

Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 17, Number 38 Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com Thursday, Sept. 17 2020

Inmate dies in transport to hospital

Emergency Personnel in Macon County responded to the Macon County Detention Center on Wednesday, September 9, to an inmate needing medical attention. The inmate, now identified as

Wade Ennis, 60, was transported to the hospital where he later died.

According to Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland, Ennia, a Highlands resident, complained of feeling sick while in custody at Ma-

con County Detention Center in Wednesday. Ennis was evaluated by Detention Center medical personnel who determined he should be immediately transported to An-

• See **INMATE** page 19

Rec Park facilities are open

Restrictions apply

By Brian O'Shea
Plateau Daily News

Highlands Recreation Department exercise facilities in the Community Building are once again open during regular hours of operation. This includes the cardio/weight machine room, the free weight room, the stage, and the gymnasium.

The exercise areas were reopened on Tuesday and Highlands Rec Director Lester Norris said they wanted to wait until after the busy Labor Day weekend.

"We figured we'd be really crowded over the weekend, so we let the crowds head out before opening up," said Norris. "And we wanted all of the staff there to see how things would go. Make sure everyone knows how to sign people in, register, and properly disinfect."

• See **REC PARK** page 14

A Sept. 11, 2001 tribute; a message for today



Students at Highlands Community Child Care Development Center created this quilt after 9-11-2001. The motto speaks to us today. On that day 19 years ago, perpetrators aside, Americans of every color, creed and nationality died. But together we stand. America's democracy continues to protect and uplift all. To do so, the rules and regulations put in place to keep our democracy intact must be adhered to and respected by all, for all. Hand in Hand; Together We Stand. The quilt is hanging in The Toy Store on Main Street.

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Remnants of Hurricane Sally headed this way

Town crews prepare; reinforcements on stand-by

All weather projections show Highlands somewhere within the rain swath of Hurricane Sally early Friday morning as she travels northeast after making landfall on the on the Alabama coast early Wednesday morning night.

It won't be categorized as a hurricane when it comes through Western North Carolina nor will the area feel its full fury, but even wind accompanied by rain could cause havoc since ongoing rain

• See **SALLY** page 14

You can and should vote ... but only once

The following is a message to North Carolina voters from Karen Brinson Bell, executive director of the North Carolina State Board of Elections:

It is illegal to vote twice in an election. N.C.G.S. § 163-275(7) makes it a Class I felony for a voter, "with intent to commit a fraud to register or vote at more than one precinct or more than one time... in the same primary or election." Attempting to vote twice in an election or soliciting someone to do so also is a violation of North Carolina law.

There are numerous checks in place in North Carolina that prevent people from double voting. Electronic pollbooks with information about who has already voted are used at every early voting site. If a voter tries to check in who has already voted, they will be prevented from voting a regular ballot. A voter will be offered a provisional ballot if they insist on voting, and this ballot will be

• See **VOTE** page 6

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Hybrid Town Board meeting tonight

The September meeting of the Highlands Town Board is tonight at 7pm. It is a hybrid meeting so to speak, in that it will be both a ZOOM and in-person meeting. The ZOOM log on information is posted on the town website.



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

Along with several commissioners, I will meet in person at the Highlands Conference Center where we will also ZOOM. The public can join us at the Highlands Conference Center so long as masks are worn and social distancing practiced.

We have a full agenda for tonight's meeting. The first item will be a public hearing for rezoning the recently purchased property on US 64 for the new fire department. The rezone will be to change the current B-3 designation to GI which is governmental/institutional.

Another agenda item will be the review of the fire department construction bids. Our construction representative has bids from subcontractors for all phases of construction. The board will review these bids and the guaranteed maximum price for the new

facility. The board will also review the final subdivision plat for the Bearmor Subdivision on Big Bear Pen Road. Town engineer will make a report on the status of the project and his recommendation.

A major agenda item will be the Highlands Cashiers Hospital request for water and sewer for workforce housing. Tom Neal made an initial presentation at the August board meeting. Fur-

ther details will be presented followed by what I anticipate will be a lengthy discussion. A board decision could come at the end of this review.

Our recreation director, Lester Norris, will be reviewing several items including opening the ice skating rink. Lester will also present a proposal to covert two tennis courts to six pickle ball courts. Two newly resurface tennis courts would remain.

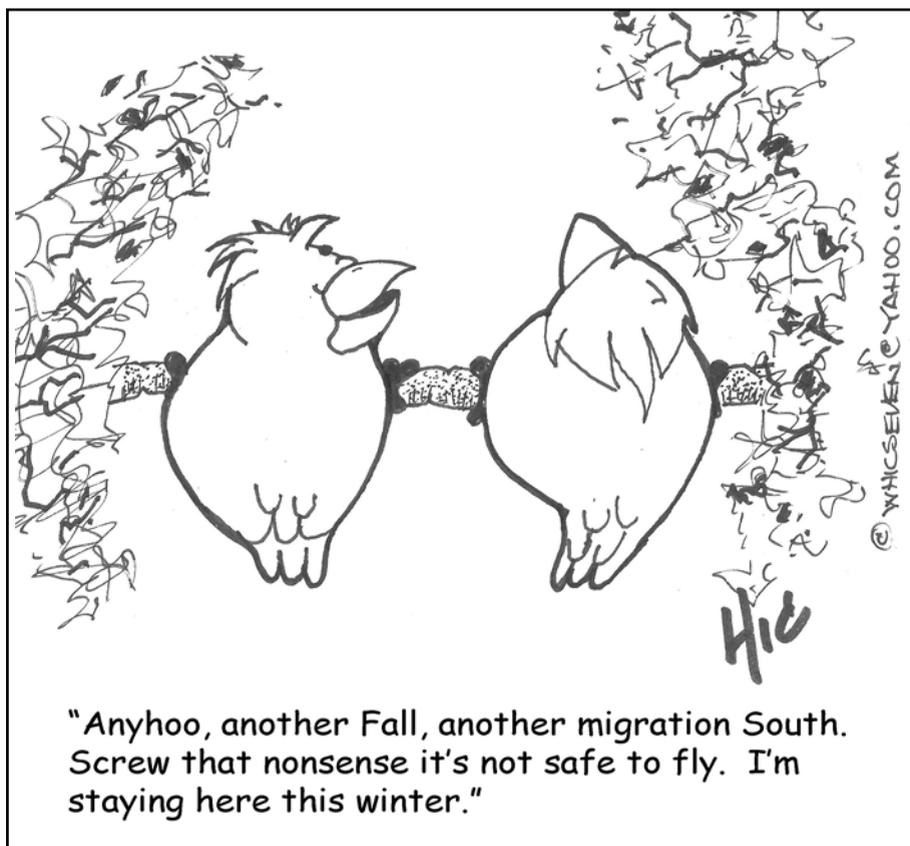
Kaye McHan of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce will update the board on impending community events sponsored by the chamber. The status of the Halloween event, the town lighting and the Christmas parade will be reviewed.

