

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 15, Number 34 Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com Thursday, Aug. 23, 2018

Mission Health promises \$15 million to H-C Hospital Foundation

On Monday, Aug. 20, Mission Health's Board of Directors announced that if and when the Mission Health and HCA Healthcare (HCA) transaction closes, each Entity Legacy Foundation under its current umbrella will receive \$15 million dollars over a three-year period to improve the health and wellbeing of their community.

Rowena Buffett Timms with Mission Health reiterated that none of the existing foundations within the Mission Health system are part of the contemplated transaction with HCA.

"They are independent and will remain so," she said. "However, since their purpose will no longer be to give funds to their local hospital or care facility, the foundations will be redefining their goals and purpose."

Currently, there are five Legacy Foundations: Blue Ridge Regional Hospital Foundation; CarePartners Foundation; Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation; Mission Hospital McDowell Foundation and Transylvania Regional Hospital Foundation. Angel Medical Center doesn't have a foundation so one will have to be created to receive the funds.

H-C Hospital Foundation Chairman Walter Clark said he is pleased with the proposed arrangement.

"We will add the \$15 million to the \$25-\$30 million we now have in funds, assets and property and will decide how it will be spent if all this goes through; likely on health and wellness programs, education and a grant program," he said.

Clark said a little over four years ago, Mission Health basically saved H-C Hospital and has done

• See **MISSION** page 11

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She twirls the night away...



Kate Kmon has become a fixture at Music in the Park Saturday nights at K-H Founders Park on Pine Street. She is so connected to her hula hoop it's as if it's another appendage. She is mesmerizing to watch and brings another dimension to the Music in the Park experience. She even brings extra hula hoops to entice park patrons of all ages to join in the fun ... and they do! However, since the Village Art & Crafts show is on this weekend in the park, Music in the Park has been cancelled.

- Photo by Brian O'Shea

Wheeler recognized for 30 years of service at H-C Hospital



Patti Wheeler, MD, Family Practice physician at Mission Health Center in Highlands, celebrates her 30 years of service to the Highlands community with staff. Dr. Wheeler is also Chief of Staff at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and has been very active in the local community, including her efforts to raise money to build the current hospital. Congratulations to Dr. Wheeler!

Changes in the works for US 64e and Horse Cove Rd.

Members of the Little Bear Pen Neighborhood Association returned to the Town Board to request the speed limit be reduced along US 64 east where it inter-

sects with Little Bear Pen from 35 mph to 25 mph - and this time the board said "yes."

In 2016 the board heard the

• See **CHANGES** page 10

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Spirit of Highlands ran through it....



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

The community spirit of Highlands was alive and well this past Saturday evening. I saw it first hand as a runner in the Annual Twilight 5K Run.

Under Derek Taylor's leadership, this race has evolved into a premier running event. An old track buddy from my high school days, Bobby King, joined me in the race. He has run in several area races and confirms that this race is in the upper tier.

Let explain why I believe the race captures the Highlands sprint. First, Highlands is a community committed to health and wellness where folks run, walk, swim, work-out and bike daily throughout town. So, I wasn't surprised that the lion-share of the over 360 race participants were from this community. The race turnout was tremendous. There are 980 permanent residents in Highlands, so the equivalent of about one third participated in the race.

The Highlands spirit went beyond the large runner turnout. There was a tremendous volunteer turnout. The Highlands Rotary Club, the major race sponsor, had a legion of volunteers helping put on the race. At every intersection there were Rotary race marshals working to insure runner safety. Many other businesses also provided sponsorships.

Highlands has a tradition of supporting nonprofits. Proceeds from this year's race will go toward establishing a mental health and counseling program for area

youth. Diane McPhail, is heading up this new program and was the race starter.

Runners were encouraged by many folks sitting and standing by the race route encouraging their friends, neighbors and visitors running through their neighborhood. This support underscores the fact that Highlands is a friendly, welcoming community.

Also, I saw the town spirit in the enthusiastic support from our police, volunteer firemen and recreation staff. I was especially

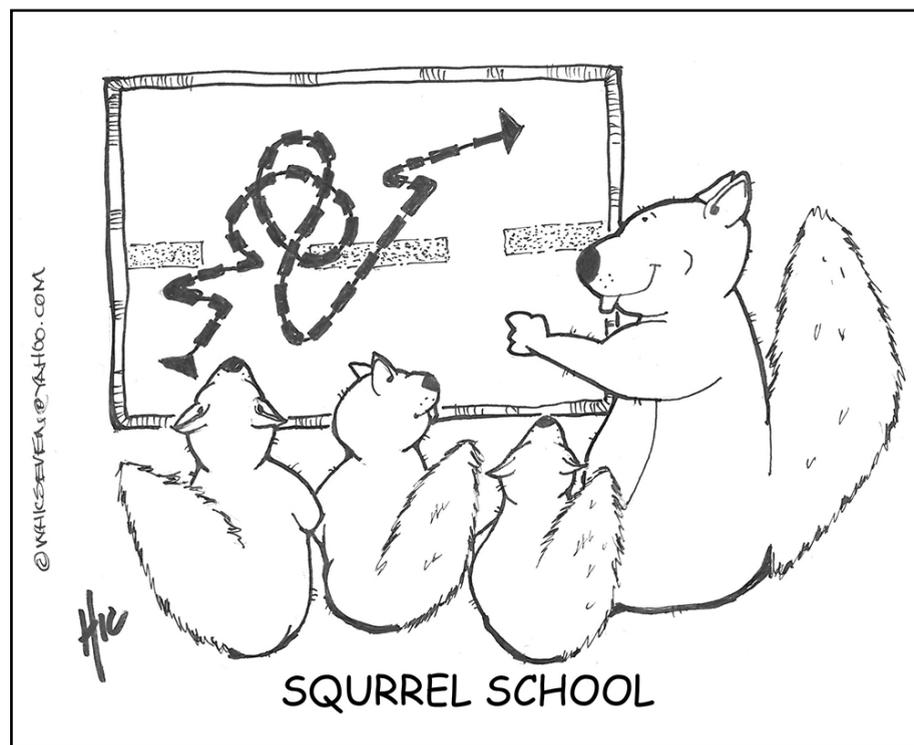
moved by the volunteer firemen who walked the entire race in their fire uniforms that included 80 pounds of gear. They did it in tribute to fallen firefighters.

