Meadows announces retirement; eyes position in Trump’s cabinet

By Brittney Lofthouse

Despite the United States House of Representatives passing articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump this week, Congressman Mark Meadows is confident enough in Trump’s potential for re-election that he announced he was retiring from Congress — but not from work with President Trump.

“My work with President Trump and his administration is only beginning,” said Congressman Mark Meadows in a press release sent out early Thursday morning. “This President has accomplished incredible results for the country in just three years, and I’m fully committed to staying in the fight with him and his team to build on those successes and deliver on his promises for the years to come. I’ve always said Congress is a temporary job, but the fight to return Washington, DC to its rightful owner, We The People, has only just begun.”

Meadows was elected to serve Western North Carolina in Congress eight years ago after long-term Congressman Heath Shuler retired. Meadows, who has won re-election three times, made the decision not to seek a fifth term, the day before the filing deadline.

“For everything there is a season,” Rep. Meadows said in a release. “After prayerful consideration and discussion with family, today I’m announcing that my service to my constituents will be full in March 2020.”

Annual ‘Resolution Run/Walk’ set for Jan. 1, 2020

Want to start the new year off the right way? Resolve to meet at Founders Park at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 1 for the 17th Annual New Year’s Resolution Run/Walk.

The Resolution Run/Walk has no entry fee and offers no T-shirts or trophies. Those interested in participating simply gather at Founders Park on the corner of Pine and Fifth Street on Wednesday morning, January 1 at the new time established last year, 10 a.m.; participants will run or walk a three-mile loop at a relaxed pace around the downtown area of Highlands, returning to the Park. Walking breaks for new runners are encouraged, or participants can walk the entire distance; dogs on leashes are welcome.

So start the new year off with a dedication to health and fitness.

County hands tax director reins to Braswell

Long-time Macon County Tax Director Richard Lightner has retired effective December 16, 2019. Lightner served as the county tax director for 35 years.

Following the recommendation of Lightner, the MC Board of Commissioners unanimously approved Abby Braswell as his replacement beginning December 16, 2019 through July 1, 2021 the remainder of Lightner’s term. After that date, Braswell can be appointed for a new four-year term.

Braswell, a native of Macon County, has worked for the county for 15 years. She was Macon County’s first female tax appraiser and is certified by the North Carolina Department of Revenue.
On my ‘list’ for 2020

Your mayor isn’t Santa Claus, but I’m making a list and checking it twice. The Town Board will decide what is nice, not nice now, or never nice. It will soon be the budget planning season, so let me share what is on my list of budget items.

2020 will be a census year where governments will assess where the country, state and region stands and what plans and adjustments are ahead. Highlands needs to do the same. At the top of my list will be to fund a comprehensive plan for the future of Highlands. This process is long overdue. It will cost money because I believe we should hire a professional consulting firm that specializes in this kind of process to guide our Planning Board and other stakeholders through the process. The notion that we can do a comprehensive plan with in-house resources is not feasible to me. It is standard practice among dynamic municipalities to bring in outside, neutral professionals to advise the community through this arduous process.

At this point in time, I believe Highlands needs to step back and do a comprehensive plan that will put us in a strategic position to respond to impending change. With rapid changes in our society, especially those driven by technological innovations, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to precisely predict the future in the coming years. But Highlands needs to have mechanisms in place to make good decisions in order to navigate these inevitable pressures and disruptions.

With that said, I do believe a comprehensive plan can and should help the community envision what we want Highlands to be in the future. It will not be a simple task, and it will take many months to complete the task.

I also want the town to invest in making Highlands more user-friendly. It will be time for us to upgrade the town website. I would like to see more emphasis on putting day-to-day information on the site. For instance, if there is road work being done in a particular area, let’s have a page where we can let folks know. I also want the website to be easier for residents to give feedback to their elected representatives.

I also hope we can start broadcasting our Town Board meetings on an open access TV channel. With the new fiber network this effort should be possible.

I am also thinking about bringing back an old-fashioned method of getting community feedback by placing a suggestion box somewhere at Town Hall. My idea is to have postcard forms where folks can make suggestions. I believe in citizen confidentiality, but I would hope residents would provide their contact information so someone in Town Hall, probably the mayor, could acknowledge and respond to their suggestion.

So, these items are at the top of my new year list. I will share more items next week.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Season Greetings. Enjoy and love your friends, neighbors and family.

Thank you so much for making my 100th birthday extra special for me. From flowers, cards, cakes and calls to a surprise birthday celebration at First Baptist Church, I feel very blessed to have such amazing family and friends in my life.

Love to you all,

Pearle Lambert
HIGHLANDS CC  Originally built by Schmitt Builders, the home had a remodel by renowned Atlanta builder Keith Ashe several years ago. The kitchen is open to the great room and there is a den adjacent. The screened porch is large and vaulted with access from the great room and the master bedroom. In addition, there is an open deck that is perfect for grilling and outdoor entertaining. Upstairs are two guest rooms and one bath.

MLS# 91051  |  Offered for $597,000

WILDWOOD MOUNTAIN Completely renovated home by Coppage Builders, you must see this attractive home that offers a custom kitchen with stainless appliances, breakfast nook, and separate formal dining room. Handsome hardwood floors throughout and a vaulted wood ceiling in the living room with a cozy, stone, wood-burning fireplace. The master bedroom and two guest bedrooms are all on the main floor. Upstairs are two bonus rooms with multiple uses.

