

# Highlands Newspaper

Happy Mother's Day!

FREE Every Thursday

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## U.S. teachers retiring at a record rate

*Local schools seeing the trend; scramble to fill positions*

By Brittney Lofthouse

During the April meeting of the Macon County Board of Education, Macon County Schools

Superintendent noted that 40 teachers had put in their applications for retirement, which is unusually high.

Last school year, the school system saw 13 retirements. According to school board attorney

• See **TEACHERS** page 21

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## King & Queen for the night



Last Friday night was the Highlands School Junior/Senior Prom held at The Vineyard in Scaly Mountain. Crowned king and queen, were Collin Stoltzfus and Megan Rehmeier.

– Photo by Brian O'Shea

## Rescuers find lost child safe

By Brittney Lofthouse

A Macon county toddler who went missing from his home Sunday evening has been safely returned to his parents thanks to the joint efforts by the Burningtown-Iotla Fire Department, the Macon County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina Wildlife, Spartanburg County Search & Rescue, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Jackson & Macon Emergency Management, EMS, 911, and numerous Search & Rescue Squads. Multiple fire departments played a vital role in the search. Agencies included volunteers from Cullasaja, Cowee, West Macon, Highlands and Franklin Fire Departments.

Just after 7 p.m. on Sunday, Macon County 911 received a call for help in locating a two, almost three-year-old who wandered away from his home in the Burningtown area of the county. Local agencies

• See **LOST** page 11



Last Wednesday after the Varsity Girls won their last regular season game the three seniors on the team were recognized. Soccer seniors from left are Alyson Dayton, Madi Drummonds, and Anne Marie Moore. The varsity girls played Monday night in the NCHSAA state playoffs at home.

– Photo by Brian O'Shea

## Undefeated Varsity Girls take first loss in state tourney

By Brian O'Shea

The Lady Highlanders varsity soccer team went undefeated

throughout the regular season – a first ever feat -- clinching

• See **GIRLS** page 14

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### How will the future impact Highlands?

Some of the changes that are happening now are rather unnerving, even depressing to this aging Baby Boomer. Social media, the political climate, actual climate change, and population pressures are changing the way we live. On the other hand, I am intrigued by the prospects for the future. Some future changes generate a foreboding sense for many, but I hold on to the hope of human progress and change for the good.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

I recently read an article in INC News Letter by Thomas Koulopoulos entitled, "4 Predictions of the Most Disruptive Innovations in the Next 20 Years." It made me think of the challenges facing our community too, especially in the framework of the impending Highlands Community Plan.

Koulopoulos says the first big disruptor will be autonomous, self-driving vehicles that will be the primary mode of transportation. And yes, I know a Tesla just had a fatal crash while supposedly on auto pilot. My response is what would

have happened to the airline industry if all research on airplanes ceased after the subsequent crashes after Kitty Hawk?

We may soon see a day when autonomous vehicles drop a person off on Main Street, and then proceed to a parking area quite some distance away. The vehicle could return to Main Street when the person is ready to leave.

The next innovation cited in the article is that quantum super computers will replace our current ones. These quantum devices will be computers on steroids. They will "think" and process information in all dimensions and directions. Quantum devices are predicted to bring artificial intelligence to a level that can most imitate, even replicate, the natural world.

This technology is not a "Buck Rogers" notion. US, European and Chinese researchers are in a high stakes race to bring quantum computing to fruition on an everyday user level. Huge broadband networks may be a part of this system.

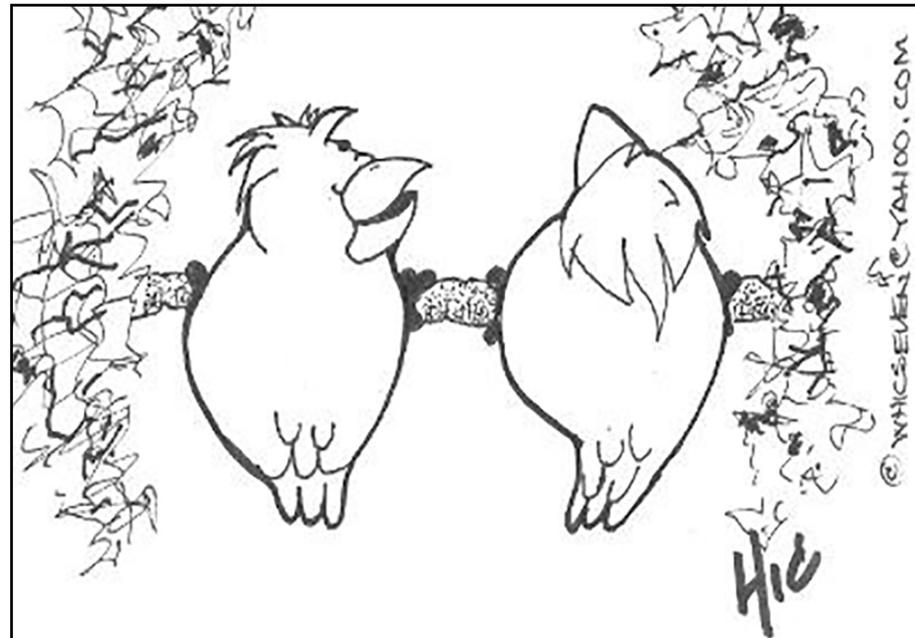
The third disruptor cited in the piece has to do with immutable identity. Of the 7.5 million people on the planet, half have no documented identity. They live on the fringe, or are not a part of the global economy and modern life. The emerging blockchain technology will let these disenfranchised people have an identity and enter the modern world. The implications for the global economy will be enormous. We have a somewhat disenfranchised population here on the Highlands Plateau with our undocumented workforce friends. They desire to be fully recognized participants in our community.

The last disruptor that may have a huge impact on our community will be the need for autonomous, intelligent healthcare advocates that will help humans navigate a personalized healthcare system.

The article's prediction is that there will be a seamless sharing of health data with doctors in an increasing complex healthcare system. We are seeing the tremendous changes in medicine already with the use of messenger RNA in developing the current

• See MAYOR page 5

## • HIC'S VIEW •



"Last year we gave mom a bouquet of worms. This year lets give her something special, a box of assorted bugs."

## • WEATHER •

Thu, 6-May	Fri, 7-May	Sat, 8-May	Sun, 9-May
 60°F 40°F	 54°F 40°F	 61°F 43°F	 65°F 51°F
Clouds and sun	Plenty of sun	Increasing cloudiness	A p.m. t-storm possible
RealFeel® High: 70° Low: 49°	RealFeel® High: 56° Low: 40°	RealFeel® High: 67° Low: 45°	RealFeel® High: 69° Low: 50°

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### Highlands Newspaper

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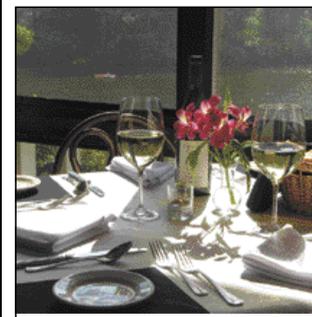
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# Highlands School Third Quarter Honor Roll

## Grade 3

A

•Ava Penland, Avery Cronkrite, Camden Westendorf, Jensen Bowers.

AB

•Blake Kenter, Charles Wilkes, Emelina Hernandez, Mason Johnston, Oliver Smith, Todd Vilardo.

## Grade 4

A

•Walker Kittrell

AB

•Hudson Tilley, Samuel Conner, Stephen Doerter.

## Grade 5

AB

•Arabel Aulisio, Charlie, Sherwood, Katherine Somoy, Tucker Wilson.

## Grade 6

A

•Bailey Cronkrite, Chase Kenter, Francisco Gooch, Juliet Hopkins, Katie Fox

AB

•Agustin Juarez Rios, Aiden Dendy, Alejandra Valerio, Blaine Dency, Elmer Hernandez Cerrato, Jordyn Borino, Julieta Juarez Rios, Leela Chrestman, Stephen Pierson, Timothy McDowell

## Grade 7

A

•Aniah McKin, Cayden Pierson, Jaylin Raby, Nicole Taylor

AB

•Anne-Elizabeth Woods, Camerson Ramsey, Claire Sherwood, Claire Worley, Hunter Conner, Lucas Deppe, Margaret Cole, Tate Wilson.

