Residential leash law being considered

Though not the typical “everyday” residential neighborhood dog, the vicious attack of a dog and his owner by a pit bull last summer has the town looking to include residential neighborhoods in its leash law ordinance.

“The days of dogs running loose in neighborhoods needs to end,” said Mayor Pat Taylor at the March Town Board meeting.

Last year the town expanded the “Animals” section in its Code of Ordinances to include section 3-3: Responsibility to control dogs. Basically, that section says two things – one regarding defecation and the other the use of leashes. Dogs may not defecate on public property, streets, sidewalks, and

Highlands School needs more teachers for 2019-’20

At last week’s special called meeting/budget worksession of the Macon County School Board, Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin discussed the expected need for additional teachers throughout the district including Highlands School in the 2019-2020 school year.

Baldwin has been working with district principals including a workshop at which they requested 12 additional positions in the upcoming budget.

These positions include eight teaching positions, three teacher assistant positions and one guidance counselor position.

Based on early enrollment projections, Highlands School will need three additional teachers and one teacher assistant for next fall. The new positions include a

Town Board snapshot

At the March Town Board meeting, Mayor Pat Taylor asked for consensus to send a letter to legislators outlining concerns about proposed changes to the ABC System contained in SB87/HB 91. It involves the merger of separate municipal ABC System boards into a single county board, eliminating multiple ABC Boards.

“This might make sense for a large county with several ABC Boards, but there are only two in Macon County, one in Franklin and one in Highlands and we want to keep it that way,” he said. “We want our ABC Board to operate our system and allocate the money to support our nonprofits and our town.”

According to ABC Board member Andrew Schmar, the profits from Highlands alcohol sales – $3 million over the last 25+ years – are distributed to various departments in town government and to nonprofit organizations that address social issues related to alcohol treatment and
We have a growing problem in this country with recycling. The Chinese have stopped taking American recycle materials, aka garbage. I have recently read articles in the New York Times, VOX, The Asheville Citizens Times and the National League of Municipalities Newsletter about the problem.

Several hundred municipalities have stopped, or suspended, recycling programs. Some communities like Philadelphia now burn recycle materials as means of generating electricity. But that option is a trade-off of one problem for another with incarnation increasing CO2 and dioxin levels in the atmosphere.

In the past, China had taken recycle materials like plastic and used them in small factories to create inexpensive, exportable products. Now the Chinese government is concerned about resulting pollution and environmental hazards. China also wants to move toward high-tech production and jobs instead of low-end, “dirty jobs.”

China discovered that much of the American recycle shipments had contaminated that made the materials unusable garbage. A recent article in the Asheville Citizens Times pointed out the city’s recycle initiatives were being undercut by folks throwing in non-recyclable materials in their recycle bins.

The new move to single-stream recycle system really aggravates the contamination problem. The single-stream system may encourage more people to recycle, but a person or system has to be in place to sort the materials. That system, whether human or automated increase costs of recycling.

The energy and materials used to recycle, for instance fuel and water, add to recycling costs, and in many cases increases the carbon footprint of recycling more than the production of new products from raw materials.

Some materials like cardboard and aluminum cans still provide benefits for a recycling program. Plastics and glass are very questionable.

Last year, in cooperation with the county, the town created a small recycling center at the Highlands Recreation Department. It has been very popular and successful.

The county continues to recycle primarily because it keeps these materials out of the landfill. But it costs the county to recycle, it is does not miraculously pay for itself. I believe these recycling efforts will continue as long as the county can find companies that will take recycle materials.

Recycling some materials can be sustainable, especially if fees are charged. For instance, asphalt roof shingles can be recycled. Putting tons of old shingles in landfills is not good. Charging a fee to recycle them is viable. Old nylon carpet that can be recycled the same way. Fees for recycling other materials like glass bottles might be forthcoming.

The best solution to this growing recycle problem is to reduce the amount of recycled materials, especially plastic which has an indefinite lifecycle. Cellulose and metal-based products can be degraded in a rather short time. Ironically, recycling programs may have lulled many folks into thinking our “throw away” disposable system is really not a problem. Should we continue on the delusional path of voracious consumption so long as we recycle? Or, should everyone examine their personal habits and embrace ways to reduce the need to recycle?
HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN This 4BR/4.5BA home is well maintained and in move-in condition. The main level has a large MBR with bath and sauna on one end of the home and second bedroom on the other with a full bathroom. Separate dining area, great living area, cozy sitting area with a stone fireplace, and screened-in deck with another wood-burning fireplace. A second living space and two more bedrooms are upstairs. Great Mt. Lori neighborhood!

MLS# 89937 | Offered for $799,900

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN This lovely home has been remodeled and expanded. The great room has a corner stone fireplace and leads out to the covered and open back deck and level yard. The kitchen is large with beautiful cabinetry, granite countertops, glass backsplash, a farm-styled sink, and an oversized island. Two guest bedrooms have ensuite baths. The newly constructed master wing is a great space to relax with vaulted ceilings, a stone fireplace and a spacious bath

MLS# 90380 | Offered for $765,000

HIGHLANDS The main house on this meticulously maintained 4.49 acre estate property is a true mountain cabin with lots of windows. The great room has a vaulted ceiling and a masonry stone fireplace. Two bedrooms, a loft bedroom, lower level family room, three full baths, updated kitchen with granite and SS appliances complete the picture. Wonderful front porch overlooking the mountain view, spring fed pond and beautiful perennial gardens. Guest cabin with two more bedrooms.

MLS# 86600 | Offered for $725,000

FLAT MOUNTAIN Close to town with a great view! Enjoy the best of both worlds; just a quick three miles from downtown Highlands, yet you have all the privacy you could want. This home offers plenty of space with 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, a bonus room, and an in-law suite above the garage. Step out onto the deck and enjoy the beautiful view while looking out over three states. This home also is equipped with 10 solar panels which generate about 15% of the home’s power needs.

MLS# 89596 | Offered for $699,500
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Japanese • Asian • Thai Cuisine
Open Year Round • 6 days
Closed Wednesdays AND Closed daily 3 to 4:30p
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rehabilitation initiatives.

The proposed statutes include the option for multi-
ple systems within a county to voluntarily merge into one
board.

“We have no objections to a voluntary option being a
part of the ABC statute, with option and voluntary being
the keys words,” said the mayor. “One size doesn’t fit all.”

The board unanimously agreed to send a letter outlining
their concerns to legislators.

