

# Highlands Newspaper

FREE Every Thursday

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Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: [HighlandsInfo.com](http://HighlandsInfo.com)

Thurs., April 20, 2023

## Nearly 70% of property revaluation appeals result in changes for Highlands

By Brittney Lofthouse

Since Macon County's recent property revaluation, the Macon County Tax Office has been sift-

ing through a record number of appeals through the county's review process.

With the deadline to appeal

to the Board of Equalization and Review of May 9, county staff continues to process submitted ap-

• See **APPEALS** page 11

### HS Middle School Golf Team



Highlands School middle school golf team ended the season at a match held at Apple Mountain Golf Club in Clarkesville, GA, last week, which is Tallulah Falls School's home course. The team was coached this season by Jordan Kenter, Brooks Kittrell, and Anna Stiehler. Pictured from left are players Francisco Gooch, Aiden Dendy, Sam Conner, Chase Kenter, Rowan Carnes, Jack Sumner, Pierre Damian and Walker Kittrell.

## Zoning Board OK's outdoor seating for 2 restaurants

At its April meeting Wednesday night, the Zoning Board of Adjustment gave Paoletti's Restaurant the final OK for outdoor seating upstairs on the Oak Street side overlooking K-H Founders Park.

Paoletti's now joins the Highlands Smokehouse, which got the OK from the Zoning Board at its March meeting, which means two more restaurants in town will offer patrons more outdoor seating options.

A special use permit (SUP) from the Zoning Board is required for outdoor seating at a restaurant, however the Macon County Fire Marshal determines how many outdoor seats will be allowed at each venue.

• See **ZONING** page 8

### • INSIDE THIS ISSUE •

Mayor on Duty .....	2	Spring Home Imp .....	12-15
Weather .....	2	Events .....	16-17
Hics View .....	2	Spiritually Speaking .....	18
Investing at 4118 Ft. ....	4	Police & Fire Reports ....	19
Letter .....	8	Classifieds .....	21-22
Ink Penn .....	10	HS Soccer .....	22



## Plateau Pickup does it again

More than 120 volunteers collected 95 cubic yards of trash from our roadsides at the annual Plateau Pickup on Saturday, April 15. Volunteers began the day at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park as they were assigned geographic areas of the plateau - throughout downtown and highways 64, 28 and 106. Upon conclusion, all gathered for lunch back at the park.

"Each year the momentum seems to grow for this event," says Kaye McHan, executive director

of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands. "It shows how much our local residents truly care about their community."

Plateau Pickup is organized by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC with partnership and logistical support provided by MC Sheriff's Office, USFS, NC DOT, NC State Patrol, Town of Highlands and Town of Highlands Police Department.

- Submitted

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### Let's support Highlands School

The Highlands School has been a unique educational institution for this community, and frankly, I can't understand why any parent wouldn't want their children to attend this small K-12 school. Our school is one of only a few schools in North Carolina with the 13-grade format. The school has an excellent record of students going on to make outstanding achievements both here in Highlands and across the country.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

For a number of years, my wife Sallie was the art teacher at the school. She shares my views on the Highlands School size and grade structure. Coming from a metropolitan school to the Highlands School years ago, this jewel of a school was a breath of fresh air. Sallie views her tenure at the Highlands School as a high point in her 25-year career as a teacher. Our daughter was a graduate of the school.

Thursday night at the April Town Board meeting, I will ask the commissioners to approve a resolution asking the Macon County Board of Commissioners to reinstate the \$329,000 contract with the LS3P architects order to complete the design phase for

the additions to the Highlands School. The design phase includes two classrooms for a Pre-K program and four classrooms for the regular school program and would also include upgrades to the school's media center.

If the project were to move forward, it would cost around 5 million dollars.

To put that number in a budgetary perspective, the proposed new Franklin High will cost about 120 million dollars and the Highlands project will cost 5 million. As a matter of comparison and some fairness, the Highlands School improvements would be about 4% of what it will cost to build the new high school, yet about 50% of the Macon County property tax base comes from the Highlands Plateau. It gets down to basic equity of a sort as our children will not attend Franklin High School; nevertheless, I support the building of the new high school.

Sallie and I will be supporting the Highlands School Town Scholarship program again this year. On Honors Day in May, each graduating senior will receive a scholarship to further their education.

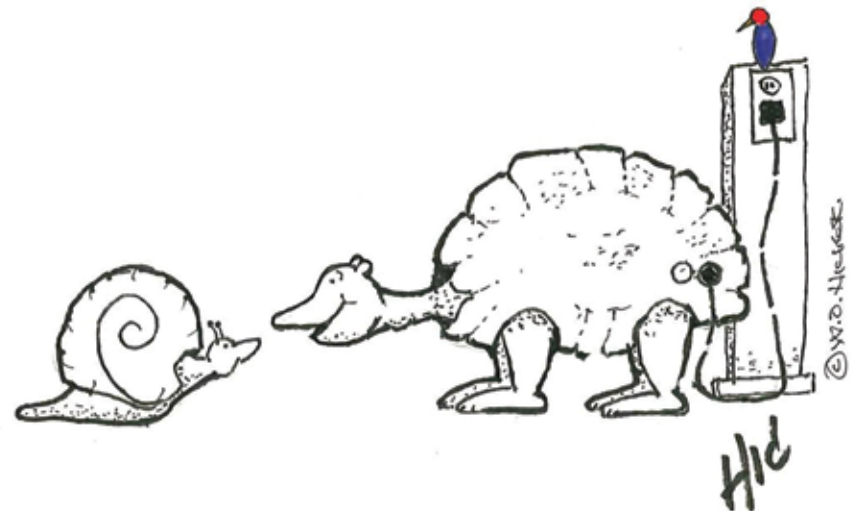
We are supporting the scholarship program by entering the Three Rivers Fly Fishing Festival, which will be from May 4th to the 6th. We are sponsoring two teams this year: my son with his wife and Sallie with me. We probably won't win the tournament, but believe me, the family competition will be intense. The women in the family are convinced they will catch the most fish.

