

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

## Outside burning is no longer banned for NC or Highlands

Due to increased fire risk, the NC Forest Service had issued a ban on all open burning and had canceled all burning permits state-

wide until further notice. On Wednesday, Dec. 1, Mayor Pat Taylor followed suit and issued a "state of emergency" to prohibit

outdoor fires in town. "The state and county have issued an emergency outdoor fire

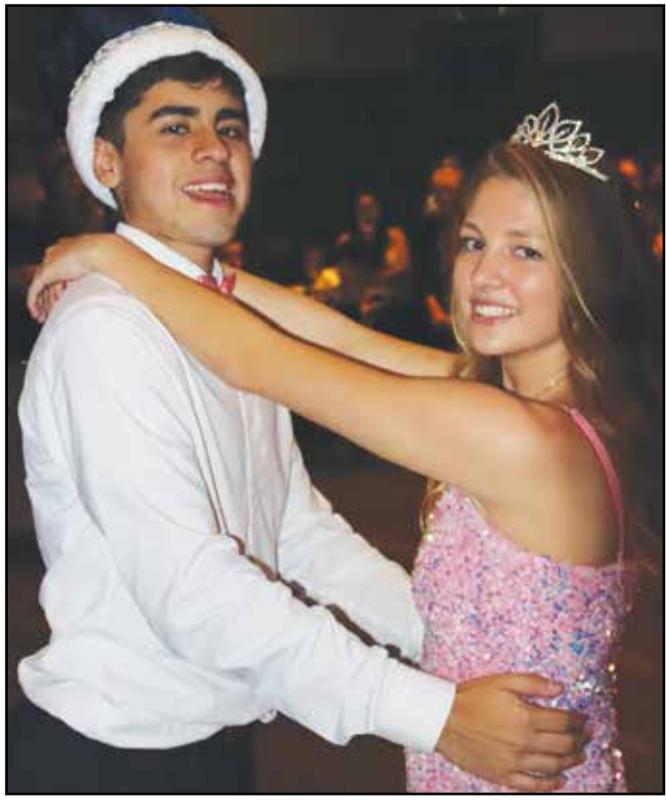
•See BURNING page 19

## Sen. Corbin is running again for NC Senate not Congress

**By Brittney Lofthouse**  
 With his first term in the North Carolina Senate coming to an end, Senator Kevin Corbin announced just before the Thanksgiving holiday that he will be filing for re-election to a second term. "My 'freshman' term in the Senate has been extremely successful and I have worked extremely well with Representatives Gillespie, Clampitt, and Pless that have House seats within my current seven-county district," said Corbin. "We were able to deliver for this district with very pleasant success and I don't think throwing that away is wise for myself or my Senate district. Through hard work and relationship building, we have brought more capital

•See CORBIN page 14

## King & Queen for the night



Highlands School seniors Jeffrey Olvera and Hayley Borino were crowned at Saturday's Homecoming Dance held at the First Presbyterian Church. See photos on page 9. Photo by Sunset Staff

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## March's Primary Ballot is quickly filling up

*Local races look to be full*

**By Brittney Lofthouse**

A slew of candidates flooded the Macon County Board of Education office on Monday, Dec. 6 just as filing opened for the 2022 Election. It closes Dec. 17.

A temporary court injunction delayed some state-level filings on Monday, however by Tuesday, all offices were back open for filing.

The North Carolina Court of Appeals announced Monday moments before filing opened at noon that filing for several state races were temporarily blocked because of an ongoing dispute over the district maps, which were approved by the General Assembly earlier this year. The North Carolina Court of Appeals later announced the decision was lifted and all races could be opened to candidates.

In North Carolina, the state-wide primary is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022. During

this election, voters can choose which candidates they prefer to be on the general election ballot in November. The purpose of a primary is to narrow the field of candidates for the general election.

Registered voters across the state can vote in the primary. However, voters affiliated with a political party will be given a ballot of candidates for their party. Unaffiliated voters can choose the ballot of candidates for any party: Democratic, Libertarian, or Republican.

Each candidate that wins in each contest on their party's ballot will become a nominee. The nominee will appear on the ballot in the general election contest. To become the party's nominee, the candidate must win by at least 30 percent of the vote plus one.

If no candidate reaches the

•See BALLOT page 16



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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### The Christmas Parade epitomizes Highlands' spirit

I loved the Highlands Christmas Parade this year. I am always honored as mayor to lead the parade just behind the color guard. Sallie, our grandchildren and Lucy, our dog, had a great time walking in the parade and passing out candy.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

At the end of the parade route, all the participants turn on 2nd Street and go their merry ways. This year I stopped at the turn on Main and Second streets to greet and thank the parade participants. I especially wanted to thank the Franklin and Rosman High School Marching Bands for their participation in the parade. Their music created such a festive spirit for this traditional holiday event.

As I greeted and thanked parade participants, I was struck by how important the many organizations are to the quality of life of this community. Now I won't attempt to cite specific organizations, but as I saw groups, cars and floats pass by, I realized these are the folks and institutions that are the soul of our community.

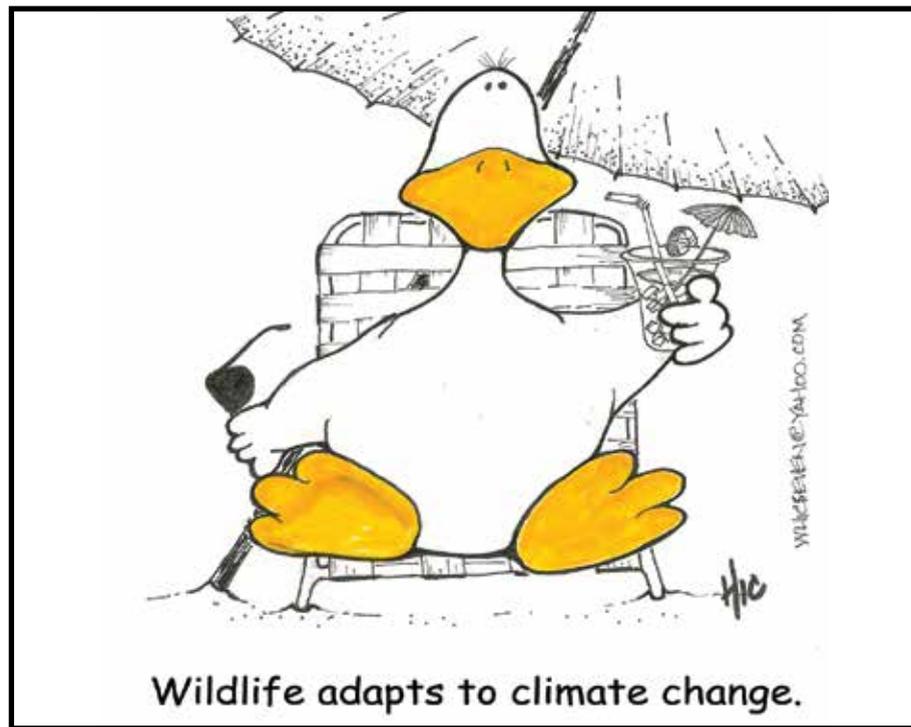
A principle of Gestalt Psychology is that in observing an entity, that the sum of the parts is not greater than the whole. I sensed that concept in observing all the community groups who participated in the parade. Among us there is a synergy of cooperation, affection and community that becomes greater than all the individual organizations in Highlands. Our community endeavors and each group contributes to the whole, which becomes an extended effort throughout the Highlands community. I want to thank everyone for caring for this town and its people.

