

Highlands Newspaper

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Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018

For the NFS 'juggling' is a way of life

The Southside Project has been in the local news lately but the 153,173 acres the Macon County chapter of the National Forest Service is responsible for entails numerous projects and re-

quires a lot of work and financial juggling.

With its motto "Caring for the land and serving people" in mind, the Macon County crew maintains trails, waterfall access

and parks.

Projects maintaining that access is reassessed each year as it applies to budget restraints and even weather events.

• See NFS page 30

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2018 CANDIDATE PROFILE SERIES



**Incumbent
Ronnie Beale
District 2**



**Candidate
Ron Haven
District 2**



**Incumbent
Gary Shields
District 2**



**Candidate
Betty Cloer Wallace
District 2**

Four candidates are running for MC BofC

By Brittney Lofthouse

November's midterm election can mean big changes for local politics. With two seats open on the Board of Commissioners, there are four candidates vying for election.

The gaggle of candidates includes incumbent commissioners Gary Shields (Republican) and Ronnie Beale (Democrat) as well as challengers, Ron Haven (Republican) and Betty Wallace (Democrat). The top two vote getters in November will be elected to the board. County Commissioner Jim Tate will also

be on the November ballot, but because he won the primary election and doesn't have a Democratic opponent, he will retain his seat for another 4-year term.

Meet the Candidates

Ronnie Beale:

Lena (Cissy) and Ronnie have been married for 38 years. Together they have three children. "What we enjoy most are our families which includes our children and our church family," said Ronnie.

Beale is the President of Beale Construction, Inc. which was established in 1979. "I am most proud of our dedicated employees

and being able to make a payroll each week since we first started," said Beale. "We also own and manage Carolina Mini Mart and All Seasons Storage."

Beale graduated from Franklin High School in 1973 and attended Southwestern Community College and has attended numerous continuing education classes connected to his business.

Beale is currently serving his third term on the Macon County Board of Commissioners during which time he has served as Chairman and is currently serv-

• See CANDIDATES page 8



This bear was found scavenging through K-H Founders Park one night recently.

– Photo by Brian O'Shea

What to do about the bears?

Walk around any corner onto Main Street in the evening and you may come face to face with a bear. Its commonplace to see bears in downtown Highlands for the past several weeks on Main Street and the surrounding blocks. Each night bears tip over garbage cans, feast on whatever they can find and move on to the next one.

The Town of Highlands cur-

rently provides businesses along Main Street with dumpsters that have a locking mechanism to prevent bears from scavenging, but due to human error, they are not keeping the bears out.

"The shared dumpster model doesn't work," said Mayor Pat Taylor. "People aren't locking them. We probably need to get

• See BEARS page 31

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

5G technology, drones and of course ... bears

Let me do a follow-up to my concerns about the FCC and the deployment of 5G technology that I wrote about last week.

I stated the FCC ruling would trump any local ordinances concerning 5G technology. Well, several major cities have filed a lawsuit challenging this sweeping FCC ruling. This will be a "big boy" fight for cities like New York and LA. It will be an uphill battle to challenge the FCC's control of the airwaves.

Another federal agency, the FAA, controls the airways. Currently, there is the new FAA authorization bill in the US Congress. The bill allows new uses of drones. Local governments are currently, and will continue to be, very limited in imposing ordinances regulating drones. As matter of fact, drones are already here in large numbers. There are now more registered drones than traditional aircraft.

One provision in this pending legislation enables drones to transport private materials from one place to another. Remember the 60 Minutes story a few years ago where Amazon was testing a drone's



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

ability to deliver packages to customers? This new bill will permit these kinds of deliveries starting in about a year. Like trucks, towns will not be able to ban or significantly regulate drone traffic.

I can see it now, a drone pizza delivery service here on the plateau. Just phone in the order and a drone will fly to your driveway for delivery. None of these half-crazed pizza delivery drivers flying down the road in a smoking Ford Focus. No way, now we

will have quiet high-flying drones.

We may all end up building little drone delivery pads next to driveways. The pizza hauling drone will simply use GPS to land in a front yard. When it is about 500 feet away from a destination the drone could send a text alert. "In coming pizza."

Now the alert would be very important because drone pizza delivery would create another dimension of an existing problem. Specifically, how would the bears be controlled?

Imagine a situation where the bears associate the wonderful smell of hot pizza in the air with the hum of a drone. It's not hard to do. The bears would learn to follow the sound and smell. When the drone landed at a home, the bears would be in the front yard waiting for delicious food.

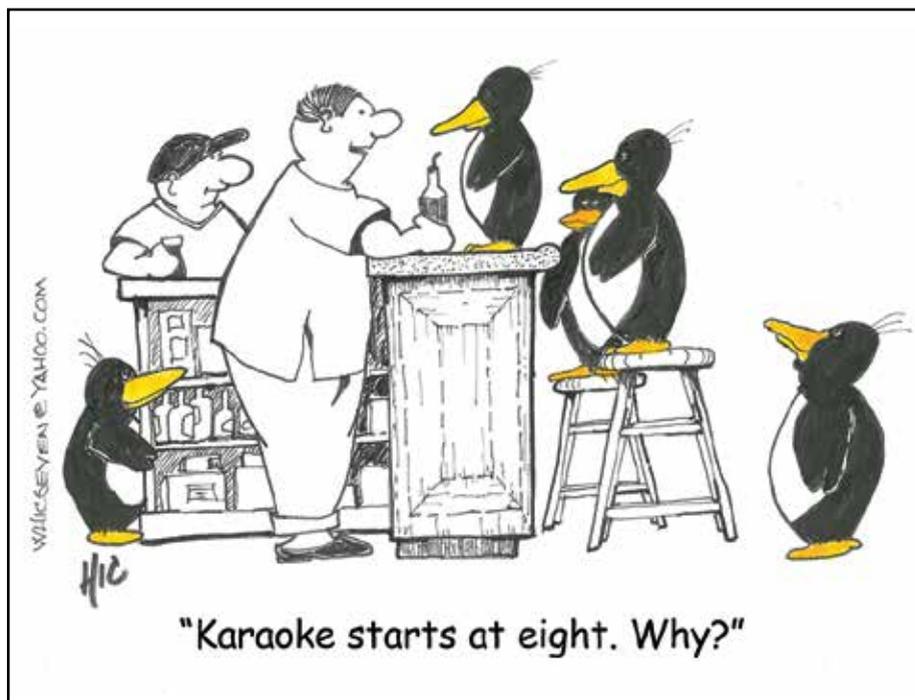
We would have to educate the public on how to scare the bears away in order to take delivery of the pizza. Maybe the old fashion

method of clanging of the pots and pans might work best for folks competing with bears over their rightful ownership of the hot pizza.

Bears might be a problem, but there's always a silver lining. Drones wouldn't expect a tip.

All joking aside, the topic of the new Community Coffee with the Mayor will be Bear Control. Last month we had a fruitful discussion concerning domestic animal control. On Friday, October 26, bring your bear ideas to the library at 11 am.

• HIC'S VIEW •



Highlands Newspaper

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Letter Policy:

We reserve the right to reject or edit letters-to-the-editor. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands Newspaper.

Mikey Crisp Memorial 'Jam'

Please come and join us in a memorial celebration for the life of Mikey Crisp.

It will be held Saturday, Oct. 20 from 1-4 p.m. at the Norton Farm at 760 Short-off Road.

Grab something to sit on and your collar for an afternoon of music and celebration of a very special man.

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• WEATHER •

	Friday 10/12		Saturday 10/13		Sunday 10/14	
	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight	Daytime	Overnight
Temp	65 F	39 F	61 F	42 F	62 F	49 F
RealFeel	72 F	40 F	67 F	44 F	67 F	47 F
Winds	4 g 8	4 g 6	4 g 7	3 g 5	4 g 6	2 g 4
T-Storms	2%	0%	2%	1%	3%	15%
Rainfall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snowfall	0	0	0	0	0	0

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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 hardwood floors and built-ins next to the gas fireplace. The kitchen opens to the great room and has lots of cabinetry and granite countertops.



\$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.

\$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!



\$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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HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB Located on a truly stunning lot facing the expansive views of the golf course, this house and setting offers it all. There are beautiful French doors from every room to the decks and terraces surrounding the house. The property goes to the edge of the club's lake. Almost the entire house is on the main level. A spacious Master with sitting room offers separate his and hers bath areas with walk-in closets for each. The other three guest rooms each have private baths. One of the bedrooms boasts its own den and access to the outside spaces.

MLS# 88238 | Offered for \$1,695,000



CULLASAJA CLUB The main floor has everything that you need including a sun porch with a fireplace, a home office, and a living room that is light and bright and opens to the kitchen. The master suite features a private porch and a deluxe bath with a closet to envy. Upstairs is a great retreat for the younger ones with a great area to read or play games, plus a sleeping room. The terrace level is perfect for entertaining with a family room plus a climatized wine cellar with tasting nook, a large billiards room, and three guest suites which afford privacy for everyone.

MLS# 87857 | Offered for \$1,099,000



HIGHGATE Located on the Atlanta side of Highlands close to Highlands Country Club and just a few miles to Main Street, this home was sited for privacy and to take advantage of the beautiful mountain view. High wood ceilings and gleaming hardwood floors set off the horizontal wood walls and antique beams. The floor-to-ceiling wood-burning stone fireplace is the focal point of the living room which opens to a large covered deck with a gas log fireplace. Listed below tax value and below appraised value - a great buy!

MLS# 88513 | Offered for \$939,000



CULLASAJA CLUB "Fresh and clean" are the words used to describe this remodeled Overlook Villas home. This beautiful 4BR/4.5BA home is move-in ready. Situated with wonderful long range mountain views of Cashiers Valley and safely behind the gates of the Cullasaja Club community, this home is conveniently located near the main clubhouse for early morning work outs or swimming at the fitness facility, lunch with friends, or a game of bridge or golf - everything is just a short golf cart ride away. (Club membership is required to use club amenities.)

MLS# 89217 | Offered for \$895,000



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HIGHLANDS 4.49 ACRE ESTATE PROPERTY The main house boasts lots of windows and is light and airy. The great room has a vaulted ceiling and is anchored by a masonry stone fireplace. Features include two bedrooms plus a wonderful loft bedroom, a lower level family room, three full baths, and a newly updated kitchen with granite counters and SS appliances. A wonderful front porch overlooks the mountain view, spring fed pond and beautiful perennial gardens. Includes 2BR/2BA guest house with wood floors and rocking chair front porch.

MLS# 86600 | Offered for \$725,000



APPLE MOUNTAIN Wonderful living space, a large kitchen, and an open deck as well as a screened in one, make this home great for entertaining. The master suite boasts two large walk-in closets and the guest rooms have plenty of space. Great as a year round home, second home or would make a fantastic rental. The house sits across from a park and is located in a private and quiet neighborhood, yet is only 5 minutes from downtown Highlands. Second garage which could be used as a workshop or studio. Includes a full house generator and 2 water heaters.

MLS# 88500 | Offered for \$677,000



TURTLE POND If you are looking for peace and quiet you will be seduced by the charms of this country property! This beautiful contemporary style home with rustic coziness is a "must see." A ridgeline mountain view is enjoyed from both outside as well as inside the home due to the large glass windows which light up the interior. With its open floor plan, this home is also a great place for entertaining guests. This soothing retreat is set on 5+ acres with plenty of areas for relaxing, gardening, hiking, and walking the dog.