All proceeds from the festival go to the Highlands School Town Scholarship fund, so that is why we are participating. I hope others will fish for our students' benefit also. If you don't fish, you can make a contribution or send a \$250 entry fee. Google the Three Rivers Fly Fishing Festival for more information.

To make a donation, send a check to the Town of Highlands Three River Fly Fishing Festival and mail it to PO Box 460, Highlands, NC, 28741. In recent years we have had tremendous and generous support for this program.

If you want to wait to support the scholarship program, the Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament will be this fall at the Sky Valley Country Club. More information about the golf tournament will be coming soon.

## • HIC'S VIEW •



"Well, I'm getting all charged up for Highlands Earth Day."

## • WEATHER •

Thu, 20-Apr	Fri, 21-Apr	Sat, 22-Apr	Sun, 23-Apr
71°F 47°F	67°F 49°F	54°F 36°F	53°F 32°F
Mostly sunny and pleasant	Increasing cloudiness	A shower and thunderstorm	Mostly sunny and cool
RealFeel® High: 77° Low: 56°	RealFeel® High: 73° Low: 55°	RealFeel® High: 57° Low: 40°	RealFeel® High: 57° Low: 37°

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

### Highlands Newspaper

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THURSDAY, MAY 18

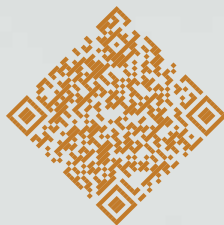
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# • INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft •

## Spring Home Inspections

**Y**ou know it is Spring when the newspapers have inserts and articles on home improvements, house cleaning, exterior care, HVAC maintenance and lawn and garden ideas. It's actually my favorite time of year and we do a "walk about" with our dog, going around the yard to see what perennials are coming up (or what isn't coming back after the cold snap at Christmas), and watching for the hummingbirds to arrive and to note what other wildlife we are able to see.

It is also a good time to take time to walk about your home and inspect for issues that may have come up over the winter, whether you were here or not. I took the time to go through about 25 home inspections from my files and have made a list of the ten most common items that were issues on the inspections.

1) Wood decay on roof rafters, trim, columns and siding. Several times one or more of these items led to additional decay within the walls and even the sill of the house. Being that we are in a temperate rain forest only accelerates the decay and these can be expensive items if not maintained.

2) Proper operation of windows and doors. "Fogging" of windows is common, but this was about windows and doors not closing completely or securing properly which can lead to water, insect or rodent intrusion. Some times it is a security issue and could become a safety issue if you can't get the window or door open easily.

3) Grading of soil towards the house and erosion around the footings of the house and deck columns causing water to enter crawl spaces and basements. The heavy rains can do major damage if not kept in check, and this can lead to foundation failure or dangerous situations on decks. Don't forget to look at the retaining walls on the properties. If you see water stains on the concrete block or have camel crickets, that is a good indication that you have water intrusion. When checking the grading, make sure it doesn't slope towards the house and that wood siding doesn't touch the ground or mulch. It is also a good time to check any buried gutter drain lines to make sure they are not clogged.

4) Mold is present in the crawl space



**Carl Romberg**  
Landmark Realty

and many times in the house. This usually is a by-product of the prior item, but if you see mold or mildew on furniture or wood doors, you have a mold issue. If your house has that "smell", you have a mold issue. Going untreated for years, mold can do major damage to structural parts of the house as well as cause health issues. Just cleaning the mold that is present will not keep it from coming back if you don't locate the source and

make sure the water or moisture doesn't return. There are numerous companies that specialize in mold remediation and crawl space encapsulation, which I highly recommend having done.

5) Rodents in the attic, crawl space or living space. If you see droppings or areas of nesting, you need to not only get rid of them, but find the entry point and fix it so that it doesn't happen again. This can include mice, rats, bats, flying squirrels as well as larger animals.

6) Debris on the roof, in the gutters and roof valleys. This can lead to some of the wood decay described in the first item, but it can also cause roof leaks and shorten the life of the roof. If you have moss growing on the roof, there are products and professionals that can take care of this.

7) Light fixtures not working. Usually, the cause is a blown bulb, so it is a good time to check and replace any bulbs that are not working, paying special attention to outdoor lighting.

8) Smoke detectors beeping. It is always prudent to change the batteries and test the detectors on an annual basis. Research indicates that the detectors should be replaced every 10 years. Yes, it's a pain to check the batteries and change them but this is a safety factor for you, your family and your guests. Don't forget the carbon monoxide detector or to change batteries in your remotes for the gas logs.

9) Decking and railings are not secure. At least half of the inspections indicate the deck isn't properly attached to the house and usually there are some flooring boards that are starting to rot. And, many times the railings are not secure which can be a serious safety issue.



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# • OBITUARY •

## Teresa Lynn Seay

Teresa Lynn Seay, contracted a sudden illness and died unexpectedly on April 15, 2023. Teresa was born in Franklin, NC, on August 21, 1964, to Roger Lee Seay, Sr. and Bobbie Burch Seay. She lived in Franklin most of her life. Teresa was strong in her faith. She knew where she was going. Teresa grew up in the Wells Grove Baptist Church, where she and her sister, Susie, played organ and piano. In recent years, Teresa attended the Franklin Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Teresa was an excellent business entrepreneur. She was strong-willed and extremely hard working, but she was not greedy, selfish, jealous, or covetous. Rather, she was generous and compassionate, which is why she was so great at what she did. Teresa began and ultimately sold Ambassador Automotive, an auto repair business. In recent years, she was a successful real estate broker in Franklin and Highlands. She worked at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Meadows Mountain Realty in Highlands, with people who appreciated and loved her.

Teresa was kind and good. She laughed a lot -- often at herself. She was humble, friendly, decent, honest, ethical, forgiving and optimistic. She grew up on a farm and loved gardening and animals. Her little dogs, Auggie and Rose, will miss her loving care. Teresa was a unique person, an



example for the rest of us.

Teresa was deeply in love with her special man, Maury Burstein, they planned to be married this August.

