Bank robber found in Highlands

By Brittney Lofthouse

A bank robbery that started in the Eastern part of the state came to an abrupt halt on Thursday, May 23 in Highlands with the help of multiple agencies.

According to Sheriff Robert Holland, the Macon County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) was contacted by the police department in Greenville, NC on May 23 requesting assistance in apprehending bank robbery suspects who were believed to be hiding out in Highlands.

The MCSO Special Response Team (SRT), along with U.S. Marshall’s, and other agencies, helped locate the suspects.

Local photographer Linda Barden snapped this shot of nature’s wonder at the Whiteside overlook on US 64 east Friday, May 3.

The pots of gold at the ‘ends’ of the rainbow – Highlands and Cashiers!

Moccasin War sign to be dedicated June 10

A Legends & Lore® Marker will soon commemorate the historic Moccasin War that was fought in 1885 on Main Street in Highlands. The Highlands Historical Society is inviting the public to a short dedication on Monday, June 10th, at 8:30 in the morning. The marker will stand at the corner of 4th and Main streets between the Highlands Inn and Old Edwards Inn, where the war was actually fought.

Briefly stated, the Moccasin War legend tells of a revenuer who arrested two moonshiners from the Moccasin Township just across the border in Georgia. He confined them in the Highlands Inn to await trial. An army of 18 Moccasin volunteers declared war on Highlands. During

Chief outline reasons for fire tax hike for Sky Valley/Scaly & Highlands FDs

At recent budget discussions for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget both the Highlands Fire and Rescue and the Sky Valley-Scaly Mountain Fire and Rescue departments have come before the Macon County Board of Commissioners requesting fire tax increases. This is the first no-revenue neutral rate increase the departments have requested since 1999 when the fire

Speed limits in town likely to decrease

By Brian O’Shea

Changes to speed limits on roads into Highlands and unmarked roads throughout the outskirts of town may give the “Larry Leadfoots” a reason to hit the brakes – the Public Safety Committee recently voted to recommend slowing things down, especially on unmarked roads.

“If it doesn’t have a center line it should be less that 20-25 mph,” said Town Engineer Lamar Nix. “You can’t go fast on those roads; they are not designed for two-way traffic. And if it’s a pedestrian area it should be 15 [mph].”

Areas in question are the unmarked roads without center or edge lines and the entrances into town. Coming from Franklin into Highlands, posted limits go from 50 mph to 25 mph. Coming
A recent letter-to-the-editor raised questions about our water and sewer department policies and pending rate increase. The writer implied that I didn’t create an accurate picture of the rate increase, and that I withheld information about Highlands having the third highest water and sewer rates in the state.

Let me first address several inaccurate statements and resulting questions. To the writer, we do not have 1,500 customers outside the town limits. Of our 2,883 water customers, only 198 live outside the town limits and only one is on sewer. We have 1,240 town customers on both water and sewer.

The double rates for water customers outside town limits was questioned as a fairness issue. It is fair, considering the Town of Highlands taxpayers built the water and sewer system. It is also a deal for our 1,240 customers within town. Years ago developers and residents in these areas entered the double rate agreement, mainly because they couldn’t provide water by drilling wells. Having city water has been a benefit for these outside town customers by maintaining home values, fire protection and insuring access to safe and thoroughly tested water.

The town took over the water lines to several of these outlying areas decades ago as a part of the agreement. We maintain these lines and replace them just as if they were in town. For example, last year we replaced a failing 50-year-old waterline outside the town. It cost the town $375,000 to put in a state-of-the-art 6-inch waterline that serves about 13 homes. Was that a fair deal to those residents who pay $70 a month for water? Will the town ever recoup that capital expenditure through usage fees that basically operate the system from year-to-year?

Despite a small customer base, Highlands has spent millions of dollars beyond operations costs to build and maintain the water and sewer system. This year about $600,000 will be spent to complete the water tank on Satulah, and $875,000 to replace the aging waterline on Split Rail. Another $200,000 is earmarked to rework a water plant filter and another million will be spent in the coming years to add a new filter. In any given budget, like this year, $200,000 can be spent just to replace critical pumps and parts in the water and sewer system. We also maintain 24/7 service to all areas.

Yes, to some degree we are on the higher end of the rate structure but consider our unique situation. The state report that the letter references cautions about making comparisons between municipalities. We are a small market, isolated, seasonal community that provides services normally found in larger municipalities. The report also states high water and sewer rates are not necessarily bad. If municipalities continually undercharge actual operating and maintenance costs, the cumulative effect is an eventual large debt service to upgrade plants and distribution systems. We do not have such debt because we periodically adjust rates to pay as we go.

Finally, the letter questions the fairness of minimal charges and the fact that we do not suspend those fees for seasonal residents. The town could not operate the system based solely on demand. Our water and sewer staff are licensed professionals. We can’t employ these crucial workers based 2019.

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Keep dogs away from mama bears and cubs

There have been three reported bear attacks on dogs in the last week.

Two involved Chihuahuas. One was killed at a residence on Crowe Drive when it got between a mama bear and her two cubs. Another on Little Bear Pen was allegedly taken and eaten by a bear. And a couple of days ago, two standard poodles at a residence off Hicks Road were attacked sustaining lacerations and puncture wounds.

According to Cynthia Strain of the Bear Taskforce, this is an uncommon occurrence. “People need to know it is an extremely uncommon occurrence, yet it could happen, especially with small dogs,” she said. “It’s best to keep them on a leash at all times if they live in a neighborhood that has bears around. The mother with cubs would be an especially dangerous situation, and a dog doesn’t understand the danger of getting between a protective mother and her little ones. Bears aren’t aggressive, but they are protective, just like any of us would be if we felt we or our children were in danger.”
NEW ON MARKET: The mountain contemporary home is light and bright inside with skylights and clerestory windows. 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 to make sure everyone is included in the conversation. In addition, there is a den adjacent which could double as a TV viewing area or a separate dining room. Located in Highlands CC.

MLS# 91051  |  Offered for $647,000

NEW ON MARKET: Imagine how easy and carefree your life can be in this pristine villa. Located close to everything yet very private. You can walk to all of the great amenities that are offered by Highlands Falls CC whether it is getting in some practice for your golf game, taking on a challenge on the croquet courts, working out in the best fitness center on the mountain or meeting friends for delicious meals in the clubhouse. Amenities available with membership approval.

MLS# 90948  |  Offered for $487,000

PRICE CHANGE: This lovely home features lots of natural wood and refinished floors. With three bedrooms and two and one-half baths on the main level, it also features a garage, workshop, and additional room downstairs. The owners have made great improvements, including a new deck, retaining wall, new paint, encapsulated crawl space, appliances, and the price includes furnishings with only a couple of exceptions. Lovely back yard and nice patio. Don’t wait!

MLS# 88950  |  Was $399,000 NOW Offered for $379,000

PRICE CHANGE: Conveniently located to both Cashiers and Highlands in the quiet community of Stillmont. Make this the vacation or year round home of your dreams. Stay warm with the floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. Lots of natural light with the expansive rear windows. Enjoy the outdoors with the screened-covered octagonal porch or on the open rear deck. Large family room downstairs along with both guest bedrooms and baths. Plenty of storage space.

