

Highlands Newspaper

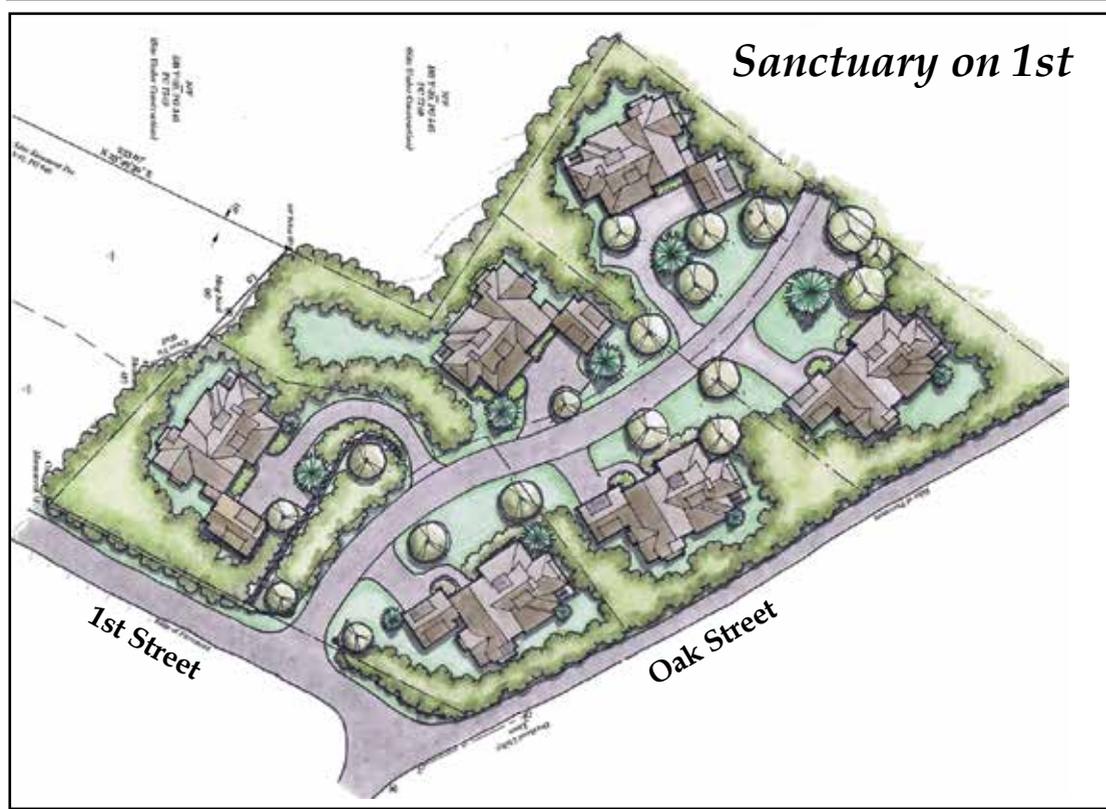
The Gorge Road (US 64 west) is closed through Sat., June 11

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Volume 19, Number 23

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Thurs., June 9, 2022



Sanctuary on 1st

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Recount confirms Holbrooks is MC Sheriff

By Melanie D. Thibault
MC Board of Elections

On 2 June the Macon County Board of Elections and 33 paid volunteer poll workers performed a recount of the Macon County Sheriff's election.

The count at all but two precincts was the same.

The count in Burningtown precinct resulted in one fewer vote for Brent Holbrooks, the count in the one-stop Franklin precinct

resulted in one fewer vote for Derek Jones.

The result was no change in votes between the candidates.

Holbrooks won the Republican nomination for Sheriff.

Since there were no Democratic candidates, he will be sworn in as Sheriff in December

Jones and Holbrooks thanked the Board and volunteers for the recount. It cost taxpayers \$10,000.

County budget shows no property tax rate increase

By Brittney Lofthouse

During a continuation meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners held on May 26, Macon County Manager Derek Roland presented his recommendations for a \$59,047,113 budget proposal that would keep the county's current tax rate at 40 cents per \$100 of assessed property valuation.

"Right now, the local economy in Macon County is booming," said Roland. "Residential and commercial development, retail sales, travel and tourism spending, and real estate sales remain at levels unsurpassed in over a decade while unemployment is approximately 3%. Population growth in Macon County of 1.5

• See TAX page 13

PB sees plans for multi-million dollar subdivision destined for Oak and 1st

Over the recent years, living in town and in luxury has become all the rage. It started with the subdivisions created by Old Edwards Hospitality Group on S. 4th, N. 5th and most recently N. 4th streets.

Now Sanctuary Developers out of Cashiers has gotten into the game with its first in-town

Highlands subdivision project at 1st and Oak streets.

Tuesday evening the Planning Board was presented and accepted the preliminary plans with a final sign-off needed from the Town Board at its Thursday, June 16 meeting.

The Sanctuary at 1st subdivision began with the demolition

and subsequent building of a luxurious home at 154 N. 1st Street which is under construction and contract and reportedly priced at nearly \$5 million.

That .60-acre tract has been combined with the 2.45-acre tract of vacant land at the corner of Oak and 1st to make the 3.05-acre

• See SUBDIVISION page 14

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Acknowledging the past protects the present

The time after Memorial Day is a very active period for organizations in Highlands. I have had the opportunity to attend many of these events in recent weeks, and unfortunately, I have missed some also.

This past Sunday I went to the dedication of the new research teaching facility at the Highlands Biological Station. Over the past several years the Highlands Biological Foundation has raised funds to build this new research teaching facility next to Ravenel Lake.

Julia Grumbles, the past president of the foundation, spoke at the dedication. The ultimate goal of the Highlands Biological Station and Foundation is to study, research and most definitely preserve the unique ecology and environment on this mountain plateau, as well as the entire Western Carolina region. In fact, the Highlands Biological Station has had this commitment since its founding some nine decades ago.

I was struck by the enthusiasm of the staff, researchers and especially the volunteers and community supporters of this vital organization. It has been a commu-



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

nity treasure that continues to have strong support in the effort to preserve this unique mountain environment.

With the growing population and expansion throughout Western Carolina, the work and research of the Highlands Biological Station is needed now more than ever. They have formed numerous partnerships with universities and area groups such as the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust and the Highlands Greenway to expand programs of advocacy for preservation.

Another related event was the program presented by the Highlands Historical Society in honoring our local historian, Dr. Ran Schaffner. Again, Ran has been an outspoken advocate for the preservation of the history and mountain culture of this unique community. He wrote the definitive history of Highlands that documents all the people and families that made this community so unique.