I also want to put in a plug for our downtown merchants during this Christmas season. I know it is convenient to order online, but shopping in our downtown area is a special experience. I encourage everyone to simply stroll around downtown in the coming weeks to see what special, unique items are in our stores. You might discover that creative gift that would preclude an internet search.

Let me cover a couple of brief items. Our road paving projects for this year ended with the paving of Upper Lake Road this past week. Moving to a new budget year the board will prioritize more roads that need to be paved. Someone asked me this week why the town was paving dirt roads when so many paved roads need to be resurfaced? My response is that the town has been aggressively resurfacing town roads for the past two years and will continue to do so. There are some roads in Highlands that are state roads that the town does not and cannot pave.

Also, there has been a lot of chatter on social media about the town's position regarding short term rentals. My caution to folks is that no final decisions have been made. The Highlands Planning Board is currently reviewing a drafted conceptual proposal that our attorneys presented. That review process will continue in the coming weeks before planning board recommendations are forwarded to the Town Board.

## • HIC'S VIEW •



## • WEATHER •

Thu, 9-Dec	Fri, 10-Dec	Sat, 11-Dec	Sun, 12-Dec
46°F 32°F	53°F 48°F	60°F 26°F	51°F 23°F
Times of clouds and sun	Cloudy with showers around	Cloudy, breezy; p.m. t-storms	Plenty of sunshine
RealFeel® High: 50° Low: 32°	RealFeel® High: 54° Low: 42°	RealFeel® High: 55° Low: 46°	RealFeel® High: 56° Low: 28°

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### Highlands Newspaper

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Locally owned and operated by

Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at

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

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Highlands, N.C., 28•• 741

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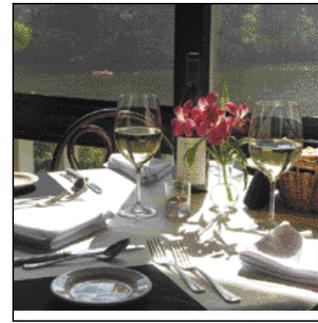
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# • LETTER •

## A heartfelt thanks

Dear Editor,

This letter is to our emergency room nurses, the doctors, the x-ray technician, pharmacist and all the others too numerous to name: I am so grateful for you and appreciate you!

Today wasn't the first time that I've been to the HCH Emergency Room.

Today wasn't an emergency for me but a need for an x-ray to be sure it wasn't an emergency. But today, I thought, I want to be sure that I thank you; you ER workers who have always been so caring, so professional and warm and supportive.

Thank you for everything you do and the Heart you do it with! I believe that what you offer to people has healing power. I thank you!

Helen Moore  
Highlands NC

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## Hymns and Highlands

It strikes me that during Christmastime we get inundated with (almost too much) Christmas music. Right after Halloween it begins, and right about now we can begin to grow a little weary. To wit...how many times can you hear "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree" without

tuning out altogether?

On the other hand, there are the Hymns of Christmas. Within them are pearls of wisdom that really touch our soul and speak to the heart of Christmas. At the same time, they tell a story. I know they tell mine, and perhaps they tell yours. They have become

for me the Hymns of Highlands. See if you don't agree with me.

"This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long" (from Blessed Assurance):

My story just might be yours right now as you stare out the window of your office. Bee and I spent our "Corporate Years" running the rat race in Atlanta. But for 23 years we rented and visited in Highlands year-round while I fly fished pretty much every stream on the Plateau. Highlands became part of our story and part of our soul. We looked at each other about 10 years ago and said, "at some chapter in our lives, we gotta live in Highlands."

Seven years ago, we purchased our little cottage near Mirror Lake. We've never looked back and are "praising our Savior all the day long" for guiding us here. If this is your story too, there are 312 professional real estate Brokers up here who can help you.

"Climb every mountain, ford every stream, follow every rainbow, til you find your dream."

The Sound of Music is my favorite movie of all time, and Climb Every Mountain is a Hymn of Highlands without a doubt. What gets into your soul are the mountains and the streams. There's an old Bible verse in Psalm 121 that goes like



**Pat Gleeson**  
Owner, BIC  
White Oak Realty Group  
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this "I lift up my eyes into the mountains...where does my help come from...it comes from the Maker of heaven and earth." If you're feeling the tug right now, you need to get up here. As we like to say about this special place... "Highlands, NC...come for a visit, and stay for a lifetime."

And finally "Silent night, Holy night, all is calm, all is bright."

Bee and I were married on December 4th (28 years ago), and the entire congregation sang both verses of Silent

Night at the end of our wedding. Every time I hear it a tear comes to my eye. Let's face it, we all need some calmness is our lives about now, and we all need light and brightness. Silent Night is one of the Hymns of Highlands, where all is calm and all is bright.

Merry Christmas Everyone, and c'mon up!

• Pat Gleeson, Bee, Tom, Christal, Susie and Gemma (Yellow Labrador) are Helpers and Brokers of White Oak Realty Group, in downtown Highlands (4th Street across from the Old Edwards Inn). Since 2009, White Oak Realty Group remains one of the leading boutique brokerage firms on the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau. You can reach all of us at 828.526.8118.

## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



Staff and students from the Highlands Community Child Development Center get ready to participate in the Highlands Christmas parade.

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# • ON THE SUNNY SIDE •

## The story of two sisters



**Kenny Youmans**

Two sisters, Anna, and Susan Warner were born in the 1820s. Their father was a very prominent attorney in New York City. They lived in the same home almost their entire lives, which was located on the banks of the Hudson River adjacent to the U.S. Military Academy, West Point.

Unfortunately, both of their parents died when they were young, leaving them their home, but not much money. In order to earn an income, they each started a writing career. Between the two of them, they had over 70 books published, many becoming best sellers.

In addition to writing, Susan and Anna taught Sunday School in their home to the cadets of West Point. Every Sunday their home would be over-flowing with cadets of West Point, where they would study the Bible and sing hymns. They had such a positive influence on the cadets of West Point, that when they died, in an unprecedented move, they were each given a U.S. Military funeral. Their home was made into a National Shrine and you can even see it today if you visit West Point.

In 1870 they wrote a book named "See and Say." "See and Say" became a best seller. It was about a couple, John Lofton and his fiancée, Faith Derick. Among many things, John Lofton and Faith Derick taught Sunday School to the little kids in their church. One little kid was named Little Johnny Fax. Little Johnny Fax was a special little kid and all the other kids loved him. Unfortunately, Little Johnny Fax came down with a lingering illness that would eventually take his life.