MLS# 89690  |  Was $549,000 NOW Offered for $499,999

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**Main Street Highlands since 1984**
HIGHLANDS FALLS CC  This great property backs up the National Forest so when relaxing on the huge covered deck, only nature is in view. With handsome wood floors throughout the common areas, a stone fireplace, and vaulted ceilings, the home has a terrific floorplan that makes entertaining a breeze. The owner created a level back yard which is beautifully landscaped and fenced. Don’t let this one slip away if you’re looking for a special home at HFCC!

MLS# 89562  |  Offered for $995,000

SCALY MOUNTAIN  Phenomenal year round views from this very unique and contemporary home in King Mountain. It’s located on the Atlanta side of Highlands, about six miles from Main Street in Highlands. The property backs to the Nantahala National Forest and has beautiful rock outcroppings on the nearly level land. The home was designed by Jim Fox and has lots of interesting angles and spaces. The focal point is a sunken fireplace niche with comfortable seating.

MLS# 89729  |  Offered for $895,000

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN  A Excellent location for this newly renovated in town 3 bedroom 3 bath home. This one level living is only steps away from the soon-to-be redesigned Performing Art Center/Play House. Offers a large back deck for entertaining, detached, oversized two-car garage, which could be turned into a guest cottage. Incredible private flat back yard with its own art studio. Landscaped yard is beautiful. Walk to Main Street with wonderful shopping and dining!

MLS# 88180  |  Offered for $840,000

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN  This 4BR/4.5BA home is well maintained and in move-in condition. It has a quaint mountain feel and decor throughout, with shiplap wood paneling and beautiful wide wood plank flooring. The main level has a large Master bedroom with bath and sauna on one end and second bedroom on the other end with a full bathroom. Separate dining area, great living area, plus a cozy sitting area with a stone fireplace. Convenient to downtown Highlands!

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Another great community from Old Edwards Hospitality! Located in-town, an easy walk to all that Highlands has to offer, this property is just over three acres; six homes will be constructed, each on a half acre lot. The community will be gated and heavily landscaped and include a common area with a pavilion and small pond. John Lupoli, the renowned Highlands builder, will build them so the quality will be second to none! There are two floor plans — a one level and a two-story, both with three bedrooms and three-and-a-half baths. The beautiful finishes will include:

- 14 foot ceilings in the great room with wood beams and high baseboards
- Kohler fixtures, granite in all baths and in the kitchen
- Carrera or travertine tile in the baths and heated master bath floors
- Stainless steel KitchenAid appliance package
- Maytag appliances in the laundry room
- Wonderful outdoor spaces with a wood-burning fireplace

Pricing includes a full membership to Old Edwards Club valued at $80,000. This membership includes all of the new family-friendly amenities at GlenCove by Old Edwards.

Offered for $1,695,000 | Contact Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty for more information
Rotarians learn about AHEC

Rotarian Chris Wilkes introduced speaker Hilary Wilkes with the Advance Highlands Education Committee (AHEC) who addressed the Rotary Club on May 28. AHEC has raised over $100,000 for Highlands School in its inaugural year – increasing the school's technology tool kit and adding resources for teachers and students. Wilkes described the school's urgent need for infrastructure and capital improvements. For more information about AHEC, email advancehighlands@gmail.com.

H-C Hospital recognizes nursing achievement

Congratulations to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital DAISY Award recipient Lacey Killian, BSN, RN. Killian serves as a nurse in the Acute/Medical-Surgical Department at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. The award was presented recently at a ceremony at the hospital. The DAISY Foundation is a national nonprofit that honors nurses and the amazing care they provide to patients and families.

Mountaintop Rotary earns 2019 District Award for Membership Growth

In recognition of an outstanding 25% increase in membership in one year, Rotary District #7670 gave its 2019 District Award for Membership Growth to the Mountaintop Rotary Club.

Shown here during the award celebration from left are Dr. John Baumrucker, incoming 2019-20 President; Peggy Wike, Assistant District Governor; Isaac Olowabi, District Governor; Duncan Greenlee, Current Mountaintop Rotary President and Tucker Chambers, Immediate Past President.

Interested potential members or visiting Rotarians are invited to attend a meeting of the Mountaintop Rotary on any Monday at 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at 530 Main Street, Highlands.

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Rotary District #7670 gives 2019 District Award for Membership Growth to Mountaintop Rotary Club.
I bet you didn’t realize that writing about books can cause a gal a problem. That’s right, the problem is I wind up adding more and more books to my To Be Read (TBR) list. When I write about a favorite author, I may realize I’m not up to date on his or her offerings, or when I write a column on King Arthur books, for example, I find additional books I must read. And, last but not least, readers send me suggestions. My TBR list is neverending.

In an effort to show myself that I do occasionally check titles off my list, despite constantly adding new ones, I thought I’d share my progress with you. Since December, I’ve checked eight books off the list—three in the King Arthur category. Of course, I’ve read more than eight books, but not all were on my list. How does that happen? I walk into the library to pick up books I’ve put on hold and see books in the section marked “Floating Collection.” Those are new books that can only be checked out for two weeks, and sometimes I can’t resist grabbing at least one.

Back to the books on my list, though. I’ve read two books I discovered while researching King Arthur books and one recommended by Kim, the editor of this paper. None were available at my local library. First up was “Finding Camlaan,” a novel set in modern-day Great Britain. It offers a different take on the origins of King Arthur and takes the reader on a suspenseful journey from Oxford to Cornwall, Stonehenge, and Wales. I was especially taken with it because I had visited both Oxford and Cornwall on my 2018 trip to England, and the descriptions resonated with me. And, now, after reading this book, I’m eager to visit Wales too. Many thanks to Kim for this well-timed recommendation. I keep thinking about rereading it, something I rarely do.

Next was Charlie Lovett’s “The Lost Book of the Grail,” set in the fictional town of Barchester, England, a town created by Anthony Trollope. This book moves between events happening as early as 560 AD and as recently as 2016 with a few stops in 1941. It too is a different take on the legend of King Arthur with emphasis on the quest for the Holy Grail. Reviewers describe it as a combo history, mystery, and love story. I’ve read two of Lovett’s earlier books, “The Bookman’s Tale,” and “First Impressions,” and all three were equally engaging and entertaining. If you’re a King Arthur enthusiast, you’ll want to add this to your list.

Finally, I dove into “The Forever King,” a book whose setting moves across continents and from ancient times to modern. There were times I couldn’t put it down and others where I thought, “Get to the point.” Perhaps these words from one reviewer explain my reaction: “Reminiscent of parts of TH White’s ‘Once and Future King’ combined with Robert Parker’s Spenser series.” That description captures the writing perfectly, and while I like TH White and Parker, I found the style combination a bit disconcerting. As yet another original take on the legend, though, the plot is intriguing.