Teresa was predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Roger Lee Seay, Jr. and Beth; her sister and brother-in-law, Cassandra "Susie" Seay Wolesslagle and Rick; her uncle, James "Red" Seay; her aunt, Judy Seay; her uncle, Larry Burch; her aunt, Frances Teague; her niece, Mary Margaret Seay; her nephews, Rhys McVicker, Adam Wolesslagle and Aaron Wolesslagle; and a host of the Seays and Burches. She loved them all.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as Heaven is higher than the Earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. -- Isaiah 55:8-9

A funeral service will be held Saturday, April 22, at First United Methodist Church of Franklin, at 11am. The burial will be at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

## ...INVESTING continued from page 4

10) Exterior paint is peeling, stained or has mildew growing on it. Not only is this an eyesore, but siding and trim that isn't properly caulked, primed and painted will not last as long.

A house here is a major investment and our weather can be rough on a house. Over and over, I see where sellers have put off maintenance items and when discovered,

the deal falls apart. Also, I see where the final repair ends up costing more than the cost of regular maintenance. It is advised that every 5-10 years you should hire a professional inspector. Many times, the inspector will find something that you were not aware of. At the minimum, take the time to look at your house, note what needs attention and do something about it. I also advise to use materials that hold up to our weather. They may cost more up front, but should save money in maintenance over the years.

• Carl Romberg is the Broker-in-Charge of Landmark Realty Group's Highlands Office. Stop by his office on Main Street to say hello or reach him at 678-936-9309 or [carl@landmarkerg.com](mailto:carl@landmarkerg.com).

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## ...ZONING continued from page 1

Since Paoletti's is in the B1 zone, seating inside or out isn't contingent upon the number of available parking spaces.

According to the Unified Develop-

ment Ordinance, restaurants are permitted outdoor seating upon the issuance of a SUP but if they are in the B1 district – whose seating isn't dependent upon parking – they aren't required to get a SUP for more inside seating, which is also part of Paoletti's overall plan. Plans are to renovate the upstairs to expand indoor dining.

Paoletti's case was cut and dry with everything in order, so the Zoning Board quickly issued the SUP.

According to Arthur Paoletti, renovations to the upstairs and constructing the deck off the back will likely begin January 2024.

However, the Highlands Smokehouse is in the B3 district where available parking determines the total number of seats allowed at a restaurant whether inside or outside.

Since the restaurant is expanding its outdoor seating on a deck facing the back parking lot, more parking was required. An adjacent lot will be used for parking. That lot and the current lot will be combined into one parcel with split-zoning because each original lot has different watershed designations.

The Smokehouse proposes adding 23 parking spaces on their adjacent lot to serve the 28 additional seats they are requesting

for an additional outside deck.

The Zoning Board issued the SUP with a couple of contingencies. Due to egress safety concerns, the board required the permanent elimination of the illegal parking spot in the right-of-way at the side entrance where patrons park for pick-ups.

Since the restaurant is surrounded by residences, the board also required that there will be no service or music outside on the decks after 10 p.m.

The previous SUP issued the property in 2008 had 11 p.m. the cut off, but since the town has since ruled that all outside noise stop by 10 p.m. that was made a stipulation in the new SUP.

Though the board acknowledged that they have no sway over the NC Dept. of Transportation, members agreed to ask DOT to improve the line of sight to the east between Raoul Road and the Smokehouse by trimming or removing vegetation.

- Kim Lewicki

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## • LETTER •

### Poor Cashiers

Dear Editor,

Poor, poor Cashiers, kiss yourself goodbye. If you believe what an Atlanta-based developer is telling you, if you believe all the promises and all the assurances being made about the "low" impact, about the "negligible" consequences of the inevitable increased population density, the inevitable increased traffic, the inevitable increased burden on your sewerage system and the inevitable increased demand on your water supply and its availability, not to even mention the soft sell on your loss of natural habitat, i.e. de-forestation, then I have a bridge to sell you extra cheap.

Can you answer this riddle; why do people from Atlanta move here ostensibly to get away from that big, hot, busy, noisy, crowded, dirty city only to try to recreate the same thing here and ruin our peaceful, green mountains? Why don't they stay in Atlanta which seems, after all, to suit them better? They don't seem to like what we already have here because they keep trying to change it. Or is it really only about the money?

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### • INK PENN •

## From Manhattan to London

My latest reads took me to modern-day Manhattan and Victorian-era England, and both drew me in. You'd never know from my accent that I lived my first thirteen years in New York City and Long Island. As an adult, I often traveled there on business and even had a stint of week-long visits for several months. Because my father introduced me to so many Manhattan sights when I was a child, revisiting them on foot years later made for heartwarming trips down memory lane.

This was during a time when it was safe to walk from Grand Central Station to Bloomingdales and to explore Fifth Avenue and Broadway on my own. These days, I take those trips only through books.

And England? Anyone who reads this column knows I'm an Anglophile and could read book after book set in England without tiring of the setting. That's why the tee-shirt I'm wearing as I write this column is so à propos. It reads, "I'm a bad girl. I read past my bedtime."

### The Cartographers

by Peng Shepherd

When I reserved this book at the library, I thought it was a mystery, pure and simple. It is much more than that. Doing a bit of research after I finished reading it, I noted Amazon categorized it not only as a mystery but also as "Paranormal & Urban Fantasy." They've also labeled it as an Editor's Pick for one of the best books in the "Mystery, Thriller & Suspense" category.

The blurb describes it as an "ode to art and science, history and magic—a spectacularly imaginative, modern story about an ancient craft and places still undiscovered." The ancient craft is cartography, the study and practice of making and using maps.

The mystery concerns what else? A map. What's odd is that it's an old gas station map, not an exquisitely drawn old world map. How many of us still have one tucked somewhere in our homes or in a pocket in



Kathy Manos Penn

our cars? What deep, dark secret could a gas station map contain? Author Peng Shepherd has crafted a captivating tale about maps and the places maps can take us.

As I did, you may figure out who the villain is, but I doubt you'll predict the twists and turns that ensue even after that revelation.

### A Curious Beginning

by Deanna Raybourn

After falling in love with Raybourn's "Killers of A Certain Age," I searched for her other books, and was delighted to discover she'd written two historical mystery series set in Victorian England. She shifted to a modern day setting without a hitch.

