

# Highlands Newspaper

Happy Labor Day!

FREE Every Thursday

Volume 22, Number 35

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

Thurs., Aug. 28, 2025

## Wrap up of low-keyed TB meeting

By Kim Lewicki

Commissioners invited the public to come to the Aug. 21 work session prior to the Town Board meeting to air ideas about the future of the Highlands Playhouse.

Two people came.

One person suggested the building be renovated to house the Center for Life Enrichment. Another suggested replacing it with a monument depicting the various mountains around Highlands.

No one discussed funding of any kind.

But given the history and nostalgia of the building, commissioners are giving the public until the Sept. 18 Town Board meeting

• See TOWN BOARD page 20

## County is ready to take over health dept.

Public hearing is Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.

By Kristin Fox

The future of the Macon County Board of Health could be decided at the next meeting of the MC Board of Commissioners after a public hearing set for Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. in the courthouse.

After several months of discussion among commissioners, the board of health and health department employees, commissioners will hold a public hearing for consideration of assuming powers and duties of the board of health.

Commissioners approved the public hearing at the July 8, meeting of the board and published the notice as required.

In July, after receiving numerous complaints from the

• See HEALTH page 22



HS Principal Sarah Holbrooks greets students as they disembark on the first day of school. See photos on page 23.

## Pumped and ready for '25-'26 school year

By Kim Lewicki

Highlands School's K-12 students began arriving early Monday morning full of smiles and energy.

"We are so excited about

the upcoming year at Highlands School. We've welcomed several new teachers to our team, bringing valuable experience and positive energy," said HS Principal Sarah

Holbrooks. "This year, we're approximately 350 students strong, with many new faces among them."

• See SCHOOL page 22

## 14 new staff join Highlands School

One new face in the office and 13 in the classrooms

By Kristin Fox

This week when students returned to Highlands School for the 2025-2026 school year, they were greeted by several new teachers and staff.

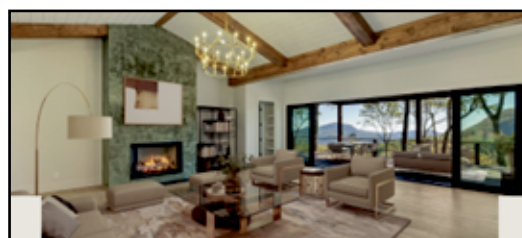
### Office

In the front office, Lisa Phillips will be the new data manager for Highlands School. Phillips brings four years of banking experience to the job and is excited to start a new journey in her career. As a wife, mother of three children and grandmother to two children, Phillips enjoys spending time with family and friends especially at basketball and baseball games.

### Elementary

This year Highlands School

• See NEW page 24



Modern Masterpiece with Panoramic Views

224 Lost Trail | MLS# 106271



Highlands Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Jody Lovell | (828) 226.6303

## McCULLLEY'S

The largest selection of Scottish cashmere in the U.S.A.

In Highlands ...on the hill  
242 S. 4th St. • 828-526-4407

Open 7 days a week

www.mcculley.com

# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • MAYOR ON DUTY •

### A recap of worksession and TB meeting

I would like to provide updates on the three meetings that took place last week. The meetings were the Mirror Lake Improvement Association, the Town workshop about the playhouse, and the monthly meeting of the board of commissioners.

The Mirror Lake meeting was very well-attended, and attendees asked numerous questions. Members of a panel consisting of the association, the Town, River Sand, and McGill Engineering Associates responded.

Several questions centered around when all the equipment will be removed from Mirror Lake. River Sand is in the final stages of phase one dredging. Even when they finish and remove equipment like the big orange excavator, Mirror Lake will not be free from equipment any time soon.

Phase One is about 10% of the total dredging plan. In the coming months, the contractor who gets the contract for the remaining phases will have a substantial amount of equipment on and around the lake.



Highlands Mayor  
Patrick Taylor

The remaining phases will involve the spending of the five million dollars that the state allocated for dredging. Much more silt will be removed in these next phases more equipment will be needed. Additionally, these phases will occur over a significantly longer period.

Another question expressed frustration that the funds for dredging have not been proportionally distributed to all homeowners with lake frontage. That is correct, proportional funding has not occurred. The plan submitted to the state did not include a proportional formula; instead, it focused on dredging portions of the lake that could be dredged. It also emphasized that the project would preserve water quality for the plateau watershed.

The second meeting was the town workshop to gather citizen feedback about the future of the Highlands Playhouse. One citizen attended and suggested an alternative use for the building. Another person suggested an idea about how to repurpose the property. Board members were surprised at the almost complete lack of response to the workshop session.

A final decision about the playhouse will be on the agenda of the September Town Board meeting. Commissioners remain open to feedback regarding the building and property. At the regular board meeting, the board voted to have a survey done of the entire property where the playhouse, police station, ABC store, Macon County EMS, and Town Hall are located. The old Kelsey Map needs updating. Also, the deed to the playhouse property prohibits leasing that space for commercial use, such as a taproom or restaurant.

During the subsequent Town Board meeting, the first item of discussion was how the board should fill a vacant position due to a resignation or death. There is no official town policy in the town charter or ordinances. The state allows the local elected body to decide how to fill an open seat. If the vacancy occurs close to a municipal election, but not within 90 days, the voters can make the decision, as is being done now with Brian Stiehler's open seat.

The board also reviewed the alcohol policy for public spaces and events. Our town attorney is revising the forms and procedures

• See MAYOR page 29

## • MILESTONE •

### Winn logs 30 years with HC Hospital

Terry Winn, of Highlands, has seen a lot of changes at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital but none have sent him scurrying.

He celebrated his 30th anniversary with the institution on Aug. 9 of this year.

It all started Aug. 9, 1995 a year and half after Highlands Hospital moved from the Peggy Crosby Center to its current location on the Cashiers Road.

He started in plant operations as a maintenance mechanic and upon the resignation of James Neils, he was promoted to Plant Operations Manager.

In 2013 the title of Safety Manager was added to his duties and he was named a Certified Health Care Engineer by the NC Health Care Engineers Association.

In January of 2014, Highlands Cashiers Hospital became part of the Mission Health System but it continues to operate under its



Terry Winn  
Facilities & Project  
Manager

own name as a facility within the larger Mission Health system, which is now owned by HCA Healthcare.

In 2017, Mission Health System honored him with the "Leading by Example" award which is a leadership award covering all of the Mission Hospitals.





The administration continues adding titles to his name with the latest being Project Manager.

He currently also oversees all the new additions to the hospital which is under the Hospital Corporation of America's (HCA) umbrella.