John Lofton and Faith Derick made a commitment that they were going to make Little Johnny Fax's last days as happy and comfortable as they possibly could.

One afternoon when Little Johnny Fax was growing weaker and not feeling very well, he asked John Lofton to pick him up, hold him, and to sing to him. There were a number of popular hymns the sisters could have inserted into the book at this time. However, Anna Warner wrote a special song just for Little Johnny Fax.

No one remembers the book, and very few people remember the sisters. The song though is the most popular song ever sung by kids in Sunday School and vacation bible school.

It has 4 verses. All of you know the first verse, it goes like this.

"Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, for they are weak and He is strong. Yes, Jesus love me."

Too bad we don't know the other 3 verses because they deliver a very powerful message.

"Jesus loves me, loves me still  
Though I am weak and very ill.  
That I may from sin be free,  
He bled and died upon the tree.

Jesus loves me He who died,  
Now heaven gates are open wide.  
He will wash away my sin,  
And let this little child come in.

Jesus loves me He will stay,  
Close beside me all the way.  
He who bled and died for me,  
Now henceforth I will live for Thee."

As Paul Harvey used to say, "Now you know the rest of the story."

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5pm Advent Vespers - Close to Home  
*A casual service in the Sanctuary*

**Ecumenical Longest Night Service:**  
Tuesday, December 21 at 5:30pm

**For all those experiencing the acute pain of loss and grief in an otherwise joyful season of celebration. We will honor and name our grief, and we will be reminded that we worship the God of love, who comes to live among us even in our worst of times. All are welcome.**

**Christmas Eve:**  
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**Leslie's Gobbler** – Turkey, Havarti dill, shredded lettuce, cucumber, mayo on sub roll. **\$12**

**Raw & Flawless** – Spring Mix, avocado, hummus, red pepper, red onion, cucumber, Fermenti pickled carrots on wheat bread. **\$14**

**The Godfather** – Sopressa salami, shaved ham, pepperoni, red onion, smoked provolone, tomato, shredded lettuce, banana peppers, onions with Italian dressing on baguette. **\$13**

**The Muff** – Turkey, Sopressa salami, ham, cream cheese olive spread, smoked provolone cheese and shredded lettuce on sub roll. **\$13**

**The Porker** – Shaved ham, Jarlsberg cheese, DJs pickles with homemade honey mustard on ciabatta. **\$12**

**The Hudson** – Turkey, Provolone cheese (Have it your way--cucumber, lettuce, onion, banana peppers, black olives, DJs pickles). **\$13**

## Salads

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## Blue Ridge Health-Highlands Cashiers 'Angel Tree' Project collects new pajamas for children in need

Blue Ridge Health-Highlands Cashiers (BRH-HC) is excited to announce a unique "Angel Tree" project this holiday season. They are asking for donations of new pajamas for foster children and children in need throughout our Highlands, Cashiers, and surrounding communities.

There is a special "Angel Tree" in the waiting room of BRH – HC, which is located across from the Hospital in the Jane Woodruff Clinic, level two.

Visitors and patients can select a tag from the tree with an age range and return their pajama gift (unwrapped) by December 20. Age ranges are 0-5, 6-13, 13-17, and 17-21.

"New pajamas can be expensive, and our staff is very excited to make sure that every child will be warm and cozy this winter," said Drs. Ann Davis and Kristy Fincher, primary care physicians at the health center. "We invite everyone to help us reach our goal of 200 pajama sets, as we aim to bring holiday cheer to local kids."

The angel tree is available during BRH-HC office hours: 8am-5 pm Monday through Friday, Jane Woodruff Clinic, 209 Hospital Drive suite #204 Highlands, NC.

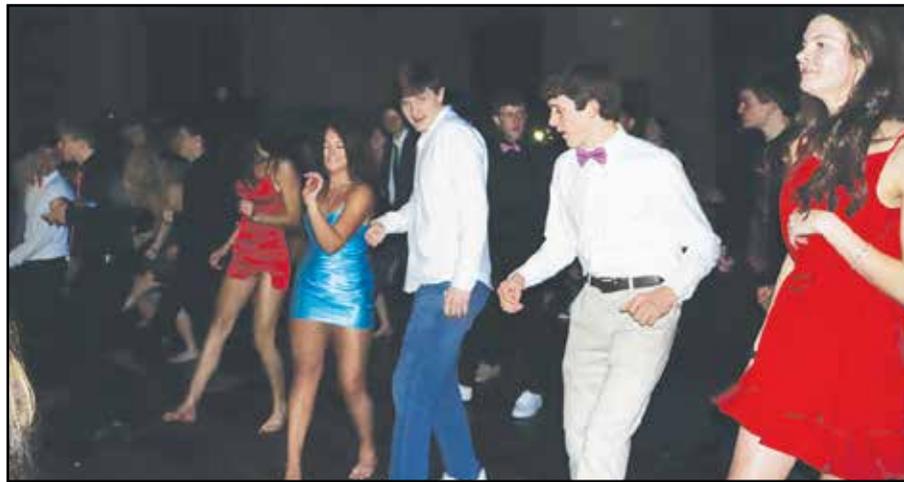
### About Blue Ridge Health

*Blue Ridge Health (BRH) is a nonprofit healthcare system that works closely with communities to meet the ever-changing healthcare needs of our region with high-quality, comprehensive, and accessible healthcare services. With 35 locations throughout Western North Carolina, BRH offers primary care, dental, pharmacy, behavioral health and nutrition services that prioritize the patient care experience. For 58 years, BRH has served as the leader in community-focused healthcare, providing services to communities in Transylvania, Henderson, Rutherford, Buncombe, Polk, Jackson, Macon, Haywood and Swain Counties. If you would like more information about BRH, call 828.692.4289 or visit [brchs.com](http://brchs.com).*

### About Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation

*The Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation was established on February 1, 2019, as a 501(c)3 public charity to improve the health and well-being of Highlands, Cashiers and surrounding communities. Together with generous donors, the Foundation aims to make positive and lasting change by supporting projects and programs that improve health and well-being in the communities we serve. Call 828-482-6510 or visit HCHF's website to join us in Lifting Health and Well-Being, Together.*

# It was "Winter" at Highlands School Homecoming Dance Dec. 4th at First Presbyterian Church Hall



**Photos by  
Sunset Staff**



## WCU lab helps Swedish researcher with mosquito project

Cullowhee - Don't swat at that mosquito. Swedish entomologist Anders Lindström is sitting in a Western Carolina University lab, patiently waiting for it to stay put on a leaf cutting long enough to take its photo.

When the mosquito takes flight, Lindström captures it in a vial and puts it back on the leaf.

Lindström recently visited Cullowhee from the Swedish National Veterinary Institute. He was working in WCU's Mosquito and Vector-Borne Infectious Disease Facility, which specializes in researching and educating people about mosquito-borne diseases of Western North Carolina.

