

# Highlands Newspaper

Happy Easter!

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 21, Number 13

Real-Time News, Weather & WebCams: HighlandsInfo.com

Thurs., March 28, 2023

## TB hears impact study of HFI events

With an underlying current running through Highlands questioning the benefit of the Highlands Food & Wine and the Bear Shadow events - Jack Austin with Highlands Festivals, Inc. which produces the events, presented an 2023 Economic Impact Study of the festivals to the Town Board last week.

First, he explained the history - how the Highlands Food

& Wine event was a new version of the annual culinary/food event sponsored years ago by the Chamber of Commerce which had petered out over the years.

• See STUDY page 10

## The living cross: a sign of rebirth



The flowered cross at the Highlands United Methodist Church on Main Street has become a symbol of Easter in Highlands. Check the ads in this issue for services at local churches.

## Board appts. and weekend work rules decided at worksession

During the Thurs., March 22 worksession prior to the Town Board meeting, commissioners discussed and eventually settled on language in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) regarding the appointment policy amendment for the Planning and Zoning boards and weekend construction work regulations as outlined in the Code of Ordinances.

• See WORKSESSION page 17

## PB tables decision

In an unprecedented move Monday night, the Highlands Planning Board tabled a request pending more information until its April meeting

Last August, representatives

• See TABLES page 8

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From left: Harper Ramey, Charlie Wilkes, Ian Kittrell, Jenson Bowers, Walker Kittrell, Camden Westendorf, Sam Conner, Rowan Cairns with coaches Brooks Kittrell (left) and Jordan Kenter (right).

## Highlands Boys MS Golf Team wins team event

Last week, Sky Valley Country Club hosted 28 players representing five schools. Highlands Middle School won the overall

team event with a score of 150. Sam Conner won overall with a round of 45. Ian Kittrell tied for 3rd overall with a score of 50.

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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### Preparing for the 'season'

Last week marked the beginning of spring. Our faith community will hold services and observances that capture the spirit of renewal, resurrection, revival, and restoration. As a town, we too, are entering a period that embodies these concepts.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

Very soon, Highlanders who have braved the winter months will see an influx of new visitors and the return of seasonal and second-homeowners. I now characterize many of our residents as transitory residents who, while leaving Highlands for periods during the winter, usually November through May, never fully sever ties with the town as once done by many homeowners in the past. Our town has undergone many changes, but this spirit of renewal and restoration is a big part of this period of the year, even a ritual.

First, although Highlands is always beautiful, we will have to restore the town's appearance. A major event will be the annual

Highlands Plateau Pickup, sponsored by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce. This volunteer event will take place on Saturday, April 13. For more information and to sign up, call the Chamber of Commerce at (828) 526-2112.

The Town of Highlands will conduct its annual white goods pickup from April 15 to the 19th. During this week, the town will come to a residence and pick up any used appliances such as washing machines, stoves, or other appliances. Please call Town Hall at

(828) 526-2118 for more information. The town will recycle the metal of these defunct machines. Money from the recycling effort will help defray some of the program's costs.

The town will also be restoring many parts of the downtown area and public roads. We have contractual agreements with the state and other contractors to re-stripe a number of crosswalks, streets, and some parking spaces. What is frustrating is that there is a high demand for these services across the state, which may result in delays in painting certain areas. Our road crews will also be patching potholes and clearing ditches and culverts.





Last Friday, I revived a program done for the last 10 years by holding the Community Coffee with the Mayor at the Hudson Library. These coffees will continue, usually on the last Friday of the month through October. This first coffee focused on town budget planning; a process revived each spring. I discussed a number of capital budget items that the town board must prioritize. As we address these budget issues for this year and into the future, I pointed out that utility rate increases, especially in water and sewer, are definitely on the table. Property tax increases cannot be ruled out in the future.

I look forward to a renewal of economic activities in the town. Like most communities with severe winters, the local economy takes a dip during our winter months. However, in recent years, as people remain in town, the dip has leveled off to some extent. With the return of moderate temperatures, more visitors and residents will be welcomed to downtown businesses and eating establishments.

## • HIC'S VIEW •



## • WEATHER •

Thu, 28-Mar	Fri, 29-Mar	Sat, 30-Mar	Sun, 31-Mar
			
54°F 30°F	60°F 36°F	65°F 47°F	70°F 51°F
Cooler with variable clouds	Mostly sunny	Sunny and pleasant	Mostly cloudy and mild
RealFeel® High: 53° Low: 35°	RealFeel® High: 63° Low: 31°	RealFeel® High: 68° Low: 42°	RealFeel® High: 72° Low: 49°

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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#### Letter Policy:

There is a 500-word limit. We reserve the right to reject or edit letters-to-the-editor. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands Newspaper.

#### Obituary Policy:

We do not charge for obituaries at this time, but we reserve the right to edit as needed for space.

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## • INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

### Springtime awakening: Revitalizing real estate markets

As the winter frost melts away and nature bursts forth with new life, the dawn of spring brings a sense of rejuvenation and fresh beginnings. In the realm of real estate, this seasonal transition mirrors the revival of property markets, marked by increased activity and a surge in opportunities.

Spring is universally recognized as a time of renewal, where vibrant blossoms adorn landscapes, and the promise of warmer days beckons. Similarly, in the real estate sphere, this period symbolizes a resurgence of interest and activity. The reasons behind this springtime awakening are multifaceted, influenced by both practical and psychological factors.

One of the most tangible effects of spring on the real estate market is the upswing in buying and selling activity. As temperatures rise and daylight hours extend, potential buyers are energized to explore the housing market in earnest. Families often aim to finalize transactions during spring to facilitate seamless transitions before the summer months.

Historical data consistently underscores the significance of spring as a peak selling season. Statistics reveal that the months of March through May typically witness a notable increase in home sales and listings. This heightened demand creates a competitive environment advantageous to sellers, potentially driving up property prices.

Beyond economic factors, the psychological impact of spring plays a significant role in shaping real estate trends. The season prompts individuals to reassess their living situations, sparking a desire for change or improvement. This introspective period, coupled with the optimism synonymous with spring, often catalyzes real estate transactions.

Moreover, new beginnings associated with spring resonates deeply with prospective buyers. The season embodies a sense of possibility and transformation, motivating individuals to pursue their housing aspirations with renewed vigor. As such, spring serves as a catalyst for action, inspiring buyers



**Pat Allen BIC**  
 Allen Tate Realtors  
 Pat Allen Realty Group.

ers to take decisive steps towards homeownership.

In addition to residential real estate, the commercial sector also experiences a revitalization during spring. Businesses, buoyed by the season's optimism, may initiate expansion plans, or seek out new office/retail spaces. The vibrancy of spring permeates the corporate landscape, driving economic activity and fostering growth.