I have been gratified to see several community events move forward by modifying operational procedures. The recent art show is a prime example. We have the Dahlia Festival this weekend, where flowers will be displayed throughout the community.

The Highlands Motoring Festival had to cancel their show in June, but developed a limited but very successful car event this past weekend. Car enthusiasts participated in tours around the plateau. I had the honor of welcoming participants on Friday morning. To support the nonprofits that the car show normally benefits, please go the Highlands Motoring Festival website and make a contribution as I did before welcoming participants.

On social media there is a photo of me speaking to the participants while not wearing a mask. Since there was no AV system, I took off my mask to make a three-minute presentation. I put it back on afterwards. The only other time I do not wear a mask is when I am road running in neighborhoods outside the business area.

• HIC'S VIEW •



"Anyhoo, another Fall, another migration South. Screw that nonsense it's not safe to fly. I'm staying here this winter."

• WEATHER •

Thu, 17-Sep	Fri, 18-Sep	Sat, 19-Sep	Sun, 20-Sep
 65°F 58°F	 71°F 52°F	 66°F 42°F	 66°F 38°F
Tropical Rainstorm Sally	Mostly cloudy	Times of clouds and sun	Abundant sunshine
RealFeel® High: 66° Low: 58°	RealFeel® High: 71° Low: 60°	RealFeel® High: 72° Low: 55°	RealFeel® High: 73° Low: 47°

For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to www.highlandinfo.com and click on Weather

Highlands Newspaper

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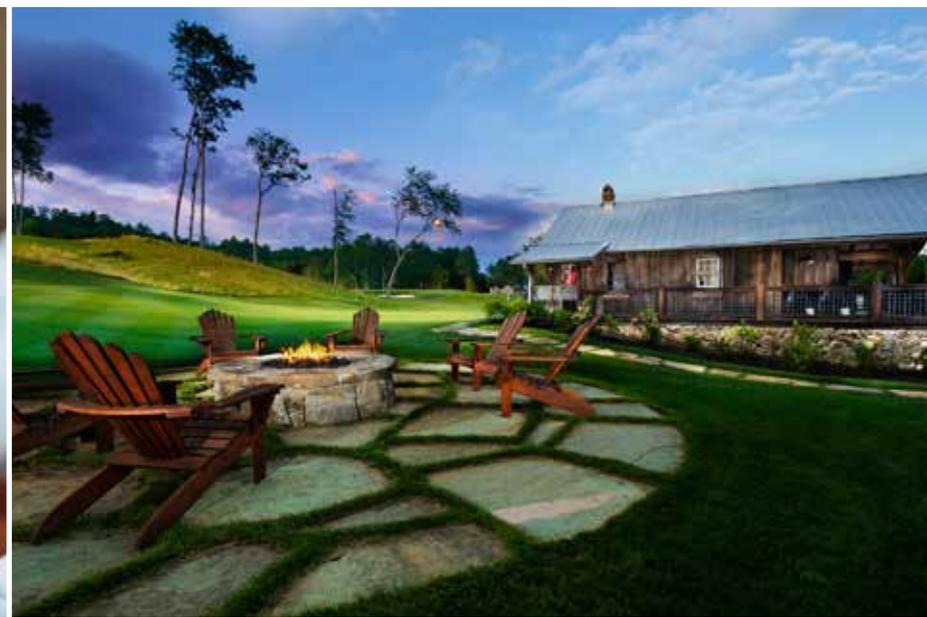
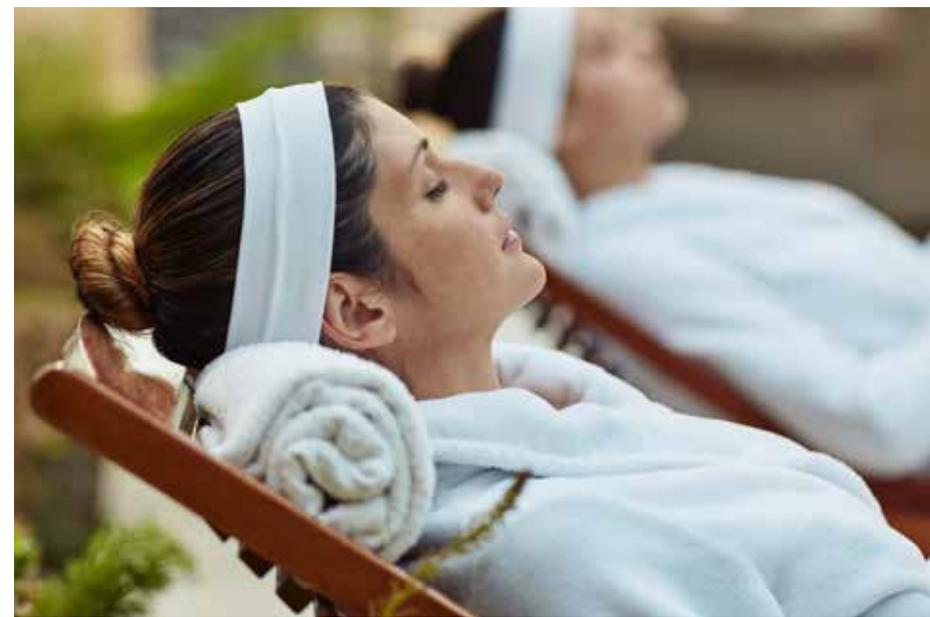
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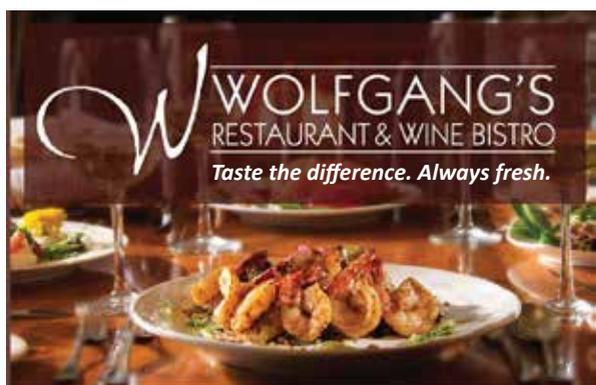
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• LETTERS •

Voting Advice

Dear Editor,

Recently North Carolina voters were given the “suggestion” that we should vote twice – return our absentee ballots and then go to our polling place and vote in-person as an experiment.

This is extremely bad advice. Following it could get you in a heap of trouble! Voting more than once is a felony!

This election has the best chance of going smoothly if we all understand the rules and follow them. If you want to know whether your absentee ballot has been received and counted you can track it two different ways. You can call your local board of elections – for Highlands that would be Macon County Board

of Elections (828-349-2034) or you can track it via a new app that will be available soon called BallotTrax. Go on-line to ncsbe.gov for more information about how to access that portal. Understand the rules, make your plan and vote!

**Vivian Brewer
 Highlands**

Remembering Ann Landers

Dear Editor,

I miss Ann Landers. Her real name was Ester “Eppie” Friedman. She was born July 4, 1918 in Sioux City, Iowa. She had a twin sister that later became “Dear Abby.”