I’ve left King Arthur behind for now and have moved on to mysteries set in the 21st century. With five library book sitting on my desk, I have my work—or pleasure—cut out for me.

• 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 ink-penn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, www.facebook.com/KathyManosPenn.Author/.

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According to NC Law, the due diligence period is a negotiated period of time during which a buyer has the opportunity to conduct their “due diligence” before deciding to move forward with the purchase of the home. Unless negotiated otherwise, all inspections are paid for by the buyer.

The first time most people see one of these contracts is usually right before they sign it and often it’s done quickly especially in today’s hot real estate market. Of course, signing a document for the most important buying decision in one’s life shouldn’t be rushed into lightly. However, if you are sure this is the right house for you and the offering for the home is a fair price, then push on. The contract has some guidelines and safeguards that protect both the buyer and seller of real estate in North Carolina. The due diligence period of time and process is of most importance.

There are many aspects to what a buyer needs to determine during this period, so it is important to know how much time may be needed to complete the process. This may include a professional home inspection, inspections on systems including septic, well and a water test, HVAC, fuel tank generator, appraisal and a survey. With an older home, there may be additional inspections.

The weeks leading up to closing can either be stressful or uneventful; there may be many unexpected things that come up or it may be smooth sailing. Either way, as either a buyer or seller, knowing what to expect during this period can go a long way for your peace of mind, as well as help you think strategically through the “what-ifs” before they happen.

And most importantly, should the buyers be obtaining a mortgage loan, this also comes under the due diligence period. This can take between 30 to 60 days of due diligence for final loan approval, depending on the lender, and usually two weeks after that time for the attorney to prepare for closing. “NOTE: Buyers obligation under the contract are not specifically conditioned upon obtaining or closing any loan.” Thus, the timing of the due diligence period is of great significance.

Other items that come under the due diligence period include review of documents regarding a subdivision such as Covenants & Restrictions, dues and fees, etc. Also, verification of any flood hazards, utilities and means of access, streets and roads and who maintains the access, zoning and governmental regulations and any other items that pertain to the type of property being purchased. Any legal questions need to be discussed with the closing attorney.

Before the end of the due diligence, the buyer can ask for any repairs they would like the seller to complete but the seller is not obliged to do any of them. It is at this point that the buyer would decide to either terminate the contract or move forward to closing. If the seller agrees to do the repairs, they must be completed in a good and workmanlike manner. The buyer has the right to verify the repairs were completed to their satisfaction.

The buyer and seller can also agree that the seller give a credit to the buyer at closing for the cost of repairs. Many buyers like the credit so they can do the repairs as they see fit. Or there can be agreement between buyer and seller for a price reduction on the property.

To get through due diligence smoothly you need to understand exactly what will happen, what money is on the line when, and what your options are at each stage of the process. It is recommended to work with a local NC Realtor who can assist the buyer or seller regarding due diligence, escrow deposits and due diligence fees.

- Lynn Kimball has 45 years of real estate experience, with 34 years serving the Highlands Cashiers area. She has gained Emeritus Status with the National Association of Realtors and has served as Vice President and Director for the Highlands Cashiers Board of Realtors. Whether you are interested in searching properties or comprehensive information about our area, you are invited to visit her user-friendly website at www.signaturepropertiesnc.com. BHHS Meadows Mountain Realty has three locations, on Main Street downtown Highlands, on HWY 107 South in Downtown Cashiers or visit Lynn at the Cashiers Road location across from Highlands Falls Country Club. Lynn Kimball may be reached at 828-421-8193 or by email Lynn@bhhsmmr.com.
T

here’s often, with any presidential administration, an instance revealing how one policy can conflict with another. The impact of such conflicts can quickly be felt, even here on the Highlands-Cashiers plateau.

The economic recovery following the recession of 2007/08 began during the first months of the first Obama administration, and has continued nonstop during the first two years of the Trump administration. The stock market is approaching record levels of performance. Unemployment is at a historic low; even income is inching upwards. The American economy is expanding. This, on balance, is all good.

The policy conflict that threatens to upset our delicately constructed economic applecart has to do with the administration’s unrelenting crackdown on immigration across America’s southern border.

The best laid plans of any administration can come crashing down due to, for want of a better example, one eye looking one way and the other looking another way. It’s also results from trying to impose political solutions to complex economic and social problems.

Here on the plateau businesses serving mostly upscale visitors and second-home residents during the season are experiencing difficulty attracting and retaining mostly low-paid, non-resident employees. In the past, many of these employees were found among workers from south of the border. They worked in hospitality and food service sectors, health care, in our landscaping and contracting businesses, doing necessary jobs to which most Americans simply aren’t attracted.

They still do, but due of fear of exposure, not to the same extent as has been the case in the past.

The administration’s immigration crackdown is leaving many of these essential positions unfilled, as is evidenced by the constant, sometimes incentive-filled recruitment advertising in this and other newspapers in Highlands, Cashiers, Franklin, Sylva, Clayton, GA and Walhalla, SC. The impact of these positions remaining unfilled shows up in slower service, sometimes sparsely-filled or even empty shelves, and a sense of frustration on the part of employers, shoppers, diners and hotel guests.

I’m not suggesting there’s a simple solution to this. Both the politics and economics are complicated. But doesn’t it boil down to, at least on some level, whether we continue to slam the door on immigration, or would we rather these jobs were filled?

The plateau doesn’t have a robust resident employment base. The average age is 60+, and many are beyond these kinds of jobs. Real estate is precious and costly, and there’s very little rental or multi-family housing available. Consequently, many of those earning $10 - $15 an hour must come from down the mountain. This means longer commutes and more cost in time, gas and auto maintenance. Couple this with upscale residents and visitors with high expectations and low thresholds for inconvenience. Ultimately, something goes wrong.

Harsh policies on immigration play well with a significant portion of the administration’s base. So do deregulation policies which help improve and expand the economy. I’m not here to argue the merits of one versus another. I’m simply pointing out that the policy conflicts exist because elected officials of all affiliations and on all levels are subject to the expectations of their constituents. In this case, record low unemployment means low wage, yet essential jobs will go unfilled.

The argument during WWII was about guns or butter, pick one. Today, we find ourselves having to choose whether to fund essential, broad-based programs, such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education, and veterans’ services, or upper-tier tax cuts, defense spending, environmental protection (clean air, clean water), infrastructure, and law enforcement. Maybe that’s just another way of saying, guns or butter.

Policy conflicts impact people. The policy conflict between immigration and low-wage jobs is playing out here. People doing those jobs need to be able to live within reasonable distance to where they work. Often that’s not the case here on the plateau. They need to pay rent or a mortgage, buy groceries and pay for everything else necessary to have a decent life. We want people to have decent lives, don’t we?

As you’re moving around the plateau this season, in addition to being patient, it’s a good idea to notice the people who are taking care of your wants and needs. Let them know they’re appreciated. Smile at them every now and then. Drop a “please” or a “thank you” when appropriate. And always keep in mind, our “season” is their livelihood.