Furthermore, the aesthetic appeal of properties is accentuated during spring, with gardens blooming and landscapes coming to life. Homes present themselves in their best light, captivating buyers with the promise of idyllic living spaces. The visual allure of springtime further enhances the emotional connection buyers feel towards potential properties. The most important thing a seller can do is to refresh the exterior to enhance curb appeal and to clean and paint the interior to show the house has been maintained.

However, amidst the opportunities spring presents, challenges also emerge. Increased competition among buyers can lead to bidding wars, while sellers must ensure their properties stand out in a crowded market. Moreover, the transient nature of spring underscores the importance of swift action for those seeking to capitalize on its advantages.

In essence, the arrival of spring heralds more than just a change in seasons -- it signals a period of revitalization and growth in the real estate market. As nature awakens from its winter slumber, so too does the property market come alive with opportunity. For buyers and sellers alike, spring offers a chance to embark on new beginnings and realize their real estate aspirations.

• *Pat Allen is Broker-in-Charge of AllenTate/Pat.Allen Realty Group: the number one independent firm in the country with sales over \$7.5 Billion last year. Allen have been a top producer since her career began 29 years ago. She may be reached at 828-200-9179 or [pat.allen@allentate.com](mailto:pat.allen@allentate.com)*



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# • LETTER •

## Going back in time?

Dear Editor,

In North Carolina we have a candidate for Governor who is reputed to have said "I absolutely want to go back to the America where women couldn't vote...We want to bring back the America where Republicans and principles and true ideas of freedom rule." There's a lot to unpack in that statement but what strikes me foremost is what it would mean to women.

In the beginning of this country American law was based on English Common Law wherein it was understood that the "very being and legal existence of the woman is suspended during marriage, or at least incorporated into that of her husband, under whose wing and protection she performs everything." (Blackstone Commentaries)

It wasn't until 1848 that women, chafing under that idea of servitude, organized to petition the government for the right to vote. Over the course of the next 70 years, a period in history marked by protests, arrests and hunger strikes, this request was repeatedly denied. It was only due to the inclusion of western states, who throughout this time granted suffrage to women, that the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified on August 26, 1920. But the right to vote was only the beginning of the fight for civil rights for women.

Fighting for the right to use birth control, to determine the size and timing of their families, became paramount. That and the right to work, doing away with discrimination in hiring practices, the right to work while pregnant and the right to equal pay for equal work were among the many social injustices addressed over the next century.

According to the Timeline of Legal History of Women, between 1920 and 2020, over 50 laws and Supreme Court rulings were passed that addressed the injustices under which women had lived. These were decisions and laws that made it easier for women to have agency to be their own person.

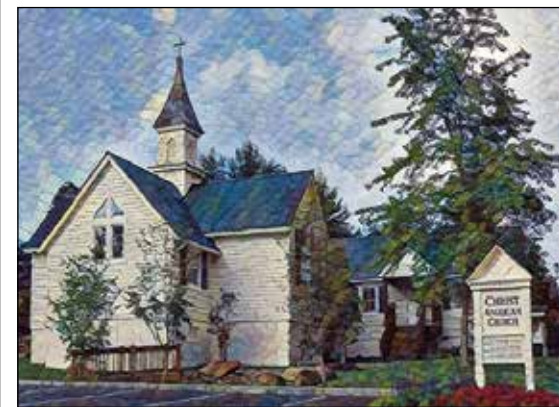
In 1971, before I married, my prospective mother-in-law encouraged me to open a bank account and get a credit card in my own name. However, it wasn't until 1974 and the passing of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act that women were guaranteed the opportunity for both.

Born in 1920, my mother-in-law lived through all the legal and social changes which were responsible for her concern for me as a woman. She knew that the freedom to be my own person was not easily won and she encouraged my autonomy. I am glad she is not alive today to see women's fundamental rights coming under attack and being threatened by this election.

We need to pay attention to what candidates say. If they can think it, if they can say it and they are given the power, they can do it.

The rights we think are enshrined in the law are never guaranteed. Witness the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, and the rumblings of outlawing birth control and other methods of family management. If all the means of reproductive control are taken away from women, as well as their partners, we could find ourselves back in the time before women could vote. My mother-in-law was right to be concerned.

Margaret Pickett  
Highlands, NC



## Christ Anglican Church

464 U.S. Hwy 64E, Cashiers, NC

### Holy Week & Easter

#### *Palm Sunday*

March 24 at 10:30 AM

#### *Holy Monday*

March 25 at 12 Noon (Service of Word)

#### *Holy Wednesday*

March 27 at 6:45 PM (Evening Prayer)

#### *Maundy Thursday*

March 28 at 6:00 PM

#### *Good Friday*

March 29 at 12 Noon

#### *The Great Vigil of Easter*

March 30 at 7:30 PM

#### *Easter Sunday*

March 31

7 AM (at Village Green)

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10:30 AM (at Christ Anglican)

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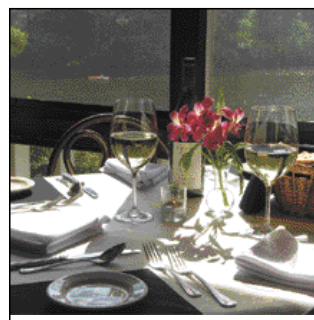
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## ...TABLES continued from page 1

of the Highlands Smokehouse at 595 Franklin Road sought and received a Special Use Permit (SUP) to construct a parking lot on its adjacent lot and to increase its outdoor seating.

It was understood that once construction began, NC DOT would likely require the removal of trees and shrubbery along the Franklin Road in its right-of-way due to line-of-sight concerns.

The Planning Board's positive recommendation was followed by the issuance of the SUP by the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Monday night, co-owner of the property Don Reynolds, Landscape Architect Hank Ross and the contractor sought a new SUP for increased seating based on the finalization of the parking lot now under construction.

The new parking lot will have 26 spaces which will serve 78 more seats for a total of 153 seats in the restaurant. One parking space for three seats is required in B-3 and B-4 zones with four spaces dedicated to eight employees.

However, instead of discussing the increased seating, discussion revolved around the ingress and egress of the new parking lot

which had changed since OK'd in August.

The new plan was for the ingress to the new parking lot be from the current parking lot but egress from the lot would be onto Raoul Road.

This concerned Raoul residents who were at the meeting to voice their concerns.

According to Reynolds, the plans changed once DOT "put boots on the ground."

"DOT is the one who told us what they wanted," said Reynolds. "They thought it was safer to put traffic onto a residential road rather than on to a commercial one. They cited sight-line, safety and the existing utility placement as the reasons."

There are two existing power poles on the corner in the DOT right-of-way that could have been moved but it still wouldn't have helped with the sight-line, so DOT opted for the Raoul exit, Reynolds said.

Planning Board members echoed the concerns of the Raoul residents saying the consideration of the impact on a residential neighborhood bordering a commercial zone was important.

The difficult inherit entrance and exit off Raoul Road from the Franklin Road

• See TABLES page 22

This Easter,  
may you be  
blessed with  
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# Happy Easter!

