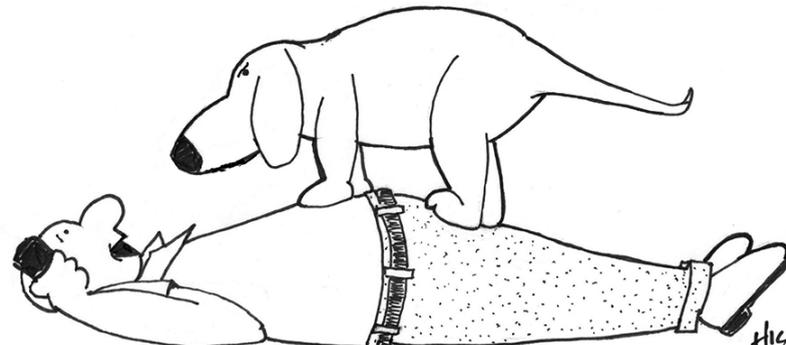
One is the building small, highly efficient natural gas plants all over the world. France, a leader in nuclear power generation, is now converting their last remaining coal plants to natural gas. These new, emerging gas plants are becoming more efficient and constantly improving CO2 emissions. The economics in operating these plants are very good.

There are even new hybrid power plants coming on line. Like a hybrid vehicle, these generating plants charge batteries when gas fired turbines generate power. That stored power is then put on the grid during off peak periods.

Interesting research is also in the development of fuel cell systems. The fuel cell technology has been around for 150 years and has been used heavily in space programs. Fuel cells use hydrogen to chemically generate electricity. An inventor, Harry T. Roman, wrote about this technology in the current issue of Power. He proposes using natural gas to produce hydrogen which intern would generate about 50 kilowatts to power a vehicle. But wait, Roman says that 50 kw would be much more than needed for a vehicle. He believes cars could be connected to the electric grid when not in use and put power on the electric grid.

Sounds crazy, but Roman has 12 patients to his credit. Maybe some new idea will be a breakthrough in the next decade, just as we are facing a new wholesale power contract.

• HIC'S VIEW



"That's right Doc, cancel that little operation we scheduled."

WHICKEYEN © YAHOO.COM

MILESTONE

Moore receives scholarship



Blakely Moore received a \$500 continuing scholarship from the Highlands Road Runners Club. Club Vice President Morris Williams presented the check to Blakely at Furman University where Blakely competed in the Furman Cross Country Classica 6K race with her Lee University teammates. This was the first meet of the year and Lee University finished in first place among non-Division I teams. Only Furman and Clemson, both Division I teams, finished ahead of the Lady Flames. Since 2000, the Highlands Road Run-

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Letter Policy:

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• WEEKEND WEATHER •

FRIDAY SEP 15	SATURDAY SEP 16	SUNDAY SEP 17
74°/52°	74°/55°	76°/53°

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www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather

...IRMA continued from page 1

cellations from people who had planned to leave Charleston and the Bluffton area but after the hurricane took a more westward turn, they decided to stick it out.

However, as it turned out, Irma's wide swath ended up causing severe flooding and wind damage in those very areas as well as in Macon County.

Like The Mountain, Chambers is giving a 20% discount to all evacuees who were first running and are now realizing they can't go back home for a while.

"We still have vacancies and are happy to fill them," said Chambers. "But we have some of our rental owners using their Highlands homes."

It's those folks who were filling their carts at Bryson's Food Store and Mountain Fresh Grocery as soon as the stores opened Friday morning.

"We are definitely seeing an influx of hurricane evacuees," said JT Fields of Mountain Fresh Grocery. "It's a mix of second homeowners and new faces as well. I wouldn't say it's a second Labor Day by any means, but volume is up from this weekend last year."

Sabrina Hawkins of Highlands Lodge said she had an influx of people making reservations from Florida then cancella-

tions from South Carolina when the projection shifted and then calls from those scrambling to get out of town at the last minute.

Then as it turned out folks arrived in Highlands not prepared for a long stay or the unseasonably cool weather over the last week.

Sean Mullarkay, owner of Bear Mountain Outfitters said he "absolutely" had high sales in cold weather clothing since Friday.

Most other clothing retailers have been "crazy busy with people buying clothing of all kinds."

Then come Monday, Highlands began hunkering down for the onslaught of Irma's outer bands as it experienced 4-6 inches of rain and winds gusting from 35 to 50 mph.

Sunday night, Warren Cabe, Director of Macon County Emergency Management declared a "state of emergency" for Macon County. Monday morning Mayor Pat Taylor did the same.

"I declared a 'state of emergency' on Monday morning around 10 after the Town Manager got a weather update from Warren Cabe. It's best to make the declaration early so if the town (or county) incurs major damage while under a state of emergency, it qualifies for FEMA funds."

•See IRMA page 6

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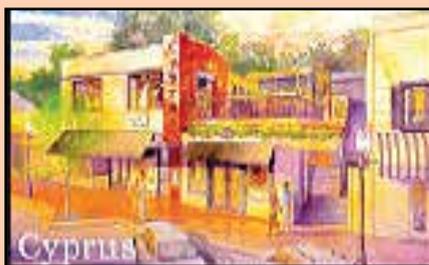
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THIS WEEK'S FEATURES

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...IRMA continued from page 3

Monday night Highlands was buffeted by 35 to 50 mph gusts that brought down numerous trees, utility poles, branches and power lines. Roadways were papered with green leaves and littered with twigs and branches of all sizes.

By the wee hours of Tuesday morning, 100% of Highlands was without power.