Unfunded state mandate

The mayor also initiated a discussion concerning a
resolution the League of Municipalities distributed against
an unfunded state mandate that orders municipalities and
counties to fund retirement benefits for full-time fire fight-
ers. The money would come from municipalities’ taxpayers
even though as in Highlands case, the fire district extends
far into the county. In addition, the fire tax which is collected
district-wide, can’t be used to fund retirement benefits.

“This isn’t equitable especially since the fire tax can’t
be used to fund the retirement system,” said Commissioner
Amy Patterson. “It’s not fair to expect the local government
to carry the burden.”

Instead of signing the League’s resolution, commis-
sioners agreed to send a letter outlining their concerns.

“We agree, [about firefighters deserving retirement] we
just need to look at the resolution more carefully,” said Com-
missioner Eric Pierson.

Main Street Webcam

The theft of a chainsaw from the back of a pickup
truck parked on Main Street and again from a truck parked
in Highlands Plaza initiated discussion about the video capa-
bility of the Main Street Webcam.

Laurel Garden Club awards
seven grants

The Laurel Garden Club recently awarded seven
grants totaling $15,538 to non-profit organizations in High-
lands. These grants are given to promote community beau-
tification and to protect and conserve Highlands’ natural
resources and scenic mountain landscapes. The club has
offered these grants every year since 2002 and has given a
total of $172,865 to community organizations.

This year’s grant recipients are the CNIPM (Coalition
for Nonnative Invasive Plant Management), Highlands
Biological Foundation, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust,
Highlands Historical Society, Highlands Plateau Greenway,
Peggy Crosby Center and The Bascom.

Organizations wishing to receive a grant from the
Laurel Garden Club must have reached agreement as to
the specific project for which the grant would be given.
Once the purpose of the grant is determined, plans for the
project must be made with sufficient specificity to obtain
bids or quotes from providers, including but not limited
to landscape architects and plant nurseries. The next grant
deadline is January 31, 2020. For more information on the
grant process, please visit the Laurel Garden Club website

Police Chief Bill Harrel said by going through the
low-resolution, stop-action pictures taken every 10 minutes
coupled with high resolution surveillance video from High-
lands Plaza, his department was able to make a case against
the thief.

However, he asked if the town was able to video the
street, as in the plaza and at some retail establishments,
which would help in criminal investigations.

**See TOWN BOARD page 15**
Landon and Ashley Clark, owners of the Kilwins in Greenville, SC, came up the mountain to take over the Kilwin’s in Highlands. Patrons will see a more open layout, changes in merchandising and extended hours.

The next part says that no dogs whether leashed or not can be in the enclosed Highlands Ball Park. In addition, all dogs must be on a leash in the commercial district and on town property including sidewalks, the cemetery, the Greenway, K-H Founders Park, the Rec Park, etc.

Last summer, when a resident of Big Bearpen let his dog out in the evening, a pit bull that had been roaming the neighborhood attacked the dog and then the owner when he tried to disentangle the dogs. The dog was killed and the owner’s wounds required hospital care.

While the attack was taking place, there was some snafu between calling 9-1-1, the county’s Animal Control Department and the Highlands Police Department.

The Animal Control Department is not part of the Sheriff Department anymore and the Highlands Police Department doesn’t have a mutual aid agreement with the Animal Control Department like it does with the Sheriff Department.

Police Chief Bill Harrell said if the town’s ordinance had some “teeth” in it, and included the residential areas, his officers could do whatever is necessary and wouldn’t need a mutual aid agreement with the Animal Control Department.

That includes the ability to kill a vicious dog if less drastic methods such as tranquilizing aren’t available or effective or if no one can restrain the animal as well as including the “leash” requirement in residential areas.

The mayor suggested amending the chief’s suggestions by saying that dogs don’t have to be leashed in residential areas, if the owner has voice control over the animal and has a leash in hand.

The mayor’s suggestion follows:

Dogs in in R1, R2 and R3 residential zones must be on a leash with the following exceptions:

1. On the dog owners’ property or domicile where the animal is controlled by a physical or electronic fence, or
2. Where the dog owner is in immediate visual presence and in direct control with voice commands. Owners (owner, dog walker, dog sitter) who have their dogs under voice control must have a collar on their dog and a leash in hand. If the dog owner cannot control their animal off leash, or if the dog has no collar, or the owner possesses no leash, the owner can be cited for a violation of the ordinance. Also, there can be only one dog per owner at a time under voice command. Owners walking multiple dogs must have all dogs on leashes.

Chief Harrell said he could easily incorporate the mayor’s suggestions by making the ordinance town-wide with no stipulation as to commercial or residential zone and to include the “voice command” portion.

However, the suggestion to amend the ordinance to include the residential areas of town was not immediately accepted last week.

But, Mayor Taylor is adamant about the issue.

“I think I’m right on this issue. Do we have to have another dog attack to take action? Although an ordinance can’t prevent every incident, a comprehensive ordinance at least demonstrates our concern and good faith effort,” he said.

The town’s new Code Enforcement Officer John Cherry now has the truck, cage and training so “dog-catcher” can be added to his list of duties.

“My proposal would enable the police to handle situations without undue restrictions on dog owners,” said the mayor. “We should have a town-wide ordinance. If a pit bull was running loose anywhere without the owner having control, then Officer Cherry could immediately pick it up and take it to Animal Control [in Franklin],” he said.

Chief Harrell said the town has an agreement with the county’s Animal Control Department whereby it takes Highlands’ strays upon delivery.

Though the town’s fines concerning the control of dogs is hefty ($250) the chief said his department’s goal is to always gain compliance but to allow the officer’s discretion as in any other enforcement action on a case-by-case basis.

Still, Commissioner Eric Pierson spoke against the amendment regarding residential restrictions. He said he and his family often walk with their dog without a leash.

“I don’t want to limit what people can do with “everyday” dogs,” he said. I don’t want to hinder citizens’ ability to have dogs be dogs.”

Commissioner John Dotson said he has gone back and forth on the issue – first with his opinion siding with Pierson, then with Chief Harrell who convinced him otherwise but was now back to his original opinion.

“We need the ability to act but we need to come up with some verbage that is broader. We are hitting a little ball with a huge bat,” he said.

Veterinarian Commissioner Amy Patterson, said people will never be able to always control dogs.

“We have to figure out a way to allow good dogs to be dogs,” she said.

The issue was sent to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

– Kim Lewicki
The best education money can buy

I’ve watched, as I trust you have, the mind-numbing news story involving how some children from very wealthy and high-profile, celebrity families have gained access to some of America’s top colleges and universities through means other than, let’s just say, the traditional competitive application and qualification process.