Lindström traveled to the facility to photograph two local mosquito species for a guidebook he's creating. It's a project for the European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. The publication aims to be a tool for non-entomologists to identify and report invasive mosquito species in Europe and help stop their spread across that continent.

The mosquito flies off again. And again. Lindström says he often has to offer the bloodthirsty insects a sacrificial finger as a perch to help them pose long enough for a photo.

"Usually, it's a good way to make them sit still. But these are too young, I think. They don't seem interested in me," Lindström says of the American rock pool mosquito, *Aedes atropalpus*, he's trying to photograph. The other mosquito species, the eastern tree hole mosquito, *Aedes triseriatus*, later proves more than happy to take a bite of Lindström's finger.

The WCU facility maintains collections of many of North Carolina's mosquito species and can make them available to researchers. Shipping the two requested mosquito species to Sweden proved impossible, so the lab hatched some for Lindström to come photograph in person.

Both species are native to North Carolina and much of

Eastern North America. They grow in small water pools on trees and among rocks — and in countless items that can hold a bit of water and are commonly found outside homes and businesses. The mosquitoes are not native to Europe, so they will go into the guidebook as invasive species of concern.

The American rock pool mosquito has already been reported in parts of Europe. The eastern tree hole mosquito has not. It was, however, found in a batch of used tires shipped to the continent from North America. "They have been exterminated, at least that's what we think," Lindström says of *Aedes triseriatus* in Europe. "Whole tire yards were sprayed and they have been doing captures afterwards and they have not been found again."

Through human trade and travel, mosquitoes can be transported from continent to continent and create problems for quality of life, public health and the environment, Lindström says. He points to the tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, and the bush mosquito, *Aedes japonicus*, as two examples. Both were transported from Asia to North America and to Europe, where they now bite aggressively and transmit diseases.

The tiger mosquito "is all around the Mediterranean now and it's spreading," Lindström says. "It's a really annoying mos-

quito that lives close to people and we have had outbreaks of dengue, chikungunya, Zika, all the associated viruses."

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control will make the mosquito guidebook available for free online and translate it into all the various European languages. The guide will include identification tips, photos and detailed illustrations. The goal, Lindström says, is to help more people observe and report invasive mosquitoes for control measures before they become well-established, problematic and more difficult, if not impossible, to eradicate from the landscape.

"We are happy to help Anders as he develops this important surveillance tool," says Brian Byrd, an environmental health sciences professor and supervisor of WCU's Mosquito and Vector-Borne Infectious Disease Facility. "We also understand the impacts of invasive mosquitoes as there are two invasive *Aedes* species here in Western North Carolina that are known to transmit La Crosse virus — our most common mosquito-borne disease in North Carolina."

The WCU facility started its mosquito collection in 2008. It has since preserved more than 4,000 specimens representing more than 100 mosquito species from North America.



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# • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

## NC State Treasurer guest at recent Rotary meeting



Dale Folwell  
CPA State Treasurer of NC

At the Rotary Club of Highlands meeting on November 16, the featured speaker was the State Treasurer of NC, Dale Folwell, CPA.

As the keeper of the public purse, Treasurer Folwell is responsible for the more than \$110 billion state pension fund that provides retirement benefits for more than 950,000 teachers, law enforcement officers and other public workers.

Treasurer Folwell presented virtually and was introduced by Rotarian Nancy Gould-Aaron.

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## Students at HCCDC remember the 'reason for the season'

Students and their teacher at the Highlands Community Child Development Center prepare Holiday cards to send to the residents at the Eckerd Living Center.



# Highlands Olde Mountain Christmas Parade was b



# Back in full swing • Sat., Dec. 4, 2021 on Main Street



Photos by Kim Lewicki, Rachel Lewicki and Erin Moorman

## ...CORBIN continued from page 1

improvements to this district than we even thought possible just a year ago. In short, I love my current position as NC Senator and I feel I can offer more to the citizens of Western North Carolina as a Senator at this point than I could as a freshman Congressman.”

Sen. Corbin began debating a run for Congress mid-November with the surprise announcement that current Representative Madison Cawthorn will not be seeking re-

election in his current district and instead will be running for office in the newly drawn NC District 13.

Sen. Corbin said Rep. Cawthorn’s announcement came as a surprise and left little time to clearly assess the situation and determine a real feasibility of a Congressional run.

“As soon as I heard about Rep. Cawthorn, I immediately began talking with my family and close friends about the idea

of running for Congress and asked them to not give me an immediate answer but to thoughtfully examine the situation. We found that the district is conservative-leaning and I won a Republican Primary election for my current Senate seat with a margin of 80% to 20%. With those factors the ‘electability’ conclusion was simply this: If we made a run and worked hard, the likelihood of winning the Congressional seat is good.”

However, although Corbin received tremendous support from across the state while he was considering a run for Congress, ultimately the decision was made to remain in the General Assembly.

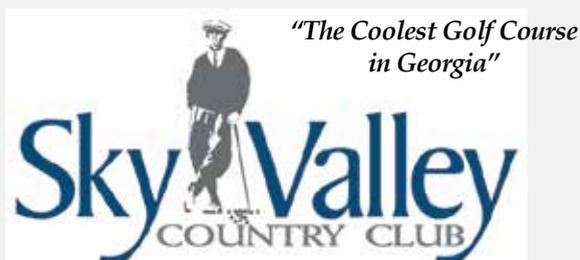
Despite the statically probability of winning the open Congressional seat, Sen. Corbin said it wasn’t the right time for him or his family.

“The first and more important part of the decision-making process was to consider what is right for my family, my district, and myself,” said Sen. Corbin. “The conclusion became clear. My family was hesitant about such a quick decision. Nobody in our ‘camp’ knew about the Cawthorn decision until it was revealed in the media a couple of weeks ago. We didn’t have a good feeling about that. Secondly, I have quickly gained respect

in the General Assembly having been there now three terms. I am in line to increase seniority in the Senate. Every member has a vote, and we all understand that, but seniority is certainly a factor when it comes to things such as chairing committees, influence with other Senators, and possibilities of positions of leadership. Those are all factors in how well I am able to serve my district.”

Just as the recent census brought changes that resulted in the new Congressional District Rep. Cawthorn intends to run in, Sen. Corbin’s Senate District 50 too will change slightly with the addition of Transylvania County.

“I look forward to having the opportunity of serving the folks of Transylvania County and have already started working to earn their support as their Senator,” said Corbin. “Staying in my current position brings other possibilities for serving the State of NC which is a greater calling for me than serving in Washington. I don’t assume anything and am very careful to recognize that my re-election to the NC Senate is up to the voters and not me. I am however, simply announcing that I will file for re-election.”



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## MC Sheriff Candidate Debate set for Saturday, December 11 at Franklin High School

Senator Kevin Corbin along with Dr. Matt Corbin will be the moderators for the charity debate on December 11th at 6 pm. The debate will be held at the Franklin High School Fine Arts Building.