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In the Brushy Face subdivision, this 4/bed 6/ba is move-in ready. Designer finishes, usable lot, and spectacular view! 2-car garage and 2-car carport. Real masonry fireplace and a huge screen porch with Blue Valley views. Kitchen and dining room open to the great room, Primary suite plus an office with bath on the main level. Upstairs another primary suite, and 2 guest bedrooms, each with baths. The lower level has a sitting room, additional guest area with a bath and the 2-car garage. Offered at \$2,950,000. mls #103508



This unique 2-acre parcel is surrounded by 24+ acres of Conservation Land (land protected from development). Black Rock Mtn. is the backdrop. Pasture land out front is also conservation land. Just 3 miles from the center of Main Street. Cathedral ceilings, interior wood is reclaimed Wormy Chestnut & Black Walnut. 3/bed, 3/ba with great room/kitchen open to loft area. Covered porches and open decks. Offered for \$1,795,000. MLS# 103379



This lovely cabin is on the Highlands side of Franklin on Mountain Laurel Drive. Sits high on a ridge with some mountain view and privacy. Home features a great room, fireplace, dining room and kitchen, one bedroom and bath on the main level, upstairs has two loft bedrooms and a bath. Terrace level has a family room with a full bath, laundry room and additional storage. The lot has a detached carport and nice trees! Offered at \$695,000. mls #103751



Only 2 blocks from Main street, this totally renovated home is move-in ready and features 3/bed and 2/ba in the main house, plus an office. Guest suite with a full bath over the 2-car garage. Large entertaining porch and deck. A Plus finishes and a convenient location to downtown. Priced significantly less than the neighboring new homes in the area. Offered at \$1,750,000. MLS #103079



This house on Upper Lake Road in-town has entrance hall, large living room, dining room and gourmet kitchen. The screened porch and spacious deck. Primary suite with bath, office and laundry room, Upstairs has 3/bed each with its own bath. Beautiful porch with gardens and a fountain in front. Offered at \$2,400.00 mls #102744



Blue Valley Falls. Stunning 4 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath sits on over 3.3 acres and features a ridgeline view and water feature. Huge cathedral living room, real fireplace with gas starter, screened and open porches with fireplace. Cook's kitchen, 2 main floor bedrooms with baths. Lower level has 2/bed, 2/ba with a full living room and fireplace and porch. A 2-car garage with a covered breezeway. Currently a vacation rental so advance planning for showings required. Offered at \$1,795,000. mls #102601



Beautifully resurrected from 2 log homes dating back to the early 1800s. The kitchen, dining and hallways are lined with river reclaimed cypress from the owner's personal collection. Ceilings are painted pine and antique tobacco poles. Interior windows are trimmed out in reclaimed wormy chestnut. Reclaimed heart pine flooring, custom made chandelier from South Africa, reclaimed wormy chestnut accents on walls. Guest cabin suite is separated from the main cabin by a covered breezeway. Offered at \$2,495,000. mls # 103597



Freshly renovated, this 3/bed, 2/ba has good rental history and is a nice getaway. Recently renovated kitchen, and baths. Custom fire pit and masonry pizza oven. Offered at \$925,000. mls #103899



This charming Joe Webb-styled cabin has undergone renovations and upgrades inside and out. A rustic and elegantly designed home which sits on 2.84 acres of almost flat land. The primary bedroom has an attached bathroom with screened porch deck. The kitchen opens onto a den area and dining room. A new roof in 2018 and a new septic in 2021. The cabin has a strong rental history and the property is not subject to any restrictions. Only a couple of miles to Main Street. Offered at \$799,000. mls #103930



Three bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home on 1.15 acres. Lovely, wooded lot with beautiful landscaping, firepit and water feature. Outdoor shed and workshop. Main level has an open kitchen and dining area with a 1/2 bath. Large living area with primary bedroom, ensuite bath with garden tub. Upstairs are two bedrooms, large hall bath and extra storage. This home can be a vacation or short-term rental. All for only \$595,000. mls #103549



Lovely year-round living with this 3/bed, 3/ba Nice living room and open dining and modern kitchen. Split bedrooms each with baths. rear deck and a covered side porch. Lower level has a bedroom and bathroom, 2-car garage and great workshop with storage. In excellent condition. Offered at \$695,000. mls#103898



Located in town with sidewalk access. 2 blocks from Mountain Fresh and 3 blocks from the center of town, this historical home built in 1903 off Horse Cove Road updated for modern living. Four bedrooms in the main house 3 1/2 baths. Plus a 1/bd, 1/ba guest house. Wood floors, poured glass, wrap-around porches. Tile baths, stone fireplaces. Kitchen has natural marble tops and a small butler's pantry. Main floor primary with bath. Upstairs has 2 guest bedrooms with a hall bath and an additional primary plus bath. View of Satulah mountain and lovely grounds with a water feature on over 1.4 acres. Offered at \$3,200,000. mls#103809



A 2/bed, 1.5/ba townhouse in town with the convenience of living close to town amenities without the hassle of a large yard to maintain. The fact that it's ready for personal touches means you can make it your own and create a space that reflects your style. Offered at \$699,000. mls #103846



The main house has 4/bed, 4/ba with free-standing guest quarters. Real stone fireplaces, wood floors and wood walls. Great kitchen and Carolina room with a fireplace. This one has rental income and is grandfathered for rental with the city. Ample parking and a usable yard. Offered at \$3,499,000. mls #103911





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## ...STUDY continued from page 1

And how, aside from being a recipient of donations from the Chamber of Commerce to the tune of \$200,000 a year - \$100,000 for each event - Highlands Festival Inc. (HFI) is not a component of the Chamber, nor is anything HFI produces a Chamber event.

According to its Mission Statement, HFI is a nonprofit organization that brings tourism-related opportunities to the Highlands Plateau. Its mission is to provide live event experiences for the area thereby supporting local lodging, restaurants, retail businesses and the residents of the plateau.

Recently, HFI enlisted the services of Dr. Ha, an economics professor from Western Carolina University to compile an economic impact study that examined the financial impact of the 2023 festivals on the economy of Highlands. The hope was that positive results from the study would prove that not only are the events fun for visitors and residents but a boon for Highlands' economy.

According to Austin, Dr. Ha is a paid consultant, but his work is subject to WCU's Internal Review Board.

The study included information on the financial contribution of the festivals to Highlands as well as data about festival patrons and the impact it all had on the local business community.

According to the study, for 2023 Highlands Food & Wine (HF&W) contributed a total of \$2,899,862 and created or maintained 32 jobs in the local economy. The total contribution included \$1,928,215 in direct effects, \$537,523 in indirect effects and \$434,124 in induced effects.

Also, according to the study, for 2023 Bear Shadow contributed \$2,262,360 and produced and maintained 39 jobs to the local economy including \$1,421,536 in direct effects, \$443,252 in indirect effects and \$397,571 in induced effects.