## Grade 8

AB

•Ophelia Contreras Garcia, Rea Miller, Savannah Bozeman.

## Grade 9

A

•Alexis Turner, Brooke Fogarty, Caitlin Tingen, Inman, Ahrens, Nicolas Cotton-Arteaga, Oliva Cole, Roger, Stwiner.

AB

•Darby Templeton, Henry Garcia Lopez, Mackenzie Woods, Riley Logan.

## Grade 10

A

•Adisyn Westendorf, Alexander Suastegui Benitez, Anna Stiehler, April Norton, Bella Wilson, Liam Kennedy, Mary Tate, Riley Conner, Ryan Ubertino,

AB

•Alisia Johnson, Anna Nichols, Chelsea Garcia, Gabriel Diaz Martinez, Gracie McCallk India Clark, James Earp, Lilly Bryson, Nathan Keener, Sydney fiel.

## Grade 11

A

•Brandon Moss, Frances Ortiz-Figueroa

AB

•Ava Schmitt, Brandy Zagal Damian, Brent Sleight, Dayana Factor Hernandez, Hayley Borino, Jeffrey Olvera Lopez, Julia Schmitt, Kaitlyn Doerter, Madalynne Doen, Ruth Mendoza Hernandez, Seth Staffelback, Taylor rickert.

## Grade 12

A

•Alyson Dayton, Anne Marie Moore, Hadley Templeton, Joana Jimenez Reyes, Jordyn Carrier, Kadence Ramey, Logan Petrone, Megan Rehmeier, Rebekah Wiggins, Tessa Wisniewski,

AB

•Garrison Chalker, Lane Tingen, Savannah Shaheen.

# • THANK YOU •

It is with deep gratitude that the family of Lucille Nix Wilson of Highlands wish to thank each one for his/her gesture of kindness during the loss of our loved one. Maybe you prepared food. Maybe you sent flowers or a note of care. Perhaps you called or came by the house or even took a chance during these anxious times of Covid pandemic to come to the homegoing service to personally love on us and share memories. Whatever, you did, please know that we felt the love not only for us, but for our mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. You will never know how much your expressions of love helped to heal our broken hearts.

With much appreciation,  
Lisa (Daughter) and Lester Norris  
Christine (Sister) and Bill Lowe

## ...MAYOR continued from page 2

COVID vaccines. Coupled with other medical technologies, such as CISPER, our current notion of healthcare and hospitals might be radically different in the not-too-distant future.

In Highlands we have worked to have a fully functioning hospital as we have always known. The concept of a hospital might be very different in a decade or so from now.

Am I frightened with the possibility of all these disruptive advances? Not so much. The human enterprise will move forward in ways we may not be able to discern at this point in time. Some of us will still be there for the "big show."

# • HIGHLANDS DINING •

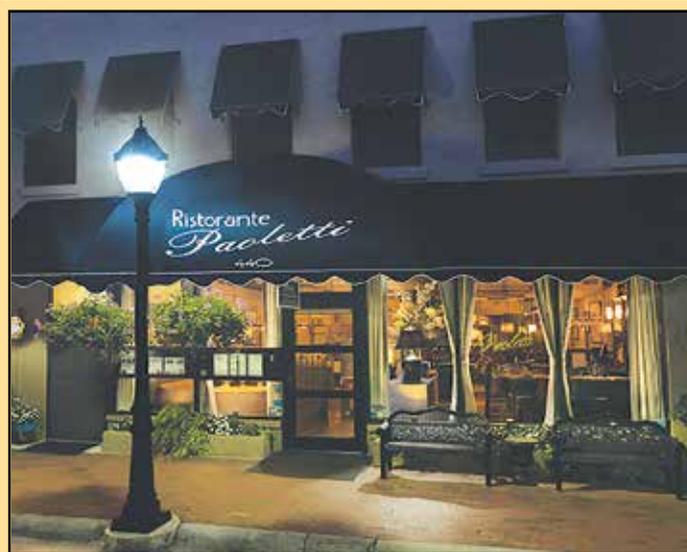


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## CATSPEAK

### • PRINCESS PUDDIN' SPEAKS •

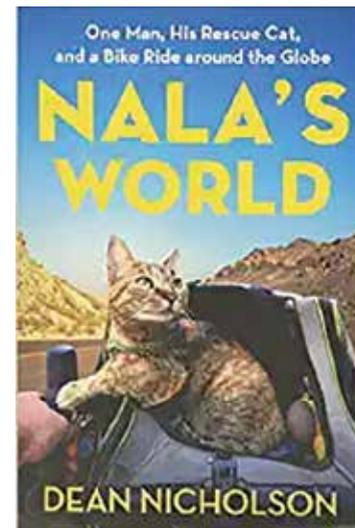
#### Puddin' recommends "Nala's World"

Wow! Mum read an awesome book about a cat who's on a 'round the world trip with a guy on a bicycle. I'm not sure I want to travel on a bicycle—or at all—but it's a grand adventure story. And it's not fiction. It's true.

Nala was a tiny kitten, when Dean, a cyclist from Scotland, found her on the side of a mountain road in Bosnia, at least ten miles from the nearest town. He couldn't believe it when what he thought might be a squeak in his rear wheel turned out to be a kitten meowing. How could she have turned up on a mountain road in the middle of nowhere?

Well, I can answer that question. Someone in a pickup truck threw me into a bush in midtown Atlanta when I was a "wee thing" as Dean would say. I bet that's what happened to Nala, whom Dean named for the lioness in "The Lion King."

What a lucky kitty. Not only did Dean hear her, but he also decided to take her along on his journey. He left Scotland, determined to cycle around the world



with a friend. When his friend bailed on him, he went his merry way alone. Finding Nala meant he had a new companion. Maybe you've seen the video of their adventure on the youtube video posted by Dodo. If you haven't, you don't know what you're missing.

Yes, Nala, is lucky, but so is Dean. He says she's given him a new outlook on life, and their relationship has changed him. I think all cats can have a positive influence on their peeps, given a chance, but this tale is an exceptional example of the power of one tiny kitty.

Dean and Nala sleep most nights in a tent, and Nala loves it. Again, I might like spending a bit of time playing in a tent, but every night? No way. I like my beds. The more Mum read, the more I learned about all the accouterments Nala has. She has toys and

a harness and a pet carrier for the back of the bike, though she prefers riding up front on the handlebars where she can keep an eye on Dean and take in the scenery. The first day, she left the bike bag, climbed up his arm to his shoulders, and wrapped herself around his neck. How cute is that?

When she developed a chest cold after the two were caught in a downpour, they spent three weeks in a hostel instead of a tent so she could recover, and she enjoyed that too. She's quite a hit, not only with people the two encounter on the journey but also on Instagram and YouTube. Dean has GoPro camera plus a drone with a camera and is forever posting photos of their adventures.

Mum says she was skeptical about how good the book would be, but it turned out she couldn't put it down. Well, I could have told her that would be the case. What's not to love about a book with a cat in it? She enjoyed it so much, she now follows Nala and Dean on FaceBook at 1bike-1world. Yup, she's hooked.

You know my Mum writes the Dickens & Christie cozy mystery series, and Christie, the sassy black cat in her books, rides in a backpack when her owner goes on walks. Thankfully, Mum hasn't tried that with me. I've made it clear I'm happy observing the world from the screened porch and Dad's lap. I'm a little worried, though, because Mum has a bicycle with a pouch on the front. Goodness knows what I'll do if she gets the idea I need a bicycle ride. Repeat after me, "No bike, no way."

• To contact Puddin' or her Mom, write [inkpenn119@gmail.com](mailto:inkpenn119@gmail.com). Kathy Manos Penn's cozy mysteries can be found on Amazon and locally at Books Unlimited in Franklin.

# • INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

## Think what your Mom or Grandma would do when you are considering real estate

As we celebrate our mothers on this Mother's Day weekend, it has reminded me of how my mother and grandmothers have influenced my decisions regarding property purchases, renovations, architecture, hardscape and landscape as well as more personal and fun things like design, antiques and art.