"The damage is widespread and there is major damage to the power system," said Highlands Public Service Director Lamar Nix. "Trees are down everywhere; poles are broken."

Power was restored to the downtown area around 9 Tuesday morning but Mayor Taylor said it could be days before power is restored to other areas in the service area. As of Wednesday, 80% of customers are still without power.

"Telephone poles are down and wires are all tangled up in downed trees and limbs blocking roadways," he said.

With such extensive damage, the town is seeking help from independent contractors but most are already committed to Texas and Florida. However, Taylor said there is one contractor who has agreed to come to Highlands this week.

Mayor Taylor is asking citizens to be patient.

Those without power and water can go to the Rec Park to sleep and shower. Cots will be provided but people must bring their own bedding. No pets are allowed, nor will food be provided. People can also fill water cans at the Rec Park.

As to debris, Tuesday morning Taylor said Macon County will be setting up a staffed debris site at the lower parking lot of the Highlands Recreation Center on Forman Road beginning Friday.

"Since the county and town are in emergency mode for the next 72 hours. The site will open after this 72-hour

period," he said.

Chris Stahl, director of the Macon County Landfill, recommends securing debris on location for the near term, and then begin doing removal after the 72-hour period. For FEMA reimbursement or insurance claims, photos and documentation of fallen debris should be done.

Taylor said debris hauled from the debris site at the Rec Park will be weighed for verification for FEMA funding.

Monday night and parts of Tuesday NC 106 was closed due to trees and power lines down near Owl Gap Road as was NC 28. The Gorge Road was temporarily closed due to a vehicle accident.

As of Wednesday, arteries into Highlands are open.

Wednesday morning Macon County Emergency Services logged the current statistics:

Power Outages in Macon County: Duke – 4,710 (down from 7,042), Haywood EMC – 1,237 (down from 2,294), Highlands – 80% customers without power (down from 100%). It will take 2+ days to restore power town-wide.

Downed Trees and Debris: Numerous downed trees and debris throughout Macon County especially in the Highlands area; 60 reported trees downed and power lines down blocking a road.

Structural/Vehicle Damage: There has been damage to two structures in Franklin and three in Highlands. In Highlands, a tree came down through a residence on Walkingstick Road and one person sustained a leg injury; trees were on a house on Talley Lane; tree on a carport on N. 4th Street; and trees on vehicles at Wingina Place and one on a car on Oak Street.

– Kim Lewicki

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• THE INK PENN. •

An autumn trip to Colorado

My husband and I have a vacation to Colorado coming up, and one of my long-time girlfriends is joining us. It all started when Beverly declared she wanted to have a destination birthday party for a milestone birthday. I promised I'd go anywhere she wanted to go regardless of whether the rest of our group could make it. All was fine until she mentioned Durango, CO as a possible site.



Kathy Manos Penn

located within the Park, where we're hoping for a sunset view through the large windows.

For our next adventure, we'll head to Durango to ride the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. A vintage steam locomotive will carry our passenger train through the San Juan National Forest along a railway that's been in operation since 1882. It's amazing the planning it takes to decide which

railroad car to reserve. We chose the San Juan enclosed car complete with narration. After much research, we decided we'd take the bus back down the mountain rather than the train or the jeep tour. Everything we read told us that the return train or the jeep ride deeper into the hills made for an extremely long day, and we all prefer to have some leisure time at our cottage.

Day three, we plan to tour Pagosa Springs; a town known for its hot springs, downtown river walk along the San Juan River, and nearby scenic drives.

The next morning, we'll drive to the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park, home to one of the world's highest suspension bridges. We'll spend a few hours exploring before driving the final leg to the Denver airport to spend the night before catching an early flight home the next day.

We think we've come up with a perfect plan. My friend gets to fulfill her wish to ride the Durango & Silverton Railway, and we get to visit parts of Colorado we haven't seen before. I predict smiles all around.

• Find Kathy's new book "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" and her collection of columns, "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday," locally at The Molly Grace in Highlands and Books Unlimited in Franklin and on Amazon. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com.

I had to tell her the one place I couldn't go without my husband was Colorado, possibly his favorite vacation spot. That's when I suggested she pick another destination for her May birthday and then accompany us to Colorado Springs in September on a trip we already had planned. That's all it took for us to extend our Colorado trip by adding a five-day stay in Southwest Colorado.

We plan to spend three nights in Colorado Springs at a reunion of Vietnam veterans. Since Beverly has never met a stranger and the group is fine with members bringing guests, we'll all have a grand time. We'll tour the Air Force Academy, attend a banquet, and take the cog railway up Pikes Peak.

Once that event is over, we'll head to Mancos, a small town in Mesa Verde Country, to stay in a cottage as our base camp for the next several days. The lakeside cottage promises a garden and mountain views.

The next day we'll tour Mesa Verde National Park to see the cliff dwellings and mesa-top villages constructed by the Ancestral Puebloan people between 600 – 1300 AD. We'll end our day with dinner at the Metate Room Restaurant at the Lodge



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monthly enrollments Pick up time 6 pm. Call Michelle at 828-526-9698.

• Movies at the Highlands Playhouse: Movies: Fri-Tues, 2, 5 8 p.m.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

• At the Rec Park, High Cardio Zumba Fitness with Certified Instructor Tiffany Austin at 5:25 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 info, call Tricia Smith at 828-338-8167.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30-9:30am. Contact Janet Avery at 828-200-7508 for more information.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Mon.-Fri.