Direct impacts of tourism

• See STUDY page 11



# HIGHLANDS

ELEV. 4118 | THE HEART OF HAPPINESS

## Plateau Pickup

Join us!

Saturday, April 13

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

It's time to spring clean our community!  
And we need a little help from our friends.

We'll begin at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park,  
Pine Street, Highlands.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.  
Participants receive a free t-shirt.



To participate, send an email to  
[events@highlandschamber.org](mailto:events@highlandschamber.org)

This event is hosted by the  
Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands.  
For more information: [highlandschamber.org](http://highlandschamber.org) or 828-526-5841  
[visithighlandsnsc.com](http://visithighlandsnsc.com)



# ...STUDY continued from page 10

refer to the immediate effects on the economy, such as tourist spending.

Indirect impacts are the secondary effects, such as increased demand for goods and services.

Induced impacts are the long-term effects, such as job creation.

Through a combined impact study, it was determined that HF&W and Bear Shadow 2023 contributed \$5.2 million to the Highlands plateau economy, generated \$678.2 thousand in taxes - \$395.3 thousand in federal taxes and \$281.9 thousand in state/local taxes; created or maintained 71 jobs and donated more than \$52,000 to local non-profits.

Mayor Pat Taylor suggested the \$52,000 given to local non-profits was due to the \$25 added to each ticket for each event basically paid for by the ticket buyer.

Commissioner Amy Patterson questioned why the amount paid in federal taxes was considered important. Austin didn't have an answer but suggested an audience with Dr. Ha who could explain his process.

A survey was distributed to the 1,703 ticket holders of Highlands Food & Wine with 364 considered qualified respondents with 364 respondents also from the 3,026 Bear Shadow ticket holders.

Among the 361 responses to a residency question, the majority - 67.3% ID'd themselves as visitors 17.7% ID'd as seasonal residents; 7.8% ID'd as "other" and 7.2% ID'd as year-round residents.

Of the 11 states represented by the 364 respondents eight were in the south or southeast - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The other three

states were California, Ohio and Texas.

The average stay for both events was 2.9-3.5 days with 42.3% attending a single event and 20% attending all four days.

For Bear Shadow, results were similar with spending and length of stay a bit less because the event was three days rather than four.

On average "visitors" versus the other categories spent the most - \$2,421.85 each between lodging, restaurants, and shopping. Austin said according to the surveys most ticket holders made \$250,000 a year or more.

When asked, most who attended Highlands Food & Wine and those who attended Bear Shadow said had it not been for the festivals they wouldn't have come to Highlands.

Overall, the statistics and figures illustrated a very positive effect from both Highlands Food & Wine and Bear Shadow. For that reason, Commissioner Patterson requested a copy of the 65-page study saying there are different ways to read statistics and it's possible "negatives" were not represented.

At that, Austin was quick to say they learned about one negative - that Bear Shadow patrons took up parking spaces on Main Street which meant patrons to Main Street restaurants and businesses had no where to park in the evening or during the day. Bear Shadow patrons parked in town and were then shuttled to the event in Scaly Mountain from K-H Founders Park.

Austin said Highlands Festivals was looking at ways to fix that and understood it was detrimental to businesses on Main Street.

• See STUDY page 16



- Incredible Views
  - Par 72 Championship Course stretching 6,900 yards of Peaks and Valleys
  - Open Daily • Year-Round • Public Golf
- 2 hrs. northeast of Atlanta • 20 Minutes from Highlands, NC

**For Tee Times, Membership Information or Event Rentals, please call 706-746-5302**  
[www.skyvalleycountryclub.com](http://www.skyvalleycountryclub.com)

# CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
 March 28 at 6:00 PM

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
 March 29 at 12 Noon

**THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER**  
 March 30 at 8:00 PM

**EASTER DAY**  
 March 31 at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

**520 Main Street, Highlands, NC**  
[incarnationwnc.org](http://incarnationwnc.org)



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The Molly Grace!**

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(828) 526-8390  
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## NEW SPRING INVENTORY AVAILABLE NOW!



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HIGHLANDS, NC



Find a darling gift for the little one in your life! We carry Beaufort Bonnet clothing from infant sizes to 14-years of age.



In Town Square  
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Highlands, NC  
thedarlingduck.com  
(828) 482-7370

*Happy Easter  
Spring Has Sprung*



C. ORRICO



# So...Hop Around Highlands this weekend!

**PLANET**  
by Lauren G

**pj harlow**  
SURROUND YOURSELF IN SOFTNESS

**COSABELLA**



**JULIE VOS**

326 Main St.  
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**DRIFTWOOD**

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panky**

**THML**  
NEW SEASON SS'24 with new arrivals.

**JOHNNY WAS**

*Lulu Bleu*

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Lulu & You – 142 HWY 107

*THE cat's* PAJAMAS

Order online at [www.facebook.com/LuluBleuNC](http://www.facebook.com/LuluBleuNC)



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*Wit's End*

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Our 84th season on Main Street

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email: [haleysfinelingerie@gmail.com](mailto:haleysfinelingerie@gmail.com)

**Spring Has  
Sprung**

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COLLECTIONS**

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# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

**For more information call Lester Norris or Janice Mathis at 828-526-3556.**

## **Mon.-Fri.**

• Pickle Ball will be played inside the Recreation Center Mon.-Fri., 10am-1pm for the winter.

## **NEW POOL SCHEDULE**

• Lap Swim: Mon.-Fri., 6-9:45a, and Sat., 10a-11p - 6 lanes. Water Aerobics: 18 yrs plus, Mon.-Fri. 10 -11am with Karen Chambers. Adult Swim: 18 years old+, Mon.-Thurs 11a-3:30p and Fri., 11a-1:30p. Public Swim Mon.- Thurs. 3:30-7p; Sat. 11a-6p and Sun. 1-6p. For info, call 828-526-1595.

## **MEETINGS ALL WEEK**

• Highlands/ Cashiers Alcoholics Anonymous "Open Meetings" are for anyone who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. recovery program. Open meetings are held in Highlands @ the 1st Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., on Monday at 5:30 p.m. and on Wednesday & Fridays @ 12:00 noon. Open in person meetings are held in Cashiers @ the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Li-

brary, 249 Frank Allen Rd. on Sunday at 5:00 pm, on Tuesday @ 7:00 pm, on Friday at 5:00 pm and on Saturday at 9:00 am. Cashiers Open ZOOM Meetings are on Wednesday @ 700 pm. ZOOM ROOM 921 817 2966 PASSWORD CVG2020. For more information please visit our website [www.aawnc80.org](http://www.aawnc80.org) or to speak with a member of A.A. 24/7 call our HELP Line 828 349-4357.

## **Mon.-Fri.**

• Nantahala Tennis plays at the Highlands Rec Park 9a-1p.