MLS# 89441 | Offered for \$535,000



PANTHER MOUNTAIN Nestled next to the national forest, this home is located on Panther Mountain. Enjoy the peace and quiet while sitting out on the back deck enjoying the view. You will fall in love with the coziness, charm and privacy this home has to offer. This home has an updated floor plan, neutral colors, whole house generator, and towel warmers, just to mention a few of the upgrades.

MLS# 89224 | Offered for \$459,000



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...CANDIDATES continued from page 1

ing as Vice-Chair. He has served as the President of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and served as a liaison to most departments within Macon County government. Beale is a graduate of the National Association of County Leadership Institute and the North Carolina School of Government County Leadership and was named Commissioner of the Year for the state of North Carolina in 2013.

Ron Haven:

Haven graduated from Franklin High School in 1975 and is a business owner in Franklin.

Haven has previously served on the Macon County Board of Commissioners.

Gary Shields:

Shields was raised in the Cartoogechaye Community and attended Franklin High School briefly before eventually graduating from Waynesville Township High School in June 1966. Shields entered the military and served in Vietnam for 18 months with the 173 Airborne Infantry Brigade. After completing his tour of duty in June 1969, Shields entered Gardner Webb College where he graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies in 1973.

Shields then began his career in education in the Kings Mountain School System as a teacher and administrator for eight years before returning to Macon County in 1981. Shields has worked in several schools in the district including Nantahala, Union Elementary, and Franklin High School where he retired from after 21 years of serving as Principal. Shields retired with a total of 37 years in education, 29 of which were spent in Macon County.

Shields was elected to the Macon County Board of Education in November 2010 and served for four years before being elected to his current seat on the Macon County Board of Commissioners.

Betty Cloer Wallace:

Wallace's current work includes being a tree farmer in the Union Community where she has planted more than 14,000 native hardwood seedlings so far. Her former work includes associate Superintendent of Macon County Schools, Director of the Western

Regional Education Center for the North Carolina Department of Instruction and Superintendent of Vance County Schools in Henderson, NC. She has also served as the public information and telecommunications coordinator for the Alaska State Legislature as well as the School District Administrator in the Alaskan Artic, Bering Strait and Northwest Artic. Wallace has a Doctor of Education in Administration from the University of Georgia and Education Specialist in Administration from Western Carolina University. Wallace graduated from Franklin High School in 1962.

Wallace was elected to two terms as the State Secretary of the NC Democratic Party and served on the State Executive Committee & State Executive Council, NC Democratic Party. Although she did not win, Wallace was the first woman to run for U.S. Senate in North Carolina and ran against Terry Sanford.

Why are you running for office?

Beale:

"To assist the citizens of Macon County in any way possible and to improve the quality of life for all Maconians regardless of their political persuasion."

Haven:

"To better Macon County."

Shields:

"As a Vietnam Veteran our motto is 'IN SERVICE TO AMERICA' and this is a guide for us to use. Our military cadre instilled in us that leaving the military and entering civilian life is just one phase. Now in the civilian sector we have responsibilities not only to our country but to our state and communities. Also, as a Rotarian, the motto 'SERVICE ABOVE SELF' allows one to focus and reflect on the 'why' of many aspects for our 'rhyme and reason' for choosing the things we do. Macon County has been good to me and my family and serving the people of Macon County in a leadership position, is the only way I can say 'thank you.'"

Wallace:

"I'm dismayed that Macon County continues to spiral downward, now ranked by the North Carolina Department of Commerce as a Tier I county for eco-

nomist distress for the fifth year in a row. We can do better than that, but only if we work toward more local government transparency, less top-down authoritarianism, and more involvement by our citizens in bringing new ideas to our local government without fear of intimidation, insult, and ridicule. My lifelong experience and credentials in public service have been a lifetime of preparation for running for Macon County Commissioner, and I want progressive and sustainable change to replace the top down three-person voting bloc that has controlled our Board of Commissioners for many years.

I'm an advocate for a strong two-party centrist system to maintain balance in our local government as in all other areas of our lives. At the moment, Macon County is clearly out of balance, clearly lop-sided toward the "tea party" far right while a contingent of far left "progressives" pull in the other direction. This divergence on both sides of center have split our local political parties into five factions, which is hurting our ability to sustain a moderate middle ground in local government that we need to move forward as a county."

Public Education

With the state continuing budget cuts and passing the buck to local government, how far or how much do you think the county can take on before having to take drastic measures to compensate the school system? Do you think there is a point when the county will have to say no?

Beale:

"Having served as liaison to our local school board for many years, we should be thankful for the positive relationship we have. This is certainly not the case in all counties. None of us know what will happen at the state level when it comes to budgeting for the schools from year-to-year. What we do know is that we have a great school system and must continue to work together at the local level to provide the children of Macon County the

• See CANDIDATES page 9



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...CANDIDATES continued from page 8

best opportunity for a quality education. I think it would be premature at this point to say no to funding or to set a limit on funding. We have always found a way to keep our school system operating at full capacity at the least possible expense to our local citizens."

Haven:

"I will go to the end for education. [We need] more vocational training."

Shields:

"Opinion: Having served in public education for 37 years as a teacher, principal and school board member, the state seems to be shifting more of the fiscal responsibilities back to the counties. Locally, "brick and mortar" is a priority via our local tax revenues and the county has stepped up in building and renovating our school properties. Through the budget sessions I have sat through it seems "current expenses" are merging into the local budget operations of the schools vs. state budget.

If "current expenses" (non- brick and mortar items) keep merging into the local educational budget, additional revenue resources will have to be put on the table for discussion. I do not know all the "revenue options" for enhancing our local public education but I am willing to listen. I am not willing to say NO to public education until somebody shows me where the "fluff" is. Our teachers, school personnel and our young people deserve the same opportunity for a "quality" educational setting as the students in affluent counties."

Wallace:

"County commissioners are responsible for providing adequate school facilities, while the local school board

is responsible for operation of the schools, and the school board is often forced to beg for additional funding from the county commissioners simply to stay afloat.

It is disgraceful that our students do not have basic instructional supplies and materials and that teachers are forced to beg for financial assistance and to spend their own money for those basic student needs. It is disgraceful that the Macon Middle School is leaky and moldy and has not been maintained up to standard for 40 years.

It is disgraceful that 58% of our children live in homes below the poverty level, that the majority of our students qualify for free- and reduced-price meals, and that many families are humiliated every year when they cannot afford to pay for meals for their children.

It is unfortunate that we have consolidated our elementary schools so that the majority of young students are taken out of their home communities and must commute long, weary miles elsewhere.

It is disgraceful that decisions have not already been made about the future of facilities at Nantahala, Highlands, and Franklin High School in a fair and equitable manner. As our state legislature continues to juggernaut toward privatization of our public schools, we cannot simply blame the state for cutting funding. We must fill the gap to the degree that we can financially do so, right here at home.

For starters, we can use local funds for all necessary supplies and instructional materials, and we as a county can pay for meals for all students who are currently paying for them in part or full. We can do long-range planning to decentralize our large elementary schools and return students to smaller

community schools, while at the same time plan for reconditioning our middle and high school facilities, bring them up to standard, and expand them. Macon County already has adequate funding resources for all these education needs if the county commissioners would plan ahead and set priorities rather than continue to engage in authoritarian knee-jerk piecemeal governance by ad hoc special in-

• See CANDIDATES page 10



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...CANDIDATES continued from page 9

terests. Our basic education needs should supersede all other aspects of our county finances.”

County Finances

What is your vision for the county's budget plans and finances in the future? All politicians say things like "lower taxes" and if that is something you believe in and want to work toward, tell

me how you plan to do so. Please be specific.

Beale:

“I feel it is important to acknowledge that no one knows for certain what the future holds. It could be next year's budget might present both challenges and opportunities that we know nothing about during the current fiscal year. I feel every budget should fo-

cus on providing the citizens with the highest level of public service at the lowest cost possible. For this to continue we must remain fiscally responsible, continue planning for the future, be ready to confront challenges and ready to examine new opportunities. Our financial position is strong. Our fund balance is approximately \$21 million which is 40% of our budgeted expenditures.

This fund balance provides our county with revenue in times of emergency, gives us a very favorable interest rate when borrowing money and gives us the opportunity to pay for capital needs without borrowing money such as we had to do with the Macon County School System, the renovations at the Carpenter Building and other projects.

We continue to reduce our debt load. Since 2011 we have reduced our debt load by 50% which gives us the ability to take on new debt if needed for much needed projects in the future without increasing taxes.

What is most important is that we have continued to improve our financial position while retaining one of the lowest tax rates in the state. We are now working on our space needs study which will identify those capital projects which are most important to the future to better serve the citizens of our county. As we look to the future we must be ready for the challenges and opportunities such as the demand for services. For example,

EMS in 2018 January-September has conducted 4,690 transports. In the year 2007 they conducted 4,580 for the entire year. This means there is a demand in more equipment and more personnel to provide the same high level of service. The demand in the jail continues to increase. Our 75-bed facility has an average daily population of 99. In 2014 the average daily population was 52. As a result, the cost to the county was over \$420,000 over other counties hold-

ing inmates.

There are opportunities as well. As we continue to look at expanding broadband in Macon County. We remain ready to move forward if and we an opportunity presents itself. We have set aside \$400,000 for this purpose. Every taxpayer in Macon County is a consumer and a shareholder. I feel it is extremely important when looking at the budget that we evaluate it from both perspectives. From the consumer standpoint the citizens receive the highest quality of service at the best price. And from the shareholder standpoint that Macon County will continue to remain fiscally sound as we continue to plan for the future and be ready for whatever the future holds.

Haven:

“Macon County needs to watch spending and get the best deal on everything to stretch tax dollars for things we need.”

Shields:

“I will be the first to say that developing a “county budget” is not done by an individual board member. My experience as a board member is to listen, ask questions and trust the county manager and the chief financial officer for leadership. My vision for the county via budget plans is developing capital long-range plans, as we have done through the CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN and SPACE NEEDS ANALYSIS all to see where we are going and research any excess properties that may be better used or revamped.

Maintaining an excellent financial position via our fund balance and decreasing our debt load allows our county to receive favorable interest rates on loans for major capital projects like our landfill expansion, schools additions and upgrades. The burn building project with SCC and funds from NC Connect Bond has allowed us to provide safety and quality fire training without seeking outside funding and using our fund balance decreasing our debt load. When budget time comes, my personal look is at the top three department expenditures request:

1. Public Safety: Law enforcement, Fire/Rescue/EMS are a must for the citizen's well-being of Macon County.

2. Human Services: With societal ills and the needs of our young and old via professional help increasing, mental health services are demanding and costly.

3. Education is the third highest budget expense for the county. If education falters, then number 1 and 2 above increases. In 2017, these three budget items made up 73% of our budget expenditures.

• See CANDIDATES page 11



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...CANDIDATES continued from page 10

In summary, regarding “taxes” up or down, every budget should reflect the needs of the citizens of Macon County. With our diverse population our financial situations are mixed and we need, as the county leadership, maintain an “affordable view” of our citizens in Macon County. I am proud that we have one of the lowest tax rates in the state but every year there seems to be challenges for the taxpayer dollar.

On the “Revenue” side, the Ad Valorem taxes and the local “Sales Tax” in 2017 made up 71% of the budget.”

Wallace:

“I do not think we should lower taxes, nor should we raise them to any great degree, nor should we continue to misrepresent what “revenue neutral” means as if that is a golden rule. Quite simply, when our individual property valuations take a hit as has happened in recent years, our county government should be curtailed to the same percentage through systematic downsizing, and vice versa.