The story, in case you missed it, has wealthy and celebrity parents bribing coaches in exchange for scholarships, paying surrogates to take SAT exams, and making substantial donations to certain institutions of higher learning so their children can skip the hurdles other applicants must go through to get accepted in a highly competitive environment.

Just for fun, let’s take the issue of wealthy parents essentially buying admission to so-called elite universities for their otherwise unqualified children to its possibly illogical conclusion.

I understand how it might be easy for super rich people to decide that their children somehow deserve to get into these so-called elite schools, even though they have neither the grades nor test scores to compete with other applicants.

Who thinks of doing this kind of thing? What kind of person sets this kind of example for their child by buying his or her way into a place he or she couldn’t otherwise qualify for? What’s the message here?

Is this really about getting a child a better education than he or she might actually want or need? Or is this more about parents full of money but low on self-esteem wanting to brag to friends that their son or daughter is attending one of those elite schools?

Here’s the problem with this entire way of thinking and behaving. Perhaps you pay some smart but greedy kid $10,000 to take the SAT for your not-so-smart kid. Perhaps you bribe someone in the academic office to phony-up your kid’s grades. Perhaps you convince an underpaid coach in a non-revenue sport to offer your son or daughter a scholarship? And by convince, I mean bribe.

Or, perhaps you make a big-dollar donation to the school and simply slide in the idea that your kid might be applying, and wouldn’t it be great if he/she got in?

What happens when he or she actually does get in and then can’t keep up? Does the charade just continue? Do the rich parents bribe the professors? Do they make another donation so their son or daughter can magically get decent or higher grades? Where does it end?

The bigger issue, it seems, comes after the young person actually graduates, if he or she makes it that far. Keeping in mind that it’s only wealthy people who are able to engage in this awful behavior, are they then going to expect their young adult offspring to get a job commensurate with their illegitimately obtained degree from an allegedly prestigious university? Are they so insulated from real life they actually believe the competitive, capitalist, American free marketplace is not going to see through the phony piece of paper?

Or, is it more likely they will present their son or daughter with some kind of endowment or trust fund so he or she can stumble through life, un- or under-qualified for whatever he or she really wants to do with a worthless but highly prized diploma?

Sure, some kids of these kinds of parents might actually grow up while in college. They might work hard, get an actual education, and despite their parents’ head-shake-inducing behavior, make something out of him or herself. Kudos to them, but for those who don’t, what was this whole sorry exercise in entitled behavior really all about?

I’m sorry, but I believe it was way more about the parents’ self-image and underlying insecurities than it ever was about the hopes, dreams and aspirations of the children. It’s entirely possible many of these kids might have been just as happy with community college, a state school or some lesser known but just as capable small, private liberal arts college, or even cutting hair, driving a bus, learning a trade, fixing cars, or entering military service.

And if that’s actually the case, why in heaven’s name did these wrong-thinking parents engage in the whole sorry charade in the first place?

Kids often go to college hoping for nothing more than to grow up. It’s a shame some of their parents missed that part.
Many of you will remember a television commercial from 1979 which showed an old man doing physical farm work dressed in traditional eastern clothing. There was a voice-over on the commercial in which the announcer said, “In Soviet Georgia there are two curious things about the people. A large part of their diet is yogurt and a large number of them live past 100.”

Later in the commercial the man was eating yogurt and the announcer said, “By the way, 89-year-old Bagrat Zaparo likes yogurt so much that it pleases his mother.”

The old gentleman then ate yogurt while an older lady (his mother) patted him on the head. The announcer also stated that they were not claiming their yogurt made you live longer only that it is good wholesome food.

The implication though was that there is a correlation between eating yogurt and long life. There are so many variables present when you make an assumption and then make life choices based on that correlation.

For instance, there can be multitudes of variables which play into the fact that people in this region of the world are healthy and live so long. It could be their genetics along with the quality of the air and water. It could even be these things combined with a low-stress life and significant physical activity. It could be one of these things or all of them in combination.

So how does this relate to us living longer and healthier? It relates because in today’s world so many people have become de-conditioned and obese while sincerely attempting to lower their weight and eat right. Although there are multitudes of diet plans available, most people who try them lose weight and then gain it back again.

There are also numerous multi-level marketing companies pushing their own miracle products and diets would be successful users of these products or diet programs make claims that “so and so” lost a big amount of weight. Usually the weight loss is in a short amount of time.

If they really worked, these products and diets would be showing testimonials of people five years later or longer who not only achieved a healthy weight for their frame size but also have maintained the achievement.

The correlation they want you to believe is that if you follow their program or use their miracle product you will look good, be healthy and maybe even live longer. Guess what? A rapid weight loss does not guarantee any of these things. These programs mostly fail because they are not likely to last for the long haul.

What works is eating a balanced amount of energy from wholesome food which incorporates all of the macronutrients. Macronutrients consist of protein, carbohydrates and fat. They all provide energy and in addition each contribute other pertinent physiological needs.

The science community seems to agree that a diet rich in servings of vegetables and fruits with a more moderate level of meat or other protein and fat to be the best food choices for a healthier and longer life.

I do not know of any study recommending lab-added chemicals and trans fats as being a healthy food choice. There seems also to be a consensus to strongly lower the level of saturated fat from most medical sources and The American Heart Association.

So how do you balance the energy (Hint: calories are a measurement of energy).

1. Successful weight management can only be achieved with a program that lasts for a lifetime.
2. If you do not eat food you enjoy, you will not consume it for the long hall.
3. We tend to favor the food we were raised on and food that we have acquired and enjoyed in our lives through experience.
4. If the food choices are ones we make ourselves we accept them.
5. We rarely accept what others choose for us.

In the almost 20 years I have been a fitness professional, I have coached several people who have achieved real long-term weight loss. A couple of them were excessively obese and had failed over many attempts and years to balance their weight.

The first thing I have instilled in them is that the real success is five years from now! If we talk five years later, I say the same thing regarding the next five years.

The other axiom is to develop a life-course of eating where you bring in the right amount of energy to support the healthy weight you wish to achieve and maintain.

There are numerous online...
By Brian O'Shea
Plateau Daily News

The Literacy Council hosted the Highlands Chamber of Commerce's first monthly Business After Hours of the season on Wednesday, opening its doors to the community and giving the public a first-hand look at TLC's soon-to-be facility. The new location is next to Bryson's Food Store in Highlands Plaza and will undergo renovations before TLC officially moves in this spring.

