

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 17, Number 16 Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com Thursday, April 16, 2020

## Covid-19 affects FY '20-'21 budget

Preparing each fiscal year's budget is usually a painstaking process spanning several months. It begins with the Town Retreat, held this year on March 5, where department heads present wish lists for capital improvement proj-

ects or equipment purchases.

Whether a project or items are included in the budget depends on sales, property, fire and franchise tax returns as well as revenues from the town's enterprise funds – electric, water/sewer and

sanitation.

Sales, property and fire taxes are self-explanatory. But the franchise tax usually brings blank stares.

A franchise tax is a state tax

• See BUDGET page 6

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## Playhouse cancels live shows for 2020 season

*Movies to resume when deemed safe*

By Marshall Carby, Artistic Director & Lance Matzke, Managing Director Highlands Playhouse

The Highlands Playhouse has been providing entertainment to the Highlands-Cashiers plateau for over 80 years, and we will continue to do so for many more. However, this year is unlike any other in our long history of sensational summer theater.

The on-going global pandemic and the safety measures required to protect our staff, patrons, and community have forced us to cancel the live pro-

• See PLAYHOUSE page 15

## Fast-moving Easter storm leaves mess behind



Sunday night's and Monday morning's violent weather turned Highlands waterways brown, littered the streets with branches and leaves and knocked out power. "Trees and limbs down over the area caused numerous outages on the towns electric system," said public works director Lamar Nix. Town crews began restoring power throughout the night and it took a good portion of Monday to finish all of it."

– Photo by Kim Lewicki

## Open burn ban issued for Jackson and Macon counties until COVID-19 is over

Due to extended hazardous fire conditions, and the social distancing COVID-19 order, the North Carolina Forest Service has

issued a ban on all open burning for 32 Western North Carolina counties. The burning ban went into effect April 3, and despite del-

uge Sunday and Monday it will remain in effect until further notice.

"We can't send our crews out

• See BURN BAN page 15

## Macon Cty. Sheriff not taking 'anonymous' reports

*A message from Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland*

Neighbors rattling on neighbors has gotten the attention of the MC Sheriff's Office.

Effective immediately, the Sheriff's Office will no longer respond to "Anonymous" reports alleging violations against the "NC Governor's Order" or any other local orders currently in place related to COVID-19.

Any person who wishes to file a complaint regarding any current order will be required to identify themselves when initially filing report. All violations reported appropriately will be in-

• See REPORTS page 15

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### Tune into ZOOM for Town Board meeting

Tonight is the April meeting of the Highlands Town Board of Commissioners. It will not be held at the Highlands Community Building.

Since we are under a state of emergency the meeting will be a remote, electronic meeting by way of the ZOOM meeting technology. The North Carolina Attorney General and the Governor have determined that an electronic meeting is allowable under the current emergency. Other elected bodies are already holding such meetings.

The public can access the meeting by calling into +1 929 436 2866. The meeting ID is 667 357 965. The password is 007442. The meeting can be accessed on a computer or tablet by going to <https://zoom.us/j/667357965?pwd=ZkJ5Q0xNbHNyL1ZGVzVwM0ZwRUUp3dz09>. The meeting ID and password is the same whether calling in or using the internet.

A ZOOM App can be downloaded for free. Using the app, the above meeting ID



Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor

number and password/code can be entered for fast access.

The first item on the agenda will be public comment. A person wishing to make a comment has to simply raise their hand. The session manager will open the microphone for the person to speak and the board to hear the comment. Please keep comments to 3 minutes.

On the agenda of the cancelled March meeting was a public hearing concerning ordinance changes. It had been advertised in the newspaper. This hearing has been postponed until the May meeting, regardless of whether there is public attendance or if we again hold an electronic meeting. The hearings will again be advertised in the newspaper. The Town Manager and I decided that it would be better to delay and make sure all hearing procedures were followed in order to eliminate any confusion and to allow maximum opportunity for public response.

The agenda for tonight's meeting is small. There will be a review of a preliminary plat for a new subdivision near Mirror Lake. A preliminary plat is a design and layout for a proposed subdivision. If the preliminary plat meets all ordinance requirements, the board approves the plat. The developer then has to build the infrastructure according to the approved preliminary plat before final board approval is given.

The board will also review the status of the utility fees for the Performing Arts Center. The board waived these fees as a part of the transfer of the property from the town to the PAC. This agreement was to

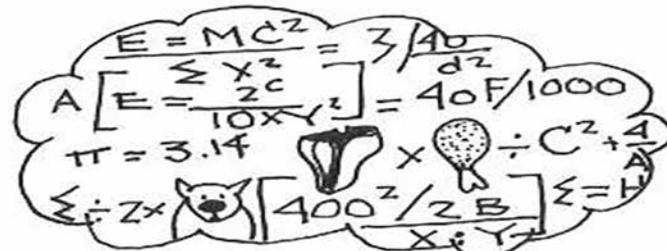
• See MAYOR page 22

### Gov. Cooper signs order tightening social distancing measures

Now ordered:

- Limits the number of many people can be in a store at one time, 5 people per 1,000 square feet of retail space or 20% of fire marshal posted occupancy limits
- Marking 6 feet of distance for areas where people gather like checkout lines
- Requiring specific cleaning measures for retail stores

## • HIC'S VIEW •



What dogs are thinking.

whicseven@yahoo.com

## • WEATHER •

Thu, 16-Apr	Fri, 17-Apr	Sat, 18-Apr	Sun, 19-Apr
 58°F 34°F	 62°F 46°F	 63°F 39°F	 60°F 34°F
Mostly sunny	Rather cloudy	A passing morning shower	Mostly cloudy, a little rain
RealFeel® High: 65° Low: 32°	RealFeel® High: 68° Low: 42°	RealFeel® High: 69° Low: 45°	RealFeel® High: 64° Low: 45°

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### Highlands Newspaper

[www.highlandsinfo.com](http://www.highlandsinfo.com)

Phone: (828) 200-1371

Email:

[highlandseditor@aol.com](mailto:highlandseditor@aol.com)

[HighlandsEditor@aol.com](mailto:HighlandsEditor@aol.com)

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Reporters: Brittney Lofthouse

Brian O'Shea

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

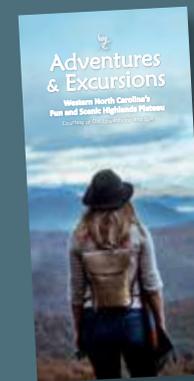
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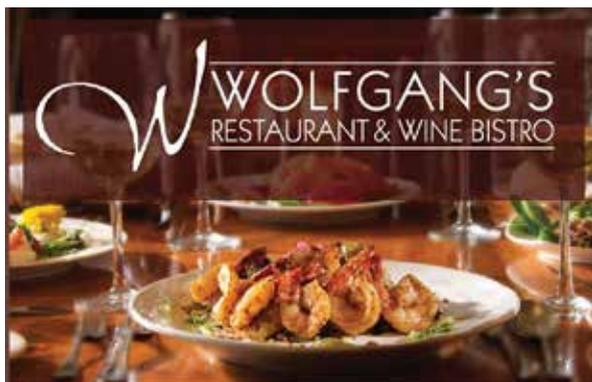
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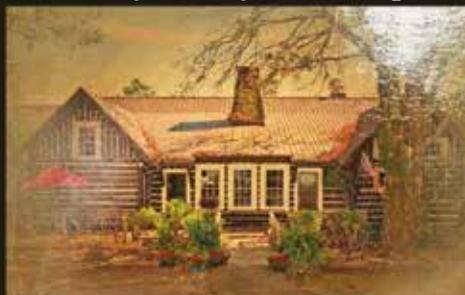
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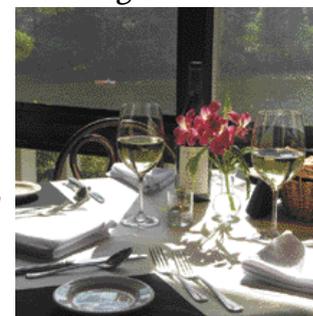
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# • OBITUARIES •

## Ed Whitby

Ed Whitby loved to recite "The Cremation of Sam McGee" by Robert W. Service. He did it at cocktail parties, for strangers on trips in foreign lands, and at nearly every opportunity that presented itself. And then his memory left him and he recited it no more. Ed died of natural causes April 5, 2020 in Highlands, North Carolina.



Edmund P. Whitby, Jr. was born on September 15, 1929, to Edmund, Sr. and Thelma Whitby in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He grew up in Pottsville, Pennsylvania and graduated from Lafayette College with a degree in Chemical Engineering in 1951, but not before he was fixed up on a blind date with the striking Jean Patricia Smith. They married in 1952, and moved to Long Island, New York. His company moved them, with their daughter, to Warsaw, Indiana, in 1955, where their son was born. They lived happily there until moving to the mountains in Highlands, North Carolina, in 1977. Ed loved his mountains and the people living there and never wanted to live anywhere else. Ed loved playing bridge and playing golf (two holes-in-one!) with his friends. He was a past president of the Rotary Club of Cashiers Valley and the Country Club of Sapphire Valley, and a member of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

He is survived by Jean, his loving wife of 68 years, his daughter, Cindy (Jim) Ware of Lexington, Kentucky, and son, Ted (Georgia) Whitby of Wexford, Pennsylvania; his grandchildren, Allison and Sara Whitby and Daniel (Nicole) Ware and his great grandchildren, Ruby and Orié Ware; nieces Jennifer Friedhoff and Stephanie Healey and their families. A festive memorial service celebrating his life will be held at a later date.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Whitby family. Online condolences can be made at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com)

## Mary Muse Butler Jellison

Mary Muse Butler Jellison, 83, of Highlands, passed away on April 9, 2020.