“We are thrilled with the experience and professionalism that they bring to our event,” said event organizers Hazel Norris and Erik Bryant. “The format for submitting questions is simple with two options. Debatemacon@gmail.com is the email that can be used to get your debate question to Kevin and Matt. That email will be monitored up until around noon on the 11th. The second way to submit your questions will be in person on the 11th at the fine arts building from 4:30-5:30 inside of the lock box that’ll be stationed at the entrance. After 5:30 Kevin and Matt will collect your questions (both email and written) and review them. They will be looking for the toughest questions they can find to ask the candidates!

Kevin has been part of several debates and has had to answer difficult questions so he knows how to pick them! We all want to see how these candidates perform as well as how they answer the difficult questions that you’ll be submitting.”

Doors will open to the public at 5:30 p.m. There will be volunteers available to accept and process donations as you enter (coats, jackets, canned goods and toys).

The program will start promptly at 6. The debate portion will last for 90 minutes to be followed up with a 45 minute meet and greet with all candidates (at this time they’ll be mingling around and you can ask any additional questions to them that you may have).

According to event organizers, every candidate has committed to participating and are looking forward to presenting their best view and ideas for the position of sheriff.

# Highlands Aerial Park is OPEN

*See you in the trees!*

Go to [Highlandsaerialpark.com](http://Highlandsaerialpark.com) or call 828-382-8884 to book your reservation for:

- Zipline Canopy Tours
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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## ICE RINK IS NOW OPEN

• Thursdays 1-8pm, Fridays and Saturdays 1-10pm and Sundays 1-5pm. Cost is \$5 per skater.

## Rec Pool Schedule:

• Adult Swim: M-F 6:30a-1:30p AND Tues & Wed 3:30-7p. Call ahead for Public Swim Weekend schedule due to staff shortages. 828-526-1595.

## American Legion

• No meeting in December. Next meeting Monday, January 3, 2022, 9 AM Highlands United Methodist Church. All veterans invited.

## Mondays

• ESL classes are held at the Presbyterian Church in Highlands from 5:30-6:30pm. No registration required – just show up and participate. Questions? Visit [www.maconcliteracy.org](http://www.maconcliteracy.org), call 828-526 – 0863 or email [info@maconcliteracy.org](mailto:info@maconcliteracy.org)

## Second Mondays

• The local chapter of PEO, an off-campus sorority founded in the 1800s that provides grants and loans to women

who want to return to school or further their education and have a financial need, meets at 10 a.m. If interested, please call president Paula McDonald at 706-372-3004 for meeting places.

## Mon.-Fri.

• Water Aerobics 18 years plus 10:15-11 a.m.

## Mon., Tues., Thurs.

• The Food Pantry behind the Methodist Church on Spring Street is open from 10a to 6p.

## Mon. & Wed.

• Cardio Kickboxing with Crystal Corbin 5:30-6:30 p.m. A full body workout that engages every muscle in the body.

## Mon. & Thurs.

• Drive-thru flu clinics at the Public Health Center at 1830 Lakeside Dr. in Franklin from 1-4 p.m. \$36 for the regular dose and the \$73 for the high dose (recommended for those 65+). Insurances will be filed; please bring your insurance card with you. Questions? Call 828.349.2081.

## Mon., Wed., Thurs.

• Indoor and outdoor Pickle Ball 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

## Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class 8:30am-9:30 a.m. \$25 a month. The class is led by Cathy Hodgson. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9 a.m.

• Highlands/Cashiers Alcoholics Anonymous "Open Meetings" are for anyone who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. recovery program. Open meetings are held in Highlands at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., on Mon. at 5:30 p.m. and on Wed. & Fri. at noon. And held six times a week in Cashiers at Church of the Good Shepherd, Rte 107. For exact meeting times visit our website [www.aawnc80.org](http://www.aawnc80.org) or to speak with a member of A.A. call (828) 349-4357.

## Tues. & Thurs.

• New Zumba class from 4:30-5:15p.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:30pm. A combination class with many different type of exercise.

## Tuesdays

• Strength Training 8:15-9:15. Aim for strong, lean muscles using light weights, body weight, and high repetition to shape and tone.

## 2nd Tues. thru December

• Hudson Library, in partnership with VAYA Health, is hosting an educational series on adult mental health, held the second Tuesday of each month through December. Reservations are required and masks will be required. Register online at [vayahealth.com/calendar](http://vayahealth.com/calendar) (click on the desired class to register) or call the library at 828-526-3031.

## First Wednesdays

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is featuring Walk-in Wednesdays Hiring Event. Interviewing for RNs, CNAs, Allied Health Professionals and Support Services Professionals. 1-3:30 p.m. 190 Hospital Drive, front entrance. On the spot offers. Sign-on bonuses offered for select positions. Bring updated resume. Casual wear.

## Thursdays

• Kickboxing 8:15-9:15 a.m. An exhilarating and fun mix of martial arts for a calorie-burning workout.

• Free Covid vaccination clinics – 9 a.m. to 5p.m. at the Rec Park. (Closed for a half-hour lunch break) Closed on Thanksgiving Day. Location subject to change, please check <https://myspot.nc.gov/> for the latest location information. Walk-ins are

accepted, however we encourage residents to pre-register and schedule an appointment at <https://myoptumserve.com/covid19>, or by calling (877) 505-6723 if you do not have internet.

• AL-ANON Meetings. The AL-ANON Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope to solve their common problems. An In-Person meeting is held each Thurs., noon at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., Highlands. An AL-ANON Zoom Meeting is held each Saturday @ 10:15am ID:889-3772-7928 Password: EasyDoesit or to speak with a member call 828-342-6866.

## Thru Dec. 24

• Santa in the Park

## Thru Dec. 17

• Donations for REACH of Macon County can be dropped off at the Highlands Police Station and the Highland Fire & Rescue Dept. Needed are: paper products, full-size toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, razors, etc.), laundry and dish washing pods, dryer sheets, Lysol wipes, feminine hygiene products, diapers and wipes, hairbrushes, toothbrushes, combs, sealed dry dog/cat food and sealed cat litter.

## Dec. 9 - 19

• Holiday Spectacular at the Highlands Playhouse. Ticket prices for adults are \$25 in advance or \$35 when purchased day of the performance, and \$10 for children (under 18 years of age). The Playhouse will be working with area schools and outreach programs to ensure any local student can come to this family friendly event.

## Sat. Dec. 11

• Sheriff Candidate Debate at Franklin High School Fine Arts Building at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The debate will last for 90 minutes followed by a meet and greet with candidates for 45 minutes. Moderators will be Kevin Corbin and Dr. Matt Corbin.

## Thurs. Dec. 16

• At OEI's The Farm, Mike Kinnebrew. Fireside Holiday Evening. Get tickets online at [OldEdwardsHospitality.com/Fireside](http://OldEdwardsHospitality.com/Fireside).