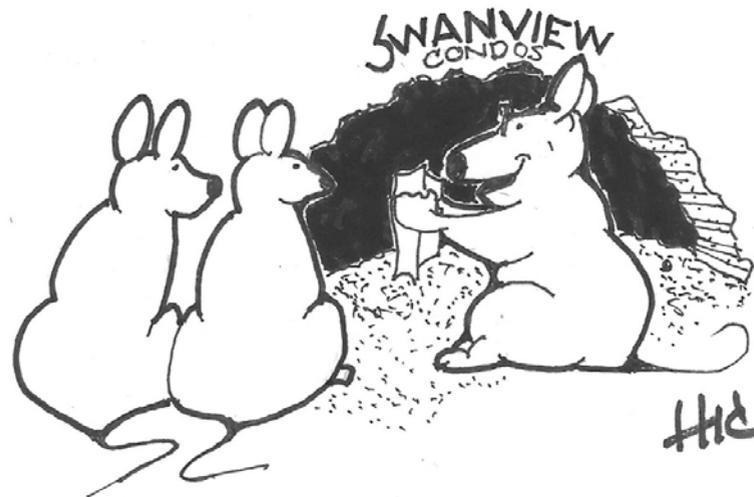
As Highlands inevitably develops and embraces changes driven by modern life, we must not forget our past and why so many from the past and the present have chosen to live here on this high plateau. The torch of preservation must be passed from generation to generation if what is so special about Highlands is to be retained.

It is hard to know what lies ahead for this community and region, but cautious reflection and analysis will be required. I was talking with a regional public official just last week about how certain developments can have unintentional consequences.

A county nearby saw the recent spread of bitcoin mining businesses. Large warehouse facilities were converted to these dark manufacturing enterprises. The warehouses were filled with racks of computer servers that run constantly in mining bit coin. At first, these efforts were viewed as a boost to the economy, but later residents saw them as a major source of disruption. These bitcoin factories require large amounts of power and need big fan systems running constantly to cool down the servers.

Residents living as far as a mile away were recently complaining at a public meet-

• HIC'S VIEW •



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• OPEN LETTER •

From: Derek J. Allen of Allen, Stahl & Kilbourne
To: Jay Coward, Craig Justus and Town of Highlands
Re: May 19, 2022, Adoption of Amendments to UDO

Dear Jay and Craig,

I write in a prelitigation attempt to resolve a procedural issue with the Town of Highlands' adoption of the amended UDO on May 19, 2022. Notably, the Town failed to provide adequate notice of the ordinance changes per N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601(a). That statute provides as follows:

Before adopting, amending, or repealing any ordinance or development regulation authorized by this Chapter, the governing board shall hold a legislative hearing. A notice of the hearing shall be given once a week for two successive calendar weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the area. The notice shall be published the first time not less than 10 days nor more than 25 days before the date scheduled for the hearing. In computing such period, the day of publication is not to be included but the day of the hearing shall be included.

N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601. See also, UDO Section 4.2.4. A "legislative hearing" is defined as "[a] hearing to solicit public comment on a proposed legislative decision. N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-102(20). A "legislative decision" is "[t]he adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation under this Chapter or an applicable local act. N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-102(19).

Furthermore, "the notice of public hearing required by G.S. 160A-364 [now N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601] must fairly and sufficiently apprise those whose rights may be affected of the nature and character of the action proposed." Sellers v. Asheville, 33 N.C. App. 544, 549, 236 S.E.2d 283, 286 (1977) (invalidating the City of Asheville zoning ordinance for failure to comply with publication requirement). Additionally, "[n]ot only must notice of a zoning ordinance or amendment adequately inform as to what changes are proposed, [but] the actual change must conform substantially to the proposed changes in the notice. Bd. of Adjustment v. Town of Swansboro, 108 N.C. App. 198, 204, 423 S.E.2d 498, 501 (1992).

The case of Molamphy v. Town of S. Pines, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3594 (M.D.N.C. 2004), is instructive on this point. After a survey of North Carolina law on the topic, it stated this:

In the instant case, the public notice amounts to nothing less than cryptic shorthand that the meeting may take up the topic of zoning with respect to convenience stores. Neither the proposed action nor zoning districts affected are identified. This is the antithesis of the purpose behind the concept of public notice which is to inform.

Id. at *22-23. The District Court continued thusly:

Requiring the notice to be descriptive and informative beyond some vague, cryptic notation serves two important public purposes. First, it alerts the public in general of, and those affected by, the proposal in order to encourage and permit public discussion concerning the possible ramifications of the proposal to alter or enact a zoning ordinance. Second, it enables a court to determine whether post-meeting changes substantially altered the original proposal... In the instant case, the problem is not one of generic notice, but notice so cryptic and vague that it amounted to no notice at all

Id. at *24-25. An ordinance enacted without proper notice per N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601(a) is invalid. Vulcan Materials Co. v. Iredell Cty., 103 N.C. App. 779, 782, 407 S.E.2d 283, 286 (1991).

Applying this law here, we think the Town has a problem. We have researched the local papers during the relevant time frames and found not a single Town notice concerning changes to the UDO. Unless we somehow missed a published notice, the Town failed to follow the notice provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601(a) and its own UDO rendering the ordinance invalid. This lapse appears to be a rare black and white legal conclusion.

There are other issues as well. N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-604(b) states that, "all proposed amendments to the zoning regulation or zoning map shall be submitted to the planning board for review and comment." Section 4.3.2 of the UDO requires the same.

Last year, the Town complied with N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-604(b) and Section 4.3.1 by submitting to the Planning Board its proposed draft amendments of the UDO. The Planning Board did its part, considered the proposed ordinance taking into account public comment, and submitted a revised ordinance to the Town on February 1, 2022.

The Town, however, scrapped its originally proposed ordinance and the revised version the Planning Board recommended. Instead, the Town hired new legal counsel, had them draft a completely new ordinance, and only publicly revealed the new ordinance the evening of May 16, 2022, mere days before the hearing.

Not only that, on the evening of May 19, the Town on the fly made the newly proposed ordinance substantially more restrictive by prohibiting — for the first time — vacation rentals in the R-2 zoning district. No previous draft ordinance contained this restriction. Property owners in R-2 had no notice that the Town planned to restrict their property. Because of these issues, the Town must resubmit the draft ordinance to the



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..LETTER continued from page 4

Planning Board per N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-604(b) and Section 4.3.2 before it can be validly adopted.

There are other issues with what the Town passed. For example, the zoning permit scheme is a flat-out registration requirement unambiguously contrary to the Vacation Rental Act and the Court of Appeals' recent holding in Schroeder.

Likewise, and contrary to the Mayor's assertion otherwise, the new ordinance does not protect the vested rights of those who rent their property to visitors of Highlands. The whole ordinance is legally problematic unlike the ordinance recommended by the Planning Board, which came close to legal compliance.

In short, the Town must follow the procedure mandated by the General Assembly and its own UDO before passing an amended zoning ordinance. It did not do so here. The Town therefore must rescind the new ordinance, refer the newly proposed ordinance to the Planning Board, and then follow the proper procedures for enactment. Until the Town does that, any actions in furtherance of the ordinance are illegal and should be ignored by owners and operators of vacation rentals.