Mary was born during the early morning hours of September 30, 1936 along with her twin sister, Mildred Lee Butler at Jackson Hospital in Miami, Florida. Her parents were Thomas French Butler of Daisy, GA and Mildred Lee Skinner of Fitzgerald, GA. She also had a brother, Thomas F. Butler Jr.

Mary attended Miami Shores Elementary School, Horace Mann Junior High and Miami Edison High School, graduating in 1954. Thereafter, she attended the University



Mary Jellison



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**TUE** **GRILLED TUSCAN CHICKEN BREASTS WITH SUNDRIED TOMATOES, GARLIC BASIL, WHITE WINE BUTTER SAUCE, CAPERS, AND GOAT CHEESE. SERVED WITH ROASTED FINGERLING POTATOES AND SEASONAL ROASTED VEGETABLES.** **32**

**WED** **PRIME RIB COOKED MEDIUM RARE WITH RED WINE AU JUS, TWO BAKED POTATOES, AND A FRESH CAESAR SALAD FOR TWO.** **40**

**THU** **BABY BACK RIBS COOKED FALL-OFF-THE-BONE-TENDER SERVED WITH HOUSE MADE BACON/ APPLE BAKED BEANS, AND HOUSE-MADE COLESLAW** **30**

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# • WORD MATTER •

## The Big Four

Our nation, indeed, the entire world, is under incredible stress. Makes me wonder why some people have difficulty uttering certain words, phrases or sentiments? We all know people who, for whatever reason, can't admit wrongdoing, don't apologize, never ask for assistance, or won't acknowledge not having the correct answer to a question.

In her book, *Still Life*, Canadian novelist Louise Penny, creator of the Inspector Gamache mysteries, had her protagonist share the following:

"There are four things that lead to wisdom. You ready for

them?" She nodded. "They are four (brief) sentences we learn to say and mean." Gamache held up his hand ... and raised a finger with each point. "I don't know. I need help. I'm sorry. I was wrong."

As a young reporter, I learned the interview technique of asking questions beginning with either "why" or "how." I also learned a valuable way to get an interview subject to open up. It works like this,



**Bud Katz**

"I'm sorry, but I need your help. There's a lot about this (subject or situation) that I don't know or don't understand."

Police use the same technique. Real police, not only fictional ones such as Inspector Gamache.

These four simple phrases, correctly and sincerely employed, can also diffuse most arguments. Still, whether it's ignorance, pride, hubris, arrogance, stubbornness, or stupidity, people get stuck in situations that escalate when they could have been stopped in their tracks with one of these two- or three-word groupings.

I freely admit that I don't know everything. In fact, the longer I live, the less I really know, especially in scary, confusing, fast-changing times like these.

I won't speak for anyone else, but I often require assistance, even

with tasks others find so simple a third-grader could perform them. I'm occasionally wrong, even when I'm convinced I'm right. And, as far as "I'm sorry" is concerned, I live in "I'm sorry." I know every nook and cranny of "I'm sorry." And the truth in Gamache's pronouncement is that every time I'm wrong, and admit it, or ask for help, I learn something about myself, my own limitations, and, I learn some things about others.

When I was in business, I had people working for me young enough to be my grandchildren. This was no accident. I was evolved enough to understand the limits of my knowledge about the world, and often called on a younger subordinate to set me straight. They always felt better about themselves, and about me, for being asked their advice by their boss. I felt better because I'd learned something, and any day I learn something is a good day.

It's likely we've all been there. We've all said or done something wrong, or incorrect. For some of us, "I'm sorry," or, "I was wrong" comes easily. For others, and we either are them or know them, saying these words is painful, like having teeth pulled.

Why is this? Think about the real effect of these admissions.

"I don't know" means, "I need more information. I'm interested in what you're saying, or asking, but I don't understand."

"I need help" is self-explanatory. "I can't do this by myself. I'm either not physically able, or, I don't know how." In either case, you're giving someone the opportunity to be of assistance. Doesn't everyone at some time or another like being helpful?

Anyone who is married or in a serious relationship, or who makes an honest mistake in any context, or who has children, should understand the power in the sincerely spoken words, "I'm sorry." And, "I'm sorry" goes well with "I was wrong." It's like pairing the right wine with the right food. While both these phrases can be overused, sincerely expressing regret and/or admitting wrongdoing is like to closing a sale. Unless the person on the other end is a jerk, it generally leads to the end of what could have turned into something nasty.

We are living in a time of enormous uncertainty. Mistakes will be made. They are being made. Concurrent battles to defeat the coronavirus and to preserve our economy require clarity of thought and the ability to quickly change course. All of us can benefit from admitting mistakes and correcting them.

I thank Ms. Penny and her fictional detective for providing these simple insights. I keep them at the ready every day. Feel free to use them whenever necessary.

## ... BUDGET continued from page 1

levied on certain businesses for the right to exist as a legal entity and to do business within a particular jurisdiction.

However, as of 2020, Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas no longer levy franchise taxes joining Kansas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia which all discontinued their corporate franchise taxes during prior years.

The town's franchise tax revenue for FY '19-'20 was \$57,369 at the close of Feb. 2020, which was

down \$15,007 from FY '18-'19's \$292,540.

Proceeds from all the revenue categories aren't ever expected to be in by the end of February – but usually all categories exceed those from the previous years which means Highlands is luckily, consistently in the black.

But this year, COVID-19 has caused staff and the Town Board to prepare for the worst-case scenario.

Operations will be OK, but cuts have been suggested for capital improvement projects like

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The Dry Sink Main Street Highlands, NC

During this time of crisis and uncertainty, we know there are people working every day and putting their own health at risk to continue serving our communities. When we hear on the news daily accounts of more and more people being infected with COVID-19 and that the death toll keeps climbing, these heroes go to work each day to provide us with the essential services needed to get through this pandemic. It is with our deepest gratitude that we send this heartfelt thank you to the following members of our community:

- Our police officers, firefighters, EMTs and all the first responders who continue to protect our community
- The doctors, nurses and all the staff at the hospital, the Eckerd Living Center and in our local medical offices who are treating our sick and injured
- Our church ministers and priests for streaming Sunday services and The Food Pantry
- The staff and personnel at the Town of Highlands including the street crew and sanitation workers who continue to provide essential services to our residents and ensure our town remains clean.
- The owners and employees at Bryson's Food Store and Highlands Pharmacy who ensure we can buy the groceries, medicines and other essential items we need
- The gas stations and the people who staff them so we can fill our vehicles with fuel
- The school cafeteria workers and the bus drivers who continue to deliver breakfasts and lunches to children who need them
- The teachers in our schools and the parents at home who continue to teach our children
- The restaurants and food service locations and all their staff who have remained open for curbside takeout or delivery including 4th Street Market, 4118 Kitchen & Bar, Bridge at Mill Creek, Cake Bar at Mill Creek, Dusty's, El Azteca, Highlands Smokehouse, Lakeside Restaurant, MBrace, Mountain Fresh, On The Verandah, The Blue Bike Café, The Kitchen Carry Away & Catering, The Log Cabin, The Pizza Place, The Ugly Dog, and Whole Life Market
- Our postal workers and the delivery service employees who make sure we receive our mail and the packages we have ordered
- The local veterinarians who are caring for our pets
- The security personnel and gatehouse staff at our country club communities
- Our local newspapers, their reporters, and editors who continue to report the news from our community, our county, and our state
- Our Mayor and our Board of Commissioners who are tasked with making difficult but necessary decisions to keep our community as safe as possible from the COVID-19 virus

I'm sure there are people we have missed who are working each day to help us get through this public health crisis. Your hard work and dedication are not going unnoticed or unappreciated. You are the heroes in our community.

We know this will pass and life will return to normal, or at least a new normal. But if this has taught us anything, it has taught us that we truly are stronger together even when we are apart.



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## ... BUDGET from page 6

paving, sidewalk repairs, and equipment purchases.

"We are dealing with a lean budget with cuts this year," said Mayor Pat Taylor.

Typically, decisions aren't made at budget worksessions, but last Thursday, commissioners unanimously agreed to pay construction manager D.R. Reynolds \$35,000 to establish the Maximum Guaranteed Price for the fire department construction.

"This is a one-time cost which will give us a guaranteed maximum price. The Finance Committee and the Public Safety Committee both approved the proposal," said Town Manager Josh Ward.

D.R. Reynolds will report back in six weeks with a firm price.

Once D.R. Reynolds gives a final maximum price which is expected to be in the vicinity of \$6 1/2 million, the town will finalize loan terms with BB&T for either a 15-year or 20-year loan bundling both the property purchase and the fire department construction. Ward said the loan will likely be for \$8 million and will require the Local Government Commission approval.

"We want to go forward with the contract to get the guaranteed max price and wait on that price to see exactly what it will be before we move forward. There will be

• See BUDGET page 15

# • INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

## Remember to smile; find joy in little things

In the midst of where we find ourselves in isolation, I felt it appropriate to share a laugh for the day. This comes via emails shared through our office. I can't think when we actually had time for jokes! Love it!

- "You know if you keep a glass of bourbon in each hand you can't accidentally touch your face.

