

Highlands Newspaper

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Mission CEOs stand by HCA merger

Be that as it may, the time to lament about the community's Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is long gone. It ended a little over four years ago when the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board voted to turn over everything associated with the hospital to Mission Health.

Since Mission Health owns the campus – property, buildings, equipment, furniture – it can do what it deems best for the future of healthcare in Highlands and Cashiers, as well as the 18-county Western Carolina region it now serves.

It was its “hub and spoke” healthcare model that enticed

Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) to consider partnering with Mission Health. The “hub” is Asheville and the spokes are everywhere else Mission has a presence – Franklin, Brevard, Blue Ridge, McDowell, etc.

HCA – a for-profit corporation in 20 states, with 180 hospitals and outpatient centers – is large in scale and scope, said Mission Health President and CEO Dr. Ron Paulus last week. “This is the way of healthcare today. The benefit of this transaction is to drive down the cost of doing business and do it more effectively.”

HCA is based in Nashville, TN and partnering with Mission

will establish its presence in North Carolina.

On March 22, Letters of Intent were signed to explore the possibility of joining HCA.

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Volunteers in front of one of several Plateau Pickup trash receptacles that were filled to overflowing Saturday April 21. Pictured from left are David Bock, Steve Mehder, Hilary Wilkes, Mary and John Dotson and Mayor Pat Taylor. – Photo by Debi Bock

Citizens clean up byways

On Saturday, April 21 the annual “Gorge Road Pickup” took place on the Highlands Plateau. A few years ago, the pickup was expanded to include NC 28, NC 106, US 64 east and roads in town.

For about three hours, 20 volunteers filled up 200 bags amounting to a few tons of discarded trash.

Highlands School Valedictorian and Salutatorians announced



Tuesday morning, Highlands School announced the class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorians. Pictured from left are Salutatorians Madison Reese Lloyd and Maxwell Baker Renfro and Valedictorian Emma Claire Barrette. This is the first time two students were named Salutatorians.

– Photo by Terry Stamey

One-Stop Early Voting: Use it or lose it

Mayor Pat Taylor has already cast his vote and he urges others to do the same.

As of Tuesday, 89 votes have been cast at the Civic Center; 191 in Franklin.

“If enough people don’t turn out for One Stop Early Voting, the Board of Elections will not offer it as a service in the future,” he said.

Early Voting will close Saturday, May 5 at 1 p.m. There are two locations, at which any Macon County resident may vote despite

their residential address.

Site #1: The Board of Election Office located in the basement of the MC Courthouse Room 127B open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Site #2: The Highlands Civic Center located 600 N. 4th Street in Highlands open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

One-Stop Early voting ends at both locations Saturday, May 5 at 1 p.m.



Mayor Pat Taylor casting his vote on Friday at the One Stop Early Voting site at the Highlands Civic Center.

– Photo by Josh Ward

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

The future of our hospital and trash talk

I want to highlight two items from the busy past week.

At Thursday's Town Board meeting, Jackie Medland, our Highlands-Cashiers Hospital CEO, provided an update on the status of the proposed merger between Mission Healthcare and Hospital Corporation of America.

I appreciate Jackie's willingness to meet with the board. Commissioners asked some challenging and difficult questions. She suggested returning for a follow-up where these questions can be answered in more detail.

Prior to this briefing, Commissioner Brian Stiehler, Town Manager Josh Ward and I attended a morning meeting with Dr. Ron Paulus, the CEO of Mission. Dr. Paulus emphasized that this merger would help contain future healthcare costs in Western Carolina. He emphasized the merger is essential for Mission to continue to serve not just the Highlands-Cashiers area, but the entire region.

I understand the challenges facing healthcare and future challenges. On the other hand, I believe we are in a period of reflection and possible exploration of other options. The caveat here is that we



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

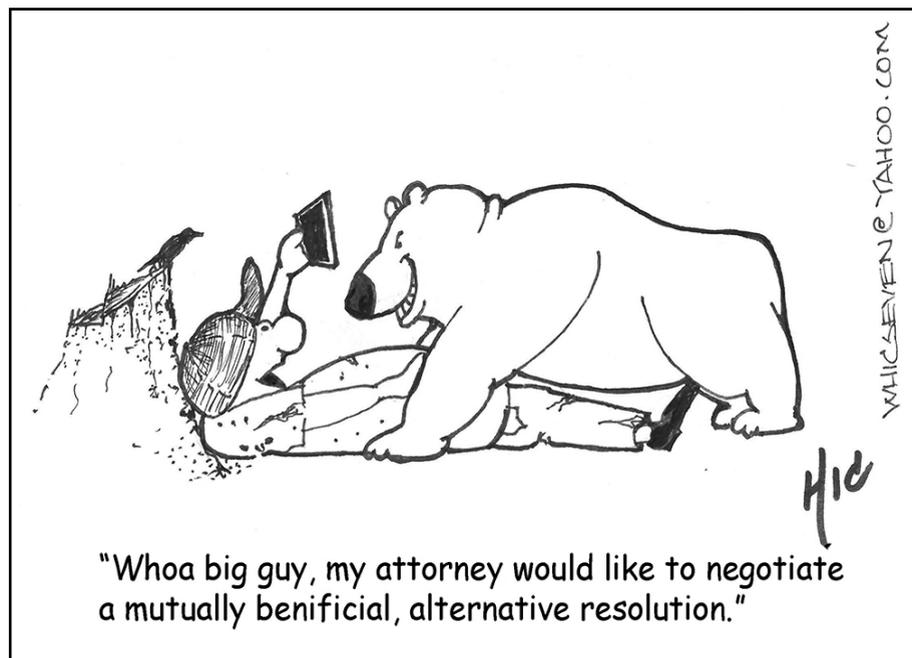
don't really have many options. Nevertheless, representatives from Duke LifePoint and C.K. Harris Hospital in Sylva will be at the Community Coffee with the Mayor tomorrow morning, Friday at 11 pm, at the Hudson Library. The CEO of Duke LifePoint, Steve Heatherly, will share his views about regional healthcare. Duke LifePoint recently held meetings with Cashiers residents, and indicated to me a willingness to share their perspectives with Highlands residents also.

I believe as we go through this period of review and inquiry, the outcome will be a healthcare system that even better serves this community. An open and candid dialogue will strengthen community support.

The second big event was the Highlands Plateau Cleanup on Saturday. Let me congratulate the Highlands Chamber of Commerce for putting on another great event. I also want to thank the town sanitation workers. According to Public Works Director Lamar Nix, they transported over 18 cubic yards of trash to the landfill. The Macon County Sheriff's Office and the Highlands Police were essential in helping manage traffic. The U.S. Forrest Service employees again helped by collecting the many bags of trash from the Gorge Road. And of course, over 80 volunteers made this all possible. Volunteers were on the Gorge Road, NC 28 and 106, US 64 east, Cliffside Recreational Area, Hicks and Flat Mountain roads.

I appreciate our civic clubs who sup-
• See MAYOR page 11

• HIC'S VIEW •



"Whoa big guy, my attorney would like to negotiate a mutually beneficial, alternative resolution."

• LETTER •

From one columnist to another...

Dear Editor,

I love your new columnist Bud Katz and look forward to his intelligent and witty perspective each week. As a diagnosed word nerd and grammar geek, I also appreciate his grammatically correct way with words and the creative title for the column.