MLS# 90566  |  Offered for $585,000

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN This 3 bedroom, 3 bath old Highlands home has hardwood floors and pine paneling. Attached to the home (no entrance from home) is 800 square feet of office/retail space. In the rear of the property is a one-bedroom apartment over a 2-car garage. House has two master suites with baths, and is all on one level, walk to town. Plenty of parking. Zone B-4, light commercial. Owner financing to qualified buyer. OWNER/BROKER.

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TURTLE POND Peace and tranquility only 12 minutes from downtown Highlands on more than 5 acres of beautiful land that adjoins national forest land. This is the perfect home for those who love to have visitors — there are 5 bedrooms, two bonus rooms for additional sleeping areas, a large living room upstairs, and an additional family room downstairs. The main level also offers two large open decks and a covered screened porch. Offered furnished with few exceptions!

MLS# 90428  |  Offered for $549,000
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**• OBITUARIES •**

**Mallory Erle Phillips, III**

Mallory Erle Phillips, III, 65, of Highlands, NC passed away Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at his beloved cabin, Twill Do. He was born February 16, 1954 in Atlanta to Erle and Serena Phillips.

Mal attended The Lovett School, University of Virginia where he was a Phi Delta Theta, and Emory Law School. He was a successful attorney in Atlanta before moving to Highlands 20 years ago. Mal opened a popular home accents shop called Twigs. He then became a Realtor, opening Twigs Realty Group, and served as the President of the Highlands Cashiers Board of Realtors. He was a proud father, grandfather, antique collector, and even physical trainer.

Mal is survived two daughters, Alissa Wagstaff (Will) and Annie Davis (Steve) both of Atlanta, one sister, Serena Vick, three grandchildren, Van and Barron (Wagstaff) and Stephen (Davis), and his dogs, Sugar and Buster.

Services were held at 2pm, Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at the Church of the Incarnation of Highlands with the Rev. Bentley Manning officiating. Burial will follow at Highlands Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers the family is requesting donations be made to the Highlands Humane Society.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory served the Phillips family.

Online condolences can be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

**Nicholas James Quinif**

Nicholas James Quinif, M.D., a retired urologist, died at his home in Highlands, NC on December 17th, 2019, due to complications from metastatic melanoma. He was 66.

Born in Toledo, OH on April 15th, 1953, he was the son of the late Richard Quinif and the late Patricia Casey. He is survived by his wife of forty-one years, Alice McElhannon Quinif; sons Brian (Kristine) Quinif of Brooklyn, NY and Michael Quinif of Thomasville, GA; grandchildren, Kendall and Davis Brown and Gray Quinif; brothers, Terry, Kevin, and Eric Quinif; and stepmother, Lavelle Wisenbaker.

A graduate of Case Western Reserve University and the Medical College of Georgia, Nick, as he was known by his friends, continued his medical training at Akron General Medical Center. A board-certified urologist, he practiced for six years in Greenville, MS before moving to Thomasville, GA, where he practiced for the rest of his career. At Archbold Memorial Hospital, he was a revered member of the medical community, serving in a variety of leadership positions, including Chief-of-Staff. He was
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Young had also filed for District II, which means the seat will now be on the March Primary ballot with the result determining which Democrat and which Republican will appear on the November ballot.

On the state level, Macon County Republican Karl Gillespie failed to garner any challengers for the North Carolina House District 120 seat, left vacant when incumbent Rep. Kevin Corbin announced he would be seeking election in the Senate.

The Senate seat Corbin is running for includes Jackson, Swain, and Haywood counties. Rep. Corbin will have to face off against another Republican opponent in the March primary. Jackson County Republican Sarah Conway has added her name to the ballot. Conway is a newcomer to the local political scene but hopes to win the March primary to be sent to the Senate. Conway is registered to vote in Jackson County, but according to her registration with the State Board of Elections, lists a Highlands address, which falls on the border of the two counties. Whoever wins the March primary between Conway and Corbin will go on to appear on the ballot in November.

In November 2020, the Republican winner of the March Primary will face off against Haywood County Democrat Victoria Fox and Jackson County Libertarian candidate Clifton Ingram, both of whom filed for Senate District 50 seat on December 19.

The local Judicial Contest will also see a few familiar faces as several local attorneys are vying for the North Carolina District Court Judge District 30 Seat 06. The seat is currently held by Richard Walker, who plans to retire at the end of his term. The vacant seat has garnered several names including Macon County based Republican attorney Richard Cassady. Other attorneys...
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Town of Highlands
PIN PROP_ADDR OWNER_NAME DATE_RECORDS SALES_PRICE

- 7439599410 703 HIGHLANDS MTN CLUB BALL, MIL-DRED P. 6/28/2019 0.00
- 7439692360 1704 HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN CLB PROCTOR, KENNETH M. 9/12/2019 177500.00
- 7449072667 850 MOOREWOOD CIR MONTGOMERY, JOHNNY LEO TTEE 7/10/2019 0.00
- 7449080225 PIPERS CT HAWKS, BARRETT K 9/9/2019 155000.00
- 7449089945 31 SHELBY CT W RICK, DAVID P. 1/2/2019 590000.00
- 7449096342 280 SHELBY DR JOHNSON, PAMELA B. 9/9/2019 460000.00
- 7449157579 181 CHEROKEE DR HOUSTON, DEBORAH HEAD 5/1/2019 0.00
- 7449176250 CHEROKEE DR MARANO, TONI 7/19/2019 270000.00
- 7449177280 CHEROKEE DR HODGSON, THOMAS L TR 7/30/2019 200000.00
- 7449266429 1580 S 4TH ST