I had been training with our legendary track coach, Morris Williams, and my goal was to finish under 30 minutes. I came up short by 26 seconds.

After crossing the finish line, I decided to go over to 5th Street to run the last 300 yards of the race with my six-year-old granddaughter who was running her first 5K. She was running with her great-grandmother, Jean Trott, who was on her way to setting a new record in the women's 80 to 84 year old group. When I saw my granddaughter, I told her we could run together. I think she thought I said let's race. She took off and left me, so I went over to the finish line to cheer her and her great-grandmother to complete the race.

The race reaffirmed for me that this is a special community. I want my granddaughter to run with the entire race with me next year. At seven, she will set a fast pace and leave me in the dust at the last quarter mile. Maybe I will break 30 minutes.

• HIC'S VIEW •



• MILESTONE •

64 years and counting...



On Sunday, Aug. 19, Fletcher and Bobbie Wolfe celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary with friends and admirers at a dinner and musicale at the Chestnut Hill Club House. Following a cocktail hour, an elegant plated dinner was served followed then by a concert by Metropolitan Opera Star Soprano Indra Thomas and accompanist Dr. Lawrence Weaver.

• WEATHER •

	Friday 8/24		Saturday 8/25		Sunday 9/2	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	72 F	49 F	75 F	53 F	80 F	60 F
RealFeel	79 F	56 F	83 F	57 F	85 F	68 F
Winds	4 g 6	2 g 5	3 g 5	2 g 4	3 g 8	2 g 8
T-Storms	0%	1%	13%	9%	24%	24%
Rainfall	0	0	0	0	0	0.04
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to • www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather



Photo by Brian O'Shea

CONSUMERS HAVE SPOKEN... AGAIN.

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in 2018 Harris Poll EquiTrend® Study.

This is the second year Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices has received Brand of the Year since receiving the award in 2014.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices received the highest numerical Equity Score and the high-est numerical score relating to Trust among Real Estate Agency brands included in the 2018 Harris Poll EquiTrend® Study, which is based on opinions of 77,031 U.S. consumers ages 15 and over surveyed online between January 3, 2018 and February 15, 2018. Your opinion may differ. “Highest Ranked” was determined by a pure ranking of a sample of Real Estate Agency brands.



FEATURED PROPERTY



LAKE GLENVILLE ESTATE | \$1,690,000 | MLS# 88876

The main home is 5BR/5BA with wraparound verandas. The guest house has 5 suites and a 1BR apartment all with soaking tubs and porches. There are several future building sites on this 4.7+/- acre estate. Dock lot and dock on Lake Glenville included.

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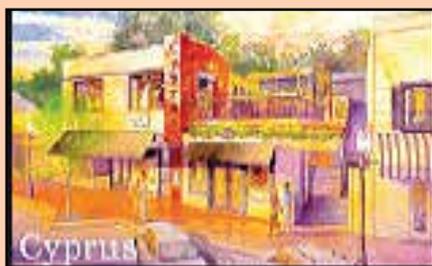
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\$340,000
MLS# 88439

The master is oversized with an extra large walk-in closet and a newly tiled shower, new granite vanity, and new lighting. The large kitchen boasts white cabinetry and brand new stainless steel appliances and easy access to the one car garage.

\$315,000
MLS# 86979

One level with 3BR/2BA. The great room boasts vaulted ceilings, beautiful hard-wood floors and built-ins next to the gas fireplace. The kitchen opens to the great room and has lots of cabinetry and granite countertops.



\$298,000
MLS# 86978

One level living with two bedrooms and two baths. The large kitchen boasts white cabinetry and has easy access to the one car garage. Move in ready!

\$305,000
MLS# 87425

Great location in Chestnut Hill on a level lot with a small fenced yard for a dog in the back. Lovely rocking chair front porch plus a screened porch in the back.



*Under
Contract*

\$290,000
MLS# 82769

Great location in Chestnut Hill. Lovely rocking chair front porch plus a screened porch in the back. Located on a cul de sac with plenty of room to walk the dog or fiddle in the yard. Fenced dog run in back.



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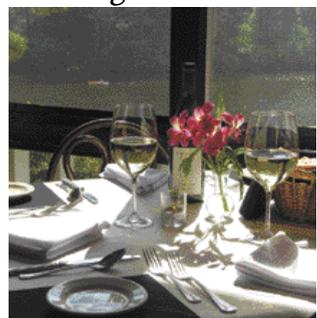
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• OBITUARIES •

Betty Speed Wood

Betty Speed Wood, 90, of Highlands, passed away Friday, August 17, 2018.

Born in Florida, she was the daughter of the late Doyle and Bonnie Houston Speed. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a son, Michael Wood, of Highlands, and a brother, Harold Speed, of Franklin.

She is survived by her husband of 70 years, Vic Wood; a son, Scott Wood, of Scaly Mountain, ; a family member and special friend, Mary Jane McCall, of Highlands ; and a grandson, Quinton Michael Wood, of Clayton, GA.

She retired from Highlands School after 24 years of service as a Teacher's Assistant, Instructional Clerk and Secretary.