Equally enchanted with this first book in her Veronica Speedwell series. I plan to pick up her Lady Julia Grey mysteries soon. Raybourn is a master at rapid, witty dialogue, no matter the era, and her Victorian-era heroine has some of the best lines in the book.

Is it believable that twenty-five-year-old Veronica has traveled the world on her own as a lepidopterist (butterfly collector)? No, but then she is a woman beyond her time. Many mysteries require a willing suspension of disbelief, and I, for one, want to believe in this heroine.

This novel checked all my boxes: a strong female protagonist, a twist I never saw coming, and an exploration of a topic I knew little about. Add a favorite setting to the mix, and I was in heaven.

Come to think of it, both mysteries checked all my boxes. Will they do the same for you? Let me know.

• Award-winning author Kathy Manos Penn is a Georgia resident. Find her cozy mysteries at Shakespeare & Company in Highlands, Franklin Office Supply & Gifts, and on Amazon. Contact her at ink-penn119@gmail.com, and follow her on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/](http://www.facebook.com/KathyManosPennAuthor/).



## ...APPEALS continued from page 1

peals for the informal review process.

"We have a total of 2,033 informal reviews after three withdrew," Abby Braswell, Macon County Tax Administrator said on Tuesday afternoon.

The informal review process involves discussing the assessment with a tax assessor and providing any additional information or evidence that may impact the property value. If the property owner is still dissatisfied with the assessment after the informal review, they can file a formal appeal.

"We have nine Board of Equalization and review appeals," said Braswell.

Out of the more than 2,000 appeals submitted to the county, the Highlands City area (within the town limits) accounts for 421 of the appeals.

The majority of appeals for the Highlands area, 293 to be exact, have resulted in a change in value for the property owner. The remaining 128 appeals reported no change in value after the appeal.

The county's Highlands Rural taxing district – the Highlands Township -- which sits just outside of the city limits of Highlands, has seen 346 appeals with 194 resulting in a valuation change and 152 seeing no change.

According to Braswell, some of the changes that resulted in a change in value through the appeals process included added decks, porches, garages, storage, carport, or HVAC to the parcel so some changes were not in the taxpayers favor.

If a property owner submits an appeal of the new valuation to the tax office, and the staff visits the property to find items such as new buildings or improvements that were not noted on the original revaluation, the tax office has to add those items to the property details, which can result in the property valuation being increased when the property owner was actually seeking to have the valuation decreased.

Though 70% of the appeals resulted in property valuation changes, some of those results agreed with property owners resulting in lower property values, but other cases found that the County revaluation's undervalued properties, which resulted in the property value being increased following the appeal.

In addition to the 2,033 appeals received through the informal review process, Braswell reported that the Board of Equalization and Review (the formal review) has had a total of six cases heard for all of Macon County with four of those resulting in no change in value and two reporting a valuation change.

Of the ones that have gone to the Board so far, four were for Highlands-area properties and two from Franklin. Only one of the cases heard from the Highlands area resulted in a valuation change for the property owner.

The formal appeal form requires the property owner to provide evidence to support their claim that the assessed value is incorrect, such as recent property sales in the area

• See APPEALS page 19

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The Plateau Pickup is organized and hosted by the  
Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC.



# Spring Home Improvement 2023

## 4 foolproof ways to add value to your home

(BPT) - Fluctuating interest rates and an ever-changing housing market have inspired many homeowners to reimagine their space, favoring renovation over relocation. Upgrades not only make a home more attractive - they also often bring innovative, low-maintenance solutions, making your most familiar surroundings feel beautiful and comfortable.

With an endless supply of home improvement shows and picturesque inspiration on social media, it can be tricky knowing where to start. That's why we've come up with four simple ways to make your home design dreams come true - while adding lasting value to your property.

### 1. Look for beautiful, durable surfaces

We all know kitchens and bathrooms can make or break the first impression. These spaces are the heart of the home, where we gather, work and play every day. So, these rooms need surfaces that are beautiful and strong. Let's be honest - it's more inspiring to cook when you don't have to worry about stains and scratches. That's why fresh, lasting countertops, flooring, backsplashes and even cabinet cladding are renovation must-haves.

For a transformation that's timeless, consider Cosentino's new Silestone Ethereal line. These marble-inspired colorways can elevate surfaces in any space, but they're durable enough for everyday use - making them perfect for bath or kitchen applications. Manufactured with HybriQ Technology, this sustainable product composition uses 99% recycled water and 100% renewable electric energy.

The eco-friendly, stylish collection comes in six unique color selections - two of which are available exclusively at Home Depot:

- \* Ethereal Indigo: Striking navy veins on a white canvas bring color and dimension for a modern take on marble.

- \* Ethereal Cloud: White cloud-like patterns on a gray backdrop make this sleek countertop the perfect neutral tone for any kitchen.

### 2. Build your outdoor space to last

When it comes to the outdoors, you want materials that can withstand the elements - like Dekton. This carbon-neutral product has an ultra-durable surface made of raw materials including quartz, glass and porcelain. The low water absorbing surface is resistant to UV rays, scratches, stains and thermal shock, so it's ideal for flooring, fireplaces, outdoor kitchens and more. Three new color designs are now available at Home Depot, making it easy to customize your space, whether you prefer Dekton Laos, a smooth matte finish perfect for industrial-inspired rooms; Dekton Rem, which combines marble-inspired neutrals with gold; or Dekton Soke, a colorway with rich, textured grays that work well in any space.

### 3. Use lighting to make your space shine

Home lighting is a powerful, often-overlooked design element, which can help show off your other decorative finishes, like surfacing or furniture. Luckily, today's options give homeowners myriad choices to make any room stand



out, from fixtures to lightbulbs. Well-placed recessed lighting is always a functional option, but many contemporary designers recommend creating focal points with bold, sculptural pendant lights. You can also try playing with materials that include natural textures, glass or mixed metals, especially in settings like a sunroom or reading nook. Whether you're going for a traditional look or a mid-century modern feel, thoughtful lighting that accompanies your style is well worth the time and effort.