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FIFTH STREET OF HIGHLANDS LLC 9/23/2019 57000.00
- 7449273173 1459 S 4TH ST WILLIAMS, BENNETT 3/21/2019 95000.00
- 7449361631 BROOKS RD SIMS, DAVID P 4/26/2019 66000.00
- 7449587336 WILSON DR HEHN, J MARC 11/20/2019 250000.00
- 7449588549 WILSON RD TAYLOR, JAMES DEREK 1/18/2019 135000.00
- 7449672586 9 LUCAS LN LEON, MARIO J. 6/20/2019 520000.00
- 7449697407 167 GIBSON ST KREMSER, KIRTS 4/9/2019 0.00
- 7530804928 123 FAIRWAY CONDOS NICHOLS, NANCY E. 1/7/2019 0.00
- 7530867861 505 HICKORY HILL RD CUMMINS, HAROLD HACKETT TRUSTEE 8/29/2019 0.00
- 7530906068 745 DILLARD RD REESE, KAREN SUZANNE 6/21/2019 0.00
- 7540054368 82 UPPER BUTTERMILK RD REESE, WILLIAM R. 10/2/2019 0.00
- 7540006397 UPPER BUTTERMILK RD REESE, WILLIAM R. 10/2/2019 0.00
- 7540039220 33 MELROSE DR CINM, LLC 9/13/2019 0.00
- 7540050730 932 HICKORY HILL RD RUSSELL, RONALD D 4/12/2019 0.00
- 7540060608 746 HICKORY HILL RD NIBLACK, EMMETT A JR TRUSTEE 4/9/2019 0.00
- 7540066404 WYANOAK RD PENDLETON, EDITH 10/18/2019 0.00
- 7540067030 751 WYANOAK RD PENDLETON, EDITH 10/18/2019 0.00
- 7540068023 WYANOAK RD PENDLETON, EDITH 10/18/2019 0.00
- 7540123228 61 HOLT CIR HENRY, TIMOTHY CHRIS 4/4/2019 275000.00
- 7530159889 10 BILLY CABIN RD MOORE, EDWARD J JR 10/3/2019 175000.00
- 7540105721 CULLASA DR CHIDDE, CHARLES TRUMAN 8/27/2019 415000.00
- 7540105996 383 MAIN ST REESE, WILLIAM R. 10/2/2019 0.00
- 7540156633 441 OAK ST MT. EVEREST PROPERTIES, LLC 11/13/2019 150000.00
- 754047969 210 N 5TH ST ELEVATION INVESTMENTS, LLC 4/12/2019 325000.00
- 7540425239 445 CHESTNUT ST PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, INC 3/29/2019 780000.00
- 7540429631 541 HICKORY ST ALLEN, PATRICIA F. 7/2/2019 1035000.00
- 7540505728 93 HIGHLANDS MANOR CT PAYNE, MARGARET LISLE 7/26/2019 390000.00
- 7540507287 711 HORSE COVE RD PARROTT, JOSEPH R JR., TTEE 3/13/2019 0.00
- 7540510201 444 N 5TH ST ALLEN, PATRICIA F. 11/11/2019 0.00
- 7540643188 483 SOUTH DR TROTTER, WILLIAM A. III. 11/11/2019 335000.00
- 7540654965 1840 N 4TH ST LUPOLI, JOHN R., JR. 7/2/2019 255000.00
- 7540754635 220 SHERWOOD FOREST RD BODGAN, NANCY F 2/28/2019 0.00
- 7540832277 1397 BIG SPRING ROAD MACON, EDWARD D 1/9/2019 0.00

- See TRANSFERS page 11
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BEARPEN RD LEESNE, JOSEPH BANCHCROFT 7/23/2019 0.00
  • 7550403847 455 DIXON DR MISNER, CAROL D. 8/1/2019 64000.00