- I am starting to understand why pets try to run out of the house when the door opens.

- Does anyone know if we can take showers yet, or should we just keep washing our hands?

- Your Quarantine Name: the last thing you ate and your high school mascot. Me? Ham Cougars.

- Day 7 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See? This is why I chew the furniture."

- Home schooling question: Does having your children fix you mixed cocktails count as a chemistry lesson?

- My Mom always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by laying in the bed all

day, but look at me now, I'm saving the world.

- If you get an email with the subject "Knock Knock" don't open it. It's a Jehovah Witness working from home.

- I swear my fridge just said, "What the hell do you want now???"

- The coronavirus has turned us all into dogs...we roam the house all day looking for food, we're told "no" if we get too close to strangers, and we get really excited about car rides.

- If anyone owes you money go to their house NOW; they should be home!

- Homeschooling Day #3: they all graduated. #Done.

- I'm giving up drinking for a month. Sorry, punctuation typo...I'm giving up! Drinking for a month!"

- I prepared to self-quarantine. I bought a jig saw puzzle to keep my brain working



Lynn Kimball, Broker  
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828-421-8193 (Cell)

and my fingers nimble. And I must say, my plan worked. I completed it in just a week and the box said 2-4 years!

In all seriousness, I want to thank you all for being safe for all of us. I am so blessed to live in Highlands where most people really care.

If we open our hearts, I believe God is here for us and I believe in miracles! Thank you for being a part of our community.

- Lynn Kimball has over 45 years of real estate experience, with over 35 years serving the Highlands Cashiers area.

*She has gained Emeritus Status with the National Association of Realtors and previously served as a Director and Vice President for the Highlands Cashiers Board of Realtors. Whether you are interested in searching properties or comprehensive information about our area, visit her user friendly website at [www.signatureproperties-nc.com](http://www.signatureproperties-nc.com).*



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SPECIAL ORDERS

# • INK PENN •

## Technology was supposed to set us free

That's a lyric by Ian Tyson, a singer/songwriter whose music my husband enjoys. The full message is "Technology was supposed to set us free. That ain't the way it turned out to be." Not long ago, I found myself in what I refer to as "Amazon publishing hell" and felt the same way.

Now that I've written two books in my Dickedns & Christie Mystery series and have started a third, I'm trying to become more technologically adept so I can learn to format, upload, and all the things it takes to publish a book on Amazon. The operative word in that sentence is "trying." Plus, I'm fooling myself if I think I'll really learn "all the things" it takes. But I'd at least like to learn a few!

Writing is my passion. Technology? Not! Sure, I'm pretty good with Word and PowerPoint, but for much beyond that, I require help. That's why I have Adam Freedman of Dunwoody PC on speed dial. This Amazon publishing thing, though, was a horse or . . . nightmare of a different color.

I engaged an author marketing coach to do lots of things: lay out a marketing plan, create my cover, format my book for uploading to Amazon and elsewhere, and more. I knew I especially didn't want to format and upload my books and chance messing them up. It was a mammoth undertaking to write the darned things, and I couldn't afford to launch them into the world with flaws like extra spaces, dropped words, and who knows what else.

The first time my head exploded was when I saw words on the marketing calen-



Kathy Manos Penn

dar like "Kathy creates a Book-Funnel giveaway, Kathy uploads the ebook of 'Bells, Tails & Murder' to Amazon and Draft2Digital." I suspect several of my Dunwoody author friends know how to do that, but I don't. Still, I was game to try.

My coach made it all sound so simple. Of course, she's the same person who said, "You should write a cozy mystery. All it takes is a dead body." Yes, the writing part became easier the more I did it, but still, I should have known better. Somehow, the task wasn't as simple as uploading photos to Facebook or blogs to my blog site.

She sent me a multitude of files to save to my computer and upload to various places. The problem started when I kept getting those dreaded error messages. You know the kind, right? Unable to open this file! You can hardly save a file to your computer if you can't open it. I fiddled and fiddled with the problem. I googled how to open the files, how to save them, how to do anything with them—for several hours. Finally, I gave up and made an appointment with my coach for the following afternoon.

The next day, I started at 6 am trying to figure it out on my own. I canceled my workout with my trainer so I could keep on. I had visions of doing the ball slam exercise with my laptop instead of a weighted ball. I figured it wasn't a problem with my laptop, but instead a problem with the user, and I was beyond frustrated.

Can you picture me trying to chant Ohm? Thankfully, my coach eventually solved the problem. And, it was comforting to learn it was only partially user error!

• Author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her books on Amazon. Locally, "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch" is available at Highlands Mountain Paws. Con-

tact her at [inkpenn119@gmail.com](mailto:inkpenn119@gmail.com), and follow her on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/](http://www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/).



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INTERNATIONAL REALTY

## ... FINANCIAL continued from page 10

how long. Is it going to be a garden variety recession where equity values fall 35%? Or is it going to be at least as severe as 2008 and they fall 50%. I'm not entirely sure, but my gut tells me it's going to be the latter with a longer U-shaped recovery. Let's hope I'm wrong.

Looking forward, one of the questions being raised is if Americans will go back to what they were doing before; eating out, going to concerts and movies, etc. I was encouraged by what I saw in Wuhan yesterday as they opened the city and people flooded back into the streets. As far as I'm concerned, I may need to wear a mask, but I'm going out!

So, take heart restaurateurs, servers and hotel workers in Highlands, the season is right around the corner and please don't believe for a minute people will stay away. If I'm allowed by the authorities, I know I'll be back up in July for at least a month.

Highlands is a special place and worth the risk.

The opinions expressed in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Investment advice and financial planning services offered through Crossover Point Advisors, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor.



## Recipe Reveal

Madison's chocolate chip cookie recipe was a huge hit with our #ResortRemotely social media fans. Try it for yourself and let us know what you think! You can view the recipe and comment on the post @OldEdwardsInn Facebook or Instagram. Feel free to include tips from your own recipe.



## ... OBITUARIES continued from page 5

of Florida having to leave after one year due to the death of her father.

Mary began her professional career as a Secretary/Stenographer for eight years at the Miami FBI Office and thereafter, was employed as an executive secretary by the Miami Dolphins, the Whirlpool Corporation, the Storer Broadcasting Company and at various times several law firms in Miami.

In 1956, she married Leland E. Stan-

sell and had two children, James Leland Stansell (Kristin) and Susan M. Stansell. She now has two grandchildren, James Leland Stansell, Jr. and Kimberly A. Weismantle; one great grandchild, Lincoln A. Weismantle and two nieces and nephews.

In 1975, Mary married David N. Jellison, an FBI Agent in Miami. Since then, they have lived in Miami Shores, FL, Hobe Sound, FL and Highlands, NC.

### Paul Hines Trulock, III

Due to the ongoing concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, a private graveside service will be held at Highlands Memorial Park in Highlands, NC. A celebration of Paul's life will be scheduled on a later date. Online visitors may sign the guest register at [www.iveyfuneral.com](http://www.iveyfuneral.com) and [www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com)

Paul Hines Trulock, III was born on May 20, 1943 in Thomasville, GA to Margretta and Paul Trulock, Jr. He grew up in Climax, GA where he attended elementary and middle school before graduating in from Bainbridge High School in 1961. Paul's education continued at the University of Georgia, where he graduated with honors in 1965 with a BS in Agriculture. While attending the University, Paul began a career of leadership by serving as EA of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

In 1980 Paul ran for the Georgia State Senate and was elected and sworn into office January 12, 1981. He served the people of the 10th district for three terms until he retired in 1986. While serving in the legislature, Paul's greatest accomplishment was meeting the love of his life, Diane Griffith Johnson. The two were happily married in 1985.

Paul and Diane made opportunities to expand their horizons by traveling extensively throughout their 35 years of marriage. Their most favorite place to settle when away from Climax was Highlands, NC. In



1997, he and Diane purchased a home in Highlands and began spending their summers there.

During his summers in Highlands, Paul especially loved to spend time on the golf course.

Paul and Diane were members of First Presbyterian Church in Highlands, NC. Paul served as a deacon and an elder at First Presbyterian in Bainbridge. He was a long-time member of Rotary and took a tenure as President. Paul

lived by a creed that actions speak louder than words and quietly went around helping others with no desire for fanfare.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Margretta McGavock Trulock and Paul Hines Trulock, Jr. He is survived by his wife Diane, son Paul Hines Trulock, IV (Caroline), daughter Ann Trulock Bouy (Mike), daughter Susan Lynn Trulock Manning (Michael), daughter Sage Johnson Dwyer (Ryan), daughter Cameron Johnson Collins (Tim) and numerous grandchildren, a sister Helen Trulock Pettyjohn (Thad), and brother Robert McGavock Trulock (Anne).

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Shotwell St, Bainbridge, GA 39819, Habitat for Humanity, 300 E. Broughton St., Bainbridge, GA 39817, or Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy, 13093 Henry Beadel Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32312.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory are helping to serve the Trulock family.



### Carolyn Howell Lovell

Carolyn Howell Lovell of St. Simons Island died April 11, 2020. She was 96. She was married to her college sweetheart, the late Dr. Wood Lovell for 64 years. She was born in Atlanta, GA and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hawkins Howell, Sr. She was predeceased by her parents, her Brother Hugh H. Howell, Jr. and her sisters, Ann H. Sutton and Jean H. Laramore.