We should use our county’s fund balance for emergencies only (as intended) rather than for special projects that require

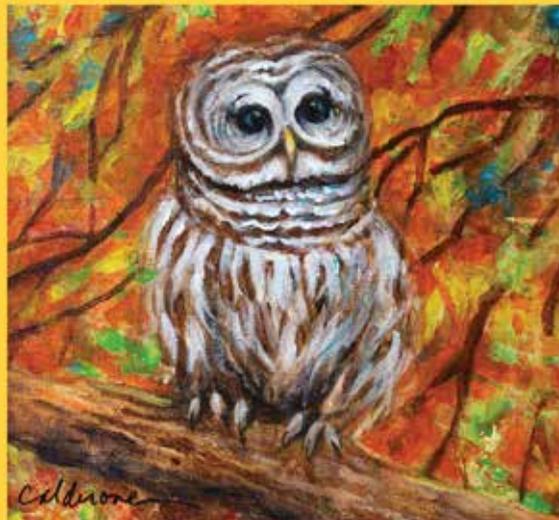
expensive and recurring maintenance. Our municipalities can set sales taxes for themselves if they so desire, and the Nantahala community can decide if they want to seek incorporation as a means to have a stronger voice about their financial wherewithal.

I am against taxing internet purchasing, which is a growing phenomenon that is of great benefit to our aging population and young families. Within our current taxable means, our county commissioners should set priorities according to systematic input from “we the people” from the bottom up. How long has it been since the people voted on any large capital project? We should put referendums on the ballot every election to determine the will of the voters regarding how and when our tax money is to be spent. We must begin to insist on open public discussion on significant issues that affect us all, forthrightly and transparently, and we must work toward government that bubbles up from “we the people” rather than continue to passively accept top-down authoritarianism closely held by a small voting bloc who push their own special interests.”

• *In the Oct. 18 edition, candidates will discuss their views on Economic Development.*

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Tuscan Turkey Meatballs

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Ingredients from The Spice & Tea Exchange®

2 TBS Tuscany Spice Blend
1 TBS Turmeric
1 tsp Basil
Himalayan Fine Mineral Salt, to taste

Ingredients from the Grocer

½ cup shredded zucchini, (about ½ zucchini)
1 lb ground all-white meat turkey
¼ cup shredded carrot, (about ½ of 1 carrot)
3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 TBS coconut or almond flour, if needed for thickening

Sweet & Spicy BBQ Sauce (optional)

Ingredients from The Spice & Tea Exchange®

1 OZ of Smokehouse Rub
2 tps of Worcestershire Powder

Ingredients from the Grocer

2 cups of ketchup
1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
1/3 cup light brown sugar
1 TBS lemon juice

2 TBS Dijon mustard

Preparation for meatballs & sauce

PREHEAT oven to 375°F.

PLACE zucchini in a clean kitchen towel. Twist and squeeze towel to extract as much moisture from zucchini as possible.

COMBINE zucchini and all additional ingredients in a large bowl, mixing well. If mixture is too wet, add flour and re-mix.

ROLL 2-inch meatballs by hand, and place in a standard muffin tin sprayed with non-stick spray. BAKE 25-30 mins or until fully cooked. Enjoy!

Sweet & Spicy BBQ Sauce (for dipping)

COMBINE all ingredients in a saucepan over medium heat. Simmer for 20 min, stirring frequently. Let cool.

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Mayor signs proclamation declaring October 'Domestic Violence Awareness' month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The town Mayor Patrick Taylor signed a proclamation stating that the Town of Highlands recognizing the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. REACH of Macon County provides services, free of charge, to victims and children who have experienced domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

REACH operates a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, court advocacy, safety planning, life skills, and other services to support



From left: Emma Scott Rural Domestic Violence Advocate, Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor, and Andrea Anderson R.E.A.C.H. Executive Director.

persons experiencing violence. REACH is excited to announce a new initiative, Rural Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Response Team, funded through Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds through the NC Governor's Crime Commission. The new program will provide increased outreach, in-

tervention, and coordinated response services specifically for victims living in the Highlands area. For more information or if you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault, call REACH of Macon County at (828)369-5544.

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• YOUNGER THROUGH FITNESS •

The Great Do-Over

As a fitness professional, I have defined my work into two basic tenets.

The first is to gain and research knowledge into just what and how exercise and lifestyle effects our lives. Science not fad is my personal credo. Exercise, more and more is becoming legitimately recognized as such.

The second tenet is to motivate others to adapt fitness and maintain it as a lifestyle.

In this week's column we are going to delve into the latter, motivation.

My own drive as a mid-60s age person is both professional and personal. If I get it right, my clients and readers will gain knowledge to live healthier and possibly longer lives. On the personal level, if my wife Lynne and I get it right we get to have an extension of quality time together. We are shooting for an active life into our 90s and maybe even beyond. There are so many amazing life extending possibilities on the scientific horizon in the near future hanging out there like a dangling carrot. If we stay healthy long enough, we could possibly benefit from them.

In the late 60s, Eric Clapton and the Cream recorded the song Cross Roads. Actually, I'm not sure about all of the lyrics or what they were intending to say, however, I have given it my own meaning. The song has become my own mantra at this stage of life. Every moment past mid-life we are at a crossroads. If we take positive steps we have better odds of traveling a happier, healthier and maybe even longer life. If we fail to take those steps, the odds are strong that we will travel along another path and experience poor health and a shortened life span.

Twenty years ago, I personally witnessed just what the price can be for not heeding the metaphorical warning sign at the cross roads. My Dad had a life-altering stroke in his 70s. In a blink of the eye, he went from an active, self-sufficient person to becoming dependent on others for the most basic of human activities. He lived another 10 years without ever having the dignity of going to the bathroom on his own again. He became dependent on others to get him on and off the toilet!

Not long before his stroke we had a discussion about his widening stomach. He had been starved as a prisoner of war in the notorious Stalag 9B during WW2



Hank Miller
828-305-9713

and much like Scarlet O'Hara he had vowed, "Never to be hungry again." I wish he had stopped at not being hungry and held down the excess a little bit. Having witnessed his suffering and having his genetics I am extremely prudent. In a back-handed, way my clients and readers are benefiting from his sacrifice.

Last week I was at a continuing education seminar held at the Comfort Suites in Asheville.

During a break, I went out to my car and on the way back I saw two couples leaving check-in for the elevator to their rooms. All four of them were obese.

One lady, I estimated to be in her early 50s, was waddling with a cane behind the others. She abruptly stopped as the other three were entering the elevator. "Look, they have free cookies," she exclaimed excitedly while she gazed intently at a display case full of super-sized, cookies on a table a few feet before the elevator.

One of the men was holding the sliding elevator door, whom I assumed was her husband and he said, "we are going to leave for dinner as soon as we get settled."

"I want one now!" she replied adamantly. This woman who was not much past middle age was leaning on a cane with both legs wrapped tightly in ace bandages grasping a giant cookie and quickly chomped away voraciously. The leg wraps were most likely used to aid poor circulation. Poor circulation can be a result of obesity, lack of movement and an effect of type 2 diabetes. It's not hard to assess which road out of the crossroads she is traveling.

Obviously for obese persons in this day and age it's an uphill battle to drop enough excess body fat and then accomplish the real work of maintaining conditioning and a health body mass.

Actually, it's difficult for even moderately overweight and deconditioned persons to turn things around. It boils down to a choice of life and both morbidity and mortality. Success can only be achieved with hard work and determination.

I've often wondered, what if my Dad while lying in the VA hospital for months, post stroke adjusting to his new impaired life ahead had been given a mythological do-over. If a cosmic voice spoke to him and said, "Hey Sam, if you could go back a few years in time would you eat less, ex-

• See **FITNESS** page 24



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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Cullasaja Women's Outreach invests \$191,900 in Highlands-Cashiers

Donating more than \$1,422,000 to Highlands-Cashiers Not-for-Profits since 2006.

Cullasaja Women's Outreach (CWO) today announced the results of its 2018 fundraising effort. This independent collective of 97 women is awarding \$191,900 in grants, solely for the benefit of Highlands and Cashiers area not-for-profit organizations. Since its founding in 2006, CWO has invested over \$1,422,000 in the local community.

Funds raised this year are being awarded to 27 organizations through a sophisticated grants process led by CWO Grant Co-Chairs Lindy Colson Harrison and Nancy Harrison.

Individual awards range from \$2,460 to \$15,000.

Grant recipients for 2018 include: B.E.A.R.; Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic; Boys and Girls Club of the Plateau; Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society; Center for Life Enrichment; the Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers; Counseling & Psychotherapy Center of Highlands; Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry; Friends of Panthertown; Gordon Center for Children, Inc.; Highlands Biological Station; Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival; Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust; Highlands-Cashiers Players; Highlands Community Child Development Center; Highlands Emergency Council; Highlands Historical Society; Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team, Inc.; Hudson Library; International Friendship Center and its Food

Pantry; Junior Appalachian Musicians® Blue Ridge; Literacy Council of Highlands, Inc.; Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center; Peggy Crosby Community Service Center; Summit Charter School; and The Bascom.

"Stepping into the world of not-for-profits in the Highlands-Cashiers area, opens one's eyes to the many needs around us," noted Lindy Colson Harrison. "At the same time, it reveals the incredible people who work tirelessly to make the lives of those around us better, whether providing safety-net services, in-school or after-school programs, child care, or special arts and educational events. The contribution of our local non-profits is immeasurable. Who can place a value on the gifts of health, well-being and self-esteem to those in need? Or put a price on opening eyes to the beauty of art, music and discovery?"

"Through our grants, Cullasaja Women's Outreach reinforces The Good in our society," added Co-Chair, Nancy Harrison. "CWO strives to be a responsible investor of our donors' dollars by reaching out to advance the common good."

"A community isn't vibrant until it comes together as one, acting to lift each other up," continued Margaret Eichman, CWO executive director. "Letting people know we care, is what we are all about. By demonstrating the power of collective giving, our Outreach hopes to inspire others to do the same. Together, we can make a difference."

Partnering with the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, CWO established a CFWNC-CWO Charities fund, which enables the group to raise funds each summer and award them through a judicious grants process to make a meaningful difference in the local community. To date, Cullasaja Women's Outreach has assisted over 40 local not-for-profit and charitable organizations in their efforts to enhance the community.

• *Cullasaja Women's Outreach is an independent collective of women, who believe in reaching out to each other and to local organizations through philanthropy, volunteerism and friendship to build a stronger community.*

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• WORD MATTER •

American Politics is Full of ... You Know What

Pardon the imagery, but our American political system needs an enema.

Before moving on, some transparency; I'm not a member of any political party. As I've written here before, I've got no use for parties, period. That said, were I in a position to do so, I'd change a few things about how we do political business, solely in the interest of what the framers of the U.S. Constitution referred to as "the common good."

First, I'd remove most outside money from the system. Second, if we must have parties, have the candidates engage the services of the parties, not the other way around. Third, place term limits on elected officials, at all levels, and, on the federal judiciary. Fourth, empanel bipartisan commissions to draw and maintain fair, LEGAL legislative and congressional districts. Fifth, impose some common sense qualifications in order for someone to run for and serve in political office.

Allow me to unpack these edicts, just a bit.