### 4. Find photo-worthy finishes

Don't forget the finishing touch! While it may seem like a small upgrade, details like faucet or door knob finishes have a big impact on the overall look and feel of your home. Simply put, finishes elevate functional elements to stunning accents. Don't hide handles and faucets - instead, use matte black, brushed metal or even gold to complement or contrast those design features. And don't be afraid to mix and match styles based on each room's cabinetry, countertops or wall color. It's the perfect way to add personal touches to each space.

No matter where you start, you can bring your home to the next level. From installing new surfacing for countertops or vanities to perfect fixtures, there are plenty of creative ways to enhance your home and create lasting value. By choosing high-quality, durable features, you're not just building a more beautiful home - you're creating a more effortless and enjoyable lifestyle, now and for the future.

For more design inspiration that elevates your space, visit Cosentino.com.

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# Home Improvement 2023

## Garage Door Safety Month: Staying Safe at Home

(BPT) - Did you know that your garage door is typically the biggest moving object in your home? Inspecting your garage door to identify any potential issues can go a long way toward ensuring a safe environment for your family. Garage doors are subject to normal wear and tear, and regular maintenance is important to ensure it is operating properly and safely. You could have a hazard on your hands, but the good news is you can make a difference by learning more about how your door works, and what to look for.

That's why the International Door Association (IDA) promotes awareness in May as Garage Door Safety Month. Homeowners should learn how to perform basic inspections to identify possible safety issues, and when it's time to call in a professional garage door service technician. The Garage Door Safety Month "Look, Listen, Learn and Remember" program is designed to do just that.

Homeowners looking to ensure a safe garage door should take the following steps:

\* Look:\* Give your garage door a visual inspection by looking at the garage door, the springs, rollers and the door cables to see if you can find any obvious signs of damage or even normal wear and tear.

\* Listen:\* A noisy garage door can mean there is a problem, especially if you haven't heard anything before. Listen to your door while it's in operation, without your vehicle running, to hear any scraping or grinding sounds.

\* Learn: \* Garage door and opener manufacturers provide specific safety instructions and maintenance requirements. Learning about your particular door and opener is an important part of safety planning. Learning about simple steps you can take to avoid injury is also important. For example, keep your fingers away from moving parts, especially from in between door sections that can pinch fingers. Keeping garage door remote controls out of the reach of children is another way to keep them safe and keeping the remotes out of sight can also help deter theft. Most important, do not try to repair or service your own door. This is not a DIY project and can be dangerous, so make sure to call a professional.

\* Remember:\* If anything seems out of place, remember to call in a trained service professional. Garage door technicians are trained to safely work on garage doors and openers.

Garage Door Safety Month is a reminder to homeowners to take a few minutes to look, listen, learn and remember. If anything needs attention, always contact a trained professional garage door service company. For information on how to find a qualified garage door professional near you visit [www.doors.org/garage-door-care/find-a-qualified-professional](http://www.doors.org/garage-door-care/find-a-qualified-professional).



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# Spring Home Improvement 2023

## Ask an expert: 7 most common questions about automatic home generators

(BPT) - Do you know how much a power outage costs? When the power goes out, it affects more than just your ability to watch TV or read with the lights on. Food and medicine in your refrigerator and freezer can go bad. Your basement may flood if the sump pump goes out, and you may need to relocate to a hotel for your family's safety and comfort. If any home systems fail, you may be looking at costly repairs.

An easy way to protect your home and avoid power outage-related costs is to invest in an automatic home generator. To help you understand the benefits of owning your own automatic home generator, Kohler expert Melanie Tydrich offers the following seven most commonly asked questions.

*1. What is an automatic home generator? How is it different from a portable generator?*

An automatic home generator provides backup power when you need it and stands by when you don't. Like an air conditioning unit, the generator is permanently installed outside your house. When the power goes out, it turns on. The unit shuts off when the main utility power is restored.

Portable generators are useful when you don't have utility power available, like camping, tailgating or at a work site. However, you'll need to refuel them regularly, so you'll have to remember to safely store fresh fuel in your home. Also, you'll have to operate them outside, which means running outdoor-rated extension cords.

*2. How does an automatic home generator work?*

Your generator runs on your home's existing natural gas or liquid propane system, which makes it incredibly convenient. When the power goes out or drops below an

acceptable level (brownout), your automatic transfer switch (ATS) signals the generator to start. In just 10 seconds, the ATS transfers your power from the utility grid to the generator. It powers your home until utility power is restored, then transfers power back to the grid.

*3. What can it power?*

A home standby generator can power corded items like electronics, cell phones, refrigerators and freezers. More importantly, it can power products hardwired to your home, such as central air and heating systems, sump pumps and lights. Security systems and even garage doors are sometimes difficult to operate when you don't have power.

*4. Do you need to be home to operate the generator?*

You don't need to be home to operate the generator. An automatic home genera-

tor is just that, automatic. This completely hands-off unit turns on during a power outage and turns off automatically.

*5. What features should a quality home generator have?*

Because your automatic generator will power your home during a power outage, you'll want a durable and reliable engine. Generators from Kohler, for example, are equipped with heavy-duty, commercial-grade engines that fire up quickly and can handle heavy electrical loads.

Even though generators are working hard to supply power to your home and appliances, you don't have to settle for a noisy model. Look for a generator that has been designed and built to operate with minimal noise. Remote monitoring via an app is also a helpful feature to have because you can see the status of your generator when you aren't home and a power outage hits.

# Power your life

Make power outages a thing of the past with a home standby generator.



### Trusted Protection During Unpredictable Weather

The frequency in severe weather has led to an increase in power outages. More than ever, you need to be prepared. Think about it, without power, you will have no lights, heating or cooling, or refrigeration. You can't even charge your cell phone. But when you have a Generac home standby generator, you will have power when you need it the most.

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# Home Improvement

6. What size generator do I need?

The right size generator for your home depends on your power needs. Kohler has a handy Generator Selector tool to get a ballpark cost. However, if you're serious about buying one, you'll want to receive a detailed estimate from your local Kohler Generators dealer. These professionals will analyze your home's electrical load and specify and install your generator system.