Carolyn was a graduate of Washington Seminary where she was president of the senior class and Spirit of

• See OBITUARIES page 19

# • FINANCIAL MATTERS •

## Navigating finances during COVID-19

In mid-January, I began to see tweets from people in my business related to a Corona Virus outbreak in Wuhan China. Most of them came from a hedge fund manager who, in 2006, saw the housing and credit crisis coming and made billions of dollars for his clients. He had been on a rant since November about the uprising in Hong Kong (justifiably so) and based on what I was reading from him and others, it appeared there had been some sort of transmission of a corona virus from an animal in a "wet market." I wasn't sure what a wet market was (or a corona virus for that matter) but I kind of figured it out. I had no idea this even existed in the world's second largest economy.

A week or so later, I began seeing posts saying this didn't come from the wet market but might have come from a lab in Wuhan. This was backed up online with news articles alleging doctors were suddenly disappearing for speaking out and supposed screen shots of job postings in Wuhan for scientists who would study corona virus' in bats. Then I started seeing stories that said it originated in a covert weapons lab and had been released purposely by the Chinese government. I'm not given to conspiracy theories so this last one was a "bridge too far", but I'm not convinced it came from a wet market either.

Around this time, it began looking like the wheels were starting to come off in China. What really got my attention was when the Chinese President was quoted as saying "the situation was grave". GRAVE?! Whoa wait, I thought this was just the flu! Then I began seeing pictures of medical workers in full hazmat suits. Again, whoa, hazmat suits? For the flu? Wait a minute, where did this come from? We know where things went from there.

But the U.S. Stock Market, (as represented by the S&P 500) was still on a tear. We were experiencing the best market and economy in history, there was virtually no unemployment and profits were still growing, albeit at a slower pace. Then, in mid-February we hit a wall. And we all know what happens when we hit a wall... there's damage, in this case potentially a lot of damage.

So, since this is my third, "once in a lifetime" bear market recession as an advisor and portfolio manager, I thought I'd offer



Michael P Henderson,  
CFP® CKA®  
Founder/Wealth Advisor  
Certified Financial  
Planner™ practitioner

my take;

First, they've all been different and caused by different reasons. In the 2000 to 2003 decline, (prior to 911), stocks were simply overpriced and had to revert to their mean eventually if profits weren't there to support prices. Remember the "tech wreck". Then the attacks and a full-blown recession exacerbated the decline.

2008 was a credit crisis which grew out of another overpriced asset, our homes. I've heard it said that 2008 was a financial crisis that caused an economic crisis and now

in 2020 we have a health crisis that has become a somewhat self-imposed economic crisis, that the government is trying to not let become a financial crisis. On top of that, what about the speed of the drop and the volatility. Huge up and down days have become normal not to mention the worst part, massive record setting unemployment.

As I'm writing this (April 8th) I believe the Federal Reserve has likely taken a depression off the table. Like in 2008, some will argue The Fed has overreached and will create an even bigger problem down the road (and you may be right). But I'm convinced, as I was in 08, soup lines were in our future if Paulson and Bernanke had not taken the action they took.

Here's the thing about depressions, if our economy shrinks by say... 10%, (which would be less than many forecasts for just the second quarter) we will only need 11% to get back to even. But if it shrinks by 50% over several quarters, which was and may still be entirely possible, we will need 100% growth to get back to even! In other words, we would need to double the size of our economy just to get back to where we were (by the way, the same math applies to your portfolio).

The other issue is that bad actors in the world tend to act out when countries like the U.S. are hobbled. Let's not forget that China and Russia have asserted themselves substantially more since 2008 and WWI and WWII started after depressions. I believe this scenario would have been devastating and markets would have lost 70% to 80% of their value. But potentially worse than that, our very existence as a nation could have been at risk.

There's no doubt we're already in recession. The only question is how deep and

• See FINANCIAL page 9

# Community COVID-19 Outreach

## Community Resources at hand

### Chamber of Commerce devises a plan to help: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The simple task of going to the grocery store, getting school supplies, setting up a computer for work or school at home, and needed repairs can be challenging given social distancing. Sometimes help is just a call away, but people don't know who to call.

Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Center has begun an initiative to put information and resources into one spot for those who need services and support.

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors program is being set up to accomplish three objectives:

- Create a single point of contact for services that are already being provided by the good people of Highlands.
- Enable people to call, send an email, or go to the website to become a volunteer.
- To provide an email, website, and call-in service, for anyone to ask for assistance, learn about what is being provided and receive support.

"We have been receiving numerous calls and emails from people with

concerns and questions and recognized that we could assist our residents by gathering information from businesses, churches, and nonprofits about what assistance is available," said Chamber Executive Director Kaye McHan.

McHan, along with Highlands resident and volunteer Matt Eberz; Dave Mueller, Stringman Media; and David Moore, International Friendship Center Board Chair, came up with a game plan for an all-volunteer run Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

What services can Neighbors Helping Neighbors provide?

- Grocery/Food Pantry Pickup and Delivery
- Pharmacy Pickup and Delivery
- Post Office Mail Pickup and Delivery
- Simple Home Repairs
- Simple Auto Assistance



- Simple Remote Computer Help
- Others as Required

Kaye said they have already recruited 20 volunteers, some of which have been sent

out on multiple calls assisting neighbors.

"We view our job as not only supporting the business community, but also supporting Highlands in continuing to be a great place to live," she said. "We are passionate about our caring mountain community."

#### How will it work?

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors program will be staffed with both Operations Volunteers and Responder Volunteers. Upon receiving an assistance request, either through email, website, or phone call; the Operations Volunteer will:

- Check the list of available support to

determine what can be utilized

- Coordinate directly with the organization or volunteer for needed support
- Pair the Responder with the Neighbor

Volunteers will follow all safety protocols, coordinate a time to accomplish the task, and report the results to the Operations Volunteer.

The Operations Volunteer will monitor all support and ensure our Neighbor has been assisted as best we can.

Kaye added that businesses are also a part of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors initiative.

"We are dependent on our small businesses to provide services and goods to residents, but they are also at the heart of our economy and we can't afford to lose them," she said. "Buy gift cards, make reservations and prepay, shop local online, order meals for takeout or delivery. Our businesses have been serving the community for years and they now need our help. Please support our local businesses, Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"

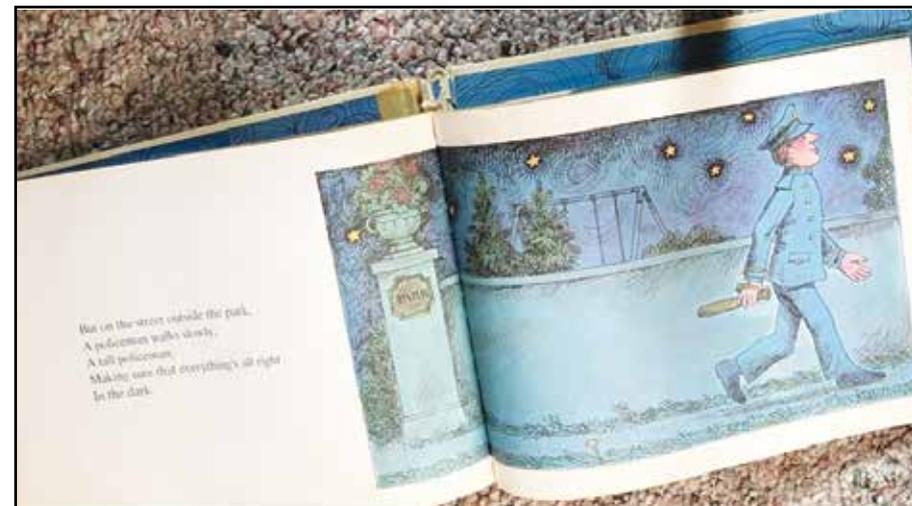
## Tune into The Literacy Council's YouTube Channel for in-person storytelling with Jenni Edwards

Parents all over Facebook can welcome in-person storytelling directly from The Literacy Council of Highlands when they tune into TLC's YouTube Channel.

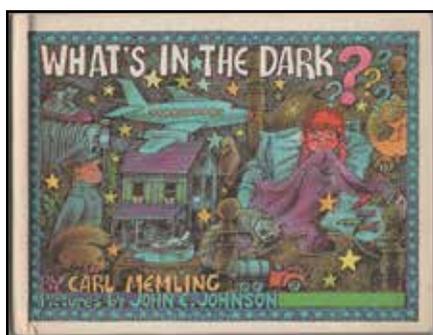
Jenni Edwards debuts From the Reading Room's episode I with a reading of "What's In The Dark" by Carl Memling. Eerily appropriate for these disturbing times, "What's In The Dark" names objects in a dark bedroom and somehow seems comforting at a time when all ages need comfort.

The website link from the Reading Room: <https://www.maconncliteracy.org/from-the-reading-room.html>

The Direct Youtube Channel Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UcKs5DfiNg9O4lzE8hUCu2Aw>



But on the street outside the park,  
A policeman walks slowly,  
A tall policeman,  
Making sure that everything's all right  
In the dark.



# Daily 'dealings' during t

## Making the most of life

### Eating my way through the quarantine

By Lee Lyons

As God is my witness, I'll never eat cabbage again. Not even slaw, not even the delicious blue cheese slaw at The Ugly dog Pub. I have discovered I am NOT a cabbage patch doll.