In 1955 when she was 37 years old, she entered a contest put on by “The Chicago Sun Times” to see who would take the place of the original “Ann Landers,” who had recently passed away. Of course, she won the contest. About two years after she became the new “Ann Landers” her sister started a “Dear Abby” column. This really upset Ann Landers,

she didn’t think it was right for her sister to go in competition with her. However, they soon got that resolved and like most twins they were very, very close.

“Dear Abby” though, never reached the popularity and status of “Ann Landers.” “Ann Landers” became the number one columnist in the world.

She wrote six best-selling books. My favorite was “Wake Up and Smell the Coffee.” She was on 2 presidential councils - President Nixon and President Carter. “Psychology Today” said she helped more people solve their problems than anyone ever had, and “The World Almanac” said she was the most influential woman in America. Before she died, she was receiving over 2000 letters every day.

I just want to share with you one of those letters.

“Dear Ann Landers, I am a boy 12 years of age. I recently did something my parents did not think was right and the punishment was they made me stay home from a ball game I was dying to see. The tickets were already bought so

they took my cousin instead of me. It was the worst day of my life. I thought they were terrible to treat me so bad. So, I decided to pack my suitcase and run away. I finished packing and thought maybe I ought to write a goodbye note. I wanted my parents to know why I was running away. As I was writing, I thought about all kinds of things. I then thought to be fair, I should thank them for the nice things they had done for me. It seemed like more than I could count. I then thought I should apologize for a few things I had done that was not right. It seemed like an awful lot of them.

I finished writing, unpacked my suitcase then tore up what I wrote. I hope all kids that think they want to run away from home will sit down and write their parents a note like I did, then maybe they won't go.”

Signed “A Rotten Kid.”

Ann Landers wrote back, Dear Kid, you don’t sound so rotten to me, as a matter of fact, you sound like the kind of kid I would love to have as my own.

**Kenny Youmans
 Highlands**

...VOTE continued from page 1

researched after Election Day to determine whether it should be counted.

On Election Day, voters who have voted absentee are removed from the pollbook, which is updated before voting starts at 6:30 a.m. Absentee ballots that are received on Election Day are not counted until after the election, and this prevents double voting.

Also, the State Board con-

ducts audits after each election that check voter history against ballots cast and would detect if someone tries to vote more than once in an election. Because absentee ballots and early voting ballots are retrievable, if someone tries to get around the system, their ballot can be retrieved and not counted, so it will not af-

• See VOTE page 7

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...VOTE continued from page 6

fect the outcome of an election.

The State Board has a dedicated investigations team that investigates allegations of double voting, which are referred to prosecutors when warranted.

If you request an absentee by-mail ballot but decide later that you would like to vote in person instead, you may. You should discard your absentee ballot. Do not send it back in.

If you have already placed your ballot in the mail but are not sure whether it has been accepted by your county board of elections, North Carolina offers a few ways to check the status of your absentee by-mail ballot without leaving your home.

Voters can:

Check your voter record at the State Board's Voter Search Tool to find out whether your ballot was accepted by your county board of elections. This information will appear in the voter record after a ballot has been accepted.

Sign up for BallotTrax, when it launches in the next few days, to track your ballot through the system. BallotTrax is a new service that will allow voters to track their ballot through the mail and confirm receipt by the county board of elections, much like they can track their online order or pizza delivery. When it launches, a link will be available at NCSBE.gov.

Contact the Macon County Board of Elections if you have questions about your ballot status -- 828-349-2034.

The State Board office strongly discourages people from showing up at the polls on Election Day to check whether their absentee ballot was counted. That is not necessary, and it would lead to longer lines and the possibility of spreading COVID-19.

North Carolina elections officials encourage voters to request their ballot as soon as possible and return it as soon as they are ready to do so. By doing so, you can track your ballot and ensure your vote counts.

Early voting begins on October 15-October 31

There will have two locations: The Highlands Civic Center and the Macon County Robert Carpenter Community Building. Hours will be Monday-Friday 8am-7:30pm, open the first two Saturdays from 8am-6pm and the last Saturday 8am-3pm.

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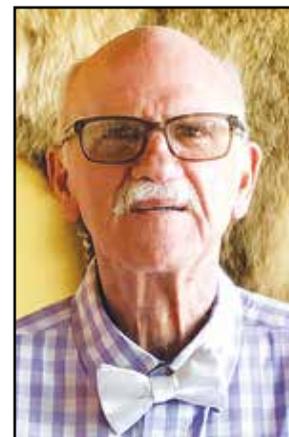
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• OBITUARIES •

Clifford Talley



On September 9, 2020, Clifford Talley went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Cliff's time on Earth was well spent, and he enjoyed the life he was given. He loved horses, trail riding, and just being outdoors.

A native Highlander, he liked working in his yard which always showed the care he gave it. Cliff served in the United States Navy and received an honorable discharge.

His career with Verizon lasted for 35 years. A member of Shortoff Baptist Church, Cliff was one of the most personable, laid back people you'd ever want to meet. He was able to make friends from all walks of life wherever he went. He was a special person who was dearly loved by his family, his friends, and his coworkers. He was especially proud of his grandsons that knew him as Buddy and even with Parkinson's, they were the two he always recognized.

Cliff's commitment to his family was evident. He was devoted to his wife of 43 years, Jearlene Davis Talley; his daughter, Niki Talley Bloedow (Steven) of Highlands; and his grandchildren, Coby Bloedow and Colson Bloedow, all of whom survive. He

is also survived by his siblings, Eva Talley Marshall of Mt. Kisco, NY; Charles Talley of State Road, NC; and Beatrice Talley Ruhl (John) of Newport, NC, along with a number of nieces and nephews.

Cliff, who was born on April 15, 1942, was predeceased by his parents, Marcus Leonard Talley and Charlotte Lydia Keener Talley, and by five siblings: Sarah Davis, Gordon Talley, Lewis Talley, Berta Lee Durci, and

Martha Reese.

Cliff's family thanks the staff of The Franklin House for the excellent care they provided during Cliff's last days. It was difficult, but his family now rests assured in Cliff's complete healing and are grateful for the time they had with him.

There are no services planned at this time. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Burial will be at Oconee Memorial Park in Seneca, SC. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Highlands United Methodist Church Youth Fund, PO Box 1959, Highlands, NC, 28741.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve Cliff's family.

Online condolences may be made at www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com

Pearle Rogers Lambert



A pillar of our Highlands Community was sadly lost on Monday, August 31, 2020, when Pearle Rogers Lambert passed away. She had spent more than 100 years making this world a better place and will be deeply missed by her family, friends and all who knew her. Pearle was born in Scaly Mountain on November 14, 1919 to the late Henry & Lonnie (Mason) Carpenter.

She attended school at Tamasee DAR and went on to Anderson College. She was married to the late Arthur "Dusty" Rogers, who preceded her February of 1967.

Pearle worked at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for 34 years in many different positions including Nurse, X-Ray Tech-

nician and Central Supplies, and assisted with the delivery of many local babies at the former hospital on 5th Street.