7. Is installing an automatic home generator a DIY project?

Installing an automatic home generator isn't a project you'll want to do yourself.

Because it requires working with gas and electrical connections, you'll want to hire a qualified professional who can make sure it's installed properly.

Automatic home generators are an investment in keeping your family safe and secure during a power outage. They give you the ability to live life uninterrupted because they can power anything in a home, from lights and HVAC to appliances and tech. They provide peace of mind - and more importantly - they provide resilience for you, your family and your community.



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Highlands Finneas Garner takes off to compete in the backstroke.

- Photo by Brian O'Shea, Plateau Daily News

## Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team wins 2023 Spring Invitational

By Steve Hott

Hurricanes Coach

On Saturday, April 15, the Highlands Hurricanes Swim Team hosted the North Georgia Rapids (NGR) and the Brevard Bearacudas. The Hurricanes won 894.5 to NGR's 264.5 and the Bearacudas 23.

The 28 Highlands Hurricanes swimmers were led by Jr. Olympians Dasha Halldin and Corena Dearth, who each won 4 events and scored 48 pts.

Junior Olympians Finneas Garner and Chase Kenter each won 3 events and scored 46 pts.

Bella Batista and Jr. Olympian Jack Sumner both had 44.5 pts. Batista broke her 1st pool record (100 Individual Medley), while Sumner qualified for the 2023 Jr. Olympics in 2 events.

Alyse Remery and Jr. Olympian Aniah McKim each won 2 events with Remery contributing 44 pts and McKim 43.

Jr. Olympian Justin Powell also scored 43 pts while winning 3 events. Ben Halldin and Morgan Mason both won 2 events and scored 40.5 points.

Charlie Hinton and Jr. Olympian Paolo McCrae brought home 36.5 pts. Hinton won 3 events, McCrae 2 seconds. Emilina Hernandez had a second place finish and 34.5 pts. Elizabeth Burnette had 2

firsts and 32.5 pts.

Ian Batista scored a second and 32 pts. Katherine Wise got 2 thirds and 29.5 pts. Annabelle Searles also got 2 thirds and 27.5 pts. Ivan Shchelgachov had a third-place finish and 26 pts. Aleks Petric-Sakonjic scored 23 pts., and Max Jestin 22.

Bo Curcuru won an event and brought home 21 pts. Anne Marie Hinton scored 2 thirds and 19.5 pts. Penelope McCrae won 15.5 pts, and Valerie Nadzorau 13. Nadzorau had 2 second place finishes. Jayce Powell won an event, and 12 pts, John Bradshaw Spencer got a second and 9 pts.

In her 1st meet ever Agatha Jestin scored 1 pt!

The Highlands Hurricanes 2023 National Team headed for Junior Olympics in Des Moines, Iowa in July is currently 7 deep and growing: Finneas Garner; Aniah McKim, Paolo McCrae, Jack Sumner, Chase Kenter, Dasha Halldin, and Corena Dearth.

The Highlands Hurricanes are a Highlands Recreation Park Team that practices in the evenings at the Highlands Recreation Park Pool. The only requirement to join is that a prospective swimmer must be able to swim 25 yards (the length of the pool) unassisted. For further information please call Head Coach Steve Hott at 828.421.4121.



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## THE POOL IS OPEN

• **Public Swim:** Mon.-Wed. 3:30-7p; Sat. 11a-6p; Sun. 1-6p.  
**Adult Swim:** Mon.-Wed. 11a-3:30p and Thurs. and Fri., 11a-2p. **Lap Swim:** Mon-Fri 6a-9:45a and Sat. 10-11a. **Water Aerobics:** Mon.-Fri. 10-11a. 828-526-1595.

**Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat, & Sun**

• Alcoholics Anonymous: "Open Meetings" are for any-

more information contact Bud Katz at either 828-526-3190 or at budandlynn@me.com

## Tuesdays

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

## Mon-Fri

• **Water Aerobics 18 years plus 10-11am.** Contact the Recre-

ation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.  
 • **Pickle Ball** inside and outside. 10am-1pm, everyone is welcome so come out and enjoy a game of Pickle Ball.  
**Mon., Tues., Thurs.**  
 • The Food Pantry behind the Methodist Church on Spring Street is open from 10a to 6p.  
**Mon. & Wed.**  
 • 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 w/Tina Rogers 8-9a. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more info.  
**Tues. & Thurs.**  
 • New Zumba class with Gay Chalpin from 4:30-5:30p. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.  
 • Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at 5:30. A combination class with different types of exercise. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information  
**First Wednesdays**  
 • Hudson Library, in partnership with VAYA Health, is hosting an educational series on adult mental health, at 11:00 AM. This series is aimed particularly at older adults and will focus on mental health is-

## 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

## 1st Tuesdays

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

## 2nd Tuesdays

• Highlands Writers Group meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 3pm. Writers still uncomfortable with in-person gatherings may participate via Zoom meetings held on the second or third Tuesday of each month at 3pm. Members receive weekly notification regarding when and how the group will assemble. For

one who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. program of recovery. Highlands Mountain View Group holds open meetings in Highlands at the First Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., on Monday at 5:30 PM and Wednesday and Friday at noon. The Cashiers Valley Group holds open meetings at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library Tuesday at 7 PM, Friday and Sunday at 5 PM, and Saturday at 9 AM. A ZOOM meeting is available Wednesday at 7PM (ID# 921 817 2966, password CVG2020). For more information, please visit [www.aawnc80.org](http://www.aawnc80.org) or to speak with a member of AA 24/7 at 828-349-4357

sues of particular interest to them. The February 1 program is PTSD: Healing the Emotional Wound.

## Wednesdays

• 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](http://www.maconncliteracy.org), call 828-526 – 0863 or email [info@maconncliteracy.org](mailto:info@maconncliteracy.org)

## Thursdays

• Kickboxing 8:15-9:15am. An exhilarating and fun mix of martial arts for a calorie-burning workout. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

• At Hudson Library, Kids Zone at 3:30 pm with a wide variety of STEAM, nature, and craft activities. For more information about any of these summer activities, contact Hudson Library at 828-526-3031.