Last Friday, I was excited to report on FaceBook that you could drive by and pick up a box of vegetables at August Produce in Highlands for \$20. Before I go any further, there is nothing wrong with the vegetables or the cabbage. It's me. My body is not use to eating so much healthy food.

I came right home (because where else can you go?) and ate a tomato, cucumber and onion sandwich smeared in mayonnaise. It was to die for but let me rephrase...it was so good and fresh.

On Saturday I ate a huge salad. Sunday, Palm Sunday, I ate fresh cantaloupe while watching the church service. I decided to boil squash and carrots for lunch and it was wonderful, too. I was beginning to think becoming a vegetarian might be a good idea. Then I decided to boil a big head of cabbage for dinner. I shouldn't admit, but I will, I have never cooked cabbage in my life and was surprised how tasty it was simply by boiling it in water and chicken stock.

About four in the afternoon, I craved something sweet but my cupboard is bare so I whoofed down a big bowl of cabbage. Almost immediately my stomach began to cramp like labor pains. It became extended and hard like a cantaloupe. I read somewhere that a stomach ache could be a symptom of the COVID-19. I remembered walking horses with colic and tried to walk around but finally gulped down Pepto Bismol and curled into a ball with my heating pad. I tried to think who to call, the doctor, a friend, an ambulance if it got any worse.

The poignant part is, it's scary to be sick and alone at any time but especially now. You cannot risk exposing other people or yourself. You can't even call a best friend.

About an hour later, I felt better and managed to Google...why does my stomach hurt after eating cabbage? Who knew the amount of information about reactions to cabbage?

After I ruled out the virus, cancer, ulcer and a host of other awful things, I diagnosed myself with gas trapped in the intestines. I imagined my obit - died of cabbage gas. I'm happy - no, that is not the right word - grateful to report I'm feeling fine. My dog, however, is social distancing.

In reflection, I got a sneak preview of how it will be if....

Plus, Scarlet O'Hara was holding up a turnip when she yelled those immortal words. If she had been in a cabbage patch, she would have said, ...As God is my witness, I'll never be hungry again unless I have to eat cabbage.

Meanwhile, I still intend to pick up another box of fresh veggies from August Produce - I will just "pass" on the cabbage.



Hudson Tilley helps with curbside delivery at The Spice & Tea Exchange.



Harper Ramey gets lunch each day bussed to by the school.

**You think it's bad now?  
In 20 years our country  
will be run by people  
home schooled by day  
drinkers....**



OK, fine. I read the Dos and Don'ts of Quarantine Living ... I won't try to cut my own bangs ... ever.

# the COVID-19 Pandemic

## during social distancing

### God bless you if ...

If you donate food to someone who needs it; if you donate or discount your AirBnB to a local or medical person

who has to leave their home due to risk of exposing their family or the expense of where they are staying; if you bake a cake; make a

meal, leave cookies or any current luxury at a neighbor's doorstep; if you are delivering groceries or medications to someone who is afraid to leave home; if you get your kids outside and let them play; if you send cards, care packages, school supplies to someone functioning the best they can at home; if you call people and check in to help fight the loneliness of isolation; if you plant an extra row in your garden to share; if you buy a gift card to a local business; if you take care of yourself to remain physically, emotionally and spiritually healthy so you can help others; if you donate blood; if you have a smile, hope and gratitude to share with people you can interact with; if you stay at home as much as possible and WASH YOUR HANDS – you get it. God bless you.



Since hearing of the shortage of masks, Carolyn Berry of Cashiers, has tirelessly been making some beautiful ones. She has made them for her extended family and friends. Carolyn also made masks for a church member which has included the mask in care-packages for cancer patients in Franklin. Meticulously sewing masks from a variety of beautiful fabric prints, she also provided Jennings Builders Supply's with two dozen for its employees. The Jackson County Emergency Management Service received 12 of her masks, of which they were very grateful to get. Carolyn excitedly states, "I will continue making mask till I run out of elastic."



The Bowers boys brighten up the sidewalks at the Eckerd Living Center with sidewalk chalk creations!



Maverick Ramey watching a music presentation at Highlands United Methodist Church.



Joey Schwartz and Marie Sharpe keeping the Easter spirit alive while dressing HUMC's living cross while social distancing.

# Community COVID-19 Outreach

## Community Resources at hand

### Safe, legal, and local options for outdoor exercise

By Brian O'Shea  
Plateau Daily News

The Nantahala, Pisgah, and Cherokee Forests Services recently closed multiple trailheads and access points along the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, which includes popular hiking areas such as Dry Falls, Whiteside Mountain, and Glen Falls. The aim is to stop people from congregating in large groups, so closing some of the most popular attractions on the Plateau was a logical place to start.

So where can locals go to get their nature on without compromising the health and safety of those around them?

The Highlands Plateau Greenway

The Highlands Plateau Greenway is a nonprofit group that volunteers time and effort to build and manage a trail system connecting natural and historic sites throughout Highlands.

"The past few weeks have

thrown a real curve ball into our daily routines," said HPG President Sonya Carpenter. "This could be an excellent opportunity for people to develop new, healthy habits like walking more and enjoying the beautiful spring weather and the emergence of the spring wildflowers. If you live in the Town of Highlands, you are likely only a few blocks away from a Greenway Trail. Why not walk to your destination on the trail? If you have no destination, just take a walk and let that be your journey."

Carpenter said there are plenty of worthy stops long the Greenway.

"Our Greenway trails radiate out from town to accommodate great points of interest such as the Highlands Biological Station, the Bascom, Sunset Rock, and Satulah Mountain," said Carpenter. "The trails can also be used to connect various neighborhoods to downtown. The residents of Big Bear Pen, Satulah, and Mirror Lake neighborhoods can use the

Greenway trails to walk to town."

Carpenter said volunteers are currently working on a new trail entrance on Oak Street and said HPG hopes to hold a series of guided hikes over the summer to better introduce the community to the many adventures and destinations accessible via the Greenway.

Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust

All Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust (HCLT) properties are open.

"It should be safe to use our properties given the low density of visitors we typically see," said HCLT Executive Director Gary Wein. "I can't imagine any of the parking lots being crowded, ever."

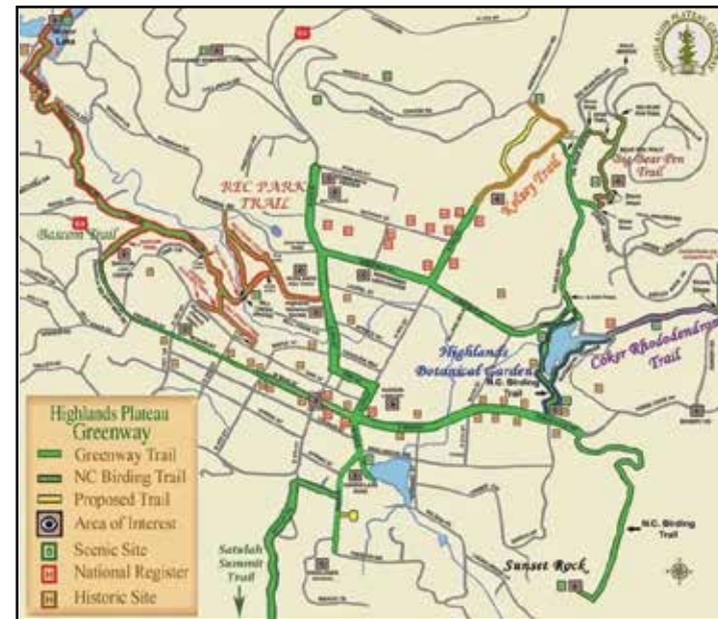
Wein said it's kind of early for much going on in terms of Spring blooms, but the views from Satulah Mountain are fantastic, and on a clear day hikers can see into South Carolina and Georgia. That view will get hazier as the weather gets warmer.

"We are pretty sure you can't get Covid-19 from trees," said Wein. "It should be safe to be outdoors as long as you maintain social distance from others."

Highlands Botanical Garden

Highlands Botanical Garden is located at the Highlands Nature Center at 930 Horse Cove Road. The Garden contains nearly 500 species of mosses, ferns, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees flourish in natural forest, wetlands and old-growth plant communities connected by a series of trails and boardwalks.

Highlands Biological Foundation Communications & Events Coordinator Winter Gary said they are encouraging folks to get outdoors and connect with nature, but do so responsibly. Gary emphasized the importance for



The Highlands Plateau Greenway map.

people to keep their distance from others.

"Social distancing is a critical step right now to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus, so of course it is important for everyone to strictly follow all recommendations provided by the CDC as well as our state and local emergency and health services," she said. "However, getting out in nature can be an antidote for isolation."

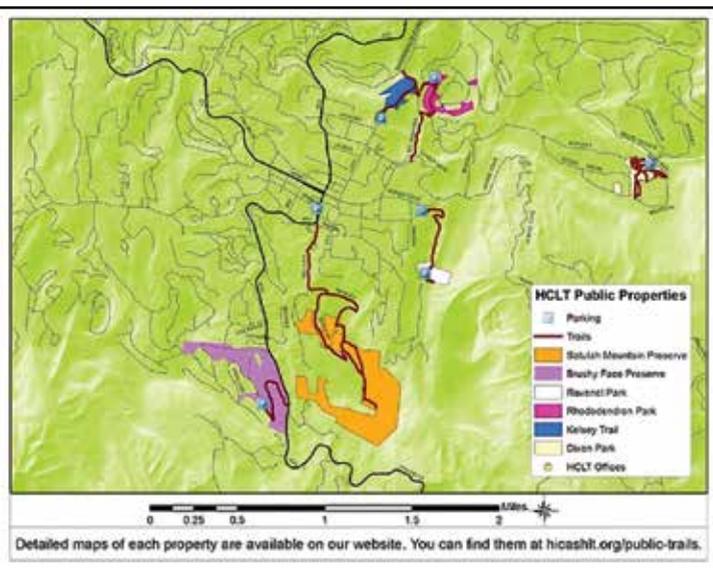
The Garden boasts over 450 native plant species with many spring blooms popping up, including the treasured Oconee Bells, a protected plant in N.C. that's only found in six counties in the Carolinas.