All our clients want from the Town is for it to follow the law and allow their input into restrictions on their property. That is not too much to ask; the Planning Board did these two basic things. Yet the Town inexplicably continues to refuse to even follow the law.

I am happy to discuss these issues with you further. The Town, however, needs to act quickly to rescind what was passed or else we will proceed with motions for preliminary injunction and attorneys' fees pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. S 6-21.7.

I therefore respectfully ask that the Town respond with its position on these issues by the end of the week.

On Wednesday, the Town Board called a Special Closed Session meeting Friday, June 10 at 3 p.m., to discuss the above letter.



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NC Medicaid bill passes Senate; heads to House

By Brittney Lofthouse

The Medicaid Expansion bill filed by North Carolina Republicans last week quickly made its way through the Senate committees last week, leaving a final vote from the Senate as the last obstacle to clearing the Senate and heading to the House of Representatives.

North Carolina Senator Kevin Corbin joined his fellow Republican Colleagues for a press conference last week announcing “NC Health Works,” a bill proposing the overhaul of North Carolina’s health care industry, pairing a Medicaid expansion plan that would provide health insurance to hundreds of thousands across North Carolina.

“Today I was proud to stand with my colleagues in the North Carolina Senate to discuss NC Health Works — legislation aimed at increasing access to healthcare through things such as telehealth, amendments to the state’s CON process, and closing the health insurance coverage gap through

Medicaid Expansion,” said Senator Kevin Corbin. “This is arguably the biggest news to happen in North Carolina in 100 years. Not only would this extend health insurance coverage to 600,000 North Carolinians, but it would improve the quality of healthcare in the state in an efficient and effective manner while having no negative impact on the state’s budget.”

Senator Phil Berger spoke alongside Sen. Corbin Wednesday morning admitting that he has probably been the state’s most vocal opponent to Medicaid Expansion, however, he indicated that the time to do so is now to boost the supply of health services in the state.

“If there’s a person in the state of North Carolina that has spoken out against Medicaid expansion more than I have, I’d like to meet that person,” Berger said at a news conference, but now, “I think (expansion) is the right thing for us to do.”

Senate Republicans acknowledged that the legislation faces an uphill battle in the House, which remains vocally opposed to the measure. All but 12 states have accepted federal funding to expand Medicaid under the ACA since its enactment in 2010. The latest to join, Oklahoma and Missouri, expanded eligibility last year, after voters approved ballot measures. Utah, Idaho and Nebraska adopted Medicaid expansion in 2020.

“Why now? Why this?” Berger asked. “First, we need coverage in North Carolina for the working poor. Second, there is no fiscal risk to the state budget moving forward with this proposal.” And the Medicaid program has been overhauled in recent years so that it can handle additional consumers without creating state budget problems, he added.

In North Carolina, where about 2.7 million residents are currently enrolled in Medicaid, the additional federal funding

• See MEDICAID page 12

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• INVESTING AT 4,118 FT. •

Some Good News

Is it still possible in today's climate of low home inventory for Americans to provide shelter for their families, create equity, and accomplish the American dream?

Can young people pursue a dream and do well while doing good?

Here on the plateau, communities

and clubs have agonized over the lack of affordable housing for healthcare workers, town employees, school teachers, servers, retail workers, and families for as long as I can remember. There seemed to be "no way to get there from here." Some local businesses have addressed the problem over the years, building dorms or purchasing ad-

ditional properties to serve their own businesses. These solutions do little, however, to promote the long-term advantages of home ownership.

What the housing market needs is a disruptor, a game changer, an innovator to come along to solve a problem she is passionate about.

A disruptor isn't goofing off in the back of the classroom, she is providing a new service, following a passion, solving a problem in a new creative way. Think Netflix, moving all the way from the mail order DVD rental to production of live-streamed shows and movies. Bye bye, Block Buster.

Is it possible to disrupt the residential real estate industry and do well while doing good?

Enter:

Adena Hefets, CEO of Divvy Homes.

By way of Cornell, Stanford and Silicon Valley, Adena and her team are on a mission to enhance the financial lives of others. Adena spoke recently at the All In Summit in Miami where speakers were asked to present both a problem they were passionate about and potential solutions.

Adena's passion is to reduce the wealth gap in America. Her own parents married in their early twenties and were fortunate to buy a seller-financed home. They raised four children there and were able to send them all through college on the strength of home equity. To make this universally available today is Adena's dream for America.

As she presents the problem, in 2022 America, the 80/20 rule has become the 76/10 rule. The top 10% of income-earners in America own 76% of the household wealth. This wealth has accumulated mostly through asset appreciation. Unlike stocks and bonds, a house provides shelter, forced savings, and, in most years, appreciation.

In the last 10 years, home prices have increased 200% while real income levels remained flat. Mortgage companies have little flexibility under the rules imposed after the 2008 financial crisis. The housing market was flooded after the 2008 lending crisis. Homes were selling below build-



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ing cost. Builders quit, and the annual number of new home building was cut in half. As a result, housing inventory fell. In the wake of pandemic, demand is way up, and prices have risen accordingly. With the increased home prices and the high costs of borrowing, down payments, fees, and points, the traditional purchase of a home has become impossible for many Americans.

By helping them to buy a house, Divvy Homes gives its customers access to appreciable assets. Renters become homeowners. A customer shops with a real estate broker and peruses the market like any traditional buyer. When he finds

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Divvy's primary customers are healthcare workers, teachers and educators, and contractors whose income streams may be difficult for traditional mortgage companies to rely on. Divvy's buyers are mostly in the income range of \$50K to \$150K. Over 50% of their customers are people of color. About 80% of their transactions are female-led. They are most active in Georgia, Texas and Florida. Look for them in many more markets.

At 35 years old, Adena Hefets is a visionary, with impressive accomplishments. Her company is realizing her dream and doing both good and well. As home prices continue to go up, the risk of lending against these assets is reduced. In late 2021, Tiger Global Management and Caffeinated Capital invested in Divvy Homes to the tune of \$200 million in series D funding its valuation to over \$2 billion. While it is a little mind boggling that a business can make a profit lending to "unqualified buyers," the private equity markets are believing it.

• See INVESTING page 11



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• ON THE SUNNY SIDE •

We all want to feel special



Kenny Youmans

A young lady was in love with 2 young men and they both wanted to marry her. She couldn't make a decision. Finally, her mother says "You need to make a decision! I kind of like Tom. Maybe you should marry Tom."

The daughter says, "I think Tom is very special. He's good-looking, he's smart, and he has a great job." "Well, are you going to marry Tom?"

"No, I'm going to marry Joe."

"If you feel Tom is so special, why are you marrying Joe?"

"Because Joe makes me feel special. We all want to feel special."