Kathy Penn

• THANKS •

The family of Mae Potts would like to thank everyone for the tremendous outpouring of love and support towards us in this sad time for our family. Mae was the embodiment of love and will be missed by so many people but to know that there are others like her in the world always gives us solace. The Fidelity Eckerd Center, First Presbyterian Church, Bryant-Grant Funeral Home, friends, family, cards, calls and all the wonderful food...we don't know how to ever thank all of you! Please know how appreciative we are of all of you! With love ...

The Potts' Family

• WEATHER •

	Friday 4/27		Saturday 4/28		Sunday 4/29	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	61 F	38 F	63 F	37 F	64 F	36 F
RealFeel	64 F	43 F	70 F	43 F	73 F	43 F
Winds	6 g 9	5 g 8	7 g 10	6 g 9	5 g 7	4 g 6
Storms	9%	4%	0%	2%	2%	4%
Rainfall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Matzke now Managing Director at the Playhouse

The Highlands Playhouse Board of Directors has announced the promotion of Lance Matzke to managing director, effective immediately. Following an extensive national search and multiple interviews, Matzke was the unanimous choice of board members.

"We were very pleased with the level of talent who applied for the position, but our best candidate was right under our nose," said Ken Proctor, board president. "Lance has a passion for the performing and cinematic arts, he already understands the unique cultural needs of our region, and he displayed a vision for our organization that aligns with our long-term strategy."

Matzke has been serving as interim managing director since mid-February and previously served as box office manager since September 2016. In that position, he acquired a comprehensive knowledge of nearly all operational and office duties. As interim managing director, Proctor says he exceeded board members' expectations in all aspects of managing the Playhouse.



"I'm very honored to have been chosen and have a great amount of respect for the Board and the patrons and businesses who generously support the Playhouse," said Matzke. "I look forward to generating more exposure for the Playhouse and strengthening community partnerships to further elevate our stature with residents and visitors alike. We have a very compelling story to tell as both a summer stock theatre and year-round independent movie house."

Matzke holds a bachelor's degree from the University of South Florida in English Literature. He also holds a Specialized Associates degree in Cinema from the State College of Florida. As a middle and high school English teacher, Lance had the opportunity to work with students in his school theater programs. He also volunteered for professional theater companies in Sarasota, FL.

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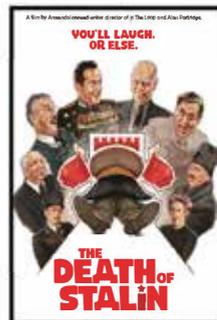
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This is a clean, basic approach to soup that showcases the vegetable. You can make this with nearly anything – including peas and basil, zucchini, carrots and ginger. In this case, broccoli is made a bit more dynamic with a handful of peppery arugula. When you're detoxing and drinking lots of juices and smoothies, it's a nice change

to have something warm. This recipe makes enough soup for at least two portions, so share with your loved one or save a portion for lunch the next day.

Ingredients

1 tablespoon organic unrefined coconut oil
1 clove garlic, thinly sliced
1/2 yellow onion, roughly diced

1 head broccoli, cut into small florets (about 2/3 pound)

2 1/2 cups filtered water

1/4 teaspoon each coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper

3/4 cup arugula (watercress would be good, too)

1/2 lemon, thinly sliced to use as a garnish

Directions

1. Heat the coconut oil in a medium saucepan over low-medium heat.

2. Add the garlic and onion and sauté for just a minute or until fragrant.

3. Add the broccoli and cook

for four minutes or until bright green.

4. Add the water, salt and pepper, bring to a boil, lower the heat and cover.

5. Cook for eight minutes or until the broccoli is just tender.

6. Pour the soup into a blender and puree with the arugula until

quite smooth (be very careful when blending hot liquids; start slowly and work in batches if necessary -you don't want the steam to blow the lid off!)

7. Pour into a warm bowl, garnish with fresh lemon and enjoy!



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... MERGER continued from page 1

Both parties are now in the 120-day due diligence period during which joint integration and strategic planning is under way as well as the formation of a mega-foundation that will serve Mission's 18-county region.

Once both parties are satisfied, Regulatory Review begins by the NC Attorney General who will determine if the merger is in the best interest of the residents of North Carolina. If the NC Attorney General gives the final OK, Mission Health will join HCA by Oct. 1, 2018 at the earliest but likely the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019, according to H-C Hospital CEO Jackie Medland.

The new mega-foundation, which will have nothing to do with the H-C Foundation currently in place will be seeded with money from the HCA/Mission Health merger.

Mission Health's debts/pay-offs and working capital adjustment will be subtracted from its cash and investments and any

remaining net cash/investments plus the agreed upon purchase price will seed the new mega-foundation.

According to Medland, who spoke at the April 19 Town Board meeting, the existing H-C Hospital Foundation is totally independent of HCA and the new foundation.

"In the past, the H-C Hospital Foundation's job was to keep the doors open. Now that's HCA's job. So, the H-C Hospital Foundation has a new mission ... it needs to reinvent itself and decide how it can promote health and wellness in the area in the future," she said.

According to the Institute of Medicine, 10% of a person's health is determined by the medical facility. 10%-20% is driven by the medical care system. 40% percent is determined by lifestyle choices and 30% is determined by DNA.

The H-C Hospital Foundation can now use its funds for education programs, grants, a myriad of things, said Medland and Paulus.

Medland said acquiring Mission Health is a move outside the box for HCA. Mission has built a network of facilities and HCA sees that as an anchor in the state.

"They usually come in and sweep up distressed systems. But when it came to Mission Health, they recognized a high quality "hub and spoke" model that has done, what it has done, very successfully. Mission Health is a fundamentally sound business model for HCA," she said.

Medland said HCA understands the business of healthcare, and Mission knows how to deliver healthcare.

When Mission Health took over Highlands-Cashiers Hospital it was \$6 million in debt. In a little over four years it has reduced that debt to \$1 million.

"It's a lean operation at H-C Hospital," said Medland.

It's that "trimming" that has many citizens dissatisfied, saying services have been cut and it's nothing more than a glorified Emergency Room instead of the "community" hospital they in-

• See MERGER page 8



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... **MERGER** continued from page 7

vested in. The money to build the hospital from the ground up came from the Highlands-Cashiers com-

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munity, said Commissioner John Dotson at the Town Board meeting.

“You had two communities come together because they needed healthcare. The money to build it came out of the back pocket of real live people ... our collective hands ... and now it’s not our hospital,” he said.

Medland said she understands people’s fears but she truly believes partnering with HCA will ensure the viability of healthcare on the plateau.

“Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is solely an asset of Mission Health. So, the fear that you are losing your grasp is a well-founded fear because it’s not the community’s anymore. We will meet the

needs differently, but it will be exactly what we need,” she said.

From a business perspective, Paulus said the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital as a stand-alone entity has no value and it was never sustainable.

“It was losing money every year. You just won’t find people lining up to lose more money moving forward,” he said. “HCA is looking at this through the lens of how they can meet the community’s needs and meet financial goals. HCA is buying the entity as a whole. If Mission wasn’t involved, it wouldn’t be buying this.”

Paulus said in rural America, hospitals are closing or becoming micro-hospitals.

“Long before Mission, High-

lands-Cashiers Hospital was the first ever micro-hospital because you had Jane Woodruff and others who were willing to pay for something that didn’t make any sense to have,” said Paulus.

Commissioner Donnie Calloway said the Emergency Room is top-notch but the hospital is lacking in services.

“What we are missing is everyday healthcare because of doctors coming and going. The emergency care is good but it’s the lack of stability and the lack of services that’s got everyone concerned,” he said.

However, Dr. Paulus and Medland both believe Mission has improved healthcare on the plateau while citizens say it’s nothing but a glorified Emergency Room.

