

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 17, Number 35 Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com Thursday, Aug. 27 2020

## HCHF to fund weekly in-school COVID-19 testing in September

**Submitted**  
The Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation will fund weekly COVID-19 testing of all

students, faculty, and staff to maximize the safety of in-school learning and minimize the risk of community spread.

“We are aiming to minimize the risk of COVID-19 in our schools and the community, and

• See HCHF page 9

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## Four MC schools suspend in-person learning

**By Brittney Lofthouse**  
Staffing shortages have forced some Macon County Schools to transition to virtual learning for students.

During an emergency meeting Monday night, Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin told the Board of Education that due to COVID19 exposure within the district, four schools which include Franklin High School, Macon Middle School, Mountain View Intermediate, and Union Academy will be switching to Plan C – virtual learning at least through Labor Day.

Dr. Baldwin said that at this time, Highlands School, Nantahala School, Macon Early College,

• See SUSPENDS page 9



The layout for the proposed workforce housing HCA/HC Hospital want to build.

## Neal asks for W/S hookup for proposed workforce housing at HC Hospital

Every business owner in Highlands and Cashiers knows workplace housing is an issue. Country clubs have taken over defunct motel complexes or built accommodations on property they own; other

businesses have purchased homes to house their employees.

Now Tom Neal, CEO/CNO of Highlands Cashiers Hospital is looking to solve a two-pronged problem for his employees – that

of affordable housing in Highlands so his workforce doesn't have to commute.

“I recently talked to a nurse we lost to a competitor,” said

• See WORKFORCE page 14

## Events rescheduled again due to COVID restrictions

Everyone was hoping that events scheduled for August and September could go on, but so far the only annual event that is happening as planned is the Mountaintop Art & Craft show this weekend in K-H Founders Park.

Months ago the Chamber postponed the July 4th festivities and planned on fireworks over the Labor Day weekend. But with Gov. Cooper extending phase 2 until Sept. 11, those plans were nixed.

At the Thursday, Town Board meeting, Chamber Executive Director Kaye McHan, said that the fireworks display would be postponed.

“Considering the governor's continued limitations on outdoor

• See EVENTS page 10

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### Fill out the census ... it really, really matters!

A major COVID challenge facing our community is how to protect and manage first-responders and personnel that continuously interact with the public. County and municipal officials are doing everything possible to keep employees healthy so they can serve the public.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

We can all do our part to contain the spread. Wearing masks, washing hands, and maintaining social distancing are the most effective practices.

Getting a flu shot as we move into fall and winter is another way to alleviate a potential compounding of the problem. The county is currently working on a plan to have ample sites for folks to get the flu shot.

I have been gratified to see so many people wearing masks on our commercial sidewalks and businesses. I am receiving positive feedback that our visitors feel comfortable coming to Highlands because we are a community that practices the basic COVID-19 protocols.

The Town Board postponed imple-

mentation of the requirement for residential bear-resistant garbage totes. There has been a backlog in ordering the totes. In the coming weeks I expect the board to direct staff to implement the policy.

As I travel through town, I am glad to see residences with the bear-resistant totes. Many people have painted their street number, or some other identification, on their totes. Marking a tote helps deter possible theft.

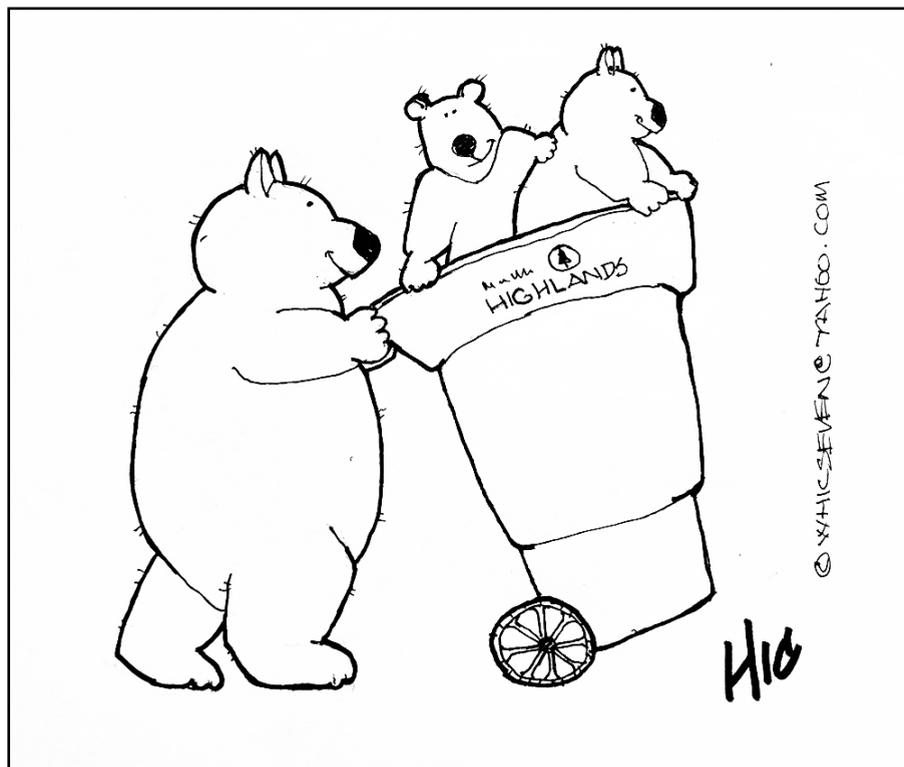
On the other hand, some folks still continue to follow unacceptable garbage practices. I noticed one 45-gallon can on the roadside filled with loose garbage that was not bagged. I still see a few trash bags placed for pickup on the roadside. These practices are no longer permitted. We all need to be good stewards in disposing our garbage responsibly.

We are approaching the September 30th deadline to respond to the 2020 Census. If you have not done so, please go to [My2020Census.gov](http://My2020Census.gov), or call (844) 330-2020, to file a response. Provided North Carolina has a full census count, a new 14th seat in congress could be created. For each person who does not respond, the state stands to lose over the decade between \$16,000 to \$18,000 in federal dollars.

Starting on Sunday afternoon NCDOT will be replacing a drainpipe across NC 106 just below Tate Landscaping and the Mountain. There will be a detour but expect delays. The work is planned to go through the night and the repaving to be completed sometime Monday morning. NCDOT did a similar project a couple of years ago on US 64 between Cashiers and Highlands. Macon County DOT office DOT can answer any questions at (828) 524-2517.

Town Hall staff are receiving numerous calls about voting. Those questions are best answered by calling the Macon County Board of Elections at (828) 349-2034. Also, the board has a website that can be accessed by entering Macon County Board of Elections on a web browser. Early voting at the Highlands Recreation Center begins on the third Thursday prior to the November 3 Election Day, October.15.