Highlands Country Club

Gorgeous views with end of the cul-de-sac privacy, this 3 bedrooms 3 baths home is the perfect mix of rustic and elegance. 2 fireplaces. Furniture available separately. Offered for for $974,900. Contact Andrea Gabbard 828-200-6742.

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• The Bascom is open Friday - Monday 10a to 4p. (Sundays 12p - 5p). Visitors are welcome to enjoy the newly updated Story Walk Trail throughout the week.

Monday - Saturday
• Mountain Findings Thrift Store on Spruce Street is open from 10a to 4p.
• Fieber Magee’s Clothing Thrift Store on Laurel Street is open Tues.-Friday 10a to 4p and on Saturday from 10a to 2p.

First Mondays
• Shortoff Baptist Church non-denominational Men’s Mtg at 7p.

Mondays
• At the Rec Park, Dance2Fit classes with Tori Schmitt at 5:30pm.
• 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. & Thurs.
• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9a.

Tuesdays
• Gentle Yoga at the Rec park at 9:15-10:30 a.m. All levels welcome.

Wed., Thurs.
• Pickle Ball at the Recreation Department Gym 10:30am -1pm

Tuesdays, June 11-July 30
• Free Community Yoga and Gentle Movement at The Ball Field with Rachel Kinback, Certified Yoga Teacher, 5:30 -6:15p. People of all ages and ability levels are invited to meet at the Ball Field for fun, expressive, gentle Yoga and Movement. This 45 min guided practice will be inclusive, so come as you are. Packing a blanket or exercise mat and water bottle is encouraged. The baseball field site is located adjacent to the Highlands Community Building off N. 4th St./ Hwy 106 headed toward Cashiers. Restrooms will be available on site.

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

• The Highlands Writers Group meets every Tuesday, 3pm in the downstairs boardroom at the Bascom Center for the Visual Arts. Writers at all levels of proficiency are welcome. For additional information, contact Bud Katz, 828-526-3190 or budandlyn@me.com.

The Humanist Discussion Group meets from 10:30-11:30 am in the Meeting Room at the back of the Hudson Library.

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.
• Highlands Area Indivisible Group meets at 5 pm in the Meeting Room at the back of the Hudson Library.

Tuesday and Thursdays
• At the Rec Park, Dance2Fit with Tori Schmitt at 7:30am.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:30. A combination class with many different styles of exercise at Rec Park.

Wednesdays
• At Community Bible Church, 5-5:30p - Dinner – Free (Donations Appreciated) 5:45-7p - G.R.O.W. Get Real on Wednesdays – Classes offered on money management, addiction, discovering your spiritual gifts and personality type, studying the bible, evangelism, parenting, marriage, grief, and more. All are welcome! Visit www.cbchighlands.com for class schedule.

• Power Flow Yoga with Nalicia Allio a certified Yoga Instructor 12-1pm and 6:30-7:30pm.

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.

Thursdays
• Beginning June 6 through July 18, The Church of the Incarnation announces that a Grief Support Group will be offered on Thursdays, from 4 – 5:30, beginning June 6 through July 18. The group will not meet on July 4th. The purpose of the group is to offer support for those suffering from life transitions, such as terminal illness, death of family or close friend, miscarriage, and relationship or job loss.

• Storytime at Hudson Library, 10:40am. Open to the public.

• Kids Zone at Hudson Library, 3:30 - 5p. A different STEAM Program each week.

• NAMI Support Group for individuals dealing with mental illness and the family members of individuals dealing with these challenges from 7 – 8:15p at First United Methodist Church Out Reach Center on West Main Street in Franklin Call Donita (828) 526-9510.

• Family Movies at the Hudson Library in the Meeting Room from 11a until noon.

Fourth Friday
• Community Coffee with Mayor Pat Taylor at the Hudson Library in the Meeting Room from 11a until noon.

Friday – Monday
• At the Bascom, 10am - 5pm (Sundays 12pm - 5pm): Free Admission to exhibition spaces and SmArt Space for children. For more information call 828-526-4949.

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

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

• Free music in the K-H Founders Park on Pine Street 6-8 p.m.

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

Thurs-Sun, June 6-9
• From Thursday, through Sunday, it’s the 12th annual Highlands Motoring Festival, Thursday, is the opening event – Monte Carlo Night at HFCC. From 6pm to 10pm. Food, beverages and games. At the end of the evening, items donated by local merchants will be auctioned off. On Friday, the Festival’s “One Lap of the Mountains” driving tour leaves Highlands in the morning for a day of driving a curated route through WNC. It’s sold out. On Friday evening it’s a Parade of Main Street beginning at Kelsey Hutchinson Park at 5:30pm. A procession of classics.

CLE Offers Presentations on Gardening and Strom Thurmond

June is the perfect month in Highlands! While most people off the mountain are complaining of the sweltering, hot summer days, here in Highlands, we have almost air-conditioned like temps.

If you find yourself looking for ways to occupy these idyllic summer days and want to keep your brain active then check out the Center for Life Enrichment. CLE has been offering engaging, stimulating lectures and classes for the Highlands-Cashier Plateau for 27 years.

Gardening is a favorite past-time for many in the Highlands area. There are many gorgeous gardens filled with beautiful, fragrant plants. Tuesday, June 11 Time: 2-4 Dr. Amanda Storm of WCU’s Biology Dept. will share some survival strategies of plants, and how they are continually engaged in acts of warfare, struggle and intrigue. Who knew all of that was going on in your garden! Come learn about some of the mechanisms plants use to deal with these challenges, focusing on native and common garden plants.

Americans have a fascina-
and modern exotic cars will leave the Park at 6pm. Upon returning to the Park, there is a Welcome Party at the High Dive until 8 pm. The main event, “Cars in the Park” opens to the public at 10am on Saturday. On Sunday, in Wright Square from 8am to 12pm there is an unjudged event. It is open to the public and free of charge.

**Thurs., June 6**
- At CLE, Lakeside Cooking Demo and Lunch Time: 11-2 Cost $30/$40 Chef: Travis Brooks. To register please call 526-8811 or visit www.clehighlands.com. Cost is $25 for members/$35 nonmembers. Walk-ins are welcome!
- Live music at Town Square from 6-8 p.m. by the Deitz Band

**Sun., June 9**
- The annual Mullen Lecture Series at the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands features Dr. Mary Brown Bullock, former President of Agnes Scott College and noted authority on U.S.-China relations. Her talk on Saturday at the 11a service at the Church will focus on missions to China. Her lecture on Monday at 10:30, also at the Church will be entitled China at 70, which refers to the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China, and the implications for U.S.-China relations going forward. A reception and Q&A session will follow the Monday talk. The lectures and free and open to the public.

**Mon., June 10**
- A Legends & Lore® Marker will be commemorated the historic Moccasin War that was fought in 1885 on Main Street in Highlands. The Highlands Historical Society is inviting the public to a short dedication on at 8:30a at the corner of 4th and Main streets between the Highlands Inn and Old Edwards Inn, where the war was actually fought.
- Food for the People of Highlands. Time: 9:45 A.M. The five-mile walk, which will end in nothing.”