Highlands Township
  • 7429468811 75 CAVE DR RD 1620 “MORRIS, WAYNE” 11/12/2019 0.00
  • 7429560731 DILLARD RD “CONWAY, HELEN TALLEY TTEE” 4/26/2019 0.00
  • 7429562626 TURTLE POND RD RD 106 “CONWAY, HELEN TALLEY TTEE” 4/26/2019 0.00
  • 7429976078 3061 DILLARD RD KETTLEROCK OFF RD 106 “3061 DILLARD ROAD, LLC” 1/16/2019 615000.00
  • 7438544602 1540 BLUE VALLEY RD TRACT 2 PROPERTY SPLIT PC 10506 “CROWE, KENNETH MARVIN” 9/27/2019 0.00
  • 7438544679 1536 BLUE VALLEY RD TRACT 1 SPLIT PC 10506 “CROWE, AMANDA WHEELER” 9/27/2019 0.00
  • 7438839136 726 BLUE VALLEY RD RD 1618 “WALKER, JEFFREY SCOTT” 9/17/2019 130000.00
  • 7438939119 3495 CLEAR CREEK RD CLEAR CREEK “WALDROP, TREVOR” 8/30/2019 215000.00
  • 7438991696 79 WISTERIA LANE LOTS 10 & 11 UDONN PROPERTY “ORDWAY, WILLIAM M.” 6/5/2019 120000.00
  • 7439085867 KETTLEROCK RD OFF 106 “MARTIN, DAVID SHEFFIELD” 6/12/2019 365000.00
  • 7439096419 OWL GAP RD OFF HWY 106 “GREINER, CHARLES A. IV” 4/25/2019 255000.00
  • 7439096419 OWL GAP RD OFF HWY 106 “GREINER, CHARLES A. IV” 4/25/2019 255000.00
  • 7439985713 1009 KETTLE ROCK RD SULLIVAN PROP COMB PC 10304 PC 7600 “LANIER, DAVID P” 11/19/2019 0.00
  • 7439292311 45 MOONBEAM PL LOT 15 SEC B MTN LAUREL SUB “MAWYER, C. EDWARD” 6/14/2019 410000.00
  • 7439474084 75 BROADVIEW CIR LOT I BLUE VALLEY RIDGE PC 1506 “BALES, LAWANNA A.” 7/1/2019 0.00
  • 7439474407 254 KLEIN RD DILLARD RD “STARPOLI, NICHOLAS P.” 8/23/2019 445000.00
  • 7439475863 198 KLEIN RD RD 1617 “STAMEY, DENNIS N.” 11/14/2019 535000.00
  • 7439482458 2016 DILLARD RD OFF HWY 106 “BENDER, JOHN W” 1/23/2019 290000.00
  • 7439488887 39 HOLT RD GNAT RIDGE RD “NORTON, AARON E.” 9/30/2019 500000.00
  • 7439495892 784 HOLT RD LOT 14 PONDEROSA SUBD “HAM, WILLIAM F. JR.” 7/5/2019 82500.00
  • 7439565869 565 HOLT RD “LTS 20, 21, 22, 23 PONDEROSA” “MAJOR, JOSEPH E.” 2/5/2019 0.00
  • 7439583492 69 HOLT COTTAGE LN LOT 3 COTTAGES ON HOLT “GLEN FALLS COTTAGE, LLC” 11/18/2019 435000.00
  • 7439650975 764 HOLT RD LOT 6 PONDEROSA INC “WEIGNER, DREW DOUGLASS TTEE” 6/26/2019 0.00
  • 7448020572 131 CARRIAGE LN RD 1618 “BROOKS, TIMOTHY W.” 4/30/2019 85000.00
  • 7448031140 505 BLUE VALLEY RD CLEAR CREEK “MCALL, WILLIAM JAMES LIFE EST” 4/4/2019 0.00
  • 7448032593 3352 CLEAR CREEK RD RD 1613 “ROGERS, MARK EDWARD” 7/17/2019 230000.00
  • 7448055529 2864 CLEAR CREEK RD CLEAR CREEK “HALL, CHRISTOPHER C.” 8/30/2019 165000.00
  • 7448092989 1439 CLEAR CREEK RD LOT 4 & 1/2 OF 5 LAZY BEND “SCUDDER, KIMBERLY J.” 10/1/2019 205000.00
  • 7448126224 140 BLUE VALLEY RD RD 1618 “CRAINE, AARON E.” 10/21/2019 0.00
  • 7448224361 28 WINDY HILL RD US 28 “WELLER, JEFFREY L.” 2/4/2019 34000.00
  • 7448247904 471 HIGHLANDS VIEW RD LOTS 24 & 34 HILDS HGTS “JACKSON, EDWARD K.” 8/23/2019 0.00
  • 7448258133 ELM DR LOT 26 HIGHLANDS VIEW PC 7166 “JACKSON, EDWARD K.” 8/23/2019 0.00
  • 7448258338 ELM DR LOTS 27 & 28 HIGHLANDS VIEW PC 3403 “JACKSON, EDWARD K.” 8/23/2019 0.00
  • 7448291151 704 NEELY RD OFF 20X55 ROBERTS, R. DC 11/18/2019 0.00

...TRANSFERS continued from page 8

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I believe one of the single worst decisions our country has ever made was, in 1973, to eliminate the draft. That decision, to me, seemed to dampen what before was an almost innate sense of duty or responsibility on the part of young Americans.

I know our leaders lied to us, repeatedly, regarding the misguided, Vietnam “conflict” in which we sent nearly 60,000 young, mostly poor, American men to die, and many times more than that to be physically maimed and psychologically damaged.

I know our involvement in Vietnam was sold to us as necessary to stem the spread of communism, and that if Vietnam were allowed to fall, dominoes – countries – would continue to fall until the whole of southeast Asia was under communist domination.

I also know that our Vietnam experience undermined, perhaps permanently, any trust we might have had in our elected leaders. We were lied to by at least eight congresses and at least five presidents, of both parties.

I believe, as a nation, we have yet to recover from that awful experience. That said …

I believe a federal law should be enacted requiring every young, able-bodied, sound-minded American to give at least two years of service to his/her country, state or county. In exchange for this service, to be provided between a person’s sixteenth and twenty-sixth birthdays, individuals would receive some minimal compensation, educational credit, real-world, on-the-job training, or a federal income tax exemption, deduction, or credit upon successful completion of his/her obligation. In the case of military service, compensation would be provided under existing Department of Defense guidelines.

I believe this can include active military, national guard or reserve service, plus civilian service in publicly supported healthcare or long-term care facilities, national or state parks, forests and preserves, publicly operated environmental or recycling facilities, schools, criminal justice programs and facilities, public sector funded infrastructure construction, and recognized local, state and national non-profit service organizations.

I believe up to 75% of the non-military service applications can be performed within literally every city or county in America, allowing participants to live at home during their commitment. I believe even disabled Americans can participate and would benefit from serving his or her country or community.

I believe the individual participant will benefit on at least two levels. First, by performing the service itself, the individual will be imbued with a sense of giving, even though he/she will be minimally compensated in some appropriate manner. Second, there’s the tangible experience he/she receives, which could result in entry and advancement in his/her chosen career.

I believe society would benefit on several levels. First, the entities impacted by the service, both military and non-military, would be able to plan for future projects secure that there would be human resources available to execute and complete these projects. Second, participants would have two additional years beyond mid-adolescence to obtain the confidence and experience necessary to compete for job and career opportunities in an increasingly competitive employment environment.