“It’s true that inpatient surgery was eliminated, but that is something the local board did without even asking or telling me,” said Paulus. “I came and they told me they closed it down, but that is the only significant change in services,” he said.

Paulus said the H-C Hospital has always been mostly an ER yet services offered on the campus are the most essential services needed in a rural area – an ER, access to specialty imaging and complicated services virtual or real.

“Saying it’s just a big ER is a short-shrift statement because it implies that ER is just cuts and bruises; it is in fact life-saving,” he said.

However, Medland said she is working on rebuilding services in Highlands but said if a population is small it’s not possible to add more services without losing money. She said the hospital just can’t afford full-time specialists.

“However, in addition to expanded ambulatory services, we have brought back light surgeries like scopes so you don’t have to go elsewhere for a colonoscopy, but I also am working on bringing specialists from elsewhere in the system – neurologists, urologists, gynecologists, GI – who will hold clinics one or two days a week in Highlands. We are also renovating a virtual care room so remote diagnostics and video can be used. The world is changing in a way that makes physical proximity less

• See **MERGER** page 11

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• WORD MATTER •

The Futility of Asking Why

Tammi Jo Shults and Jennifer Riordan did not know one another. Upon awakening, neither even considered asking themselves why things might turn out the way they did. The next several hours didn't enter their minds. Why would it? It was only a matter of arbitrary happenstance they found themselves in the same place at the same moment in time on the morning of April 17, 2018.



Bud Katz

opened, both the bad and the good. The window next to Jennifer's seat was shattered by that small piece of shrapnel and she was pulled through the opening. Some brave, quick-acting passengers pulled her back and performed CPR but it was too late.

Tammi Jo calmed the passengers, righted the aircraft and brought the plane down safely at Philadelphia International Airport. She

didn't know, at that moment, one life had been lost.

In the days immediately following this unthinkable tragedy, Tammi Jo Shults was rightfully hailed as a hero for her cool demeanor and professional actions following the engine explosion.

Jennifer Riordan's life has been celebrated as well. By all accounts, she was a wonderful person, wife and mother, and a successful executive with a devout and philanthropic heart.

The precise causes of the engine failure will not be known for some time. Southwest Airlines and the NTSB will perform due diligence and will arrive at conclusions as to what happened and why. Blame or responsibility will be assigned. Compensation will follow. Some already has. New maintenance and inspection protocols will be put into place. Some already have.

In the wake of this truly unfortunate event, along with recent revelations regarding a history of safety issues on Allegiant Air as reported by 60 Minutes, we, the bystanders and onlookers in all this, will begin to ask many questions. Will we seek or select window seats on future flights? Will we demand aircraft safety and maintenance information before boarding? Will we even choose air travel unless it's absolutely necessary? These are considerations we as individuals must decide for ourselves.

Some will relegate the events surrounding Jennifer Riordan's tragic death to "God's will." Others will chalk it up to "bad luck," or "unfortunate random happenstance." "It was her time," they'll say. "Stuff happens," they'll say.

But two things are already certain. Michael Riordan, Jennifer's husband, and Joshua and Averie, their children, along with Jennifer's family, friends, and co-workers, will mourn and grieve an unfathomable loss they will never fully comprehend. They'll ask why.

• See **WORD MATTER** page xx

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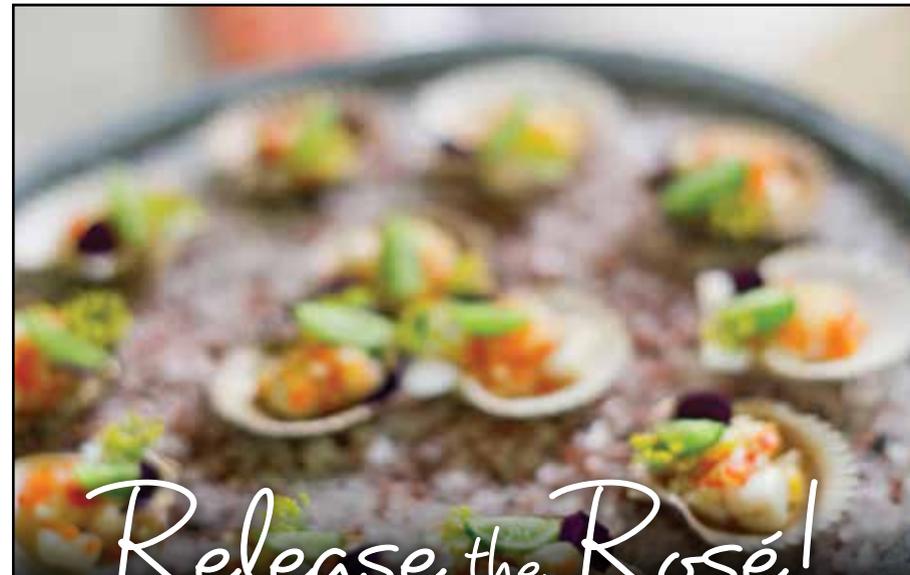
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• DOGSPEAK •

The Joy of having Royal Critter Sitters

Now that the Royal Parents are retired, they travel much more than they used too, and in my opinion, all too often without me. That's why my Royal Court contains more than one Critter Sitter. Miss Beverly is the Royal Critter Sitter in Charge. She earned that distinction when she kept me one summer for almost two weeks while my parents went on a river cruise, and I rate her home a five-star pet resort for its location and amenities. She lives in an area with lots of parks, a town square and a downtown area where shops put out water bowls for us dogs. I get to meet lots of people and their canine companions on our walks.

I am completely miserable in the extreme summer heat, so Miss Beverly took me on early morning walks before the temps were unbearable. Then she let me nap in the cool, dark living room with two fans blowing on me. I must say the Royal Parents could learn a thing or two from Miss Beverly. Only after the temps

cooled down in the evening, did she, or sometimes her daughter SarahAnne take me on a second walk. Between the two of them, I regularly got two long walks a day. Why SarahAnne even taught me tricks. That's one reason I dubbed her Camp Counselor SarahAnne.

Since she's graduated from Nursing school, SarahAnne's kept me a few times at her house. I'd say she's easily in the running to become Royal Critter Sitter in Charge should Miss Beverly wish to retire. With roommates coming and going, a boyfriend who's in and out with his dog, and out of town friends who visit, there's always plenty of action at her house.

Possibly the best-ever time I've had with her was the weekend her college friend



Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch

Grace visited with Max, the golden retriever. Nurse SarahAnne lives in a dog-friendly walkable part of town too, so we had lots of adventures.

One afternoon, we walked and barhopped along the Beltline in Atlanta with Max and Grace. The Beltline is a very happening place with dogs, joggers, skaters, and cyclists. While she ran errands another afternoon, she dropped me off at her boyfriends' house, and—don't tell Mum—he let me sleep in his bed while he worked. Mum has this thing about me getting on the bed, you know. Goodness knows, I needed some rest after trying to keep up with all these millennials, who are way more active than the Royal

Parents.

I was fired up when we spent our final day at the park. There, SarahAnne let me go in the pond and roll in the sand, over and over again. Max wasn't keen to go in the water, but I sure was. I like ponds and lakes any time but especially when it hits the 80s. I even got to chase some ducks. I slept like a baby that night and was fine with being left behind while the girls went partying. Yes, Nurse SarahAnne has turned into one fine Royal Critter Sitter.

I know I'm one lucky dog to have not only loving Royal Parents—though I do think they travel overly much—but also attentive and caring Royal Critter Sitters. What more could a Royal Pooch ask?