Upon retirement, it was often said that (HCH) had to hire three people to fill her position. She was quite a jewel and always did her job with a caring heart, she loved people and people loved her.

Known to many as "Mamaw" or "Grandma Rogers," she loved to babysit for family and friends. She could be seen, as recently as this past year, walking around her block with her great-granddaughter, Braylee.

Pearle was a member of The First Baptist Church of Highlands.

• See OBITUARIES page 19



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• WORD MATTER •

Words Matter

When I retired in March of 2011 I had a sense of how I'd spend my time in the gentle wake of a hectic, sometimes exhausting career. First, I'd finish college. Second, I'd write.

From August of 2011 through May of 2014 I matriculated at Western Carolina University and collected a Bachelor of Arts in English. Since graduation, I've written three novels, two novellas, a dozen and a half short stories, and approximately 125 or so Word Matter columns for the Highlands Newspaper.

This is my last contribution to Word Matter.

It's not that in the two and a half years I've been doing this I've said everything about everything. Even a verbose one, like me, can never entirely say it all. In this life, especially in this year, there's a lot to be said about a whole range of things. So, no. It's not that.

I'm working on a sizable project – a biography, in fact – and I simply need to focus my attention there.

Writing, for me, isn't something that I do. The truth is, writing is who I am. The time I get to spend – invest is a more appropriate word – in front of a blank screen is precious. Expression is precious. Words are precious. Properly assembled, words can, in certain circumstances, move things, and can even move some people.

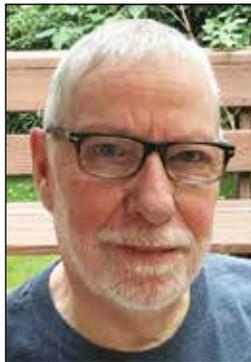
My obsession with words is nearly absolute.

Pre-Covid-19, I met weekly, in person, with a glorious gaggle of fellow writers. We gather via Zoom these days, when I can make the darned thing work, but most of us can't wait until we can be in one another's physical presence again. What do we do when we're together? We share our words with one another.

Pre-Covid-19, I also volunteered at The Bookworm, the used bookstore associated with the Hudson Library. I can't be certain, but there are, within the hallowed halls of The Bookworm (located at 555 Main Street, next door to Highlands Hiker, and open for business Thursdays through Saturdays these days), a few billion words inside thousands of books, glorious books!

Do you see the trend here? Or a sickness, perhaps?

As I write this, I'm wearing a t-shirt, on which is emblazoned, "I am a writer. Anything you say or do may be used in a story."



Bud Katz

I know. Pretty bad.

As you are aware, Highlands Newspaper is available FREE to its readers. It is supported by advertisers, who rely on readers to patronize their businesses and organizations. I strongly encourage you, dear readers, to do just that.

One of the most important aspects of life in these United States is a centuries-long tradition and commitment to free speech. Nothing in American society says "free

speech" better or louder than a newspaper available to its readers for free. That includes free physical newspapers in green boxes throughout our community and along the plateau, as well as free online at highland-sinfo.com.

As I turn my attention more fully towards the biography I've been asked to write for a dear and long-term friend, associate, colleague and former employer, I petition those of you who have done me and the paper the honor of reading, and hopefully enjoying our words, to also patronize the businesses that support Highlands Newspaper with their advertising dollars. Please, visit and leave a few of your own dollars with them.

These are, sorry for the hackneyed word, unprecedented times. I've written about little else over the past six months than this infernal virus and what I believe to be its enormous and unfortunately, enduring impact on all of our lives.

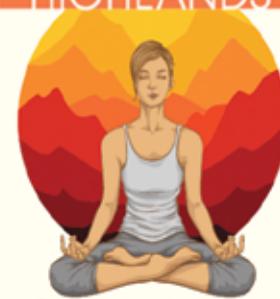
Don't get caught up in small percentages; the effects of this novel coronavirus, which causes the condition currently called Covid-19, on both the public's health and on our local and national economy, will be with us for years, if not forever. At this writing, it has infected over six million Americans and has killed almost two hundred thousand.

Those few things we can control these days include where we get our words and where we place our treasure. My closing plea is for everyone to be judicious with where we obtain our information and what we do with the information that informs our opinions.

Thanks, Kim and Jim Lewicki, for the honor of allowing me to place my words on your pages. Thanks, readers, for your feedback, both positive and negative, and, thanks, Highlands, for providing sanctuary to this word freak and his family.

For now, Word Matter, out.

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The old jail is on Maple Street.

Mountain Garden Club brightens up Highlands Old Jail

By Brian O'Shea
Plateau Daily News

The Mountain Garden Club added a new garden surrounding the Old Highlands Jail on Maple Street in dedication to Wiley Sloan, for his dedication to helping the community. He passed away in March.

"He did so much community service and he should be recognized for it," said MGC Member Jean Hyde. "When someone dies you want their memory to live on. This is a way to keep his memory alive."

The Old Jail is owned by the Town of Highlands and is leased to the Highlands Historical Society for \$1 annually.

MGC donated almost 40 plants for a garden designed by Sonya Carpenter and Canty Worley.

Plants include Joe Pye, Cone Flower, Black Eyed Susan, Rozanne Geranium, Hydrangea, Itea, Verbertium, Ink Berry, and Sunflower.

"Sonya and Canty were a lot of help with the design and input about native plants," said MGC President Ellie Houston. "The Town and Highlands Historical Society were so excited we were doing this, and they also helped make it happen."

The Town of Highlands ran water to

the property and the Historical Society had the irrigation system installed, said HHS President Obie Oakley. He added that without irrigation, plants were dying off due to the heat reflecting off the building.

"We so appreciate what the MGS has done to improve the appearance of the building," said HHS President Obie Oakley.

MGC Member Ginny Dunwody said she's already heard positive feedback from the public.

"We have people stopping and telling us how beautiful it is," said Dunwody. "I think people are loving it."

The current Old Jail is the second jail to be put into service in Highlands. The first was burned down by inmates celebrating Christmas in 1915, according to Ran Shaffner's Heart of the Blue Ridge.

Some of those same inmates were recruited to build the current Old Jail, completed in 1918 and remained in service until 1959.

The garden, dedicated to Wiley Sloan, is bordered with rock and has a bird bath along the side.

• CORRECTION •

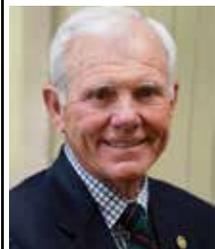
In the August 20 edition of Highlands Newspaper in the article entitled "First day of school for Macon County and Highlands," a paragraph following the one that identified new teachers read, "Elementary teacher Cynthia Henderson resigned as did teacher assistant Joy Griffin." It should have read "Elementary teacher Cynthia Henderson retired as did teacher assistant Joy Griffin."

We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight.