Third, since much of this service could impact otherwise disadvantaged urban and rural communities, I believe society could see significant reductions in poverty-related crime, drug use and abuse, and domestic violence and abuse. Fourth, I believe many service sector jobs currently provided by undocumented immigrants (in health care, publicly funded construction and low-paying public works, etc.) could be transferred to national and community service program participants, serving as a disincentive to illegal immigration.

I believe, in many if not most cases, the individual would be able to choose his or her program and location of service. I also believe the program could be administered by service participants themselves, and volunteers, keeping costs in check, and providing future and long-term career opportunities to program participants.

I believe Peace Corps, Americorps/VISTA, and other successful local, national and global service architectures can help launch and maintain the program relatively inexpensively.

I can envision a level of public/private partnership whereby private business and non-profit organizations can tap into pools of service participants on “public good” projects.

I tried, but wasn’t able to identify any significant barriers, other than kneejerk political considerations and inherent American aversion to implementation of anything this broad-based, and mandatory.

We did away with conscription in the wake of Vietnam, never really considering how it could have been reimagined into something that wouldn’t be discriminatory or unfair. I know in my own heart that young people would benefit from doing good work early in life.

I believe it’s time to give universal service another look.
1613 "WESTBROOK, HUGH A" 4/9/2019 75000.00
• 7448350120 ELM DR LOT 7 HLDS HGTS “BRYSON, JAMES P” 10/23/2019 0.00
• 7448430326 189-205 SAW MILL RD RD 1609 “SNEAD-SMITH PROPERTIES, LLC” 8/27/2019 265000.00
• 7448579380 68 HIDDEN SPRINGS WAY OFF 1611 "SNEAD-SMITH PROPERTIES, LLC” 8/27/2019 265000.00
• 7448684045 4391 WALHALLA RD OFF US 28 WALHALLA “TDCL, LLC” 10/28/2019 177500.00
• 7449214905 VALENTINE LN CLEAR CREEK OFF RD 1613 "BEARD, HOLLY D." 2/11/2019 0.00
• 7449223490 86 VALENTINE LN LOT 7 AND PART OF 8 VALENTINE HENDRICK HADDAD INVESTMENTS LLC 5/23/2019 0.00
• 7449224157 97 VALENTINE LN PT OF LOT 6 VALENTINE SUBD “BEARD, HOLLY D." 2/11/2019 0.00
• 7449269421 210 BROOKS RD DILLARD RD “GODFREY, EDWIN” 3/21/2019 300000.00
• 7459307407 337 HARBISON ORCHARD RD LOT 6 BLUE VALLEY ESTATES “MOOK, DOUGLAS” 5/24/2019 370000.00
• 7459335762 72 SOUTH OLD WALHALLA RD OFF U S 28 “ALLYSON BUILDERS, INC” 4/9/2019 410000.00
• 7459368067 CENTENNIAL LN LT 2& PARCEL A PC10575 "KELLEY, RACHEL B." 11/12/2019 240000.00
• 7459369127 CENTENNIAL LN LT 1 MOUNTAIN MEADOWS “KELLEY, RACHEL B.” 11/12/2019 240000.00
• 7459403016 1375 WALKINGSTICK RD OFF 1608 “NEWTON, VIRLIN EDWARD TTEE” 5/7/2019 845000.00
• 7459435146 671 WALKINGSTICK RD RD 1608 PC 7922 “TAPE, RYAN P.” 3/11/2019 0.00
• 7459435146 671 WALKINGSTICK RD RD 1608 PC 7922 “TAPE, RYAN P.” 3/11/2019 0.00
• 7530115260 BLACK BEAR TRCE OWL GAP LOT VH8 PC 10107 “ADKINS, PAUL H. TR” 8/22/2019 1050000.00
• 7530117344 78 BLACK BEAR TRCE BLACK BEAR TRACE VH 9 PC 9388 “ADKINS, PAUL H. TR” 8/22/2019 1050000.00
• 7530201173 OWL GAP RD RD 1620 “CONWELL, WILLIAM DALE” 6/19/2019 70000.00
• 7530207765 TURTLE POND RD 1620 “AECK, ANTONIN” 9/17/2019 0.00
• 7530205184 56 KENT DR ON ROAD 1603 “BIER, LAUREN L.” 3/15/2019 200000.00
• 7530201345 OWL GAP RD LOT 17 TWIN FALLS “JANKE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP, LTD” 9/16/2019 1500000.00
• 7530204133 1442 OWL GAP ROAD LT A & B TWIN FALLS “JANKE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP, LTD” 9/16/2019 1500000.00
• 7530321261 1376 HIGHGATE RD 1376 HIGHGATE RD “DEATON, CHARLES P.” 1/18/2019 825000.00
• 7530204133 1442 OWL GAP ROAD RD LT A & B TWIN FALLS “JANKE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP, LTD” 9/16/2019 1500000.00
• 7530204133 1442 OWL GAP ROAD RD LT A & B TWIN FALLS “JANKE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP, LTD” 9/16/2019 1500000.00
• 7530322820 THE HEMLOCKS LT 10 REV HEMLOCKS AT HIGHGATE “LIVELY, BROOKE ELIZABETH TR” 1/18/2019 825000.00
• 7520183395 18 MCCALLUM ALLISON RD OFF RD 1620 TURTLE POND RD “ALISON, EVAN A.” 9/13/2019 0.00
• 7520290448 221 MCCALL RD OFF TURTLE POND RD “MCCALL, LINDA LIFE ESTATE” 4/8/2019 0.00
• 7520297491 DENDY ORCHARD RD TRACT 1 “FORTUNE, JERRY L” 6/19/2019 40000.00
• 7520391125 DENDY ORCHARD RD TRACT B “FORTUNE, JERRY L” 6/19/2019 40000.00
• 7530115260 BLACK BEAR TRCE OWL GAP LOT VH8 PC 10107 “ADKINS, PAUL H. TR” 8/22/2019 1050000.00
• 7530117344 78 BLACK BEAR TRCE BLACK BEAR TRACE VH 9 PC 9388 “ADKINS, PAUL H. TR” 8/22/2019 1050000.00
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• 7530322820 THE HEMLOCKS LT 10 REV HEMLOCKS AT HIGHGATE “LIVELY, BROOKE ELIZABETH TR” 1/18/2019 825000.00
• See TRANSFERS page 16
December 26th is Boxing Day. Do you know what that means? I’ve always heard the day after Christmas was set aside for the servants and workers at Manor houses to have the day off (maybe) and receive a box of goods from their employers or the “master of the house.” Reckon this was the first example of regifting?