Dale Carnegie wrote the book "How to Win Friends and Influence People." It is one of the best-selling books of all time. It was published in 1936 and has sold over 30 million copies. It is ranked by the Library of Congress as the 7th most influential book in American history. It's printed in 45 different languages.

Dale Carnegie started conducting business courses in New York in 1912. Today, Dale Carnegie, Inc. has training offices in 70 countries with over 5 million graduates. Just to name a few – Ronald Reagan, Warren Buffett, Lyndon B. Johnson, Ann Landers, Lou Holtz, Joe DiMaggio, Mary Kay Ash and many more.

Dale Carnegie said, "When someone cares enough to pay attention to us, it never

fails to make us feel just a tad bit special."

Keep in mind, when someone makes us feel special, we in turn also feel special about them.

Dale Carnegie also said, "You can make more friends in 2 months by being interested in them, than in 2 years by making them interested in you."

Many times, people don't want an entertaining conversationalist partner; they just want someone to listen.

Dale Carnegie quotes:

"Those convinced against their will are of the same opinion still."

"If you want to gather honey, don't kick over the beehive."

"Do the hard jobs first. The easy jobs will take care of themselves."

"The royal road to a man's heart is to talk to him about the things he treasures most."

"I was introduced to a nice lady about a month ago at a local function. I immediately began asking her questions about herself and her pet projects. She was quite interesting. Later she told one of her friends how interesting I was. I never said a word. All I did was ask her a few questions. I guess I was just being a good listener."

"Nobody cares how much you really know, until they know how much you really care."

– Theodore Roosevelt

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...INVESTING

continued from page 10

Adena is a disruptor and Divvy Homes is a company to watch. It will be fun to follow this young, smart, ambitious woman who can be a leader in the residential real estate industry for years to come. Perhaps there is a model here for businesses, foundations and individuals who want to make changes for the better in their communities. Perhaps, even here in our small region of the country, we can be inspired and discover how to provide asset ownership opportunities for all who want them. Let's get together and help everyone live the American dream.

• *Dinah has been a full-time resident of Highlands since 1995. She has her real estate licenses in both NC and GA.*

Are you ready to start your summer reading?

Three books from three eras – post-WWI, WWII, and modern-day – shared my nightstand last month, and all were enjoyable in different ways. Can you tell I'm an eclectic reader? As a cozy mystery author whose characters are avid readers, I get to indulge my reading passion by having a book club meeting as a staple in my series. And I regularly mention books my characters enjoy – so much so that in later books in the series, I list the books in the back.

At the moment, I'm putting the finishing touches on "Pets, Pens & Murder," set at a literary conference on the coast of England—the imaginary Poison Pens Festival featuring sessions on Golden Age authors like Agatha Christie and Dorothy Sayers. How serendipitous that I mention author Margery Allingham in that book and have now gotten to read one of her mysteries.

"The White Cottage Mystery" by Margery Allingham

What a treat to read an author I'd long heard of but never tried. When a friend stumbled across this book at a library sale, she read it before sharing it with me. Her request: I want to know what you think of the ending. The answer: I didn't expect it. Isn't that a mark of a good mystery? An unexpected ending that fits.

Written in 1927, this book is a quintessential golden age mystery. You'll meet Chief Inspector Challenor and travel from England to France. You'll enjoy a dash of romance.

"Margery Allingham stands out like a shining light," wrote Agatha Christie. "Margery Allingham is notable for the energy and inventiveness of her writing," said P.D. James. High praise indeed! I plan to find more Allingham books to add to my TBR list

"Liberation" by Imogen Kealey

This is a historical thriller based on



Kathy Manos Penn

the WWII resistance fighter Nancy Wake, a New Zealander who becomes a journalist, marries a Frenchman, and goes on to become a freedom fighter known as the White Mouse. This would be an enthralling read at any time, but its depiction of how she trains a band of ragtag French resistance fighters and leads them on successful missions against the Nazis is eerily familiar given the Ukrainian battle with

Russia today.

When you read about the French resistance blowing up bridges and tanks with dynamite and grenades, substitute today's javelin missiles. When you read of savage reprisals against French villagers, insert what is going on in Ukraine today. This is a book for all times and especially for TODAY. I highly recommend it.

"Sanatorium" by Sarah Pearse

When I see a book compared to those by Christie and Du Maurier, I have to grab it. The Sanatorium did not disappoint. DI Elin Warner and her boyfriend arrive at a resort in the Swiss Alps to celebrate her brother's engagement. She's been on leave from her job on the coast of England since a horrific case and the atmosphere at the isolated resort--that was once a sanatorium-- isn't helping her anxiety.

Strained family dynamics, a major snowstorm that strands the guests, and people going missing provide the classic ingredients for an edge-of-the-seat experience. Better yet, there appears to be a sequel!

Here's hoping one of these choices suits your reading fancy. Drop me a line and let me know!

• Award-winning author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her cozy mysteries in Franklin at Franklin Office Supply & Gifts and Books Unlimited, and on Amazon. Contact her at inkpenn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/.

..MEDICAID continued from page 8

available for state's to expand Medicaid would give the state \$1.5 billion over two years, a factor Berger noted was considered during his shift from opposition to support.

The bill summary indicates the state would pay its 10% of Medicaid expansion costs through a new assessment on hospi-

tals, and expansion would end if Congress increased the state's share of the expense.

Speaker of the House Tim Moore has said repeatedly that the measure won't pass this year, and his office reiterated that again last week.

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...TAX continued from page 1

percent from April 1, 2020 – July 1, 2021 well exceeded that of the southwestern region at .92 percent for the same period.”

Ad Valorem Property Tax is the primary source of revenue in the general fund accounting for \$31,169,114 or approximately 57% of total revenue in FY 23'. This amount is representative of a \$502,938 increase in revenue over the current year's original budget. The increase in revenue is attributable to a combined increase in collection percentage, +.22%, and value +\$110,160,339, over the prior fiscal year's original budget. Gross receipts, not reflected in ad valorem property tax will increase by \$4,000 over the current year's budget amount.

Revenue generated by the Motor Vehicle tax levy will account for \$1,584,181 in FY 23' revenue, representing a \$129,688 increase over the current year original budget amount.

At an estimated \$12,173,788 or 21% of total revenue in FY 23', sales tax revenue will increase by \$1,647,742 or 15.7% over the current fiscal year's original budget amount. Population growth, economic development, and a shift toward online spending continue to drive sales tax growth in Macon County. Economic uncertainty however will result in conservative sales tax growth estimates for the coming fiscal year. The sales tax estimate uses actual collections data for the first 8 months of FY 22', and assumes flat growth for the remainder of FY 22'– FY 23'.

Service fees are those revenues generated from services provided. These include recreational fees, ambulance fees, client payments for health and social services, building permit fees, etc. \$4,191,792 has been budgeted for service fee collections in FY 23'. This is an increase of \$256,199 or 6.5% over the current fiscal year's original budget.