**Sat., June 15**
- Clothing swap at the Highlands Rec Park from 2-7p. $5 admission. Please bring donatable items, clean and ready-to-wear clothing, shoes, accessories. Swap your unwanted clothing for “new to you” items. All unclaimed items and the $5 admission fee will be donated to The Atlanta Mission ThriftStore – a homeless mission in Gainesville, GA.
- 9th Annual Three Potter’s Symposium at the Dave Drake Studio Barn. $5 at the door. Listen to three ceramics talk about their inspiration and processes as they demonstrate a variety of wheelthrown and hand building techniques.
You are only 50 miles away from 40 years experience in top-notch, high-tech, one-stop dentistry known for its gentle touch.

- Dental Implants
- Root Canal Therapy
- SINGLE VISIT CROWNS!
- Orthodontics including Invisalign
- Wisdom Teeth Extractions
- Fillings and Cleanings (IV Sedation, too)

www.WilbanksSmileCenter.com

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...BANK ROBBER continued from page 1

Tavarus Rashad Barnhill

Brooklyn Lashae Simmers – 24-year-old Brooklyn Lashae Simmers, of Greenville – and left with an undisclosed amount of cash. The Woodforest Bank in that Walmart is open noon-4p on Sundays.

It was later determined that Simmers was in on the bank robbery with Barnhill. She was also arrested on one count of Common Law Robbery and Conspiracy to Commit Common Law Robbery.

The MCSO’s SRT team re-
ceived information from federal agents that Barnhill was hiding in Highlands at the Skyline Lodge. The SRT team was utilized because the suspect was considered to be armed and dangerous.

Management at Skyline Lodge said Barnhill wasn’t an employee nor was he a paying patron.

The SRT spent three hours with the hotel under surveillance at which point Barnhill was identified and found to be with two other individuals who officials say were not involved in the robbery.

When the MCSO SRT team attempted to arrest Barnhill, he fled on foot. A short foot-chase ensued before members of the MCSO SRT team, with the help of MCSO K9 officer Chase and his handler Deputy Blanton were able to take Barnhill into custody.

Barnhill was booked into the Macon County Detention Center on a $12,000 secured bond.

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...MOCCASIN continued from page 1

Historically this notorious war made the front page of the New York Times on March 16, 1885, and was reported in newspapers across North Carolina and as far away as Pennsylvania, Kansas, Alabama, and California.

The assembly and fabrication of the Marker were funded by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation® of New York, which provides generous grants to help people celebrate their community’s history through historic signage. This Legends and Lore Marker for Highlands is one of the first to be confirmed and authorized in the State by the North Carolina Folklore Institute.
Taking a couple of aspirin, acetaminophen or an ibuprofen for a headache or to reduce the painful effects of a sore muscle and following the safety information on the label will most likely be beneficial and harmless. However, if you swallow a whole bottle at one time it could prove fatal.

How about if you take the prescribed dosage of a prescription ordered by your medical doctor who spent eight years of study in higher education and to boot gained entrance into medical school through a highly competitive selective process?

You most likely will benefit yourself. On the other hand, what if you downed an exceedingly higher dosage than prescribed of life-saving medicine such as a blood thinner prescribed to prevent a stroke or heart attack? You most likely would be doing yourself more harm than good and possibly die in the process. Too much or the wrong combination of drugs can cause serious harm and even death.

Now let’s look at vitamins. The definition of a vitamin is: Any of various fat-soluble or water-soluble organic substances essential in minute amounts for normal growth and activity of the body and obtained naturally from plant and animal foods. The phrase “in minute amounts should be emphasized.”

Taking large doses of vitamins and herbal supplements may however be just as harmful as over doing a prescription or an over-the-counter medication. In other words, over doing or combining vitamins, supplements and herbs can be dangerous.

I recently read an article online about a 50-year-old man from Texas. He took green tea extract capsules for a few months and as a result developed severe liver damage and needed a liver transplant to survive! Green tea is known for its beneficial antioxidants and for most of us a cup of green tea will enhance our health. In the concentrated extract form, the overdose of antioxidants destroyed his liver.

Another online article by Consumer Reports listed 15 supplements to avoid.

The following are a few they listed:

- Comfrey which has been erroneously promoted to relieve cough, heavy menstrual periods, chest pain and even cancer. The use of this product in reality has been linked, as a cause of liver damage, cancer and possible death.

- Kava promoted for anxiety and insomnia is linked to liver damage and exasperation of Parkinson’s, depression and impaired driving.

- Yohimbe promoted for low libido, ED, depression and obesity has been linked to rapid heart rate, headaches, seizures, liver and kidney problems, panic attacks and possible death.

For more on this topic I recommend going to consumer-reports.org and reading the entire article titled 15 Supplemental Ingredients to Always Avoid.

Since the FDA is not given the power to scrutinize and regulate the health food industry in the same manner as it does the drug industry, I suggest that all of us be vigilant in what we put into our bodies. Be aware of products making health claims. Many of them combine supplements and these combinations could possibly contain some of the dangerous ingredients just mentioned and additionally even other possibly dangerous ingredients which were not mentioned.

When it comes to improving your health and meeting your nutritional needs, your best bet is to consume real food, preferably pesticide free, along with an abundance of fruits and vegetables and to limit processed foods, alcohol and saturated fats.

When it comes to your health, doesn’t it make more sense to discuss your use of vitamins, supplements and herbal products with a medical doctor, dietician or pharmacist all of whom are highly educated rather than a sales person at a vitamin shop?

- 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 and is a licensed NC Massage Therapist specializing in Therapeutic Stretching. Send comments to: hank@thebestexercisesforseniors.com
...FIRE TAX continued from page 1

tax was first approved.

One week before commission- ers are expected to vote on
the budget – Tuesday, June 11 – Ryan Gearhart, chief of the
Highlands Fire and Rescue, pres- ented his department’s proposal
to raise the fire tax rate to help
fund the purchase of property
and the construction of a new
fire station for Highlands. The
department is requesting a fire
tax increase from 0.0108 to 0.03
cents tax per $100 valuation to
pay for the property and new sta-
tion. Even with the increase, the
Highlands fire tax is still the low-
est in Macon County.

A three-cent per $100 valuation
fire tax would net the depart-
ment $1,080,389 per year which
would give it enough money to
acquire property and build the
building. Property cost for the
new station will be the major ex-
pense for the new station as the
property costs inside the town lim-
its are at a premium.

According to Town Manager
Josh Ward, the town is very close
to signing a contract on property
in the town limits that would be
well suited for the new station.
Gearhart stated the department’s
goal is to purchase the property
and build the new station at a cost
not exceeding $5.5 million based
on a 15-year loan with just slightly
over three percent interest.

Gearhart expects the new sta-
tion will meet the needs for the
department for a long time with
construction of a building with
a life expectancy of 50 years and
the purchase of land that would be
large enough for future expansion.