Once construction is complete, TLC will be able to increase their capacity of students by 150% and eliminate the lengthy waiting list students face today, said TLC Executive Director Bonnie Potts.

“We wanted to thank the community for all they have done over the years and show that we are being good stewards of their support by increasing our capacity to help more students,” said Potts.

TLC not only helps children through a variety of programs, but there are several adult programs, including English as a Second Language and GED classes; that are free, provide child care, and are designed to be as convenient as possible for those who have tight schedules. The new location will do just that as people can grab lunch at Bryson's Food Store and eat while on their break at the TLC gathering materials or studying, said TLC Chair Jane Jerry.

“For people who have to work, we have a lunchtime program because we feel that's a time when people can stop and think about their future,” she said.

Jerry added that many of TLC's tutors are retired volunteers who are available throughout the afternoon during traditional business hours to give students as many options as possible to utilize the programs that are available.

Highlands Mayor Pat Taylor spoke to those in attendance and said TLC is an invaluable resource to the area and its efforts in the adult community can be life changing.

“What they (TLC) do for young people is immeasurable, but there are other programs aimed at adults that are invaluable to breaking the cycle of not being able to communicate,” said Taylor. “And this new facility is indicative of the progress this organization has made.” The pre-renovation, public invite was the prequel to the actual opening in spring after construction is expected to be completed, said Potts. When TLC is fully moved in to the new location they will host another Business After Hours in October to give the public the “after” look post-renovations.

“We are very excited to move in and get things up and running,” said Potts. “While planning, we tried to be creative and do it as cost efficiently as possible.” The new location includes the capacity for a 150% increase in students, space to run multiple programs simultaneously, advanced security system, reading room with amphitheater seating for lectures and storytelling, individual tutoring rooms, media center, and individual learning spaces for both children and adults.

The Highlands Chamber of Commerce's monthly Business After Hours was the first of the season and was hosted by The Literacy Council on Wednesday. Business After Hours is a networking and social event for Chamber members, area merchants, guests, friends, and family. TLC's night was for both adults and children and included food, games, and dancing.
• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

Real Estate on the plateau: A beat all its own

This special place on earth, the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau, tends to have a beat all its own. While we are fortunate to have relative stability in pricing and sales numbers, we do not necessarily correlate with any specificity to the national trends. In other words, we seem to outperform in “bear market conditions and underperform a bit in a “bull” market.

Recently, the National Association for Business Economics released its 2019 Economic Policy Survey. The survey revealed that a majority of the panel believe an economic slowdown could occur in the near future. Only 10% of the panelists expect a recession in 2019, 42% say a recession will happen in 2020, and 25% expect one in 2021.

This survey raises the question: Will our real estate market be impacted like it was during the last recession?

A recession does not equal a housing crisis. During the last recession, prices fell dramatically because the housing collapse caused the recession. However, in the four previous recessions, home values were not negatively impacted. Hopefully, a future recession will be over before we realize it began.

The market on the Plateau per activity on the Highlands/Cashiers MLS is down 22% in unit sales over the same time last year, and 20% in volume. However, traffic during the winter seems to be stronger than it was last winter despite the weather. Thus, it is too early in the year to forecast whether 2019 will outperform or underperform 2018. We at Highlands Sotheby’s International Realty are optimistic that Highlands’ and Cashiers’ homes will be in demand this year!

The local market still offers an opportunity for buyers to find a broad range of high quality homes at reasonable prices. Homes close to downtown Highlands are being snatched off the market as soon as they are listed. The “walk to town” appeal is strengthening each year. However, there are still many golf enthusiasts headed to the mountains to populate our country clubs on the Plateau.

As Sotheby’s International Realty exceeded all records last year with over $112 Billion in global sales, and Highlands Sotheby’s International Realty surpassed any past years with over $100 million in sales, we are going to keep the momentum forceful with innovative products, tools and research to provide best in class service.

Thank you, loyal client and friend, for your support and business. Let us know how we can help you achieve your real estate objective in 2019!

• Jody and her husband, Wood, Lovell own Highlands Sotheby’s International Realty with thirty six brokers in three offices across the Plateau and a network of 22,500 agents in 990 offices in 72 countries across the globe. Call them to see how they can help with all of your real estate needs at (828) 526-4104 Cullasaja, (828) 526-8300 Highlands and (828) 743-7827 (Cashiers).

• Biz/Org News •

Taylor talks up ‘Blue Zones’ at Rotary Club of Highlands

Pictured from left are Robin Tindall, Sallie Taylor and Mayor Pat Taylor.

Sallie Taylor was the featured speaker for the March 12 Highlands Rotary meeting. Sallie shared information about Blue Zones, an initiative she is spearheading to bring to Macon and Jackson counties. The Blue Zones program helps reduce healthcare costs, employee absenteeism, as well as other positive outcomes by showing people how to live more fulfilling and healthy lifestyles.
Longtime staple of Hudson Library bids farewell

By Brian O'Shea
Plateau Daily News

Karen Hawk is described by some who know her as the “heart and soul” of the Hudson Library in Highlands, and after 10 years behind the counter she’s moving on to retirement.

“What I will miss most is the people,” said Hawk. “A diverse group of the community, including the visitors who frequent the library with most being regulars, whether it’s all year long or only the summers, or even just a few weeks.”

Hudson Librarian Carlyn Morenus has known Hawk for the past decade and said her quirky sense of humor, her knowledge of the community, and her steady flow of suggestions for patrons looking for a great read will be missed.

“I’m really going to miss Karen’s far-reaching local knowledge and connections; she’s been part of the Highlands community since the 1990s, she knows everyone and everyone knows her,” said Morenus. “She’s really been the heart and soul of the library, especially since she’s the only staff member who has bridged the gap of four Librarian changes! I will also miss her quirky sense of humor. I’m glad she’ll still be around town (or so she promises!)”

The Hudson Library Board is throwing a party from 5:30-7 p.m. on April 1 to celebrate Hawk’s dedication over the years at the Library, which happens to be Hawk’s 10th anniversary behind the counter. Her official last day on the job is April 12.

“The public is definitely welcome, we want as many people as possible to have the chance to wish Karen well and celebrate her retirement with her,” said Morenus. “The Hudson Library Board is throwing the party, which is another indication of just how valued Karen is here.”

Hawk doesn’t plan on kicking up her heels and relaxing on the porch anytime soon, she is excited for this next step and plans on focusing on other interests.