She was a member of Shortoff Baptist Church where she taught The Ladies Sunday School and served as Pianist, Assistant Pianist through the years, and was a member of the Choir. She was a devoted Wife, Mother, and Grandmother and enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2 pm, Sunday, September 9, 2018 at Shortoff Baptist Church. Rev. Andy Cloer will officiate.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Online condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com

Bidd Ernest Burton

Bidd Ernest Burton, 92, went to be with the Lord on August 18, 2018 at the Highlands Cashiers Hospital.

He was born on November 23, 1925 in Clayton, GA and was raised by his mother, Alice Missouri Baty and his stepfather, R. Augustus Baty. Bidd was a loving husband, father and friend. Growing up in Highlands, NC instilled in him a love of nature and a willingness to help others. Although he lived in many wonderful places, his heart remained in his early mountain roots.

Bidd joined the United States Navy in September 1943.

By June 4, 1951 he wed Hilda staying committed to each other for more than 65 years.

After living various places over the years, in 2000, they

returned home to Highlands to retire near friends and family. Bidd was a member at the First Baptist Church in Highlands and the local VFW.

The family is thankful for the loving care he received at the Eckerd Living Center and the Highlands Cashiers Hospital and for pastors Mark Ford and Ralph Campbell.

Bidd's children include Bidd Eugene Burton and his wife Beth (Highlands), Diana Burton Roth and her husband, Brian of Staunton, VA and Debra Burton Brown and her husband, Steven of McGaheysville, VA. Hilda preceded him in death.

He is survived by his grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at the Highlands First Baptist Church. Burial was in the Highlands Memorial Park.

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Lina Doris Potts

Lina Doris Potts, 95, passed away Saturday, August 18, 2018 at the Franklin House. Ms. Potts was born September 14, 1922 in Macon County to the late Samuel Eugene (Gene) Potts and Alice Octavia Reese Potts. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by five brothers, Harry, Clarence, Louis, Leon, and Richard Potts; two nephews, Doug and David Potts; and a niece, Pam Little. Also preceding her in death was

• See OBITUARIES page 19

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• WORD MATTER •

Understanding the News Business #1

From time to time I'll be filling this space with musings about America's news media. The news business was part of my life for most of the 40+ years prior to our retirement to Highlands. Despite my general discontent with the state of the in-

dustry today I'm still something of a 'news nerd' and tend to consume a lot and often overanalyze what I read, see or hear in newspapers, on television or from radio.

I spent 10 years working on the inside as a reporter, editor, commentator and public affairs

program host. My work included covering and reporting newsworthy events, editing the work of others, as well as writing columns and delivering television commentaries.

After my time inside the media I worked in the strategic communication field practicing public relations. A significant part of that work involved engaging with the media, either to obtain favorable coverage, or mitigate the effects of unfavorable reporting, for our clients. This has provided me with a working knowledge about what the media does and how it works.

Each media type has its own idiosyncratic bundle of requirements. Television news, for example, doesn't work well without pictures. It also doesn't work for complicated or nuanced coverage. That's why we have newspapers.



Bud Katz

Radio news, such as it is, only really matters to people in cars. The writing must be sufficiently descriptive to paint the kinds of pictures that would only otherwise be seen on television.

Today, most people, especially young people, get their news via the Internet and social media. That, in and of itself, is frightening and depressing because of the sheer volume of inaccurate and just plain phony content, masquerading as news. Conventional media; television, radio, print, are forced to alter their approach so as to compete with the nonsense flacking up computer and smartphone screens.

It's essential for news consumers to understand, and it's not something top of mind in America, but virtually all news outlets with the notable exceptions of the

Public Broadcasting System (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR) are operated as private, for profit businesses. Because news outlets are private businesses they rely on advertising dollars to fund the operation and provide owners with a return on investment.

National and local public broadcasting operations also require sponsor support. However, they are heavily dependent on public dollars, and their licenses and facilities are 'owned' and operated by community-based boards of directors. Consequently, PBS and NPR are less subject to many of the same business considerations faced by privately owned media outlets.

The principal job of a privately owned media outlet, including the one you are currently 'consuming,' is to deliver an audience worthy of an advertiser's investment. I'm sure it's not something residents or visitors to our community readily realize but more than a dozen media outlets serve the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau. In addition to our locally owned FM radio station we receive signals over the air from as far away as Atlanta. Our "local" television stations are delivered by cable or satellite from Greenville/Spartanburg and Asheville. Three weeklies and several out-of-market daily newspapers are available to local readers every day.

In addition to lifestyle and real estate magazines, when you factor in what's accessible via the Internet, the list of available media here on the plateau grows exponentially.

All of these outlets rely on advertising dollars for survival. It's possible, with the exception of the real estate business there isn't a more competitive segment here on the plateau than the one chasing limited advertising dollars.

All of this information is designed to make a single point; with the partial exception of 'public' radio and television, the delivery of ALL media content, here and around the nation, is interlinked directly or indirectly with the need

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...CHANGES continued from page 1



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request but declined to reduce the speed based on the recommendation of Police Chief Bill Harrell.

At the time he said the lay of the land in that vicinity made it difficult to decrease speed to 25 mph before where the current signage demands it now.

Armed with a NCDOT engineering study of the intersection, Cantey Davis head of the neighborhood association said NCDOT agreed that something should be done.

“Based on the traffic count the 35-mph speed zone is reasonable and is being enforced but we looked at the roadside development from the five additional roads entering US 64 in the curve near Bear Pen Road and feel lowering the speed zone is warranted,” said Doyle Ward, NCDOT assistant division traffic engineer. “We recommend extending the existing 25 mph beyond the curve to the Town of Highlands.”

The lack of site distance and the speed of oncoming cars from both directions makes it difficult to safely enter US 64 east.

Though Police Chief Harrell said there haven't been any multi-vehicle accidents all agreed it was best to err on the side of caution. The 25-mph limit will be designated

and enforced within the next 30-60 days.