Money is at the root of all evil in our political system. Private money, beyond SMALL personal, individual contributions, by its nature, is a corrupting force. The more any donor or donor type can contribute to a candidate, a party, a committee, anything, the more opportunity exists for some level of favoritism. Favoritism equals corruption. Every citizen has a stake in every election, whether they vote or not. Even if it's a dollar, everyone should pay something toward the process of choosing our elected leaders. Use a federal tax check off for this purpose.

The role of political parties should be to support candidates, not select or provide some filter to keep candidates out of a given race. We'd have too many candidates, you say? Perhaps, but number three on this list might provide some governance over that "problem." The two political parties in America don't make it easier for the public to choose someone for political office. As things exist currently, they TELL us who we can vote for. Sorry, but I can read and I can do research. I don't need anyone telling me who to vote for. Do you?



Bud Katz

I'm not sure the Founders of our democratic republic intended for those who represent us to serve thirty, forty, FIFTY years or more. Heck, life expectancy for men in 1789 was barely 35 years! Now, I know ... we already have term limits; they're called elections. Balderdash! Thanks to problems enumerated in numbers one, two, and four herein, people in America can get elected, to Congress at least, and appointed to the federal bench, FOREVER! They can dine long enough at the public trough for their grandchildren to vote for them! Argue about how long they should be able to serve, but impose some reasonable limitations.

Gerrymandering is an ugly wart on what should be the beautiful, clear face of democracy. Don't try to convince anyone honest people of good will can't draw sensible, LEGAL legislative or congressional districts. Geography, not political registration, demography or income, must drive the drawing of political districts. Recruit some of those state judges we've just term-limited to draw districts every ten years, not the same legislators who are currently serving.

Finally, employers often impose some modest qualifications for someone to be offered a job. They do background and credit checks, insure there are no criminal charges or convictions in an applicant's history. Doesn't it make sense if someone is subject to this kind of scrutiny for an entry level or post-entry level job they should expect it when they run for office? It would save the embarrassment of learning such things after they've been elected. Ideally, parties should provide this service but they don't care who gets elected as long as they play for the right team.

There's more we can do. Lie detectors during campaigns, civics tests for candidates, full financial disclosure, including tax returns, some demonstrable history of basic human decency ... you get the idea.

Seriously, we don't have to change a lot in order to make our system more representative, more fair, more competitive, and work better for the benefit of all Americans. These ideas have nothing to do with political affiliation. They have to do with common sense, clear thinking, and an

• See WORD MATTER page 16

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...WORD MATTER continued from page 15

eye towards making the whole sordid mess work for the people, and not just for the politicians.

This problem didn't happen with the 2016 election. It's been going on at least as long as I've been voting, and that's over a

half-century.

It's way beyond time for a cleanse.

• *Bud Katz is a full-time resident of Highlands and a member of the Highlands Writers Group.*

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• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

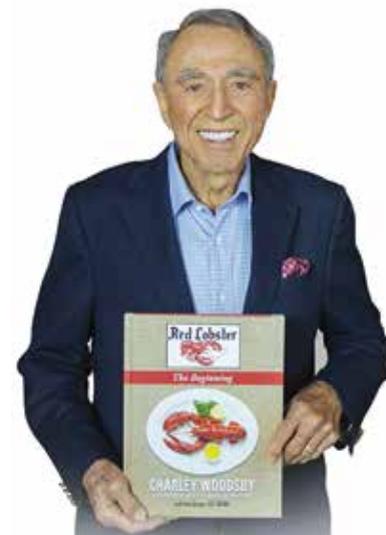
Seasonal resident, Charley Woodsby releases book 'Red Lobster ... The Beginning'

In this insider's look at the genesis of the locally grown, nationally known phenomenon that is Red Lobster, you'll find that the quality of Charley Woodsby's recipes is matched only by the integrity and inspiring story of the man behind the food.

Charley Woodsby has a long tradition in the restaurant industry with a career spanning over 60 years. He began his career by attending culinary school in New York City and in 1954 opened his first restaurant in Atlanta, GA. He then moved to Jacksonville, FL in 1960 and formed a business partnership with Bill Darden that would change the rest of his life. This partnership owned and operated numerous successful restaurants in Florida and in 1968 they opened the very first Red Lobster in Lakeland, FL.

The gracious hospitality of his South Carolina upbringing made a big impact on businessman and restaurateur Charley Woodsby. The concepts of generosity and community led him to create one of America's most popular restaurants—Red Lobster. In Red Lobster...The Beginning you'll learn how Charley turned his childhood dinners in Spartanburg, South Carolina into a dining experience American families still choose again and again.

Filled to the brim with life stories, business tips, delicious recipes straight from restaurant menus, and colorful and candid



Charley Woodsby

photos of personal, professional, and charitable exploits, this kitchen inspiration is a must-have for anyone passionate about the stories behind some of the most famous food in America.

Publisher: Wildercliff Publishing Now Available for Purchase on Amazon. Hardcover (Color): \$39.95, Paperback (Black & White): \$19.99, Kindle: \$9.99

HCLT hike and picnic on Big Ridge



Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Board Members and Guests enjoyed breath-taking views from Big Ridge. Ron Lance and Brad Kimzey, land managers for the owners of Amazing Grace properties! led this special hike. Amazing Grace is one of the largest single-owner tracts in Jackson County and owned by a very conservation-minded family. Picture from left: kneeling AmeriCorps Member Grace McCants, Kyle Purcel, Dr. Gary Wein, Lawrence Dimmitt; standing Ron Lance, Julie Schott, Jim Swann, Vevie Dimmitt, Ron French, Kathy Marsh, Mary Jo Askew, and Gina Cogswell.

• ALL ABOUT BOOKS •

Preparing for a trip to Merry Olde England

Why am I reading books set in Devon, Oxford and the Cotswolds? Because in addition to London, those are the locales I'll soon visit in Great Britain. One of my greatest travel pleasures is preparing for a trip by reading fiction, especially mysteries, set in the locales I visit.



Kathy Manos Penn

and intrigued by DI Hillary Greene living on a narrowboat on the Oxford Canal. I've always dreamed of chartering a narrow boat—with a captain—and touring the countryside that way. So far, I've enjoyed Murder on the Oxford Canal and Murder at the University, and reading about her narrowboat is probably as close as I'll get to vacationing on one.

I prefer books to hold in my hands, but for international travel, only my Kindle will do. Because I read British mysteries nonstop, finding a select few set in Devon, Oxford and the Cotswolds required an entertaining internet search. That effort netted me several authors to consider.

The first is Agatha Christie, an old standby. I've read her books here and there through the years, but more often watch Poirot on PBS. We'll visit Greenway Estate, her home near Dartmouth. Several of her novels—The A.B.C. Murders, Five Little Pigs, Towards Zero, and Dead Man's Folly—use the estate and the surrounding area as settings, and the television version of Dead Man's Folly was filmed there.

A new to me author whose mysteries take place in the Dartmouth area is Kate Ellis. I've downloaded The Merchant's House, the first book in her series featuring Wesley Peterson. From her website, I gleaned lots of ideas about sites to see while in the Dartmouth area and was prompted to write her. She wrote back and gave me an introduction to the buildings, businesses, and towns she describes in her books, only with different names. I think I'll make a list of all of them and try to check them off as I go.

Because I've watched Inspector Morse, Inspector Lewis, and Endeavor on PBS, I feel as though I already know bits and pieces of Oxford. I can't recall ever reading Colin Dexter's novels, though, so I've downloaded the first three Morse books for the trip.

Before this search, I'd already stumbled across Faith Martin's mysteries set in Oxford. I'm still early in the series

When I googled books set in the Cotswolds, I was rewarded with Victoria Henry's How to Find Love in a Bookshop. It's a bit of a romance and mystery blend, and its setting is a blend of Oxford and the Cotswolds.

Oddly, I hadn't turned up any mysteries set in the Cotswolds until author Kate Ellis suggested I try Rebecca Tope's mystery series. Every one of her books has Cotswolds in the title, so who knows why Google didn't surface them during my search? My Kindle now contains a four-pack of the Cotswold series.

Though I don't often read nonfiction, I'm also working my way through Bill Bryson's Notes from a Small Island. I say "working my way," not because it's a slog, but because I can easily pick it up and put it down, unlike the several novels I read each week. I love this description: "a delightfully irreverent jaunt around the unparalleled floating nation of Great Britain, which has produced zebra crossings, Shakespeare, Twiggie Winkie's Farm, and places with names like Farleigh Wallop and Titsey."

I've packed my suitcase and my Kindle, and I'm eagerly anticipating my upcoming trip across the pond. For copies of the "real books", I suggest a trip to Books Unlimited in Franklin where they'll happily order whatever titles aren't in stock.

• *Kathy is a Georgia resident. Find her books "The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday" and "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" at Books Unlimited in Franklin and on Amazon. "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" is also available at Highlands Mountain Paws. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/.*

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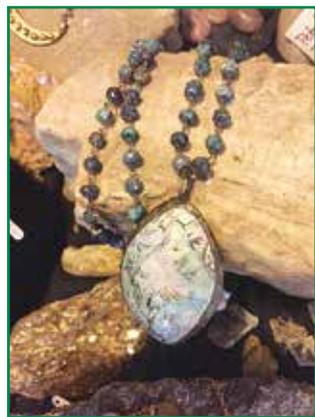
MON	MEXICAN MONDAY: FOUR CHEESE AND FOUR CHICKEN ENCHILADAS, REFRIED BEANS, MONTEREY RICE, HOMEMADE TORTILLA CHIPS, SALSA, SHREDDED LETTUCE, TOMATOES, SOUR CREAM	\$22.95 SERVES 4
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Ongoing

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Through October

• The Bookworm is having a ½ price sale. Located at the Falls on Main, next door to the Highland Hiker, open Monday-Saturday 10a – 4p.

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 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. 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 Wednes-

day through Saturday 11am to 3pm until October 13 at 4735 Highway 107 in Glenville next to Signal Ridge Marina. Go to www.glenvilleareahistoricalociety.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

• 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

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

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 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.

Saturdays

- 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.

Sundays

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

Thurs., Oct. 11

- The Macon County Cancer Support Group will meet Thursday

at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Angel Medical Center, Riverview Street. Jon Brown, Supervisor of Rehab Services at Angel Medical Center, will be speaking on how cancer survivors can safely integrate exercise into their lives. There will be light refreshments. Everyone welcome.

- At Hudson Library from 5-7 p.m., Indivisible Highlands will feature a representative from the NC Budget & Tax Center will explain potential impacts of the six proposals on the November 6 ballot with an emphasis on the tax cap proposal.

Fri., Oct. 12

- At CLE, (Time 10-12) Bruce Stewart, Associate Professor of History at Appalachian State University will provide a historical overview of alcohol manufacturing in Appalachia from the eighteenth century to the late twentieth century. from 10a to noon. Bruce Stewart is the author of

• See EVENTS page 22

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Moonshiners and Prohibitionists: The Battle of Alcohol in Southern Appalachia and the editor of King of the Moonshiners: Lewis Redmond in Fact and Fiction. Come on out for this fun lecture that will cover some of the attributes and traditions of our beloved Southern region. Cost \$25 for members/\$35 non-members. Walk-ins welcome and local students attend free. To register please call 828-526-8811. Lecture will be held in the CLE lecture hall located in the lower level of the Peggy Crosby Center, 348 S. 5th Street, Highlands.