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DOGSPEAK

• LORD BANJO REFLECTIONS •

Lord Banjo visits Highlands



Lord Banjo

Mum, Dad, and I spent a week in a cabin on a roaring creek. The only problem? Mum wouldn't let me near the creek, much less in it. Was it fair that Lily, the three-year-old lab who visited us with her pet parent, got to dive in the creek and chase sticks and rocks? I don't think so. Not that I care anything about chasing and fetching. I simply enjoy standing belly-deep in cold water.

Mum was quick to point out that I struggle a bit going up the stairs and sometimes trip going over a curb. She said there was no way she was going to let me get stuck in the creek and be unable to climb out. Surely, she could have come in with me, right? To be sure I was safe?

Other than severe creek deprivation, I had a pretty good week. Lily was a good dog and only tried to gobble my food a few times. I got tons of belly rubs and head pats from our friends, and I slept soundly after all the attention. According to Mum, I hardly moved the day after our friends left. It took me all day to recover my energy after being on my feet moving from friend to friend while they were here. I guess I don't move around quite as much with only Mum and Dad around at home.

We walked to a restaurant for breakfast three days, and my favorite place was the Blue Bike Cafe. The server brought me my very own water bowl, and I got to finish Dad's scrambled eggs. He doesn't usually leave anything on his plate, but he ordered humongous pancakes and couldn't finish his eggs. He almost didn't finish the pancakes—unheard of for my Dad.

One day we walked to Main Street and over to the Highlands Hiker. That was a pretty walk with great smells. Our stroll to Calder's for coffee and muffins may have been the best, though. All along Main Street, the shops had water bowls out for us canines. How thoughtful of them. I sampled every one and I sniffed all along Main Street—the shop walls and doors and then the greenery near

4th Street. Let me tell you, the grass and the daylilies on 4th Street have the most awesome smells. Dad said my sniffer was surely full after that stroll.

Mum wanted me to accompany her to meet with her author friend Jeannie Chambers in the park on our last day in town, but I was a tad worn out. Those two talked books while I relaxed on the screened porch at our cottage. I was happy to leave the book topic to the women since my book writing days are over now that I've retired. A column here and there is as much as I have the energy for.

Of course, I still hang with Mum to encourage her while she writes, but that's about it. I wonder . . . do you think I could send her subliminal messages about creek time while I'm lying at her feet? I need to work on that. Suggestions for how to get a dip in the creek are welcome. Just text 1-800-LORD BANJO.

• *Lord Banjo lives in Georgia with his mum, Kathy Manos Penn, author of the Dickens & Christie cozy animal mystery series available on Amazon. Find Lord Banjo's book locally at Highland Mountain Paws and write him at ink-penn119@gmail.com.*

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Fall Home Improvement - 2020

Inspiration in Choosing The Right Colors for Your Mountain Home

Choosing to live in the NC mountain communities has made this process so much easier. Your home's architectural style is enhanced by the gorgeous landscape of the Blue Ridge Mountains, so selecting a color palette that reflects nature, as well as your personal taste, is the way to go.

For example, natural earth tones can harmonize with the majestic beauty of the region.

Envision your new home in the four amazing seasons that we enjoy in the NC mountain communities, and this will help your idyllic color scheme to materialize. Is your

home surrounded by woods with hues of greens in spring and summer, and vibrant reds, oranges and yellows in the fall? Maybe you've built your mountain home high atop a vast green pasture where your horses roam.

Let nature steer you. And keep in mind that the paint swatch can look different beneath the florescent bulbs of a store than it will in the bright sunlight of North Carolina. To be sure before committing to your color scheme, bring home samples, and try them out.

For the exterior, be sure to choose two to three colors

when you're in the final phase of building a mountain home. With a stone or brick house, you will only need two colors, but a home with wooden siding will mean three colors are in order—the main color for the siding, complementary color for all trim, and a color that pops a bit for accenting.

Shutters and doors are an ideal place for a splash of color to reflect your personality. Don't forget to take note of your roof! You will want your roofing colors to complement your color scheme, whether it's slate grey, or chestnut brown.

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Fall Home Improvement - 2020

Now what about bringing the scenic beauty that's just outside your home inside?

After building a mountain home, it's finally time to get down to those fun aesthetic touches, like your indoor color scheme. What palettes work? Warm and natural tones can transform your house into a home whether you adore taupe or deeper shades of grey. These natural colors will enhance but not compete with the outdoors. If you have a lot of windows with views that mesmerize, let the colors outside guide you.

Neutral colors in deep, warm tones can enhance your view without distracting—like chocolate browns or rich

greys or greens. You can also pick a softer shade than your landscape to compliment without competing.

Keep in mind, cooler and crisper colors will make spaces feel more vibrant. You can reserve the neutrals and warmer tones for bedrooms and studies to encourage downtime.

Don't forget to take a stroll through the neighborhoods in your area and take notes or photos of the houses that appeal to you most—especially houses that may be of the same architectural style. Whether a charming cottage, a handsome Craftsman, or a tiny house, are enhanced by their exterior painting.

Your neighbors, who have already settled into their cozy mountain home, may give you some inspiration. Maybe you adore the warm sage that accents a front door, or a creamy taupe on someone's shutters. You just may have a hard time deciding which color scheme you love most—the olive house with a red brick accent and warm beige trim, or the deep khaki grey with natural wood and warm green accent.

Whether you go traditional or contemporary with your paint, your new home in the mountains will be a stunning addition to the neighborhood.

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...SALLY continued from page 1

has saturated the ground.

When this happens, trees can easily topple – root ball and all – with very little effort downing power lines and obstructing roads.

“We hit our annual rainfall amount toward the end of August. This is the third straight year we have a triple-digit rain amount – around 120 inches so far,” said Mayor Pat Taylor. “Yes, we will have all hands on deck. The wind coupled with water will be the problem.”

Town Manager Josh Ward said the town’s electric and street

crews will be prepared as always for the potential severe weather threat.

“We also have connections with two electrical contractors to assist us with downed lines and poles, if needed,” he said. “Hopefully, the storm will steer clear of us like the last one did.”

“We are monitoring Hurricane Sally which will become a slow moving storm as it moves across Mississippi, Alabama and North Georgia Thursday and Friday. Our town utility crews will be on standby and respond to any

...REC PARK continued from page 1

Before entering the building, visitors must have their temperature taken and acknowledge they have no symptoms of COVID-19. Norris said masks must be worn when moving about the building but can be removed while exercising.”

No equipment will be lent out for use in the gym, bring your own.

Restrictions:

- 24-hour access is no longer

available. Norris said the 24-hour access was stopped because staff needs to monitor visitors to make sure everyone is disinfecting properly.

• A piece of equipment must separate two people exercising in the cardio and weight rooms.

• Disinfect a piece of equipment before and after using it. Wipes and hand sanitizer are located throughout the facility.

power outage or road problems resulting from heavy rain,” said Mayor Taylor. “As of Tuesday, we believe the bulk of the rain will remain south of Highlands, but weather conditions may change.”

During regular business hours outages can be reported to Town Hall at 526-2118. After hours outages can be called into the non-emergency number 526-4131. Mayor Taylor said in intense storms, there is no need for everyone to call about loss of power. Town crews will be at the town shed and throughout the town constantly monitoring the storm.