"The garden is also a great spot for birding," said Gary. "Earlier this week, our staff observed Northern Cardinals, Carolina Chickadees, American Crows, Blue Jays, and Brown Thrashers around the Nature Center. Many birds are returning to the Plateau now that spring has arrived, and the southern Ap-

palachian Mountains has very high bird diversity. As guests walk around the garden, they'll see mammals, insects, birds, amphibians, and more in our various habitats including trees, the lake, the bog, and our various demonstration gardens."

Lastly, Gary asked visitors to act responsibly, not only for the health of the community during the stay at home order, but for the Garden as well.

"For those who do plan an outdoor excursion during this time, please consider that due to current circumstances, many large public areas are closed or have very few staff meaning that trash cans, recycling bins, and even restrooms are not being managed as they usually are," he said. "It is important that we practice 'leave no trace' principles. Whatever you bring on your trip with you, you should take home with you afterwards as to keep ourselves, our community, and our environment healthy."



A bird's eye view of the Land Trust properties and trails.

## ... PLAYHOUSE continued from page 1



ductions we had planned for the 2020 season.

Happily, movies at the Playhouse will resume when the COVID-19 social distancing and the group ban is lifted and we can again post people in the theater.

The decision to cancel theatrical productions was made with careful consideration from the Highlands Playhouse Board of Directors, Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor and staff. Many alternative plans were explored at length, attempting to bring high-quality entertainment to the Highlands community.

However, after our deliberation, it became clear we have a responsibility to our patrons, donors, actors, technicians, staff, and the future success of the playhouse to forgo our original plans.

Anyone who has ever entered the city limits of Highlands, NC knows it is a remarkable place. Everywhere you look you can find waterfalls, hiking trails, and greenery. As you make your way to the middle of town you encounter a bustling collection of shops, restaurants, and people. And, one block off Main Street sits the Highlands Playhouse.

This 82-year young institution produces a season of musicals, which add to the amazing list of activities and attractions enjoyed by local patrons and a myriad of people seeking relaxation and entertainment in the splendor of the mountains. To put it simply, this place is special, and we will do our part to preserve everyone and everything we love about this community.

“The Highlands Playhouse, the Performing Arts Center and the Bascom Visual Arts Center are all vital institutions of our overall hospitality and cultural economy,” said Highlands Mayor, Patrick Taylor. “I urge patrons and supporters to continue investing in their programs as they have to modify their upcoming seasons in light of the COVID-19 crisis.”

This pandemic will end, and as soon as it does, the Highlands Playhouse will be here for you. We are exploring new, creative ways to entertain you as soon as it is safe to do so and look forward to the return of bustling Highlands’ sidewalks, long summer days, and a theatre full of excitement for a night of revelry or an intriguing new film.

Be the first to know by following us on Facebook and Instagram, joining our email list, or participating in our annual Starstruck event; details will be available soon. We need each other now more than ever and we want to hear from you!

Thank you for your understanding and support, now and always. We will navigate these difficult times together. We will persevere. We will be back.

## ... REPORTS continued from page 1

investigated by our office. We will also keep District Attorney Ashley Hornsby Welch informed about our investigations and discuss any potential criminal charges that are to be filed.

As of this release, investigators assigned to handling these complaints have investigated more than a dozen reported violations and at the conclusion of those investigations all parties were found to have NOT committed any violations and in compliance with the orders currently in place.

During these investigations, we found that educating either the reporter or the alleged violator was all that was necessary to resolve any issues or concerns. Investigators provided each individual visited with informational packets related to COVID-19 and the orders currently in place. Investigators reminded them that it is the responsibility of all citizens (Full Time, Part Time and/or Visitors) to understand any and all current requirements of the orders in place.

Unfortunately, while conducting some of these investigations, investigators concluded that some who filed anonymous complaints were taking advantage of the opportunity of reporting anonymously to harass their neighbors.

Having been advised of this, all of us at your Sheriff’s Office are respectfully requesting that you work out your differences with your neighbors and not use our services to harass them. We do not want to be forced into the position of also having to initiate investigations into “Filing of False Reports” related to COVID-19 but I will consider doing so if it becomes an issue in the future.

DO NOT report people simply because they are driving around town and have an Out-of-State license plate on the vehicle they are driving. That is not a crime and does not violate any Orders.

DO NOT report people because they have more people living in their home than you think they should. That is not a crime and does not violate any current Orders in place.

DO NOT report people for being in violation of the “self-quarantine” unless you know what the requirements are yourself. Those who have been requested to self-quarantine still have the opportunity to leave the location they are residing in to take care of their essential needs. YES... the authorities have requested anyone self-quarantining to not leave the place they are staying at for a period of 14 consecutive days and to also bring with them enough food and supplies to last them for the entire period of self-quarantine.

While some may not agree with what one individual may consider to be essential needs for a family, one should remember that others may not agree with your definition of essential needs either.

Please feel free to report violations if you have factual information that violations of the orders are occurring. In the event you file such a report you should understand you will be required to provide your name, address and contact information. As with any criminal investigation, this information is very important because we may need to contact you for any future court proceedings as a result of your reporting of violation.

To report a violation related to Governor’s Order or any local orders please call (828)349-2068

When reporting be prepared to leave your contact information along with the information about the violation that you are concerned about.

DO NOT call 911 to report anything other than an emergency.

Submitted by Sheriff Robert L. Holland, Macon County

## ... BURN BAN from page 1

to put out fires while this social distancing is on,” said BJ Keener with the forest service. “So it’s best to ban burning all together.”

N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner, Steven Troxler, issued an order to cancel all burning permits and prohibit all open burning for 32 counties in western NC, including Jackson, Macon, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Lincoln, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Union, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey.

The burn ban does not apply to fires started within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling.

Local fire marshals have the authority to issue a burn ban within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling.

However, fires, including fire pits, within that 100 feet must be confined within an enclosure from which burning material may not escape or within a protected area upon which a watch is being maintained and which is provided with adequate fire protection equipment.

Noting the weather, Highlands Fire Chief Ryan Gearhart advises against fires of any kind right now near homes.

## ... BUDGET from page 8

two parts of the loan – \$1.5 million for the property and whatever the construction of the building comes in at. So, I would advise to wait and see what the price is before we finalize loan,” said Ward.

Even if the town chooses to hold off on the construction, commissioners agreed to go ahead and purchase the land since that loan can be serviced with fire tax proceeds.

Also, discussed were health insurance options which could change due to a 10% increase from last year.

“We had a bad year claim-wise this past year,” said Ward.

Last year, the town moved from BCBS to MedCost which came in without an increase. The 10% increase would cost the town \$62,364 and employees an \$11,000 increase.

Meanwhile, the town is expecting proposals by the end of April from other insurance companies.

Commissioner Marc Hehn suggested the town pick up the employees’ cost.

“I think it would be an admirable thing to do for our employees during this pandemic. They are still working, and we should show them we appreciate them,” he said.

Commissioner Brian Steihler said he thought town employees should be rewarded in some way but wasn’t sure Hehn’s suggestion was the answer.

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# Spring Home Improvement 2020

## Whole House Generators in a nutshell

From severe weather and natural disasters to an overloaded electrical grid, there are many ways the power can go out.

Whole-house generators, range in capacity anywhere from 22 to 48kW. The added power brings you peace-of-mind knowing you won't have to sacrifice or make difficult choices like choosing whether to run a single air conditioner or a large commercial-style refrigerator. Instead, your house will be close to fully functional, as if nothing happened at all.

Whole-house generators offer many benefits over the typical standby generator. They feature larger, more powerful engines that are liquid-cooled for longer run times without maintenance, sophisticated programming for better load management, and provide better fuel options like natural gas, liquid propane, and diesel.

### 3 Steps to Pick the Perfect Whole-House Generator

#### Step 1: Choose a Fuel Source

Liquid Propane Fuel Tank. In many coastal and remote parts of the country, finding an abundant fuel source necessary for power generation can be problematic.

In fact, an essential step in selecting the best standby for your home is identifying the fuel type. Unlike small home standbys that can only use natural gas (NG) or liquid

propane (LP), whole-house generators also come with a diesel option, that makes generator power more accessible.

Both LP and diesel fuels will require tanks large enough to run the generator correctly. Similarly, the natural gas meter and gas lines will need to be the correct size. Before installation, your contractor will verify this with you, but you can find this information in the installation manual on our product pages.

#### Step 2: Pick the Right Size

Where to Find a Data Plate on an Air Conditioner. Proper sizing of your generator is crucial to the success of any installation and requires a good working knowledge of electricity, as well as the load requirements of your home's electrical appliances.

When analyzing electrical loads, look at the manufacturer's data plate on each major appliance or piece of equipment to determine its starting amperage.