## • HIC'S VIEW •



## • WEATHER •

Thu, 27-Aug	Fri, 28-Aug	Sat, 29-Aug	Sun, 30-Aug
 80°F 65°F	 81°F 66°F	 73°F 61°F	 78°F 56°F
A t-storm around in the p.m.	Mainly cloudy with a t-storm	Heavy t-storms: mostly cloudy	A thunderstorm possible
RealFeel® High: 88° Low: 63°	RealFeel® High: 86° Low: 63°	RealFeel® High: 72° Low: 64°	RealFeel® High: 84° Low: 64°

For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to [www.highlandsinfo.com](http://www.highlandsinfo.com) and click on Weather

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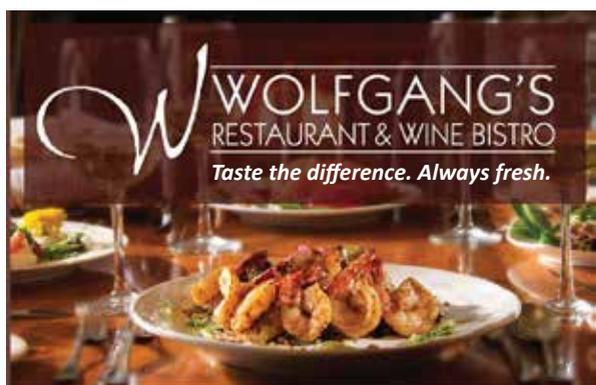
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# • MILESTONE •

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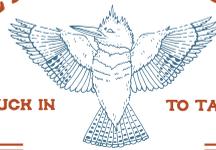
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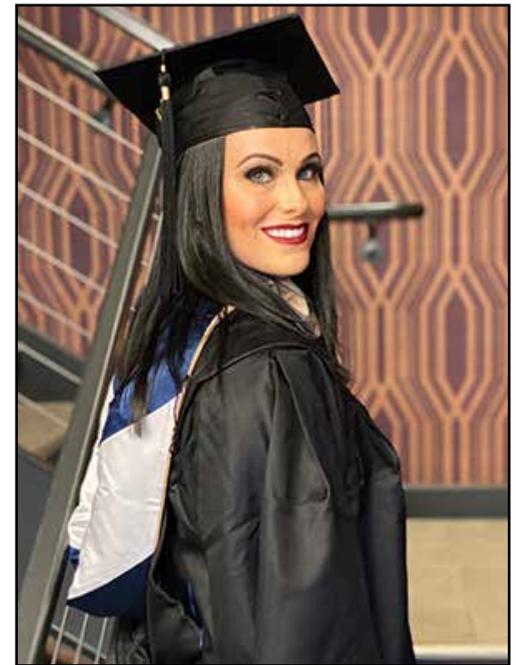
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## Congratulations Casey!

Casey Jenkins graduated from Penn State University on August 15, 2020 with a Master's Degree in Supply Chain Management. She earned a Bachelor's Degree at UNC Chapel Hill, and was a graduate of the class of 2009 at Highlands School.

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2020census.gov



# • LETTERS •

## A Community Treasure

Dear Editor,

In Japan, there are citizens who have been officially designated “National Treasures” by the Japanese government. These are people of all ages from all walks of life who are special for many different reasons by virtue of their individual accomplishments and because they have enriched the life of the whole country and all of its peoples.

Upon reading in last week’s issue of Ran Schaffer’s retirement as the archivist of our Highlands Historical Society, I thought of the many contributions that Ran has made to this community. If he lived in Japan, he would have been recognized as a National Treasure years ago. Fortunately for us, he lives here in Highlands and has devoted himself to its welfare, betterment and enlightenment with tireless dedication, intelligence and good humor.

I’m not the only one who recognized him as a Community Treasure a long time ago.

We all should, and thank him for his service thus far and wonder what he has in store for us next.

Thanks, Ran and happy trails.

Alice Nelso  
Highlands

## Don’t Quit

Dear Editor,

Don’t quit, when things go wrong as they often will;

When the road you are trudging seems all up hill;

When the funds are low, and the debts are high;

And you want to smile but you have to sigh;

When care is pressing you down a bit; Rest if you must but don’t you quit.

Success is failure turned inside out; The silver tint of the clouds of doubt;

And you never can tell how close you are;

It may be near when it seems afar, So, stick to the fight when you are hardest hit;

It’s when things go wrong that you must not quit.

Kenny Youmans  
Highlands

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# • OBITUARIES •

## Mattie Ella Calloway



She is survived by her children, Gail Reese (Bill), Teresa Calloway Speed (David), Freda Isham, Tony Calloway (Anne) all of Highlands and Celia Williams of Mexico; step-children, Barbara James, Sammie Houston (Bob) and Jack Calloway (Susan) all of Highlands; two sisters, Lina Birch of Washington, DC and Kathleen Roper of Virginia; 19 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Highlands Emergency Council, PO Box 974, Highlands, NC 28741.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

## Geraldine Tritt

Geraldine Tritt, 73, of Highlands, passed away Monday, August 17, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, Geraldine was the daughter of the late Lawrence and Gladys Dalton Tritt.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Dale Neely; brother, GERAL Tritt and sister, Eloise Johnson.



Geraldine was a loving, devoted caregiver. She was a member of Blue Valley Baptist Church.

Geraldine is survived by her children; Denise Zachary and husband Ben, Vaughn Neely and Teddy Neely; brothers, Terry Tritt and wife, Penny and Charles Tritt; sister, Joan Keener-Hicks and husband Bill; six grandchildren, Candace Keener, Kyle Keener, Katlynn Kinsey, Michaela Kaim, Quinton Neely and Alexis Neely; eight great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services were held Sunday, August 23 at Blue Valley Baptist Church. Rev. Marty Kilby will officiate. Burial followed

in the Bethel Methodist Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers were William Passmore, Justin Passmore, Johnny Owens, Dennis Owens, Ricky Talley and Anthony Benefield.

Macon Funeral Home handled the arrangements. Condolences can be made to the family at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com)

## What's in store at the Highlands Mountaintop Arts & Crafts Show this weekend



This pallet wood painting by Highlands native, Jose Green, is just one of many pieces of art and crafts that shoppers will find this weekend at the Mountaintop Art & Craft Show. Previously named Village Square Show, 65 artisans will be featured with rustic furniture, candles, jewelry, clothing, photography, and more. For everyone's safety, Covid-19 protocols will be enforced (masks and social distancing required). K-H Founders Park on Pine St. from 10 - 5 both days, rain or shine. Sponsored by Highlands Mountaintop Rotary. For more info call (828) 787-2021 or visit [www.mountaintopshow.com](http://www.mountaintopshow.com).

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of Walnut Creek Baptist Church  
in Franklin, NC  
is calling for everyone  
to unite in a universal mission of

# PRAYER

on

**Sunday, Aug. 30 at 10:15 a.m.**

Let's band together as God's people and  
have a day of prayer for the  
coronavirus, the upcoming elections, the  
riots and unrest, and for **Revival**  
in the United States.

*2 Chronicles 7:14*

## ...HCHF continued from page 1

thereby increase confidence for safe in-school learning,” said Dr. Richard Ellin, Foundation Board member and leader of the school testing project. “In addition, keeping the risk of COVID-19 transmission low allows the economy to remain open, helps businesses thrive and allows people to remain employed. This program benefits the entire community, not just the schools.”

Mountain Park Urgent Care will administer the molecular PCR tests using nasal swabs (not the deep nasal pharyngeal method). Results are expected within one to three days. The program will adapt to improved testing methods (possibly saliva specimens) and technology updates as they become approved and available. Most of the students’ specimens will be analyzed on an individual basis. In addition, when students are in one classroom setting with the same teacher virtually all day, pooled testing will be used where multiple samples from the same class are tested together. Pooled testing allows for faster turnaround times and is more economical, but just as accurate. If the result of a pool is positive, then each student’s sample is tested again individually.