• Lap Swim Monday-Friday 7am-10am 6 lanes and Monday-Thursday 5pm-6pm 1 or 2 lanes. Sharing pool with Water Aerobics @ 5:15.

• Water Aerobics Monday-Friday 10:15am-11:15am and Monday-Thursday 5:15pm-6pm (sharing pool with lap swimmers) and Saturday mornings from 11:15-noon.

Tuesdays

• FREE Community Table Dinner at the Community Bldg. at 6p.

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

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 7PM in the Sneak E. Squirrel Community Room (1314 Main St., Sylva. Visit www.occupywnc.org or call 828.331.1524

Third Tuesday

• The Macon County Poultry Club meets at the NC Cooperative extension office located at 193 Thomas Heights Rd., Franklin on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Meetings are open to the public. Call 828-369-3916.

Tuesday and Thursdays

• Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park 8:15 a.m. \$5.

• Pickle ball from 11:30a to 1p

in the gym at the Rec Park.

• Exercise Class with Tina Rogers are held Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15p.m.

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.

Wednesday-Saturday

• The Highlands Historic Village is open June-October. It's free. Visit the Highlands Historical Museum, the Prince Houe, Bug Hill Cottage, Furman Vinson's Boat, The Old Jail while taking a break in the peaceful setting that commemorates Highlands' past.

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.

• Indivisible Highlands, a non-partisan activist group meets weekly at the Hudson Library at 5p. For

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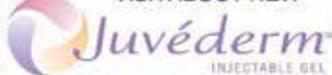
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• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

more information call 770-823-0601

- NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 – 8:15 pm. at First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street beside Bryant's Funnel Home. 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 4:30-6pm, Angel Medical Center, Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor, 120 Riverview St. Contact Majestic 828-369-9474

Thurs., & Sat.

- Zumba with Mary K. Barbour at the Rec Park from 11a to noon. For more information, call 828.342.2498.

Fridays

- Live music in Town Square from 6-8 p.m.

Fridays & Saturdays

- Art's at the Lodge. Live Music 4-8 p.m.. Cocktails in Art's or on the lawn at the Lodge. On Spring Street.

Saturdays

- * Farmers Marketplace in K-H Founders Park from 8a-12:30p.

- At The Bascom, Pottery Sale in the barn from 10a to 5p.

- Scrabble at Hudson Library from 1-4 p.m. Bring board if possible. All are welcome. 727-871-8298.

- The Bascom Knitters on the Terrace at The Bascom from 10 am until noon or downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

Thur., Sept. 14

- Apple iWorks: Office Suite for iPad, iPhone and Mac Products, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

- Highlands Historical Society Patron Party is Thursday from 6 to 8:30 pm at the Highlands Historic Village Complex. For additional info, check the website www.highlandshistory.com or call 828.787.1050.

Fri., Sept. 15

- The Language of Art, 2-4p. Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Erin Rodman Jones. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., Sept. 16

- The Highlands Plateau Greenway will conduct its monthly work day on the Greenway Trail from 9a – noon, Saturday. If you are interested in participating, please email highlandsgreenway@nctv.com or leave a message at 828-482-1451.

- Sausage Academy, 10a-1p Cost \$45/\$55 Instructor: Warren Dawkins. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

- At PAC, free Paul Taylor Master Class, 10 a.m. AND performance at 8 p.m. To register for free class or for performance tickets call 828.526.9047.

Sun., Sept. 17

- Pianist Dr. Tommy Jordan will play a program of popular classics, featuring music from the movies, in the sanctuary of Franklin's First United Methodist Church at 3 p.m.

Tue., Sept. 19

- IPAD PRO, 10:30-3:30 Cost \$75/\$85 Instructor: Nigel Sixsmith. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Wed., Sept. 20

- All Time Favorites of...on the Verandah, 12:00-2:00 Cost \$50/\$60 Instructor/ Chef: Andrew Figel. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Sat., Sept. 23

- Brewing and Brewery Tour in Beer City, USA, 9a-late afternoon. Cost \$125/\$140. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

- At the Nature Center, GO: Get Outside! All Ages • 11:30 am – 4:30 pm • Free. Come out to Highlands Biological Station to kick off Take a Child Outside Week. The Nature Center will be open and offering nature-based activities and programs throughout the day. This is the perfect opportunity to get the whole family out and exploring in the wild! For info, call 526-2221

Tue., Sept. 26

- The Art and Craft Debate, 2-4p Cost \$25/\$35 Presenter: Anna Fariello. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

- Village Nature Series: Save Water, Drink Beer - Tales of a Satulah Mountain Brewer with Dale Heinlen, Satulah Mountain Brewer. Co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green. 5:30 PM, rain or shine.

Wed., Sept. 27

- Paoletti's Restaurant will once again host the charity dining event "Peaceful Journey" in support of Hospice House Foundation of WNC (HHFWNC). Dining patrons will indulge in a decadent 4-course menu and wine pairing specially selected for the evening. The evening will be accompanied by a silent auction of fabulous items, including assortments of distinguished wines. 6:30pm Cocktails - 7:30pm Dinner. \$300/person. (\$125 is tax deductible) Call Phyllis Racine for reservations and information - 828-524-8261.

Thur., Sept. 28

- Tasting the Difference Between Old World and New World Wine, 3:30-5:30p Cost \$45/\$55 Presenters: Davis and Tina Picklesimer. To Register Call 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com

Fri., Sept. 29

- Regions Bank is celebrating with GREEN! Join us as we commemorate 15 years of serving our friends in Highlands. Drop by for food and fun on Friday from 11am to 1pm. The first 50 visitors on Friday take home a Regions GREEN piggy bank as a thank you. Until Sept. 29 enter for a chance to win a GREEN bike!