– Kim Lewicki

• Mask off when begin workout, mask back on after workout.

• Max number of people in the gym is 25.

• Rec Park cannot lend out any equipment for the gym, bring your own.

• Max number of people in the pool is 30.

Norris said facilities are open at 30% of fire capacity.

Empty Bowls 2020 to benefit Highlands Food Pantry

On October 4, please join the International Friendship Center’s Highlands Food Pantry and Highlands First Presbyterian Church, as they host the 10th Annual Empty Bowls event to fight hunger in our community. Now more than ever, we need your help to keep our neighbors from having empty-bowls on their tables.

Nearly one in five people in Jackson and Macon counties fall beneath the poverty line, and one in four children in Western North Carolina face hunger on a regular basis.

The Empty Bowls event typically takes place inside the First Presbyterian Church, staffed by a group of volunteers. Due to Covid-19 precautions and to keep our volunteers and supporters healthy, Empty Bowls will not be an in-person event this year. We are working to create a drive-thru event to safely offer handmade ceramic bowls provided by The Bascom along

with delicious soups and dessert. For your donation of \$25, you will receive a bowl of soup and dessert provided by these generous local chefs and restaurants:

- Old Edwards Inn & Madison’s Restaurant
- Marty Rosenfield
- Lakeside Restaurant
- Kristy Lewis & the Highlands United Methodist Church
- Four65 Woodfire Bistro & Bar

You can also support Empty Bowls by participating in this year’s silent auction, which will showcase a variety of fine, hand-crafted items donated by talented artists. Auction items will be on display at Smitten, 468 Main Street in Highlands, September 27 to October 10.

The Food Pantry is staffed by more than 70 volunteers, and feeds more than 4,000 people each year. Before the pandemic, the pantry served an average of 65

families each week. This number has since increased to an average of 70-80 per week, a number typically not seen until winter months set in. The donations from the annual Empty Bowls event will help the Food Pantry serve families throughout the year.

To purchase tickets and to learn more about the Highlands Food Pantry, please visit our website at www.internationalfriendshipcenter.org.

About the International Friendship Center:

The International Friendship Center is a 501c (3) organization facilitating services that bridge the gap between struggle and security for people in hardship. In partnership with our communities, we help provide opportunities for adults and children to obtain basic human and social needs as well as assistance with challenges facing immigrants.

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Creating a strong offer



Lynn Kimball

**Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
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Crafting a strong offer matters when buying real estate, especially in the current, vigorous market on the Highlands/Cashiers Plateau. This is especially true in a seller's market. A low offer might not even get a response from a seller. Additionally, your offer should be as strong as your interest. A professional local Realtor will be valuable in helping create a strong offer and it is important to realize that strength may mean more than the price of a home.

Important features of a contract when you find the ideal property for sale is to craft an Offer to Purchase. The closing date, contingencies, amount of earnest money and offering price are all ingredients in a strong offer. However, eliminating a contingency can make an offer even stronger and perhaps even an appraisal contingency. Furthermore, if a buyer is intending to renovate they may not require an inspection contingency.

Knowing your limits is an important part of buying property. Have a clear understanding of what you need in a property and do not compromise on those more important items. It is also significant to know your limits in terms of finances...do not get in over your head. When you locate the ideal property be prepared to negotiate, but don't forget to maintain some protection for yourself as well.

To wrap it up, SIMPLICITY is the best answer to negotiating a major purchase. We need to look at what is most important in today's market, not yesterday's and not what may be in the future markets, but also be informed in making those decisions.

Buyers and sellers need to work together on what is most desirable and necessary to work out a purchase and sale that includes the understanding of each others' needs and wants. This requires a willingness to compromise. Making major purchases and moving is noted as being one of the most stressful issues we face in life. One of my favorite quotes is "Be kind, for everyone is fighting a hard battle." Kindness toward one another goes a long way in making good decisions.

Our mountain properties are what is happening today. It's all about what is significant to buyers and sellers that make it all come together. The most valued wants and needs today appear to be safety and a beautiful environment. A local professional Realtor is here to assist you with what is most important for you now and for your future.

• 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 has 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, you are invited to visit her user friendly website at www.signatureproperties-nc.com. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices BHHS Meadows Mountain Realty has three locations: 488 Main Street in Highlands, 132 Hwy 107S in Cashiers or visit Lynn at her 2334 Cashiers Road location in Highlands across from Highlands Falls Country Club. Lynn Kimball may be reached at 828-421-8193 or by email at Lynn@bhhsmmr.com



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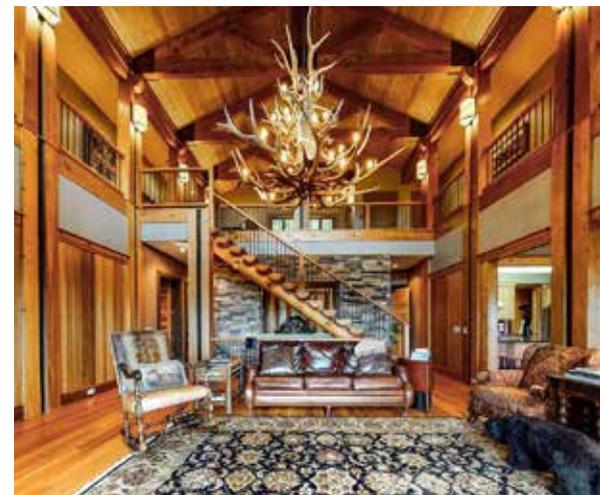
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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Changed Lives Change Lives



Pastor Mark Ford
First Baptist Church
Highlands

You can have a civil war in the 1860s to abolish slavery, and still not eradicate racism lodged in many hearts. You can march and pass legislation for civil rights in the 1950s and 1960s, but racism remains in many hearts and institutions. You can establish quotas to promote fair participation in schools and industry, but bias is still there. You can try to march and riot to disturb the peace until justice is secured, but racism and polarization will remain if hearts remain unchanged on both sides of the issue.

That needed change was stated clearly by the Apostle Paul. He said, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28). And yes, I am aware that Paul seemed indifferent at best in seeking to eradicate the inherent racism of slavery in his day (Eph. 6:5; Col. 3:22; 4:1). He tells slaves to be good slaves and masters to be good masters. And yet, Paul will write a letter – Philemon – appealing to a master to accept the slave Onesimus, now as an equal because of his conversion to the Christian faith. He is now "your brother in the Lord" and no longer a slave (Phil. 17). Simply, I believe Paul was not in the business of revolutionary political and institutional change. This would have obscured the Gospel. Paul believed that these changes are best accomplished by changing hearts – "one in Christ." No matter how hard we try, we must all be honest and declare our sinful bias and beliefs, not to mention behaviors. Only God can fix these.