“I am looking forward to retirement,” said Hawk. “I’m of the age and ready to collect the Social Security I’ve paid in these last 50-plus years. I have a pretty full schedule outside of work and plan on expanding many of these things I already do.”

Hawk’s regular routine includes exercise (spin, TRX, yoga) four mornings a week, run with the Road Runners on Saturday mornings, part of the Humanist discussion group, active in Indivisible Highlands and sec./treas. for the Highlands Precinct Democratic Party.

“My political life along with my reading, hiking, and yard work will greatly expand,” said Hawk.

Morenus said her involvement in the community was one of the things that made her a great part of the Hudson team.

“She’s so thoroughly woven into the fabric of the library community,” said Morenus. “Karen’s really been instrumental in the continued success of our library.”

Kasey Klodosky has worked with Hawk for three years and said her positive attitude always brightened up patrons’ days and kept things interesting behind the counter.

“She’s always entertaining,” said Klodosky. “She always has these great stories or would shoot you a funny look at the counter. She kept the work atmosphere light, which is always nice.”

In addition to Hawk’s regular duties as Library Assistant II, she also plans and executes the Community Coffee with the Mayor series, does the displays in the library, coordinates volunteers, organizes the movies shown each month, and more. Klodosky will assume Hawk’s full-time position and Morenus said they will fill the part-time position soon.

Karen in her element at the Hudson Library.
Wagner’s Die Walküre Live via Satellite at PAC Saturday

The Highlands Performing Arts Center will screen, Live via Satellite the MET Opera’s production of Wagner’s Die Walküre on Saturday, March 30 at 12 NOON. In what is expected to be a Wagnerian event for the ages, soprano Christine Goerke plays Brünnhilde, the willful title warrior maiden, who loses her immortality in opera’s most famous act of filial defiance. Tenor Stuart Skelton and soprano Eva-Maria Westbroek are the twins Siegmund and Sieglinde, and bass-baritone Greer Grimsley sings the god Wotan. Philippe Jordan conducts. Run time is 5.5 hours, there will be sandwiches, snacks and beverages available for purchase. A pre-opera discussion begins at 11:30am. Tickets are available online: www.highlandspac.org or at the door. Highlands PAC, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands
HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS

Sat., March 30
The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike, elevation change 1050 ft., up Scaly Mountain on the Bartram Trail, starting at Osage Overlook on Hwy. 106, up a steep trail to an old road bed that levels out, then gradually ascends to the rocky top of Scaly Mountain with good views into the Tenssetee Valley and south to Rabun Bald. Meet at Westgate Plaza at 9 am. Drive 35 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

Sun., March 31
At Blue Valley Baptist Church, 5th Sunday Singing at 10 a.m. A Love Offering will be taken that day to benefit the family of Arlene (Rice) Speed. 11 Mack Wilson Road, Highlands.

Fri., April 5
At the Rec Park, Float-in Movie Night at 7 p.m.

Sun., April 7
The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3.5-mile hike, elevation change 800 ft., to Tellico Valley via a trail on land acquired by the Mainspring Conservation Trust. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 2 pm, drive 38 miles round trip. Call leader Jean Hunnicutt, 534-5234, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

Sat., April 13
The April 2019 meeting of the Western North Carolina Woodturners Club Inc. will be on Saturday starting at 10 a.m. at the Bascom in Highlands, NC. The Bascom is located at 323 Franklin Rd, Highlands, NC, just north of Downtown Highlands, NC (heading toward Franklin). Drive across the covered bridge into the parking lot, and come into the main entrance near the covered patio. There will be directions on how to get to the wood turning studio. Visitors are always welcome. The club meets in Highlands the second Saturday of every month between March and November. This month's presenter will be John Van Camp from the Braxton Woodturners Guild.

Sun., April 14
The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile walk on the mostly level trails in the Highlands Botanical Gardens where the rare Oconee Belles may be in bloom and as well as other interesting plants on a walk around the lake. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 9 am, drive 40 miles round trip. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations. Visitors welcome.

Fri., April 19
At the Rec Park, the last Senior Lunch of the season at noon.

Sat., April 20
The Highlands Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Plateau Pickup on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to help clean litter on the highways and roads leading to and around Highlands. Cleanup supplies and a “thank-you” tee-shirt will be provided for all volunteers. The event will start and end at Kelsey Hutchinson Park. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. and the pickup will begin at 9 a.m. Following the pickup, volunteers will be treated to a cook-out provided by Fresser’s Courtyard Café. If you’re interested in helping, please contact the Highlands Chamber at 828-526-2112 or visitor@highlandschamber.org.

Nantahala Hiking Club members and others celebrate Easter on the trail by bringing hard boiled eggs, fruit and goodies to hand out to the hikers on the Appalachian Trail. Meet at the Nantahala Clubhouse to pack the items before taking them out on the trail. Call Elena March, 369-8915, if you’d like to participate in this enjoyable (and appreciated) activity.

Fri.-Tues., April 26-30
The Rec Park gym will be closed for gym floor screening and refinishing.

Fri.-Sun., April 26-28
PAC Youth Theatre Spring play “Great Scenes from Shakespeare’s Plays” (with Combat) at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut street at 7 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Sunday. For information about the play and the PAC Youth Theater Program, call Ms. Greenlee-Potts at (828) 526-9047 or email PACYouth.highlands@gmail.com.
Students rewarded for reading

Every nine weeks at Highlands School there is a reading celebration for all students who met their reading goals for the duration of those nine weeks. This “accelerated reader” party was hosted by Melanie Miller, Highlands School Academic Gifted Teacher, and Terry Stamey, HS Media Coordinator on Friday, March 8. Different activities were planned that included crafts, games, videos, party favors, and always a snack. Teachers believe rewarding students for reading will improve literacy and create life-long readers of students.
As an Anglophile through and through, I’ve long dreamed of visiting England. I knew that when I finally made my trip of a lifetime, I wanted to see more than London, but identifying additional destinations and working out travel details seemed a daunting task. Fortunately, I found Danielle Garrett of PlanIt Itineraries, who not only planned an amazing three-week itinerary but also attended to every little detail. I describe her as my travel planner extraordinaire.

After some time in London, our first stop was Dartmouth, a coastal town rich in history. From our several ferry trips on the Dart River, we gleaned fascinating facts from all eras. As we watched cadets from the Royal Britannia Naval College practice man overboard rescues, we learned Queen Elizabeth met Prince Phillip at the college in 1939 when she visited with her parents. On the way to tour Agatha Christie’s Greneway Estate, we saw a boathouse that once belonged to Sir Walter Raleigh -- its original foundation still intact.