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TUES	IN-HOUSE MADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE LASAGNA WITH A LARGE SALAD	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
WED	CHICKEN OR STEAK POT PIE & A LARGE SALAD	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
THURS	ROASTED MEATLOAF WITH MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY AND A LARGE SALAD	\$21.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
FRI	WILD CAUGHT FRIED SHRIMP, BAKED POTATOES, HUSH PUPPIES, AND COLESLAW	\$24.95 <i>SERVES 4</i>
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with Kedra McCall

Highlands teams are finding their groove

As all of our teams made their way into another week of games, they continue to show determination and grit.

Middle school teams both played Blue Ridge. They both came out with a defeat over our rivals.

Volleyball won in 2 sets and soccer won 4-0. Later in the week soccer played Cherokee and ended it with a 9-0 win.

Middle school volleyball will play their next home game tonight, Thursday, Sept. 14 at 4:30 vs Tallulah Falls.

Middle school soccer's next home game will not be until Thursday, Sept. 28 vs Swain.

High school volleyball played Swain, Hiwassee Dam, and Cherokee.

JV lost to Swain in 3 sets and varsity lost in 4 sets. On

Thursday night both teams fought hard for their first conference game but both coming just slightly short. JV lost in the two sets after coming back for a better second set than the first. The first set was rocky but that didn't stop them from playing hard in their second set. Varsity played until their 5th set. They kept the game going as long as they could. After digging themselves a hole in the last set they came

back and played until the very end, ending the last set at 18-16.

On Saturday, both teams came out with a win over Cherokee. JV won in 2 sets and Varsity won in 3. High school volleyball has no games this week. Their next home game will be Monday, Sept. 18 vs. Blue Ridge. JV will stat at 5 and varsity will be immediately following. It will be blue and gold night so come decked out to represent Highlands.

High school boys soccer played Andrews and East Henderson this week. The boys traveled to Andrews and made for an enjoyable ride home with a 9-0 win. At the end of the week everyone came out for the Highlander's "Friday Night Lights."

We don't need football to have Friday Night Lights; our soccer team takes its spot. Our boys played East Henderson and lost 2-0. Although they lost, they played well. They never gave up, continued to make plays, work the ball onto their side also, and have a goalie who went after every ball and make many wonderful saves. High school boys soccer will play their next home game on Wednesday, Sept. 20 vs. Swain.

Come see all teams play and don't forget your blue and gold!



Highlands JV Volleyball Team



Photo by Kim Lewicki

Pictured are: #1 Katie McCall, #2 Trinity Dendy, #3 Tristan Castro, #5 Abby Olvera, #7 Kim Fera, #8 Sarah Rogers, #11 Hannah Holt, #12 Brooke Rehmeier, #13 Bri Jenkins, #14 Alexis Healey, #15 Kay Munoz, and #22 Taylor Welch.

"Both the JV and Varsity teams played great games against Cherokee this past Saturday. JV won 2-0 and Varsity won 3-0. They were pumped up when they took the court and the JV finally played as a unit! They have struggled with the "family" concept that we really push with them, but after some great learning points this week at practice, they took the idea and ran with it," said Coach Katy Postell. "I am looking forward to teaching them more each day about the game as they are a very young and inexperienced team, who at times struggle with confidence, but they definitely have the skills and ability to be a top team in the future."



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Highlands Historical Society's 'Dulcimers, Denim & Dedication' Thursday, Sept. 14

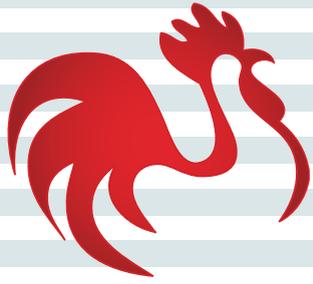


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Fall Home Improvement

3 Mini-Makeover Ideas to Refresh a Room

(StatePoint) Looking to bring new energy to a space? Hoping to update that outdated décor? These easy tips can help you revitalize any space in your home with minimal time and effort -- utilizing color, accessories, accents and more.

A New Color Scheme

Looking at the same wall color day after day can be uninspiring. Consider a new color scheme to change the dynamic of your space. Blue hues are shown to create a calming, tranquil effect, making them the perfect choice for a baby's nursery or spa-like bathroom.

Pastels are also a fun way to stimulate the same soft, calming effect of blue, and their less saturated nature creates a unique twist.

Color is also a great way to explore new looks. Both coastal and farmhouse styles are easy to accomplish through a neutral color palette, giving you plenty of opportunities to incorporate your unique style accents.

Find a Focal Point

When choosing a design aesthetic, many find inspiration from an accessory, like a piece of artwork or textile. However, highly functional objects that feature great design can also serve as your muse. One such example is a ceiling fan. Its elevated, and often central location, can serve as a stylish focal point, while enhancing comfort.

Whether you decide to incorporate a fan that blends into the existing style or opt for a statement piece, the addition can help put a new spin on your room. Consider stylish, yet timeless options, such as the Hepburn from Hunter Fan Company. Its mid-century, modern flair is



complemented by light and airy colors, combined with a brass finish.

Accessories and Accents

Revamp a tired space with new and inexpensive accessories. A new duvet cover, vibrant pillows, or a statement floor rug can help to refresh a room without a high price tag. Adding in mixed metal items can add texture to an otherwise boring countertop, while positioning items in groups of threes can create a visually pleasing setup.