Lord Banjo lives in Georgia with his Mum, Kathy Manos Penn. Find similar stories in his book, "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch," available locally at the Molly Grace in Highland, Books Unlimited in Franklin, and on Amazon. Contact him at inkpenn119@gmail.com.

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... MERGER continued from page 8

important," she said.

Paulus said people have nothing to fear with HCA in the mix.

"They can buy every single thing cheaper than Mission can, so we are hoping they will be able to cross over that finish line and make a profit rather than lose money," he said. "In addition, HCA has been the leading clinical trial enroller in its cancer program for more than 75% of the new FDA approved cancer drugs in the last 10 years. Cancer care will be one of the areas of biggest change that will now be available with HCA that doesn't exist in Western North Carolina."

He said the fact that it's a for-profit enterprise won't affect how charity cases are dealt with; in fact, he said HCA's charity policy is more generous than Mission's.

"We both offer free care up to 200% of the federal poverty line but whereas our sliding scale is to 300% theirs is to 400%," he said.

As to HCA buying and then closing the H-C Hospital, Medland and Paulus said that isn't an option. In the Letter of Intent there are protections outlined and there are to be no "take-aways," said Medland.

"Under the contract, even if they wanted to close, they can't. They would have to put it up for sale, and then if they

can't find anyone, they would have to offer it to the new super foundation," said Paulus.

He said there is an operator "not too far from here" who would love to buy H-C Hospital and close it to force the movement of patients to their other facility.

"The merger with HCA, will ensure Mission's sustainability into the future," said Medland. "The mega foundation will be the largest foundation per capita in the nation. After five years, if we hold up to performance standards – financially, quality- and safety-wise, and EMS – then Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is likely to be secure for the next 10 years."

She said H-C Hospital is a Critical Access Hospital and it's where many hospitals are headed now offering ER, diagnostics and primary care, and that's not going to change.

"It was never meant to be a full-service facility. It wouldn't be used enough to keep it alive and vibrant," she said.

As to the name, she said that won't change either. The words may be rearranged but H-C Hospital will still be in the mix.

• To stay informed, go to www.missionhealthforward.org.

– Kim Lewicki

... MAYOR continued from page 2

ported the effort; the Mountain Garden Club, the Rotary Club and Interact and the Methodist Men. Reeves Hardware donated materials for the pickup sticks used by volunteers.

I also want to give a shout-out to Franklin volunteers who did their pickup at the same time. Both volunteer groups met at the Gorge Falls, so U.S. 64 west was covered from Franklin to Highlands. What a wonderful cooperative effort!

The pick-up ended with a picnic in

Founders Park where Debbie Grossman cooked burgers and dogs. We live in a beautiful environment, but what is truly beautiful is the care and commitment of our people. Thanks to everyone.

Vocal Concert at First Pres Sunday

Western Carolina University student and First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir Intern Keely Smith and Friends will present a vocal concert at 2:30pm on Sunday, April 29 at Highlands First Presbyterian Church.

Also featured in the concert will be WCU students Christine Reeder, Soprano; Jacob Plaisted, Baritone; WCU graduate Garrett Whipkey Tenor; Wayne Coleman, Tenor; and Keely's father, Joe Smith, Tenor.

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Mix and Match: Update Your Home With 2018 Design Trends

(StatePoint) Are you planning to refresh your home but aren't sure where to start? Some of today's most popular design trends encourage mixing and matching favorite home accents within the same space.

There is no need to feel limited by fixtures or finishes, according to design expert, Colleen Visage, who is Progress Lighting's vice president of Product Management.

"Homeowners today are not content to have the same look, the same finishes or the same collections

throughout the house," says Visage. "They really want to personalize their spaces."

Coordinating complementary pieces creates a cohesive feel to the home. It can also reinforce a unique style because the ultimate outcome is a custom design. Here are a few ways to master the mix and match trend.

- **Mix Monochromatic Accents:** Tone-on-tone designs are very popular in kitchens, bathrooms, entryways and living areas. Countertops, cabinets and home accents in varying shades of grays and creams can create a sophisticated statement. These tones pair perfectly with gold, brass or brushed nickel finishes.



- **Design with Dual Tones:** Mixed metals or dual tones are on-trend and very popular in home design today. This look can be achieved through mixing fixtures with different, but complementary finishes. For example, Progress Lighting offers fixtures that feature finishes with contrasting accents, such as antique bronze and brass, antique bronze and natural brass or polished nickel with silver ridge -- adding visual interest.

Pendant groupings are commonly used in a foyer, over a kitchen island or above a dining room table. These versatile fixtures can be mixed and matched to create a custom cluster design for a statement-making look.

"I like to design areas that are so inviting, people don't want to leave," says Susan Wilson, designer and founder of Susan Wilson Interiors. "When a home features accents and lighting that work together seamlessly, it makes the spaces throughout memorable and relatable."

Searching for more design inspiration? Visit progresslighting.com to view images, collections and project ideas for every budget, style and space.

Take your design vision to the next level and personalize your home's living spaces by mastering the art of the mix and match trend.

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Spring Home Improvement

How Much Home Can You Afford this Spring? Factors to Consider

(StatePoint) The chicken or the egg? Which came first continues to fuel philosophical debates. But when it comes to buying a home, experts are pretty clear about the proper order of things -- agreeing you should fit your mortgage to your finances, not to a house.

"Before you even start your search for a home this spring, it's crucial to know how much you can afford to pay each month," says Freddie Mac Senior Vice President, Christina Boyle, who stresses that there are a few important things to keep in mind as you calculate this figure.

Start by getting a handle on your finances. What do you earn? What do you spend? How much do you have in savings? Answering these questions will help you better understand how much home you can afford. Make a budget and use free online tools and calculators to determine how much you can afford.

Remember that your monthly expenses go beyond mortgage payments, so leave some room in your budget. Whether it's a new roof or a leaking faucet,

homeownership can mean unexpected expenses. Be prepared to pay for such items, as needed. General maintenance, combined with utilities (an expense that can vary by home depending on its size and other factors), are added expenses to consider. Some neighborhoods also have homeowners' association fees to cover the cost of upkeep of common spaces.

Your lifestyle can also help you assess whether a particular home is right for you and your budget. Location is key in deter-



mining what you can afford. Some points to consider are whether you want to live in a suburban or urban setting, whether you need to be near specific schools and public transportation, and the potential length of your

commute. These factors can affect the cost of a home and you should determine your priorities in advance of home and mortgage hunting.

Remember, getting
• See AFFORD page 14



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... AFFORD continued from page 13

pre-approved can help you act fast and make a confident offer, so talk to your lender now before you start shopping.

A full rundown on all things homebuying, including free tools and resources, is

available at myhome.freddiemac.com.

This spring, be sure to prepare yourself for the homebuying experience by being well-informed and aware of what you can afford.



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• HS SPORTS •

with Kedra McCall

The week that was....

This past week the high school girls soccer played Tri County and Stephens County. They beat both teams. They beat Tri County 7-1, and Stephens County 2-1. Their next home game will be on Thursday April, 26th. They will play Swain starting at 6 pm.

Middle school track finished their season this week. In the championship meet the boys finished 2nd and the girls finished 3rd overall. High school's next meet will be on Wednesday, May 2nd. They will be com-

peting in the conference championship Cherokee starting at 1 pm.

High school golf had a match at Chatuge Shores. At this match they qualified for Regionals as a team. Their next match will be on Linville Golf Course. Times will be determined later in the week.