## **Mon-Wed-Fri**

• Aerobics with Tina Rogers 8-9am at the Rec Park.

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

## **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

• Indivisible Highlands from 5:15-6:15pm at the Hudson Library Meeting Room.

## **2nd Tuesdays**

• Highlands Writers Group meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at 3pm. Writers still uncomfortable with in-person gatherings may participate via Zoom meetings For more information contact Bud Katz at either 828-526-3190 or at [budandlynn@me.com](mailto:budandlynn@me.com)

## **Tuesdays**

• Strength Training at the Rec Park 8:15-9:15 am. Aim for strong, lean muscles using light weights, body weight, and high repetition to shape and tone. Learn proper form and range of motion to safely target all muscle groups for a metabolic boost and feel great.

• At Hudson Library, Nature Kids on selected Tuesday mornings, For more info call the Hudson Library at 828-526-3031

• At Wayfarers Chapel, Workshop for Writers – Tuesdays from 5-6:30 PM. Facilitated by Sam Renken, this group has a simple mission: to foster and provide consistent community for local writers thereby giving writers of all ages and genres the opportunity to write, read, revise, and present their work to the group.

• ESL classes are held at the Presbyterian Church in Highlands from 6:30-7:30pm. No registration required – just show up and participate. Questions? call 828-526-0863 or email [info@maconnc literacy.org](mailto:info@maconnc literacy.org)

## **Wednesdays**

• Hudson Library, in partnership with VAYA Health, is hosting an educational series on adult mental health topics, held on the first Wednesday of each month at 11 AM. This series is aimed particularly at older adults and will focus on mental health topics of particular interest to them, but all ages are welcome to attend. The November 1 program is Dementia: A Deeper Understanding. Reservations are required for this free event. To register, stop by the library or call 828-526-3031.

## **2nd & 4th Wed.**

• Digital Navigators will be at the Hudson Library the second and fourth Wednesdays 1PM - 3PM of each month to help patrons with their tech needs. Bring a smartphone, laptop, or other digital device to receive free assistance and support. No appointments are required - all are welcome.

• Pickle Ball inside and outside at the Rec Park. 10am-1pm, everyone is welcome so come out and enjoy a game of Pickle Ball.

## **Mon., Tues., Thurs.**

• The Food Pantry behind the Method-

ist Church on Spring Street is open from 10a-6p.

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at the Rec Park at 5:30. A combination class with different types of exercise. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information

## **2nd & 4th Thursdays**

• Hudson Library is hosting a new program for dementia caregivers. On the second and fourth Thursday of each month, you are invited to join the Dementia Caregivers Support Group, a welcoming group of people that understand what you are going through. They come together to offer each other support, resources, and a listening ear. Moderators Chris and Fred ensure that the group is a safe place for judgement-free discussion. The next meeting of the Dementia Caregivers Support Group is February 22 at 10:15 AM at Hudson Library. For more information about the group, contact Chris at 772-473-1088.

## **Thursdays**

• Kickboxing 8:15-9:15 am. at the Rec Park. An exhilarating and fun mix of martial arts for a calorie-burning workout. Learn the proper form and technique to execute jabs, hooks, uppercuts, and front and side roundhouse kicks in a non-contact setting. No martial arts background necessary Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more info.

• At Hudson Library, Family Storytime continues throughout the year on Thursday mornings at 10:40 AM.

• 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.

## **Saturdays**

• Story Ballet - a gentle ballet & creative movement class for Children 3-4. The flow of class follows a story or theme that changes each month, engaging imaginations! Saturday 5:30-6:30pm. 828-421-6720

• Adult Ballet - crafted for beginners, but mindfully taught for all levels. Ballet is an excellent way to move, grow stronger, improve balance, flexibility and coordination while having fun. 6:30-7:30pm. 828-421-6720.

## **2nd Saturdays**

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

## **3rd Saturdays**

• The American Legion Post 370 meets at the First Methodist Church at 315 Main St. in their community room/909 chapel. We serve breakfast at 9 AM and hold our monthly meeting at 10 AM. We invite ALL veterans

*Orchard Session*

with  
**MIKE KINNEBREW**

**Thursday, April 18**

**THE FARM**  
at Old Edwards

*purchase tickets*



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

to attend - email [ncpost370@gmail.com](mailto:ncpost370@gmail.com) for more information or just join us at 9 AM on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

## **Sundays**

• At Wayfarers Chapel, Sunday Service: 10 AM Sunday Morning. Stick around for visitation and coffee hour immediately after service. (Coffee hour is replaced by potluck dinner the 1st Sunday of each month).

## **Thurs. – Sun., March 28-31**

• Highlands-Cashiers Players presents the comedy “Squabbles” at PAC’s ML Theater on Chestnut Street at 7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. Sunday. Cabaret seating \$35. For tickets go to [HighlandsCashiersPlay-ers.com](http://HighlandsCashiersPlay-ers.com) or call 828-526-9047.

## **Thurs., March 28**

• Women in Business Networking Event at the Highlands Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center 4:30-6p. RSVP to [businesservices@highlandschamber.org](mailto:businesservices@highlandschamber.org).

## **Fri. March 29**

• Self-guided exhibit of “Stations of the Cross” around town.

## **Sat., March 30**

• Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, at 10am at the Highlands Recreation Department for ages 0-9 years old. The address is 600 North 4th Street. For any other information call Lester Norris or Janice Mathis at 828-526-3556.

• Easter Egg Hunt at the Village Green in Cashiers at 11 a.m. For children 11 years and younger.

## **Thurs. – Sun., April 4-7**

• Highlands-Cashiers Players presents the comedy “Squabbles” at PAC’s ML Theater on Chestnut Street at 7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. Sunday. Cabaret seating \$35. For tickets go to [HighlandsCashiersPlay-ers.com](http://HighlandsCashiersPlay-ers.com) or call 828-526-9047.

## **Fri., April 5**

• OEI’s Chef Dinners at The Farm. CHEFs NICOLA FEDELI and CALVISIUS CAVIAR. Book Online at [OldEdwardsHospitality.com/ChefDinners](http://OldEdwardsHospitality.com/ChefDinners)

## **Mon., April 8**

• Sunset Rock Star Party from 1-4:30 p.m. Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust is hosting an eclipse viewing for all ages. Hike, learn and engage. Learn about the cultural and geological history of Ravenel Park. Light refreshments provided. Parking is across the street from the Highlands Nature Center.

## **Thurs., April 11**

• “Survival Tricks of the Trail” is presented by award-winning author and survivor, Mark Warren at MC Public Library on Siler Road at 6pm. He reached national as a nature educator and wilderness athlete. Mark teaches nature classes and primitive survival skills at the nationally renowned wilderness

school in southern Appalachia, Medicine Bow. Come join us to have a few tricks and a fun time. All are welcome to attend and open to the general public. A free raffle will be given at the program.