Fri.-Sat., Oct. 12-13

• The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival concludes its 37th season with a Fall Mini-Residency by the Argus String Quartet. On Friday Oct. 12, the Quartet will offer programs at the Blue Ridge School and Summit Charter School in Cashiers. They will then travel to Highlands to perform at the Highlands School. The final Feast of the Festival will be hosted by Mike and Cathy Crosby at 7p. that evening with the Quartet as special guests. On Saturday, Oct. 13 at Chestnut Hill Retirement Community and a ticketed concert at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation at 5 p.m. Tickets for the Feast of the Festival and performance at the Episcopal Church may be purchased by calling 828-526-9060 or emailing at hccmfnc@gmail.com.

Sat., Oct. 13

• Trunk Show at Jolies on Main Street. the return of Lauren Eisenman and her line of jewelry from 11a to 4 p.

Sun. Oct. 14

• Seven internationally acclaimed musicians will perform a program of chamber music in the main sanctuary of Franklin's First Presbyterian Church on Sunday at 3 pm. Violinist Helen Kim, cellist Charae Krueger, and pianist William Ransom will open the program with the most famous of all piano trios, Ludwig van Beethoven's Trio in Bb Major, Op. 97, "Archduke," followed by a performance by The Vega String Quartet of Beethoven's six-movement String Quartet in Bb Major, Op. 130. Admission is by donation, \$10 is suggested.

Thurs.- Sun., Oct. 18-21

• HCP presents Mauritius by Theresa Rebeck. Performances will be held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Thursdays through Sundays. Evening shows begin at 7:30, Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. For tickets and more information after September, check the Players website: Highlandscashiersplayers.org or leave a message at 828-526-8084.

Thurs., Oct. 18

• The Highlands School Scholarship Golf Tournament at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. The event kicks off at 7:30am with breakfast and practice on the range tee and putting green. A 9am shotgun start is followed by cock-

tails, lunch and awards ceremony. The cost for the event is \$150 per player. For sponsorship information or to sign up, please contact event co-chairs, Brian Stiehler (787-2778) or Rebecca Shuler (526-2118).

• Join Patti Wheeler, MD, as she presents a program entitled Breast Cancer Awareness at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital on Thursday at 5:30 pm in the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 103. This free event is part of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital's Evening with the Docs series. Reserve your space today. Light refreshments will be provided. The event is limited to 50 attendees. RSVP to Brittany Drynam at 828-526-1345.

• At Hudson Library from 5-7 p.m., Indivisible Highlands will feature Executive Director of the Vecinos Farmworkers Health Program will bring a guest speaker who actually lived through the pain of our protracted immigration process from 2010 to 2018, when he recently became a U.S. citizen. A chance to hear firsthand his experiences in becoming a citizen.

Thurs., Oct. 18

• Rob Gudger will be featured, along his "live" wolves in a special presentation at 7 pm on at the Sapphire Valley Resort Community Center, located 3 miles east of Cashiers. Gudger and his wolves are dedicated to allowing the audience to get up close to one of our most misunderstood animals and hopefully develop a better appreciation and understanding. This presentation is open to the public and made possible by Mountain Wildlife Days Outreach and the the Sapphire Valley Resort management. Admission price for adults is \$5.00 with children admitted free. For more information contact John Edwards at www.blackbears66.com or call the SV Community Center at 743-7663.

• Men's Night Out at Jannie Bean Custom Jewelry on south 2nd Street from 5-8 p.m. Great food, beverages and door prizes.

Fri., Oct. 19

• Join your friends at Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for a rare opportunity to hike a Cashiers landmark- Rock Mountain! This will be a challenging trek and space is limited. For details and to reserve your spot contact the land trust at 828-526-1111 or info.hitrust@earthlink.net.

Sat.-Sun., Oct. 20-21

• Fall Colors Fine Art Show indoor exhibition & sale at the Highlands Civic Center on N. 4th Street, 10a to 5p.

Sat., Oct. 20

• Sky Valley, GA Fallfest. 10a to 3p. Cars - antiques, classics, hot rods and other unique cars & trucks. Live Entertainment, art & crafts.

• At PAC, Saint-Saens' Samson et Dalila, Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) at 12:55 with a pre-opera dis-

• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

Thurs.-Sun. Oct. 25-28

• HCP presents Mauritius by Theresa Rebeck. Performances will be held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Thursdays through Sundays. Evening shows begin at 7:30, Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. For tickets and more information after September, check the Players website: Highlandscashiersplayers.org or leave a message at 828-526-8084.

Fri., - Sun., Oct. 26-28

• At Highlands Playhouse, Foodie Film Festival. Movies about FOOD! Julie and Julia, Chocolat, Ratatouille, Wasted!, Back to Burgundy, Sideways and more. 1, 4 and 7 p.m. For more information, call 828-526-2695.

Fri., Oct. 26

• Summit Charter School is now enrolling K-10 for the 2019-2020 school year! Come walk the beautiful public school campus, tour the classrooms, meet the faculty and learn more about becoming a Summit Bear. Summit is a tuition-free public school in Cashiers that engages students in learning experiences that stimulate discovery, inspire excellence and nurture a positive influence in an ever-changing world. Learn more about

the school's individualized education and place-based programs on Friday at 8:45 a.m. For more information or to RSVP, please call 828-743-5755 or email mHUDSON@summitschool.org.

Sat., Oct. 27

• At PAC, Puccini's La Fanciulla Del West, Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) at 12:55 with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

Nov 1 - Dec 30

• At The Bascom, interweaving Southern Baskets. The art of basketry, including examples of Native American works and fine art baskets.

Sat., Nov. 3

• At PAC, Julie by August Strindberg, at 1 p.m., Live via Satellite Series featuring the National Theatre (London.) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

Sat., Nov. 10

• At PAC, Muhly's Marnie, Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) at 12:55 with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org

• See **EVENTS** page 24

Rob Gudger and his wolf tales to be featured at Sapphire Valley Resort

One of Western North Carolina's most popular wildlife advocates, Rob Gudger will be featured, along with his "live" wolves in a special presentation at 7 pm on October 18 at the Sapphire Valley Resort Community Center, located 3 miles east of Cashiers. Gudger and his wolves are dedicated to allowing the audience to get up close to one of our most misunderstood animals and hopefully develop a better appreciation and understanding.

Rob, a wildlife biologist from North Carolina State and currently employed with the Great Smoky Moun-



tain National Park, is well known for his efforts to share insights regarding the value of wolves to our ecosystem. When wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone major positive changes were observed in the landscape and the diversity of other animals.

This presentation is open to the public and made possible by Mountain Wildlife Days Outreach and the

Sapphire Valley Resort management. Admission price for adults is \$5.00 with children admitted free. For more information contact John Edwards at www.blackbears66.com or call the SV Community Center at 743-7663.

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Would you rather have rare old growth trees or de facto clear-cuts?

The Forest Service has proposed the controversial Southside Timber Sale in the Chattooga River watershed in Jackson & Macon County. It could be approved, but is still under consideration.

The Chattooga Wild & Scenic River is the headwaters of the Savannah River, between South Carolina and Georgia. Part of the project is within 1 mile of the Town Limits of Highlands and the headwaters of the Tennessee River that flows into the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Areas impacted would be Bull Pen, Granite City, Elliott Rock & Terrapin Mountain areas, Brushy Mountain, Slick Rock Scenic Area, Foothills Trail and Whitewater Falls.

You can express your opinion to Your Senators and Representatives

Everyone has two Senators and a Representative in Congress.*

This proposed sale has multi-state issues

MAKE YOUR OPINION KNOWN - MAKE A DIFFERENCE

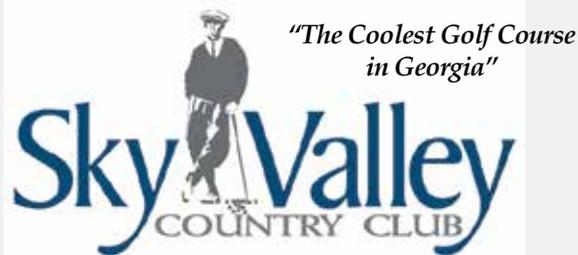
Some points to consider in your comments are:

- Extremely rare OLD GROWTH trees that are 200+ years old would be cut
- Logging State Natural Heritage Areas, Green Salamander habitat, potential wilderness areas
- Wide spread herbicide chemical treatment that will reduce biodiversity (kills Dogwoods, Azaleas, Maples and more)
- Government timber sales usually lose taxpayer's money

For additional information contact:

Chattooga Conservancy #706-782-6097;
Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust #828-526-1111;
or call #828-524-4444

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...FITNESS continued from page 13

ercise more and have your doctor review your blood chemistry more often? If you say, yes then you will have never had the stroke and you will have many more years of feeling good."

I'm willing to bet he would have jumped on it. The Asheville lady devouring the super-sized cookie before her dinner may still have a choice but the odds are she won't take it.

How about you? Are you going to wait for the mythological, cosmic voice or are you going to take your do-over now while

you actually have a choice?

My week will be made if just one person emails me with confirmation that they have decided to take action on their health.

• *Hank is a local fitness trainer specializing in the age 50 and over population. He is certified by The American College of Sports Medicine as an Exercise Physiologist, Certified Cancer Exercise Trainer and is a licensed NC Massage therapist specializing in Therapeutic Stretching. For comments email: hank@thebestexerciseforseniors.com*

...EVENTS continued from page 23

highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047. Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands.

Sat., Nov. 17

• At PAC, King Lear by Shakespeare at 1 p.m., Live via Satellite Series featuring the National Theatre (London.) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047.

Sat., Nov. 24

• Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Car-

oling in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street beginning at 6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 1

• Annual Olde Mountain Christmas Parade on Main Street beginning at 11 a.m.

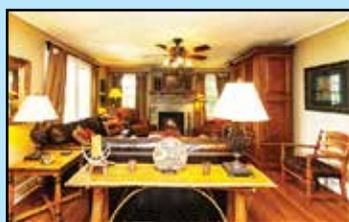
• At PAC, Mozart's The Magic Flute at 2pm. Live via Satellite featuring the Metropolitan Opera (NYC) with a pre-opera discussion 30 minutes prior. (After the Highlands Christmas Parade) Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org, at the door or by calling: 828.526.9047.

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MLS #88874 \$297,000
3BR/3 bath - FURNISHED
On two private lots near the top of Moon Mtn. Hiking/waterfalls



MLS #88942 \$1,050,000.
6 BR/ 2 baths
Old Highlands charm on over 6.5 acres
Mountain views & EASY WALK to town



MLS #88979 \$312,500
3BR/ 3 baths with bonus rooms. Quiet neighborhood in Flat Mountain area. It's the little cottage that LIVES LARGE.



MLS #86858 \$950,000
3BR/3 baths
Walk to town with mountain views
Contemporary design with log siding



MLS #89025 \$977,000
5BR/ 4 baths. FURNISHED.
Beautiful, well maintained and custom built. 4+ acres in private location in Flat Mountain Road area.



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• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

2018 Real Estate Round-up

The year 2018 has been a robust year for real estate on the Plateau. With volume up 37% and unit sales up 12%, activity has been fast and furious. The largest increase by category is on the luxury side, with homes selling between two to three million dollars up a whopping 120% in volume and 112% in number of homes sold: seventeen so far this year versus eight the same time last year. Seeing what is in due diligence and pending, I fully expect that percentage increase to be consistent the rest of the year.

However, prices have not followed suit. Due to the high inventory and the shadow market continuing to exist due to the stronger numbers, buyers are still able to negotiate favorable contracts. But this may not last much longer. The message to buyers is that now is an excellent time to buy in a rising market and at the end of the



Jody Lovell
828-526-4104

highlandssotthebysrealty.com

record high.