The extensive endeavor includes administering COVID-19 tests for up to 1,200 students, faculty, and support staff on a weekly basis at potentially three schools. Highlands School and Summit Charter School will begin the testing program during the week of September 14 and Blue Ridge School and Early College will determine a date depending on their scheduling process. The testing project is planned to continue weekly through December 18 except for Thanksgiving week, provided in-school learning continues.

## ...SUSPENDS continued from page 1

and Franklin area elementary schools are clear to continue operating under Plan B, however they will be reevaluated at the end of the week pending additional COVID-19 test results.

Highlands School reported one positive staff member, a custodian, testing positive, but otherwise has fared better than most schools in the district.

The suspension of instruction was not based on an outbreak of positive COVID-19 cases. According to Macon County Schools Superintendent as of Monday, there were six known positive cases across the district. The suspension of instruction is due to the loss of staff due to quarantine.

East Franklin Elementary School currently has six students and one teacher in quarantine with one positive case.

Mountain View Intermediate has 16 students, four teachers, and one substitute in quarantine with one positive case.

Macon Middle School has 31 students and six teachers in quarantine and one positive case.

Franklin High School currently has 49 students and 13 staff members in quarantine with a total of three positive cases.

Wednesday morning MC Public Health reported a cluster of individuals at Franklin High School who have tested positive and are isolated from others. All staff and students who have potentially been exposed to these individuals have been contacted and will be tested for COVID-19.

While Union Academy does not have any positive cas-

es in students or staff, staff members do have children who are having to quarantine, therefore they have to be out to care for those children.

There are an additional 21 cafeteria staff, two school nurses, and one health assistant across the district in quarantine.

The individuals are in quarantine due to coming in direct contact with a positive COVID-19 case. Per NC guidelines, that exposure requires a 14-day quarantine, regardless if they test positive or not. Because of the high number of staff having to quarantine at this time, the schools had to transition to virtual learning. The decision of who had to quarantine as a result of exposure was made by the health department, not the school system.

Franklin High School has also extended the dead period for sports until August 31, according to FHS Athletic Director Blair King, in an abundance of caution.

The district will reevaluate the schools now in Plan C after the Labor Day break to determine if schools can return to Plan B instruction.

In addition to the school system, Macon County Emergency Services announced that two employees had tested positive for COVID-19 and were in isolation at home, both doing well.

MC Public Health also announced Monday that a public health employee had tested positive for the virus and was in isolation.

As of Tuesday, there are 530 positive cases in MC.

“Medical science tells us that frequent testing can be the pivotal difference to mitigating the virus,” said Dr. Ellin. “If there is a positive test, we can find it early, quarantine and reduce the exposure to others.”

Parents must give permission for their child’s participation in the testing program.

Principals across Highlands and Cashiers say the program will help keep up with COVID concerns.

“We look forward to implementing this aggressive COVID-19 testing program for our students, faculty and service personnel, along with the mitigation strategies already set in motion. The program will unquestionably make it safer for ongoing in-classroom learning, which is our ultimate goal. My sincere gratitude to the Foundation for this extraordinarily generous action,” said Brian Jetter, Principal at Highlands School.

“The health and safety of our students, teachers, and families is our leading priority in returning to school this year. As we continuously assess our health and safety plan on campus, we are grateful for our partnership with the Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation and the opportunity to offer voluntary testing for our students and staff,” said Kurt Pusch, Summit Charter School Head of School.

“We applaud the actions and initiative of the Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation for offering this voluntary and free COVID-19 Testing Program for the students, faculty, and staff of our community schools. Blue Ridge School and Early College continues to be appreciative of the generous support our Foundation also provides a full-time nurse and social worker for the health and wellness of the students and staff this last school year. This program offers a significant step forward in protecting the students, staff, and

faculty from the terrible virus pandemic we all are having to live with today,” stated Carl Hyde, president of the Blue Ridge School Education Foundation.

Dr. Walter Cark, Foundation Chairman said the whole idea is to protect children, faculty and staff from spreading the virus to each other, their families and surrounding communities.

“Each school brings great value to our community. Our Board believes this substantial investment is vital to the health and safety of everyone on the plateau,” he said. “It is just the kind of project we like to undertake. One that no one else is doing or would do, and yet one that will have significant positive impact. We hope our community will join us in this funding initiative.”

“This is a total weight off my shoulders!” said Carla Gates, mother of a Highlands School freshman when she heard this news. “I can send my son to school while still operating my business. I am so grateful that the Foundation is giving us this priceless gift of peace of mind, the added layer of protection for my son’s health and for the wellbeing of everyone within the school and our entire community.”

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# Highlands Mountaintop Art & Craft Show

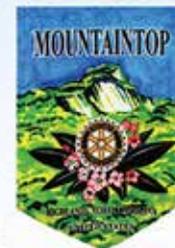
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## ...EVENTS continued from page 1

events the Highlands Chamber of Commerce believes it has become necessary to postpone the fireworks scheduled for Labor Day weekend," she said. "We look forward to providing the communities with a fireworks celebration. We will be working with Mayor Taylor and Chief Holland to determine the best day and time. It is with great regret that we postpone the fireworks to a later date, but we believe it is in the best interest of our community's health and safety."

The Chamber had hoped to put off fireworks New Year's Eve, but scheduling problems with the Highlands Police Dept. meant that was a no-go.

Chief Andrea Holland said that holiday weekend most of her force has family plans and she wouldn't be comfortable calling them in for that.

So far there is talk of scheduling fireworks the Saturday of the Tree lightning, but details have not

been worked out yet.

The Highlands Food & Wine Festival has also nixed its plans to host a pared down version in K-H Founders Park in November.

At the Town Board meeting, David Bock unveiled plans for the Bear Shadow: Music in the Mountains set for April 23-25, also in K-H Founders Park.

He said it will be a bigger version of the music festival that had been planned for this past May that was canceled due to COVID restrictions.

People had already begun to purchase tickets for November's Food & Wine festival so he said that ticket money will either be refunded or people can roll their tickets over for the Bear Shadow music festival.

"It's meant to promote tourism during the Spring shoulder season," said Bock. "We hope for 1,000 to 1,500 people and it would be noon to 10 p.m. each day. There will be national artists and support

acts and restaurant vendors will be available, too."

The Town Board was agreeable to the idea, but like everything else these days it depends on how 2021 looks COVID-wise.

Commissioners also OK'd the Performing Arts request to set up the drive-in theater in its parking lot for movies. Town Manager Josh Ward said it is only allowed because it is a temporary thing. If it was going to be a permanent situation then PAC would have to get a special use permit to accommodate the new use.

The blowup screen will start out at PAC, but Executive Director Mary Adair Trumbly said it is something people can use all over Highlands if allowed by the town.

"We could even have movies at K-H Founders Park at some point," she said.

The Drive-in Movie details and schedule to be announced.

— Kim Lewicki

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a mask  
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working.



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# • HC HOSPITAL NEWS •

## The Great Outdoors:

### A Panacea for Your Mental and Physical Health During COVID-19

As we learn more about how to live safely during a time of pandemic, I've heard some people declare that they're grateful for the fact that the outbreak didn't occur in the winter, when it was cold. I understand that, because it would have increased our sense of isolation and limited what we could do to manage our stress, which is considerable as we wonder what work, school, and holidays will look like in the coming months.



**Tom Neal, CEO, CNO  
HC Hospital**

UVB-shielding sunglasses are musts.