## 3rd Fridays

• At the Rec Park, Senior Lunches noon in the meeting room. For any other information call Lester Norris or Maxine Ramsey at 828-526-3556.

## 2nd Saturdays

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

## 3rd Saturdays

• The American Legion Post 370 meets 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

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

10amWe invite ALL Veterans to attend. Contact Ed McCloskey, Commander for any information @828-787-1660.

## Through May 31

• The Fontana Regional Library system, including Hudson Library in Highlands, is starting an Active Audio Challenge that will run from March 1st through May 31st. Participants who listen to 25 hours of audiobooks, while being active, will receive a prize. To register for the Challenge, come by Hudson Library and pick up the logbook used to record entries. For more information or to request an accommodation, please call the library at 828-526-3031.

## Wed. & Sat. in April

• Spring is in the air! The Highlands Botanical Garden is waking up, and with it, an abundance of wildflowers is beginning to display. Join the Highlands Nature Center for an easy stroll through the Botanical Garden each Wednesday & Saturday this April between 4 and 5 PM to explore what spring ephemerals are blooming. These programs are free and open to the public, no registration is necessary. For more information, visit [highlands-biological.org](http://highlands-biological.org). The Highlands Nature Center & Botanical Garden is part of the Highlands Biological Station, a multi-campus center of Western Carolina University.

## Thurs., April 20

• Macon County Democratic Women lead the charge to save our planet for future generations again this year by hosting a community Potato Supper at Carpenter Community Center, 1288 Georgia Road, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eat in or take out a baked potato, your choice of toppings, a dessert and a drink for \$12. Cost for children 12 and under is just \$6. Tickets may be purchased from members of Democratic Women of Macon County or by leaving a message at (678) 357-7718 to pick up tickets at the supper.

• OEI's Orchard Series. 6 - 8 pm. The sessions kick off Thursday with the return of Atlanta native Mike Kinnebrew. The Orchard

Sessions are held at The Farm at Old Edwards at 336 Arnold Road in Highlands. Tickets are \$40. Book Online: <https://www.simplivetix.com/e/mike-kinnebrew-orchard-sessions-at-the-far-tickets-124433>

## Friday April 21

• Community Coffee with the Mayor at Hudson Library at 11 AM in the Hudson Library Meeting Room for Community Coffee with the Mayor. Mayor Patrick Taylor will recognize Dr. Gary Wien, the retiring Executive Director of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. The topic will be: A Dialogue with Dr. Gary Wien: Highlands Future for Conservation and Land Management.

## Sat., April 22

• Highlands American Legion Post 370: In a one time change to our meeting date, Highlands American Legion Post 370 will hold the April Post meeting on the fourth Saturday, April 22, with 9 AM breakfast and 10 AM meeting. This was done to accommodate our members interested in participating in the plateau pick up on the 15th.

• Nature Center's Earth Day Extravaganza on April 22 from 12 to 3p.! Grab your family and get ready to explore and appreciate the natural world with a scavenger hunt that will have you searching high and low for Earth's treasures in the Highlands Botanical Garden. Then, tap into your creative side with nature art and DIY crafts that will inspire you to use recycled materials to make beautiful, eco-friendly creations.

• A free nature-themed art workshop for elementary school-age children and young families will be held on Earth Day, Saturday 1-4 p.m., in the Macon County Public Library Children's Area. With instruction from Franklin Uptown Gallery artist-educators, participants will create take-home projects including leaf confetti collages, newspaper owls, paper rubbings, and tin can flower planters. Trail mix snacks and all materials will be provided, as well as a creation station for preschool-age siblings. No pre-registration

is required; wear comfortable clothes and shoes and come for any part of the three-hour session. The wheelchair-accessible Macon County Public Library is at 149 Siler Farm Road in Franklin. This free event is produced by the Arts Council and Macon County Art Association; for details email [arts4all@dnnet.net](mailto:arts4all@dnnet.net) or phone 828-524-ARTS.

## Mon., April 24

• The annual Teen Poetry Night, an open-mic event for high school-age poets and poetry lovers, will be held Monday, at 7 p.m., in Franklin's Rathskeller Coffee Haus. To celebrate National Poetry Month, young poets are invited to read or recite their original works, as well as favorite works by other poets, earning RAT Bucks to be spent at the event on The Rathskeller's healthy beverages, sandwiches, snacks and desserts. There's no pre-registration; participants are given stage time in a round-robin format. The Rathskeller Coffee Haus is at 58 Stewart Street. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.;

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# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Seeing, touching, and hearing the resurrected Jesus

**Ken Langsdorf**  
Lutheran Church of the  
Holy Family



The celebration of Easter – the resurrection of Jesus – continues until Pentecost Day, which is on May 28 this year. Throughout the Season of Easter we study and reflect on Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. Let's consider together one of these appearances of the risen Jesus as John tells about it in his reporting of the Gospel. John 20: 19- 23

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

John is describing an event from the evening of the first Easter Day. The disciples of Jesus have locked themselves away because they are afraid the leaders and people who crucified Jesus may be after them next. I think they are also horrified and confused about what happened to Jesus. It had to be traumatic to see their Rabbi treated in such a cruel way, tortured and put to death in the most agonizing way. It is no wonder they are afraid and locked away. They may have also been confused. If they were expecting Jesus to be a military Messiah who would raise up a revolution against the Roman oppressors, they were greatly disappointed. With the death of Jesus, all of their hopes and dreams were crushed. Now what?

Do you think they might have felt some guilt too? After all, when Jesus, their Rabbi needed them the most, they ran. They abandoned him. Peter, a leader of the disciples, denied even knowing Jesus. I imagine the disciples feeling some guilt about turning away from Jesus when he was taken away.

It is to this setting, with the disciples of Jesus locked away in fear, grief, confusion, and guilt, that Jesus appears. And what are his first words? Jesus says, Peace be with you. Or Shalom. He didn't express any disappointment or anger or wrath. He didn't come seeking revenge on those who killed him. Rather, the resurrected Jesus comes to his disciples with a message of peace and forgiveness.