The newest big project currently on his plate is the MRI and CT scanner area which is being set up in what was the "lobby" area of the Emergency Room.

Congratulations Terry! Here's to another 30 years.

## • WEATHER •

Thu, 28-Aug	Fri, 29-Aug	Sat, 30-Aug	Sun, 31-Aug
			
67°F 49°F	69°F 56°F	67°F 54°F	67°F 54°F
Cloudy	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	A couple of showers
RealFeel® High: 71° Low: 56°	RealFeel® High: 80° Low: 57°	RealFeel® High: 77° Low: 62°	RealFeel® High: 75° Low: 60°

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

### Highlands Newspaper

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

Phone: (828) 200-1371

Email:

[HighlandsEditor@aol.com](mailto:HighlandsEditor@aol.com)

Publisher/Editor: Kim Lewicki

Reporters: Kristin Fox

Digital Media/Circulation - Jim Lewicki

Locally owned and operated by

Kim & Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at

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

265 Oak St. PO Box 2703

Highlands, N.C 28741

All Rights Reserved. No articles, photos, illustrations, advertisements or design elements may be used without permission from the publisher.

#### 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

Obituaries are \$8 per column inch.

\$10 per photo.

Payable prior to publication.

**HIGHLANDER**  
ROOFING SERVICES INC.

New & Re-Roofing Applications Including:  
Asphalt • Cedar • Metal • Synthetic Materials

Showroom: 1511 Highlands Rd • Franklin • O: 828-524-7773  
[info@highlandernc.com](mailto:info@highlandernc.com) • [www.highlandernc.com](http://www.highlandernc.com)



*Leading* REAL ESTATE  
COMPANIES  
OF THE WORLD®

**HOWARD  
HANNA**  
ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE

*Pat Allen*  
REALTY GROUP

**LP** LUXURY  
PORTFOLIO  
INTERNATIONAL

## INCREDIBLE HOME... INCREDIBLE PRICE!

This new Highlands home features fabulous quality with European accents! Natural light, spacious rooms, dream kitchen and spa baths.

Offered for only \$2,700,000  
MLS# 1000881

## FABULOUS JIM FOX HOME

Located in prestigious Wildcat Cliffs Country Club with golf course views, an enormous stone fireplace and a great screened porch, this home exudes charm!

Offered for \$1,550,000  
MLS# 1001522

## NEW HOME IN PRESTIGIOUS WILDCAT RIDGE

Designed with all the latest bells and whistles, you will be "wowed" by the quality, beauty, and view from the oversized deck with fireplace. The fabulous open kitchen beckons you to cook!

Offered for \$3,500,000  
MLS# 1000737



**PAT ALLEN**

828-200-9179  
pat.allen@howardhannatate.com



**JULIE OSBORN**

828-200-6165  
julie.osborn@howardhannatate.com



# Bryson's Food Store

Proudly Serving Highlands, North Carolina since 1977

## The best meals start here!

Wine Tasting every  
Thursday 2 to 5p!



Open daily  
7:30a to 7:30p

403 Highlands Plaza, Highlands, NC • (828) 526-3775

Read Highlands Newspaper for free from everywhere ...  
on the street or on the web.  
Go to [www.highlandsinfo.com](http://www.highlandsinfo.com).  
Click on Local News.  
Delivered and Uploaded every Thurs.AM

## SURROUNDED BY NATURE: PEACEFUL, BEAUTIFUL PROPERTIES IN HIGHLANDS



Edwards Creek Rd, Highlands

This comfy cabin is in beautiful, pastoral Horse Cove. Lots of outdoor space to enjoy the mountains and a lovely pond across the road. It has a rustic feel with lots of wood, large windows to bring the outside in, and a cozy gas fireplace. Off the downstairs bedroom is an additional room for an office, along with the screened porch. Offered furnished and ready to be your year-round home, vacation home, or rental.

MLS# 1001048 | \$575,000 | 2BR/2BA



Cardwell-Eaton Rd, Highlands

One of the last remaining lots only six minutes from Highlands with a large Land Trust tract on the way to it. This lot is in an area with million dollar homes but is reasonably priced. 1.25 acres. Easy build, gently sloping lot.  
MLS# 1000910 | \$165,000



BETTY HOLT

828.526.4218  
[betty@bhhsmmr.com](mailto:betty@bhhsmmr.com)

BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY  
HOMESERVICES

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN  
REALTY

©2025 BHH Affiliates, LLC. An independently owned and operated franchisee of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Equal Housing Opportunity.



## • INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft •

### Clear the clutter, clear your mind, open the door

Labor Day has always marked more than just the unofficial end of summer. For many of us, it's a gentle reminder to pause, take stock, and prepare for the season ahead. It's a time when we swap short sleeves for sweaters, fireflies for football (GO DAWGS!) and — if we're smart — chaos for calm.

In real estate, I see firsthand how clutter can keep a beautiful home from shining. So many "treasures" take up space and if you could see my closet you know I get it! But when you make the decision to sell your home it's all about selling space ... not things. Buyers want to envision their story unfolding in a space, not trip over last season's holiday décor or yesterday's laundry mountain. A clean, decluttered home feels open, inviting, and full of possibility.

The same is true for our lives. When I wrote *Hurdles in a Girdle: Holding Life Together When You're Bursting at the Seams*, I talk about having a life and death health scare and how when you have a second chance at life you realize how insignificant the small things are and focus on what really matters in life. You clear out the clutter in your mind of petti-



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

ness, jealousy, gossip, etc., and surround yourself with people who really matter and lift you up and don't bring you down.

Just like an overstuffed garage, our minds can get jam-packed with old worries, regrets, and to-do lists that no longer serve us. And here's the thing: you can't welcome new opportunities when you're holding on to old baggage. Labor Day invites us to roll up our sleeves and do the heavy lifting — not just in

our closets but in our hearts and minds, too.

Ask yourself:

- What can I let go of that no longer brings me joy or peace?
- What "mental clutter" is keeping me from moving forward?
- Where can I make room for something better?

When we clear the clutter — both in our homes and our heads — we create space for new memories, new dreams, and new possibilities. And that's what this season is all about: fresh starts. If you are going to list your home for sale go from room to room and pack up or better yet donate things that have the opportunity to bring someone else joy ... it's called "recycled memories." When you haul "stuff" around mentally and physically it weighs you down. It's time to free up space in both areas in your life.

So, this Labor Day weekend, while you're savoring that last slice of watermelon, take a moment to think about what you want to make room for. Your home can't shine under a pile of yesterday's clutter ... and neither can you!

Your home — and your heart — will thank you.