Speaking of the sun, do you know how to identify a suspicious mole? It's critical to catch the most common type of skin cancer, melanoma, as early as possible, so take a good look at your skin periodically. Remember "ABCDE," and you'll be all set. When a mole is Asymmetrical, or each half is uneven, has a Border that's uneven, or is several Colors, from tan, brown, and black, to red and white, these are all signs that you should have it checked out by your dermatologist. If it's more than 6 mm in Diameter (the size of a pencil eraser) or it Evolves and changes, these are also causes for concern.

If you're an avid gardener or enjoy hiking or trail running, it's important to become familiar with poison ivy, oak, or sumac, all of which contain an oil called urushiol, an allergen that most people react to in the form of an itchy, painful rash. If you learn how to identify these plants, you can avoid them — the old saying "Leaves of three, let it be," is easy to remember, and still comes in handy. Protecting your skin with long pants and sleeves also limits your exposure.

Finally, every spring and summer, our ER sees people who have allergic reactions to bees, even when they've never experienced one before. These can be serious and patients can go into anaphylactic shock (when your throat closes up, preventing you from breathing), a life-threatening condition. If you are allergic to bees, it's vital to travel at all times with an EpiPen, the life-saving device that instantly and easily delivers a dose of epinephrine, a medication that stops the allergic reaction in its tracks.

Getting outdoors is more than worth it, especially when you manage the risks associated with outdoor activities effectively. Time in nature is a great de-stressor, and that's something we all need to do right now to maintain our mental and physical health.

In closing, I want to remind you that we are practicing the safest protocol at

• See HOSPITAL NEWS page 18

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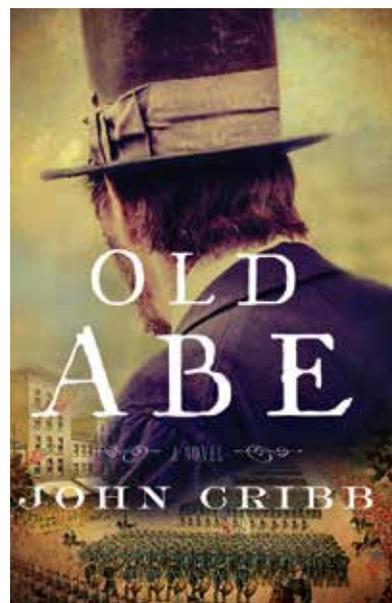
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## Author John Cribb to feature 'Old Abe' at Hudson Library Sept. 4

Author John Cribb will be at Hudson Library Friday September 4 at noon noon and 2 pm for a talk about his upcoming historical fiction release Old Abe. Old Abe is the story of the last five years of Abraham Lincoln's life, the most cataclysmic years of our nation's history. Join us for a fascinating talk with the author. Old Abe will not be publicly released until September 15, but books will be available for purchase and signing at this free event. This author event is sponsored by the Hudson Library Board.

Masks must be worn at all times while in the library, and social distancing must be maintained. Because of COVID restrictions, attendance at this event is limited and reservations are required. To make a reservation, please call Hudson Library at 828-526-3031.



## ALL ABOUT BOOKS

# • INK PENN •

## Let's talk about writing

I've had the good fortune to be featured on several mystery blogs where I get to talk about my writing. What a treat! I hope you enjoy reading this latest interview.

Q: Please tell us a bit about "Bells, Tails & Murder," the first book in your Dickens & Christie cozy mystery series.

A: Leta Petkas Parker is the recently widowed main character. Still grieving, she decides to retire early and pursue a lifelong dream to retire to the Cotswolds. Off she goes with her talkative dog and cat—Dickens & Christie. And they really do talk—to her. She's the only one who can understand them. As she says, she's making new friends and making her way.

When her dog Dickens stumbles across a dead body—Leta's inner Nancy Drew is awakened. One call to her friend Wendy is all it takes to get the retired English teacher and her mum involved in solving a murder.

Q: What are your plans for this series?

A: I'm having a ball writing it, and I can see myself continuing for several years. I think I'll run out of steam long before my characters do! Book Two takes place in the fall and is aptly named "Pumpkins, Paws & Murder." It includes a fall festival and a trip to Dartmouth, where the ladies visit Agatha Christie's summer home. Book Three—"Whiskers, Wreaths & Murder"—comes out September 2 and involves the residents of the local manor house—an Earl and his family. I think Leta has plenty more tales to tell.

Q: Are you working on any new projects?

A: I'm nearly through writing Book Four, title TBD, with Q1 2021 as the target publication date. It takes place at a literary festival in a nearby village. All of my books include a book club meeting at the local bookshop, but including an entire festival about books and authors is even more fun for me.

I must admit, though, that I have an idea for a book that could come between "Whiskers, Wreaths & Murder" and the one I'm working on now. I'll just have to

see whether I can pull it off for a Q1 release.

Q: When did you first know you wanted to be a writer?

A: Now, that's a good question. I majored in English because I liked to read, but in looking back, I realize I also enjoyed writing.

After briefly teaching HS English, I shifted to corporate America, where my managers realized I could write—some-

thing I'd taken for granted. Can't everyone write a clear sentence or paragraph? I didn't have a communications job until about 25 years into my career, but if there was a speech, a blog, a manual or a presentation to be written, it got thrown my way.

Eventually, I landed a job with communications in the title, and on a lark, I also started writing a column for a local paper. Writing fiction? Never would have pursued it if a few folks hadn't suggested it. I was retired by then, so I went for it.

Q: What's your favorite part of being a writer?

A: Simply put, I live to write. My day isn't complete unless I've spent at least some time writing something fresh or editing words from another day. And, I think Flannery O'Connor said it best:

"I write because I don't know what I think until I read what I say."

Q: Have you ever read a book that has stayed with you long after reading it?

A: Quite a few. In the '70s, it was "The Women's Room" by Marilyn French. That one stayed with me for years. More recently, it was "The Guest Book" by Sarah Blake. I couldn't stop thinking about it for several weeks.

Q: Why are reviews, good or bad, so important to authors?

A: On a purely personal note, I wouldn't enjoy writing as much as I do if I had no indication people were reading my words. Receiving emails from my column readers makes my day, and reading reviews on my books does the same. They tell me I've connected with my readers, that my words have made them happy or reflective.

From a career perspective, we authors

• See INK PENN page 18



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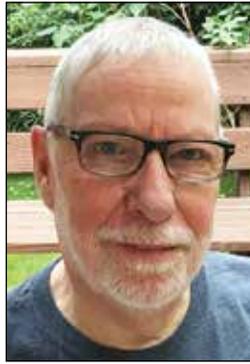
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# • WORD MATTER •

## Racism in America



**Bud Katz**

human behavior. That said, I do have an opinion on the matter.

I believe racism and bigotry are learned attitudes and behaviors. As Rogers and Hammerstein wrote in the song Carefully Taught from the post-WWII musical, South Pacific, 'You've got to be taught, before it's too late, before you are six, or seven, or eight, to hate all the people your relatives hate, you've got to be carefully taught.'

Some people, by themselves, outgrow their racist teachings and leanings. Others try but fail. Some don't even try. Still others deny they have a problem, or, that a problem even exists. They believe their prejudices will remain buried beneath the scars bestowed on them by their ancestors.

Events in the aftermath of George Floyd's and Breonna Taylor's killings earlier this year might serve as impetus for changes to hearts and minds in the future, especially among young people, but there are steps our elected officials should take to remediate some of the systemic racism in our nation and society. None of them cost the rest of us anything.

First, legislate redlining out of existence. Redlining depresses property values in poor and minority communities, which, in turn, limits the ability of residents in those places to obtain mortgages and other forms of credit. If it's not racist, it's classist.