## **Fri. April 12**

• Great Art on Screen Titian, the empire of color, at PAC at 5:30 p.m. For tickets visit [www.HighlandsPerformingArts.com](http://www.HighlandsPerformingArts.com)

## **Sat., April 13**

• Plateau Pickup 8:30a-noon. Meet in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street for a light breakfast and lunch will be provided after. Participants receive a free t-shirt. To participate send an email to [events@highlandschamber.org](mailto:events@highlandschamber.org).

## **April 15-19**

• The Town of Highlands will conduct its annual white goods pickup. During this week, the town will come to a residence and pick up any used appliances such as washing machines, stoves, or other appliances. Please call Town Hall at (828) 526 – 2118 for more information. The town will recycle the metal of these defunct machines. Money from the recycling effort will help defray some of the program’s costs.

## **Thurs., April 18**

• OEI’s The Orchard Sessions with Mike Kinnebrew at The Farm. Indie folk fueled by soulful inspiration. Light bites, a cash bar 6-8 p.m. \$40. Book Online: <https://www.simpletix.com/e/mike-kinnebrew-orchard-sessions-at-the-far-tickets-149347>

## **Wed., May 1**

• The Bascom has a Call for Entries for the Dazzling Dahlia Festival 2024 in partnership with the Highlands Historical Society. Open to any age or experience level. The winner will become the featured artist of 2024 and receive a \$500 prize. Also introducing a Youth Poster category for children 17 and under! The youth winner will receive a \$50 Bascom program gift certificate. Please indicate age with submission. Entry Deadline: May 1st For more info, call (828) 526-4949.

## **Sat., May 4**

• Pop-Up Bag Pipers are scheduled from 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sat.,

## **Sun., May 5**

• OEI’s Chef Dinners at The Farm. Dinner with James Beard Winner Chef Terry Koval Book Online at [OldEdwardsHospitality.com/ChefDinners](http://OldEdwardsHospitality.com/ChefDinners)

## **Sat.-Sun., May 11-12**

• The 4th annual Bear Shadow will be held again at Winfield Farm in Scaly Mountain. Visit <https://bearshadownc.com/> for information about how to purchase tickets.

## **Sat., May 11**

• 3rd Annual FREE Highlands Dog Show in K-H Founders Park on Pine Street. Reg-

istration 1-1:30. Judging begins at 1:30 p.m. Award ceremony 2:30-3:30 p.m. Categories: Best in Show, Best Trick, Happiest Dog, Best Behavior, Looks Like Owner.

## **Fri., May 17**

• High Style Meet & Greet in Kelsey Hutchinson Founders Park on Pine Street 5-6:30 p.m. Kick off the inaugural High Style event in style with our meet and greet reception at Kelsey Hutchinson Founders Park. Join us for an evening of mingling, sipping, and savoring. Music by Zorki. Food, beer and wine included in the ticket price. \$45

• Friday Night Live showcases traditional mountain music and exceptional local talent on Main Street’s Town Square 6-8:30 p.m. – Silly Ridge (High Style event weekend)

## **Sat., May 18**

• High Style Fashion Show in Town Square at 341 Main St. from 9:30-11 a.m. Whether you are a fashion enthusiast, a trendsetter, or simply looking for entertainment, the High Style Fashion Show promises an unforgettable experience for all. Price includes seating, beverage and swag bag. \*We encourage guests to embrace their personal style and dress to impress.\* \$25 VIP seating

• Saturdays on Pine features a variety of popular, regional bands and musicians at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park 6-8:30 p.m. – Continental Divide (High Style event weekend)

## **Tues., May 21**

• Free Sports Physicals at Highlands School at 2 p.m. Rising 5th-12 graders who will be participating in NCHSAA sanctioned sports. A state-mandated sports physical is required prior to trying out for any sport. Parents or guardians should plan to attend the sports physical to answer questions the medical team may have during the exam. For more information contact Highlands School’s Mission Sports Medicine Athletic Trainer Will Mathiowdis at [William.Mathiowdis@HCAHealthcare.com](mailto:William.Mathiowdis@HCAHealthcare.com).

## **Fri., May 24**

• Friday Night Live showcases traditional mountain music and exceptional local talent on Main Street’s Town Square 6-8:30 p.m. – McClain Family Band.

## **Sat., May 25**

• Saturdays on Pine features a variety of popular, regional bands and musicians at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park 6-8:30 p.m. – Southside Station

## *Holy Week at FPCH*

*Sunday, March 24 - 11:00am*

*Palm & Passion Sunday Worship*

*Thursday, March 28th - 5:00pm*

*Maundy Thursday*

*Dinner followed by Worship*

*Friday, March 29th - 12:00pm to 4:00pm*

*Good Friday*

*Self-Guided Exhibit of “Stations in the Street” by Scott Erickson*

*Sunday, March 31st - 11:00am*

*Easter Sunday*

*Special Music and an Egg Hunt for Children*

*471 Main Street*

*Highlands, North Carolina*

*828.526.3175*





## First Baptist Church, Highlands Easter Services

7am - Sunrise Service on church grounds

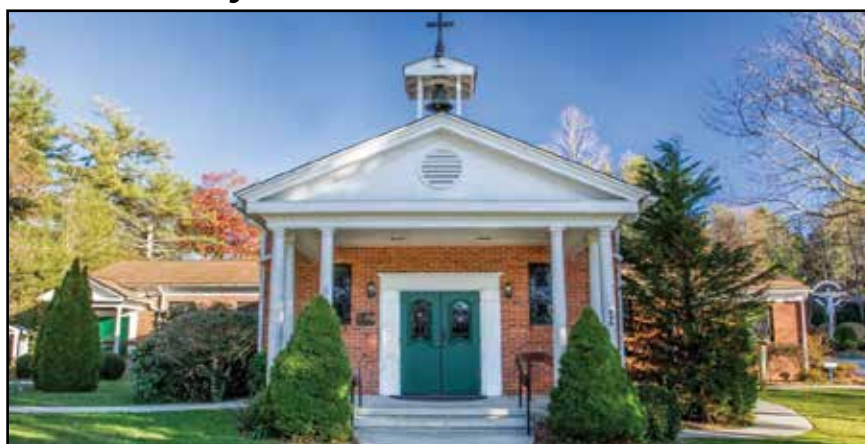
7:30am - Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:45am - Church Service in Sanctuary

**220 Main St, Highlands, NC 28741**

**Phone: (828) 526-4153**

## Holy Week Schedule 2024



## Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church Highlands

**March 28 - Holy Thursday Mass**

Our Lady of the Mountains - 6 p.m.

**March 29 - Good Friday Liturgy**

Our Lady of the Mountains - 3 p.m.

**March 30 - Holy Saturday Mass**

Our Lady of the Mountains - 8:45 p.m.

**March 31 - Easter Sunday Mass**

St. Jude Sapphire Valley - 9 a.m.