For many years, the fund balance has been a staple in Macon County's financial stability and independence. While 20% of total expenditures is the minimum threshold for counties established by the Local Government Commission, numerous surveys, including the FY 21' NCACC Budget and Tax Survey, have shown the average available fund balance for local governments in NC to be at least 32% of expenditures.

Fund balance in the general fund has increased significantly over the past two fiscal years as sales tax revenue continues to

grow at record levels. Additionally, state and federal COVID-19 relief funding has offset expenditures within certain functions of the operating budget throughout the pandemic, contributing to a revenue surplus in the general fund.

Fire Department Increase

Four Fire Departments across Macon County spoke to members of the Board of Commissioners on May 26, each asking for increases to the millage rate for their individual budgets. An increase in operating costs and a need for paid employees led to the requests for increases to Burningtowntown-Iotla, Cullasaja, Franklin, and Otto Fire departments.

To generate an additional \$119,609 annually, the Burningtowntown-Iotla Fire Department requested an increase in the department's tax rate from .1056 to .1596. Fire Chief Mike Shuler told commissioners the increase is needed for facility repairs to the department's main station, built in the 1980s as well as to upgrade equipment and provide salaries to part-time employees.

To generate an additional \$75,785 annually, Cullasaja Fire and Rescue is requesting an increase from .0557 to .0720. According to Jack Baird, Cullasaja Fire and Rescue has not received an increase to their tax rate since 2008. Baird said the additional funding is needed to construct a new substation, purchase a new fire truck, and add a new paid firefighter position to the department while also increasing the stipend for paid firefighters.

With one of the largest districts and budgets in the county, Franklin Fire and Rescue requested increasing the department's tax rate from .0545 to .07 in order to generate an additional \$252,694 annually. Franklin Fire and Rescue Chief Ben Ormand said the increase request is two-fold. Part of the increase would be used to fund three full-time firefighters and the other half to purchase new equipment.

To generate an additional \$95,752 annually, Otto Fire and Rescue requested to increase the department's tax rate from .1 to .1192. Otto Fire and Rescue Captain Barry Cabe said the increase is needed to begin the construction of a new fire station. The request from Otto Fire and Rescue marks the second year a tax increase request has been made, however, Otto was only granted a partial increase last year, due to uncertainty during the pandemic. Cabe noted that the additional increase is needed to move forward with the project.

Due to its property valuations, Highlands' fire tax is holding steady at 3 cents per \$100 valuation.

That increase was in the county's 2019-2020 budget.

Commissioners weighed in on the bud-

get during a budget work session on Tuesday, June 7 at 5 p.m.

Roland's proposal serves as a recommendation and is scheduled to receive public comment during the June meeting scheduled for June 14 at 6 p.m.

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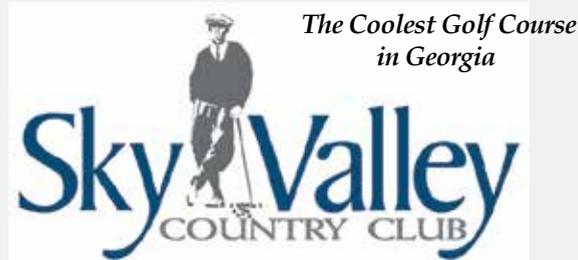
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...MAYOR continued from page 2

ing about the never-ending hum and noise of the fans. It gets down to a balance between economic progress and the preservation of the natural environment.

Even within the realm of economic growth, the counter purposes can occur.

Is a noise-generating operation compatible with tourist and hospitality initiatives? It is a challenge for all of us, especially in areas where there is little or no landuse plans. Many areas in Western Carolina will be facing these pressures sooner or later.



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...SUBDIVISION continued from page 1

parcel being subdivided into six lots known as Sanctuary at 1st.

The six homes on that tract will feature, for now, two models, the Woodcrest and the Ridgecrest.

According to architect Jeff Weller with Summit Architecture, which is part of the Sanctuary Developers team, which model is destined for which lot depends on the lay of the land.

“The plans are lot specific, so the choice is the plan and/or the lot. The different designs fit the varying topography of each lot,” he said.

The parcel is zoned R2 and although the town’s recent ruling on Short-term Rentals (STRs) prohibits new STRs in the R2 zone, each home in Sanctuary at 1st features a garage apartment so these homes would qualify for STRs under the Homestay category. In the Homestay category, the homeowner must be in the “main” house during the “rental” period.

Sanctuary Developers will build each home on the minimum required ½ acre lot per home.

The Preliminary Plat prepared by Aaron Garrett Land Surveying, P.C. and Stillwell Engineering show the first lot at .53-acres, the second lot at .50-acres, the third lot at .50-acres, the fourth lot at .51-acres, the fifth lot at .50-acres, and the sixth lot at .51-acres. Each lot will have its own driveway and will be served by a subdivision road.

As required, Town Engineer Lamar Nix has signed off on the roadway construction, the water distribution plan, and the electric distribution plan – all of which meet the Town of Highlands subdivision standards, he said.

The sewer collection proposal consists

of hooking into the Town’s gravity system on 1st Street but the proposed collection system within the subdivision will be private.

“The proposed system consists of a small diameter gravity system which goes to a duplex sewer pump station at which point the sewage will be pumped to the Town gravity system,” said Nix. “It is noted in the plans that this system is to be privately permitted, owned and maintained. I strongly recommend that this system remain private and should be noted as such in all discussions and approvals.”

In addition, both the water distribution plan and the sewer collection plan require a North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality permit.

As to water runoff, which is always a concern, according to Weller, 90% of run-off from the community will go down toward US 64 west not Oak Street. In preparation for the construction of the Fire Department, the town upgraded the stormwater collection system in that vicinity.

“The erosion control and storm drainage plan is for everything to go between Main Street Nursery and the Fire Department property,” said Weller. “We have an easement through there.”

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services/Meadows Mountain Realty is the real estate firm representing the subdivision, Byrd Landscape Design is handling the extensive landscaping and Bill Futral of Futral Enterprises is the building contractor for the subdivision.

Futral said he hopes to break ground once the Town Board signs off on the subdivision. — **Kim Lewicki**

Highlands Motoring Festival • June 9-12

Every year the Highlands Motoring Festival rolls into Highlands the second week in June. For 2022, the four-day festival runs from June 9-12. During this week, some of the finest classic cars in existence will be seen in and around Highlands. The public will have several opportunities to experience classic cars including a movie night in the park, a parade of classics on main street, two car shows, and evening socials.

Schedule of events:

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

“Movie Night in the Park”

with Automotive Program

K-H Founder’s Park 8:30 – 10:30p

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

Classic Car Parade on Main Street & ending in K-H Founders Park

5:45 – 6:30p

Parade Party

5:45 – 8:30p.