My maternal grandparents had a 1950s ranch house in Decatur, GA. It had the most beautiful yard on the street with a goldfish pond in the back, which I thought quite exotic at the time. Although it was in the middle of a fully developed street, the back had a park-like setting with tall pines, dogwoods, azaleas and camellias. These were tended to by both my grandmother and my grandfather with much pride. My grandmother was the artsy type, always reading or painting with eclectic taste. Later in life when I bought my first house, she



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gave me the advice to always have a view of something where you live. She didn't mean that it had to be a big view or on a lake, but make sure it was something pleasant that

you would enjoy looking at and to work at making it more beautiful if possible.

My paternal grandparents lived in a colonial house that had a more traditional southern garden. The front was simple with a green lawn, large boxwoods and pachysandra and vinca groundcovers. The back had a proper brick terrace, lawn, boxwood borders with hosta, fern, hydrangea and impatiens (the deer would be in heaven). Up closer to the street was a perennial border where she would garden foxglove, cone flower, phlox and other perennials. My grandfather tended a rose garden and she would always have beautiful arrangements in her home and did the flowers for the church that came from her garden. Her advice was to always act the age that you are. This has nothing to do with the topic at hand, but it keeps me from acting like I am 27 when I am much older.

From an early age my intent was to be an architect. I remember drawing plans before I was six. At that time, I couldn't figure out how to draw a second-story without going outside the footprint of the first story.

Within a few years, Santa brought me a drafting table complete with drafting tools, and the proper pencils and paper and a triangular scale. I would draw plans and elevations and present them to my mother who

would critique them. She was always buying magazines of house plans that I would analyze, then be off to draw something new.

It was from my mother that I grew to love architecture. She gave me books on famous southern architects like Neel Reid, Philip Schutze, and James Means; but also created a library of great books of other architects, designers and landscapers. She designed the house that my parent built and created. There were many Saturdays that we would go out antiquing, to garden centers or repaint the living room and see how long it would take my father to notice the change. As I am in the midst of a planning a major renovation, I still take the plans to review with her and send her updated sketches, and she continues to offer useful suggestions and tweaks to make it right. She also continues to improve her yard so that she has a beautiful view to enjoy.

As this is a column on investing in real estate, many may wonder how does this all come together? It's relatively simple – listen to your mother and grandmothers and take their best advice. Someday, you may use that advice in making an important decision regarding a real estate purchase where you will be creating memories and giving advice for your families.

## Cash for families with children

### File 2020 tax returns to ensure receipt of payments

Beginning in July of 2021, qualifying families with children will begin to receive the expanded federal Child Tax Credit, in part, in the form of monthly checks from the IRS. The total annual credit to be received is \$3,600 per qualifying child ages 0-5 and \$3,000 per qualifying child ages 6-17 (age on December 31, 2021). Parents should file a 2020 tax return prior to the May 17, 2021 filing deadline to ensure they receive these monthly payments, even if they are not otherwise required to file a 2020 tax return (because their income is too low to be required to file or other reasons). By filing 2020 tax returns, parents ensure that the IRS has their current address and number of dependent children. Child Tax Credit payments will be in the amount of \$250 or \$300 per child per month.

If individuals did not receive the first and/or second stimulus checks, they may be able to receive their payment by filing a 2020 tax return and claiming the Recovery Rebate Credit. Due to recent changes in the law, families with only one spouse/parent with a valid social security number may now be able to receive the first and/or second stimulus checks as a tax refund by claiming the Recovery Rebate Credit.

For the third stimulus check, qualifying families should receive \$1,400 for each taxpayer and \$1,400 for each

eligible dependent with a valid social security number. Families with dependents with valid social security numbers can receive the third stimulus check for their qualifying dependents, even if one or both parents do not have a valid social security number. The IRS is still distributing the third stimulus check. Please refer to <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment> and [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for updates.

Anne Salter, Pisgah Legal's Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Program Director, explains, "The Child Tax Credits have the potential to bring more than 4 million children out of poverty, but families should file their 2020 taxes prior to May 17, 2021 to access these payments as soon as possible. We urge everyone to spread the word and for anyone who needs assistance to reach out to PLS."

A family of four, including two children under age 6, could receive as much as \$18,720 between the EITC, the expanded federal Child Tax Credit and the third stimulus check payment.

For more information about child tax credits and stimulus payments, and for free tax filing options, contact Pisgah Legal Services at 828-414-0800 or [Stimulus@pisgahlegal.org](mailto:Stimulus@pisgahlegal.org). For more complex tax issues, including owing back taxes, contact Pisgah Legal Services at 828-253-0406 to apply for legal help.

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# • SMALL TOWN, BIG THOUGHTS •

## On Heirlooms

Out of a longing that I have not identified or satisfied, I have been searching for old quilts, needlepoint samplers, and herbaria on eBay. At first I thought I might like to have a seamstress in Clayton or Brevard make me a quilt coat, since I keep seeing them on the women of Instagram who identify with the hashtags #farmcore and

#homeschoolmom, but it has been a while now, and I have not bought a quilt. I think something is happening to me, and I think it is the preservation instinct, the instinct to leave the thing alone. This has also happened with wildflowers.

When I moved here and was coming out of quarantine from a bout of Covid, I came upon a wild Carolina lily on the dirt

road to the Secret Falls trail-head. It looked like a Turk's Cap lily stalk, but it was much smaller, with spotted, backward curving petals, and there was only one flower. I was coming out of a period of brain fog and fear and frequent nebulizing, and I identified something in the flower that I thought would save me, so I picked it. I would never do that now. There was only one of them on the whole road. Apart from being illegal, since I was on Conservancy land, it robbed other people of the possibility of encountering something rare. I did not know any of this then – I was in an infancy of seeing. I feel guilty, and sorry, even exploitative. Maybe I was saved by it, but all the more reason to leave it alive there, in situ.

Instead of possessing quilts and dried flowers and old journals, I have started to collect their stories. Among the photographs of specimen pages of may apple leaves and yellow adder's tongues in an eBay listing for a 1929 Herbarium (starting bid: \$29.99) with the name "Margaret Thomas" written on the front is a note:

*Betty, you should have this. Mom's, her study at Washington Missionary College - Fragil.*



Anna McDonald

*pick Spring flowers, and bring them in the house for bouquets. One favorite memory of Mother is her coming home from work with Spring flowers*



In a listing titled "Almost vintage 3-D flowers hand quilted quilt that took 85 hours" (starting bid: \$115), there is a note from the maker, written directly onto the back of the quilt:

*This quilt was made by Helen Polley in May, 2001. It took 85 hours to complete. I call it "Spring Forever" and dedicate it to my 96 year old mother, Ruby Padgett. Mother never planted a flower, but loved to*

*clutch in her hands, putting them in a vase, setting them on the kitchen table for me to admire. Life really is sweet, and memories are really treasures!*

For a pair of red leather diaries (1947 & 1953), the seller leaves a note in the description:

*They were my grandfather's. He was a supervisor at Armstrong Nurseries in Ontario and then transferred to Wasco, California. One of my fondest memories was spending all day with him going to the open fields with him all the beautiful roses and cotton. I want someone to buy them who will appreciate them as I have no one to leave them too. To me these are treasures.*

I realize how incomplete the task of

•See HEIRLOOMS page 21

## Consignment Furniture and Regional Art

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# • ON THE SUNNY SIDE •

## Going Home To Mother



**Kenny Youmans**

Yes, we all go home to mother  
When the day is near its close  
For 'tis there we get our comfort  
And a balm for all our woes.  
How we need her to be with us!  
To her counsel we would fly,  
For we feel the need for mother  
Every day that passes by.

There's none else can so determine  
What for all our needs is best,  
None so truly sympathizes  
When we're facing some great test.  
In our days of early childhood  
We felt no need of other,  
But brought our troubles and our joys  
And emptied them on mother.

She it was who kissed our bruises,  
Binding up each cut and sprain;  
Gladly she'd borne our suffering,  
Freeing us from ache and pain.  
Her smiles would chase away our tears,  
With her the sun was shining;  
It mattered not if clouds were black,  
She saw their silver lining.