Pat Allen is Broker-in-Charge of PatAllenRealtyGroup/AllenTate. Allen has been a top producer and award-winning broker since her real estate career began 21 years ago. She is author of *Hurdles in a Girdle...Holding Life Together When You're Bursting at the Seams* and a transformational therapist and professional speaker. She may be reached at 828-200-9179 or [pat.f.allen@gmail.com](mailto:pat.f.allen@gmail.com)

## • CHHS NEWS •



Photo by Marti Boone

CHHS rescued beautiful Arianna last summer after she was found as a stray in Highlands. Arianna is three years old and she's a confident cat who knows what she wants and is not hesitant to tell you. We have discovered that toys and lasers turn this sassy cat into a delightful play partner. Visit [chhumanesociety.org](http://chhumanesociety.org) for her adoption application or call (828)743-5752.



# Main Street COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES Mtn. Fresh

Wright Sq. 828-526-2520 | [www.ccphighlandsnc.com](http://www.ccphighlandsnc.com) | [ccp4terry@gmail.com](mailto:ccp4terry@gmail.com)



3BD/2BA home on 1.07 acre. Covered front porch to enjoy the beautiful yard and some mountain views. Property has an attached drive through garage, two other single-car garages, a large, heated garage with a complete workshop including a car lift, bedroom with 1/2 bath and one outbuilding for storage. Home is being offered unfurnished, all tools can be purchased. Offered at \$615,000. mls#1001160



The Polo Cottage is a designer getaway, 2BD/2.5BA townhouse in VZ Top. Open lofty rooms, custom kitchen and great room with fireplace. Private corner unit, renovated from top to bottom, with additional decks and porches to take in the spectacular mountain views. Furnishings are available! Offered at \$579,000 mls#1001336



Exceptional move-in ready home located close to downtown Highlands. Large covered porch, an open great room with a masonry fireplace. Lovely outdoor covered Carolina room with wood-burning fireplace. Cook's dream kitchen with huge island with seating and a spacious dining area. Primary suite is on the main level with a bath. Upstairs has 2 more bedrooms, with ensuite baths, loads of storage. Offered at \$3,800,00. mls #1001595



Step into an original mid-century modern style that has old Highlands Charm. Flat access has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 living rooms each with fireplaces and lovely original wood paneling, glass panels in many of the upper walls to let in the natural light, u shaped kitchen and open dining room. Spacious porch that overlooks Mirror Lake and dam. There is a storage building. Offered at \$1,200,000. mls #1000793



Located in desirable Highlands Mountain Club, this beautifully maintained, 2 bedroom 2 bath condo is furnished with some exceptions. With hardwood floors throughout, an updated kitchen and main bathroom, this unit is move-in ready. Covered porch and open deck looking out on a pond. A friendly adult community which features a clubhouse, pool and tennis court. Offered at \$544,000. mls#1001350



Spectacular house off Buck Creek Road on Western Rhodes Road. 3 bedrooms, plus additional flex spaces. Multiple fireplaces. Open Great room concept with custom kitchen, plank wood floors, stone fireplace in the Great Room that flows onto a covered porch with hot tub spa. Masters on main and upper floors, plus guestrooms complete with baths. Outbuilding. Offered at \$1,895,000. mls #100481



In Highlands Country Club, overlooking the 14th, 15th, and 16th greens. Central living space that features a soaring wood and beam cathedral ceiling, hardwood floors, and a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. The home has four bedrooms a screened Carolina room with a stone fireplace. Generous parking, garage and golf cart storage. An adjacent lot is included in the sale of this property. Offered at \$4,700,000. mls #1000494



531 Hedden Lane is a modern cabin with 2BD/2.5 BA, a soaring great room, masonry fireplace, chef's kitchen, large deck with views, shiplap walls and wood ceilings throughout, state-of-the-art infrastructure ample storage in the attic and crawlspace, and covered parking at your front door. The 1.20-acre property is surrounded by forest. Two adjacent lots also available for purchase. Offered at \$1,179,000 mls #1000366



Waterfront home on Lake Sequoyah. 4BD/4.5 B, 5 fireplaces, wood burning/gas. Three levels with a gathering room on each level. Kitchen on main level, wet bar on lower level. Owner's suite on main level with fireplace, study, large walk-in closet and exercise room. Five rooms have vaulted ceilings. Shiplap siding throughout. Oak flooring on main and upper levels, rock floor on lower level. Anderson windows throughout. Custom kitchen Offered at \$3,750,000 mls #1001588



Unique cottage located in a gated community with no HOA requirements, only access amenity. On over 2 acres, with a usable back and side yard. Relax beside the noisy water of Hedden Creek or hike the pristine area. The cottage is bright and airy, with main and upstairs primary bedrooms, each with baths. Spacious living room with walls of glass, expansive covered wrap around porch, with swing beds. Large carport. Generator. Offered at \$1,135,000. mls #1000929



Located as a part of the Wildcat Cliffs Country Club (Membership Requirements), this custom home is move-in ready. The main house features dining area, a living/great room with a wall of glass, 2-story ceilings, and fireplace, additional family or TV room. Custom kitchen has top quality appliances and a great pantry. Private primary suite has grand bath and loads of closet space Upstairs has 3 bedrooms and 2 baths, plus an office or nursery. The 2-car garage has a full guest area with kitchen and bedroom and bath. Offered at \$2,850,000 furnishings are negotiable. mls #1001237



Located off Buck Knob Road, this one of a kind log cabin on top of the knoll with a lovely yard and view. 2 bedrooms and 2 baths on the upper level, main level has living room, dining room, kitchen, bath and two large porches. Lower level has a garage, family room and bath. Offered at \$1,495,000. mls #1001705



Newer built, 3BD/2 1/2 BA home on a beautiful forested 1.15-acre lot in a peaceful neighborhood. Primary bedroom on the main level with walk-in closet, en-suite bath. Living area opens to dining and kitchen all on the main level. Upper level consists of two large bedrooms and a full bath. Two decks with planters. Outdoor fire pit, BBQ, and water feature. Handicap accessible ramp walkway to the deck. All appliances included. Offered at \$565,000. mls #1000683



Fantastic In-town 3BD/2 1/2 BA Highlands Townhome is a short walk to town. This end-unit home has many coveted features. Charming living room with a cozy fireplace. Dining room adjoins chic kitchen. Glassed-in porch features a tree-lined garden space. Three bedrooms are on the upper level. Primary bedroom has an en-suite bathroom. Furniture package and exclusions. Perfect for full or part-time living or long term rentals. Offered at \$985,000 mls #1001318