Sign up for veteran 'brick' by May 1

On Saturday May 26 another 40 memorial bricks will be added to the 67 at the Veterans Memorial Park in front of the Highlands Police Station on Oak Street.

The deadline for signing up for a brick for installment on Sat., May 26 is May 1st. For applications and information, contact Bill Edwards, 404-915-1344.

Boomeritis - Care For The Aging Athlete

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Discussion: Boomeritis And The Aging Athlete

Date: Thursday, May 10

Time: Noon - 1pm

Location: Southwestern Community College - Macon Campus, Room 111
44 Siler Farm Road, Franklin, NC



William Handley, MD

Dr. Handley is an orthopaedic physician that is part of the excellent team of providers at Harris Regional Hospital with locations in Sylva and Franklin. Dr. Handley will be presenting a talk on Boomeritis and normal issues that relate to aging including tendon, muscle and bone issues. Dr. Handley will cover common ailments and options for treatment.

Lunch will be provided
To RSVP, call 844.414.DOCS (3627)

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Mouth-watering culinary events offered at CLE

Do you have an obsession for delicious food and wine? Then join us at one (or all) of the scrumptious cooking events we are offering this season at CLE.

We are offering "An Epicurean Evening in Morocco" Wednesday, May 30 with Chef Melissa Pelkey Hass. Chef Melissa will create a truly tantalizing and unique Moroccan meal featuring Moroccan Briouat, Spiced Lentil Soup, Beef Tangine with Honey and Raisins, Apricot Couscous and a divine Orange Cardamon Cake. Chef Melissa has won over 320 State Fair Blue Ribbons, titles of Fleishman's Yeast Baking Champion, Hidden Valley Ranch Recipe Winner and the Chicago Cutlery's Sandwich National Grand Champion. The aromas will be heavenly, the dishes delicious, so don't miss out! Time 4-6 p.m. Cost \$90/\$100 Location: Private Home

Enjoy a lunch so tasty you will finish all of the food on your plate! Chef Jordan Brown, of Lakeside Restaurant will be demonstrating and preparing an appetizing lunch for you to enjoy on Wednesday, June 20. A starter of melon and prosciutto

salad with raspberry balsamic vinaigrette followed by homemade gnocchi and finished off with mocha chocolate mousse truffle. There won't be a bite left! Time: 11:30a-2p. Cost \$65/\$75 Location: Lakeside Restaurant

All good food starts in the kitchen, and Medea Galligan a certified nutritionist, will be share how to prepare simple, healthy, delicious recipes that you will easily be able to whip up in your own kitchen. Medea is passionate about teaching others the health benefits of using whole foods and superfoods in cooking to attain better health...all while enjoying what you eat! "Simply Delicious" will be Friday, August 3 Time: 11a-2p. Cost \$65/\$75. Location: Private Home

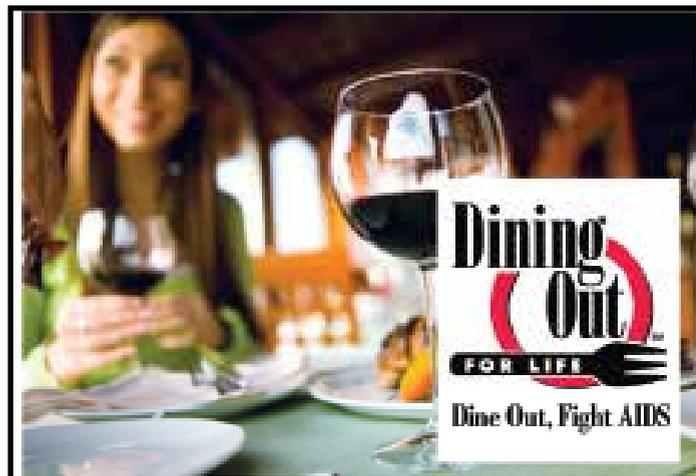
With a CLE trip planned to Tuscany, Italy September 2018 we have an Italian inspired culinary class to celebrate. Chef Melissa Pelkey Hass is the master who will bring the taste of Italy alive for those who attend. This very special Italian meal features Italian Sausage Stuffed Calamari with Marinara Sauce, Buratta Caprese accompanied by an Italian Baguette with Olive Oil and Italian

Vinegar, Hand Cut Pappardelle with Braised Short Rib Ragù and an Italian Ricotta Cheesecake with Chianti Mascared Berries. Can you say "delizioso"? Monday, August 6 Time: 4-6p. Cost: \$90/\$100 Location: Private Home

The Saucy Sisters, Barbara Nowak and Beverly Wichman return to CLE to introduce you to Italian wines. The Saucy Sisters will focus on a handful of Italy's 20 wine regions with six wines for tasting with food pairings to match. They'll cover the origins and history of the official Italian wine varieties with behind-the-scenes stories and humor. Wednesday, August 22 Time: 3-5p. Cost \$40/\$50 Location: CLE Lecture Hall

Martha Porter will share tips and techniques to insure baking success in short order. The class will cover the spectrum on baking: yeast bread, cookies, quick breads and cakes with the chance to get your hands in the mix as well as taste the results at the end of the class. Apply what you learn in class in your own kitchen and soon your house will have the "ooh, wonderful, bakery smell" that will have guests drooling and impressed at the same time! Monday, October 15 Time: 10a-2:30p Cost \$65/\$75 Location: Private Home

Spaces are limited in culinary events and fill up fast so call 526-8811 or visit www.clehighlands.com to register!



Dining Out
FOR LIFE
Dine Out, Fight AIDS

Have dinner at On the Verandah on April 27 and 20% of your bill will be donated to the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) which provides vital services to those living with AIDS and HIV in our community.

Doug Helms, Brian Renfro, Carl Romberg, and George Shook — all from Landmark Realty Group in Highlands — are ambassadors for this event. They hope to see you there!

On The Verandah

April 27, 2017 • 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

For reservations call (828) 526-2338

For further information about the Western North Carolina AIDS Project, go online to www.wncap.org



Piedmont College Choral Group at First Pres. Sunday



On Sunday, April 29, Dr. James Mellichamp, a world class organist and President of Piedmont College will be playing the organ during the 11 a.m. worship service at First Presbyterian Church. Also from Piedmont College, the *Cantabile Acapella Ensemble* will be singing during the service. The ensemble is directed by Dr. Jonathan Pilkington and is a highly select group of singers from the Piedmont Singers that specializes in jazz, pop arrangements, and novelty songs, as well as secular and sacred chamber music from the Renaissance and early Baroque periods. Quickly gaining a reputation as a highly entertaining and skilled group of singers, *Cantabile* performs in concert, at special events on campus and in the community, and on tour. The group will be travelling to New York City in June to perform at high schools and churches in the area.

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

I Don't Care Anymore



Pastor Dr. Mark Ford
First Baptist Church
Highlands

A blog by Karl Vaters spoke to me a couple of years ago and has stuck with me. I want to share a couple of his "I don't care's" and add a couple of my own. What I am saying here is that I too have become "passionately apathetic" about some things that seem to matter a lot to others. More to the point, I am apathetic about these issues, but passionate enough to let you know I am apathetic about them and inviting you to join me in not caring anymore. I don't know if it's my age of forty-four years or being in the ministry that's created this indifference, but here they are. And by the way, I think it is probably church insiders that care about these issues, but the outsiders could often care less. They are looking for something more substantial and real.