Second, equalize funding in public schools. All public-school students deserve the highest possible quality of education infrastructure, especially instruction.

Third, pass universal healthcare so poor people can obtain healthcare services and products. This should have been done generations ago. We are the only country in the developed world where this is still an issue.

Fourth, incentivize food retailers to invest in so-called "food desert" communities, so people in poor, rural and urban areas can have access to a healthier, more nutritious diet.

Fifth, stop allowing so-called enterprise zones to become gentrification zones, where poor and minority residents are priced out their homes in favor of more profitable development.

I'm not sure the playing field will ever

• See WORD MATTER page 16

How can we eliminate racism in American society?

The answer is simple. Change the hearts, minds and behaviors of tens of millions of Americans who believe in racial superiority and inferiority, who are fearful of people different from themselves, who associate only with people who look, sound and act like themselves, and who don't want to live or work next to people different from them.

See? It's simple. It's just not easy.

There's an underlying issue that, if it could manifest and resolve itself, would go a long way toward reducing racism in America, and might actually put our nation on a path towards ending it entirely. This involves every American of any size, shape, age, skin color, national origin, gender, etc., to acknowledge that racism and bigotry exist, and that they ... we ... owing to both nature and nurture, are to some degree, guilty of one or both. If we can agree on the problem we can find a solution.

People saying the words, wearing the garments and/or carrying the trappings of racism and bigotry will look you in the eye and claim they're neither racists nor bigots, nor are they "anti-" any particular group. Instead, they'll say they're "pro-" their own group.

Possibly, they believe that. That's at least part of the problem.

When settlers arrived uninvited in Plymouth, Jamestown or wherever, they saw the indigenous people and branded them savages because they weren't white and Christian. Unfortunately, four hundred years later, not much has changed.

It's sad but we can't seem to get out of our own way on this issue.

The 'why' of the question – why some of us have this problem with people who are different – is likely answered in many different ways. It's always been the big question for me. What is there about "others" who don't look, speak or act as we do that so many of us find objectionable, or threatening? I understand people preferring the company of folks like themselves. I don't understand hating, or even behaving badly towards those who don't.

I'm not educated in the intricacies of

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## 'The Post Office Delivers My Vote'



On Saturday, Aug. 22 at 11 a.m. across the nation, people turned out to show support for the salvation of the United States Postal Service. In Highlands, the Indivisible Highlands group turned out in force complete with posters calling for action. They wore masks and maintained social distancing. — Photo by Kim Lewicki

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## ...WORKFORCE continued from page 1

Neal. “She shared that she loves the hospital and the people she works with, but she drives past two hospitals to come here and with two small children at home that extra 30-45 minutes each way is worth more to her right now to be with her family than coming to work at our facility.”

Another reason Neal wants housing is because he is looking to expand services at the hospital which means hiring more employees.

“We are looking to grow. We have strategic plans that call for us to fill the rest of our beds at the Eckerd Living Center. We currently have 60-65 residents and we are licensed for 80 beds.

“Also, we are ready to add services, specifically surgery. We are bringing out-patient orthopedic surgery back within the next six months and general surgery, too. Each of those new services call for new staff to add to our workforce. And the big challenge is housing,” he said.

The hospital owns a 9-acre parcel of land that runs from the west side of the hospital property to Buck Creek Road that is flat with minimal tree coverage. On it is an old construction road that accesses the hospital and the town’s water/sewer lines – access to which the hospital proper already has. One-, two- and three-bedroom apartments are envisioned.

Neal said having that additional road to the hospital is important because if US 64 is ever barred for some reason, EMS and employees could still get to the

hospital.

“Also, this road could be used by anyone coming to the hospital like vendors for supplies ... it would also decompress some of the traffic coming off US 64.”

Neal envisions a childcare center on the parcel, as well.

“Having daycare would open up the ability for our essential workers who are struggling due to the way the schools have been or to be able to come to work during times schools aren’t in session. This could also potentially benefit other workers in the community and not just healthcare workers,” he said.

The plan would entail executing a ground lease with an operating company that would develop the land and serve as the landlord for tenants.

“We are looking to develop a project that would service any of the workers who might come in whether entry level like house-keeping, kitchen and dietary, or professional staff in nursing or allied professions in the lab, X-rays, therapy or seasonal workers that might want to come in,” he said.

Though H-C Hospital’s turnover is 10.5% compared to other hospital’s turnover of 16% to 17%, over a two-year period, exit interviews were completed with 77% of team members who have

• See **WORKPLACE** page 16

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## It is a great time to list your house



**Carl Romberg, BIC**  
Landmark Realty Group

removal of moss from the roof, and trimming shrubbery and trees. Haul away firewood that has rotted or the grill that no longer works. Pressure wash decks and patios.

5) Plumbing – make sure all drains are operational and have any leaks repaired. If you have a plumber there, go ahead and put in a new kitchen or bath faucet.

6) Electrical – all outlets and lights should work. Be sure you have the proper bulbs in all fixtures. If you have an electrician out, re-

place any broken fixtures or update the most out of date light fixtures.

7) Walls, flooring and carpets – make sure they are all clean. Remove any outdated wallpaper or borders; re-paint any rooms that are not neutral. Ask if you should remove curtains, drapes or valances.

8) Clean, clean and keep it clean – wash windows, clean appliances, pay close attention to baths, showers and shower doors. Put out new or fresh towels, shower curtains and bed linens that are neutral and will appeal to buyers.

9) Remove 10 to 25% of the items in every room. Go ahead and pack up those photos and mementos from trips that you enjoy, so that they buyer can see the house rather than your personal items. Counters should be clear, curtains or blinds open. (No one has ever asked me to find them a house that is dark!)

10) Finally, talk to a reputable realtor (or more than one). Be sure and ask for a Market Analysis and inquire about how the home will be marketed. There are many good ones around, so find one that you feel will be honest with you and tell you what you need to do to sell.

For all those owners that have been on the fence as to if they should sell or not, I urge you to get the property in shape so that you can make that decision and move forward. If you decide not to sell your property will still be in great shape for you to enjoy.

• Carl Romberg is the Broker-in-Charge of Landmark Realty Group's Highlands Office. Landmark has been the firm with the largest volume of sales on the plateau each of the past 7 years. Carl can be reached at 678-936-9309 or [carl@landmarkrg.com](mailto:carl@landmarkrg.com).

Over the past few weeks all the writers of this column, including me, have been touting what a great real estate market we have. The sales volume is up, days on market declining and average sales price increasing. There are many instances where the property goes under contract immediately, there are multiple offers and there are back-up contracts. I think all agents have numerous buyers that are looking, but we are unable to locate suitable property due to low inventory. All these items point to the fact that it is a great time to sell your home if you have been considering it!

Even in a market like this, it is important to get your home ready to sell. This takes time, effort and money if you wish to get the most out of the sale. As I have written in the past, if you are not willing to do this, expect the sales price to reflect that. Here are my top ten items that should be addressed:

1) Have a professional home inspection which will identify issues that need to be corrected and you can arrange for repairs before listing. We still see deals fall apart after the inspections as buyers become worried about all the items that show up in the inspection. If it doesn't cause them to terminate the contract, they will often ask for the seller to make repairs or request a credit from the seller to have the repairs completed after closing. Ultimately the seller will end up paying for the repairs.