High Dive Watering Hole

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

“Cars in the Park” Classic Car Show

9:30a. – 3:45p

K-H Founder’s Park

Gala Fundraiser

with special guest speaker Miles Collier
6 – 9:30p • HFCC

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

“High Octane” Car Show & Gathering

8a.-11p • K-H Founder’s Park

Skyline Lodge listed in National Register of Historic Places

By Brittney Lofthouse

The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources announced last week that one district boundary increase, two districts, and five individual properties across the state, including one in Macon County, have been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The properties were reviewed by the North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee and subsequently nominated by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer and forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register for consideration.

“The addition of these North Carolina sites to the National Register of Historic Places is important because it will help preserve our shared history,” said Secretary Reid Wilson, N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. “They are part of our state’s rich and diverse story and reaffirm our national leadership in the historic preservation movement.”

Of the properties added across the state, Macon County’s Skyline Lodge was on the list representing Western North Carolina.

Skyline Lodge is locally signifi-

cant under Criterion A for Entertainment/Recreation as a hotel built to capitalize upon the tourist industry in Highlands and Macon County. It is also locally significant under Criterion C as a rare, and highly intact example of a Mid-Century Modern, resort-style hotel that demonstrates the importance of the Wrightian influence on Modernist architecture.

Located in the town of Highlands, NC, the building’s storied history dates back to the mid-1930s, when it opened as a luxury escape catering to the wealthy who survived the 1929 stock market crash. The lodge’s original owner, Howard Randall, commissioned Arthur Kelsey – a working student and friend of the iconic architect Frank Lloyd Wright – to design the building, resulting in signature FLW touches like native stone, chestnut wood, and hand-cut cedar shakes. Despite its one-of-a-kind design and great popularity as one of the only places to stay overnight in the increasingly popular destination of Highlands, the lodge closed its doors in 1938 following the death of Mr. Randall.

Luckily, in the 1950s, it was rescued from disrepair, and by the 1960s was welcoming back guests with ad-

ditional rooms and a much needed update to the structure.

In 1965, Skyline Lodge was finally opened to the public after new owners hired Robert Opsahl, an architect from Clearwater, FL, to complete the interiors of the Main Lodge and the original 1938 room wing. Opsahl also reconstructed the former Garage Wing to include guest rooms and added service spaces, a reception office, and an additional guest room wing.

More than 80 years after its original construction, the lush greenery has flourished and now completely surrounds the lodge, exemplifying the Wright design tradition of architecture slowly becoming one with the natural environment. Today, Skyline Lodge, with its storied history, is newly reopened by Indigo Road Hospitality Group, which extensively renovated the property before reopening in summer 2021.

The period of significance spans two-time frames: 1936 to 1938 when the project was first conceived, partially constructed, and then abandoned; and 1965 to 1972 which encompasses the project’s completion and successful operation as a mountain-top resort.

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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.maconncliteracy.org, call 828-526-0863 or email info@maconncliteracy.org

Second Mondays

• The local chapter of PEO, an off-campus sorority founded in the 1800s that provides grants and loans to women with financial need who want to return to school or further their education meets at 10 a.m. More meeting places call president Paula McDonald at 706-372-3004

Tuesdays

• Covid-19 Testing at Village Green in Cashiers every Tuesday from 9-5. Walk-ins accepted, but you can schedule an appointment

by calling (877) 562-4850 or going on line at lhi.care/covidtesting.

Wednesdays

• Covid-19 Testing at Highlands Community Building every Wednesday from 9-5. Walk-ins accepted, but you can schedule an appointment by calling (877) 562-4850 or going on line at lhi.care/covidtesting.

Mon-Fri

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

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 for every muscle

• New Mobility Class with Anna Norton It's all about movement. 5:30-6:30pm and Wednesday 6:45-7:45. For more information, call Anna 267-825-0716.

Mon, Wed, Fri

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class 8:30-9:30am. \$25 a month, The class is led by Cathy Hodgson. Contact the Recreation Department

at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• Aerobics 2/Tina Rogers 8-9a.

1st Tuesdays

• Indivisible Highlands from 5-6:30 pm at the Hudson Library.

Tuesdays

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

Tues. & Thurs.

• Pilates-Strength and Stretch with Autumn Lucas

• New Zumba class with Gay Chalpin from 4:30-5:30p.

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

Thursdays

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

Fridays

• Friday Night Live Concerts in Town Square on Main Street. 6-8:30 p.m. Bring chairs.

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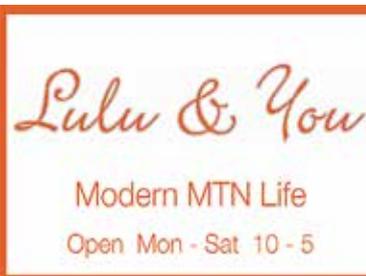
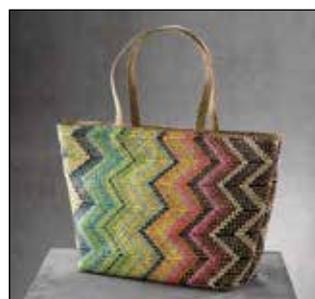
Friday, June 10

2-3:30 p.m.

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• HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

• Saturdays on Pine in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street. 6-8:30 p.m. Bring chairs, blankets and a picnic.

2nd Saturdays

• The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club meets in Highlands at The Basement at 10 a.m. March and November.

3rd Saturdays

• The American Legion Post 370 meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the First Methodist Church at 315 Main Street in their Community Room/ 909 Chapel. We serve breakfast at 9AM and hold our monthly meeting at 10AM. We invite ALL Veterans to attend. Contact Ed McCloskey, Commander for any information @828-787-1660.

Thurs. - Sun, June 9-12

• Every year the Highlands Motoring Festival rolls into Highlands the second week in June. For 2022, the four-day festival runs June 9-12. During this week, some of the finest classic cars in existence will be seen in and around Highlands. The public will have several opportunities to experience classic cars including a movie night in the park, a parade of classics on main street, two car shows, and evening socials.

Thurs., June 9

• Hiking in the Footsteps of William Bartram on the Bartram Trail, Time: 9:30a-12:30p. Cost: \$50/\$60 Presenter: Brent Martin. Register online at www.clehighlands.com.

• At Magnolia Republic, An Evening with Acre Wines at 6:30 p.m. Napa wines with Mike Henry paired with 5 courses with Michael Searles. Call 404-985-5940 for reservations.

Fri., June 10

• Emailing, Texting and Facetime On Your iPhone/iPad, Time: 10a-12p Cost: \$40/\$50 Presenter: Loraine Smith. Register online at www.clehighlands.com.

• Social Media On Your iPhone/iPad, Time: 1-2p Cost: \$40/\$50 Presenter: Loraine Smith. Register online at www.clehighlands.com.