Next, use the following formula to help determine the total starting wattage of all of your appliances: (Starting Amps x Volts = Watts). To get kilowatts, divide the number of watts by 1,000.

When choosing the generator output, select a rating

• See GENERATORS page 17

Weather is intensifying. The grid is overloaded.  
Cyber-attacks are happening.

Your power is at risk.

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Highlands, NC 28741

# Spring Home Improvement 2020

## Taking a Top Down Approach to Home Exterior Updates

(StatePoint) Whether you want to boost the beauty of your home for your own enjoyment or you're looking to sell in the near future, experts recommend taking a top-down approach to evaluate the outside of your home.

"When making updates to your home exterior, it's helpful to think of how all the parts of the whole work together to create a unified look," says Kate Smith, chief color maven with Sensational Color.

With that in mind, here are a few remodeling ideas to get you started:

### The Roof

A new roof not only adds aesthetic appeal, it can add value too. Indeed, Remodeling's Cost vs. Value 2020 report shows that a roof replacement can have a return-on-investment of over 60 percent.

Composite roofing is particularly durable, long-lasting and low-maintenance, and an all-around smart investment. Not only does a high-quality roof help home-sellers get foot traffic, but the low-maintenance aspect really resonates with house-hunters. An attractive, more affordable alternative to the real thing, the composite slate and shake roofing options available from manufacturers like DaVinci Roofscapes, for example, reduce pesky maintenance concerns, offering impact-, fire- and wind-resistance, as well as the peace of mind that comes with a strong warranty.

This is also a good choice for both those with a clear color palette in mind, and those who might need some direction, as free resources on the DaVinci Roofscapes site include a Color Visualizer offering users the ability to see

how different colors may look on their home exteriors, as well as a variety of free e-books with project inspiration and advice. To learn more, visit [www.davinciroofscapes.com](http://www.davinciroofscapes.com).

"Using these free color tools can be both fun and empowering," says Smith. "They take the guesswork out of crafting a pleasing exterior color palette for the home and help create increased curb appeal."

### Siding

If your home sports traditional siding, you may have noticed that the tiles contract and expand in fluctuating weather conditions and temperatures. What's more, the color of these often-times thin and flimsy materials can fade quickly.

Rather than replacing siding with more of the same, consider composite siding built to resist impact, fire, mold, algae, insects, salt air and high winds. The hand-split shake siding available from DaVinci Roofscapes is made of virgin resins, UV and thermal stabilizers, plus a highly-specialized fire retardant. Whether you add accent panels with composite siding or go for the whole house, this can add a hassle-free aesthetic benefit to your home and boost its value.

### Walkways

Cracked or uneven walkways and steps are not only an eyesore, they can present a tripping hazard to you and guests. Evaluate whether it's time to give yours an overhaul. Be sure to select low-maintenance materials that complement the look of the other elements of your exterior. This is a good time to consider lighting that adds drama to the walkway at night and makes for safer walking.

## ... GENERATORS continued from page 16

that is approximately 20 to 25% higher than the peak load (for example, if the total expected wattage is about 22 kilowatts, choose a 27 kW generator).

A higher-rated generator will operate comfortably at approximately 80% of its full capacity and will provide a margin of flexibility if the load increases in the future.

The most significant wattage draw will come from central air conditioning units. To determine an air conditioner's size in "tons", just divide the number of BTUs by 12,000 (Tons = BTUs/12,000). For example, a single 5 Ton Unit is equal to 60,000 BTUs.

### Whole-House Size Options

All standby generators are rated by kilowatt (kW) (1 kW = 1,000 watts) which measures the capacity or total load that the generator can handle.

For homeowners wanting the ultimate entry-level whole-house standby, a 22kW is a perfect choice to reap all of the benefits of a whole-house generator over a regular home standby.

A generator in the 27-36kW range is perfect for most homes since they replace 75% of the 200 amps coming into your electrical panel. Since these generators are equipped with advanced load-managing hardware, like A/C shedding, you will hardly notice that the air conditioners kick on at different times, so they don't overload the system.

If you want to backup the entire house as if a blackout

never occurred, a 48kW generator is capable of producing a whopping 220 amps of electricity at 240 volts, which is nearly the same amount of power coming from the utility.

### Step 3: Pick a Transfer Switch

**Electrical Breaker Panel.** Just like a light bulb needs a switch to turn on, your generator needs one too. An automatic transfer switch (ATS) allows your standby to spring into action the moment a power failure is detected.

It does this by continuously sensing utility power, and after an outage is detected, it simultaneously starts the engine and disconnects electricity coming from the line and energizes your home's panel through generator power.

Getting the right switch is just as crucial as getting the right generator as they work together to restore lost power. To know which will work for you, you'll need to know the amperage of your electrical service panel. You can check this by locating the main breaker in your electrical panel (usually the big pull-out at the top).

Typically, the average sized home has a 200-amp main breaker, so the maximum amount of electricity your home can consume is 200 amps. It's essential to get the same amperage switch as your home's panel. If you have 200-amp service, you'll need a 200-amp transfer switch.

With the perfect whole-house standby generator, you can be confident that your home will be protected against power outages of every kind.



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**We'll help bring your home back to life!**

# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Hugs and Handshakes



Pastor Mark Ford  
First Baptist Church  
of Highlands

I can't resist. I must write something about the Corona Virus. The sickness, the deaths, the loss of jobs and businesses, the impact on our economy, and so many other nuanced issues are a shock to the mind and soul. Ironically, it is something we all share in common. Before all this, we were tending toward individuation in our lives. But now we share common anxieties. We are – to use the well-worn phrase – “in this together.”

But one area that I contemplate on is the social impact all this will have in the future. The new normal as it is referred to has the potential to change the way we interact as humans. When will we no longer have suspicions about this virus? What new habits are being instilled that will erode our already weak sense of community and common grace? We are compelled by “social distancing” to maintain a proper distance, wear masks and gloves, wipe down everything we touch, and wash our hands ad infinitum. We make extended arches around each other as we pass, or converse from six feet apart and raise our voices to compensate for the distance and the wearing of face coverings. I have actually told people that “I'm smiling under my mask! Good to see you!” We appear to be creating hula hoops of self-contained existence. As we grow apart physically, we are growing apart emotionally and socially. If this continues for much longer, will we ever recover our sense of intimacy and humanity that we share – you know, things like hugs and handshakes?

Things like hugs, embraces, handshakes, and a kiss on the cheek spoke of our mutual respect, an openness to a degree of intimacy, compassion, and love. The physical acts were a commentary on our mutual humanness as those created in the image of God. But will this new normal cause us to be abnormal? I miss the warm hugs and firm handshakes of the church family and others. I feel the emotional and social disconnect with the absence of these very human acts!

But there is another virus afoot. The Covid-19 creates social distancing. But the virus of sin – which has been around since the Fall in the Garden – has created spiritual distancing. Sin interferes with my intimacy and relationship to God and others. It always has. But with this virus of sin, handshakes and hugs aren't enough. Love is the answer that usurps the virus of sin and spiritual distancing. The Scriptures teach that I am to love the Lord God with all I have. I am to love my neighbors as myself. I am to love my enemies. We are to love one another. Such love destroys all spiritual distancing. For instance, worship helps us to love the Lord. In worship I am with my spiritual family and the bond of love we share in Christ. In worship we encourage

• See **SPIRITUALLY** page 21

## Proverbs 3:5

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

### BLUEVALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965  
Sundays: School: 10 a.m., Worship: 11

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7  
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

### BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### CASHIERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Wes Sharpe, Pastor 828-743-5298  
Sundays: School at 9:30 Worship 10:30

Wednesday night Dinner and Service 5:30

### CHAPEL OF THE SKY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999

Sundays: 10 a.m.: Worship

Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

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.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

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

Wednesdays – Supper at 6 p.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30am: Sunday School 10:30am: Middle & High School;  
10:45am: Child. Program, 10:45am: Worship

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

### 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.

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. W. Bentley Manning • 526-2968

Monday-Friday: Morning Prayer at 8:15a. Sundays: 8 am  
Holy Eucharist Rite I; 9 am Sunday School; 10:30 am Holy

Eucharist Rite II. Childcare available at 10:30

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

Dr. Mark Ford, Pastor • 220 Main Street, Highlands

Sun.: Worship 10:45 am; Sun.: Bible Study 9:30 am

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 am; Choir 5p; Prayer Mtg 6:15p

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & 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 am, Worship Service: 11 am

### GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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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  
Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street  
Sundays: Worship: 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

670 N. 4th Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)  
Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45a., Evening Worship, 6p.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 9:09, 10:50.; Youth 5:30 p.

Wed: Supper: 5:15; youth, & adults activities: 6; Handbell  
rehearsal, 6:15; Choir Rehearsal 7. (nursery provided); 7pm

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

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

Worship/Communion: 10:30; Early-Bird Christmas Eve service of  
Lessons and Carols, Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:30 am.

All are welcome.

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### MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Zane Talley

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11, Choir: 6 p.m.

Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.: 7 p.m.

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin • 828-524-9463

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

Sun: 10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,

4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

#### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone – 526-2418

Mass: Thurs. 12:10; Fri. 9am; Sun: 11 a.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Marty Kilby

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Donald G. Bates • 526-3212

Sun.: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Worship: 6 p.m.

### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study: 6 p.m.