Queen Victoria got the ball rolling with the holiday, which is mainly observed in countries associated with the UK, but some historians have dated the tradition to medieval times.

A holiday created to promote loyalty to the people that work for them has come a long way. In present day, the day after Christmas is one of the largest retail days of the year, but generally set aside to promote goodwill towards the less fortunate. In 1994, South Africa even changed the name from Boxing Day to Day of Goodwill.

What does Boxing Day have to do with real estate on the plateau? The holidays are full of traditions, and real estate in Highlands has a few traditions of its own. I was lucky enough to have a brief discussion on the matter of how things used to be with local historian, (at least 3rd generation) real estate salesman, and my mother-in-law, Isabel Chambers. First of all, long ago in the world before political correctness, it was all right for a woman to be considered a salesman, because man was the universal term for person. In the old days, there were a lot of assumptions, as you will discover as you read further.

In the 1800s in this area, everything was open range, there were no borders on land to speak of. Isabel said, “People started to leave the area to get their 40 acres and a mule, promised to them to explore the west.” She added, “Tourists had started to come to the mountains by then, and they came on horse and buggy until the railroad came. When the Tallullah Falls Railroad came to Dillard, it was an exciting time! There was a brass band to meet the tourists as they got off the train, and then they were taken to various Inns for their summer stay. Pretty soon Inns were built and scattered all over the mountains. Highlands Inn and The Central House (now Old Edwards Inn) are the only two remaining in Highlands. David Norton had The Central House built, and Highlands Inn had been a wedding present in the Smith family.”

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“Highlands is calling and I must go.”
Spectacular mountain view with very usable grounds, lovely landscaped yard, guest house. Main house is in excellent condition and was built by Deedee Potts. Private and secluded and borders USFS Lands. Old Brushy Face is a very Desirable neighborhood with exceptional elevation and location to Highlands! Offered at $2,000,000. mls #92355

This highly unique property consists of over 90 acres of rolling land, flanked partially on one side by USFS land. The property has about 27 acres of open pasture with the additional acreage being wooded with streams and flanks to the Chattooga River on a stretch of white-water, waterfalls and swimming holes. There are views of Blackrock Mountain with rock faces and ridgeline in the distance beyond the pasture. The main house features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with wormy chestnut floors and painted paneling, huge stone fireplace in the living room, gourmet kitchen and a wonderful view of the front pasture and Blackrock Mountain. Guest or caretakers house is ready for some renovation but has good bones. Offered at $4,500,000. mls #91498

This cozy 2 bedroom 2 1/2 bath home is sitting on over an acre of land in an established desireable residential community. Community park and garden spot. Approximately 4 miles from downtown Highlands. Offered at $450,000. mls #92130

Charming Cottage on Barefoot lane off of Flat Mountain. Three bedrooms, three and 1/2 baths, master suite with full bath downstairs, two guest suites upstairs with full baths. Covered back deck to enjoy the view, gas fireplace that faces Living room and dining room. Extra parking and single carport. Lot 5 pin number 75319065111 can be purchased with house for extra privacy for additional cost. HOA fees include road maintenance, water, well and landscaping. Offered at $699,000. mls #92487

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 $420,000. mls #91858

Located on a charming lane less than 3 miles from town, this 2 bedroom 2 bath sit high on a hill and has a circular concrete drive, high ceilings in the living room and open kitchen plan. ready for your personal touches. Offered at $250,000. mls #92320

23.06 +/- acres with a 1 BR 1 BA home that was started in 1972 and completed around 1995, additional 3 BR 1 BA farmhouse on the property built in early 1900’s. Property has been in the Cash family since 1930. Great views. Property adjoins USFS lands. Offered at $850,000. mls #92560

Beginning with the immaculate home, you will find granite counters and custom cabinets in the kitchen, updated tiled bathrooms, large sunroom, hot tub room with tub included, double garage, lots and lots of special touches throughout. A lush green lawn and landscaping with creeks, fences, fire pits and so much more, a 30X36 Morton barn complete with workshop. Offered at $679,500 MLS # 90679

Large and spacious Ranch plan is in move in condition with a spectacular view. The owners and just added a new roof. Designer quality with 3 bedrooms plus a family room with full bath, plus a 2/1 bath guest house. Cathedral ceilings in the living room, updated baths, carport. Estate sized lot. The best closets you have ever seen! Offered at $1,795,000. mls #92227