2) Water intrusion is a common problem that causes mold, and many buyers are now having mold inspections. If you know you have a problem, go ahead and have it corrected. Buyers notice immediately if there is a musty smell and sometimes turn and walk out of the house without looking. Mold remediation and crawlspace encapsulation will always return the investment.

3) Clean and organize closets, storage rooms and the garage. Go ahead and get rid of the items you are not planning to move and make it show that there is plenty of storage space.

4) Exterior maintenance including cleaning the gutters, washing the siding, re-



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## ...WORD MATTER from page 13

be truly leveled enabling all Americans to enjoy the blessings of liberty and opportunity until people begin to think and act differently towards fellow humans who happen to be different.

We can, however, with political courage and an elevated sense of what's right and wrong, close systemic gaps between races, nationalities and gender. If we start there, hearts, minds, attitudes and behaviors might just follow.

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## ...WORKFORCE from page 14

voluntarily left the hospital. The majority attribute the cost of living or the commute as a primary reason for leaving

The current vacancy rate at the hospital is 3.37% and Neal said the challenges with recruitment are related to remoteness and the high cost of living. The 2020 Median Home Cost for Highlands, NC is \$449,700. Plus 38% of the current workforce travels more than 25 miles to get to the hospital.

Members of the Town Board suggested renovating one of the Jane Woodruff buildings into an apartment complex but Neal said one building already has tenants and the other has potential tenants coming – particularly an out-patient orthopedic surgeon and a general surgeon as well as Pisgah Legal Services and Blue Ridge Care Clinic which is being funded by the Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation.

“Making those buildings into apartment buildings would not be wise if considering the success of HC Hospital,” said Neal. “These are excellent buildings for physicians to use and housing would be

against what we are trying to do which is to grow. We didn't get here over night and we won't be back overnight. That would hurt our ability to grow.”

Neal said HCA is spending money on HC Hospital and wants to see it grow and succeed.

“HCA is the strongest for-profit company in the country. They gave us \$5 million for capital funding; \$3.7 million for infrastructure upgrades – HVAC, billing automation, and the refreshing of elevators – and \$1 million to bring in new imaging technology like 3D mammography and to replace X-ray units.”

At Thursday's Town Board meeting, Mayor Pat Taylor said Neal's proposal is an initial rollout.

“There has been a lot of discussion in the community about workforce housing as a need. My view is we hear the presentation and then visit this at another meeting where we will then solicit public feedback and comment.”

– Kim Lewicki



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# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Until Death Do Us Part or Unholy Divorce



**Rector: Jim Murphy**  
Christ Anglican Church

Full transparency: I own and oftentimes wear a T-shirt that says: "My Faith and My Politics Cannot Be Separated." Additionally, the shirt references Psalm 33:12 which states, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." I agree passionately with the truth of God's Word. Someone once said, "Without walls we have no nation." I would trump that by saying that, "Without God we have no blessed nation." The Lord and Christian faith comprise the bedrock of America – from its founding, continuing through to the current day. Without him, we're toast! And the toast is starting to burn, literally and figuratively.

To wit: some of the sentiments expressed last year during the hearings to confirm or not the nomination of Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the U. S. Supreme Court are extremely troubling. In the hearings of the U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee, one such sentiment, promulgated by a current candidate for the vice presidency, was downright terrifying. She said something to the effect that people with deeply held religious faith or convictions should not be in positions of public trust. Really?

Does she not realize that she holds that opinion as a "religious conviction." She evidently has faith in its veracity. Can she not understand that everyone, every person on planet earth, has deeply held faith and convictions of some sort? It matters not whether we're speaking of paganism, relativism, progressivism, communism, conservatism, secularism or any "religion." They all attract faithful adherents who are convinced of their "correctness." They are all religions. They have faith in their positions or their "isms."

In a typical Christian marriage service, at the end of the portion that includes the "vows," the concluding phrase, the volitional seal is "until death do us part." The meaning is that the vows expressed, the joining together of two to become one, is meant to endure until the husband or wife dies. There is quantifiable value in bond of Holy Matrimony. It is indissoluble with rare exceptions and then with tangible, everlasting damage to individuals and relationships.

Honestly held Christian faith and love have been eroding away in America for decades. In this awesome nation we are now faced with a question. Are we or will we officially finalize a divorce from God? The once strong, vibrant relationship with our heavenly Father has been subsumed by our fixation on secularism, the attitude of "what's in it for me?" Loving God and our neighbor as ourselves, the trumpet call of the Bible, has become but a quaint relic. It has been ignored or reinterpreted so as to render it mean-

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 18

## 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

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Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

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Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

9:30a Early Service; 11a Worship Service;

### 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.

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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.

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Pastor Gary Hewins

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Sun.; Tues: Community Supper 5:30 followed by Bible Study.

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Morning Prayer Weekdays on Facebook live at 8:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist at noon in the garden on Mondays and

Wednesdays

### 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

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Wed: Choir: 6p

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### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glensville, 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

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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)

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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

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Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

## Highlands 'Walk of Honor' bricks are available

By **Tim Moseley**  
Post Information Officer

Located on Oak Street just behind Town Hall is a hidden jewel of a park known as the Highlands Veterans Plaza. It was created to honor the men and women who currently or have

served in our nations armed forces. One of the primary features of the plaza is the Walk of Honor, a gently curving pathway of brick pavers. Many of the bricks are already inscribed with a name in memory or honor of a local military service member. There are

currently a few hundred inscribed bricks with room for hundreds more.

Do you know a local veteran or active duty service member that you would like to honor? Order forms are available in a kiosk at the Veterans Plaza, or you can reach out to the Highlands American Legion Post 370 at [NCPost370@gmail.com](mailto:NCPost370@gmail.com) today. The Post must receive the orders by Labor Day, September 7, in order to have the bricks ready for installation before the Veterans Day ceremony.



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### ...HOSPITAL NEWS continued from page 11

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, the Eckerd Living Center, and all of our affiliated practices, as per recommendations from HCA and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We encourage you to continue practicing the "Three Ws:" wearing a mask, waiting so you can keep at least six feet of distance between you and others, and washing your hands frequently. These three simple things have proven to be the most potent measures we

can take to prevent the spread of the virus.

• Tom Neal, RN, MBA, MHA, is the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Neal is a proven leader with more than 30 years of progressive healthcare experience. Prior to his role at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, he held the position of Chief Executive Officer of Community Health Systems (CHS) and

served as Chief Executive Officer of both Berwick Hospital Center in Berwick, Pennsylvania, and Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, Roncoveverte, West Virginia. Tom has an MBA from the University of Louisville, MHA from the California College of Health Sciences, BSN from Regents College of New York and an ADN from Jefferson Community College.

### ...INK PENN continued from page 12

are selling our work. Reviews are invaluable in helping us do that. They help prospective readers make informed decisions about buying our books.

Q: If you could spend one hour with a reader, what would you want to talk about?

A: I'd like to hear how they feel about my characters. The villagers and the trio of main characters in my books have become my friends. How would readers like to see them grow or develop? Would they like to meet them and spend time with them? One reader wrote

that Belle, the eldest character, reminded her of her grandmother. That made my day.

Author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her Dickens & Christie cozy mystery series on Amazon. Contact her at [inkpenn119@gmail.com](mailto:inkpenn119@gmail.com).

### ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 17

ingless.