Our Lady of the Mountains - 11 a.m.

**Olmhighlands.com**

## ...STUDY continued from page 11

Mayor Pat Taylor echoed Patterson's request saying the entire board would like copies of the study.

Austin said he couldn't release the study because it included proprietary information that he didn't want to make public, but he would be happy to sit down with any interested commissioner and would go through it page-by-page.

He also offered to have Dr. Ha come and explain his process and the results, but

the offer fell on deaf ears.

"As for Dr. Ha, coming to the board to explain the methodology of the study, I do not think that is necessary unless there is full access to the entire study for the board, press and public," said Mayor Taylor later. "The complete study, which Highlands Festival, Inc. commissioned and over which it wishes to maintain propriety control, is the primary document of the study."

Reportedly, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, Kaye McHan had also requested a copy of the study but her request was also denied.

The following Monday, Austin said he would provide full access of the entire study to the Board of Commissioners and to the press. Mayor Taylor thanked him for the clarification and asked that a PDF copy be made available or access to the site where it is posted.

Instead, on Tuesday, Austin asked Mayor Taylor to send him some dates/times when he would be available to meet.

"We'll review the entire report together. The same offer goes to the press as well as the commissioners," he said. "The study is great news for Highlands and includes data we can all use in our decision making. I'm excited to share it in even greater detail."

Austin said HFP's goal is to provide access and transparency, while also controlling the process.

"As Commissioner Patterson wisely pointed out, objective data can be cherry picked to prove anything one wants. We just want to make sure the data included in the study is presented in context."

It's unclear if the mayor or the commissioners will take Austin up on his offer.

**- Kim Lewicki**

## Register for Dahlia Festival by May 1

The Bascom has a Call for Entries for the Dazzling Dahlia Festival 2024 in partnership with the Highlands Historical Society. Open to any age or experience level, entries must be received by Wednesday May 1.

The winner will become the featured artist of 2024 and receive a \$500 prize. Also introducing a Youth Poster category for children 17 and under! The youth winner will receive a \$50 Bascom program gift certificate.

Please indicate age with submission. Entry Deadline: May 1st For more info, call (828) 526-4949.

# WHOLE LIFE MARKET

Natural Products Store

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**Stylists:**  
Heather Escandon  
Maggie Barden  
Desiray Schmitt  
Lauren Buckely

**Nail Tech:**  
Jenna Schmitt

---

Upstairs and Across the Walkway at Falls on Main Highlands



## ...WORKSESSION continued from page 1

### Board Appointments

The appointment policy for both the Planning and Zoning boards has fluctuated over the years.

Most recently, when a resident of Cullowhee applied for a Planning Board position, as well as members missing meetings, commissioners agreed policy clarification was needed.

Though not official until the April Town Board meeting when the board will vote to adopt the new verbiage, it was agreed that five of the seven Planning Board and Zoning Board members must be full-time residents within the town limits and two can live full-time in the Highlands Township but must own property or a business inside the town limits.

Both tenures are for three years with reappointment required after three years, but time off between appointments is no longer necessary.

Town Manager Josh Ward said maintaining continuity particularly on the Zoning Board is important because there is a lot of legalese that must be learned.

He said having to bring new members up-to-date is problematic.

For both boards, members' tenure will be staggered and anyone missing three meetings in a year's time will be asked to resign from the board(s).

### Weekend Work

For close to two decades both commercial entities and residents have been allowed to work at construction sites and on personal property Saturdays and Sundays.

But due to unclear verbiage in the Code of Ordinances, Planning Director Michael Mathis and the Town Board have been working to clean up language for clarification.

Though residents can work on their property or homes with their own equipment unhampered Saturdays and Sundays,

commercial entities can now only work Saturdays from 9a to 4p.

"I have no problem with contractors working Saturday, but not on Sunday," said Commissioner Jeff Weller.

Commissioner Amy Patterson said weather was her issue.

"Since we have so much rain, we need to let them work to make up for days during the week they were shut down due to weather," she said. "Also, so they can get the project done."

Homeowners may not hire a company to do their work on either day but can do the work themselves whether it be landscaping or home projects.

The umbrella ordinance regarding residential or commercial work is the noise ordinance. If sustained residential noise exceeds 60 decibels or if sustained commercial noise exceeds 70 decibels, police can issue a warning.

- Kim Lewicki

### COREY JAMES GALLERY & Estate Consignments

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## Highlands United Methodist Church

[www.highlandsmethodist.org](http://www.highlandsmethodist.org)

### Service of Healing

*March 27th - 6pm in the Faith & Fellowship Center*

### Holy Thursday Service

*March 28th at 5:30pm in the sanctuary*

### Good Friday Service

*March 29th at 5:30pm in the sanctuary*

### Easter Sunday

*Sunday, March 31st*

*Sunrise Service at the Easter Cross on the front lawn  
at 7:15am*

*Easter Worship Services ~ 9:09 & 11am*

*Potluck Easter Brunch ~ 10am in the*

*Faith & Fellowship Center*

*Easter Egg Hunt ~ 10:15am on the front lawn*

**Lunch**  
**Tues. - Sat.**  
**11a to 3p**

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**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**  
**6:00 PM MARCH 29TH**



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**CBC HIGHLANDS**

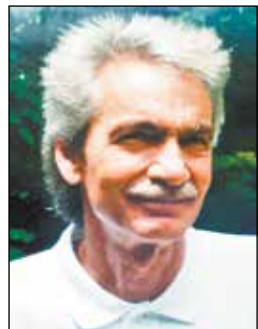
**EASTER SUNDAY**

**SERVICE STARTS AT 10:45 AM**





## • BIZ/ORG NEWS •



## Have you been careless about Easter?

**Pastor Dan Robinson**  
Highlands Central Baptist Church

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that “52% of car accidents happen within a five-mile radius of our homes or neighborhoods.”

The report goes on to advise that one of the causes for these accidents is “carelessness due to our familiarity with our neighborhoods.”

We might put it this way, “I’ve driven these streets so many times and I know every crack in the road so I can relax a little bit.”

That sort of over-familiarity keeps us from doing what we should be doing, driving carefully!

The National Retail Foundation cites the following statistics regarding Easter:

- 81% of consumers plan to celebrate Easter
- Around 22.4 billion dollars will be spent in the United States in 2024 for the Easter Celebration-Holiday
- Of this amount, candy and flowers are tied at 89% as to how this money will be spent
- Americans will celebrate Easter in the following ways:

- 53% Will be visiting friends and family;
- 57% Will be cooking a Holiday meal;
- 51% Will be participating in an Easter-Egg-Hunt;
- 43% Will be going to Church. Yes! The lowest percentage will be going to Church.

From these statistics we must conclude that our over-familiarity with Easter has led to a gross carelessness.

In every discipline of life there are non-negotiable fundamentals. Riding a bicycle, playing baseball or studying for an exam all have fundamentals. These don’t change.