## Sat. Dec. 18

• Ceremony and Wreath Laying. Highlands Community Building at noon. Then shuttles will take volunteers to the cemetery to lay veteran wreaths. For more information, call Phil Potts at 828-200-9753.

## Highlands Playhouse "Holiday" show is set for Dec. 9-19

For the first time in their 83-year history, the "theatre company in residents" at Highlands Playhouse will produce their very first Holiday show.

With this debut offering, the Playhouse also introduced a new price structure for its holiday show with ticket prices for adults at only \$25 in advance or \$35 when purchased day of the performance, and only \$10 for children (under 18 years of age).

Highlands Playhouse has partnered with America's "Best Cabaret Act" (Creative Loafing), The Scott & Patti Show, to bring the plateau audience an over-the-top Holiday extravaganza, perfect for the whole family (especially your weird uncle!)

Based on characters created by Matthew McGee and Scott Daniel, The Scott & Patti Show has been a popular fixture, and multi-award-winning act, in



the cabaret scene across the country for nearly a decade.

Join the mother and son duo as they celebrate the season through songs, dances, side splitting comedy and a bevy of special guests; including Emanuel Carrero, audiences may remember Emanuel

from the Fall smash hit Music in Motion; the national touring low brass musician Kyle R. Fulcher, and a collection of familiar (and maybe not so familiar) holiday characters.

Remember Andy Williams and his annual Christmas Special? Well, Scott and Patti guarantee to bring back a nostalgic Yule of yesteryear that is warmer than your Aunt Fanny's fluffy poinsettia sweater with The Scott & Patti Holiday Spectacular, Dec.9 – 19.

Visit [www.highlandspalyhouse.org](http://www.highlandspalyhouse.org) for details and tickets.

## ...BALLOT continued from page 1

total necessary to become the nominee in a contest on the ballot, a second primary may be held on April 26 or May 17. The date will depend on whether a federal office is involved.

Statewide races on the primary ballot include:

- The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives
- The N.C. General Assembly
- The N.C. Supreme Court and Court of Appeals

Local races on the primary ballot include:

- Sheriff
- Register of Deeds
- Clerk of Court
- County Commissioner

By noon on Wednesday, the following candidates had filed for office:

### MC Board of Commissioners District I:

Don Willis – Republican

In addition to those who filed, Jerry Moore of Highlands announced that he intended to run as an Independent for District I.

He needs to obtain 1,087 signatures on a petition circulating in the area before the March 8 primary in order to appear on the ballot in November.

Petitions are available at Highlands Decorating Center, Bear Mountain Outfitters and Kilwins in Highlands.

### MC Board of Commissioners District II:

Gary Shields - Republican  
 Richard Lightner - Republican  
 Danny Antoine - Republican  
 Danny Reitmeier - Republican  
 Gregg Jones – Republican

### MC Clerk of Superior Court: Justin Stamey - Republican

### MC Register of Deeds Todd Raby - Democrat

### Macon County Sheriff

Clay Bryson - Republican  
 Bob Cook - Republican  
 Dereck Jones - Republican  
 Chris Browning- Republican  
 Brent Holbrooks- Republican

### NC Senate District 50

Kevin Corbin - Republican

Local races specific to Macon County that will appear on the November ballot

have various filing deadlines – Soil & Water: Filing begins noon on June 13 through July 1; and School Board: Filing begins noon July 25 and runs through August 13.

## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

### Generous donors issue nonprofit 'Giving Challenge'

*Donations made to Pisgah Legal Services by Dec. 31st will be matched*

(Asheville, NC) - - For more than 40 years, nonprofit Pisgah Legal Services (PLS) has provided free civil legal aid to help people with low incomes seek justice and meet their basic needs.

Now there is a chance for local people to double the impact of their support.

PLS supporters have issued the Here for Justice Giving Challenge. Anyone who gives to Pisgah Legal Services by December 31 will have their gift matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$200,000 to serve people in Western North Carolina. Gifts can be designated to be used in Jackson and Macon counties.

PLS Director of Development Ally Wilson says, "We are very grateful to our donors for issuing this generous challenge, and we hope others will be inspired to make a gift that will engage advocates and attorneys for people in need in here in our mountain region. Lawyers are powerful al-

lies who can tackle the issues that keep people locked into poverty, trapped in domestic violence or living in substandard housing, but we need local support to provide these life-changing services."

Giving online is fast, easy and secure at [www.pisgahlegal.org/give](http://www.pisgahlegal.org/give) or contact Ally Wilson by phone at 828-210-3444 or via email: [ally@pisgahlegal.org](mailto:ally@pisgahlegal.org).

PLS has offices in Asheville, Burnsville, Brevard, Hendersonville, Highlands/Cashiers, Marshall, Newland, Rutherfordton and Spruce Pine. Pisgah Legal employs staff attorneys and relies heavily on the pro bono legal services of approximately 300 volunteer attorneys. Last year, more than 20,000 people in WNC were helped by Pisgah Legal Services.

If you need help, call Pisgah Legal Services at 828-253-0406 or toll free at 800-489-6144 or visit [www.pisgahlegal.org](http://www.pisgahlegal.org).

### The Laurel Garden Club opens grant cycle for 2022

*Applications Now Being Accepted*

The Laurel Garden Club of Highlands awarded grants to five non-profits in 2021. They are now accepting applications for 2022 grants. The 2021 grants were awarded to The Bascom, Highlands Biological Foundation, the Peggy Crosby Center, the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, and The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center.

The 2021 grants amounted to \$10,200, making a grand total of \$198,512 that Laurel Garden Club has given back to the community since 2002. The funds are raised by selling the cookbook, Celebrate Highlands (out of print) and moneys from the Kitchen Tours.

The purpose of the grants is to help

provide community beautification, protection, and conservation of Highlands' natural resources and scenic mountain landscapes. The club is an educational and non-profit organization. Proceeds from fundraising efforts benefit projects that comply with the club's stated purpose.

For more information, please visit the Laurel Garden Club website at: <http://www.laurelgardenclubhighlands.com/guideline-for-grants.html>

Applications are available at: <http://www.laurelgardenclubhighlands.com/grant-application.html>

Please note that the deadline for grant applications is January 31, 2022.

## Mountain Findings Thrift Store

Mountain Findings will be open for shoppers during the winter, weather permitting.

### Important Dates

Dec. 10-11 10a to 1p

Jan. 14-15 10a to 1p

Feb. 18-19 10a to 1p

March 18-19 10a to 1p

April 15-16 10a to 1p

Cash or check

432 Spruce St. • Highlands

# • BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## Renovations are complete at First Presbyterian 'Sunshine School'



Fireside at The Farm:  
A Holiday Evening with

*Mike Kinnebrew*

**December 16**

**Purchase Tickets Online Today:  
[OldEdwardsHospitality.com/Fireside](http://OldEdwardsHospitality.com/Fireside)**

Highlanders may have noticed that for many months now, the First Presbyterian Church Sonshine School has been undergoing a major renovation.