Horse Cove Road

Some months ago, a request was made to erect a wayfinding sign to direct people to the Nature Center. Though not granted, the request caused the town to consider “painted” crosswalks across Horse Cove Road from where the sidewalk ends at Highlands Townsite on the north side of the street to the sidewalk/walkway on the south side.

Then at the intersection of 6th Street and Horse Cove on the south side, another crosswalk will be “painted” guiding pedestrians up the gravel path to the Sunset Rock.

Town Manager Josh Ward said numerous pedestrians walk Horse Cove Road from 5th to 6th street and beyond so using crosswalks to direct pedestrians to existing walkways along the street is a safety issue.

NC 106

Commissioner John Dotson urged citizens to attend the NCDOT meeting Aug. 30 from 4-7 p.m. at the Community Building to hear proposed changes to the Georgia Road. He said it's paramount that NCDOT hear from citizens concerning the project that is in the planning stages but could begin in 2027.

-Kim Lewicki

BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER - GRILL - WOOD FIRE PIZZA - COFFEE - ESPRESSO BAKERY - WINE - CRAFT BEER - BUTCHER - ARTISAN CHEESE - SPECIALTY FOODS

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...MISSION continued from page 1

a good job all the way around adding that H-C Hospital CEO Jackie Medland is a “breath of fresh air.”

“If it wasn’t for the philanthropic citizens of Highlands and Cashiers and then Mission, H-C Hospital would have closed a long time ago. You just can’t operate small, rural hospitals anymore and we needed Mission,” said Clark.

According to Clark, before Mission took over operations and became the owner of everything that was H-C Hospital – land, buildings, equipment – the hospital was losing \$3.5 million a year. In 2017 it only lost \$750,000 which Clark attributes to Mission’s mode of operation and its scaling back. He doesn’t know what the 2018 “loss” will be; probably similar, he said.

“We’re not out of red zone yet, but we are working on it. It’s been good. We realized we couldn’t keep losing money each year.”

When Mission took over, the Foundation’s sole purpose was, and continues to be, to support the hospital and take care of loses at the end of the year and that will continue through 2018.

In addition, the foundation is currently spending \$2.5 million of capital to spruce up the Eckerd Living Center and the hospital because it’s imperative the hospital campus is kept in good shape, said Clark.

“We have to protect our investment. We are running the show as if the HCA acquisition isn’t going to happen. If the day comes when it’s a done deal and the

Attorney General signs off, we will have to stop spending money on the hospital because HCA is a for-profit and we can only deal with non-profits. At that point we will be a newly reorganized community foundation similar to the Highland-Cashiers Community Foundation and will focus on health and wellness and the socioeconomic issues associated with that.”

The \$15 million each of proceeds from Mission Health’s sale to HCA Healthcare will be disbursed to the foundations over a three-year period beginning with \$5 million upon closing of the contemplated transaction – likely the first of the year for year one, and at the same time for year two and three.

“The terms of the disbursement of funds in years two and three will be contingent upon each foundation’s previous year’s progress and its commitment to continue to develop community capacity to improve the health and wellbeing of its citizens and a successful start to improving the health and well-being of their communities, including a focus on the local social determinants of health,” said Chairman of the Mission Health Board Dr. John R. Ball.

When asked about that part of the arrangement, Mayor Pat Taylor said he is satisfied.

“I see no need for those funds to be parceled out to our foundation over a three-year period based on some vague notion that progress has to be made toward providing community wellness,” he said.

• See MISSION page 17

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

Ongoing

• Let's fill the brick walkway of the Highlands Veterans Memorial Garden by Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Bricks are \$50 for 1, \$40 for the second one. Contract for the purchase form is through Bill Edwards at Edwa7353@bellsouth.net 404-915-1344. Forms are also available for pickup and return at Town Hall. Sept. 1 is the deadline for placement by Nov. 11.

• Summer Movies at the Playhouse: Fri. & Sat.: 1,4&7pm; Sun.: 1&4pm; Mon. & Tues.: 1,4&7pm

First Mondays

• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men's Mtg at 7p.

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 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.

• Gentle Yoga at the Rec park at 9:30. All levels welcome.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am-9:30am.

• 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 from 10:30-11:30a in the Meeting Room in the back of

Hudson Library,

• The Highlands Writers Group, a collection of professional and talented amateur writers, meets to read, workshop, or to just share information on writing, every Tuesday, 3pm-5pm, in the downstairs board room at The Bascom, 323 Franklin Road, Highlands. For more information, call 828-526-3190.

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 to discuss topics related to raising backyard chickens. Meetings are open to the public of all ages family friendly and educational. For more information please call 828-349-2046 or 828-369-3916.

Tuesday and Thursdays

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

Wed. - Sat.

• At Highlands Inn on Main

Street held in the dining room, Afternoon Tea 2-4:30pm. Royal Tea: \$45; Classic Tea: \$35. Call 828-526-9380 for more information.

Wednesdays

• The Glenville Historical Society Museum is open every Wednesday through Saturday 11am to 3pm until October 13 at 4735 Highway 107 in Glenville next to Signal Ridge Marina. Go to www.glenvilleareahistoricalso-ciety.com

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 at Rec Park.

Thurs. - Sat.

• Highlands Historical Village is open 11a to 3p through October.

Thursdays

Aug 30, Sept. 13, 27, Oct. 11 & Nov. 1 and 8.

• Four Seasons Compassion for Life will be leading a grief support

group at First Presbyterian Church in Highlands on alternating Thursdays 10:30-11:30am. For information, call Four Seasons at 866-466-9734

Thursdays

• Live music in OEI's The Wine Garden on Main Street. Zorki from 7-9 p.m.