And always so very gentle,  
With her hand upon our brow;  
She would speak the words of wisdom  
Just like benedictions now.  
Oh, how she loved us everyone;  
We can never quite forget.  
Such love as hers can know no end  
But e'er lingers with us yet.

The years have come, the years have gone,  
And mother now is sleeping.  
Her place is vacant in our home  
Sad vigil we are keeping.  
This bit of comfort we do find,  
We'd swap it for no other,  
We'll pledge ourselves to live like her  
And then – go home to mother.

# • BUSINESS / ORGANIZATION NEWS •

## What's new at Hudson Library

All Fontana Regional Library locations in Macon, Jackson, and Swain Counties are now open for walk-in browsing without an appointment. Because of high demand and limited capacity, some special sections may still require a reservation, such as Hudson's Children's Room and study room. These reservations can be made in advance or on a walk-in/as-available basis.

Visitors who come into the library starting in May will find that things look more like they did before the pandemic, even as masks are still required for everyone ages 3 and up, and additional cleaning measures are in place. Following CDC and NCDHHS recommen-

dations, there will no longer be a quarantine of returned library items, and some of the upholstered chairs and furniture will again be usable, as social distancing allows. Curbside pickup will continue as an option at all library locations.

A new service that is now available is wireless printing. Anyone can now send a print job to a library printer from anywhere using any device, and then come to the library to pick up and pay for their printout. Print jobs are stored for up to 72 hours, so a user needs to visit a Library Print Release Station to release/retrieve and pay for the print job before it is automatically deleted. This maintains privacy, as only the sender can release

the job when they come to the Library. This project has been several years in the making, and Fontana Regional Library is grateful to have received the funding to accomplish it through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (IMLS grant number LS-246155-OLS-20).

For more information about using the library, please call Hudson Library at 828-526-3031 or visit [www.fontanalib.org](http://www.fontanalib.org).

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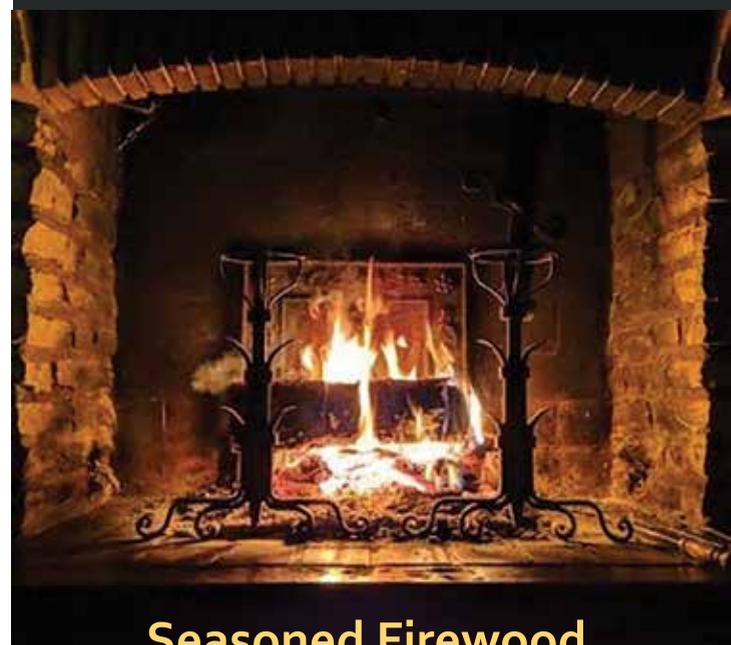
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## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •

### Third quarter grant recipients announced



Grant recipients from CLE, Friends of Founders Park, Highlands Festivals, Highlands Motoring Festival, PAC, Highlands Playhouse and the Bascom

Each year Visit Highlands, NC supports our local nonprofits through our Tourism Grant program and Sponsorships.

These grants and sponsorships are funded by Occupancy Tax which is paid by guests staying in Highlands' accommodations.

In FY 2019/2020 \$167,893.31, in Grants and Sponsorships were provided to local nonprofits and year to date FY 2020/2021 Grants and Sponsorships total \$137,573.96. As Highlands opens up after the pandemic, we expect to be able to assist more nonprofits as we all

work together to make Highlands a great place to live and visit.

Grants and Sponsorships awarded this quarter total \$85,220 and the recipients are:

- Center for Life Enrichment, Porch Fest \$8,400
- Chamber Music Festival \$7,500
- Friends of Founders Park, Shrimp Boil \$1,300
- Highlands Festivals \$20,000
- Highlands Motoring Festival (Summer Event) \$8,000
- Highlands Motoring and The Bascom Collaborative Exhibition \$5,000
- Highlands Motoring Festi-



Nancy Aaron with the Chamber Music Festival

val (Fall Event) \$3,000

- Highlands Performing Art Center \$10,000
- Highlands Playhouse \$10,000
- The Bascom Center for Visual Art \$10,000

A huge thank you to all of our nonprofits that provide education, entertainment, and culture for residents and visitors. We encourage everyone to support and enjoy the programs provided by our local nonprofits. For more information about applying for a Tourism Grant or Sponsorship email us at [Grants@highlandschamber.org](mailto:Grants@highlandschamber.org).

## Macon County reports 37th death related to COVID-19

Macon County Public Health received notification that three Macon County residents diagnosed with COVID-19 have passed away. To protect the family's privacy, no further information will be released about these individuals. This death brings Macon County to thirty-seven (37) deaths related to COVID-19.

The entire state of North Carolina requires masks to be worn when social distancing cannot be maintained. Older adults and people of any age who have

serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19; however, anyone of any age can become infected with this illness. Therefore, we ask that community members strictly follow the governor's orders and continue to practice social distancing, as well as safe hygiene measures such as hand washing and frequently cleaning touched objects and surfaces. The public can monitor the different phases of re-opening and learn more

about the restrictions at <https://covid19.ncdhs.gov/guidance>.

If you believe that you may have COVID-19, please call the Health Department at 828-349-2517. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm, until further notice. To register and schedule an appointment to receive the vaccine, please call 828-524-1500. The vaccine call center is open from 8:00am – 5:00pm Monday through Friday, until further notice.

## ...LOST continued from page 1

immediately began canvassing the area.

MCSO Deputy Edwin Grant who helped coordinate search efforts requested the additional search of the area utilizing the "Air Scent" canine even though it had already been searched by volunteers. Grant routinely works with the National Exploited & Missing Children's organization and instructs in various canine trainings for search & rescue dog units.



"This additional search was not because we didn't have confidence in the efforts of rescuers but instead because we know just how difficult it is to see at night and something as small as a two-year-old can easily be missed," said Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland. "Having available and utilizing an important resource like an "Air Scent K9" is crucial when they can pick up a scent without having to see anything to find it. At the point the K9 team arrived, and bad weather was moving in, they quickly mobilized support personnel and sent teams into the woods where the toddler first went missing."

The Spartanburg County Search & Rescue K-9 unit teamed with NC Wildlife Officers and Macon Deputies and was assigned to canvassing the mountainside

near the missing toddler's home.

After hours of searching, just before 4 a.m., one of the teams located the missing toddler after K9 named "Cricket" indicated an alert to her handler. Within moments of that alert, the K9 lead the team to the toddler where he was found sitting in an area several hundred feet up the mountain above the parent's residence where they recently moved.

The child remained quiet as the team carried him down the mountain where volunteers and EMS personnel eagerly awaited his arrival with his parents. Macon County EMS treated the toddler at the scene and transported him with his mother to local hospital for further evaluation.

Jackson County Sheriff's Office & Jackson County Emergency Management assisted by flying drones with night vision over the area.

"This search was a team effort, and everyone played an important role serving our community and this family," said Holland. "It's because of the efforts of everyone involved and God's Mercy & Grace that we had a successful outcome and I'm honored to have been involved with each of them."