• *Jody and Wood Lovell own Highlands Sotheby's International Realty with three locations that successfully covers the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau. With thirty brokers, Highlands Sotheby's offers an unmatched blend of local expertise, world-class marketing power and property exposure. Call them today to help with your real estate needs at (828) 526-4104.*

season.

Another trend that is optimistic and encouraging is that we are seeing younger buyers enter the market. It is fun and refreshing to work with young families with children and younger couples who are empty nesters find their mountain retreat. For all the reasons that each of us came to this area, this group has discovered their own rationale to live and work in this true paradise. Remember 2018 is not over, and we have a full quarter to end the year on a

Minutes from Main Street 4 Bedroom bordering USFS, great value \$419,000



Highlands Mountain Club Condo Great view, ready to remodel \$184,999



**3 bedroom, 4.5 Acres, Scaly \$275,000
117 Acres between Highlands & Franklin \$394,500
Whisper Lake - Buildable lots starting at \$7,000
Bank Owned Foreclosure - Log Cabin \$275,000**

**Ted Schmidt, Realtor
Carolina Select Real Estate, Inc.
828-279-2732**



Kay Deckman
917-363-5700
kaydeckman@yahoo.com

Highlands

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DOWNTOWN OFFICE: (828) 526-8300
highlandssir.com**

Joe Deckman
347-749-6468
deckman43@gmail.com



\$795,000 • HCMLS# 97556

A beautiful contemporary home on 46 acres of property surrounded on three sides by National Forest. The home has two wings. Part of the house can be used as an in-law suite with its own kitchen, bedrooms, and living area. Approximately 20 minutes from Western Carolina University and 10 minutes from the Bear Lake boat ramp. There is an additional 19.7-acre parcel available for purchase near the listed property Co-listed with Jody Lovell.



\$995,000 • MLS# 89133A

This is a beautifully situated traditional home in HFCC on North Big Bearpen Mountain Road with views of Whiteside Mountain, Shortoff Mountain, Chimney Top Mountain in Cashiers, and distant Mount Toxaway. The waterfall on HFCC golf hole #15 is visible from the home's front deck. Open floor plan. Stone fireplace is focal point in the living room and dining area. Two master bedrooms on one end and two bedrooms on the other. Finished lower level with full bath and a deck.



\$599,000 • MLS# 89218

At the end of HFCC golf hole #5 with a commanding view of the green and down the fairway, this home offers excellent views to be enjoyed from the main floor deck and the lower level area. The main floor features two bedrooms and two baths with a large great room which opens to the expansive covered wraparound deck. The attractive stone fireplace is a focal point in the living room area. The terrace level has another living area with a second stone fireplace plus a kitchenette.



\$429,000 • MLS# 88084

A beautifully maintained home with updated finishes backing up to the Highlands falls County Golf course on hole number 4. From the front entrance, you can see HFCC golf hole number 5. This well-designed home has an open living space and one level living with the master bedroom on one end and the other two bedrooms on the other end of the home. The stone fireplace provides an inviting focal point for the living room, dining, and kitchen area.

Public Open House

Sunday, October 14 1-4 p.m.

1935 Whiteside Cove Road, Highlands



MLS# 89187 • Offered for \$645,000

Beautifully renovated home with mountain views from every room.

Directions: From Cashiers crossroads: take 107 south then at 1.9 miles turn left on to Whiteside Cove Road. From Highlands Main Street: travel to the end of Horse Cove Road then left on Whiteside Cove Road and it's 6 miles on the right.

Ellie Hogan, Broker • 828-200-0488 • Country Club Properties-828-526-5010

Tickets on sale for HCP's 'Mauritius'

By Virginia Talbot

Mauritius by Rebecca Rebeck. It's a rather strange title for a play, but when you know what it signifies, you will be intrigued. The play opened on Broadway in 2007, an extraordinary event in itself, as Broadway these days seems to be given over to musicals almost exclusively and it has to be a rather extraordinary straight play to get there.

That's what director, Michael Lanzilotta, and cast of the Highlands Cashiers Players believe as they rehearse this suspenseful drama that opens Thursday, October 18, at Highlands Performing Arts Center.

And just so you know, Mauritius is a tropical island off the coast of Africa where two early postage stamps were printed in 1847 with an error that has made them worth millions to stamp collectors. This is factual—one of the stamps sold at auction not too long ago for four million dollars. Who ever thought stamps collecting could be so expensive or lucrative or, in this play, so dangerous!

However, the play is about so much more than the valuable stamp collection



which contains the Mauritius stamps. Two half sisters have inherited it, but their differing natures and a complicated family history has them at odds over what to do with the stamps, while shady stamp dealers and a dangerous buyer plot to acquire it. And as suits a drama of suspense, Mauritius concludes with a surprising

development.

The cast includes Jamie Thomas and Virginia Talbot as the sisters. The seedy collector/dealers trying to acquire the stamps by means foul or fair are Philip (played by Craig Eister), Dennis (played by Lance Trudel) and Sterling (played by David Spivey).

Performances will be held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Thursdays through Sundays, October 18-21, and 25-28. Evening shows begin at 7:30, Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. The box office for Season Subscriber will be open Thursday and Friday, October 11 and 12. Other tickets will go on sale on Saturday, October 13. For tickets, leave a message at 828-526-8084.

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A picture book setting on the pond overlooking the 15th green in Cullasaja Club, this 3bd/3ba/1/2B split bedroom plan offers the ultimate in easy one level living. If you are looking for a bright one level home, a lush private setting, and a very secure community. Offered at \$740,000. mls #89498



Not a cookie Cutter house with this great modern located off Ridge Trail in Cold Springs. Expanses of Glass frame in the nice wooded and mountain views. Living room with fireplace, Functional kitchen, great porch/deck. Master on Main floor, 2 guest, 2 baths on the upper level plus a loft with ladder access. Offered at \$498,000. mls #89423



Views of Terrapin Mountain from every room. Antique 'Wormy Chestnut' flooring throughout main level. Well renovated with open floor plan. Main level has two bedrooms and baths, vaulted ceilings, living room with large brick wood burning fireplace and a well appointed kitchen. Dining area with walk-out to side deck. Lower level has guest bedroom and full bath, office/media room and spacious family room with stone wood burning fireplace. Between Highlands and Cashiers. Offered at \$675,000. MLS #89187



Privacy at the end of the road. 2 bedrooms and 1 bath on main level with 1 bedroom and bath upstairs with additional sleeping area. Open deck and covered screened porch to enjoy the spectacular mountain view. Fenced yard and garden/storage shed. Owners have a great rental history. Offered at \$440,000. mls #89458



Located on desirable Bowery Road, this Mountain contemporary is in move in condition and has been totally updated. Everything for main level living including the Master on the main level with an up to date kitchen, living room and bonus room each having fireplaces. Lower level has 3 bedrooms and 3 baths. Open decks to enjoy the spectacular Whiteside mountain view. over 3 acres of privacy with possible future homesite. Offered at \$2,495,000. mls #89390



A wonderful 3 bedroom, 4.5 bath home located on a knoll with mountain views of Whiteside and Bearpen. Main level has new appliances in the custom kitchen and wood floors with vaulted ceilings. Terrace level has a guest suite with additional living room, additional laundry and a huge finished overflow area. 2 car garage with additional storage. Offered at \$895,000. mls #89202



A walk-to-town home just a short walk to Main Street. The backyard is waterfront with a large babbling creek and outdoor gazebo and open deck to sit beside the water. The home has an open floor plan and 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 4 fireplaces, and large outdoor decks on each level. go see this charming home. \$595,000 mls #89456



Main level has an open floor plan and stunning custom built kitchen. Dining area opens up to large screened in porch. One bedroom, full bath, half bath and bonus room all on the main level. Upstairs is a private master suite with large bathroom. Partially finished basement with two car garage, bonus room and full bath. Beautiful 6-acre lot with gorgeous landscaping complete with a basketball court. Offered at \$599,000. mls #89536



Adorable 3BR/3BA mountain cabin in the woods. Antler chandeliers, custom crafted mountain laurel handrails, wormy chestnut cabinets and river-rock fireplace. The huge deck sits under a canopy of trees. Master BR and bath are on the main level with french doors that lead out to the deck and firepit. The 2nd Master Bedroom in the loft has vaulted ceilings and on suite. The fully equipped kitchen has all stainless steel appliances. Offered at \$419,000. mls #89203



Located on a private, almost flat lot is this comfortable mountain home. Energy efficient soapstone wood burning stove/fireplace. Functional kitchen with Brick wall accent that doubles as a passive solar collector. Huge glass room on the rear of the house takes in the wonderfully landscaped grounds. Powder room and Den together with a large laundry room and loads of storage that leads to a 2 car garage. Upstairs has 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. A great pet friendly neighborhood for quiet strolls and long walks. Offered at \$750,000. mls #89449



This property has over 6 acres with a stream and a view of Blackrock mountain. easy access off a paved, state maintained road with no HOA fees. Private well and driveway. Large and spacious, with a large screened porch. The house is in move in condition, with updated kitchen and baths. 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, plus a study and carport. Do not miss viewing this charming family home. Offered at \$1,350,000. mls #88115



Great mountain vistas go with this easy living ranch that features a split 3 bedroom, 2 bath plan. Cathedral ceiling in living room, with an open galley kitchen and a huge new deck in the works. Flanked by USFS lands, city water, paved road. Offered at \$539,000. mls #89146



Great entry level with great view. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths plus a lower level guest quarters. Views to the south and west. Offered at \$229,000. mls #89425



Walk to Mirror Lake from this sweet 2BR/2.5 BA cottage off Hickory Hill Rd. Meticulously maintained home with vaulted ceilings, solid oak floors, pine walls, unique woodwork and a freestanding wood stove. Great room, dining area, kitchen, and MBR w/ bath are on the main level with a cozy loft bedroom and half bath upstairs. Screened-in porch. In perfect condition. Offered at \$358,000. mls #89211



This residence on the knoll above the famous "Bear Shadow" has unparalleled views of Whiteside, and Terrapin mountains and views into South Carolina. Includes the adjacent lot The master suite is on the main level, with private terrace and breathtaking view. Three bedrooms with ensuite baths are upstairs in addition to a family room and studio. The Bear Shadow residence embraces luxurious comfort as well as beauty for the ultimate retreat or full time residence. Offered at \$2,495,000. mls #89314

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Too Much Talk, Too Little Reverence



Dr. Mark Ford
First Baptist Church
Highlands

The air is filled with noise. Not just the sounds of cars passing by, construction, dogs barking, planes flying overhead, and the like. I'm talking about human noise – an overabundance of words. Have you noticed that people are speaking more quickly and with more volume? Because of social media like tweets and texting, we have adapted our conversations to reflect our need to engage in 10-second verbiage to get in our limited words and characters. But worse, we have raised the volume to drown out competition, and the crescendo in restaurants is amazing, almost deafening.

We talk in abbreviations to get in our point quickly, and loudly so our voice will be heard and not be drowned out by the competition. Watch any cable news program and even our government at work, and you will see – hear – what I mean.

The validity and truthfulness of any point or argument is no longer enough. We must raise the volume or even yell to win the moment. But this is not the way the world is to operate. In fact, much speaking and loud speaking is sin.