• 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 - 8:15pm. 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

Fourth Thursday

• At the Hudson Library, Kids Zone LEGO Club. Intended primarily for kids in grades 1-5, LEGO Club allows creativity and STEM skills to develop together as kids enjoy making LEGO creations.

Fridays & Saturdays

• Live music at OEI's Art's At The Lodge on Spring Street. 5-8 p.m. Fridays Steve Wohlrab. Saturdays Zorki.

• Live Music in OEI's Hummingbird Lounge. Maestro from 6-8 p.m. and Cy Timmons 8 p.m. to close.

Fridays

• Live FREE music in Town Square on Main Street from 6-8 p.m.

Saturdays

• Live FREE music in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street from 6-8 p.m. (No music Sat., Aug. 25).

• 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



KREWE TRUNK SHOW
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The Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center invites you to our
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• AREA EVENTS •

until noon or downstairs in The Bascom Library room.

4th Saturdays

• Scaly Mountain Women's Club Pancake Breakfast 8-10:30a at the old Scaly Mtn. School at Buck Knob and NC 106.

Sundays

• Live Music in OEI's Hummingbird Lounge 8 p.m. to close with Paul Jones.

Thurs., Aug. 23

• The High Mountain Squares will host their "Ice Cream Social Dance," Thursday night at the Robert C Carpenter Community Building, GA Road (441 South), Franklin NC from 6:15-8:45 PM. Randy Ramsey from Suwanee, GA will be the caller. For information call: 828-787-2324, 828-332-0001.

• Open House at Highlands School for all students 4-6 p.m.

• Free Zahner Lecture Series "Big Ideas and Lessons for Conservation Biology" at Nature Center on Horse Cove Rd. at 6pm.

Sat., Aug. 25

• At Potpourri Eyewear on Main Street, Krewe Trunk Show from 11a to 3p.

• Historical Discovery Event on Saturday, 10a-4p at the museum located at 4735 Highway 107 North in Glenville Village. Creator and author Johnny Gruelle patented Raggedy Ann in 1915, published Raggedy Ann stories in 1918 and patented Raggedy Andy in 1920. For more information go to www.glenvilleareahistoricalsociety.com.

Thurs-Sun., Aug. 23-Sept. 2

• The Odd Couple at the Highlands Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box

office at 828-526-8084 or online at www.highlandscashiersplayers.org.

Fri.-Sat., Aug. 24-25

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Trunk Show – All About Scarves and Tess McGuire Hats

Sat. & Sun, Aug. 25 & 26

• Highlands Village Square Art & Craft Show-10a to 5p at Kelsey-Hutchinson "Founders" Park on Pine Street downtown. High quality fine art, folk art and regionally made crafts. Free admission. (828) 787-2021 for info.

Sun., Aug. 26

• The Carolina Women's Chorale will present a free concert at Highlands First Presbyterian Church on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 4pm. at First Presbyterian Church.

Art & Crafts is Sat. & Sun.



Highlands Mountaintop Rotary invites everyone to attend the Highlands Village Square Art & Craft show this Sat. and Sun. in H-K Founders Park from 10 to 5.

Pre-eminent Sky Valley artist Patty Calderone will complete this large bear painting during the show. \$25 raffle tickets will be sold to benefit the B.E.A.R. Task Force and its efforts to educate the public about living in bear country. See Patty's work at calderonegallery.com. Raffle tickets will be presold at Calderone Gallery in Sky Valley and Mill Creek Gallery on Oak St.

Everything from glass art to leather goods, and fine art to rustic furniture, the show has something for everyone. Even food and music.

For more information call (828) 787-2021 or e-mail cypicturelady@aol.com. Follow us on Facebook.

Free concert at First Pres Aug. 26



The Carolina Women's Chorale will present a free concert at Highlands First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, August 26 at 4pm. Founded in 2017 by Donna Philips, the group consists of singers from Highlands, Cashiers, Sylva, and Cullowhee, and is conducted by Dr. Michael Lancaster. Dr. Lyn Burkett serves as accompanist. The Chorale will also sing during the 11am worship service at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, August 26. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. The church is located at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets. Handicapped accessible entrances are located on Church Street and on Fifth Street.

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...WORD MATTER continued from page 8

for the owners of the outlet to make money.

This dynamic is responsible for the atmosphere in which news is delivered and consumed in America. It's not nearly a perfect system but that's the way it is. It's important because missteps in news coverage and/or reporting can and often do influence business revenue and profits.

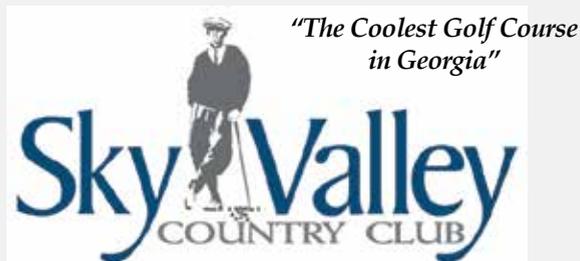
As if all that isn't confounding enough, consider that EVERYTHING you see, hear or read in terms of news is biased. All of it. We'll save discussion of that for another day. More on this next week, Aug. 30.

...INK PENN continued from page 15

LOL. What more could a dog lover want?

PS. Please join me at the Village Square Arts & Crafts Show 8/25 – 26 where Mum and I will be signing our books.

• *Lord Banjo is a Georgia resident. Find similar stories in his book, "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch," available locally at Mountain Paws in Highlands, Books Unlimited in Franklin, and on Amazon. Contact him at inkpenn119@gmail.com.*



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Open Houses...Closed Doors



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Real estate is "local" as someone coined that phrase. This is so true in the case of open houses in Highlands and surrounding areas. When sellers list their home on the plateau they typically ask: "When will you do an open house?" This is common in the cities in which they live. I will try and explain the difference we, as brokers, encounter here being a second-home market.