### Highlands Marketplace

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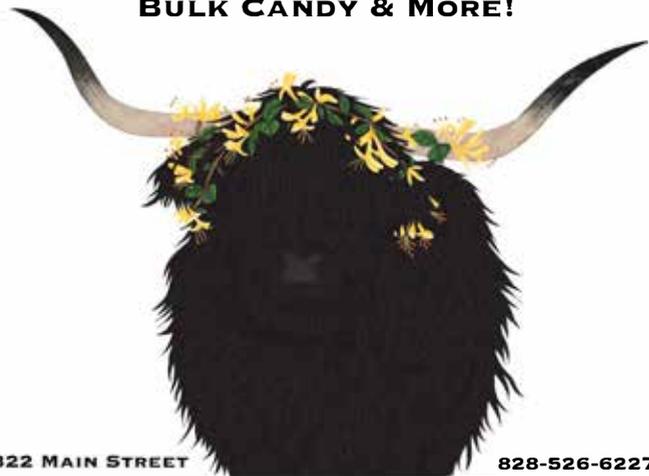
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## ...GIRLS continued from page 1



Highlands Mac Woods chases down a tipped Lincoln pass at home.



Highlands Hayley Borino controls a line-drive pass.



Highlands School Girls Varsity Team 2021

the Smoky Mountain Conference 1-A championship (last time was in 2007) but felt the first sting of loss on Monday night at home against Lincoln Charter in the first round of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state tournament with a final of 4-0.

Highlands Coach Caleb Brown said he was proud the girls made it to the state tournament as only one slot is guaranteed from each conference that goes to first place, second place is a wild card.

“They performed well against a strong team from one of the best conferences in the state,” said Brown. “We had our chances and it just didn’t go our way.”

Brown said Lincoln passed well and were very effective moving the ball, combined with two incredibly fast Lincoln forwards and it was difficult to shut down, but the Lady Highlanders never gave up.

“They never quit, they gave it their all and I couldn’t be more proud,” said Brown.

Brown said he didn’t know what to expect when the season began, but the girls worked hard and it showed on the field.

“I had no idea what was going to happen and then they came out and crushed it all season,” he said. “They grew closer as a team, gave it their all, and made it work. I’m very proud of them.”

The Lady Highlanders say

goodbye to seniors Alyson Dayton, Madi Drummonds, and Anne Marie Moore this year and Brown said they will be missed.

“They were definitely the biggest leaders on the team,” said Brown. “Always the first to practice and stayed late. They mentored some of the younger players both on and off the field, and they helped make it fun and enjoyable to play soccer.”

Moore said it was bittersweet playing her final game as a high schooler in the first round of state.

“We could have done better, but we all played our hearts out

and they’ll get them next year,” said Moore.

She added that ending her high school soccer career as undefeated season champions is a good way to finish things.

“It feels amazing to be part of a team to accomplish something that hasn’t been done in a long time,” said Moore. “I’m going to miss the girls and I know they’ll do great next year.”

Highlands Goalie Alyson Dayton said they played the best they could against Lincoln and is proud the Lady Highlanders went undefeated through the season.



Highlands Caroline Woods works for position to move the ball down the field.



Highlands Hayley Borino launches to block a Lincoln pass.



## Geology Rocks!

By Jenni Edwards

In an effort to provide enrichment education activities to their after-school programs, The Literacy & Learning Center partners with other local nonprofits. This month,

The Literacy & Learning Center teamed up with Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust to help students learn about geology.

The activities were based on the National Geographic book *Rocks and Minerals*. Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust provided a gem mining kit for each of the TL&LC's students, which included a sifting pan, a packet with fun facts about geology, and a bag of dirt to be sifted into water to reveal treasures. The students were able to identify which rocks they found and use a magnifying glass to get a better look at their mined gems. One student, Highlands kindergartener Christian Villalta, thinks he may have found a Carnelian crystal. He says, "It was really fun to shake the dirt around and then find pretty rocks! I saw lots of different colors inside the rocks when I looked at it with my magnifying glass"

Anna Norton, Program Manager of TL&LC, says, "We are so grateful to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for all of the enriching activities they give our students. The kids love it when there is a new project

and hurry to finish their homework so they can join in the nature-themed learning fun."

The Literacy & Learning Center is dedicated to providing interactive approaches to their free educational programs. Executive Director Bonnie Potts says, "We love seeing learning come alive for our students. This project was exciting because they were able to see and touch the rocks they had just read about. They were able to identify which rocks they had sifted through the dirt to find. And of course, getting a little dirty when learning always seems to be a big hit with our students!"

Other partner programs include Read, Write, Create with The Bascom, where students read a book together and use their imagination and creativity to create art based on that book, which has proven to be extremely successful with reading retention; a science program with Highlands Nature Center; and a program with Yoga Highlands that offered stretching and breathing techniques, which has proven particularly helpful for students with test anxiety and restlessness.

For more information about The Literacy and Learning Center's programs, or to volunteer, please visit [www.maconncliteracy.org](http://www.maconncliteracy.org).

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## FOX BROTHERS

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## Ongoing

• The Bookworm at 555 Main Street is now open Thursday-Saturday 11a to 3p. For more information, call 828-526-3031.

• Mountain Findings Thrift Store at 432 Spruce Street is open Friday and Saturday from 10a to 1p.

• 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. In person meetings have resumed and are held at 12 Noon Wednesday And Friday at 1st Presbyterian Church Library, 471 Main St., Highlands. On line meeting information can be found @ [www.aawnc80.org](http://www.aawnc80.org) or to speak with a member of A.A. call (828) 349-4357.

## Every Saturday

• Highlands Marketplace in K-H Park on Pine Street. 8a to 12:30p.

## Thurs., May 6

• Le Grande Jewelry Trunk

Show at The Spa Boutique at Old Edwards, 16 Church Street. 10a to 6p.

## Sat. May 8

• Highlands PAC will present an encore performance concert(s) from the MET Opera stars Renee Fleming and Jonas Kaufmann on Saturday, May 8 at 1pm. Tickets are available online: [www.HighlandsPerformigArts.com](http://www.HighlandsPerformigArts.com) or at the door.

## Sunday, May 9

• Chamber event: Highlands is Blooming.

## Mon., May 10

• High Mountain Squares are happy to invite you to a series of 12 classes of instruction in Social Square Dancing beginning Monday, May 10, at 6:30 P.M. At the Environmental Resource Building. Vaccines are required to participate. Call 828-787-2324, 727-599-1440, 706-746-5426 or 828-332-0001 for more information.

## Tues. May 11

• Highlands High School Academic and Athletic Awards and Scholarships in the new gym at 10 a.m.

## Tues., May 18

• Highlands School Grades K, 1, 2 Award Assembly in the new gym at 9 a.m.

• Highlands School Grades 3, 4, 5 Awards Assembly. New gym at 10 a.m.

## Wed. May 19

• Highlands School Middle School Academic Awards in the MS courtyard or old gym at 10 a.m.

• Highlands School Middle School graduation at 5 p.m. courtyard or old gym.

## Thurs., May 20

• Highlands Biological Foundation Virtual Lecture Series: Climate Conversation at 6 p.m. "On the edge of a shifting range: Climate change and birds of the southern Appalachian Mountains" with Dr. Richard Chandler, Associate Professor, University of Georgia. For more information on our Climate Conversations lecture series or to register for one of the webinars, please visit our website at [www.highlandsbiological.org](http://www.highlandsbiological.org) or call us at (828)526-2623.

## Fri. & Sat., May 21-Oct. 31

• Chamber event: Outdoor music 6 to 8:30 p.m.

## Fri., May 21

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Silly Ridge Roundup **Sat., May 22**

• Highlands School graduation at 10a on the track or in the new gym. TBA.

• Chamber event: Meander in May.

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. The Caribbean Cowboys

## Tues., May 25

• At 5 PM the Hemlock Restoration Initiative (HRI) will present virtually via Zoom "Hope for Hemlocks" as part of the 2021 Village Nature Series program. The presentation will include information about what everyday folks can do to get involved in hemlock conservation. The Village Nature Series is co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green and is free to attend, everyone is welcome! To receive your Zoom link for this event, please email [director@cashiersgreen.com](mailto:director@cashiersgreen.com). To learn about the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and their mission to save valuable natural resources for all generations visit [www.hicashlt.org](http://www.hicashlt.org) and to learn about The Village Green and their 13.2 acre sanctuary in the heart of Cashiers visit [www.villagegreencashiersnc.com](http://www.villagegreencashiersnc.com).