First, I don't care about how big a church is – yours or mine. Now understand, I use to care. I worked hard to build the churches I was pastor of, and often succeeded. But I spent a lot of time and emotional energy when things didn't go quite as planned or too slow. Not anymore! I have discovered that big churches are not better than small ones, or vice versa. God uses all HIS churches no matter the size. Size of individual churches is not His concern – just the size of His Church universal!

Second, I don't care about denominational or cultural differences. When I was doing my doctoral work at Princeton, I studied the sociological and cultural challenges facing the modern church and did so under some of the greatest thinkers in this subject. I stressed over our relevance and how to better engage the world at large, and who was doing the best job. Worship styles and traditions were often at the forefront of discussions. But I don't care anymore. If you worship Jesus as the Son of God, honor the Scriptures as the inspired Word of God and all its teachings, love God, and love people enough to care about their souls and well-being, that's all that matters. If your church uses candles, light them. If you raise your hands in worship, lift them. If you like contemporary worship, turn up the volume (but just a little). If you like quiet contemplative prayer, dim the lights. I'm a Baptist who likes Gregorian chant. Baptists should worship like Baptists, Pentecostals like the church on Pentecost, Lutherans like Luther, Reformed as the children of the Reformation, and the Methodists methodically (just kidding my Methodist friends)! Worship Christ your way and I will mine. Respect me and I will respect you if we worship the Lord Jesus of the Scriptures. If we fail in this, I will leave it up to Jesus as judge.

Third, I don't care about how people dress for church – within reason. Wear a suit and tie, a dress, jeans, kilts, short sleeves, long sleeve, tucked in or untucked. Dress suitably for your culture and times if being in style

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 17

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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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; Ch.
5p

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: 6p

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)
Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am
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. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Pr. Nathan
Johnson
Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p
Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street
Sundays: Worship: 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson
670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)
Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45 a., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.
Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376
Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p.
Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell
rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided); 7pm
Intercessory Prayer Ministry

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741
LutheranChurchoftheHolyFamily.yolasite.com
Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;
Worship/Communion: 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Zane Talley
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11, Choir: 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.: 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin • 828-524-9463

MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church
Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,
4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish office (Rev. Dr. Francis): 526-2418
Mass: Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat. at 4p

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Donald G. Bates • 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.
COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY
Sky Valley, GA • 706.746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447
Pastor Gary Hewins
Worship: Sun. 9 a.m., with Holy Communion the 1st & 3rd
Sun.; Tues: Community Supper 5:30 followed by Bible Study.

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood
June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a
Nursery available for Rite II services
Sept 6-Oct 25- Informal Evening Eucharist- 5:30 p.m.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers
Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 16

is important to you. I just hope we never go back to leisure suits! But please, cover what needs to be covered, drop the bling, and keep it modest. Dressing out of pride or rebellion or being stylish can be immodest. Let the shows on the runway stay there but keep these out of the church. If you are old school, stop mourning that we have lowered our standards just because they don't wear suits and have their shirts untucked. And if you are casual and new school, quit telling the old-school folks they need to wear skinny jeans to reach our culture. You would not want to see me in skinny jeans! Personally, I hope they go the way of the leisure suit!

Fourth, I don't care anymore about being immersed in PC or Mac, social media, tweeting, blogs, web sites, being up to date in technology, smart phones or dumb phones! I have a smart phone, but it is far smarter than I am. These things have their place and are a part of our real world today, but I also believe they can be a serious problem if not utilized properly and in a

reserved manner. Multiplied studies are revealing the social and mental detriments that these are incurring for all generations.

But allow me to say what I do care about. As Christians, we don't live in a sanitized world. Because of this, our Lord has called His Church to holiness, grace, love and compassion for a lost and hurting world. As salt, He has called us to make a difference in a decaying and contentious environment. But we can't if we choose to remain in our Christian subculture bubbles, hidden away and "caring" about the wrong things. Our society could use the light we are called to be to bring hope and love to a dark world without much of either. The world could use the illumination of our presence and help, our message of hope in Christ, and less of the irritations of our infightings and debates about relevance and particularities. The world needs Christ, and you and I must be prepared and engaged to share His Word in an intelligent and caring way. Now that's what I care about!

... WORD MATTER from page 9

Why couldn't she have been seated one row back or one row forward or across the aisle?

And, while 148 people did return home, safe and sound, to the comfort of family and home, heroic pilot Tammi Jo Shults will be haunted by the name of the one passenger who didn't make it home.

Her name was Jennifer Riordan.

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VOTE FOR JIM TATE

District 1 Macon County Commissioner

Please Vote in the Republican Primary
Tuesday, May 8th 2018



Thank you for your support!

Jim, Allison, Ethan, Eliza

My beliefs are simple and to the point:

- 1) Fiscal Responsibility: Let's continue to live within our means financially and continue to run our government efficiently.
- 2) Education: Let's provide our children with the facilities and tools to be successful.
- 3) Heritage: Let's protect our natural and cultural heritage so that future generations can have the same opportunities we enjoy.
- 4) Safety: Let's keep our communities safe so that we can pursue our lives, liberty and happiness without fear.
- 5) Taxes: Let's continue to keep our taxes among the lowest in the state.
- 6) Business: Let's keep Macon County business friendly by providing the necessary infrastructure to support economic growth.
- 7) Civil Discourse: Let's solve our problems through open and respectful conversations.

Jim **The Man for Highlands**
TATE
County Commissioner

Vote May 8th

510485

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jim Tate

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Ongoing

• 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 5:15 p.m.

• Hip Hop classes with Tori Schmitt at 5:30-6:30 at the Rec Park.

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 8:30am-9:30am with Susan Nastasic.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

• Pickle Ball at the Recreation Department Gym 10:30am -1pm

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 Li-

brary,

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 By appt. Call 813-625-6785.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:15. A combination class with many different styles of exercise.

First 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.

Wed. & Fri.

Duplicate Bridge 12-4pm

Thursdays

• Storytime with Miss Deanna at Hudson Library 10:40 am. Open to the public.

• 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 in Franklin Call Donita for more info (828) 526-9510.

• Hip Hop classes with Tori Schmitt at 6:30-7:30 at the Rec Park.

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

1st and 3rd Thursdays

• Indivisible Highlands, a non-partisan activist group meets weekly at the Hudson Library at 5p. For info call 770-823-0601

Saturdays

• Zumba with Connie at the Rec Park 10-11am. By appointment. Call 813-625-6785.

• 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.

• At The Bascom, Photographing the Forest/Photography Resident Artist Classes with Vicki Provost, 10 am – 4 pm Level I. Explore the forests of Highlands and learn to capture this unique environment through photography. Basic DSLR camera operation, a photo shoot at wooded area and beginning photo editing techniques will be covered. Participant will need a DSLR camera, owner's manual, flash drive, sturdy shoes and ability to walk on a moderately difficult forest trail. Tuition: \$100. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866

Through June 3

• At The Bascom, Joel Gallery. Mnemonic Palace...Grant Benoit exhibit. Exploring memory devices and theories on remembering through the lens of the domestic space, Benoit incorporates hand printed wallpaper, sewing, and sculptural work in response to The Joel Gallery's unique architecture. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866

• At The Bascom, PaPer View exhibit. Sarah Morgan Wingfield, an artist of many disciplines including paper making, is the guest curator of this exhibition, which features the works of fifteen artists from around the country who create with paper and not merely on paper. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866