When visitors come to Highlands or Cashiers, it is a trip planned and centered around golf, hiking, shopping, an event – maybe a wine dinner or non-profit event -- or simply to relax or visit friends. If they come to look at real estate, they usually have made an appointment with a broker ahead of time so schedules can be met.

I know in larger areas such as Atlanta, many firms coordinate a "caravan" on a specific day of the week and brokers from many firms visit homes in that area. In our area, this is not done due to sellers being in residence enjoying their stay and trying to coordinate with busy brokers who are out showing properties to buyers who are only here a few days.

We work around their schedules and timelines of planned activities. Our multiple listing service (MLS) either allows us to match our buyers' criteria before they arrive or, once they arrive in town, we sit down in

the office together and review possible matches.

With that being said, open houses really don't work in our area to anyone's benefit. We, as brokers, try to entice other brokers to come and see the homes, offering cash prizes, lunch, wine and cheese, elaborate desserts, gift certificates etc. The average open house results in approximately 3-8 brokers attending overall. Additionally, the town limits our ability to post open house signs that might attract

curious visitors on their way to the grocery store or lunch with a friend.

Honestly, public open houses just don't work here. We typically know nothing of the people who enter your home and find it difficult to supervise more than one or two rooms at any given time. In large homes this is especially challenging, as you can imagine. This is just not a good idea for many reasons. Serious buyers are already out with their selected brokers.

I hope this helps you understand why open houses here simply don't work. With 90% of buyers looking online before they contact us to make an appointment, the best thing we can do for our sellers is to provide professional photos and revealing descriptions that connect them to your home and prompt an appointment to see it. This allows an "open" house behind closed doors until they arrive to see your home in person.

PUBLIC Open House

Saturday, Aug. 25 1:30-4 p.m. & Sunday, Aug. 26 noon-3 p.m.

134 Laurelwood Lane, Highlands

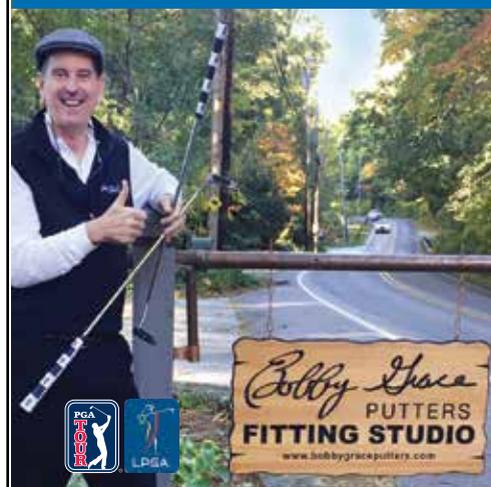
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• ALL ABOUT BOOKS •

Let's Talk Dog Books

Yes, let's talk dog books. Mum is not the only person in the family who can write about books.

I have two favorite dog books, but I'll save those until the end, as in save the best for last. I discovered all kinds of dog books on the many bookshelves around the house. The first two I found at eye level tucked in Mum's childhood books on the bookcase. "Beautiful Joe," like my book, is written by the dog, but unlike me, Joe had a rough life and a mean owner. Mum tells me it was one of her favorite books.

Next to that book sits a worn copy of "Big Red," the story of a seventeen-year-old boy and his Irish Setter. I find it amusing that Mum remembers it fondly because it is about a boy and a dog hunting and fishing and all kinds of stuff she never did—topics I wouldn't think Mum would find appealing. Did you know this and other books by Jim Kjelgaard were removed from lists of recommended young adult books years ago about the time folks were canceling NRA memberships?

In Mum's office, I spied "Lucky Boy," a beautifully illustrated children's story about a lonely dog and a lonely man. Mum says she saw it displayed in a bookshop one day and had to have it.

Also on the office bookshelf, I found "Marley and Me." Mum liked this book and the movie. I wonder whether she especially liked it because Josh Grogan, the author, was a columnist like she is. The book about Marley, a wild child of a dog, grew out of Grogan's columns about the big galoot. Though Marley did things like eat sofas,



Kathy Manos Penn

Josh and the rest of the family loved him dearly.

Another of Mum's favorites is "The Art of Racing in the Rain." She says folks always ask her whether my book is like that, and she tells them my book is nowhere near as deep. Enzo is a lovable philosopher of a dog who educates himself by watching TV and focusing intently on the words of his dad. His story is sweet and sad.

The last dog book Mum read was nonfiction: "How Dogs Love Us." Emory University neuroscientist Gregory Berns wanted to know what his dog Callie was thinking and whether she and dogs, in general, love people the way people love us. He used MRI imaging technology to scan Callie's brain and figure out the answers. The story of how he got little Callie to put her head in an MRI machine and hold still is fascinating as are the results of his research. I hope Mum is reading this because she needs to know that an MRI is not something I want to experience!

Now, to my two favorite books. "Someone to Look Up To," about a Great Pyrenees who lives in France, is my #2 favorite book. Why? Well, a Great Pyrenees tells the story, and I'm part Great Pyrenees. I learned lots about my breed and realized that not all dogs, even beautiful pure-bred Great Pyrenees, have responsible and loving people parents. The book is both heartbreaking and heartwarming.