## Thurs. May 27

• Highlands Biological Foundation Virtual Lecture Series: Climate Conversation at 6 p.m. "Salamanders

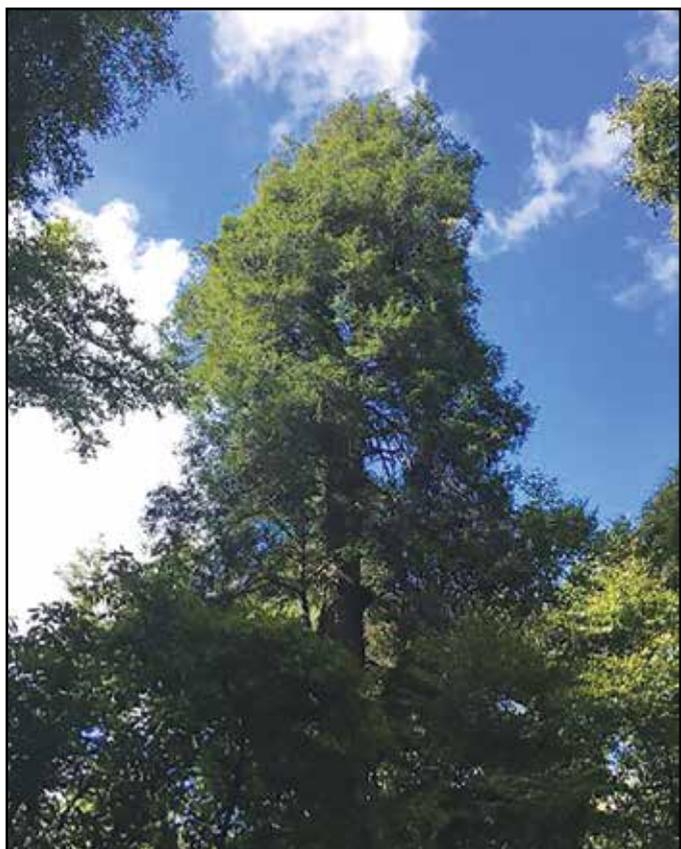
of the Future: How climate change will impact salamanders of the southern Appalachians" with Dr. Meaghan Gade, The Ohio State University. For more information on our Climate Conversations lecture series or to register for one of the webinars, please visit our website at [www.highlandsbiological.org](http://www.highlandsbiological.org) or call us at (828)526-2623.

• Laura Walsh: Orchard Sessions at The Farm 6-9p.m. Get ready for more enchanting evenings at The Farm this season with the return of our live concert series, Orchard Sessions. Settle into comfortable seating and relax into a summer evening under the heirloom apple trees. A stellar lineup of our favorite musicians will fill the magical mountain air in the stunning surroundings of the orchard, while you enjoy light bites and a cash bar. On May 27, the sessions kick off with Arizona native turned Nashville recording artist, Laura Walsh. Laura has an upbeat pop and country style that is sure to please. Old Edwards Hotel Guests & Members \$15. General Admission \$25 (bookable two weeks prior to the event). Cash Bar & Complimentary Light Bites will be served. \$15 - \$25. Tickets: <https://www.simplenetix.com/e/laura-walsh-orchard-sessions-at-the-farm-t-tickets-68518>

## Fri., May 28

• Friday Night Live Concert.

## Hemlock Restoration Initiative



On Tuesday, May 25 at 5 PM the Hemlock Restoration Initiative (HRI) will present virtually via Zoom "Hope for Hemlocks" as part of the 2021 Village Nature Series program. The presentation will include information about what everyday folks can do to get involved in hemlock conservation. The Village Nature Series is co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green and is free to attend, everyone is welcome! To receive your Zoom link for this event, please email [director@cashiersgreen.com](mailto:director@cashiersgreen.com). To learn about the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and their mission to save valuable natural resources for all generations visit [www.hicashlt.org](http://www.hicashlt.org) and to learn about The Village Green and their 13.2 acre sanctuary in the heart of Cashiers visit [www.villagegreencashiersnc.com](http://www.villagegreencashiersnc.com).

## Music in the Park kicks off Saturday, May 22



After a year of no music in the park, it's back on starting Saturday, May 22 with Caribbean Cowboys from 6-8:30 p. Bring a picnic and chairs and prepare for a good time.

# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

6-8:30p. Trudition

**Sat. May 29**

• Highlands Mountain Garden Club plant sale 9a to noon at the ballfield on the Cashiers Road.

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Ashley Heath & Her Heathens

**Thurs., June 3**

• Highlands Biological Foundation Virtual Lecture Series: Climate Conversation at 6 p.m. "Climate change and the future forests of Great Smoky Mountain National Park" with Dr. Jason Fridley, Professor, Syracuse University. For more information on our Climate Conversations lecture series or to register for one of the webinars, please visit our website at [www.highlandsbiological.org](http://www.highlandsbiological.org) or call us at (828)526-2623.

**Fri., June 4**

• Friday Night Live: 6-8:30p. Byrds & Crow

**Sat., June 5**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Peggy Ratusz

**Fri. June 11**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Frank & Allie

**Sat. June 12**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Hurricane Creek.

• Fox Brothers Disco Pig Party at The Farm at Old Edwards at 6:30. Warm southern nights in June beckon for southern barbecue! Enjoy a lip-smacking evening at the Farm at Old Edwards on Saturday, June 12 with pitmasters Jonathan and Justin Fox. They're the tour de force behind the award-winning Atlanta restaurant Fox Brothers Barbecue. Get your taste buds ready for their unique Southern-style barbecue infused with their home state of Texas flair. Enjoy pulled pork, brisket, wings – you know - Bar. B. Que. That's Saturday, June 12 at the Farm at Old Edwards. \$155 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Book online: <https://www.simpletix.com/e/fox-brothers-dinner-at-the-farm-tickets-6544> or call 855-421-2919 to book.

**Sat., June 13**

• Highlands Motoring Festival. Cars in the Park. (Pine Street) 10a to 4p

**Thurs., June 17**

• Erick Baker: Orchard Sessions at The Farm at Old Edwards at 6 - 8 pm. Guest-favorite singer-songwriter Erick Baker from Knoxville, Tennessee, returns to Highlands for this special Orchard Sessions event. Settle into comfortable seating and relax into a summer evening under the heirloom apple trees at the Farm at Old Edwards. The music of Popular self-taught singer-songwriter Erick Baker, from Knoxville, Tennessee will fill the magical mountain air in the stunning surroundings of the orchard, while you enjoy light bites and a cash bar. Old Edwards Hotel Guests & Members \$15. General Admission \$25 (bookable two weeks prior to the event) Cash Bar & Complimentary Light Bites will be served. \$15 - \$25. Tickets: <https://www.simpletix.com/e/erick-baker-orchard-sessions-at-the-farm-tickets-67598>

**Fri. June 18**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Johnny Webb Band

**Sat. June 19**

• K-H Founders Park Annual

## 2021 Plant Sale is on!



JB at the Old Jail on Maple Street wants everyone to come to the Mountain Garden Club's 2021 Plant Sale, Saturday, May 29 at the ballfield.

– Photo by Kim Lewicki

Shrimp Boil. Drive Thru. 5-7 p.m. Rain or shine.

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Americana Jones

**Fri. June 25**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Trudition

**Sat. & Sun., June 26 & 27**

• Mountaintop Art & Craft Show (previously the Village Square Show) will be held in downtown Highlands at K-H Founders Park (Pine St.) from 10 to 5. The FREE event features regional potters, jewelers, woodworkers, fine artists, etc. plus food. For more info call (828) 526-9227 or visit [www.mountaintopshow.com](http://www.mountaintopshow.com). Masks may be required.

**Sat. June 26**

• NO CONCERT

**Fri. July 2**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Foxfire Boys

**Sat. July 3**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. TBA

**Sun., July 4**

• Chamber event: Fireworks and Concert.

• Saturdays on Pine: Moon Dance: 6-8:30p.