Go shopping in your own home. You can also switch things up by using objects from around the house, to make a space new again. Decorating a built-in bookshelf with jars, candles, pottery and those favorite items you just can't find the right place for, can make your room feel new without having to purchase anything at all.

More design tips and inspiration can be found at hunterfan.com/inspiration.

Updating a room doesn't need to cost a fortune or take months to complete. Mini-makeovers that focus on smaller details can make all the difference.



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Fall Home Improvement

3 Beautiful Ways to Add Pops of Color to Your Kitchen

(StatePoint) If your kitchen is bland or boring, it's time for an update. Consider those home projects that add pops of color and beauty, inspiring you to do your best culinary work.

Here are three beautiful ways to add new hues to any kitchen.

Natural Color

For a verdant, fragrant and useful pop of color, grow an herb garden right in your kitchen. From lavender to basil to chives, you can brighten your kitchen with natural colors, while adding some zest to salads, stews and more.

Evaluate your kitchen for direct sunlight to determine the ideal size and shape of your garden, then get creative. Many people choose to create a hanging wall garden. Others prefer a tiered counter for the floor or pots for the countertop.

Functional Focal Point

Consider creating a focal point in your kitchen in an eye-catching color that adds vitality to the space. One great way to do this is by focusing on the heart of every kitchen -- the range. Experts point out that black finishes in the kitchen have reemerged as a trending design element this year. So if you do choose black, you may prefer to emphasize this selection with a gloss finish, which can add a layer of elegance, drama and sophistication to the kitchen.

Standard colors are offered everywhere, but for something more unexpected, seek out brands that also offer customization in addition to classic choices like gloss black, such as ILVE. Through its Custom Color Program, you can select one of 213 RAL Classic colors for your range or hood. The brand, known for professional quality custom Italian appliances for the home, offers ranges in six standard American sizes, as well as a "city-sized" 24" option. Both single and double oven options are available, as well as dual fuel and all gas connection choices. What's more, you can further customize the legs and accents of your appliance in various finishes and looks.

Another brand offering brilliant color options such as gloss red and light blue is Verona, which offers appliances that use exclusive cooking technology to minimize fuel and energy consumption, and provide safe and efficient cooking.

Brilliant Backsplash

For a cohesive look, consider the focal point of your kitchen and build out from there with a beautiful backsplash. Backsplashes are stylishly versatile and nearly any kitchen benefits aesthetically from the addition of one. Choices of materials include mosaic glass tiles, marble and metal -- the possibilities are nearly endless -- giving you a lot of flexibility in color and texture.

The kitchen is the center of the home, where fami-



lies make not only meals, but memories, too. Add beautiful bursts of color to the space to make it a place you love to spend time.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Understanding true love



Dr. Mark Ford
Pastor
First Baptist Church
Highlands

I want to offer some ramblings about love. In this contentious and angry world, and a world filled with tragedy, wars and rumors of wars, and heartaches on every hand, one can easily lose sight of the positive side of things. I speak of an existence where love pervades over all our darkest hours and provides hope and comfort – even in the midst of these unsettling times.

As Americans, we cheerfully still believe and assume in some mystical way that love will conquer all, that good outweighs evil in the just balances of the universe and that at the last hour something glorious will prevent the worst from happening. But as the last several weeks have shown, an abundance of love hasn't kept hurricanes from coming ashore, angry protests from happening, battle injuries and deaths from occurring, forest fires from burning, tyrants from promising war, widespread violence from happening in our land, families from disintegrating, and a dysfunctional government from faltering.

Is love failing, or are we misapplying it? Is love a pre-emptive strike against evil that may come our way, or a God-given virtue and power to guide throughout all of life, "for better or for worse" as the wedding vow says?

G. K. Chesterton said, "Love means to love that which is unlovable, or it is no virtue at all." And Cicero said, "We should measure love, not like young love and the ardor of its passion, but by its strength and constancy."

Simply, love is best exemplified in being exercised among the challenges it may face, and in its ability to give to those who we find offensive and contrary to our beliefs and convictions as Christians. I think it worth the space to quote I Corinthians 13. It says, "If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails..."

It was once said that there is only one kind of love, but there are a thousand imitations. As Christians, we should know that love, for "we have come to know and

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 16

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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Pastor Dan Robinson

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Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

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Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell
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Grill
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Pizza
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 Monday through Friday 11am to 2pm
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Monday: Asian dishes such as egg rolls, lo mein, stir fries and wonton soup

Tuesday & Thursday: Fresh baked pizza and pasta bar

Wednesday: Mexican/Latin bar: fajitas,

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Friday: Southern Classic Meat and Three: country fried steak, mashed potatoes, skillet corn, banana pudding - and always a fish selection

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.
\$12.99 (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!

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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.
\$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*

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...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 14

have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" (1 John 4:16). The love our world needs today can be best supplied by those who know God, and Jesus said that He was the way to the Father. Our pathway to God, to His love, is by faith in Christ. Our love as Christians cannot prevent the world's problems in large, but it can provide a balm of hope and comfort during our darkest hours. And it is our most powerful witness to our faith in Christ.

As Jesus taught in John 13, the world knows we are His disciples when we love each other and love the world around us. And this love is not cheap, for it will cost us when it is evidenced in the trials of today. All our efforts to help our world and community – spiritually and physically – must start and end with love. "Three things remain, faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13:13).

Love won't stop the problems in our world today, but it will outlast them all!