Sadly, the church has lost its way in the past millenniums. We are guilty of a continuation of bigotries and bias as much as any other institutions. And there is plenty of blame to go around regardless of religion or persuasion. Also, victors seldom see a need to change – themselves that is. You can win wars and legislate selective and not all-inclusive Biblical morality, but not accomplish your perceived goals to labor for the Kingdom of God. I would argue in this article that the Church of Christ has failed to be His salt and His light in this matter and others. Rather than seeing the power of changed lives to change lives, we resort to political and forceful means to bring about change, only to see the sought after ends obscured and falling short (think the Crusades and Moral Majority). Simply and directly, being salt and light was Jesus' proposal (Mt. 5:13-16). Salt preserves and promotes purity. Light dispels darkness. Being "one in Christ" is the answer for the Christian and prescription for our world. We cannot let our voices of light and presence as salt be obscured by other means – political, legislative, or otherwise. These may serve a purpose

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 18

Proverbs 3:5

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Worship: Sun. 9 a.m., with Holy Communion the 1st & 3rd

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

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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

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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

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Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

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Sundays: Worship: 11

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Sun.: Morning Worship 10:45a., Evening Worship, 6p.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.

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Pastor Zane Talley

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

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MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

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

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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.

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Sept 6-Oct 25- Informal Evening Eucharist- 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

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CLE to host virtual event with nation's leading expert on presidential elections

Alan Abramowitz is a leading expert on national politics, polling and elections has correctly and precisely predicted the popular vote winner within two percentage points or less in every U.S. presidential election since 1988.

He will be live streaming from Emory a discussion about the 2020 presidential election to the Center for Life Enrichment on Tuesday, Sept. 22 from 2-4pm. You can view the presentation using the Zoom app from your own device or you can view in-house at the CLE lecture hall. If you choose to come to CLE, masks will be required and social distancing measures will be in place to ensure the safety and comfort of attendees. This is limited to 25 attendees and is on a first-come first-serve basis. Cost for participating in either fashion is \$25.

The 2020 presidential election presents forecasters with unique challenges. First and foremost, the election is taking place in the midst of one of the most severe crises that the United States has faced in the past hun-

dred years. Abramowitz will discuss these challenges and more as he makes his prediction and offers his insights into what is sure to be one of the most controversial elections in many years.

Abramowitz is the Alben W. Barkley Professor of Political Science at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He received his B.A. from the University of Rochester in 1969 and his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1976. Dr. Abramowitz has authored or co-authored six books, dozens of contributions to edited volumes, and more than sixty articles in political science journals dealing with political parties, elections, and voting behavior in the United States.

To register for this event please call the CLE office at 526-8811. Once you are registered you will be sent instructions on how to join the presentation via Zoom if you choose to use your own device, but all who are interested are welcome to come to the CLE lecture hall where the presentation will be live-streamed on the projection system.

HF&R is taking hurricane donations



It's hurricane season and that means once again the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. has set up a spot inside a bay for hurricane relief donations which will be sent to areas in need.

Asst. Chief Robbie Forrester left for Lake Charles last Wednesday with items sorely needed after Hurricane Laura blasted through. With Hurricane Sally aftermath in his sights, Forrester said anything collected will go wherever it's needed. Items in high demand include diapers, pet food, tarps, cleaning supplies and toiletries.

For more information on donating, call HFR at 828-526-3645.

— Photo by Brian O'Shea

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• BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION NEWS •

State Treasurer addresses Rotary

Rotarian and Mayor Pat Taylor introduced Dale Folwell, North Carolina State Treasurer, yesterday, Tuesday September 8th, during The Rotary Club of Highlands virtual Zoom Noon Meeting. Folwell became North Carolina State Treasurer in 2017.



Dale Folwell, NC Treasurer

States in the USA with a AAA Bond rating from Moody's; NC has a 2 BILLION Surplus at present; He has oversight and responsibility for the \$100 BILLION State Pension Fund which covers 900,000 State Employees; and Dale discussed some of his Frustrations,

Mr. Folwell discussed North Carolina financial highlights, stating that NC is one of only 13 Fears, and other relevant matters related to NC State Financial Highlights.

Annual Rotary Duck Derby raises \$6,200 for its various charities



Rotarians diligently watch to see which ducks cross the finish line first.

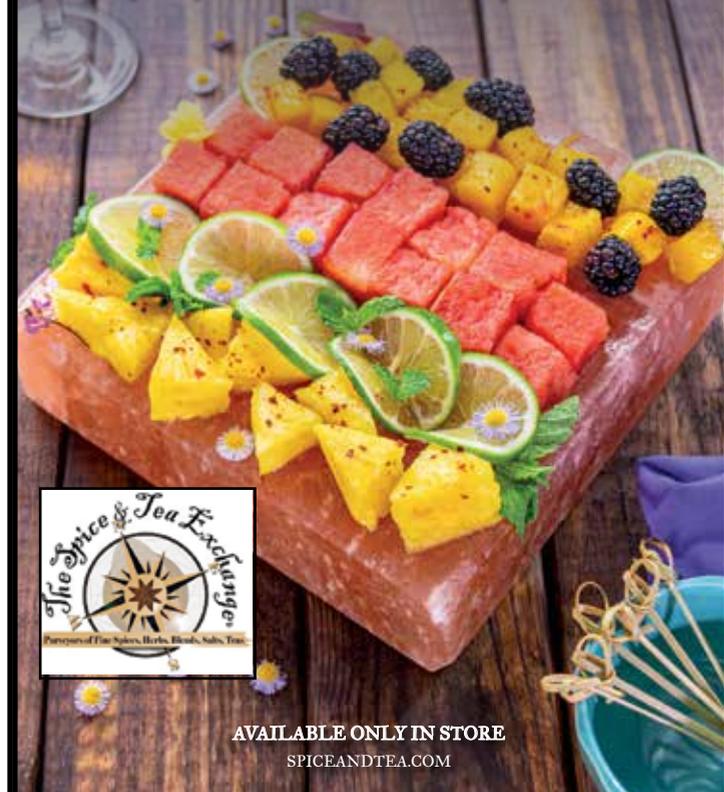
The Rotary Club of Highlands held its annual Duck Derby event on Saturday, September 5th, streamed live on The Rotary Club of Highlands Facebook page, thanks to Mike Murphy and his team for making this 'virtual event' possible, with Covid 19 group restrictions.

The event raised approximately \$6,200 net of small expenses to help fund our various charities, scholarships, teacher stipends, academic and athletic banquets as well as other local projects supported by The Rotary Club of Highlands.

We look forward to holding this fun event on the 4th of July next year. A very special thanks to all of those Rotarians who bought and sold tickets for this year's event, as well as to David and Debi Bock for the use of their parking lot and access to Mill Creek where the 700+ Yellow Ducks crossed the finish line.

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Rotary ships provisions to Hurricane Laura victims

The Rotary Club of Highlands recently provided assistance to Hurricane Laura victims.

When Asheville-based Hearts with Hands, a well-established non-profit disaster relief organization, needed help delivering a trailer load of food, water, generators, sanitization and other supplies to the Lake Charles area, a member of the club donated the use of a tractor and volunteer drivers to make the delivery. The club also made a cash donation to Hearts with Hands to help resupply its warehouse.