During the first months of COVID-19, when schools and churches were closed, Highlands experienced a great amount of rainfall. Even with regular monitoring and maintenance, the School, which is located under the First Presbyterian Sanctuary, suffered extensive water damage. However, with the help and guidance of many generous and caring people in the community, the necessary remediation and restorations are now complete. The end result is a wonderful improvement to the space.

The First Presbyterian Church of Highlands' Sonshine School has been providing after school care for students in kindergarten through 5th grade since 2009.

# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## 'I Am'



**Rev. Sam Forrester**  
Whiteside Presbyterian Church

“Jesus said to them, ‘most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I Am.’” John 8:58

I don't believe there is a more profound statement in all of the Bible. Jesus introduces this with words that call attention to something he wants the disciples to recognize. He is making a great and profound truth that has a great depth of meaning. He uses “most assuredly” or as in other translations, “Verily, verily,” or “Truly, truly.” We need to understand when we see these words, we must take time and study what follows carefully.

Here, to open for His disciples a great and precious truth, he declares “I say to you, before Abraham was, I Am.”

Why do you need to study this statement? Because this truth sets the ground for all of the gospel. This is a glorious and precious truth. “I Am” was the name God gave Moses to take to the Israelites as He prepared to deliver them from Egypt. It means that He is the sovereign almighty God who is in control of all things.

As you study, you will come to the place you have to ask yourself; Am I a believer in Jesus Christ? Is this Jesus the ground of my salvation? Have I placed my acceptance in Him alone? Have I come to see Him as my hope in this life and the life to come? Is He the desire of my heart?

If you have asked yourself these questions and answered them in the affirmative, you have a solid anchor of faith. You have found eternal life. You may have weak faith and have doubts but you have seen what true faith is. It is believing in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone. It is imperative that you understand Jesus Christ alone can save your soul. All others pretending to be saviors are false prophets. It is Jesus Christ who is the only Almighty Savior. He is the only one who can bring you to heaven's open gate. Behold that Savior, “Before Abraham was I Am.”

There is no greater foundation for the poor lost sinner to build upon. Here, is the greatest truth, the most secure faith, even faith the size of a mustard seed that can ground you to this glorious incarnate “I Am” for a surety, for a sacrifice, for a Redeemer, for an Advocate and an Intercessor before God's throne.

This “I Am” stands before the throne and speaks, pleading His own merits on your behalf. If you do not know this Savior, Jesus Christ, today is your day. Jesus came into this world as the “I Am” of God, the Son of God. He came to do for you what you could never do for yourself. He lived the perfect life, died the atoning death and won the resurrection victory to save the souls of everyone who would hear and believe the gospel message. Open your ears and hear and your heart and believe making this great “I Am” your hope in this life and the life to come.

## 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. Aryn Williams-Reubel, Pastor 828-743-5298  
Sundays: School at 9:30 Worship 10:30  
Wednesday night Dinner and Service 5:30

### CHAPEL OF THE SKY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999  
Sundays: 10 a.m.:Worship

Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

828-743-1701 • 464 Hwy 64E, Cashiers, NC 28717  
www.christanglicancashiers.com

Sun. - 9:30am Worship (no music); 10:30am Sunday  
School; 10:30am Worship Service.

Mon. Night Bible Study & Dinner, 6pm, call for details.

### CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470  
Sun. 10:45am, S.S 9:30am. Wed. 6pm supper and teaching.  
Tues. Guys study 8am. Gals 10am.

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard  
Sundays: School:10 a.m.;Worship:11 a.m.  
1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays –Supper at 6 p.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685  
3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins  
Sun.: 9:30am - Adult Sunday School;Worship Service 10:45am;  
10:45am Children's Program, Youth-12:15 – 2:30pm Tues:  
Women's Bible Study 10am-noon  
Thurs: Men's Bible Study 7:30-8:30 a.m.

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

706.746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447  
Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. W. Bentley Manning, Rector • 526-8152  
5th and Main streets • www.incarnationwnc.org  
Sunday Services in the Chapel:  
Rite I, 8a; with choir, 9:30a; with choir, 11a.

### 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  
828-526-3175 • fpchighlands.org  
Sun.:Adult Ed.: 10 a.m.;Worship 11 a.m.  
Tues: Men's Group 10 a.m.Wed: Bell Choir 4 p.m., Choir:6p

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)  
Sunday School:10 am,Worship Service:11 am  
**GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS**  
Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship  
242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers  
www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter 743-9814  
Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Nathan Johnson  
Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p  
Wed. Kidsquest 6p.;Worship 7p.

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street  
Wed. Bible Study: 6 p.m.;Sundays:Worship:11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson • 11339 Buck Creek Road  
The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily  
sharing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.  
Sunday Evening Worship 5PM 1st and 2nd Sundays

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas, Pastor 526-3376  
In-Person and live-streamed Worship Services  
909 Bluegrass and 10:50 Traditional  
www.highlandsmethodist.org

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

Rev. Angie Ballard • 2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741  
Worship/Communion:10:30 All are welcome.  
We wear masks and social distance.

### MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah  
Pastor Zane Talley  
Sundays: School:10 a.m.;Worship:11, Choir:6 p.m.  
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg.:7 p.m.

### MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

Franklin • 828-634-1312  
Services 2x/month May-Sept.; 1x/month Cct. -April  
mountainsynagoguewnc.com.

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church  
Sun:10:30 a.m. at Big Ridge Baptist Church,  
4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)  
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.;Youth Group 6 p.m.

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone – 526-2418  
Mass:Wed. noon (Latin),Thurs. noon, Fri. 9a; Sun., 11a

### 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:Tues. noon (Latin),Thurs. 9a.; Fri., noon; Sat. 5:30p; Sun.  
9a

### THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers  
Sunday School:10 am,Worship Service:11 am

# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands Police entries from Nov. 8. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

## Nov. 8

• At 5 p.m., officers were notified of a larceny of a firearm when it was removed from a the Mountaintop Wine Shoppe on Oak Street without permission. The gun is valued at \$550.

## Nov. 27

• At 7:26 p.m., officers responded

to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east at Pinecrest Road.

## Dec. 2

• At 4:52 p.m., Clinton Michael Henry, 20, of Clayton, GA, was arrested for having a shotgun, possessing meth and possessing drug paraphernalia where he was arrested at Farmers Market Gas Station. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond. His trial date is Dec. 9.

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Nov. 30.**

## Nov. 30

• At 11:38 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Maple Street.

## Dec. 2

• At 7:12 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on N. 4th Street.

• At 5:59 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Walhalla Road.

## Dec. 3

• At 1:10 p.m., the dept. was first-

responders to a location on N. 4th Street.

• At 1:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Falls Village Court.

## Dec. 5

• At 9:14 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to Jackson County.

## Dec. 6

• At 9:12 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on the Walhalla Road.