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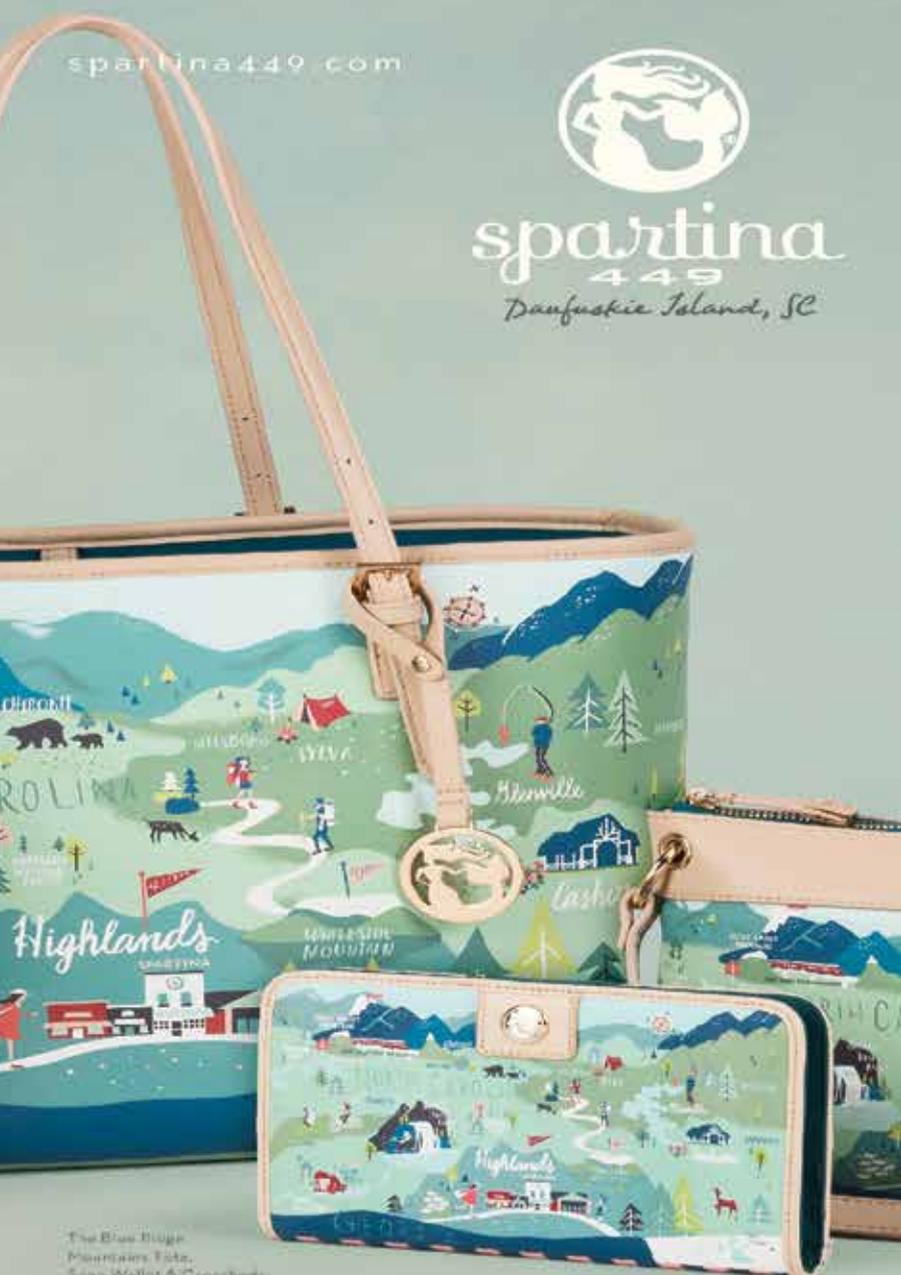
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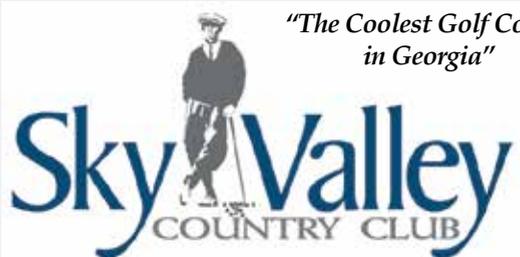


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Under Contract

Keep a canoe in your backyard & enjoy the Cullasaja River & Mirror Lake. 3br/3ba with large open back deck and ridge line views. Lower level features large bonus room with fireplace and fully renovated bath. Great place for the kids or extra space for guests. \$325,000 MLS #85381

LOT LISTING

Exclusive gated community just minutes from Cashiers. 2.05 acres, nearly level, cleared building site, driveway finished. Community water system and 3br septic permit. \$58,000 MLS #85824



New Price

Broadview Acres 3br/2ba with great rental history. Vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace and new carpet. Relax in the bright sun room or bbq on the open deck. \$370,000 MLS #85526



Only minutes to Main Street, this 3br/3ba home in desirable Mirrormont area has been updated with all the bells and whistles. Gorgeous hard woods and large back decks with both open and enclosed areas for enjoying the cool mountain air. \$595,000 MLS #86293

LOT LISTING

Great investment lot with VIEWS on .55 acres. Close-in to downtown Highlands. 3 bedroom septic in hand. Don't miss the opportunity to build your mountain dream home today. \$29,900 MLS #83654



The mountain cabin you have been dreaming of. 3br/3ba with cathedral ceilings and double sided fireplace in main open living area. Master on main opens to covered deck where you can relax to the sounds of the babbling brook just steps away. \$399,000 MLS #84912



2br/2ba very private Highlands Falls Country Club condo, offered fully furnished. Vaulted ceilings, screened porch and open back deck with views. \$243,000 MLS #85769



Great 3br/2ba sits high above the 13th fairway at Highlands Falls CC. \$549,000 MLS #86238.