With the new station, the
department is hoping to have 24-
hour staffing. Due to limited size,
the current fire station is not fea-
sible to house firefighters for 24-
hour shifts. Gearhart said 24/7 fire
protection would help to improve
response time, lower insurance
rates and eventually taxes.

While the tax increase is ex-
pected to cover the cost of the
property and construction of the
new station, an additional tax in-
crease for employment purposes
may be needed upon completion of
the new station. Currently, the
department has 245 full-time em-
ployees who work from 8 a.m.
to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday,
not including off-hour volunteer

The fire department held a
well-publicized public hearing for
the proposed tax increase; how-
ever, no one from the public for
or against the tax increase showed
up for the meeting. Only seven
people attended the public hear-
ing of all of which were fire depart-
ment, town and county staff. The
fire tax increase has the support of
the Highlands Board of Commiss-
ioners who recently voted unani-
mosly to approve the increase.

The department also consid-
ered expanding the current fire sta-
tion however, this proposal isn’t re-
alistic as the site is landlocked and
not large enough to build a station
with housing for firefighters. In ad-
dition, renovating the current fire
station would require storing the
fire trucks which must be stored
in a climate-controlled facility.
There is not such facility available
in Highlands and building a stor-
age facility to house the fire trucks
during the construction would not
be a feasible option.

On behalf of the Sky Valley-
Scaly Mountain Volunteer Fire
and Rescue Department, Fire
Chief Tommy James came before
the commissioners at last week’s
continued meeting to request a
fire tax increase. The organiza-
tion is requesting an increase from
0.0486 to 0.0586 which is $10 per
$100,000 valuation. The tax in-
crease is expected to yield approxi-
mately $94,752 or 65 percent of
the tax year total.

James said the department
has been running deficit budgets
for several years and is seriously
in need of paid hours for secretarial
and maintenance work. The depart-
ment’s initial plan is to hire and
pay for approximately 2,000 hours
of work per year with 1,000 hours
of secretarial work at $15 per hour
and approximately 1,000 hours of
maintenance work at $20 totaling
approximately $35,000 a year.

The Sky Valley-Scaly Mount-
ain Volunteer Fire and Rescue
Department provides fire protec-
tion, first-responder medical as-
sistance and other fire and rescue
services for persons and property
in the general vicinity of the City
of Sky Valley in Rabun County,
GA, and the Scaly Mountain com-
munity in Macon County, NC, col-
lectively known as the Sky Valley-
Scaly Mountain Fire Protection
area. The fire department provides
these services contractually to Ma-
con County and the City of Sky
Valley and Rabun County as an
affiliate of the Rabun County Fire
Service.

The department operates two
stations one in Sky Valley and one
in Scaly Mountain. Apparatus from
both or either station responds
to emergencies as needed with
no regard to state line. Neither
community has the personnel or
financial resources to provide the
chartered services alone, and oper-
ating expenses are shared equally
by the two jurisdictions.

The department’s current
and only debt is for a 15-year lease
for the purchase of the new Scaly
Mountain Station located at 169
Hale Ridge Road. As of March
2019, the principal balance on the
contract which the department has
been paying on for nine years is
$646,386. Monthly payments
on the station are $9,333.18 at a
fixed interest rate of 3.69 percent.

In November, the fire de-
partment mailed its newsletter
to every property owner in each
fire district explaining the need
for increased revenue and the
requested amount and rate. The
Sky Valley City Council approved
the increase.

In the Scaly Mountain mail-
ings, a ballot was enclosed to en-
able each property owner to vote
for or against the requested tax
increase. Over 100 ballots were
returned in favor of the tax in-
crease and three were returned
against the increase.

The fire tax increases for
both departments will be includ-
ed in the final proposed budget
discussion. It’s likely they will be
approved.

Commissioners will hold a
public hearing for the proposed
budget on Tuesday, June 11 at the
Macon County Courthouse. The
board is expected to vote on the
proposed budget following the
public hearing.

Experience a universe of stories at Hudson Library!

Readers ages 0 to 17 will be ex-
ploring space and science this summer
as the Hudson Library presents “A
Universe of Stories” summer learning
program, and is free to all participants.

Children will be awarded prizes
for reading (or being read to) 20 min-
utes per day. For every seven days your
child reads at least 20 minutes (or that
you read to him or her), your child will
come a prize. Prizes include a free DVD
check-out, gift certificate to The Book-
worm, a free book, and the final prize
for finishing seven full weeks of read-
ing is a pass to the Highlands Aerial
Park. Come to Hudson Library to get
your kids signed up for the summer
reading program.

Special children’s events will be
on tap most Friday mornings at 10:30
in June and July, including visits from
Professor Whizzpop, performer As-
pen Black, Western North Carolina
Nature Center’s live animals, and much
more. No registration is needed for
any of these programs.

Children’s/family movies will be
screening each Friday afternoon
throughout the summer. In keeping
with the “Universe of Stories” theme,
all our movies will have a space-related
element. Family movies also screen on
the first Wednesday of every month
throughout the year.

Kids Zone afternoon programs
each Thursday at 3:30 pm continue
through the summer months. Activi-
ties include rock painting to building
marble rolls, Perler beads to 3D pens.
And Lego Club continues to thrive
on the 4th Thursday of each month in
the Kids Zone slot.

For more information about any of
these summer activities, contact Hudson
Library at 828-526-3031, or stop by
the library during open hours. Hudson
Library 10am-5:30pm Tuesday through Friday,
10am-4pm Saturday.
The Grand Reveal at Creekside is this Sat.

Creekside Village is hosting a “Grand Reveal” this Saturday, June 8 at 12 noon. The event which is open to the public will feature a Ribbon Cutting by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce and a proclamation by Mayor Patrick Taylor. Food and drinks are available at The Blue Bike Café.

Creekside Village is a place for quality lodging, shopping and dining experiences. The property was recently acquired by Debi and David Bock of David Bock Builders, LLC. The Village is home to the Inn at Creekside, Posh Paws Pet Spa, The Blue Bike Café, Katrina Bozeman for K Anderson Salon and future home of Spruce Interiors and other retail and dining locations. For more information about Creekside Village, please call 404-323-9444.

On US 64 east, the mph speed decreases from 40 to 25 mph once in town. The speed trailer is often at that spot on the road to alert motorists.

from Cashiers it goes from 40 mph to 25 mph, and from Dillard it’s 40 to 35 mph. The Public Safety Committee will make its recommendation to the Board of Commissioners at the next Town Board meeting on June 20.

“Franklin Road and Hwy 106 coming into Town are too fast,” said Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell. “One of our busiest intersections is 35 [mph], and let’s be honest, most people are going 45 [mph]. Anytime you’re at a pedestrian sidewalk it needs to be 25 [mph].”

He added that on Hwy 28, one lane is posted at 25 mph, and the oncoming lane is 40 mph.

Committee members agreed speed limits need to be decreased and marker signs should be posted where needed.

“This would clean it up and put a number on everything,” said Nix.

What streets will be affected?