What then, may we say, are the New Testament fundamentals of Easter?

- Jesus Christ died on the Cross for the sins of the whole world, past, present and future (Romans 5:7-8)
- He was resurrected three days later by the power of God (Matthew 16:21, Ephesians 1:19-20).
- He desires a personal relationship with you (I Peter 3:18). Please take note of this: He died to bring us to God. Not to a religion or a church first of all, but to God. Churches are full of people who have never met God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- I must make a decision about Jesus Christ. He has already made a decision about us. He has decided that “red and yellow, black and white are precious in His sight.” He has decided to do everything possible in order that we

• 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

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore, Pastor  
Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11

### CASHIERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

### CHAPEL OF THE SKY

Sky Valley, GA • 706-746-2999  
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship; Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

### CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rev'd Dr. Michael Matlock, Rector  
464 Hwy 64E, Cashiers, NC 28717  
CAC@christanglicancashiers.org & 828-743-1701

Sundays: 9:30 am Adult Christian Formation;  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Worship  
Wednesdays: 6 pm Bible Study, Prayer, Potluck  
Thursdays: 11:30 am Healing Eucharist

### CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Jacob Tedder jacob@cashiers.church • 743-5470  
www.cashiers.church

Sun. 10:45am; Wed. 5:15 pm supper and teaching.  
Contact Ellen@cashiers.church for add'l programming

### CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685  
3645 Cashiers Rd. Highlands, NC • Sr. Pastor Gary Hewins  
Sundays: 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

### COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

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Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

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5th and Main streets • www.incarnationwnc.org  
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am in Sanctuary, Wed: Healing Eucharist 12 pm in Chapel, Morning Prayer: Mon-Thurs 8:30 am 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; Women's 10:30 am

### 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

### GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am

### GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

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### HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pastor Jeremy Queen  
Sunday: Worship 11a & 6p. Sun. School 5 p.m.  
Wed. 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  
Highlandscentralbaptist.org • 828-526-0774  
The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily sharing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.  
Sunday Worship is at 9a & 6p. Wed. Worship is 6p  
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### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

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Rev. Ken Langsdorf

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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

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and Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur.

### MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

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

### OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone – 526-2418  
Tues. - 9:30am; Thurs. - 9:30am; Sun. - 11am  
**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

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### WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands Police entries from March 20. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a summons/citation, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or those of public officials have been used.**

**March 20**

• At 2 p.m., officers assisted a woman who lost her Iphone, possibly in Highlands.

**March 21**

• At 9:30 p.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Oak Street.

**March 23**

• At 1:16 p.m., officers responded to a 1-vehicle accident on Big Bearpen Road.

**March 24**

• At 1:01 a.m., officers responded to a 2-vehicle accident on Carolina Way.

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

**March 19**

• At 9:59 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on West View Way.

**March 20**

• At 4:18 p.m., the dept. responded to a brush fire at a location on Buck Creek Road.

• At 7:31 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Blue Valley Road which led to a MAMA pickup.

**March 21**

• At 2:49 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Laurelwood Ridge.

• At 2:21 p.m., the dept. provided mutual assistance to the Cashiers FD for a brush fire.

• At 6 p.m., the dept. provided mutual assistance to the Cashiers FD for a brush fire.

• At 9:32 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on N. 1st Street.

**March 22**

• At 11:32 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Hemlock Way.

• At 2:59 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a resi-

dence on Upper Lake Road.

**March 23**

• At 2:19 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on the Walhalla Road (NC 28s).

• At 3:57 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on the Walhalla Road (NC 28s).

**March 24**

• At 8:18 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a gas leak at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road.

**March 25**

• At 10:57 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mountain Moorings Drive.

• At 11:18 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on the Dillard Road (NC 106).

## ...SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 18

might be forgiven of our sins and enter, by faith, into a personal relationship with Him. (Acts 16:31).

• I enter that relationship by confessing my sins, turning away from them, acknowledging Jesus Christ as Lord over every area of my life and following Him daily in discipleship (Romans 10:9-10)

Will you make that decision today? There is no other way to be forgiven of our sins and have the absolute assurance of eternal life except through Him (Acts 4:12).

Have you been careless about Easter?

Have you become overly familiar with the story of The Old Rugged Cross?

Have you been driving too fast in life to read the spiritual road signs pointing you to Heaven?

If so, then I hope you will slow down this Easter season. I hope you will begin or deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ. I hope you will affect the statistics for next year by increasing the percentage of church-goers on Easter. I hope you will spend money not only on good and legitimate things but on spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world as well.

May the Lord richly bless you and yours this Easter season and may the words on your lips this Sunday morning be, "He isn't here; He has risen, just as He said! (Matthew 28:6). Amen!



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# • CLASSIFIEDS •

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- See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

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## ...CLASSIFIED continued from page 21

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## ...TABLES continued from page 8

is dicey to begin with and residents and board members said the potential of added traffic leaving a parking lot onto Raoul would make the situation even more hazardous.

Board members agreed to table the request 30 days so the plans could be discussed with the developer and neighbors in the area.

A meeting between the developer and owner and four members of the board was scheduled for Thursday, March 28 at 5 and 5:30 p.m. so only two members would meet at a time, as required.

However, after Reynolds called DOT Tuesday morning and explained the situation, DOT representatives visited the site again and OK'd another option, so a visit from Planning Board members might not be necessary.

Instead of exiting onto Raoul Road, DOT OK'd exiting the parking lot onto the Franklin Road about 50 ft. east of the current exit on the Smokehouse property.

"We called DOT and told them about the objection to the plan and asked if there was another possible option," said Reynolds. "Now that the trees and shrubbery are cleared

out they looked at the sight-line and determined that moving the new parking lot egress onto the Franklin Road - about 50 feet east of the current driveway - would work."

The parking lot will be partially filled to raise it closer to street level and a level apron long enough to accommodate an exiting vehicle will be installed. DOT said the line of sight will be good at that egress point.

"This is going to cost us more money, but we listened to our neighbors, and we want to be good citizens," said Reynolds. "They had legitimate concerns."

When all is said and done, the current Smokehouse exit will become the entrance to the lower parking lot with all vehicles exiting the property through the new parking lot and the new exit onto the Franklin Road.

The narrow drive on the western side of the building will eventually be closed to traffic.

The Planning Board will see the new plans at its April meeting.

- Kim Lewicki

## Free Sports Physicals at Highlands School May 21

On Tuesday, May 21 there are free Sports Physicals at Highlands School at 2 p.m.

Rising 5th-12 graders who will be participating in NCHSAA sanctioned sports.

A state-mandated sports physical is required prior to trying out for any sport. Parents or guardians should plan to attend the sports physical to answer questions the medical team may have during the exam.

For more information contact Highlands School's Mission Sports Medicine Athletic Trainer Will Mathiowdis at William.Mathiowdis@HCAHealthcare.com.

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