LOT LISTING

2 lots in Cullasaja Club at an incredible price. Views of Black Rock and Whiteside Mountain with long range views into SC. Walk to the clubhouse location. \$40,000 each lot, MLS #81514 & #81530



Wonderful Art & Crafts style home with lots of character! 4br/4.5ba in Falling Waters. Large open kitchen, covered decks on 2 sides plus a spacious screened porch. \$849,000 MLS #86261



Stunning 4br/3.5ba in Cullasaja Club with gulf and mtn views. Granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Plenty of indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces with 2 outdoor fireplaces. This is a must see. \$1,397,000 MLS #85571

New Price



One owner and very little use on over 5 subdividable acres makes this home highly sought after. 3br/3.5ba offering complete privacy. Gourmet kitchen, floor to ceiling fireplace in great room, master suite, 2 guest suites and many other high end finishes throughout. \$850,000 MLS #86239



Soaring tongue and groove cathedral ceilings with 2 story stone fireplace. Large 4br/4ba in Trimont Mountain Estates. \$699,000 MLS #86288



3br/3ba Highlands Mountain Club condo. Remodeled top to bottom with granite in kitchen, marble baths, wood floors and more. Move in ready! \$275,000 MLS #86242



Great buy between Highlands and Cashiers just off Norton Road. Open floor plan, large windows and stone fireplace. Updates to kitchen include granite countertops. Upper level has 2 guest rooms and additional living area overlooking the lower level. Open deck is perfect for grilling and relaxing outdoors. \$249,000 MLS #86614



Custom built with 3br/2ba in private gated community just 9 miles to downtown Highlands. Back deck overlooks pond and has winter mountain views. \$250,000 MLS #86605



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• POLICE •

The Highlands Police log entries from Aug. 19. Only the names of persons arrested, is issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Aug. 19

- At 3 p.m., officers were called to LuLu Bleu on Main Street about a shoplifting incident where a gold chain valued at \$99 was taken.

Aug. 20

- At 10:16 a.m., officers were called about loud music at a restaurant on N. 4th Street.

Aug. 21

- At 2 p.m., officers were called to Mountain Fresh Grocery about a trespasser.

Aug. 22

- At 2 p.m., officers were called about a larceny at a residence on Warren Road where silver items valued at \$1,000 were taken.

Aug. 24

- At 3:30 p.m., officers were called to LuLu Bleu on Main Street where a necklace was taken off a mannikin.

Sept. 1

- At 2 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Cobb Road.
- At 3:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

Sept. 2

- At 9 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 64 west.
- At 10:20 a.m., officers were called a residence on Lucas Lane concerning a landlord/tenant dispute.

- At 6:22 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint concerning a barking dog at a residence on Hickory Hill Road.

Sept. 3

- At 1:50 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Sagee Woods Drive concerning a noise complaint regarding construction equipment.

- At 10:50 p.m., officers were called to a 200 Main concerning a verbal argument between guest in a room.

Sept. 5

- At noon, officers responded to a call about a burglary and larceny from a residence on N. 4th Street where numerous prescription pills were stolen.

Sept. 7

- At 1:17 p.m., Taylor Thomas Earman, 42, of Highlands, was arrested for being drunk and disruptive, simple physical assault and communicating threats. He was issued a secured

• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

Zen Living in the Mountains: Bringing the Outside Inside

“Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.”

~ Albert Einstein



Susie deVille
Owner/BIC
White Oak Realty Group

The hemlock was a continual source of fascination for me during my childhood, and I watched birds and other animals inhabit the tree from the other side of the glass. My parents' decision to protect that tree was a source of deep pride and reinforced what I already knew about their philosophy of and boundless love for Nature.

Years before they built the tree atrium, my dad created a Japanese garden in the center of his beloved store, the Stone Lantern. There were moss-covered stones that circled the

small pond, and bamboo trees that seemingly grew while you stared at them. There were granite Buddhas, stone lanterns, and Japanese water basins supplied with bamboo pipe. It was open to the outside, and

you could watch rain fall into the pond, or see snow settle into the leaves on the bamboo and miniature maple trees on cold winter days.

• See **INVESTING** page 21

When my parents decided to renovate and expand our family home, much thought and care was given as to how to protect a stately Carolina hemlock tree that stood next to the house. They opted to design and build right around it, creating an open-air atrium in the center of the new part of the house.

were moss-covered stones that circled the

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...INVESTING continued from page 19

Like the atrium-shrine to the tree at our house, the Japanese garden at the Stone Lantern gave me the same feeling meditation gives me today: a sense of grounded calm and connection to everything and everyone.

Take a moment now and look around the interior of your home. Do you have areas of your home that bring the outside inside, either through expansive windows, outdoor living spaces that flow from the interior, a sun-room or similar space where sunlight bathes the room, or through interior garden spaces? If not, don't despair! There are no shortages of options available to you, regardless of home size and/or design.