Can you guess my all-time favorite? Of course, you can: it's my book "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch." My story is humorous, not heartbreaking, and reading it is guaranteed to put a silly grin on your face and make you

• See INK PENN page 14

Lord Banjo
the Royal Pooch



Banjo Penn
& Kathy Manos Penn
Illustrated by Rose Steiner



MEET LORD

BANJO

Village Square Arts
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8/25-26



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• BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION NEWS •

Laurel Garden Club awards \$16,167 to area nonprofits

At its August meeting, the Laurel Garden Club announced the final recipients for its

2018 grants. All together, the club has given over \$150,000 to the community through the

creation of its cookbook, "Creative Highlands" (no longer in print.) and the Kitchen Tour fundraiser, founded in 2011, held every other year. The total amount given for 2018 is \$16,167. Recipients this year were The Highlands Historical Society, the Peggy Crosby Center, The Mountain, and the Highlands-

Cashiers Land Trust. Heretofore, grants from the Laurel Garden Club have been given twice a year, June and January. Starting in January, 2019, monies will be given only one time a year and the deadline for grant requests will be January 31, 2019. The club was chartered on August 30, 1982, with the purpose of aiding in the protection and conservation of our natural resources, encouraging civic beauty and roadside beautification, stimulating the fine art of gardening and enabling cooperation with other organizations furthering the interest of horticulture and conservation.

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From left are: Ruthie Oliver, president, Pegsie Payne, and Lila Howland committee members.

Alpha Delta Pi Sorority alumni gather

Saturday, Aug. 11, the annual Alpha Delta Pi Sorority held its annual "Alumni on the Mountain" luncheon at the Country Club of Sapphire Valley. Alumni in Highlands, Cashiers, Franklin, Sapphire, Dillard and Lake Burton were invited. A great time was enjoyed by all and old friendships renewed. For any alumni who missed this event and want to come next year, please contact Vesta Jones at 678-768-8122 or vestaojones@gmail.com



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...MISSION continued from page 11

“The Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation has a legendary record of excellence that spans decades. The foundation should be given the full \$15 million free and clear upon the sale of our hospital.”

Nor does he think the \$15 million covers what the foundation has invested in the complex over the years.

“According to the agreement with Mission, the Foundation covered shortfalls in hospital operating costs over the past five years. If that is correct, a significant additional reimbursement to the foundation should be made. Furthermore, the cost of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital buildings that Mission did not build, nor purchased, has not been factored into this proposal.”

Clark said the foundation board has a good relationship with the Mission board but told them that when the community looks back on all this it isn't going to look good if the community doesn't get anything back.

“Mission can't promise Dogwood Health Trust will do right by us down the road, so it was strongly suggested that Mission give us something back up front,” said Clark.

However, he said he believes when all is said and done, Dogwood Health Trust – the mega foundation separate from the individual hospital foundations that will be

formed following the sale – will be great for Western Carolina, including Highlands.

“I believe it will be a good working relationship – like a cousin/aunt relationship with the same mode of operation and goals. It just makes sense.”

Dr. Ball said arriving at the \$15 million figure wasn't a scientific process; Mission just wanted it to be a significant amount to make a significant difference while changing the structure and approach of the how the foundations address issues of health in their communities.

“It's harder to move from raising money to a structure of giving money. What kind of programs will serve those things that cause people to get sick? Three years will enable the newly structured foundations time to get on their feet with \$5 million the first year to build change in infrastructure and strategy,” he said.

Meanwhile, allegedly there is a movement afoot to insure the following: that all documents HCA/Mission submits to the AG must be available to the public; that Mission employees cannot control the new Dogwood Trust; that if any outlying facility is closed, the property must be returned to the community at no charge; and outlying facilities are guaranteed to be kept open for Medicaid and other patients.

– Kim Lewicki



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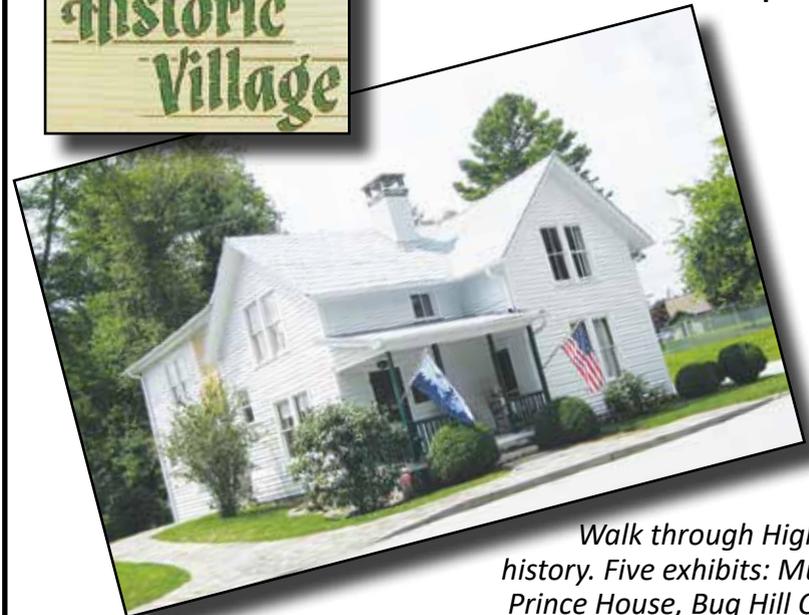


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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING. •

Mum's Bread

By Chaplain Margaret Howell
Holy Family Lutheran Church ELCA

Many of you know that I love to make bread with my bread machine. I started using one when I moved into the parsonage in Highlands.

My Mum, who for years baked bread by hand – an all-day task – upon moving into a charming granny flat at my sister's, declared that it was too much work and she was going to use a bread machine. All of us understood, but oh, we secretly mourned the fragrant, lovely bread she used to make, seven loaves at a time, when my Dad was alive.

Mum got a bread machine and started tinkering with her recipe. We all waited with "battered" breath! It didn't take long for her to come up with a recipe that tasted almost exactly like the handmade.

Her recipe is simple: bread flour, salt, sugar, quick rising yeast, oil and water. I tried out her recipe, and except for the time I forgot the yeast and ended up with a door-stop that even the squirrels wouldn't eat, the bread came out beautifully.