It's no accident that church is metaphorically referred to as "the bride of Christ." Then too, God is jealous for the nation of Israel, his Chosen People, as a husband is protective of his wife. Love flows in a healthy, interpersonal love relationship between spouses. We might say, along with the bible's sentiment, that blessedness flows in a marriage. Will we as a nation divorce ourselves from Jesus be-

fore the wedding takes place?

In the final chapter of the bible's Book of Joshua, the nation's leader infers that it's nearly impossible to faithfully follow God. Nevertheless, he commits himself and his family to serving Jehovah. It was an easy choice for Joshua and he invites the entire nation to follow him on the journey of blessedness with the words "Choose you this day whom you will serve. (cf Joshua 24) Then

too, Jesus lays it on the line for everyone. In the sixth chapter of Matthew he remarks, "You cannot serve God and money." There are still only two choices: loving and serving God or focusing on anything else. America is faced with a supremely important decision at this point in our history. Choose you this day... as for me and my house, we'll serve the Lord.

# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands Police entries from Aug. 5. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

## Aug. 5

• At 2:41 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on US 64 and NC 28.

## Aug. 13

• At 4:30 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on US 64 west and Chowan.

## Aug. 14

• At 12:10 p.m., officers received a report of littering at a specialty store on NC 106 where someone removed trash from the can and left it on the ground.

## Aug. 15

• At 10:58 p.m., officers responded to a 1-vehicle accident on NC 106 and Upper Buttermilk Road.

• At 11 a.m., officers responded to a 1-vehicle accident on Ravanel Ridge Road.

## Aug. 19

• At 3:30 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

## Aug. 20

• At 7 a.m., officers responded to a call of a burglary/breaking & entering at a residence on US 64 west where electronics valued at \$750 were taken.

## Aug. 21

• At 6:58 p.m., officers responded to a call of a breaking & entering, theft from a building and vandalism of property involving the front door,

a refrigerator, a mattress and box spring and refrigerated food items at a residence on US 64 west.

## Aug. 22

• At 11:35 a.m., officers responded to a call about a trash can shed being knocked over at a residence on US 64 west.

## Aug. 23

• At 3:27 p.m., officers received a report of a simple assault of an 83-year-old woman at a residence on Brock Court.

• At 4:42 p.m., Cynthia Sue Ricafort, 57, of Highlands, was arrested at Highlands Inn for simple assault. She was issued a \$500 secured bond. Her trial date is Sept. 9.

## Aug. 24

• At 3 a.m., the dept. was called to assist Cashiers FD but the call was cancelled.

• At 11:41 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Chestnut Street.

## Aug. 25

• At 6:19 a.m., the dept. responded to a first alarm at a residence on Chestnut Trail

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Aug. 18.**

## Aug. 18

• At 2:30 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Spring Street.

At 4:14 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Spruce Street.

## Aug. 19

At 7:11 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Big

View Drive.

At 2:03 p.m. the dept. investigated smoke on N. 4th Street.

## Aug. 20

At 9:26 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance to a location on N. 5th Street.

## Aug. 21

At 3 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Birch Point.

## Aug. 23

At 8:41 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

At 2:50 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Song Bird Lane.

At 3:25 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Brock Court.

At 6:41 p.m., the dept. was called to help Cashiers on Whiteside Mountain Road, but the call was cancelled.

At 9:05 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Buck Creek Road.

## Aug. 24

At 3 a.m., the dept. was called to assist Cashiers FD but the call was cancelled.

At 11:41 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Chestnut Street.

## Aug. 25

• At 6:19 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Clubhouse Trail but it was cancelled.

## The Bookworm is open!

The Bookworm is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11-3 and accepts donations of more than 10 books by appointment only. For appointments, please call the Library at 828-526-3031 and they will tell you who to call for an appointment. Fewer than 10 books are happily accepted during regular business hours. All COVID safety protocols are followed, including required masks and sanitizer, social distancing, and only six patrons are allowed in to shop at one time.

Please enjoy the ritual of visiting the Bookworm to see all it has to offer and what might be new. There is nothing like walking into a bookstore with the familiar smell of bound books, the sometimes creak of the floor, and a world of offerings: from vintage books, to literature classics, to fiction, to mystery, to biography, to history, to religion, to gardening, to stunning coffee table treasures, and so much more. Our books

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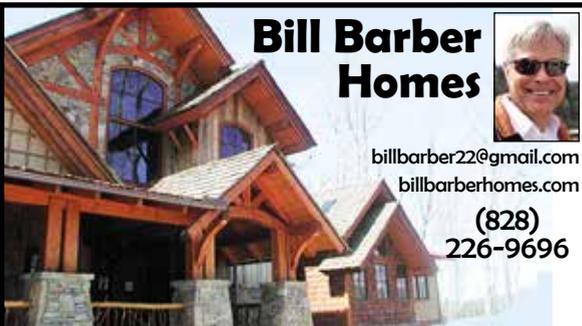
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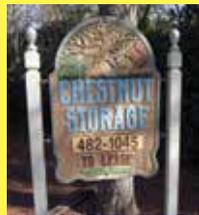
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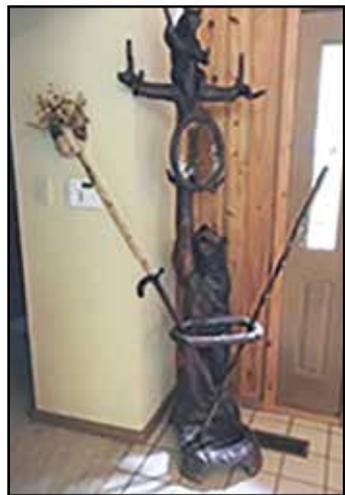


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# • CLASSIFIEDS •

**HUGE ESTATE SALES SATURDAY & SUNDAY, AUG. 29 & AUG. 30, 9AM - 3PM,** 580 Hickory Street, No Early Birds - Face Masks Required, **CASH ONLY.** We've added even more items to last week's blowout sale, and cut prices even more! Sale includes furniture, tools, crystal, china, antiques, car buff collectibles, garden decor, holiday decorations, vintage toys, kitchenware, and more! See updated photos on Facebook Market Place for details.



**AUG 27-30, THURS-SAT. 9-5, SUN 12-5 - VFW 4012 HWY. 107 N. - GLENVILLE, NC FOLLOW SIGNS - English, French, American Antiques Upholstered Furniture, Black Forrest, Copper, Porcelains, Glassware, Lamps, Art, Kitchen, Tools, Linens, TONS MORE! Checks, Cash, Credit Cards accepted, Delivery Available, Masks Required. See www.estatesales.net**

**FOR SALE LIKE NEW FURNITURE.** Desk with chair, end table, queen sleeper sofa, 5X8 rug. 404-983-5271. (st. 8/27)

**SOLOFLEX HOME GYM** with butterfly, and leg attachments. List price is \$3,380, asking \$1,000 OBO. 434-242-1174 (st. 5/21)

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** Call or text Matt at 706-239-0880. (st. 9/26/19)

**WANTED LOOKING FOR A TEACHER/TUTOR** for a 4th grader, high functioning special needs child who is 10 years old. Will need from first week of Sep til first week of Dec, we live in Mountain Top, time flexible. Please

call 305.766.1250 or email alma@keratherapy.com. (st. 8/27)

**WE BUY GOLD, SILVER, AND ESTATE JEWELRY.** Estate Jewelry of Highlands. 828-526-1960, EJOHighlands@gmail.com. 360 Main St, Highlands. (st. 8/20)

**LOCAL RESIDENTS LOOKING FOR HOUSE** to rent at reasonable price. At least two bedrooms, must allow pets. Need ASAP. Call/Text 828-200-0397 (st. 7/30).