The Town does not have the authority to post speed limits on private, State, or Department of Transportation (DOT) roads. The town’s current Traffic Schedule is a list of roads and speed limits that is out of date and includes several State, DOT, and private roads. Nix said this needs to be replaced with the Powell Bill Map that is a list of all the streets in town, which is updated annually and is used by emergency services.

“The Powell shows us what streets we can put speed limits on,” said Nix. “It needs to replace the Traffic Schedule maintained by the Town Clerk.”

Part of the plan is to mark many of the roads on the outskirts of town with signage, paint lines where needed, and lower speed limits in certain areas yet to be determined. Only the white and black state speed limit sign is officially recognized. Driving through neighborhoods with “18.5 mph” signs are suggested speed limits and are not enforceable.

Harrell added that regardless of whether it’s a private, State, or DOT road, drivers are required to call 911 in case of an accident.

SPEED continued from page 1

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I have been wondering if we know what these words mean today. Do we think them important anymore? Just in case, here is a refresher.

Equity refers to fairness and conformity to rules and standards. In the Hebrew Scriptures it is about righteousness and fair treatment of others according to God’s standards and rules.

Justice is about the determination of what is legally and ethically right and proper. The Hebrew equates this word with righteousness, or right in the eyes of God. What does God think versus what we think or what we can get away with. Psalm 99:4 tells us that God establishes equity, justice and righteousness (doing right) in the people He loves because these values are the very foundation of His throne. Simply, those who call themselves the people of God should reflect the very glory of God in their everyday behavior and treatment of others. Are we being fair in our treatment of others? Are we conforming our lives to the rules and standards of God’s righteousness and His teachings, or are we content to do as we please as long as it is “legal” by man’s standards and just “the way the game is played?”

Let me illustrate. If a person robs your home and takes all you have, and then is caught by the law, do we want justice, or are we content to say, “That’s OK. Let’s just move on. They were making a living the only way they could.”

If someone lies, cheats or manipulates in a real estate transaction, or takes advantage of another, is it just good business and “buyer beware?” It is just the way the game is played? If someone or a business overcharges beyond fair market prices and proper profit, is it just being a savvy business and good capitalist?

Somewhere along the way our sense of what is right and wrong, fair and just, has lost its way. Maybe it is because our “winner take all” and “survival of the fittest” practices and treatment of others is no longer grounded in God’s standards and rules. In fact, these new “virtues” have obscured our Scriptural understanding of God’s righteousness – right and equitable treatment, just and holy standards. God is clear. He is a holy God and His judgment is based on justice, equity, right and wrong. You won’t be able to say, “I was just exercising good business practices!”

But lest all this be misunderstood, one would certainly expect non-believers in God who don’t fear God to move in these inequitable circles.

**Equity, Justice, Right, Wrong**

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor
First Baptist Church of Highlands

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**Proverbs 3:5**

**Places to Worship**

**John 3:16**

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**BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7 p.m.

**BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**
828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.

**CHAPLAIN 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 Early Service; 9:30a Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; Mon. 6p Bible Study & Supper in homes

**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: 11a.m.
1st & 3rd Sunday night service: 7p.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.: 5p Dinner ($7 adult, $2 child), 6pm CBC U.

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**
Pastor 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 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

**FIRST PREACHER CHURCH**
Curtis Russell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors 526-3175 • fpchighlands.org
Sun.: Worship 8:30a Adult: Ed.: 9:30a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.
Mondays: Men’s Prayer Group & Breakfast 8 a.m.
Wed.: Choir 6p

**GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH**
(Off Franklin/HIGHLANDS Rd)
Sunday School: 10 a.m, Worship Service: 11 a.m

**GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS**
Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship
242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers
www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: 743-9814
Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

**HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH**
Hwy 107N. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Nathan Johnson
Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p

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**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 ); 7p Intercessory Prayer Ministry

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

**HEALING SERVICE**
on the 5th Sunday of the month.

**MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH**
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Zane Talley
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m., 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)
Wed: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

**OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Rev. Father Casimir – 526-2418
Mass: Sun: 11 a.m.; Sat. at 4p

**SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH**
Rev. Marty Kilby
Sundays: School –11 a.m.; Worship –11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
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.

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
1448 Highway 107 South, Office: 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood June-Sept; Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a
Nursery available for Rite II services
Sept 6-Oct 25-Informal Evening Eucharist-5:30 p.m.
Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**
85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

**WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers
Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Worship Service: 11 a.m.

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*See SPIRITUALLY page 19*
...MAYOR continued from page 2

on seasonal demands. Even the idea that seasonal folks go away for long periods of time is a fading notion. Rather than being seasonal, more and more of our residents are in continuous transition between residences. These folks want immediate service upon arrival, and minimal fees ensure that availability.

Also, let me clarify the operational plan of our fiber optic network referenced in the letter. The town will not control the network programming. Our private partner and providers will operate the network and determine costs. The town's interest will be operating a smart grid that will enable us to efficiently manage the utility system.

...SPIRITUALLY continued from page 18

What is abundantly clear is that today I see many who call themselves “Christian” acting just as worldly, unjust and unfair in their treatment of others, conveniently setting aside the right and wrong – “I’m just a poor sinner doing the best I can” Or, “It’s my right” which appears to take precedence over God’s standard of right. This is disappointing. When we take advantage of the poor and the immigrant, and pay less than minimum wage, are we being just and fair? When we can sell an item or product way above market value “just because we can,” have we lost our mooring in equitable treatment of others? Should we use our wealth or status to bully others in our pursuit of gain and personal comforts?

Isaiah 56:1 says, “Keep justice and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come…” What our Lord wants to see when He returns is for His people to be practicing justice and behaving righteously.

Church attendance on Sunday doesn’t amount to a lot if on Monday through Saturday we are unjust, inequitable, and unfair in our treatment of others. We must remember that God’s mercy, grace and forgiveness are only exercised by repentance. Without genuine repentance – turning from our sin – we are left with God’s justice. And in His holiness, sin will be judged unless you claim forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

Christians are to be just in their dealings with others, grant mercy, forgiveness and restitution when those who act unjustly seek it. But absent these, there is nothing left but God’s justice and at times the laws of our land. “For what you sow, you will reap.” “God has told you, O man, what is good: and what does your God require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).
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WORKING PROFESSIONAL IN HIGHLANDS. Splitting my time between here and Asheville. Looking for something simple and efficient to rent -- guest house, studio, possibly even a room. 310.467.7017 — Ayden. (st. 5/16)

COMIC BOOKS — Buy / Sell. Call Bob @ 302-530-1109. (st. 5/23)

HELP WANTED
DUTCHEMS CASUAL LIVING STORE — Looking for full and part time sales associates. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. Please call Shannon or Gabbi at 288-526-8864. (st. 6/6)