Through June 10

• At The Bascom in the Loft Gallery,

Youth Theater

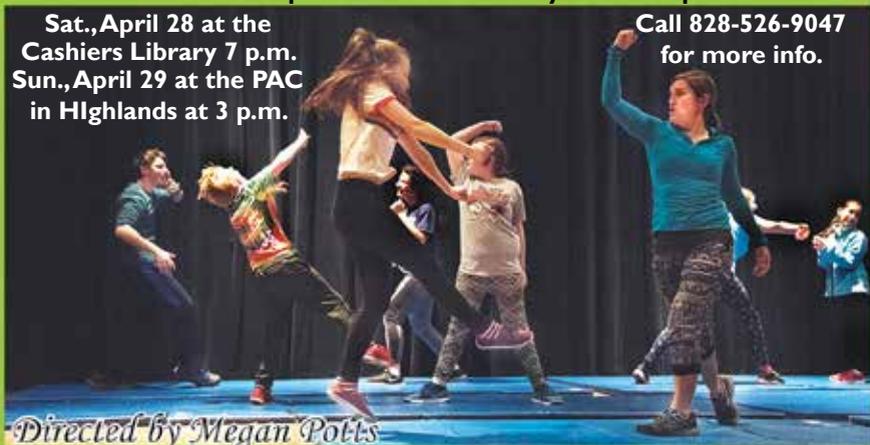
Performing Arts Center
2017/18 School Year Spring Production

Stage Combat Presentation

Free and open to all students 10 years and up.

Sat., April 28 at the Cashiers Library 7 p.m.
Sun., April 29 at the PAC in Highlands at 3 p.m.

Call 828-526-9047 for more info.



Directed by Megan Potts

'Cendrillon' Live via Satellite at PAC Sat.



The Highlands Performing Arts Center will screen, Live via Satellite, the MET Opera's Cendrillon by Massenet on Saturday, April 28 at 12:55pm, with a pre-opera discussion led by guest speaker Joseph Collins beginning at 12:30pm. For the first time ever, Massenet's sumptuous take on the Cinderella story comes to the Met. Joyce DiDonato stars in the title role, with mezzo-soprano Alice Coote in the trouser role of Prince Charming, Kathleen Kim as the Fairy Godmother, and Stephanie Blythe as the imperious Madame de la Haltière. Bertrand de Billy conducts Laurent Pelly's imaginative storybook production. Tickets are available online: highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling 828.526.9047 Highlands Performing Arts Center, Highlands.

• HIGHLANDS EVENTS •

Noon-Day Land...Anna Norton exhibit.Video Installation of the movement of light within the Nantahala National Forest. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866

Thurs., April 26

• At CLE in the Peggy Crosby Center on 5th Street, Wildflower Tour. Time: 9:30a-3p. Cost \$30/\$40 Guide: Gary Wein. For reservations call 828-526-8811.

• Principals, students, teachers, clergy, parents, neighbors, law enforcement, health workers, government officials, veterans, senior citizens, and community partners, you are invited to "From Bully-to-Buddy" a community forum for Macon County on Wed., 6-8 pm. at Tartan Hall, Franklin, NC. For the bully, the bullied and those in between - all ages - all genders. Enter our contests for prizes: \$75, \$50, \$25. (256) 398-0039 www.carolynLhiggins.com/bully-to-buddy.

• Active Shooter Training at HUMC in Highlands from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Two-hour training will include strategies & guidance, how to plan for an active shooter situation and plans for survival. Presented by the Highlands Police Dept and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. For more information, call 828-526-9431.

Fri., April 27

• Community Coffee with the Mayor at Hudson Library at 11 a.m.

• At ...on the Verandah, Dining Out for Life - Dine out and fight AIDS from 5:30-9 p.m. For reservations, call 828-526-2338.

• At The Bascom, Reception for Mnemonic Palace...Grant Benoit exhibit Open to the public and Free. 5 - 6:30 pm. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866

Sat., April 28

• At Pac, "Cendrillon" Live Via Satellite at 12:55 p.m. Call 526-9047 for tickets.

• Free Youth Theater Stage Combat training for children 10 and up at Cashiers Library at 7 p.m. For more info, call 526-9047.

• At The Bascom, Bookbinding Bootcamp: Coptic Journals with Metal tooled Nameplates with Grant Benoit, 10 am - 4 pm Level I, II. In this day long intensive, students will learn how to bind a coptic journal. This versatile binding allows the book to lay completely flat, letting it be anything from a sketchbook to guest book. Students will complete the book with a tooled tin nameplate, adding a bit of personalization to the project. Workshop Pricing. Member \$100/ Non-Member \$150. For more information on classes and workshop at The Bascom please visit www.thebascom.org or call 828.526.4949

Sun., April 29

• At First Presbyterian Church, Dr. James Mellichamp, a world class organist and President of Piedmont College will be playing the organ during the 11 a.m. worship service with Piedmont College's, the *Cantabile Acapella Ensemble*

• Free vocal concert at First Presbyte-

rian Church in Highlands at 2:30 p.m. featuring WCU students and more. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the concert. There will be no admission charge, but donations will be gratefully accepted to help defray expenses for the Costa Rica trip. The church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

• Free Youth Theater Stage Combat training for children 10 and up at the PAC in Highlands at 3 p.m. For more info, call 526-9047.

Mon., April 30

• April is National Donate Life Month and Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is holding a Donate Life event on Monday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the main lobby. During this time, hospital physicians and leadership will answer questions and dispel common myths about organ donation. The opportunity to register to donate will also be available. Please join us for this educational and informative session. For questions, please contact Anna Claire Ramey at (828) 526-1489.

• There will be a meeting of The Mirror Lake Improvement Association on Monday at 5:15 p.m. at the Rec Center. All members are encouraged to attend as well as other interested individuals.

Wed., May 2, 9, 16

• At The Bascom, Youth Pottery. Throw and Handle/Learn how to apply handles, lids to your thrown forms. 10 am - Noon and 3:15 - 5 p.m. Ages: 8 and up Fee: \$60 Must sign up for all sessions in the month. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866

Wed., May 2

• At CLE in the Peggy Crosby Center on 5th Street, Honors College Final Exam Presentation. Time: 4:30-5:30p. No Cost. For reservations call 828-526-8811.

Sat., May 5

• At the Hudson Library, at 3 p.m. there is a 200-year story unfolding in a 51-minute film, "Light to the World." It is a story of humanity's progress through history, propelled by the teachings of Baha'u'llah, The Glory of God for present day humanity. All peoples are welcome! 800.228.6483. www.bahai.us. 828.332.7765.

Tues. and Thurs. May 8, 10, 15, 17

• At The Bascom, High Fire 6 Glazes Compared/ Resident Artist Series with Frank Vicker, 10a to noon..The Resident Artist Series in Clay is a program designed for students of all levels. Open Studio for the day of class and 25 pounds of clay. For more information, please contact Frank Vickery at fvickery@thebascom.org. Tuition: \$125/Add Open Studio for the month for an additional \$75 per month. For more information on these events please visit www.thebascom.org or call Lin Sheffield at 828.787.2866



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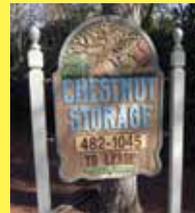
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• POLICE & FIRE •

The Highlands Police log entries from April 4. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

April 4

• At 11:28 p.m., officers were called about a simple non-physical assault where two people at a residence on US 64 west were pushing and yelling at each other after drinking a bottle of tequila.

April 14

• At 8 a.m., officers responded to a 1-vehicle accident on US 64 east.

• At 5:13 p.m., Ryron Russell Gordon, 23, of Highlands, was arrested for trespassing at a location on N. 4th Street. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and taken to the Macon County Jail. His trial date is May 3.