### ST. JUDE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass: Thurs. 9am, Fri., 11am; Sun. 9am

### THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 S., 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 • ufranklin.org

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

## ... OBITUARIES continued from page 10

the Seminary. She attended Newcomb College in New Orleans, LA, where she met her husband, Wood who was attending Tulane University School of Medicine. She was a member of Chi Omega Sorority and the T.U.R.K. Club.

Carolyn and Wood married during World War II and lived in McKinney, TX where he was stationed at the U.S. Army Ashburn General Hospital on the surgical staff. Later she returned to Atlanta to be with her parents during the two years he served in England and France as a Captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps.

When the war ended, and with the completion of his pediatric orthopedic training, Carolyn and Wood lived in Atlanta for thirty years during his medical practice and raised five children.

Carolyn was involved in many community and church activities throughout her life. She served as a Girl Scout leader six years and was the President of the United Methodist Women of Northside United Methodist Church, Morris Brandon P.T.A., Scottish Rite Hospital Auxiliary and the Atlanta Gardeners Club. She and her husband enjoyed many wonderful trips together in this country as well as other countries around the world. They had a mountain home in Highlands, NC for 35 years, where the family and many guests were always welcome.

In 1982 Wood retired and they built a new home at Sea Island, GA His retirement was short lived as he soon became Medical Director of Nemours Children's Clinic in Jacksonville, FL where he worked

## ... BUDGET continued from page 15

"We have to be careful. We are going to take a hit in areas. There are a lot of people out of work and they are struggling so it would be hard to justify that. But I do think the employees should be rewarded in some way," he said.

As to capital improvement projects, no final decision was made but commissioners did work off the post Covid-19 budget Ward proposed.

"Sales tax was ahead prior to this, so we expect sales tax to meet our projection of \$1 million by the close of FY '19-'20. We are at \$835,000 now but we don't know about utilities and how they will be coming in," he said.

Rather than sunset the 1.5 cent Recreation tax which has been in effect for five years, Commissioners discussed keeping it and using it to pay for the many paving and sidewalk projects on its list for the years ahead.

On the proposed list for this year are paving projects for the remainder of Culla-

an additional 10 years, continuing the work he enjoyed so much. In 2002 they moved to St. Simons Island.

Carolyn was a member of the St. Simons United Methodist Church, Sea Island Club, Sea Island Gardening Group, Sea Island Skimmers Club, Cassina Garden Club, Ft. Frederica Chapter D.A.R., and a founding member of St. Simons Chapter of the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century.

Carolyn's devotion over the years has always been to her family, her husband, her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and many friends. God's message of hope and love motivated her life and anyone that met her was touched in some way.

Carolyn is survived by daughters: Caroline L. Fleetwood, Nancy L. Dobrenic (John) both of St. Simons Island, Abigail C. Lovell (Cecilia Fisher) of Mission Viejo, CA; Sons: T. Wood Lovell (Jody) of Highlands, NC, and Mark B. Lovell (Sandy) of Savannah, GA and 11 Grandchildren, 14 Great Grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A private family graveside service will be held at Arlington Memorial Gardens in Atlanta, GA. Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home in Brunswick, GA is in charge of the arrangements. A service celebrating Carolyn's life will be held at St. Simons United Methodist Church, at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests those who wish may send memorials to the St. Simons United Methodist Church, 624 Ocean Boulevard, St. Simon's Island, GA 31522 or Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, 1687 Tullie Circle N.E., Atlanta, GA 30329.

saja Dr., Hickory Street, Church Street Alley, Chowan Drive and Pinecrest Road.

Sidewalk repairs still on the list are at Loafers Bench on Main Street, at Reeves on Main Street, Satulah Road and Pierson Drive to the school, of which salt and paint striping is a part.

Commissioners also discussed changing out all town lights to LED lights, something the mayor feels strongly about saying they are energy efficient and in line with the dark sky initiative.

"This is something we have been doing slowly over the years," said Ward. "As lights burn out, we replace them with LEDs."

"The Post Covid-19 option is what I recommend, due to the uncertainty of the economy this second half of 2020," said Ward. "After the FY 2020-'21 budget is adopted, the Town Board has the ability to allocate funds for additional projects as the year progresses, if they so choose."

— Kim Lewicki

## • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands Police entries from March 21 Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

### March 21

• At 9 a.m., a breaking and entering of a vehicle at Highlands Smokehouse was reported. Items were removed from the vehicle without permission.

### March 23

• At 1:04 p.m., a I-vehicle accident was reported on US 64 east and Sherwood Forest.

### March 25

• At 8:54 p.m., a shoplifting incident was reported at the Farmers Market where about \$11 worth of consumable goods were taken.

### March 27

• At 10 a.m., a larceny was reported at Mountain Findings where an outdoor table with glass top was taken.

• At 5:36 p.m., a call for service was made from a residence on Melrose Drive about someone violating the town's State of Emergency order.

• At 11:40 p.m., officers were called to a residence on Satulah Ridge Road where a loud noise was reported.

### March 30

• At 4 p.m., a call for service was made from a residence on Split Rail Row where someone was staying in a garage apartment without permission.

### April 1

• At 12:30 p.m., officers were called about counterfeiting and forgery concerning two forged checks in the amounts of \$10,000 and \$18,000 discovered at a local bank.

### April 8

• At 1:40 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

### The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from April 6.

#### April 6

• At 2:49 a.m. the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hapoldt Dr.

• At 11:03 a.m., the dept. responded to a call from a residence on Stable Lane.

• At 1:18 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a cut power line on Falls Drive West.

#### April 7

• At 4:48 a.m., the dept. responded to a water flow alarm at a residence on Falls Drive West.

• At 1:38 p.m., the dept. investigated smoke on Buck Creek Road.

• At 2:22 p.m., the dept. investigated smoke on Walhalla Road.

• At 2:33 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Cullasaja Club Drive.

#### April 8

• At 1:30 p.m., the dept. investigated smoke on the Dillard Road.

#### April 10

• At 3:45 p.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers FD.

#### April 12

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on the Franklin Road.

#### April 13

• At 9:18 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Horse Cove Road.

• The dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on the Cashiers Road.

#### April 14

• At 7:20 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road.,



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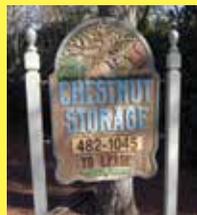
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**Sample Books Available****Macon County Meth traffickers convicted**

District Attorney Ashley Hornsby Welch's office secured the conviction today of an Otto man who played a key role in a large-scale methamphetamine operation to ferry drugs from Atlanta, Georgia into Macon County.

Kenneth Wayne Underwood, 51, pleaded guilty to trafficking in methamphetamine. He was sentenced as part of a negotiated plea agreement.

Underwood will serve at least 225 months and up to 282 months in prison. He received credit for time served, 369 days of pretrial confinement.

Macon County Superior Court Judge Bill Coward also ordered Underwood to pay court costs and a \$250,000 fine.

"The defendant attempted to build a methamphetamine pipeline into Western North Carolina," Welch said. "Thanks to great work by the Macon County Sheriff's Office and members of my office, we were able to ensure Mr. Underwood, rather than profiting from dealing drugs, instead spends a lengthy amount of time in prison."

Assistant District Attorney John Hindsman Jr. served as case prosecutor.

Two other Macon County residents, Nikki Wykle and Melissa Burch, were arrested by Macon County Sheriff's Office on April 10, 2019, as part of a drug sting at Wykle's house on Cat Creek Road.

Deputies stopped a vehicle seen leaving the residence and arrested Underwood and Burch after seizing more than 2 pounds of methamphetamine. The drugs had an estimated street value of at least \$90,000.

Wykle is charged with trafficking methamphetamine by possession, two counts of conspiracy to traffic methamphetamine, habitual felon indictment and maintaining a dwelling for controlled substances. She is being held under a \$2.5 million secured bond.

Burch pleaded guilty to selling/delivering methamphetamine and attempted trafficking. A judge sentenced her to probation; subsequent probation violations are scheduled to be heard in court June 1.

**... SPIRITUALLY from page 18**

one another in our mutual love for God and experience His love for us through His body. By the way, Paul will actually say five times in the New Testament to "Greet one another with a holy kiss!" This was a symbol of spiritual kinship shared on the cheek or forehead.

Both viruses – Covid-19 and sin – can infect and hinder our relationships to God and others. They create problems in trying to Scripturally love others – a love that transcends ephemeral emotions. Scriptural love is hands-on care and compassion as it relates to others. I long for the day when social distancing will be no longer, and we can engage together in the love that will cure the spiritual distancing around us. Until such time, we must be creative in sharing our love for God and others. To love others, we must creatively speak it and actually show it through ways to give and help. Live streaming, virtual reality, and Zoom may suffice for worship and Bible study for a time, but the hugs, handshakes and even the "holy kiss" are what's real. Getting our hands dirty in helping others is what's real. My prayer is that we won't lose these human touches of our faith as we await the answer to the coronavirus – handshakes, hugs and helping hands. These remain the cure to spiritual distancing.

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... MAYOR continued  
from page 2

be in effect while construction of the new facility was underway. They were to expire in March.

Also, the board will review and approve the Comprehensive Water Master Plan and Assessment Management Plan. The town received a grant to hire consultants to do a comprehensive study of our water system. In order to receive grant reimbursement for the study, the board will have to review and approve this report. This study and report will serve as a guide for future improvements to the system over the next several decades.

Hope everyone can "tune in" to tonight's meeting.

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