In fact, my bread machine makes a much prettier loaf than hers, but even though I have perfected the high-altitude version it doesn't taste nearly as good. I use exactly the same brands of flour but Mum's tastes better. There is something about her slightly lumpy loaves that beat mine all to heck. What IS her secret ingredient?

I suspect that it is the same "secret ingredient" that Jesus is talking about when he calls himself "the bread of life," in our gospel from John. "I am the bread of life." John 6: 35a. That Secret Ingredient is, of course, Love.

Jesus says, "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me." (John 6: 38) This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life: and he will raise them up on the last day" (John 6: 40)

Sounds too fantastic to be true, doesn't it?

History abounds with stories about substances, that if eaten or drunk, will give the consumer earthly immortality. There's almost always an O'Henry-esk catch to these comestibles. It is no wonder that many of these stories involve bargains made with the Devil. Old Scratch is no fool. He knows that living forever in the fallen, imperfect world would be a curse, not a blessing.

Jesus is offering eternal life. But he is offering abundant life on earth and a perfect life in heaven. OK, you say, what's the catch?

There is a catch to this. Someone has to lose something. For us, that someone was Jesus. He sacrificed his earthly life. He was the one who had to "pay the price."

Why would God do this for us? Why would he want us with Him forever? The answer, of course, is that he loves us.

It is like my Mum's bread -- the outward appearance belies the deliciousness within.

Jesus chose bread as the ultimate image of himself, because it is something very basic in even the most humble diet. Rich or poor -- everyone needed bread. And so do we. We need the bread of life every day, not just on Sundays, and the gift of bread manifests itself in so many ways.

"I am the living bread from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." (John 6: 50, 51)

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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6p. Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

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• HS SPORTS •

Fall sports are in full swing

Fall sports have finally begun. Varsity boys soccer as well as JV and Varsity volleyball has officially started with having their first games this past week.

Varsity soccer boys played East Henderson ending the game with an impressive 1-1 tie. Their next home game will be tonight against Franklin. Their game will start at 3 pm.

Middle school soccer will have their first home game on Monday, August 27th. They will start at 4:30 pm and play Summit.

High school volleyball played



Kedra McCall

Andrews, Hayesville, Murphy, and Robbinsville. JV beat Andrews in 2 sets, as well as Varsity beat them in 3. Both JV and Varsity lost to Hayesville, Murphy, and Robbinsville. With future dates set to play each team for a second time they feel as they have the ability to win. Their next home game will be tonight, Thursday, August 23rd against Rosman. JV will start at about 5 following the middle school volleyball game which starts at 4. Varsity will then play after JV.

Come supports your Highlanders as their seasons begin!

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands Police entries from June 30. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

July 26

At 5:30 p.m., officers responded to a call of assault by strangulation when a juvenile put a younger juvenile in a choke hold during a basketball game at the Rec. Park.

Aug. 4

At 11:25 p.m., officers were called to 200 Main about a drunk and disruptive individual.

Aug. 7

At 6:15 p.m., the dept. was called about someone cutting a line at a residence on Paul Walden Road.

Aug. 9

At 6 p.m., officers responded to a call of a larceny of credit cards taken from a purse.

Aug. 10

At 3:44 p.m., officers responded to larceny of a pedal boat from a residence on Netsi Place.

Aug. 12

At 9:44 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident in the On the Verandah Restaurant parking lot.

Aug. 14

At 12:10 p.m., officers were called about a possible scam where customer was deceived about an or-

der

At 3 p.m., officers were called about a scam where a resident on Wilson Road was told he won a car by had to pay money before shipping.

At 3:10 p.m., officers were called to the Farmers Market on NC 106 concerning a simple assault where the victim was struck two times on the arm and neck.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Aug. 15.

Aug. 15

At 6:44 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west.

At 4:50 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Wyanoak Road.

At 6:27 p.m., the dept. responded to a residence on Garnet Rock Trail.

Aug. 18

At 2:47 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Sassafras Road.

At 7:45 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Morewood Circle.

At 9:50 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a residence on Klein Road.

Aug. 20

At 11:03 a.m., the dept. was first responders to a residence on Shortoff Road.

... OBITUARIES continued from page 7

her lifelong friend and companion, Edward Jackson "Buzz" Baity.

Survivors are three sisters, Betty Little (C.J.) of Lawrenceville, Ga, Emily Houston of Franklin, NC, and Linda Calloway (Joe) of Ocala, FL.; a daughter, Kim Potts of Toccoa, GA; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held 12 p.m. Saturday, August 25, 2018 at the Highlands First Baptist Church with the Rev. Tommy Fouts officiating. Burial will follow in the Highlands Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 11-12p.m. prior at the church.

Memorials can be made to First Baptist Church in Highlands 220 Main St Highlands, NC 28741. or American Kidney Services 6360 Button Gwinnett Dr. Atlanta, GA. 30340.

Online condolences may be left at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Potts family.

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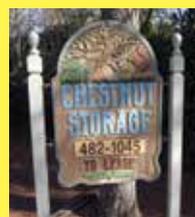
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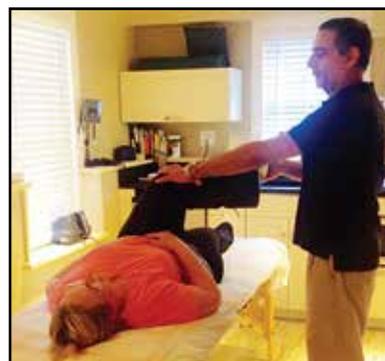
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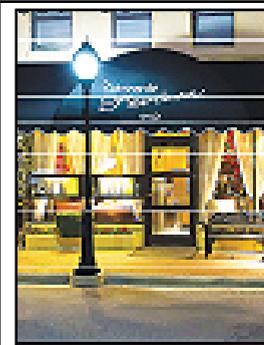
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