**COMIC BOOKS - Buy / Sell.** Call Bob @ 302-530-1109 (9/24)

**TO BUY COLT PYTHON. THE OLDER THE BETTER.** Call 526-9803. (st. 7/2)

**FULL HOUSE GALLERY** in Highlands Plaza is accepting CONSIGNMENT FURNITURE. Please call or text Susan at 828-526-6004. (st. 3/19)

**WANTED TO BUY: US & Foreign COINS & CURRENCY.** Top prices paid, free appraisals, call Dan at 828-421-1616 or email danhazazer@gmail.com (8/13)

**HELP WANTED ELECTRICIANS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY.** Top pay and benefits. 828-526-5147. (st. 8/27)

**POTPOURRI STORES IN HIGHLANDS** looking for full-time and part-time sales associates. Looking for motive people to join our team and grow with us. This job require to work all weekends. Please email your resume to potpourrihighlands@yahoo.com or stop at Potpourri 2 for an application. (st. 8/27)

**THE DRY SINK IN HIGHLANDS** is hiring for full or part time sales positions for the 2020 fall/christmas season. We're looking for team oriented people who can offer great customer service to our fine customers. If you are friendly, detail oriented, like helping others, enjoy cooking, gadgets, and lots of interesting merchandise, come by and fill out an application, or submit information to: contact\_us@thedrysink.com. Jobs available now (st. 8/20).

**HIGHLANDER MOUNTAIN HOUSE RESTAURANT/INN STAFF NEEDED!** All positions including waitstaff, kitchen and housekeeping. Call 828-526-2590 or email your resume to info@highlandermountainhouse.com (Formerly Main Street Inn) (st. 8/13)

**HIGHLANDS DELI** is hiring kitchen staff, starting immediately for the summer and fall. Please pick up applications at SweetTreats/Highlands Deli - 115 S 4th Street. (st. 8/13)

**WOLFGANGS** is looking for a Line Cook with a solid track record for dinner prep and service. Need to be creative. Also waitstaff, baker. Best award of Wine Spectator. Please email mindygreen@me.com for either position. (st. 5/28)

**THE LOG CABIN** restaurant, downtown Highlands, is hiring all positions including sous chef, front of house manager, servers, line cooks and handyman/landscaper to start immediately. Call 828 526-5777 or email jason@logcabinhighlands.com. (st. 6/11)

**LUXURY LODGE MANAGER** needed for live in position. Prefer a local couple/individual to entertain, offer cooking classes and maintain facility while enjoying living in an exceptional facility. Must have impeccable references and some experience in hospitality/maintenance. mrpaulkrk@yahoo.com. (st. 6/11)

**LOCAL TREE COMPANY HIRING** - Jesse's Tree Service, LLC, local to the Highlands, NC area is seeking both tree climbers and grounds/cleanup crew. Pat experience a plus but company will train. Salary is based on experience. We are looking for reliable, drug-free, hard working individuals. Driver's license and a clean driving record a plus. If interested, please call owner, Jesse Finley at 828-342-1974 to set up an interview. (8/13)

**NOW HIRING PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME ASSOCIATES FOR RETAIL STORE.** Must be willing to work weekends and holidays. Call Shannon at 526-8864 or email Shannon@dutchmansdesigns.com (st. 6/4)

**NOW HIRING AT WILD THYME.** We are looking for a sous chef, waitstaff, dishwasher and hostess. Must have positive attitude and reliable transportation. Apply in person at Wild Thyme Gourmet in Town Square on Main Street in Highlands. Please no phone calls. (st. 5/28)

**OLD EDWARDS HOSPITALITY GROUP,** Highlands North Carolina is currently recruiting for the following positions: Servers, Bartenders, Host/Hostess,

Bussers, Sous Chef, Cook, Pastry Cook, Dishwashers, Housekeepers, Houseman, Laundry, Turndown Attendants, Reservations, Bellman, Night Auditor, Fitness Manager, Spa Attendants, Pool Attendants, Spa Concierge, Cosmetologist, Licensed Massage Therapist, Gardener's Assistants.

**JOIN OUR TEAM!** Nectar Juice Bar (located inside Whole Life Market) is now hiring! Are you looking for a fun, healthy-minded individual looking for full-time, year-round work? Experience is not necessary, but kitchen or barista skills a plus. Competitive pay! Apply at Whole Life Market, 680 N. 4th St., Highlands.

**CHESTNUT HILL** is an upscale Assisted Living Community in search of a Dietary Cook, CNAs, Med Techs, Wait Staff and Housekeeping. Send resume to Lindabtruff@aol.com or call 828-526-5251. (st. 2/13)

**RANDEVU NOW HIRING** - Line Cook, Waitstaff and Hostess. Please call 828-743-0190. (2/27)

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

**SERVICES GUTTER CLEANING, METAL ROOF & FABRICATION** roof repairs, chimney flashing, debris removal, pressure washing. Call 371-1103. (st. 6/27/19)

**I INSTALL TILE! TILE** is Healthy & Non-Toxic. Specializing in Shower/Bathroom, Kitchen/Backslashes, Entrance Ways/Patios & Flooring. 25yrs experience. Also offer grout cleaning. Licensed & Insured. Mike Bertone/Owner of Bertone Tile Design & Flooring LLC. 828-526-4943 or text: 321-303-7560. (8/27)

**HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDYMAN:** Repairs, remodeling, painting, pressure washing, minor plumbing and electric, decks and additions. Free Estimates. Insured. Call 828-200-4071. (6/11)

**HIGHLANDS HANDI-MAN** - Can fix anything inside or out. Carpentry, Interior and exterior painting, pressure washing, lawn care, hauling, and will monitor house during winter. Free Estimates. References. Call Tony, 828-200-5770

or 828-482-0159. (st. 3/26)

**HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEVIN VINSON:** 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. 6/4)

**REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**4 BEDROOM 1 BATH HOUSE** 5 miles from downtown Highlands 1,200/month 828-200-4312. (st. 8/27)

**ROOM FOR RENT** - Spacious Scaly Mountain Home w/ caring roommates. \$500/month. 610.955.9356. (st. 7/9)

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**



**FOR SALE BY OWNERS:** 2 Units in Town Place Condos, Highlands; Walk to Town! One upper and one lower. \$865,000 each. Check listings on Zillow: 41 & 45 Brock Court. (704) 641-3267 or (205) 602-6503. (9/17)

**BY OWNER** - Nice year-round 3BR/3BA home. Excellent view of lake. Adjacent to Lakeside Park in Rocky Knob. 3,700' elevation. 7 miles from Highlands on the Atlanta side. Gated and paved road. \$659,000. Call 888-706-4551. (9/10)

**HIGHLANDS CONDO** - 1 bed plus bonus room with 2 bathrooms, activity room, one-car garage. 239-597-2959. (st. 7/16)

**5 LOTS. 3.22 ACRES.** Borders NSFS. VIEWS. Well, septic, utilities, roads installed. PRIVATE. Multiple exit/entry. 2/2 residence. asking \$186,000 Call 828.482.2050.

**SIX ACRES ON BUCK CREEK ROAD** behind Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Sign on property. 843-460-8015. (st. 5/30)

**2/2 CLAYTON HOME IN LOWER CLEAR CREEK.** 1+acre, Private. View. \$118,000. Call 706.782.9728 (st. 9/5)

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