RANDEVU RESTAURANT is looking for great people to fill the following positions: Waitstaff/Hostesses, Dishwasher, Line Cooks. Open 8-3 Be home in the evenings. Randevu is a great family/team atmosphere with excellent wages. Call 288-743-0190 for interview. (st. 5/23)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT HIGHLANDS SMOKESHOP. Hiring all positions. Commitment to excellence in food quality and guest service. We are proud of the products and service we provide, we create experiences not just sell food. Offering defined, sane schedules and healthy work environment allowing for a balanced life. Very cooperative pay. Food service experience preferred. Tobacco free workplace. Contact us at Smokeshowercruiting@gmail.com. (st. 5/2)

FULL-TIME SALES POSITION — Weekends & holidays a must. Great hours with a great salary. Nancy’s Fancies. 828-526-5029. (st. 5/2)

THE DRY SINK IN HIGHLANDS is hiring for full or part time sales positions for the 2019 season. If you like to cook, that is a plus! We’re looking for team oriented people who can offer great customer service to our many customers. If you are friendly, detail oriented, like helping others, enjoy cooking, gadgets, and lots of interesting merchandise, come by and fill out an application, or submit information to: contact_us@thedrysink.com. (st. 4/18)

OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA are looking for the following employees: Head chef, pastry cook, baker, assistant inn manager, bellmen, housekeeping supervisors, spa attendant, housekeepers, servers/bussers assistant. Sommelier and Reservationist. Human Resources Manager, Executive/HR, Assistant sales associate — Acorns — F/T; F/T Warehouse Associate — Please apply online at www.oldedwardsinn.com or call: Pat Turnbull at 288-787-2697. (3/7)

POTPOURRI BOUTIQUE STORES IN HIGHLANDS looking for full time and part time sales persons. Retail sales experience with women’s clothing and accessories preferred, wear experience a plus. Must be able to work weekends and holidays, except Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day. Fun, lively, fast paced environment. Please stop by the store for application or email resume to potpourri-highlands@yahoo.com. (st. 4/4)

SALES ASSOCIATE HIGH END RETAIL CLOTHING STORE IN HIGHLANDS AND CASHIERS, NC. Full time, part time and seasonal. Inquire to 828-200-0928. (st. 3/38)

SKYLINE LODGE — Hiring part-time Front Desk Clerk. Download, drop by or call 288-526-2121 for an application. Background checks done. (st. 3/28)

ALLISON DIANE CLOTHING — looking for a part time sales associate. Call 828-526-5404 or come by Bryson’s Corner at Main and 4th streets. (st. 3/21)

THE UGLY DOG PUB wants you to be a part of our team. We need managers, full-time servers, bartenders, and support staff with a positive attitude, ability to multitask, and a willingness to work as a team. Experience preferred but not required. Working nights and weekends is required. 828-526-8364 theuglydogstaff@gmail.com. (st. 3/21)

WOLFGANG’S RESTAURANT is looking for experienced waitstaff, hostesses, line cook, pantry person and bussers. Please call Jacque at 526-3807. (st. 2/14)

MOUNTAIN FRESH GROCERY has full- and part-time positions available. Competitive wages for all positions, 18+ only. Apply in person at 521 East Main Street in Highlands or call 828-526-2400.
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SERVICES
GUTTER CLEANING, METAL ROOF & FABRICATION, roof repairs, chimney flashing, debris removal. Call 371-1103. (st. 4/26)


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HIGHLANDS HANDMAN — Can fix anything inside or out. Carpentry, painting, pressure washing, lawn care, hauling, and will monitor house during winter. Free Estimates. References. Call Tony. 828-200-5770 or 828-482-0159. (9/20)

WNC PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LLC. 828-347-1822 — Year round property maintenance and monitoring for vacation homes/rentals/residential; pressure washing, deck repairs-carpentry-small plumbing & electrical repairs/painting/etc.; lawn care & mowing; by the job or yearly contract; call for FREE estimate; Insured. (6/13)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
RIVERFRONT BY OWNERS — A most desirable “level” lot, 224 feet of riverfront, 1,300 sq. ft. home and an 800 sq. ft. efficiency apartment on scenic US 64 west. Five miles from Franklin and 12 miles from Highlands. Exterior is log sided finished natural, interior is cherry paneling. A brick and concrete spiral stairway leads up to the front porch and entrance. Garages for 3 cars and a carport and a well-lit workshop. A gazebo and wishing well. Air conditioner, water heater, well pump, roof shingles and windows have all been replaced. The spacious 14’x30’ living/dining room has a sloping vaulted ceiling with open beams, stone fireplace, and glass doors out to the back porch on the riverbank. Truly a fisherman’s dream. Reasonably priced at $335,000. Serious and qualified callers only please. (828) 369-2278. 6815 Highlands Road, Franklin. Photos on Craig’s List. (5/30)

SIX ACRES ON BUCK CREEK ROAD behind Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Sign on property. 843460-8015. (st. 5/30)

3.20 ACRES UNRESTRICTED ED. Power underground, borders National forest, 190 degree view. 15 min to Main Street. 3 septic fields, 1 well 7 g.p.m. 2 house foundations established and approved by county inspectors. 2Bed/2Bath Clayton home livable while building. Spring rights and more land available. For beautiful sunsets contact gracem@ymail.com. (st. 9/21)

1.21 ACRES FOR SALE BY OWNER — OTTO, NC. — $28,000. Lot 12 Quail Haven Road. Otto. Price not firm—open for negotiation. Please email if interested to ddmashal15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. Please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

COMMERCIAL SPACE
LOCATION IS EVERYTHING! Prime retail space available on Main Street in Highlands: 3,000 square feet for rent. Contact Jody or Wood Lovell, Highlands Sotheby’s International Realty. 828.526.4104. (st. 11/10)

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS
ROOM FOR RENT — with private bath, wifi and cable, 2 miles from Highlands Hosp. 600/mth. utilities included. share kitchen. 828-526-9891

LONG/SHORT TERM AVAILABLE CONDO IN HIGHLANDS. 2 bed 2 bath $2500/mth. May-October. 828-421-5172. (st. 5/9)

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

May 23
• At 9:33 a.m., a burglary/breaking & entering was reported at a residence at WV Top where a leather recliner, a three drawer chest of drawers and an Eller and Owens bedroom desk were stolen. $2,100.
• At 10:30 a.m., officers were called about a burglary/breaking & entering at a residence on WV Top where a luggage holder and black tornado fan were taken.
• At 10:35 p.m., officers were called about a possible domestic disturbance at a residence on Stoney Creek Road.

May 24
• At 4:43 p.m., a medical call threatening code 10 was reported from a residence on Leonard Road.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from May

May 25
• At 10:58 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Morewood Circle.
• At 3:31 p.m., the dept. was first responders to a residence on Spring Street.

May 26
• At 12:05 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at Cliffside Lake.
• At 11:05 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Buck Creek Road.

May 28
• A little past midnight, the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Country Club Drive.
• At 6:34 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on N. 5th Street.
• At 3:48 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

May 29
• At 4:52 p.m., the dept. was first responders to Brookside Lane.

May 30
• At 6:36 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

May 31
• At 8:54 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Main Street.
• At 1:32 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

May 27
• At 12:05 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at Cliffside Lake.
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