Cabe place. Freshly renovated with real wood doors and shiplap, this 3BD/2BA has good rental history. Recently renovated kitchen, and baths. Custom fire pit and masonry pizza oven. Offered at \$825,000. mls #1000395



# HIGHLANDS DINING



**HIGHLANDS BURRITO**

**NEW DINNER HOURS!**

Monday - Thursday, 11 am - 3 pm  
Friday - Saturday, 11 am - 8 pm

226 South 4th Street • Highlands, NC  
Highlandsburrito.com



**Open Mon.-Sat. 11a to 8p • Sun. 11a to 7p**  
**Closed Tuesdays**  
**828.526.3554**  
**595 Franklin Rd. Highlands, NC**



**...on the Verandah**  
**Restaurant**  
**on Lake Sequoyah**

*42 Years of Fine Dining*

**OPEN**  
**7 nights**  
**5:30-9p**

**828-526-2338**  
US 64w • Highlands  
www.ontheverandah.com

**The Ruffed Grouse Tavern**  
**at Highlander Mountain House**

**Open for LUNCH**  
**Wednesday-Saturday**  
**11:30-3p**

**Open for DINNER**  
**Wednesday-Saturday**  
**5:30-9p**

**Open for SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
**with Blue Grass music**  
**10a-3p**

290 Main Street • Highlands • 828-526-2590  
highlandermountainhouse.com

**A HIGHLANDER MOUNTAIN HOUSE HOTEL**

**OUTPOST**  
**RESTAURANT**

**Now serving wine, beer & coffee!**  
**Open to the public!**

**Coffee Bar 8a to 4p daily**  
**Wine/Beer Bar: Thurs-Sat 5-10p**

790 North 4th Street, Highlands | info@outpostinnhighlands.com | 828-482-7736

**The Secret Garden**

Sandwich shop and gourmet food market  
**Open Year-Round**  
**Mon.-Fri. 11:30a to 4p**  
**Sat., noon-7**

Call (828) 305-7509 to place a pick-up order.  
**Catering and Custom Charcuterie**

**Courtyard and Indoor seating!**

208 N. 5th St. • Village Square • Next to Pine St. Park



**828-526-4035**

**Serving Lunch and Dinner Year-Round**  
**Gourmet Foods & Full Service Bar**  
**Town Square at 343-D Main St. • Highlands**

**Open 7 Days**  
**for Lunch & Dinner**  
**Lunch: 11a-3:30p**  
**Dinner: 5:30p - closed**

**DUSTY'S**

**YOUR GO TO PLACE FOR**

**STEAK\* BURGER\* CHICKEN\* PORK**  
**HOT DOGS\* LAMB\* SAUSAGE**  
**TAKE AND BAKE SIDES AND DINNERS**  
**FRESH SIDES, SANDWICHES & SALADS**  
**BAKED GOODS\* WINE\* CHEESE**  
**GOURMET FOOD & MORE!!**

**Open: Tues.-Fri - 9a-5:30p; Sat. - 9a-5p; Closed Sun. & Mon.**  
**493 Dillard Rd. • Highlands • (828) 526-2762**

**OPEN FOR OUR 36th SEASON**

**EST. 1990**

**LAKESIDE**  
**RESTAURANT**

**Open Tuesday - Saturday**  
**Dinner Starts @ 5:30 PM**  
**Open Sunday, May 25TH**  
**Outdoor Dining / Dine-In Art Gallery / lakesiderestaurant.info**

**531 Smallwood Ave | 828-526-9419 | Highlands**



# • DINING •



**Summit Sweet Ice Cream Shop**  
In Wright Square • 73 Main Street  
Open 7 days a week • 11a to 8p.

## Asia House

Japanese • Asian • Thai



**Open: Mon. to Sun. (Closed Wed.)**  
**Lunch 11:30a to 3p • Dinner 4:30p-9:30p**  
**828-787-1680 • 828-787-1900**  
**151 Helens Barn Ave. • Highlands**

**OPEN: Monday-Saturday 11a to 9p**



**MEXICAN RESTAURANT  
& TEQUILA BAR**

**72 Highlands Plaza • Highlands • 828-482-2974**

# • OBITUARIES •

## Kenneth Wayne McKim



Kenneth Wayne McKim, 78, went to his heavenly home August 9, 2025. He died suddenly of a heart event after returning from a beautiful, inspirational Greek islands cruise.

Kenneth was born on April 15th, 1947, in Nacogdoches, Texas to loving, supportive parents: Major Miller and Helen Maxine McKim. He had one sister, Linda Alice Leathers of Richland Hills, Texas, who survive him.

Kenneth grew up in Paris, TX, where his dad owned a trucking company. He credited his dad with many things, but especially, that he taught him to work. He was sweeping the trucking docks at 12 and graduated to hosting trailers on the yard and then learned the office work. He drove huge trucks with multiple trailers as he worked for major carriers in his career. After driving more than a million miles in every kind of weather, he retired from Yellow Freight Lines in 2004. While tarping a large 18-wheel type trailer, he fell and suffered injuries to his ankles, but people seldom knew it. The pain did not keep him from fulfilling his responsibilities.

Kenneth was somewhat a Paris local hero as he was a stand-out basketball player, football player and an accomplished water skier. Boating, ski competitions and ski shows filled the summers of his teen years. He was in the Century Club of the American Water Ski Association for jumping over 100 feet when that was exceptional.

As a member of the Paris Boat and Ski Club, he helped maintain the slalom course, ski jump, docks, boat ramps and all. He barefooted, flew the kite behind the boat (not a Delta wing) and performed a doubles act with the girl who was to become his wife, Julie. As they skied, she would climb to his shoulders and do stunts as he kept them stable as the boat ran its course. Cypress Gardens wanted to hire him, but he declined.

Kenneth graduated from Paris High School and attended East Texas A&M and Dallas Baptist University. He taught at a Dallas elementary school for a time. Kenneth married Julie in 1966. When her family moved to Paris and began spending summers at the lake, he wanted to meet her. As an expert skier, he frequently would ski up to shore and walk out of his skis. Wanting to impress, he tripped. He would say that he fell head over heels for her.

As God added children to their home, Kenneth developed a conviction that he should have as many children as God would send and rear them to glorify God.

His 13 children are: Melisa (Wayne) Loudermilch, Cashiers, NC, Melody (Winston) Walls, Terrell, TX, Ken McKim, Highlands, NC, Keith (Kirsten) McKim, Highlands, NC, Mindy (Edward) McKim, Pecan Gap, TX, Molly McKim, Highlands, NC, Kyle (Caroline) McKim, Highlands, NC, Meg (Adam) Blocker, Pinchurst, NC & Liberty Hill, TX, Millie (Stephen) Schlautman, Fairhope, AL, Kade (Rynelle) McKim, Fairhope, AL & Hollywood, FL, Kirk (Anita) McKim, Asheville, NC, Kase (Lauren) McKim, Chattanooga, TN, Klayt (Zoya) McKim, Lilburn, GA.