This beautiful family and entertaining home has it all. Main level is complete with open floor plan and stunning custom built kitchen. Dining area opens up to large screened porch to Millers Creek and enjoy some outdoor living. One bedroom, full bath, half bath and bonus room all on the main level. Upstairs is a private master suite with large bath. 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 #92405

Lovely Old Orchard estate Over 9 acres with a spectacular mountain views, this house is move in condition, with 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths. Fully renovated kitchen with dining area and cathedral living room with fireplace. Immaculate grounds and guest house is available listed separately. Do not miss this one if you want privacy and usable yard. Offered at $1,875,000. mls #91110
During the depression and after WWII things changed. Isabel remembered, “Some people left to find work off the mountain or to join the Army. Most everything was built or sold using the barter system during that time. My house on Fifth Street was built that way. There weren’t that many real estate sales as there are today of course, because land was traded or handed down to children or others, and a good bit of property was given by the government as land grants. I guess, when the property started being taxed so much throughout the years is one reason people started selling off their land.”

Isabel said she remembers growing up in Highlands during the winter. Her father, Tudor Norton Hall had a saying, “Tourists in the summer and taters in the winter.” Times weren’t easy in the winter for people in Highlands. “The season ended at Labor Day. The town was dead then and didn’t start back up until the tourists and summer homeowners came back in June.”

Another thing she remembers about early real estate in Highlands? Loyalty. “Brokers were loyal to each other. People who sold in Cashiers didn’t try to sell in Highlands and people in Highlands didn’t try to sell in Cashiers. They sold in their market. In the early days, there was no contract to sell, it was done on a handshake. I found something my father used when he sold real estate. It was a 3- x 5-inch card that said I list my house with Tudor Hall. My mother’s father, Dr. Gilbert, the town dentist, sold property too -- there were no written contracts. If someone knew of someone who needed or wanted to sell their property, he would help them sell the property. There was an assumption of loyalty back then.”

There were no real estate licenses issued until the 1950s in NC, so really, anyone could sell. As the progression of time brought multitudes of people here (and everywhere), it was inevitable that rules needed to be in place to ensure fairness to everyone. Is it a coincidence that loyalty remains one of the duties given to all real estate professionals in the 21st century?

On this Boxing Day, we want to say thank you to the buyers, sellers, and renters that have made our year special. Happy Boxing Day!

Jeannie and Tucker Chambers are brokers and owners of Chambers Realty and Vacation Rentals in Highlands, a multi-generation real estate office, located at 401 N. Fifth Street. And accessed from anywhere by visiting Highlandsiscalling.com

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**INVESTING continued from page 14**

The remainder of the Highlands Township transfers and the Flats transfers will be in the Jan. 2 edition.

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**TRANSFERS continued from page 16**

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May you unwrap God’s Grace every single day!
A Christmas Sequel

By The Rev’d Jim Murphy
Christ Anglican Church

It seems that whenever Hollywood creates a super-successful movie, that talk soon follows that a sequel to the original movie is needed or is in the works. As long as the original flick raked in the cash, entertaining or warming hearts and engaging imaginations, why not try to maintain the momentum and recapture that celluloid magic with a sequel. Remember: cash is king!

In terms of blockbuster originals, the real and biblical Christmas Story was an unquestioned success. The greatest gift in the history of mankind, Emmanuel, God with us, premiered on Christmas day over 2,000 years ago. The true story of Jesus has entertained billions, along with warming hearts and engaging imaginations. Then too, for those who are fortunate enough to personally receive God’s Christ as their Savior, they are saved unto eternal life. What a blockbuster! The Christmas story has been enjoying encore performances for over two millennia.

Supposing that the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was an epilogue to the original story of Emmanuel, since the gifts both have to do with God’s personal presence with us, why has there never been a sequel? If the rave reviews are still coming in, why has not God released the sequel? O ye hope is that many billions more will enjoy the gift of his second coming, until a greater number of folks have taken advantage of the opportunity to accept the gift of the First Advent. The hope of Christmas is God’s hope. Jesus is the King.

The apostle Peter tells us why the release date for sequel has not been published. In ninth verse of chapter three, Peter wrote, “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promises as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” Exercising his loving patience, God the Father is holding back the sequel, Jesus’ Second Coming, until a greater number of folks have taken advantage of the opportunity to accept the gift of the First Advent. The hope of Christmas is God's hope. King Jesus’ hope is that many billions more will enjoy the gift of his presence throughout all eternity. For you see, cash is really not king. Jesus is the King.

If you would like to learn more about all of the details, read your bible with someone who has embraced the gift of Advent One or find a bible-soaked congregation for more information.
time serving Western North Carolina in Congress will come to a close at the end of this term.”

When Meadows was first elected, he lived in Jackson County in the Cashiers community. While in office, he and his wife Debbie relocated to Asheville, just on the border of District 11.

During his tenure in Congress, Meadows began spending less time in the district and more time in Washington as he quickly climbed the ranks in the Republican Party. Meadows became a national name when he made headlines as being responsible for the government shutdown during his freshman year in Congress. Meadows was soon thereafter named founder and chair of the United States House Freedom Caucus, the leading Conservative caucus in Congress.

Once President Trump was elected, Meadows was frequently part of national politics, siding with the President on most topics. Rumors circulated that Meadows was being eyed for the President’s Chief of Staff post over the last few years, but the Congressman always maintained his duty was to Western North Carolina.

That, however, seems to be changing as Meadows will close out his tenure in Congress in 2020, right as President Trump would be starting his second term as President, if re-elected.