Solomon said in Proverbs 10:19, "When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent." And James said in 1:19, "Know this, my beloved brethren: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

The Bible is clear in these and other texts – those who talk a lot sin a lot. We don't need to speak louder or win the moment with an abundance of words to have an impact. We just need to speak the truth. The truth doesn't need volume or dominance. The truth can stand on its own. Wisdom uses an economy of words properly constructed and delivered. Emojis, tweets and hashtags will not suffice, but neither will volume or superfluity of words that overwhelm.

In all of this I want to make two points. First, our present mode of conversation – if we can call it that – shows little respect for other people. We seem not to hear anyone but are just focused on being heard. We are a nation that is quick to speak and too sure of our own opinions.

• See **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** page 29

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

BLUEVALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965

Sundays: School: 10 a.m., Worship: 11

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

CHAPEL OF THE SKY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.; Worship

Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

8:30a quiet service, 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship

Service. Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper at homes

First Thursdays 5p bi-lingual Holy Eucharist

CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470

Sun. 10:45am, S.S. 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.

Tues. Guys study 8am, Gals 10am.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street • Sunday Service 11 a.m.

Testimony meeting: 3rd Wednesday at 5 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.

1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.

Wednesdays – Supper at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School 10:30am: Middle & High School;

10:45am: Child. Program, 10:45am: Worship Service

Wed.: 5pm Dinner (\$7 adult, \$2 child), 6pm CBC U.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. W. Bentley Manning • 526-2968

Monday-Friday: Morning Prayer at 8:15a. Sundays: 8 am

Holy Eucharist Rite I; 9 am Sunday School; 10:30 am Holy

Eucharist Rite II. Childcare available at 10:30

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor

220 Main Street, Highlands

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 & Communion: 8:30 & 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

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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.: Bible Study 10a; Morning Worship 10:45a., Evening Worship,

6p. 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

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Sun: School and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.;

Worship/Communion: 10:30

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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.

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CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Father Casimir – 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

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.

LITTLE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day

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Old-Fashioned hymn-sing Sunday 7-8p.

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Nursery available for Rite II services

Sept 6-Oct 25- Informal Evening Eucharist- 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • ufranklin.org

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 28

This narcissism says that I know all the answers and can learn from no one. Conversations – verbal and social media – are bent toward being heard because we are the only ones that are significant. And if I'm not being heard, I will raise my volume, increase my tweets, text often, and out-Facebook all competitors.

Second, and my biggest concern, is that we take the same approach to God. Our prayers have become tweets and text messages and may approach voluminous verbiage where we have our say and walk away, so to speak. Another way of seeing this – we lack reverence in our conversations with God. We talk and don't listen. Solomon said

again in Ecclesiastes 5, "Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not now what they are doing. Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore, let your words be few... a fool's voice comes with many words."

So, my point is simple. Listen more to others and don't feel compelled by pride to be heard. When you speak, use a wise economy of words and speak only the truth. Turn down the volume and in doing so, the emotions that drown out your words and theirs. And most important, reverence God – listen first to Him. Listen to His Word and come into His presence with the knowledge that He has a word for you.

Archbishop John blesses animals at Old Scaly Mountain School House last Saturday



On Saturday morning October 6 at the Old Scaly Mountain School House, Archbishop John Erbelding who is a Franciscan celebrated the remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi, a 12th century priest who was called the saint of nature and all God's creatures. There was a large turnout and all were very well behaved. Archbishop John has celebrated this yearly for over 30 years.



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...USFS continued from page 1



A "hidden" falls. — Photo by Jack Borneman

Right now efforts have shifted to the Croatan National Forest on the coast.

Funding only allows for one facilities engineer who is located in Asheville.

"With significant infrastructure issues on a few units due to storm damage this summer some of our projects have been put on hold.

Right now, the engineer is on the coast accessing damage to recreational sites on the Croatan Ranger District," said Mike Wilkins Nantahala Forest District Manager.

But still, the current schedule includes maintenance on sites in the Highlands area.

Bridal Veil

Over the last decade boulders began slipping off the rock face at the falls, which changed the iconic experience of driving under the falls. Still, visitors pull over to snap photos so access has to

• See NFS page 36

Consider it an Appetizer...



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(828) 526-2695

...BEARS continued from page 1

out of the dumpster business.”

Town staff were instructed to look into the cost of purchasing bear-proof bins for each business at the last Board of Commissioners meeting. Taylor said other factors beyond the cost of individual bins include who is going to pay for it, how will this be implemented, does it work with the current garbage pick-up plan?

“The staff will be studying this and in time we’ll re-evaluate,” said Taylor.

If that time falls around December then the town will have even more data to guide the development of a bear management plan thanks to the efforts of Mitchell Ryan. Ryan is a University of North Carolina senior who is spending a semester at the Highlands Biological Station taking classes and conducting research. Mentoring Ryan is B.E.A.R. (Bear Education and Resource) Task Force whose goal is to promote safe, harmonious coexistence between humans and bears.

“It appears from everything I’ve heard, the number of bear/human conflicts have risen to levels unheard of in Highlands,” said Cynthia Strain, member of B.E.A.R. Task Force. “There have been bad years before, but this year takes the cake.”

Strain added this is not a new problem that was brought up for the first time.

“We’ve been asking the town for several years to do something to address some of these issues,” said Strain. “We’ve talked with them, provided information, put articles in the media, held numerous programs and nothing’s really changed. The problems have just gotten worse.”

B.E.A.R. hopes to propose a bear management plan to the town board after Ryan has conducted his research.

“The people in Highlands are more than ready for this,” said Strain. “We need

laws, ordinances, fines, accountability. So many other towns have done this. We need something that’s going to work, a partial fix is not a remedy.”

Ryan will be interviewing people regarding their bear interactions, speaking with community stakeholders such as police and fire departments, and town leadership. He will also analyze sightings, reports, and conflicts.

“If we compile a report of the causes of human/bear conflict then the town can develop a bear management plan and address it in a systematic way,” said Ryan.

Debbie Grossman, owner of Fresser’s Eatery, has had many interactions with bears at her business along Oak Street and keeps her garbage in a bear-proof shed.

“The bear came by and dumped a tank of oil in the alley, twice,” said Grossman. “The second time he just tore it apart.”

She added that her shed has been damaged several times in the past with bears tearing off the handle, but they have never made it inside.

“The more we take over their space, they’re going to come into ours,” she said. “As a town, we need to do something besides shoot them.”

Sarah Workman, Highlands Biological Station field-side coordinator, said that once Ryan’s data is assessed the town can make educated decisions.

“These will be documented data and any issues can be addressed to develop a bear management plan,” said Workman.

• On Friday, October 26, bring your bear ideas to the Mayor’s Community Coffee at the library at 11 am.

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at the
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THANK YOU!!

- We are so thankful for your support of all of our programs, lectures, trips and classes we offered in 2018. It was an outstanding year and we could not have accomplished it without our wonderful members and community.
- We are busy preparing for a stellar season in 2019 and with a full calendar of classes and programs. The new catalog will be ready in March but while you are waiting for it to arrive, now is the perfect time to renew your membership.
- Your membership renewal is fundamental to our organization so we can continue to offer the fantastic programs and speakers you have come to expect and deserve from CLE.
- Please take a minute before you leave for the season to renew your membership by calling 526-8811, visiting our website www.clehighlands.com or dropping it in the mail to CLE at P.O. Box 2046 Highlands, NC 28741
- We look forward to seeing you in 2019! Have a wonderful, safe winter.

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• HS SPORTS •

Volleyball and soccer seasons are wrapping up

High school volleyball played Blue Ridge for their senior night. They beat them in strong three sets, finishing the last set 25-5.

They don't have anymore home games this year but their conference tournament starts on Monday, October 15th. They will play Blue Ridge in Nantahalla.

Middle school volleyball played Rabun Gap in their conference finals. They also played Cullowhee.

They lost to Rabun Gap in the third set, winning one set but unable to finish it out. They lost to Cullowhee in two sets. They have no more home games for the



Kedra McCall

season, only a jambo-ree on Saturday October 13th in Jackson county.

Highschool soccer played Smokey Mountain and Blue Ridge. They lost to Smokey 7-0.

They then lost to Blue Ridge after a hard fought game, 3-2. Their next home game will be on Saturday, October 13th. They will play Polk County starting at 10 am.

Middle school soccer played Rabun Gap and Cullowhee. They lost to Rabun Gap in conference tournament 3-0 and lost to Cullowhee 3-2. Once they play Blue Ridge their season will be over.

Come support your Highlanders as their seasons wrap up.

• THANKS •

...for a successful, spirit-filled Fall Festival

On behalf of the Highlands School PTO, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all who helped make our annual Fall Festival Saturday, Oct. 6 such a tremendous success.

A HUGE thank you goes to our awesome Senior Class. You all are truly an amazing group of young men and women!

Thank you to the Class of 2019 family members who volunteered their time (Gina & Cricket Billingsley, Debbie Holt, Lindsay & Ryan Gearhart, Cyndee Collins, Selwyn Chalker, Holly Laughridge, Mark & Cali Smolarsky, Tanya Sullivan, Grant & Teresa Zachary) the faculty and staff of Highlands School and the PTO board members who all volunteered their energy to run the festival.

Thank you to our brave volunteers who braved the dunking booth: Stephanie Smathers, Coach Green, Brian Aulisio, Bry-

an Dearth, and Mike Carrier.

Thank you to Chris Duffy for running our cake walk and keeping us entertained.

Thank you to David & Lori Bee for the delicious BBQ dinner. Thank you to Jerry Moore and Kilwin's for the donation of the caramel apples and Coca-Cola for their drink donations.

Thank you to Buddy Miller for the use of his tractor for the hay ride.

Thank you to all the parents and volunteers who made cakes and baked goods.

Thank you to the following local businesses for our raffle donations: Bryson's Food Store, Reeve's Hardware, Main Street Nursery and Bountyland Gas. Thank you to Valery Bates, Nicole Lui and Teresa Ford and all their minions for putting on the haunted house.

Thank you to Melanie Miller

• See THANKS page 33



2018 MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER

JJ POSTELL, JAMES EARP, NATHAN KEENER, ANNA STIEHLER, GETSI HERNANDEZ, OWEN MUNOZ, CONOR THORSKE, LANDON GREEN, HENRY LOPEZ, KENZIE WOODS, JD HEAD, FINNEAUS GARNER, AND RAQUEL STILES.



2018 MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

AISLYNN LUCK, JASMINE OAKLEY, OLIVIA COLE, KARMEN JENKINS, KAREN GOMEZ DE DIOS, ASHLYNN WILSON, GRACIE MCCALL, EMILY BRIGGS, SHIRLEY OVANDO, ALISHA CHASTAIN, SYDNEY FIGEL, KATIE EARP AND CALLIE ZACHARY WITH COACHES DORI MOSURCHIS (LEFT) AND ANGELA SWAIN, (RIGHT).

- PHOTOS BY BRIAN O'SHEA



2018 VARSITY LADY HIGHLANDERS

JORDAN CARRIER, TRISTAN CASTRO, AMY COUNCIL, JESLYN HEAD, HANNAH HOLT, KEDRA MCCALL, ABBY OLVERA, MORGAN OLVERA, AVA SCHMITT, BAILEY SCHMITT, and REESE SCHMITT.



2018 LADY HIGHLANDERS JV TEAM

ZOE BERKSTRESSER, ELLA CROOK, ALYSON DAYTON, MADI DRUMMONDS, EMMA MINTON, ANNE MARIE MOORE, ERIN SANBORN, JULIA MAY SCHMITT, MARLEE UBERTINO, TESSA WISNIEWSKI, and BRANDY ZAGAL.