• Thornton's Crossing: Home & Garden Tour, Time: 2-4p. Cost: \$40/\$50 Presenter: Teri and Mose Bond. Register online at www.clehighlands.com.

• At Shakespeare & Co., Talk and book signing by author Sharyn McCrumb who will talk about her NASCAR connections and her book from 2-2:30 p.m.

• Live music in Town Square on Main Street featuring Ol' Dirty Bath tub. 6-8:30p.

• Chef Dinner at OEI's The Farm, Red, White and 'Que with the Fox Brothers. Book at OldEdwardsHospitality.com/cheffinders

Sat., June 11

• Live music at K-H Founders Park 6-8:30p. Featuring Rocksteady@8. Bring chairs, blankets and a picnic.

Sun., June 12

• The Church in the Wildwood summer hymn singing service will be at Highlands United Methodist Church. All are welcome for an hour of hymn singing from 7-8pm in the old fellowship hall. Enter from Main Street. For info call Les Scott, 828-200-9532.

• Auditions for HCP's production "Night Watch" from 2-5 p.m. at Highlands Methodist church. Please use the 3rd Street entrance to the Fellowship Hall. The play calls for five men and four women between the ages of 30 to 50. Scripts are available at the Highlands and Cashiers libraries. The performances are Aug. 25-28 and Sept. 1. Call backs will be Monday, June 6 from 6-8 p.m.

Mon. June 13

• Telling the Story of the Modern American South, Time: 10a-12p. Cost: \$25/\$35 Presenter: Eric NeSmith. Register online at www.clehighlands.com.

• The Art of Encaustic Painting (Demo and Studio Tour), Time: 2-4p. Cost: \$40/\$50 Presenter: Penny Pollock. Register online at www.clehighlands.com

Tues., June 14

• The Legacy of Dwight Eisenhower, Time: 10a-12p. Cost: \$25/\$35 Presenter: William Hitchcock. Register online at www.clehighlands.com.

• At First Baptist Church in Highlands, Regional Prayer Event at 6 p.m.

Wed. June 15

• Appetizers and Charcuterie Boards (Live Demo), Time: 3-6p. Cost: \$60/\$70 Presenter: Susan Hansen. Register online at www.clehighlands.com



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• SUMMER COCKTAILS in the Secret Garden courtyard with Farm2Cocktail at 6:30 p.m. \$40/person. Call The Secret Garden at 828-305-7509 for details.

Thurs., June 16

• At Shakespeare & Co., Diane McPhail book signing of The Seamstress of New Orleans at 5 p.m.

Fri., June 17

• Live music in Town Square on Main Street. McIntosh and the Lionhearts. 6-8:30p.

Sat., June 18

• The Shop at Old Edwards Inn, on Saturday 12 to 3pm. The signing features the book "Mountain Blue, the Beauty and Grandeur of America's Southern Appalachian Mountains" by Brevard, NC, authors Les Saucier and Janet Garrity Saucier.

• Live music at K-H Founders Park 6-8:30p. Featuring Firecracker Jazz Band.

Bring chairs, blankets and a picnic.

Fri., June 24

• Live music in Town Square on Main Street featuring Southern Highland Band. 6-8:30p.

Sat -Sun, June 25 & 26

• Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Art & Craft Show in Kelsey-Hutchinson Park on Pine Street in Highlands from 10a to 5p. Fine art, folk art, crafts and furniture. Dogs are allowed, and food will be available. For info contact coordinator Cynthia Strain at (828) 318-9430 or visit: www.mountaintopshow.com

Sat., July 9

• Low Country Shrimp Boil to benefit K-H Founders Park at the park. Doors open at 5p and Dinner is at 6p. Rain or Shine. \$70/person. Live music. Tickets are available at www.foundersparkhighlands.org and The Dry Sink on Main Street.



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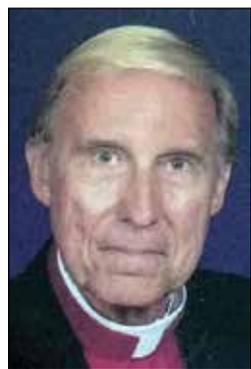


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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •



MARRIAGE: The Challenge of an Eight Letter Word

Archbishop
John S. Erbelding

It's June, the time of year when many young couples vow a long-term commitment to one another. Marriage is alive and well and thriving in the world.

And that is how it should be, for even in this time of restlessness, marriage offers the richest of all rewards. It means someone to be with – in good times and in bad. It means someone to depend on and trust. It means someone to care for and to be cared for.

Married persons are far happier and more satisfied than singles are. Recent studies show that an individual involved in a close, caring relationship with another person – the kind engendered by successful marriage -- is healthier, both physically and emotionally.

But happiness in marriage is not guaranteed by the wedding vows. Happiness must be created – day by day and year by year. It is not enough to marry the right partner. One must also be the right partner. That means continuous caring and courting, giving and forgiving. It means commitment by two individuals to work out problems as one, to form a union of minds as well as of hearts. A couple approaching the holy altar of marriage must know that this commitment means sacrifice and reduction of personal liberties in favor of shared freedom.

I have had the joy of officiating at a large number of wedding services over the years, and when it comes time for the couple to choose a verse from scripture, the most selected is the most challenging, St. Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, 13th chapter and starts with the first verse.

Although it was instructing a church in Christian conduct, not marriage, no reading is more instructive to a couple starting out in a life together. St. Paul leaves nothing to be doubted if applied to a life together.

"Though I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal."

Love is just not words. It is the act of loving and caring or it is just noise.

I was celebrating a wedding recently and the bride wanted me to include in my instructions for them both during the service these words: "And remember to tell each other that you love them at least once a day." How pathetic! Just once a day and you have to be reminded.

St. Paul gives one of the most powerful definitions of love ever written when he wrote, "Love is patient, love is kind; it does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 19

Proverbs 3:5

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

John 3:16

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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.

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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

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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.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street - Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
Testimony meeting: 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

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.

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Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

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5th and Main streets • www.incarnationwnc.org

Sunday Services Chapel: Rite I spoken, 8a. Rite II with Choir in
Sanctuary 10:30a; Morning Prayer Mon-Thurs 8:30a in Chapel

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

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Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am

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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 Worship is at 9a. Wednesday Worship is 6:30p

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas. Pastor 526-3376

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Pastor Zane Talley

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

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

Franklin • 828-634-1312

Services 2x/month May-Sept.; 1x/month Oct. -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.

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CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone - 526-2418

Mass: Wed. noon (Latin); Thurs. noon; 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

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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

Thursday: Noon Healing Service with Eucharist.

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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 May 23. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or public officials have been used.

May 23

• At 10:35 a.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 28 south and Sassy Lane

May 24

• At 7:30 a.m., officers received a report of the theft of a vehicle from the PAC Center parking lot.