His 38 Grandchildren are: Madeline (Shayne), Marianna (Jonathon), Wyatt (Shelby), Warren, Westin, Webster,

Walker, Welden, Melody Michelle, Austin (Gabrielle), Alyssa, Brittany, Byron (Robyn), Carolee, Deanna, Colson, Elias, Jelehna, Aniah, Briella, Barrett, Harrison, Hudson, Jude, Kate, Stephen, Morena, Aravis, Lael, Elora, Islay, Rhia, Kasey, Esther, Ava, Zahra and Zyrh. Proceeded in death by Joanna Grace.

His five great grands are: Winslow, Shiloh, Maevry, Rustin and Jerica.

In 1985, although their children were excelling academically and in sports, Kenneth felt convicted to homeschool his children. Kenneth taught the Bible and oversaw other

subjects. At about the same time, Kenneth and Julie established a non-profit ministry, Family Heritage. Through seminars, the goal was to educate and encourage parents to build lives and relationships on Biblical principles. Kenneth took on the great responsibility of innumerable logistics in transporting his entire family around the world as invitations came pouring in. They went to every state in the U.S., most provinces in Canada and other countries. He was a keynote speaker at many statewide homeschool conventions. Kenneth's focus was to motivate fathers to love and lead their families and he encouraged other family members to use their gifts. He loved for his family to sing together so this occurred at most speaking engagements.

They conducted seminars on Building Good Character and Maturity in Children, Time and Home Management, Needs of a Husband and Wife, Passing on a Godly Heritage, and more.

In the '90s, he was asked to speak at the National Conference on the Family at 2nd Baptist Church in Houston.

In 1992, the U.S. Congress declared him to be an educational ambassador to Russia. He had numerous opportunities to impact the Russian people here and abroad.

Kenneth was privileged to meet and join in ministry with many movers and shakers in the Christian world.

He was a member of Community Bible Church. In cooperation with CBC, he and Julie founded a Market in Cullowhee, NC. For 3 ½ years, they trucked in 10,000 lbs. of food and supplies each week to meet needs for Western NC residents.

Kenneth was active in the Republican Party in NC.

Kenneth's heart's desire was to please God and invest himself in others.

His family is grateful for his life and blessed by his legacy.

In lieu of flowers:

Community Bible Church will receive donations in Kenneth McKim's memory. 3645 Cashiers Road, Highlands, NC <https://www.cbchighlands.com/give>

The Mailbox Club was one of Kenneth's favorite ministries and they will receive donations as well.

The Mailbox Club 440 Eager Road, Valdosta, GA 31602 [www.mailboxclub.org](http://www.mailboxclub.org)

Online condolences can be left at [www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrant-funeralhome.com)

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home & Crematory is honored to serve the McKim family.





**In the HEART of downtown Highlands**

**537 + 555 N 5th Street**

**4.80 acres +2 homes + barn**

**MLS # RI03334 Offered for \$5,950,000**

**Highlands**

**Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

**AndreaGabbard@gmail.com**



**Andrea Gabbard**  
c: 828.200.6742



**MOUNTAIN**  
THEATRE COMPANY  
EST. 1938 | HIGHLANDS, NC

# THE BURNT PART BOYS

BOOK BY:  
MARIANA ELDER

MUSIC BY:  
CHRIS MILLER

LYRICS BY:  
NATHAN TYSEN



**AUGUST 6 - 30**

**LIVE ON STAGE AT THE HIGHLANDS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

**www.mountaintheatre.com**

## • LETTERS •

### Breaking fellowship with the Southern Baptist Convention

Dear Editor,

Let it be known to all in our community and plateau of Highlands, NC that the First Baptist Church of Highlands is breaking ties and fellowship with the Southern Baptist Convention, effective August 13, 2025.

Significant documentation confirms what we as a congregation have come to know and now condemn as institutional, ethical, and financial failures of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is with heavy hearts yet firm convictions that we leave the Convention after nearly 130 years of cooperation with its great agendas of the past regarding missions and evangelism. However, we will remain Baptist in our ecclesial polity and doctrinal distinctives. We remain firmly rooted in our historical faith and practices supported by our affirmation of the historic creeds and confessions that have and will continue to guide us – the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith. These and the wisdom of the past from our fathers and mothers in the Lord will sustain us as we attempt to be a devoted and sanctified people for the Lord Jesus Christ, awaiting His Second Coming.

The issues, in brief, that led to our disappointment with the SBC as it now operates are generally three-fold (though other minor indiscretions could be enumerated).

First, as widely reported and affirmed by an independent investigation of Guidepost Solutions, there has been an intentional concealment of sexual abuse occurring in

SBC churches and even the Convention leadership itself. For two decades, over 700 survivors of abuse have contacted the SBC and its executive committee to report abuses only to be met with resistance, even hostility. The leadership's goal was to control and guard the information and avoid liability for the Convention. They hid behind the weak refrain they could not involve themselves due to the polity of local church autonomy – even if this meant that the accused were allowed to continue in ministry elsewhere and no warning to the unsuspecting churches. Power, prestige, and financial considerations usurped clear, ethical demands to expeditiously address these transgressions that harmed so many.

Second, this coverup has caused the SBC to spend considerable amounts of money to cover the expenses of the Guidepost Solutions report, legal fees, and establishment of “abuse centers” – to name a few egregious expenditures. This has led to an estimated \$12.1 million spent by the SBC Executive Committee – money given faithfully by the churches to support the Convention for other ministry needs. The SBC is selling its building in Nashville and seeking additional funds to cover anticipated expenses. Because of the incongruencies across the board of the SBC and mission entities, transparency of financial expenditures was rejected at the annual meeting in 2024, being blocked in commitment.

• See LETTERS page 10

### ...OBITUARIES continued from page 7

#### David Donald Keener

David Donald Keener, of Highlands, NC, went home to heaven on August 18, 2025. He was born Feb. 12, 1958. He was a man of great faith and will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

David was first and foremost a loving husband, father, and Pawpaw. Born February 12, 1958, to the late Juanita and Donald Keener, he lived his entire life in Highlands. He was preceded in death by his sister Sonja Stewart Gibson and brother Thomas Keener. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Brenda Houston Keener; two sons, Jeremy Keener (Katie) and Darin Keener (Jessica); three grandchildren Paisley, Lily, and Haddie; and his sister Angela Powell.