“I do intend to keep working with the President and his team in the future to continue delivering on his promises — though I don’t know what the next steps will be quite yet,” said Meadows. “I look forward to sharing those with you when the time comes.”

...MEADOWS continued from page 1

...DIRECTOR continued from page 1

Carolina Department of Revenue as a tax administrator. According to Lightner, she has all the necessary training she needs for the basics of the position.

“As people say the time has come,” said Lightner. “After 35 years of leading the tax department, it is not something I want to do, but after 35 years it is time for someone else to carry the county forward to where it needs to be. Over the last few years, the County Manager and I have talked about this and took steps to prepare for this time.”

Lightner praised Braswell’s leadership during this year’s revaluation while he was out with emergency back surgery, stating she did a good job running the tax office and hearings during that time.

“I think she is the one to continue what we began 35 years ago,” said Lightner. “We have saved the county a lot of money. There are a lot of opening for tax administrators in the state and most are getting filled by people without near the experience of Abby.”

After praising Lightner for his work for the county, Vice Chairman Ronnie Beale made the motion to appoint Braswell to fill Lightner’s vacancy.

“I have had the privilege of working with Lightner, not only as a chairman of his equalization board but as a county commissioner, and I can’t say enough good things about him,” said Beale. “Because of Richard we are light years ahead of most counties.”

• To see the Real Estate transactions for 2019 go to page xxx.

...OBITUARIES continued from page 5

a deacon and long-time member of First Presbyterian Church of Thomasville.

Upon retirement, he and his wife moved full-time to Highlands, where they had maintained a vacation home for many years. In Highlands, he was a member of Cullasaja Club and Community Bible Church.

Nick was passionate about his patients and his family, above all, his devoted wife. He preferred to let his actions speak louder than his words and was an ideal role model for his family and community. In his free time, he loved golf, food, and wine (and travel that included all of the above). He was the consummate host and loved sharing his culinary gifts with family and friends.

The funeral service were held at 1pm, Saturday, December 21st, in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home, Franklin, NC. The Reverend Jo Jo Thomas officiated. Burial was at Highlands Memorial Park.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com. For memorial contributions, the family has designated New Life Ministries and The Cancer Research Institute.
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is 100% onsite in Highlands, NC, no exceptions.

FULL-TIME TEMPORARY MARKETING
POSITION. OEL is seeking a marketing professional and graphic designer experienced in page layout and
ad creation for both print and digital to fill a six-month position between approximately March 1 and Septem-
ber 31, 2020. At least two years of professional layout and design required. This position designs billboards,
newspaper and magazine ads, digital ads and more for a high-end luxury brand. Some experience in website
updating—or ability to learn—required (content management, not coding). Must have high integrity, sense
of humor, consistently positive nature, interpersonal skills and work well as part of a close team. Position
is 100% onsite in Highlands, NC, no exceptions. There is a possibility that this position could become perma-
nent. Please provide cover letter, resume and samples. References will be required.

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...PRIMARY continued from page 7

who practice in Macon County and surrounding counties to add their name to the ballot. Additional Republican candidates include two former Assistant District Attorneys, Jim Moore and Kaleb Wingate, both whom are from Haywood County, and Defense Attorney Mitch Brewer from Haynesville. One Democrat has filed for the seat, Attorney Justin Greene from Swain County.

Confusion over lawsuits surrounding the congressional district maps slightly delayed elections filing, however, as of last week candidates were able to file for US House of Representative District 11, which includes the far western 17 counties. While the maps are still being debated and District 11 may slightly shift to include portions of Asheville not currently in the district, it will not impact the far west counties such as Macon.

Congressman Mark Meadows announced last Thursday morning that he will be retiring from Congress and will not be seeking re-election to a fifth term. The US House District 11 seat already had several challengers prior to Meadows’ announcement, but with the front-runner no longer on the ballot, Republicans are in a mad dash to Raleigh to file for the US House District 11 seat ahead of the noon deadline.

There are now 17 contenders. Republicans include Macon County Republican Jim Davis, Haywood County Realtor Lynda Bennett and Buncombe County resident Charles Archerd, all of whom filed on Thursday.

Congressman Meadows’ Deputy Chief of Staff, Wayne King filed for the District 11 seat on Friday just before deadline. Along with King, other Republicans include Dan Driscoll, Joey Osborne, Steven Fekete, Jr., Dillon Gentry, Madison Cawthron, Matthew Burrell, and Vance Patterson, who has challenged Meadows in past elections. Republican candidates are from all over the district ranging from Winston Salem to Banner Elk.

Four Democrats and one member of the Green Party also filed for the seat early during the filing process.

Democrats include Robert Steven Woodsmall from Pisgah Forest, who ran in the 2018 primary for the same seat, but lost, Gina Rockey Collias from Kings Mountain, and Morris Durham Davis from Asheville. In addition, Phillip Price, who challenged Meadows in 2018, filed Friday morning.

Tamara Lynn Zwinak filed to run as a Green Party candidate against Congressman Mark Meadows, and according to her registration with the State Board of Elections, she resides in Macon County in Franklin. Tracey DeBruhl, a Libertarian candidate from Asheville filed late Thursday.

The state’s political makeup overall could see a significant shift during the 2020 election. In addition to local elections and the Presidential election, the majority of State offices will appear on the ballot. From North Carolina Governor, to Attorney General, to North Carolina Superintendent of Schools, most major state offices will appear on the ballot in 2020.

The Primary is scheduled for March 3, 2020 with the general election scheduled for November 3, 2020.

The deadline to register and/or for party changes in time for the primary is Feb. 7, 2020