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 19

## Proverbs 3:5

## • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

**John 3:16**

### BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice. Pastor (828) 421-1315

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

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Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

### CASHIERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Aryn Williams-Reubel. Pastor 828-743-5298

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Wednesday night Dinner and Service 5:30

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

### CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY. CASHIERS

Pastor Brent Metcalf • 743-5470

www.cashiers.church

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

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3645 Cashiers Rd. Highlands. NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins

Sundays: Service 10:45am, Children's 10:30am

Wednesdays: Youth 5:30-7pm; Women's Bible Study: Mondays

4:30pm, Tuesdays 10am; Men's Bible Study: Wednesdays &

Thursdays 7am @ Zookeeper Bistro

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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

Emily Wilmarth, pastor

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 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

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

### HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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Rev. Marty Kilby

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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

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### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers

Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am

# • FIRE REPORTS •

## The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from 4/11.

### April 11

• At 8:55 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Chowan Drive.

April 14

• At 4:32 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Old Walhalla Road.

### April 15

• At 7:50 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 east.

### April 16

• At 1:46 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Songbird Lane.

### April 18

• At 8:26 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on NC 106.

## ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 18

We see in Jesus the God who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We see in Jesus the power of God expressed in mercy, forgiveness, life and love. Jesus shows that God's power is stronger than human sin, greater than all the forces of evil, and triumphant over death. To humanity who gave Jesus their worst,

he offers peace. To the forces of death and destruction, violence and terror; Jesus shows the power of life and love and peace.

The power of this resurrected Jesus is not just for the people who lived 2000 years ago. This is an eternal power that meets us today. When we are locked away because of fear, grief, confusion, and guilt, the power of Jesus meets us

with peace, shalom, forgiveness and eternity in the love of God.

This week a woman who is in hospice care said to me, I am at peace with God. And from that peace with God, I am at peace within myself and with other people. When I die, I will be more alive than I have ever been. That is the difference the Good News of Jesus gives to us today.

## ...APPEALS from page 11

or an independent appraisal of the property.

Once the appeal is filed, a hearing will be scheduled with the county's Board of Equalization and Review. The board then reviews the evidence presented by both the property owner and the tax assessor's office and makes a decision on the assessment.

If the property owner is still dissatisfied with the decision, they can appeal to the North Carolina Property Tax Commission, and then to the North Carolina court system if necessary.

The property revaluation process in a North Carolina county involves assessing the value of all properties within the county to determine their current market value. This is done periodically, typically every 4-8 years, to ensure that property taxes are based on current market values rather than outdated values. To file an appeal, property owners can mail it or submit one online at <https://maconnc.org/Tax.html>. Mailed applications must be postmarked by May 9th. Emailed appeals are also accepted at [tallen@maconnc.org](mailto:tallen@maconnc.org).

## Finance and Accounting Manager



The Church of the Good Shepherd, Cashiers, NC, is seeking a **Finance and Accounting Manager** to oversee all aspects of our finances, from contributions to payroll and expenses.

- Ability to interact professionally, tactfully, cheerfully and confidentially with staff and parishioners through personal contact, phone and email
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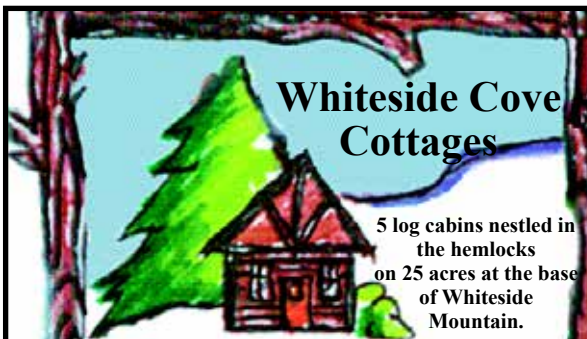
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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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## • HS SOCCER •

### Lady Highlanders win against Murphy at home

By Brian O'Shea

Plateau Daily News

Highlands girls varsity soccer team hosted Murphy on Tuesday and scored solid victory ending with a final of 6-2.

"We had a lot of good passing, and we followed through on our shots," said Highlands Coach Caleb Brown. "We kept the pressure on, and we did a good job of keeping them on their half of the field."

Highlands forward Caitlin Tingen injured her leg late in the first half and was taken to the hospital for x-rays. Brown said there she didn't put any weight on it before going to the hospital, but he's optimistic.

"It didn't look like anything was fractured, but there was a big mark on her shin, you could tell she got kicked hard," he said. "But she's a tough kid, she's a trooper, so we'll wait and see."

Highlands currently has a 6-3 record and Brown said he's pleased with how the season is going.

"I think it's going great," said Brown. "In all of our losses we stayed competitive, losing by only one or two goals. I definitely think we'll make the playoffs and we have a good shot at winning conference, but we have to beat Swain."

Highlands faced off against Swain earlier this season and lost 2-1. They play Swain again on April 27.



Highlands Mac Woods clears the ball after Murphy's offense gets a little too close to Highlands' goal.



Highlands Claire Worley cruises the field coast to coast against Murphy.



Highlands AE Woods doesn't give up her position and maintains possession of the ball against Murphy.



Highlands Caroline Woods attacks a Murphy defender at midfield and passes up to the offense.

Photos by Brian O'Shea  
Plateau Daily News



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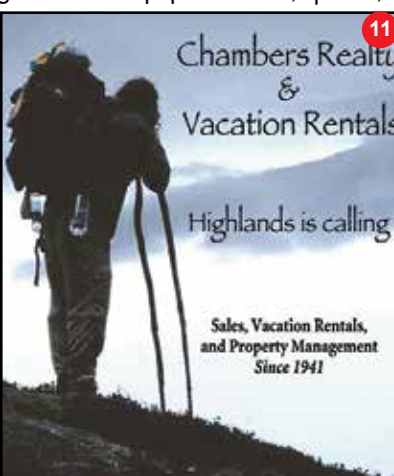
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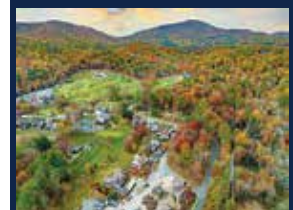
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