We glimpsed the shipyard where 240 warships were built during WWII and a smaller shipyard where the Mayflower and the Speedwell stopped for repairs in 1620 before proceeding to Plymouth to set sail for America. The Speedwell was deemed unfit for the trip leaving the Mayflower to make the trip solo.

One ferry captain alleged that Eisenhower had planned the D-Day invasion in the ferryman’s house across from our hotel, but I’ve been unable to confirm that particular “fact.” From a Kate Ellis mystery I was reading while there, I learned the story of Slapton Sands, a nearby town whose townfolks were forced to abandon their town and their livelihoods so rehearsals for D-Day could take place. As heartwrenching as that was, more tragic was the loss of 1,000 American soldiers in Exercise Tiger, a nighttime practice for a beach landing. By chance, German E-boats came across the American convoy, killing 700 men before another 300 died from friendly fire as they landed on the beach.

We wandered the streets of Dartmouth and visited St. Savior’s Church which has a timber from a Spanish Armada ship as one of its beams. We ordered pints of cider in The Cherub Pub, the oldest building in town, circa 1380. I found it interesting that this small town boasts two bookshops, and that Christopher Milne, the real Christopher Robin from “Winnie the Pooh,” once owned a bookshop on the street that fronts the harbor.

On a scenic round-robin excursion -- ferry, bus, steam train, and one last ferry back to our hotel -- we heard the tale of the entrepreneur who planned in the 1850s to build a railroad bridge across the River Dart and built the Dartmouth station before obtaining permission for the bridge. Today, the station stands by itself unconnected to a railroad because he never got that permission; thus you depart the train across the river and ferry back to Dartmouth.

Our most memorable excursion was a day trip to Tintagel, the castle in Cornwall where legend says King Arthur was conceived. Our route across windswept misty Dartmoor, populated only with sheep and ponies, brought to mind gothic novels. With a guide to explain the history, we made the arduous climb to the cliffside castle where we found unbelievable views and a team of archaeologists excavating medieval pottery brought by Mediterranean traders.

The trip was already everything I could have wanted, and we were only halfway through. Next up was the Cotswolds. Stay tuned for another installment of highlights.

- Kathy is a Georgia resident. Find her books “The Ink Penn: Celebrating the Magic in the Everyday” and “Lord Banjo the Royal Poob” at Books Unlimited in Franklin and on Amazon. “Lord Banjo the Royal Poob” is also available at Highlands Mountain Paws. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, www.facebook.com/KathyManosPenn. Author/.
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...TEACHERS continued from page 1

kindergarten teacher, a teacher assistant, a
middle school and high school teacher.
Based on the recent kindergarten reg-
istration held in early March, Highlands
School will need an additional kindergarten
teacher to accommodate the 24 kindergart-
tens registered for the upcoming school
year. Due to the higher enrollment for
kindergarten, as per state law Highlands School
has to add one additional teacher assistant
next year.

Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter
said the request for additional teachers is due
to a few different reasons.
“First, the state reduced class sizes for
K-3. Next year’s kindergarten registration that was held on March 12th, showed we will be over the 22 maximum students in kinder-
garten for next year,” said Jetter. “Next year’s
first-grade is already at the maximum of 22
students because we have 22 kindergartners
moving to first-grade next year. Next year’s
second-grade is over the max of 22 students
because we have 25 first-graders moving to
next year’s 2nd grade.”
And there’s more.
“Second, we have over 30 students
moving to 6th grade next year. That is simply
a lot of students for one sixth grade
teacher,” he said. “Third, we have one high
school teacher resigning that teaches both
Social Studies and Spanish. The state has
increased Social Studies requirements for
graduation. So now we need two teachers
— one to teach Spanish and one to teach So-
Social Studies because of the additional Social
Studies courses that need to be taught.”

Highlands School is one of four
schools in the district expected to need ad-
ditional K-3 teachers; East Franklin and
South Macon Elementary schools are also
projected to need a first-grade teacher and
the required teacher assistant for each class-
room. Cartoogehay Elementary will also
need an additional second-grade teacher.
The four additional teacher positions
at the elementary level are due to increased
class sizes. These positions will require a
teacher assistant because they are needed in
K-2 classrooms. Total cost in the pro-
posed budget to add the new K-3 positions
is $156,638 dollars for the four K-3 teachers
and $108,000 for the three teacher as-
sistants.

“These K-3 positions should be cov-
ered by the state,” said Baldwin. “It’s legis-
lated that individual classroom sizes cannot
be above 22 students and the LEA (Local
Education Agencies) average class size can-
not be above 19 students. If we add two addi-
tional positions, it will put us at 19.3 LEA
class size average. This gets us to the correct
individual class size maximum but puts us
very close to the LEA average class size re-
quirement.”

Baldwin said the individual classes
projected to be in violation of state law
next year include Highlands School and
Cartoogehay kindergarten and second-
grade; East Franklin kindergarten and first-
grade and South Macon first-grade. He is
hoping, but cannot be certain, that the state
will cover most of the funding to accom-
modate for these class sizes.

“Based on allocated projections from
the state at this time, we do anticipate that
we will have an additional .9 – almost one
position based on ADM (average daily
membersh
public education), almost one position from the state
based on ADM projection,” said Baldwin.
“That is a projection; at this point we won’t
know if we will get that position until July
if the state budget is passed by then. We will
have 10 days after the first day of school to
adhere to the state law for enrollment.”

In addition to the kindergarten and
teacher assistant positions, Highlands
School will also need a sixth-grade teacher
and a social studies or foreign language
teacher for the high school at a projected
cost of $65,600.
The other position requested for next
year is a guidance counselor for Union
Academy at a cost of $52,000 based on five
years’ experience and language arts teachers
at Franklin High School at $35,000.

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The Bascom is pleased to announce
its selection, through a nationwide com-
petitive application process, to work with
the DeVos Institute in its Strategic Plan-
ing and Research Initiative.
The DeVos Institute of Arts Man-
agement at the University of Maryland, a
global leader in training and consultation
for cultural organizations, has chosen five
arts organizations in rural communities
across the United States to receive strategic
planning services free of charge.
The DeVos Institute has served more
than 1,000 organizations from over 80
countries since its founding by Michael M.
Kaiser during his tenure as President of
the John F. Kennedy Center for the Per-
forming Arts in Washington, D.C.
The DeVos Institute created this ini-
tiative recognizing that the conditions
experienced by arts organizations in ru-
rural communities differ substantially from
those faced by their counterparts in urban
centers.