David was most well-known around Highlands for his 31 years as a mail carrier. It was evident from all the many friendships he

made over the years that he had never met a stranger. He enjoyed collecting, working around his yard, and most of all, spending time playing with his granddaughters, making memories they will hold close forever.

A funeral service was held Saturday, August 23, 2025, at Clear Creek Baptist with the Rev. Jim Kinard officiating. Burial followed at Highlands Memorial Park. Pallbearers were Spencer Chambers, Steve Houston, Will Chastain, Marc Gagne, and Jackson Gagne. Honorary Pallbearers will be Roger Lee Wilson, Allen James, Tommy James, and Boone Houston.

Online condolences may be made at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home & Crematory is honored to serve the Keener family.



# EIGHT ON OAK



Upscale & exclusive single family homes in the heart of Highlands, NC

Here, a fortunate few will experience homes made with exquisite craftsmanship and set in a postcard-perfect location, all designed for balanced living between idyllic, intown connections and a landscape of untamed, natural beauty.

Discover a life of greater harmony at Eight on Oak.

299 OAK STREET, HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA 28741

Contact our sales team for more information.

PAT GLEESON: (828) 782-0472

DEBORAH "BEE" GLEESON: (404) 307-1415



BISHOP AND BARTOS

CHRISTIE'S  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE  
— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

Information is believed to be accurate, but not warranted. Specification, pricing, and availability are subject to change without notice. See agent for details. Renderings are approximate only and are not meant to be exact depictions. Drawings are not to scale.





**August 21 - 24  
and 28 - 31**

Thursday & Friday at  
7 pm  
Saturday at 5 pm  
Sunday at 1 pm



**Back by popular demand!**

# Social Security

Directed by  
Donna Cochran  
Stage Manager  
Cathy Myers

Written by  
Andrew Bergman



Get your tickets at  
[HighlandsCashiersPlayers.com](http://HighlandsCashiersPlayers.com)  
or by calling the PAC Box Office  
at 828-526-2147

Highlands Performing Arts  
Center - 507 Chestnut Street



## HIGHLANDS EXPERTISE ELEVATED EXPERIENCE

- Highlands resident for 17 years
- Representing buyers and sellers across the Plateau
- Seamless service from Atlanta to the mountains
- Backed by 78+ years of Dorsey Alston trust

**LET'S TALK**  
**Brian Seifried, REALTOR®**  
770.309.1143

**DORSEY ALSTON**  
REALTORS®  
404.352.2010

## ...LETTERS continued from page 8

tee. As it turns out, the SBC does not meet the minimal standards for nonprofit institutions with an audit of such expenditures as executive salaries, real estate, and so forth. We at First Baptist Church see this as an abuse of power and loss of proper stewardship of God's Kingdom work, and a waste of the sacrificial giving of many church members.

Third, the adoption of and eventual failure to rescind Resolution 9 (2019, 2021). This resolution advocates for the use of CRT ("Critical Race Theory")—a secular and politicized worldview—as an analytical tool in Biblical-based ministry to evaluate human experiences. Despite it clearly being rejected in many academic and theological circles, the SBC maintains its validity. We at First Baptist Church see this as a compromise shift more congruent with Neo-Marxist ideology of the "woke" movement and nomenclature of

today's progressivism.

Because of these and other multiple lesser indiscretions, we at First Baptist Church Highlands declare our disassociation from the Southern Baptist Convention. If in the future the SBC leadership repents of these failures and heartily moves to rectify them, we would consider reuniting with those churches. In the meantime our church will continue to utilize funds once appointed to the SBC and its mission entities and convey them to other worthy mission causes that spread the Gospel and serve the needy. Time is short, and we at First Baptist Church Highlands seek to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

**In Service to Our Lord,  
Dr. Mark Ford and Members of  
FBCH**

## Regardless of your political affiliation, or your party affiliation, do unto others as you would have them do unto you

Dear Editor,

How do we citizens express our upset with actions by our designated leaders in-between voting times? Demonstrations are clearly legal and help convey the magnitude of upset by gathering together in public and expressing our concerns.

The recent Aug 14th Spiritually Speaking column by Pastor Mark Ford of the Highlands Baptist Church questions the actions of recent demonstrations, suggesting outsiders are causing unwarranted protests. Most of those gathered at the Post Office

are registered voters and residents of Highlands or nearby towns. Together, we are upset at the behavior of our current president for his actions:

1. Restricting & negating the rights of citizens
2. Bullying the Homeless, Trans, and the Poor
3. Negating past negotiated legal plans
4. Lying
5. Changing the economic agreements without proper notification

• See LETTERS page 12

### Labor Day Sale! 35% to 55% off

# SALE

30% off cleaning & repairs

FREE Pickup & Delivery

Open for the last 40 years, Shiraz has been offering wholesale prices to the public on its entire inventory of genuinely hand-woven oriental rugs. Thousands of antique and contemporary pieces from around the world.

HAND CLEANING • RESTORATION • APPRAISALS



Mon.-Sat: 9:30a-6p • Sun: noon-5p

We Purchase Antique Rugs

(828) 526-5759

Main Street • Oak Square  
Highlands, NC 28741  
[www.shirazruggalleries.com](http://www.shirazruggalleries.com)

Cash or Checks Accepted  
OTHER SHOWROOMS:  
TAMPA • NAPLES • SARASOTA  
ORLANDO



**66 Summit Trail**  
**\$2,995,000**



**42 Hemlock Ridge**  
**\$2,200,000**



**214 Osage Drive**  
**\$2,190,000**



**Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

**Andrea Gabbard**  
Broker

c: 828.200.6742

[AndreaGabbard@gmail.com](mailto:AndreaGabbard@gmail.com)

Recognized as the top .002%  
of NC Agents by Real Trends



Highlands

**Sotheby's**

INTERNATIONAL REALTY



# Josephine's Gift Shop

**Apparel - Gifts - Home - Decor**  
at the Asia House • 151 Helens Barn Ave.



**Open Mon.-Sun. at noon. Closed Wed. • 718-664-3571**

## Charitable Giving Strategies Presentation

September 17, 2025 at 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Highlands Community Building  
869 N 4th St, Highlands, NC



Join us for an insightful presentation designed to empower both non-profit organizations and individual donors. Whether you're part of a non-profit seeking innovative ways to engage supporters, or an individual exploring meaningful and strategic ways to give, this event will provide valuable tools and guidance to help you create a lasting legacy. Lunch will be provided for registered attendees.