May 26

• At 1 p.m., officers responded to a report of damage to personal property where a man's vehicle was keyed while parked on S. 4th Street.

May 27

• At 2:55 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on SR 1603.

May 28

• At 1:10 a.m., officers responded to a call of an assault on a 44-year-old female who was hit in the face at a residence on the Dillard Road.

• At 4:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the gravel parking lot at Oak and Maple streets.

May 29

• At 5:45 p.m., officers responded to

a report of a vehicle being stolen from a residence on Smallwood Ave.

• At 10 p.m., officers responded to a report of a larceny of property where two chairs were taken off a porch of a residence on Harris Drive.

May 30

• At 8:30 p.m., Cheryl L. Parlato, of Decatur, GA, was arrested for DUI when she was stopped on US 64 west at Lori Drive.

• At 8:31 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on US 64 east at Cullasaja Drive.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from May 31.

May 31

• At 11:09 a.m., tht dept. was first-responders to a residence on Satulah Road.

• At 3:12 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Ridge Trail.

June 3

• At 5:08 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Robin Hood Lane.

• At 9:40 p.m., the dept. stoodby for the MAMA helicopter at Highlands Cashiers Hospital.

• At 12:07 p.m, the dept. was first-responders to a location on Oak Street.

...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from 18

is not rude, it is not self-seeking [and now the really tough ones], it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." Now St. Paul quiets the heart with these words: "Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

And St. Paul ends with the greatest of all comfort for a couple of any age or years

married: "Love never fails. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

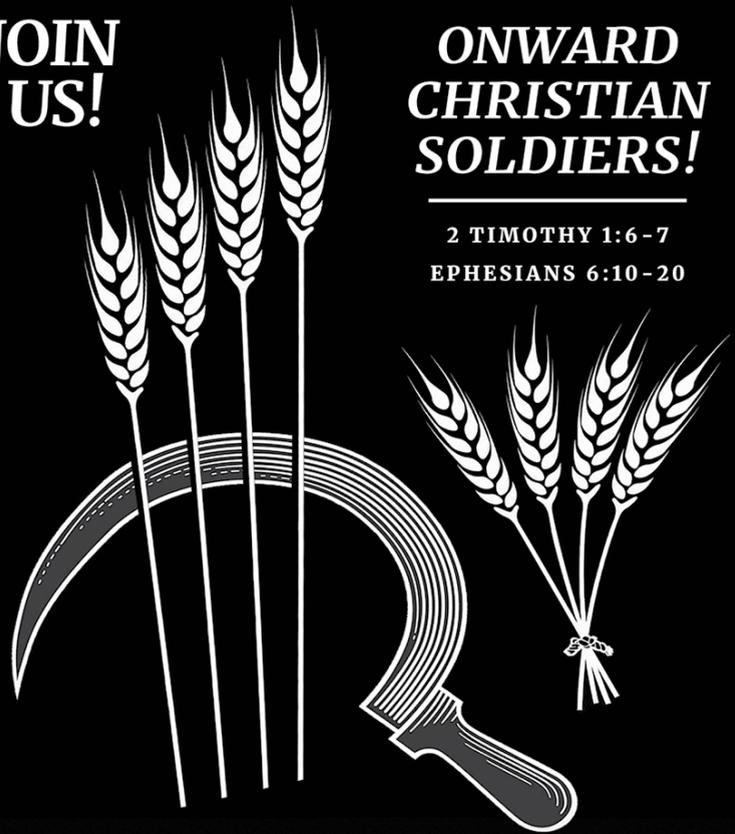
A woman whose wedding I conducted many years ago told me that her marriage is strong because this passage from St. Paul is on the refrigerator door and she reads it daily.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT REGIONAL PRAYER EVENT

JOIN US!

ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS!

2 TIMOTHY 1:6-7
EPHESIANS 6:10-20



EVENT HOSTED BY DR. MARK FORD

First Baptist Church IN HIGHLANDS

Almighty God has been sidelined in the darkness of the public square. That needs to change and only prayer can change it! Join with Christians from our region to pray for His light to penetrate the darkness so that His grace and salvation can be seen by all! Invite a praying friend, and we'll see you there!

TUESDAY, JUNE 14th - 6:00PM

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McCulley's in Highlands and Cashiers is seeking full- and

part-time help. Inquire at 828-200-0928. (st. 6/9)

MINISTRY STAFF POSITION AVAILABLE. Highlands United Methodist Church is looking to hire a dedicated, enthusiastic and gifted Christian leader to serve as Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries. Please contact Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas at randyhumc@icloud.com. (6/23)

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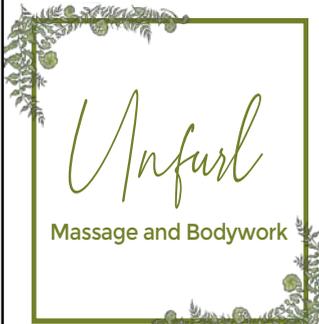
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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

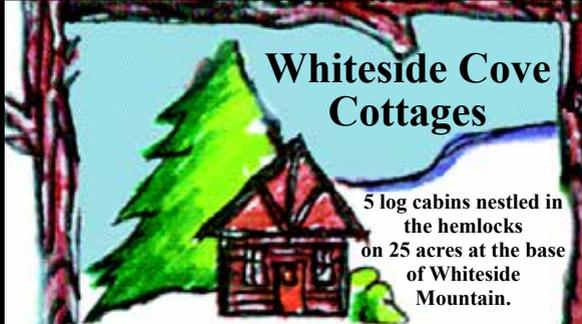


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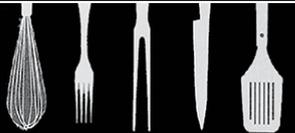
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know by sending an introductory email with your resume to info@counseling-center.org. We look forward to hearing from you. **REQUIREMENTS:** Master's Degree or higher in counseling, psychology or related field; Licensed in North Carolina in related discipline/s; Must have a minimum of 2 years of experience as clinician; Flexibility, creativity, and a spirit of collaboration; Along with full-pay, willing to see clients-in need at a reduced fee; Counseling Center will reimburse the difference between reduced fee up to \$75. **PREFERRED:** Strong Clinical skills, including areas of assessment; diagnosis; crisis & case management; Independent decision-making skills; Experience and desire to lead workshops and/or groups as outreach to the Highlands community **CRITICAL NEED FOR THE AREA:** Specialty in Substance Abuse; Bi-lingual (Spanish & English) (st. 4/7)

HIGHLANDS PHARMACY has full and part-time positions open for a Certified Pharmacy Technician and a clerk/merchandiser. No nights, no Sundays, and great co-workers. Pay and benefits determined by position, qualifications, & experience. Apply in person or contact Sherry Sims 828-526-2366. (st. 4/7)

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HIGHLANDS EXCURSION is hiring guides/drivers. Email us at adventure4118@gmail.com. (st. 3/10)

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