Over the years, Tubby Zachary and Michael Chastain have made five other similar trips to various disaster areas in the southeast.



Rotary Club of Highlands President, Zach Claxton, is shown thanking local drivers, Tubby Zachary and Michael Chastain for their service.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 16

for the moment, but the ultimate cure is a message clearly and boldly spoken by the people of God – to be “one in Christ” and remember

we are all created in God's image. Let us speak calmly and in love the truth of God's Word. Let us show people the way to Christ and His

message of salvation, and then together as one we can kneel before Him!

...INMATE continued from page 1

gel Hospital.

On Thursday, Angel Medical Center ordered a transfer to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville. While in route to Asheville, Ennis suffered a medical emergency. EMS detoured to Harris Regional Hospital where Ennis was later pronounced deceased.

"We are communicating with District Attorney Ashley Welch's Office, the NCSBI, as well as the N.C. Jail Inspector's Office, during the course of the investigation into this inmate death," Holland said.

State medical examiners will determine a cause of death fol-

lowing an autopsy which was conducted on Friday. That finding is not yet available.

Ennis was arrested as part of the 2018 Operation JAWbreaker event, as one of three masterminds behind the criminal enterprise. Ennis bonded out on the original charges of trafficking and continuing a criminal enterprise. Last month, Ennis was arrested in Transylvania County with additional drug charges and subsequently was rearrested on a True Bill of Indictment for Harboring a Fugitive. Ennis was in custody on the Harboring a Fugitive charge at the time of his death.

...OBITUARIES continued from page 8

She is survived by her three daughters, Nora Potts (Roy, deceased), Margaret Heinlein (Blair) and Debbie "Trudy" Alexander (Tim deceased), two sons, James (Jimbud) Rogers (Anne) of Highlands, NC, Arthur Rogers Jr."Spec"(deceased) (Gail Rogers)."

Also surviving is a sister-in-law Kathleen Rogers Wilson of Highlands.

Ten grandchildren: Derrick Potts, Melissa Crowe, Monica Vinson, Jay Calloway, Mike Calloway, Justin Rogers, Cole Alexander, Carly Alexander, Nadya Rog-

ers and David Rogers.

Twelve great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren and many nieces & nephews.

In addition to her husband, Pearle was preceeded in death by a grandson, Johnny Michael Potts, five sisters, Ethel Miller, Grace Edwards, Bess Creswell, Elizabeth Littleton, and Louise Hudson; two brothers, Dee Carpenter and Zeb Carpenter.

There will be no formal services. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Highlands First Baptist Church Building Fund

Annual Dazzling Dahlia Festival is this Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19-20

While our lives are being altered in ways we never imagined, nature is thriving. In that vein, literally, Highlands Historical Society is proudly presenting its 10th Annual Dazzling Dahlia Festival this coming weekend, September 19 & 20 – in a socially distancing kind of way!

Highlands Historical Society is hosting more than 30 clubs, businesses, nonprofits, churches, and individuals as they decorate Highlands with enchanting dahlia installations.

Dahlias will of course be the star of the show, but there will be locally grown plants and flowers, too.

Growers, floral designers,

creative types and history buffs have come together to create an experience unlike any before.

Saturday and Sunday Dahlia vignettes will be all over Highlands, from Bryson's Food Store to Highlands Historical Village, Main Street, side streets, hidden in squares, inside shops, the old jail, and of course in the park!

An index with vignette locations can be downloaded from the website, highlandshistory.com and it will also be available at some of the vignettes locations.

The vignettes will feature dahlias, local plants, and Highlands history; but most of all they will showcase the talent and creativity of the presenters.

Highlands Police entries from July 26. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

July 26

- At 3:50 p.m., officers logged failure to pay for a town ordinance violation regarding an employee parking violation on Church Street.

Aug. 25

- At 11:30 a.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza.

- At 11:30 a.m., officers were called about a hit and run between two vehicles when one vehicle left the scene of the accident at Highlands Plaza and NC 28 south.

Sept. 4

- At 11:35 a.m., Jason Brett Stone, 52, of Charlotte, NC, was arrested on a warrant from an offense committed in another jurisdiction. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond. His trial date is Sept. 28, 2020.

Sept. 6

- At 12:54 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident

on US 64 east and Chestnut Street.

Sept. 7

- At 10:30 a.m., officers received a report of vandalism to property where a scree was torn out of a residence on Foreman Road.

- At 2:15 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on N. 5th and Oak Street.

Sept. 8

- At 7:30 p.m., James Edwin Greer, 81, of Sulligent, AL, was arrested for DUI and having an open container of alcohol in his vehicle. He was issued a \$1,500 unsecured bond. His court date is Oct. 2, 2020.

- At 9:45 a.m., officers were called about damage to property when the undercarriage of a vehicle was pulled off by rebar located on a cement parking block at the Creekside Village parking lot.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Sept. 8.

Sept. 8

- At 1:15 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a miscellaneous fire at a residence on Holt Road.

Sept. 10

- At 4:34 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Old Edwards Lane.

- At 8:31 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Mt. Lori Drive.

Sept. 11

- At 3:15 p.m., the dept. was called to investigate the source of smoke on Chowan Drive.

- At 4:40 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Home Potts Road.

Sept. 14

- At 10:50 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a residence on Zermatt Circle.

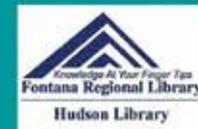
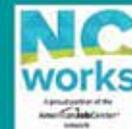
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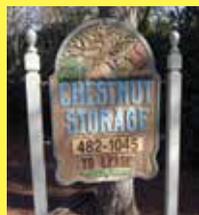
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HIGHLANDER MOUNTAIN HOUSE RESTAURANT/INN STAFF NEEDED! All positions including wait-staff, kitchen and housekeeping. Call 828-526-2590 or email your resume to info@highlandermountainhouse.com (Formerly High Street Inn) (st. 8/13)

HIGHLANDS DELI is hiring kitchen staff, starting immediately for the summer and fall. Please pick up applications at SweeTreats/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, backer. Best award of Wine Spectator. Please email mindygreen@me.com for either position. (st. 5/28)

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HIGH COUNTRY PHOTO/KEY-IN 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)

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CUTE 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH COTTAGE and bonus room. Terrific large porch and wood burning fireplace 8 mins from town. \$1500/month. Furnished or unfurnished. Minimum one year rental. Available later this fall. Mrpaulkrk@yahoo.com (st. 9/3)

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BEAUTIFUL HOME INTOWN FOR RENT FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER. Possible long-term. 770-686-9593. (st. 9/3)

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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 LOW-CLEAR CREEK. 1+acre, Private. View. \$118,000. Call 706.782.9728 (st. 9/5)

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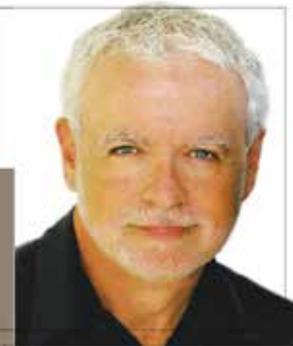


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