Co-Hosted by:

Julie Upshaw,  
Attorney at Law



Robin Cook, CWS®, CTFA®  
Sr. VP & Prosperity Advisor



**SUNCOAST**  
PROSPERITY ADVISORS

For registration details, email [msherwood@suncoastequity.com](mailto:msherwood@suncoastequity.com)

## ...LETTERS continued from page 10

6. Flip-flopping in areas that require serious study

7. Protecting known pedophiles and other documented criminals.

I was there not only as a concerned citizen but as a Vietnam Veteran, 20-year retired Army officer, a retired clinical social worker, and ordained minister. This president enacts changes that violate everything I have been trained to honor and do. My clinical social work years in mental health and drug & alcohol treatment underscore the good that can be done with those suffering these disorders. My recent 9 years as an ordained minister whose ministry was primarily with

the homeless stands in stark contrast to the sinful ways this president is approaching those who are homeless, many of whom are veterans suffering with PTSD and addiction as a result of their military experience. I pray that there will soon be a day of awakening for the president and those who support him.

It's time for all citizens, whatever political party affiliation, to DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU.

**James (Jamie) Maury**  
MDiv. Ph.D, retired Army LTC  
Highlands

## Are you celebrating these Trump accomplishments?

Dear Editor,

In the 2024 Presidential race, 49.8% of the votes went to Donald J. Trump who promised to reduce the costs of consumer goods, end the wars in Gaza and Ukraine and fix our immigration crisis. To his credit he has essentially closed our border. Below are other things that he has done in his eight months in office. Maybe you are celebrating those accomplishments or maybe you are not. Read on and decide for yourself.

- Did you care that he cut food assistance and medical care for the poorest Americans so billionaires could keep their tax cut?

- Do you think the President should be able to ignore the Constitution to further his own agenda?

- Did you expect him to use your tax dollars to investigate his political enemies?

- Did you anticipate that costs would increase on consumer goods because of his tariffs?

- Did you want him to deport illegal

immigrants even those who are working and paying taxes but have been unable to get a path to citizenship because both parties have not reformed our broken system?

- Did you think using the military domestically is a proper use of our men and women in uniform?

- Did you expect him to extort money from universities and law firms that did not support his agenda?

- Do you support cutting funds for medical research for cures for such diseases as cancer and Alzheimers?

- Do you think cutting less than 1% of our budget that provided food and medical services for the poorest in the world is what America should do?

- Do you think sitting Presidents should make billions of dollars personally because of their position?

- Do you think it is a good thing for the US Government to invest in private companies like Intel?

• See LETTERS page 16

## Open House – Sat. & Sun. Aug. 30 & 31, noon to 3p

1302 Highlands Mountain Club • a 55+ community 1.8 miles from Main St. Highlands

**Offered at \$730,000 (Brokers Protected)**

3BR/2BA, upstairs unit, move-in ready.  
Stunning year-round views, extended deck  
and totally updated.

Contact for a Private Showing  
or stop by the Open Houses.

470-316-4420/[laurahcook60@gmail.com](mailto:laurahcook60@gmail.com)







# CHRISTIE'S

INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

Thank You To Our Amazing Clients Who Helped Us Become  
*Fastest Growing Luxury Brokerage On The Plateau*

---

Christie's | Highlands Cashiers is Highlands's Top Producing  
Brokerage Office for the first half of 2025.\*

Thanks to our fantastic clients and the support of our exceptional network of  
Christie's Southeastern and Global Affiliates.

\*Based on individual office production data from 1/1/2025 to 6/30/2025 as reported by HCBOR MLS.

828.482.5022 | [HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com](https://HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com) | 210 North Fifth Street, Highlands, NC 28741





**HOWARD HANNA**

ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE

# Bigger.

**\$37 BILLION** in closed sales volume built on trusted relationships and deep market expertise in the communities where you live and work.

# Better.

**NUMBER ONE** family-owned brokerage in the U.S. Where personal expertise and cutting-edge technology work together to deliver exceptional results for your family.

# Brighter.

**MORE THAN \$27 MILLION** returned to the neighborhoods where our agents and clients call home—supporting public education and children's free care programs—because strong communities create lasting value for everyone.

**One Promise:** A homeownership experience that combines proven expertise with personalized service.

*Let us show you.*

Together we're **Built differently.**

HOWARDHANNATATE.COM

*Leading* REAL ESTATE COMPANIES IN THE WORLD





HERE. THERE.  
EVERYWHERE.

LEADING EVERY MARKET WE SERVE WITH PURPOSE

LOCAL

  
**\$7.24B**  
IN TOTAL CLOSED  
SALES

  
**#1**  
IN THE CAROLINAS

  
**#1**  
IN LUXURY

  
**2,115+**  
AGENTS + EMPLOYEES

  
**75+**  
OFFICES

  
**68**  
YEARS

REGIONAL

  
**\$37B**  
IN TOTAL CLOSED  
SALES

  
**#1**  
LARGEST FAMILY-  
OWNED REAL ESTATE  
BROKERAGE IN THE U.S.

  
**#1**  
BROKERAGE IN PA,  
OH, NY, IN, &  
THE CAROLINAS

  
**13,077+**  
AGENTS + OFFICES

  
**470+**  
OFFICES

  
**18,000+**  
AGENTS + EMPLOYEES

Rankings based on REAL Trends 500 report; based on 2024 transaction sides.

OVER **\$27 MILLION** RAISED

Together we give back so our communities can thrive  
and families can move forward with confidence.



SCAN TO VIEW MORE LUXURY LISTINGS



# CLE's Fifth Annual HIGHLANDS PORCHFEST

live  
music

21  
SEPT  
2025

FREE  
to attend!

OVER 35 MUSICIANS  
FROM EVERY GENRE  
PERFORMING AT LOCAL  
HOSTING VENUES!

PRESENTED BY

Highlands-Cashiers  
Center for Life  
Enrichment

THIS PROJECT IS  
SUPPORTED BY THE  
ARTS COUNCIL OF  
MACON COUNTY'S  
ARTREACH PROGRAM



## • HS SPORTS RECAP •

### A busy start for the Highlanders

By Brett Lamb  
HS Athletic Director

The Highlands Highlanders are off to a busy and exciting start to their fall sports season, with both middle school and high school teams showcasing their skills on the field and court.