**Fri., July 9**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Southern Highlands

**Sat., July 10**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Kurt Thomas Band

**Fri., July 16**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Johnny Webb

**Sat., July 17**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Shane Meade

**Fri., July 23**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Sycamore Flats

**Sat., July 24**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. Silly Ridge Roundup

**Fri., July 30**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Byrds & Crow

**Sat., July 31**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. The Wobblers

**Fri., Aug. 6**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Foxfire Boys

**Sat., Aug. 7**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p.

High Five

**Fri., Aug. 13**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Ben and Marce

**Sat., Aug. 14**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. TBA

**Sun., Aug. 15**

• Dinner with Steven Satterfield & Joseph Lenn at The Farm at Old Edwards at 6:30 p.m. Please join us in celebrating the height of the summer season in the mountains with James Beard Foundation award-winning chefs Steven Satterfield of Miller Union in Atlanta, and Joseph Lenn of JC Holdway in Knoxville, Tennessee. This dynamic duo, who also happen to be great friends, will present a multi-course menu full of summer's most delicious flavors alongside pairings from the Old Edwards sommeliers in the beautiful setting of The Farm. \$185 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Book online today: <https://www.simpletix.com/e/dinner-with-steven-satterfield-joseph-lenn-tickets-67065> or call 828-787-2525 to book.

com/e/dinner-with-steven-satterfield-joseph-lenn-tickets-67065 or call 828-787-2525 to book.

**Sat., Aug. 16**

• Twilight K Run.

**Fri., Aug. 20**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Sycamore Flats

**Sat., Aug. 21**

• Saturdays on Pine: 6-8:30p. ZuZu Welch

**Fri., Aug. 27**

• Friday Night Live in Town Square: 6-8:30p. Trudition

**Sat. & Sun. Aug. 28 & 29**

• Mountaintop Art & Craft Show (previously the Village Square Show) will be held in downtown Highlands at K-H Founders Park (Pine St.) from 10 to 5. The FREE event features regional potters, jewelers, woodworkers, fine artists, etc. plus food. For more info call (828) 526-9227 or visit [www.mountaintopshow.com](http://www.mountaintopshow.com).

## Laura Walsh in concert at OEI's The Farm



Laura Walsh: Orchard Sessions at The Farm 6-9p.m. Get ready for more enchanting evenings at The Farm this season with the return of our live concert series, Orchard Sessions. Settle into comfortable seating and relax into a summer evening under the heirloom apple trees. A stellar lineup of our favorite musicians will fill the magical mountain air in the stunning surroundings of the orchard, while you enjoy light bites and a cash bar. On May 27, the sessions kick off with Arizona native turned Nashville recording artist, Laura Walsh. Laura has an upbeat pop and country style that is sure to please. Old Edwards Hotel Guests & Members \$15. General Admission \$25 (bookable two weeks prior to the event). Cash Bar & Complimentary Light Bites will be served. \$15 - \$25. Tickets: <https://www.simpletix.com/e/laura-walsh-orchard-sessions-at-the-farm-tickets-68518>

# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## The mixed bag of motherhood

Pastor Mark Ford  
First Baptist Church  
Highlands

Sunday is Mother's Day. A day of celebration for those who were blessed to have good mothers and gladly honor them.

For others, a day heavy in nostalgia and maybe even regrets as mom is no longer alive and they miss her. It can be a bitter day for those who had no caring mother in their lives, or worse, abusive mothers.

For some it may even be an unwelcome intrusion in their lives as they are reminded of mothers who engaged in the wreckage of sinful habits, ignoring them and their welfare.

On the other side of the isle, for the mothers it is a day to be lavished with love and thanks from appreciative children. Gifts and cards are the order of the day.

Or it can be a day when unloving, unthankful children show disrespect and are uncaring. They ignore or dismiss the gift of life given to them by the woman they call "mom." They are unthinking about the sacrifices of time, energy, and emotional investments that were put forth to bring them to maturity and prepare them for life. They forget the comfort given them for skinned knees and torn hearts – the hugs and kisses that wiped away their tears.

Then there are those who long now in later life to be a mother but made wrong choices early on – casting aside the opportunity or even the gift of a child to pursue their own agendas.

Also, there are those who have long desired a child to bring into this world and raise and love. But God did not allow them the joy, having some other purpose for them.

Simply put, Mother's Day can be a mixed bag for many women and people in general, depending on their status in life and their history.

As a pastor, I rejoice with those mothers rightly honored and esteemed. A Proverbs 31 mother deserves praise, God tells us.

But as I pastor, I also hurt for many children who are deprived or who have missed out on the blessedness of a mother "who fears the Lord" and gives her life for her children (Proverbs 31:25-31).

As a pastor I hurt for those women who find themselves without children – biologically or emotionally abandoned by their children. I hurt for those who now regret choices made that have deprived them of the joy of a baby's smile, a baby's first word – "Mommy" – watching them take that first step with mom's help, the first day of school, graduations, and weddings.

For you who have good mothers and are blessed with good children this coming Sunday, I hope you have

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 22

## 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. Aryan 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

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

464 US Hwy 64 east, Cashiers

9:30am Sunday School; 11:30am Worship Service; 6pm Mon.

### 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

Sundays: 9:30am - Adult Sunday School; 9:45am (masks required)

Early Worship Service; 11:15am (masks optional) Worship

Service; Sundays 10:45am-Children's Program,

Sunday Youth-4:30pm – 6:30pm Dinner provided

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

706.746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

Worship: Sun. 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion 2nd. Sunday

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. W. Bentley Manning • 526-2968

Sunday Services Live-Stream at 10:30 a.m.,

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

Holy Eucharist at noon in the garden on Mon and Wed

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HIGHLANDS

828-526-4153 • www.fbchighlands.org

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

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

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

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Curtis Fussell & Emily Wilmarth, pastors

526-31 • 75 • fpchighlands.org

Sun.: Worship 8:30a Adult Ed.: 9:30a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

Mondays: Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast 8 a.m.

Wed: Choir: 6p

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

### GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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242 Hwy 107N, 1/4 miles from Crossroads in Cashiers

www.gracecashiers.com • Pastor Steve Doerter: • 743-9814

Services: Sundays 10am - Wed. - 7pm; Dinner - Wed. 6pm

### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy 107N. • Glenville, NC • 743-2729 • Nathan Johnson

Sunday: School 9:45a, Worship 11a & 7p, Bible Study 6p

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

### HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor 828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

Sundays: Worship: 11

### HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson • 11339 Buck Creek Road

The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily

relocating and will be sharing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.

Sunday Morning 9AM

Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM

Sunday Evening Worship 5PM 1st and 2nd Sundays

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Randy Lucas 526-3376

In-Person Indoor Worship with limited seating, and an allowable capacity up to 30% pending appropriate social distancing. 9:09 and 10:50 worshipservices.

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

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

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

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

743-2583 • Independent Bible Church

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

4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone – 526-2418

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

### THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1448 Highway 107 S., Office: • 743-2359 • Rev. Rob Wood

June-Sept: Sunday Services: Rite I, 8a, Rite II, 9:15 & 11a

Nursery available for Rite II services

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

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • uufranklin.org

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am, Worship Service: 11 am

# • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



## Franklin community celebrates groundbreaking of new Angel Medical Center

With an eye on the future and supporting healthcare throughout the Western North Carolina region, Mission Health on Friday celebrated the groundbreaking for its 82,500 square foot Angel Medical Center.

Located at One Center Court, Franklin, the new 30-bed facility will be 1.5 miles from the current facility. The new hospital will have 3 operating rooms, 1 endoscopy suite, and a 17-bed ER that will include 3

This new 68 million dollar state-of-the-art healthcare facility offers the most up-to-date clinical services and integrates the latest wireless technology available. It will provide larger rooms, better lighting and healing views, and the capacity to allow

for the latest technologies to be incorporated into the hospital.

Among community members in attendance were Jack Horton and Dinah Mashburn, Franklin Town Council Members; Warren Cabe and Gary Shields, Macon County Commission Members; Justin Setter, Franklin Town Planner; Kevin Corbin, NC State Senator; Karl Gillespie, NC State Representative District 120; and Chief Bill Harrell, Franklin Police.