Each of the five selected arts orga-

izations, including The Bascom, will participate in a rigorous planning process
over the next eight months. The goal of
the process, led by the DeVos Institute, is
to produce a practical five-year roadmap
focusing on long-term artistic and educa-
tional programming; marketing and com-
munication; community and volunteer
engagement; cross-sector collaboration;
fundraising; and board engagement.
“We are grateful that The Bascom
was chosen to participate in this initia-
tive and thank the DeVos Institute,” said
Mike Campbell, Chairman of The Bascom
Board of Directors and Teresa Osborn,
Executive Director of The Bascom. “Our
pick reflects well on the staff, our patrons
and supporters, and most importantly, the
communities we serve. We are now at an
inflection point where we can focus on
long-term strategy development and look
forward to the important work that will
take place over the next eight months. We
view this opportunity as a game changer
for The Bascom.”
Timber frame raised for new Commons building at The Village Green in Cashiers

By Brian O'Shea
Plateau Daily News

Hundreds of thousands of pounds of timber beams were hoisted into place on Thursday at The Village Green to form the core framework of the Commons, the new activity and community building being built behind the stage. Executive Director of The Village Green, Ann Self, said they will finish the initial exterior of the framework this week and then place the cupola (small dome placed on roof) by crane.

Massive beams of hand-cut Douglas fir were fitted together by expert timber framers Moresun Timber Frames out of Mountain Rest, S.C. The beams were then disassembled and marked using symbols, transported to Cashiers, reassembled, and put into place to form the main timber frame, said Project Manager Mark Fortenberry.

“What we’re seeing today is these guys are erecting the outside walls of the main timber frame,” he said. “I would describe it as adult Lincoln Logs.”

Iron pins in the ground align in holes on the bottom of each beam, and then a framer guides the crane operator with hand signals to raise and tweak the beam to insert the oak pins together.

“These guys are very skilled at the traditional methods,” said Fortenberry. “All joinery is hand cut in their shop, dried, fitted, assembled, everything, then they take it apart and bring it up here. There’s over 350 pieces of timber here.”

After the cupola has been installed, Fortenberry said Moresun’s crew will head out, but there is still much to be done.

“Once these guys get the frame up, other carpenters are going to come in and build off of that,” he said.

Throughout the weeks the timber framers are on site, the community is honoring an old tradition of “feeding the framers” where members of the community pitch in to help provide meals to the timber crew.

“Feeding the Framers’ is an opportunity not only to offer Cashiers’ hospitality and express gratitude for the work of their hands, but also to come together as a community and help bring this facility to life,” said Self. “Tradition says that feeding the framers affords prosperity and good fortune to the community. But, we also think it would be a nice gesture and reflection of the goodness of Cashiers!”

So far, those feeding the framers are Slabtown Pizza, Whiteside Brewing Company, Cream and Flutter, Cashiers Baptist Church, Blue Ridge School Interact Club, and Church of the Good Shepherd.

The timber frame is expected to be complete by mid-April and Self said a celebration is the works to mark the event. The project has been delayed a couple of weeks due to weather, but Self said that’s how it goes in the mountains.

“The weather has been a bummer for everybody, but you do the best you can when you can,” said Self.

Fortenberry added that since Jan. 1, they have only had seven days of dry weather in a row.

– Photos by Brian O'Shea
And I said, You shall call me, My Father; and shall not turn away from me.” Jeremiah 3:19

The most powerful and wonderful thing we can feel in this life is divine fellowship, fellowship with our heavenly Father. There is no sweeter mercy than being in connection with our Lord. This is the very joy of heaven. It is not the absence of struggle, the freedom from pain, the rest from work, or the release from fighting. No! It is being in the very presence of our heavenly Father. It is to be with Christ Jesus—to see his glory, to look upon his face, to hear his voice, to feel the beating of his heart, to rest in his arms, this is heaven, to live in eternal joy.

Can we know this while living on this earth? Yes, we can. We are not alone. Each and every sin laden soul can call out through Jesus Christ, “Father, come unto me!” In Jesus Christ, he is your Father. Through Jesus and through him alone you can be reconciled to your heavenly Father. He will come into your heart and will bring his peace, rest, forgiveness, and mercy. He will come and fellowship with you and will call you his child. He will fill you with his peace and show you all of his ways that will overwhelm you with his love. He will be your Father, his presence, his voice, his smile will make you feel precious and will soothe your soul. When darkness comes and tries to separate you from him, you will hear his voice and through the darkness see his smile and know he is your heavenly Father.

Earthly parents can fail in their love. They can do harm when their hearts are hard and unregenerate. They can leave scars and cause fear and pain to hang on. But do not allow the sins of others to keep you from your heavenly Father’s embrace. Open your heart to his love and let him come into your heart and fill you with all the glorious of heaven. Let him show you what the true love of a parent is to be. Know that in him you are never alone, you are never lost in darkness nor despair, you will always have the light of heaven in your heart. This can all begin when you acknowledge your sin and ask Jesus Christ into your heart and through him come to know his Father as your Father.
Weather-snarled week that was

This week high school girls soccer played Rabun Gap and Swain. They lost both games but they fought hard coming out strong both second halves. Their next home game will be on Monday, April 8th. They will play Blue Ridge starting at 6 pm.

High School boys golf also had a match at Sequoia Nationals, placing first. Their next match is on Thursday, March 28th, at Sapphire Nationals.

Middle school golf is made up of one girl- Anna Stiehler. In her last match, she placed first, lower than every other boy and girl by 12 strokes with a 43.

Middle school and high school track are both waiting for their next meets.

Come out and support your Highlanders!

Annual ‘Litter Pick-up’ is Sat. April 20

On Saturday, April 20, the Highlands Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Plateau Pickup on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to help clean litter on the highways and roads leading to and around Highlands. Cleanup supplies and a “thank-you” tee-shirt will be provided for all volunteers. The event will start and end at Kelsey Hutchinson Park. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. and the pickup will begin at 9 a.m. Following the pickup, volunteers will be treated to a cook-out provided by Fresser’s Courtyard Café. If you’re interested in helping, please contact the Highlands Chamber at 828-526-2112 or visitor@highlandschamber.org.