You could add a small, vertical garden to one of your wall spaces. Such a living wall allows you to create a Zen space that thrives indoors. There are companies that sell units ready made for easy installation, or you can build your own. Fill the planter with a range of wild succulents for pretty greenery you can enjoy year-round. Or, you could purchase a tower garden and have healthy greens for viewing and consuming! If those options seem too ambitious, you could purchase colorful planters for your windowsill and create a small herb garden for your kitchen. Also, small pocket planters for the wall are ideal

locations for air plants – no green thumb required.

The physical and emotional health benefits of immersing ourselves in Nature are well documented, yet sometimes we cannot spend as much time as we would like in the woods (even though they are in our backyards). You can bring your forest bathing indoors and create your own space for meditation. With just a little bit of effort, you can begin enjoying the calming, peaceful presence of bringing the outdoors into your home or workspace. By adding more stillness into everyday living, you'll notice you possess a new ability to see more clearly and feel more centered. Ideas and open channels to your creativity appear.

You also may discover a strengthened and blissful connection to everything and everyone.

• *Susie deVille, ME, ABR, SFR, is Owner/Broker-in-Charge of White Oak Realty Group. Her areas of expertise include real estate investments, niche marketing, social media, and strategic property positioning. An expert in entrepreneurship and anthropology, Susie applies her acumen in human behavior toward negotiating and advocating on behalf of her clients. White Oak Realty Group's sales office is located at 125 South Fourth Street in the heart of the retail district in Highlands. For more information, visit WhiteOakRG.com or call (828) 526-8118.*

• FIRE REPORT •

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log from Aug.

17.

Aug. 17

• At 4:32 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Dendy Orchard Road.

• At 6:43 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence at VZ Top.

Aug. 19

• At 10:05 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Ramsey Lane.

Aug. 20

• A little after midnight, the dept. stood by at Zachary Field for the MAMA helicopter.

Aug. 21

• At 12:28 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Apple Mountain.

Aug. 25

• At 12:43 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Turtle Pond.

• At 1:09 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Turtle Pond.

Aug. 26

• At 12:59 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Pine Street.

Aug. 27

• At 8:58 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Hicks Road.

Aug. 28

• At 6:52 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on NC 106.

Aug. 29

• At 7:45 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cobb Road.

• At 10:02 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street.

• See FIRE page 22



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BEAR MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS is now hiring a full-time sales associates. Starting at \$11/hr. depending on experience. Also needed is a full-time manager with experience. Please stop by 302 Main St, Highlands, NC for an applicator or call 828-526-8709. (st. 8/17)

RANCH HAND WANTED at a private ranch in Cashiers. Full-time, part-time, & weekend-only positions available. Duties include feeding animals, mucking stalls, general cleaning, other duties as assigned. Must have clean driving record, ability to do physical work, lift up to 50 pounds, and work in all types of weather. Starting pay \$12/hour. Email resumes/inquiries to: holly@bluestarranch.com (st. 8/10)

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HOUSE WATCH CARE EXTRO-DINAIRE - Retired building contractor. For an interview or appointment call Ron at 828-421-3215 or 706-782-6114. Excellent references. (9/28)

WINDOW CLEANING. insured and experienced. call for free estimate 828-342-8447 (st. 8/31)

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HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN 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. 8/24)

MOLD AND MUSTY SMELL IN YOUR HOME? Call for free inspection. 828-743-0900.

RENTALS

VACATION RENTAL: In-town Highlands 3bd/3ba, walk-to-town condo. Book now! Available fall 2017 & 2018. \$2500 week includes housekeeping. <https://www.vrbo.com/4473684ha> more info at Chambers Agency 828-526-3717.



APT. FOR RENT - 2 Br. 1 Bath in Scaly Mtn. \$650 per mo. Utilities included, annual lease, references req., no pets. 828 526-3752 (st. 8/31)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE WALK TO TOWN! Mill Creek townhome - 2 bdrs., 2 baths, 2 car garage, new kitchen appliances, stone fireplace, front porch overlooks large yard. \$419,900 - call 828-482-0326 to view. (st. 7/6)



FALLING WATERS. Gated community, beautiful mountain land. Just 2.4 miles from Main St. Cottage lot with small waterfall \$159K. Premium waterfall (above pix) \$439k. Other lots \$169k to \$259k. From Main St. and Hwy 106, turn west on 106. Go 1.8 miles just past Glen Falls sign... turn right on Mt. Laurel Dr., go 3/10 mile turn left on Moonlight. Entrance is on the right. Contact onsite developer for plats and info. 828-508-9952. fallingwatersnc.com (st. 5/11)

1.21 ACRES FOR SALE BY OWNER - OTTO, NC - \$28,000. Lot 12 Quail Haven Road. Otto, NC. Price not firm...open for negotiation. Please email if interested to ddmars15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. If no answer please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

...FIRE REPORT continued from page 21

Aug. 30

• At 8:31 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at Horse Cove and Bull Pen Road.

Aug. 31

• At 10:57 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Pierson Drive. Sept. 1

At 2:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on Sherwood Drive.

Sept. 2

At 8:49 a.m., the dept. responded to a possible vehicle fire on US 64 west.

Sept. 5

At 9:15 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

At 7:12 p.m., the dept. provided mutual assistance to the Cashiers FD.

At 2:33 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Falls Village Court.

At 6:43 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hutchinson Court.

Sept. 6

At 1:28 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of smoke at a residence on Talley Lane.

Sept. 7

At 8:33 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

At 3:06 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Satulah Road.

At 5:27 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance on Hardscrabble Ridge Road.

Sept. 8

At 12:49 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

Sept. 9

At 8:01 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Keener Road.

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