– Photos by Brian O'Shea

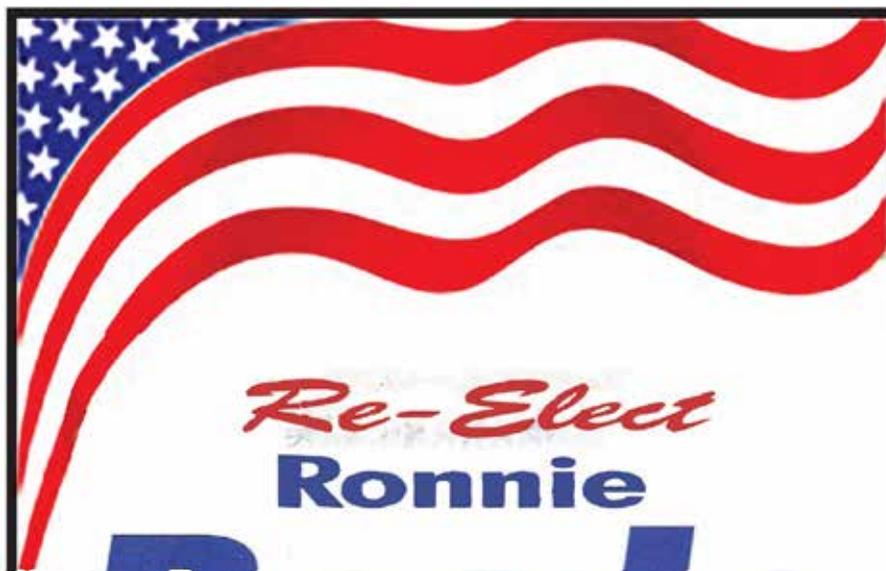
...THANKS continued from page 32

for all your work coordinating the theme boxes. The theme boxes get more creative every year!

Thank you to all the parents and community members who contributed to the boxes. The list goes on and on...if I have left you off the list it is not that I'm

not appreciative...just forgetful! Highlands School is fortunate to have such generous community support. It truly makes a difference in the lives of our children.

With a grateful heart,
Andrea Chalker



Re-Elect
Ronnie
Beale
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Email: rbeale1955@yahoo.com

Early Voting Begins Wednesday, Oct. 17th

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ronnie Beale

Highlands School 2018 Fall Festival

- Saturday, Oct. 6 -

Photos by Kim Lewicki



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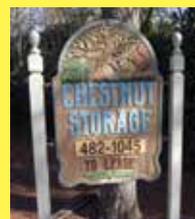
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FIREWOOD FOR SALE

...NFS continued from page 30

be reengineered.

"The design for a parking area is about 90% done, but we have no funding right now so our design engineer in Asheville has it on hold while working on other projects," said Wilkins.

Whitewater Falls

A contract to replace a large culvert that has separated under the parking lot that has caused a crack in the pavement and some settling is in the works. The plan is to complete the work over the winter. This is part of Jackson County's 77,236 acres the division watches over.

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Pat Allen
REALTY GROUP

Pat Allen, Broker in Charge



Summer crews repaired about half of the trail and installed a series of steps on the upstream end. The plan is to finish next summer

Bull Pen Bridge

Recently a set of stone stairs have been installed so fishermen, swimmers and paddlers can get to water safely.

The County Line Trail was recently completed and the Greens Creek Trail is under construction. It goes from the Chattooga Trail to the river and work on it is weather de-

pending.

Highlands has its very own watchdog on all things national forest, a staunch supporter, in Jack Borneman who knows to the penny what is spent and where.

He is constantly on the look out for new areas that he believes should be accessible to the public.

His latest find is a "hidden" 140-ft. waterfall he would like the USFS to consider that is visible from private land

• See NFS page 38



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ITEMS FOR SALE

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used fine furniture, some from England. Pub table with chairs, formal sofa, his and her parlor chairs, Henredon bedroom set, accent tables and collectibles. Please call or text Faye 828-421-7197 or 828-421-3785. (st. 8/30)

JACUZZI, WHIRLPOOL BATH, 23

Jets, 72" x 60", 3 years old, cost \$6,500; sell for \$1,800 404-358-3076. (st. 7/19)

WANTED

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HORSE HELPER

wanted in Blue Valley area. Looking for individual with equine experience to feed and clean stalls for 3-horses a few days a week. \$12 per hour. Please, contact Meg @ 828-713-6101 (st. 10/11)

NEGLECTED FRUIT/NUT TREES

AND LEAVES/WOOD CHIPS! Many Hands Peace Farm, a local non-profit educational resource, is seeking any and all fruit or nut trees in need of harvest. This includes but is not limited to: apple, pear, hickory nut, black walnut, and heavy-fruited oaks. We will do all the work and share the harvest with our greater community in order to take advantage of the natural abundance around us! If you know of any accessible locations for these or other trees, please contact either farm co-manager, Joey or Ben: Joey.kyle@themountainrlc.org, Ben.galindo@themountainrlc.org In addition, our farm happily accepts delivery of leaves, mulch, and pine needles. We will use the material for building soil and keeping our poultry coops clean! If you have this kind of yard waste please contact Joey or Ben. (10/4)

HELP WANTED

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-- Local Tree Company seeking Tree Climbers. Past experience is a must and references are required Full=part time needed. Salary is based on experience. Also seeking groundsmen crew members. Past experience is a plus but company will train. Full/part time needed. Salary is based on experience. We are looking for reliable, drug-free and hard working individuals. Drivers license and a clean driving record is a plus. If interested, please call owner at 828-342-

1974 to set up an interview. (Oct. 4)

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1.21 ACRES FOR SALE BY OWNER - OTTO, NC - \$28,000. Lot 12 Quail Haven Road. Otto, NC. Price not firm...open for negotiation. Please email if interested to ddmars15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. Please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

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INTOWN, upper level One Bedroom apartment \$800.00 includes utilities. Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals 828-526-3717. (st. 10/11)

INTOWN, Three bedroom/ two bath home in Mirror Lake area. FURNISHED. \$1400. not including utilities. Yard and screened porch. Annual lease. NO pets. No Smokers. Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals 828-526-3717. (st. 10/11)

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APARTMENT FOR RENT.

2bed/1bath, Scaly Mountain, NC. \$650 per month, utilities included. Annual lease first month and \$650 security deposit. No pets. References required. Contact Sandy Hall 828-526-3752. (st. 9/13)

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Walk to Main Street. 1BR 1BA. \$3,500 per month. 3 month minimum. Sorry, no pets, no smoking. Adults only. 828-421-1709. (st. 5/10)

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• LEGALS •

18 SP 99

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NORTH CAROLINA,, MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed Tucker-Joyner Properties and guaranteed by Harold J. Joyner to Smith, Thompson, Shaw & Manause, PA as Trustee in the amount of \$555,000.00, payable to Capital City Bank and secured by a Deed of Trust dated January 10, 2005 and recorded in Book G-29, at Page 1578, Macon County Registry, North Carolina.

Default having been made of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Scott D. Neumann, having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, and the holder of the note evidencing said default having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door of the county courthouse where the property is located, or the usual and customary location at the county courthouse for conducting the sale on October 29, 2018 at 10:00 AM, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property situated in Macon County, North Carolina, to wit:

Being all of: Lot 1, containing 1.27 acres, Lot 2, containing 0.92 acre, and Lot 3, containing 0.81 acre, together with that certain 0.59 acre parcel located above Lot 1 and 3, containing 0.81 acre, together with that certain 0.59 acre parcel located above Lot 1 and designated as "Park Area" on plat referenced herein, all of Highlands Gorge and further shown and described on a survey dated May 16, 2005, prepared by Benjimim a. West, RLS, and recorded Card 4508, Macon County Registry, together with the join, non-exclusive right to the use of easements shown on said plat, and the additional 50-foot access easement conveyed to Grantor herein by deed recorded in Deed Book W-25, Pages 1438-1440, Macon County Registry.

*The general description of the property is provided for convenience but is not guaranteed; the legal description in the Deed of Trust controls.

A cash deposit (no personal checks) of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts are immediately due and owing. **THIRD PARTY PURCHASERS MUST PAY THE EXCISE TAX AND THE RECORDING COSTS FOR THEIR DEED.**

Said property to be offered pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance AS IS WHERE IS. There are no representations of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at, or relating to the property being offered for sale. This sale is made subject to all prior liens, unpaid taxes, any unpaid land transfer taxes, special assessments, easements, rights of way, deeds of release, and any other encumbrances or exceptions of record. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owner(s) of the property is/are Tucker-Joyner Properties, LLC.

An Order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving the notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination [NCGS 45-21.16A(b)(2)]. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy.

**Scott D. Neumann
P.O. Box 2020
535 N. 4th Street
Highlands, NC 28741
(828) 526-0200 • (828) 526-0218 Fax
Oct. 4, Oct. 11**

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands Police entries from Sept. 23. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

Sept. 23

- At noon, officers were called about a burglary at OEI where someone entered a room and took a ring.

- At 3:41 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Spruce Street.

Sept. 29

- A little past midnight, officers were called about disorderly conduct in the OEI parking lot area on Spring Street where someone was banging on an SUV door and yelling.

Oct. 1

- At 6:15 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Church Street.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Sept. 20.

- At 3:09 p.m., the dept. responded was first-responders to a residence on South Street.

- At 2:58 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Big View Drive.

Sept. 23

- At 6:47 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence in Sherwood Forest.

Sept. 25

- At 6:40 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance to a person on Horse Cove Road.

- At 8:43 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance to a person on the Franklin Road.

Sept. 26

- At 11:18 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Cobb Road.

Sept. 27

- At 9:22 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance on Glenn Falls Road where a tree was down.

- At 5:41 p.m., the dept. conducted a smoke investigation on Holt Road.

- At 8:43 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance where a tree was down on the Franklin Road.

Sept. 28

- At 1:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 106.

- At 6:30 a.m., the dept. was first-responders at a residence on Brookside Lane.

Sept. 29

- At 8:06 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Smallwood Ave.

Sept. 30

- At 5:11 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Main Street.

Oct. 1

- At 8:50 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Klein Road.

...NFS continued from page 36

in Cashiers.

"We haven't spent any real time checking this one out," said Wilkins. "We can't put serious effort into new trail proposals until we get through the Forest Planning effort which is over and above our normal work load. But we will take a look when the leaves come off."

However, Wilkins said there are a number of things to consider before accessing a new falls.

First, he said this would be a very difficult spot to take a trail to. It's steep and rocky terrain and it would be very hard to get to the bottom.

In addition, trail maintenance and funding is always a very limited resource.

"We have about eight volunteer trail groups but we still struggle to provide a quality recreational experience while protecting other resources," he said. "If we take

a trail to a waterfall, we are inviting the public there and we have to make it safe. Visualize Dry Falls, Glen Falls and Whitewater Falls. It is easy to take a trail to a pool of water at the bottom of a falls but not to the top. In addition, we don't necessarily want a trail to every waterfall."

Besides the above falls, there are trails to Ranger Falls, Secret Falls, Rainbow Falls, Laurel Falls, Mooney Falls and a few more in Panthertown.

Meanwhile, 30 objectors to the Southside Project, which involves timber clearing and sale in the Whiteside Cove vicinity, have been invited to have a conversation with the Forest Service Nov. 1 at the Bent Creek Conference Room. The conversation is only between the Forest Service and previously documented objectors.

— Kim Lewicki

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