## ...BURNING continued from page 1

ban orders. I have issued an outdoor fire ban for the Town of Highlands," he said. "It will remain in effect until weather conditions change and the state and county rescind their orders."

But the open burn ban has been lifted across the state for now. According to Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler, it is fall wildfire season in North Carolina and precautions should always be taken.

"We were seeing wildfire activity increase due to dry conditions," said Troxler. "With those type of conditions, a statewide burn ban was necessary to reduce the risk of fires starting and spreading quickly. Our top priority is always to protect lives, property and forestland across the state."

Under North Carolina law, the ban prohibited all open burning, regardless of whether a permit was previously issued. The issuance of any new permits is also suspended when bans are initiated. Anyone violating a burn ban faces a \$100 fine plus \$183 court costs. Any person responsible for setting a fire may be liable for any expenses related to extinguishing the fire.

When a ban is called it's usually for open burning which includes burning leaves, branches or other plant material. In all cases, burning trash, lumber, tires, newspapers, plastics or other nonvegetative material is illegal.

According to the NC Forest Service, campfires, fire pits, outdoor fireplaces and burn barrels are considered open burning and are subject to the burn ban if more than 100 feet from an occupied dwelling.

However, within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling, local government agencies have jurisdiction over open burning which would include campfires, fire pits, outdoor fireplaces, burn barrels and even grills. During a burn ban, portable gas stoves or grills are alternate methods for cooking food while camping.

But, if a fire within a 100-foot area of a dwelling escapes containment, a North Carolina forest ranger may take reasonable steps to extinguish or control it. The person responsible for setting the fire may be liable for any expenses related to extinguishing the fire.

Highlands Fire & Rescue Chief Ryan Gearhart said he prohibits outdoor burning of all kinds within 100 feet of a dwelling and beyond when a ban is initiated.

"There is zero outdoor burning of any kind allowed within the town limits during a ban," he said. "However, outside town limits, as per the NC Forest Service, outdoor burning within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling is allowed."

However, even outside the town limits, Gearhart asks that people use extreme caution because fires can spread rapidly easily hopping town and county lines.

"We have not necessarily seen an increase in fires locally this fire season, but we don't want to either," he said."

The NC Forest Service lifted the ban Wednesday afternoon and Highlands followed suit.

— Kim Lewicki



## ★ December 18, 2021 ★ CEREMONY AND WREATH LAYING

Highlands Community Building  
869 N. 4th Street

12 NOON

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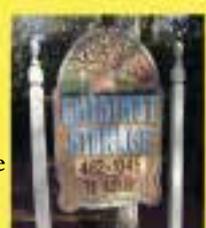
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**FULL TIME LIFE GUARD** – The Town of Highlands has a full time life guard position open. This position will work directly with the Pool Director making sure that the pool is running smoothly. They will also be responsible for supervising the part time life guards. They will need to be able to show leadership and ensure the safety of the patrons at the Highlands Recreation Pool by preventing and responding to emergencies. This job will start at \$15/hr. with full benefits, including health and dental insurance, along with retirement. Qualifications required are current certification in Life Guard Training, CPR and First Aid. They must also be able to demonstrate knowledge of rescue techniques, procedures, and equipment. Apply at [www.highlandscnc.org](http://www.highlandscnc.org) or stop by Town Hall to get an applications. Any questions please call Emilie Nickerson at 828-526-2118 or email at [emilie.nickerson@highlandscnc.org](mailto:emilie.nickerson@highlandscnc.org). Town of Highlands is an equal opportunity employer.

**HIGHLANDER MOUNTAIN HOUSE** hir-

ing a LEAD BARTENDER. Looking for a bartender who is passionate about hospitality and all things beverage. Someone who loves to take ownership of their role, has a strong work ethic and wants to grow with a company that is doing great things in Highlands. Competitive pay, flexible schedule and great environment. Applicants please email [trg@highlandermountainhouse.com](mailto:trg@highlandermountainhouse.com) (st. 10/14)

**THE HIGHLANDS RECREATION DEPARTMENT** is looking for an Ice Skating Rink Attendant and life guards. The Ice Skating Rink Attendant is responsible for opening and closing the ice rink and providing good customer service. Life Guard training will be provided for anyone 15 or older. Flexible hours available, may include after school and weekends. Application packets will be available at the Highlands Rec Center, the Highlands Pool or online at <http://highlandscnc.org>. The Town of Highlands is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Retirees welcomed! (9/16-10/7)

**THE ROOSEVELT TAVERN** – A new upscale casual establishment in Cashiers, NC. NOW HIRING ALL RESTAURANT POSITIONS. Including Chef, General Manager, Servers, Server Assistants & Line Cooks. Great pay, flexible hours, relaxed work environment for people who can work independently. Established company with great history and following in the area. 18 Chestnut Square, Cashiers. 828 482-8743. [Route64restaurants@gmail.com](mailto:Route64restaurants@gmail.com). (st. 9/2)

**HIGHLANDER MOUNTAIN HOUSE NOW HIRING** – Waitstaff, cooks, bartenders, full and part-time, flexible. Competitive wages. Email [info@highlandermountainhouse.com](mailto:info@highlandermountainhouse.com) or call 828-526-2590. (st. 8/19)

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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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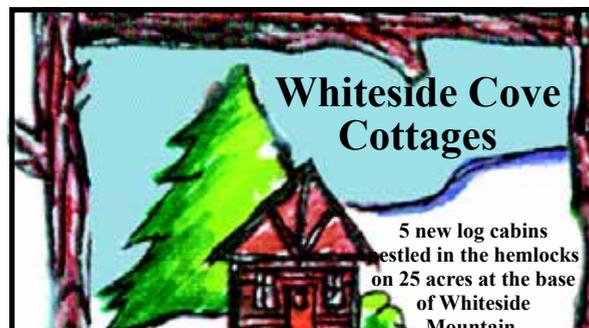
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# • CLASSIFIEDS •

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**CHESTNUT HILL OF HIGHLANDS** is an Upscale, Small Assisted Living Facility looking for Med Aides, CNA's, Housekeeper and Dietary Staff. You may apply in person at 24 Clubhouse Trail,

by Phone at 828-526-5251 or by email to [ce.chestnuthill@yahoo.com](mailto:ce.chestnuthill@yahoo.com) or [lindabtiff@aol.com](mailto:lindabtiff@aol.com).

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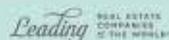
Julie Osborn

Broker in Charge

julie@patallenrealtygroup.com  
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Wildcat Cliffs Office

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Molly Leonard

Broker

c. (828) 371.1155

Molly Leonard has been a lifelong visitor to the Highlands/Cashiers area since her parents built a house in Highlands in 1960. She fell in love with the mountains and left her native Atlanta in 1999 to become a full time resident. She was associated with the Highlands office of Harry Norman for 15 years before moving to Highlands Sotheby's in 2015. Molly is very active in the local community. Her mission is to share her love of the mountains with her clients, assist them in finding the right property that fits their needs and make sure they find the process a positive one.

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