April 19

• At 8 a.m., officers responded to a 1-vehicle accident on Fifth Street.

• At 1:16 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Helen's Barn Ave.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. from April 5

April 17

• At 2:03 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree on fire due to a downed power line on Bowery Road.

• At 12:41 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on South Street.

April 18

• At 6:34 p.m. the dept. investigated smoke from a controlled burn on US 54 east.

• At 6:48 p.m., the dept. responded to a medical alarm at a residence on Goldmine Church Road.

April 19

• At 1:10 p.m., the dept. responded to a motorcycle accident on US 64 west.

April 20

• At 9:31 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a possible chimney fire at a residence on Cave Drive.

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ESTATE SALE



GREENVILLE, SC. MAY 4TH & 5TH. 10 AM – 5 PM each day. See details here: <https://www.estatesales.net/SC/Greenville/29609/1856148>. (5/3)

HELP WANTED

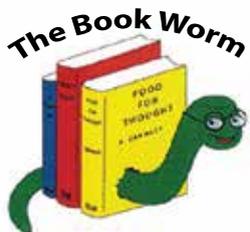
TAYLOR BARNES SALON is accepting applications for full and part-time positions. Licensed cosmetologists and nail technicians are invited to apply in person. Please stop by to fill out an application. 330 Dillard Road. Highlands.

FULL-TIME SALES POSITION. Weekends & holidays a must. Great hours with a great salary. Nancy's Fancys. 828-526-5029. (st. 4/26)

FRESSERS COURTYARD CAFE hiring cooks, counter help and food runners. Call 828-526-8847. (st. 4/19)

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TAIL POSITION IS AVAILABLE AT TJ BAILEY'S in Highlands and Cashiers. Must have flexible hours and have excellent people skills. Sales experience is a plus. Call 8285262262 or email resume to store@tjbaileys.com (st. 4/5)

CELEBRITY COLLECTIONS BOUTIQUE in Highlands, is looking for a year round part-time sales associate. If you have sales experience, are a highly motivated self-starter, available to work weekends and eager to learn a unique and exciting business. For more information. 828-526-4994. (st. 4/5)

WOLFGANGS RESTAURANT is looking for experienced waitstaff, bartender and backer. Please call Jacque at 828.526.3807. (st. 4/5)

SWEETREATS – Earn great tips in a fun and fast-paced setting. New ownership is looking to fill full and part time positions for May 2018 in our newly renovated space. Apply on our Facebook page. (st. 3/29)

PAOLETTI'S ON MAIN STREET. Now hiring for 2018 season. Bartender, Servers, Bus person, cook. Call 828-526-4906. Email resume to amp28741@yahoo.com. (st. 3/29).

HIGHLANDS INN & HIGHLANDS INN LODGE now accepting applications and interviewing for all positions. Front Desk, Housekeeping, Night Audit, Breakfast Host & cook. Full time and part time available. Call 526-5899 for appointment or stop by 96 log cabin lane for application. Resumes or questions may be emailed to sales@highlandsinnlodge.com. (st. 3/1)

SKYLINE LODGE – housekeeping staff, front desk clerks, and maintenance workers wanted for 2018 Season. We offer training. Call 828-526-2121 for an application. Background checks done. (st. 2/22)

INTERVIEWING FOR FULL-TIME YEAR AROUND SECURITY POSITION for a private community in Highlands. Shift is 3 pm to 11 pm M-F. Full benefits. Call 828-526-4161 or 706-982-5526. (st. 2/1)

AT DUTCHMANS: Full-Time Sales Associate (year-round). REQUIREMENTS:

Retail experience a must, need to be able to work weekends and holidays, ability to work in a fast-paced sales-based environment, may include long periods of time standing, positive and friendly attitude, computer skills, interest in interior design. PREFERRED: 2+ years retail or customer service experience, POS experience. (st. 2/1)

CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL CUISINE. Hiring All Positions. Please Contact Dan At Cyprus332@gmail.com. Or Visit Us At 332 Main St. Highland NC (st. 1/11)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY has full and part-time positions available. Competitive wages in all positions. Please come in person to 521 east Main Street in Highlands to apply or call 828-526-2400.

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- Dishwasher
- Positions in the ice cream dept.
- Pizza
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ITEMS FOR SALE
2013 LANDROVER LR4, HSE LUX. Dark grey. 53,000 miles. Excellent condition. \$36,000. Call 864-373-4022. (st. 4/19)

SERVICES
GUTTER CLEANING, METAL FABRICATON roof repairs, debris removal. Call. 371-1103. (st. 4/26)

PRIVATE DUTY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER – Do you need a caregiver for yourself or a family member? I am a CNA trained caregiver with many years of experience. Please call Marcie at 828-342-3750. References available upon request. (4/26)

MALE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER. 25-years experience. Have taken care of many high profile people. Call Desmond. 828-342-9015. (4/27)

PROTECTIVE COATINGS INC. Custom interior/exterior painting, pressure cleaning decks. Log home staining. Water damage repair. Insured. Call 828-421-6361. (st. 3/22)

DO YOU HAVE POT HOLES NEED WATER DIVERTED CRACKS REPAIRED? Call Daniel at DC Coatings Asphalt patching maintenance and repair at 828-421-7405 (st. 3/1)

MURPHY'S PAINTING CO. Interior & Exterior Painting, Sheetrock Repair, Wallpaper Removal, Log Homes, Decks. Insured. Free Estimates. 828-524-1391 or 828-332-0525. (3/1)

HEALTHY COOKING CLASS ES IN YOUR HOME. Learn simple techniques & recipes to make fresh foods taste delicious, as you save money and improve your health! Call Medea Galligan, MS Nutrition, Health Coach at 828-989-9144.

HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDI-MAN – Can fix anything inside or out Carpentry, painting, pressure washing, lawn care, hauling. Free Estimates. References. Call Tony. 828-200-5770 or 828-482-0159. (4/5)

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. 3/11)

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

REAL ESTATE/BIZ FOR SALE HOMES FOR SALE: 3Bd 2&1/2Ba home includes 1Bd 1Ba cottage 2 miles from downtown Highlands. By owner 803-315-0715. (st. 2/22)

3.20 ACRES UNRESTRICTED. Power underground, borders National forest, 190 degree view. 10 min to Main Street. 3 septic fields, 1 well 7 g p.m. 2 house foundations established and approved by county inspectors. 2Bed/2Bath Clayton home livable while building. Spring rights and more land available. For beautiful sunsets contact gracefamilia@yahoo.com. (st. 9/21)

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 ddmarsh15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. If no answer please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

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UPDATED 2BD/2BA COTTAGE. 10 minutes to Main Street – ez access year round, just off Dillard Road. Spacious floor plan, fully designer-furnished, totally-stocked kitchen, Central heat and air, large deck, private yard. Tenant pays gas/electric (energy-efficient windows/doors). No Smokers. No Pets. Available year-round. \$900 Month/ \$900 deposit. Call 615-243-2006. (st. 3/29)

3BD 2&1/2 BA HOME \$2400 monthly 1Bd 1Ba cottage \$1200 monthly All utilities included, fully furnished. 803-315-0715. 2 miles from downtown Highlands. (st. 2/22)

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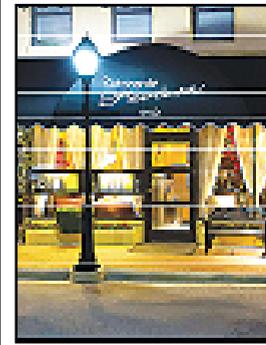
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