...FITNESS continued from page 8

calculators available in which you can input your height, activity level, age, sex, etc. and get a good estimate of the caloric intake needed to maintain a specific weight.

I suggest you find the caloric level which you would eat to maintain the weight you desire to obtain and begin a process of eating and incorporating exercise to maintain that body weight. Notice I never say go on a diet to lose a certain amount of pounds. I say eat at a level that will support your healthy weight. Support that weight and you can morph into and maintain that weight.

A lady I worked with, followed this plan and has for over a decade maintained a weight of over 70 lbs. less than she started at. There were others with similar results, even one man who through daily walking combined with balancing his caloric intake to his energy usage brought his weight to a healthy level and has been asymptomatic from his type 2 diabetes for over 7 years.

In part two of this column I will show you how to create your own eating plan for the long haul with your own food choices. Stay tuned.

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

Annual ‘Litter Pick-up’ is Sat. April 20

Advertising in Highlands Newspaper and online at www.highlandsinfo.com WORKS.

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Saratoga
Highlands Police entries from March 18. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

**March 18**
- At 10 a.m., officers investigated theft from a vehicle parked on Main Street.
- At 1 p.m., officers investigated the breaking and entering of a motor vehicle parked at Highlands Plaza where a chainsaw was taken from the vehicle.

**March 19**
- At 2:41 p.m., the dept. responded to a brush fire on Hillside Dr.

**March 20**
- At 5:29 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Scaly FD.

**March 22**
- At 5:49 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Bowery Road.
- At 6:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a gas alarm at a residence on Old Edwards Lane.
- At 6:26 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mount Lori Drive.

**March 23**
- At 20:07 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a possible brush fire/construction burn on Walkingstick Road.
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SKYLINE LODGE - Hiring Property Maintenance workers. Drop by or call 828-526-2121 for an application.Background checks done. (st. 3/21)

KILWIN'S CHOCOLATES, FUDGE & ICE CREAM is looking for part-time team members! In short, your job is to help our guests in any way you can and to have fun at work. Flexible schedule. Email ashley@kilwins.com (4/18)

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)

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB is looking for energetic team players to fill positions on the Greenkeeping staff and Driving Range Staff. If you want to join a fun team with good pay and benefits, this is for you! Call Brian at (828) 787-2778. (3/28)

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 and bussers. Please call Jacque at 526-3807. (st. 2/14)

HELP WANTED
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- Grill line

P/T CLEANER NEED TO CLEAN A OFFICE BUILDING IN CASHERS. Daytime position pays 16.00 An hour, must pass background check and D/S contact Bob at RNLUNDYGVPM@GMAIL.COM (st. 11/15)

HOUSEKEEPING PROFESSIONALS at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Generous shift differentials, paid time off, health insurance, and retirement benefits for full time roles. Apply today: missionhealth.org/careers. (st. 9/13)

ITEMS FOR SALE
TWIN BEDS - complete set of 2, vintage look wooden headboards, and linens-$400. Beautiful antique, tall 6 drawer mahogany dresser-$350. Call (828) 482-2380. (st. 11/29)

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

JACUZZI, WHIRLPOOL BATH, 23 Jets, 72” x 60”, 3 years old, cost $6,500; sell for $1,800 404-358-3076. (st. 7/19)

SERVICES

AL HANDIMAN SERVICES - Plumbing, electrical, painting, carpentry. Local references. Call 828-332-7271 or 828-369-6245. (3/28)

HIGHLANDS HANDY-MAN - 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)

HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN VISON: scanning photos, slides & negatives to CD or DVD for easier viewing. Video transfer to DVD. Everything done in house. Leave message at 828-526-5208. (st. 11/22)

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.

GUTTER CLEANING, METAL FABRICATION, ROOF REPAIRS, DEBRIS REMOVAL. CALL 371-1103. (st. 4/26)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
ROOMY ONE LEVEL
3 BR/2 1/2 BA - light and bright Mirror Lake Highlands-In-Town Ranch style with basement storage; Double .6 Acre lot for privacy and stunning Mountain views; Renovated and updated; Oversized 2 Car Garage with paved access Large screened-in Porch with grilling deck; Gas Fireplace in LR; Bamboo hardwood floors and pine wood vaulted ceilings throughout; Cambria countertops; lots of storage; Cullasaja Gorge waterfall sounds; Photos and Flyer available; call/text 904 868-2486. View by appointment only $495,000 (4/4)

SPECTACULAR MOUNTAIN VIEWS. Ranch 3 bed/2bath and workshop. 1.3 acres. Tessenette Road, Otto. $229,000. 828-349-6145. (3/28)

FLAT MOUNTAIN/BRUSH CREEK ACREAGE FOR SALE BY OWNER. 13.2 total acres, old mountain homestead. Beautiful views, several great building sites, old livable farm house, small studio size cabin, rental income possible, some pasture and some woods, partial fenced, well water, three different roads to enter property, sub-dividable, amazing potential on this tract of land. Please call 706-400-2596 or email vhchamber60@yahoo.com for more info. $800,000 OBO (12/20)

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

1.21 ACRES FOR SALE BY OWNER - OTTO, NC - $28,000. Lot 12 Quail Haven Road. Otto, NC. Price not firm...open for negotiation. Please email if interested to dmarsh15@aol.com or call/text to 239-980-0531. Please leave a message. (st. 7/20)

COMMERCIAL SPACE RENTALS
LOCATION IS EVERYTHING! Prime retail space available on Main Street in Highlands: 3,000 prime retail space available for rent starting March 1, 2019 Contact Jody or Wood Lovell. Highlands Sotheby’s International Realty. 828.526.4104. (st. 1/10)

SOUTHERN BELLS RESTAURANT on Cashiers Road for lease. Experienced restaurateurs only. Call 706-782-6252. (st. 5/3)

FALLS ON MAIN — Up and Down units available. Call 706-782-6252. (st. 5/3)

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS
3 BED, 2 BATH LOG HOME - five minutes from downtown Highlands on private road. Wood burning stove, well insulated, propane heat, air conditioned, detached carport, no pets. $1400 monthly. Call House in Order: 828-484-1571. (st. 3/28)

NEED HOUSING FOR YOUR 6-MONTHS EMPLOYEES? 3/3 older furnished home, walk to town. Details 828-526-5558. (st. 3/21)

LARGE MAIN STREET APARTMENT — 3BR / 2BA, furnished or unfurnished, washer/dryer, 1-year lease, available April 1, no smoking. $1,600/mo. email glenn@atlantel.net (st. 3/14)