Angel Medical Center engaged local businesses for all aspects of the event including: the tent, chairs, flowers, and food.

The new Angel Medical Center is scheduled to open in the fall of 2022.

# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands Police entries from April 27. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.**

### April 27

• At 3:59 p.m., officers received a report of damage to a vehicle parked at Harris Lake where someone broke out the back window with a hammer.

**The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from April 19.**

### April 27

• At 9:48 p.m., the dept. was first-re-

sponders to a residence on BigView Dr.  
**April 29**

• At 8:34 p.m., the dept. responded to a structure fire on Carl Chastain Road.

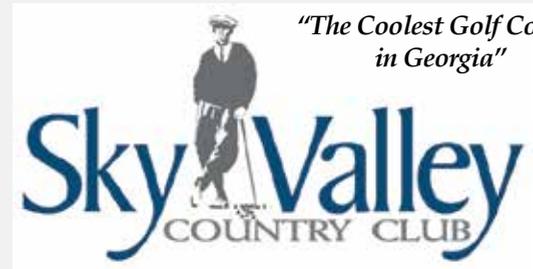
• At 9:58 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Horse Cove Ranch Road.

### May 1

A little past midnight, the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Oak Street.

### May 3

• At 8:32 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to at residence on Forest Trail.



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10a to 1p

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Masks &

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## ...HEIRLOOMS from page 8

collecting stories of orphaned heirlooms has to be. The pieces of stories left on the works themselves, or in the selling descriptions, come to me partial, but like Sapphic fragments, they have a completeness, too. They are poems.

I'll never know what happened to Betty, who was given the herbarium, or why the quilt made by Helen for Ruby is on eBay, instead of on some family bed. Maybe there was no one to inherit them. Maybe the heirs are acolytes of the professional declutterer Marie Kondo. This heirloom slippage happens constantly, as people are lost, estates are cleared. Intimate things circulate outside of their original intentions, into the larger family of man.

Around Mother's Day, I think of what my mother has given to me, and of what I have taken from her. Instead of a quilt coat, I have worn, all year, daily, on hikes, to school pick up, to lunch, to write, to sleep, a pair of very large dark gray paint-stained sweatpants, which she wore to paint the house that I am currently living in (another thing that she has given me, for a while). A most unlikely heirloom, and probably the least elegant thing she owned, she laughs when she sees me wearing them. She is alive now, but the prickly sensation that one of us will outlive the other is always with me. And I can almost see the future, when, after my death, my daughter or son will take a bag of my old clothes to Goodwill. These sweatpants might be in there, silent about how beloved they were, how they connected a mother and daughter through a most unusual year, ready for another life.

### Weekly Biz Card Ad Rates

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### Weekly Classified Rates

\$6 for 10 words.

20 cents each additional word

\$2 for color highlight

\$5 for graphic

**Call 828-200-1371 or email  
highlandseditor@aol.com**

## ...TEACHERS continued from page 1

John Henning Jr., school districts across the state are seeing similar trends, leaving vacancies in the double digits.

As of Tuesday morning, Macon County Schools has 20 positions being advertised to be filled ranging from an Agriculture Teacher, to an Elementary Educator, to Principals, with vacancies at every school within Macon County.

Out of the 20 positions currently being advertised within Macon County Schools, Highlands School is currently looking for a High School CTA/Industrial Trades Teacher as well as a part-time high school Spanish teacher.

In April alone, Highlands School reported the resignation/retirement of one teacher and one school nutrition assistant while also announcing several new hires. Due to vacancies that occurred through the year, the school board approved new personnel at Highlands in Allison Hedman as an elementary teacher, Sarah Martinko as an English Teacher, and April Getz as the new Media Coordinator.

A recent survey by the National Education Association showed nearly one third of educators said the COVID-19 pandemic has made them more likely to retire early or leave the profession.

That same report states this "includes a significant number of new or young teachers — one in five teachers with less than 10 years' experience. It also includes 40 percent of teachers with 21 to 30 years' experience, who are presumably leaders and mentors on their school campuses, and 55 percent of those with more than 30 years."

Overall, K-12 employees' general satisfaction with their employers sank to 44% in October from 69% in March 2020, according to a report from the Center for State and Local Government Excellence. Of the roughly 3.5 million full- and part-time public school teachers, more than one-third, or 38%, said that working during the pandemic has made them consider changing jobs.

# • CLASSIFIEDS •

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



**GREAT DEAL!** Five acre view lot in private, gated community of Highlands Gate Estates off Hwy 64 West. Community water, electric and cable. \$99,000. Call Merritt Shaw at Highlands Cove Realty (828) 421-7593. (5/13)

## HELP WANTED

**CALLING ALL MERMAIDS!** Spartina 449 now hiring part time key and sales position. Apply in person. 394 Main St, Highlands. 828-787-1178 (st. 4/29)

**PART TIME SALES PERSONAL NEEDED** for ladies boutique in Highlands. Needed friendly people person no sales experience necessary. 2-4 days a week call 828 526 3608 for appointment. (st. 4/22)

**THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT AND LEARNING CENTER** - Are you looking for a summer job? We are still looking to fill the following positions: Kitchen Staff, Cabin Counselor, Health Center Coordinator (must be 21+, EMT certified or higher), CIT Mentor (21+), ASCENDER Mentor (21+) You can find more details about these positions and apply on our website: The MountainRLC.org. Please reach out with any questions or concerns at youthcamp@themountainrlc.org. I look forward to seeing your ap-

plication! (st. 4/1)

**OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA, HIGHLANDS NC** Now recruiting for Employee Housing Property Manager, Banquet Captain, Assistant F&B Manager, Reservations Specialist, Fitness Manager, Fitness Instructor, Spa Attendant, Spa Concierge, Warehouse Assistant, Retail Sales Associate, Seasonal Garden Laborer, Bartender, Server, Host/Hostess, Busser, Cook, Baker, Pastry & Bread Cook, Dishwasher, Housekeeping, 2nd Shift Laundry, Cosmetologist, Front Desk Agent/Bellman, Night Audit, Overnight Security. Benefits offered after 90 days employment Apply online: www. oldedwardsinn.com/careers

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**CASTING CALL!** The Highlands Playhouse is reopening and we are looking for talented and committed team members in a variety of roles. Leadership and box office staff positions are available (both full and part-time). Experience in business management/customer service and an interest in the arts is a must! The Highlands Playhouse is an 83 year old institution offering movies year-round and live entertainment in the Summer and Fall. Please send resumes and inquiries to HighlandsPlayhouse@gmail.com (st. 2/18)

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**THE SUMMER HOUSE BY REEVES FURNITURE STORE IN HIGHLANDS** is looking for full and part time sales and administrative positions. Sales — must be professional appearing, friendly, self-motivated, and enthusiastic. Previous sales and customer service experience preferred. Design Assistant — must be attentive to detail, have computer and organizational skills. Duties include placing and following up on Purchase Orders, managing accounts, and working closely with our in-house Designer and design clients. Apply in person at 2089 Dillard Road, Highlands, NC 2874. (2/25)

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

## ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 18

a blessed day and rejoice in the gift of Motherhood.

For those who feel a great disconnect this Sunday – or even pain – I pray that God will comfort you. As Isaiah 66:13 says, “Like one who is comforted by his mother, I will comfort you” says the Lord. With God in our lives, none of us need be motherless. And with so many hurting, abandoned, or abused children needing our love and support, none of us need be childless.

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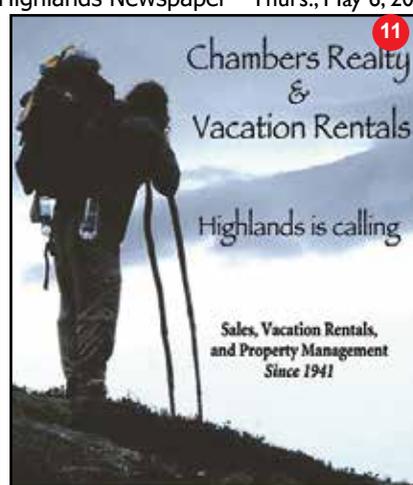
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