#### Middle School Boys Soccer

The Highlands Middle School boys soccer team has wasted no time in establishing itself as a dominant force. The Highlanders are off to a blistering 2-0 start with two impressive victories. They opened their season with a commanding 9-2 win over Cherokee, with goals scored by Jensen Bowers (2), Todd Vilardo (3), Ian Kittrell (1), Porter Bowers (1), Camden Westendorf (1), and Darwin Frias-Ovando (1). They followed up that performance with an equally impressive 9-0 shutout victory against Murphy. The goals in the second match came from Jensen Bowers (2), Todd Vilardo (2), Brian Munoz (1), Harper Ramey (2), Matthew Morales (1), and Alex Lopez (1). The team's strong start and balanced scoring attack show great promise for the rest of the season.

#### Highlands Volleyball

Highlands volleyball teams have faced a challenging start to their seasons. The middle school team currently holds a 1-3 record, with their lone victory coming against Murphy in a 25-23, 25-15 match. The JV team has a record of 2-5, with wins over Andrews (25-21, 25-15) and Murphy (25-



22, 18-25). The varsity team has played a tough non-conference schedule and is still seeking its first win. Despite the tough competition, the Highlanders have shown resilience, with notable close sets against Hayesville and Andrews.

#### Varsity Boys Soccer

The varsity boys' soccer team has also faced a demanding

non-conference schedule to begin the year. They have started the season with three losses, including a 4-2 defeat at Franklin where Aniah McKim and Conner Hughes each scored a goal. The team also fell to Pisgah 3-1, with a lone goal from Aniah McKim, and suffered a 3-0 loss at Smoky Mountain. Despite the early challenges, the Highlanders are competing hard.

#### Upcoming Schedule

This week, the Highlanders have a full slate of home and away games. The high school volleyball team travels to Robbinsville on Tuesday. On Wednesday, Claire Worley will compete in her first cross country meet at Hayesville, and the varsity soccer team will host Madison. On Thursday, the middle school volleyball and boys' soccer teams will host Blue Ridge, while the high school volleyball team hosts Rosman, and the high school boys' soccer team hosts Franklin.

The Highlanders are competing and representing our school with Highlander Pride!

### COREY JAMES GALLERY

#### & Estate Consignments

Bronze sculpture • Paintings  
Vintage & Antique Collectables &  
Furniture • Costume Jewelry



(828) 526-4818

On the corner of 3rd & Spring

### ...LETTERS

continued from page 12

- Do you think it is right to punish companies who want their workforce to match the demographics of our nation?

- Do you think rewriting history about the horrors of slavery is the right thing to do?

Well, that is President Donald J. Trump's record. Maybe you support all of those things but perhaps you do not! As an ex-Republican, I fear for our country that my grandchildren will inherit from this President.

Linda Arnold  
HIGHLANDS





## Incredible Legacy Estate



### HIGHLANDS | \$7,250,000 | MLS# 1000431

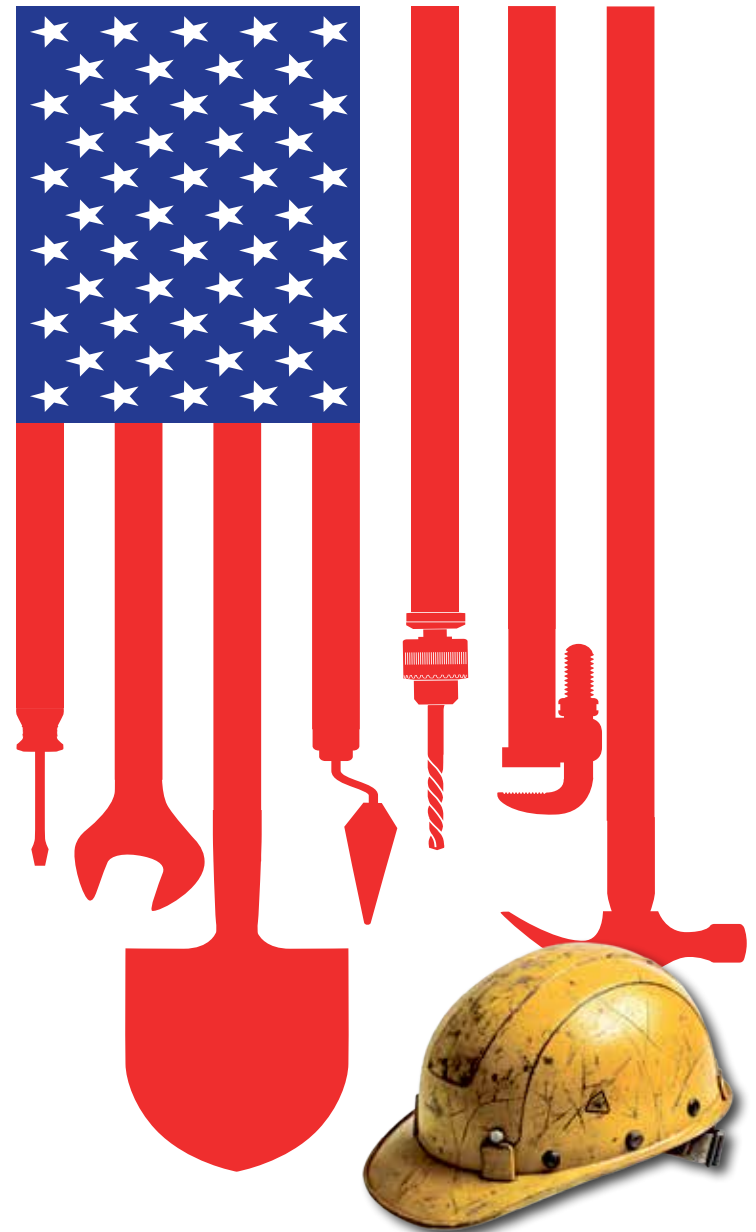
Just a short walk from downtown Highlands, this exceptional estate is a rare blend of historic legacy and refined mountain luxury. Built circa 1922, the estate has been masterfully restored for modern living and encompasses approximately 6,500 of living space. Original oak and antique chestnut floors, massive stone fireplaces, handcrafted millwork, and more than 60 windows showcase timeless craftsmanship. Trails and century-old stone walls wind through rhododendrons, azaleas, and hydrangeas, while expansive lawns invite play and relaxation. The Rhododendron Trail offers access to Ravenel Lake, the Highlands Nature Center, Sunset Rock, and the heart of town. Peaceful and private, yet close to everything — this is not just a home, but a legacy, beautifully preserved and ready for its next chapter.

- 6BR / 7.5BA
- 4.0 acres
- Walk to town
- Gated entrance
- In-floor hydronic heating on 1st and 2nd floors
- Detached garage with extra living quarters
- Activity barn with autobelay climbing wall and 30' batting cage
- Guest cottage with fireplace
- Partial generator
- Heated pool and in-ground spa
- Stone patios, both open and covered

OFFERED BY:   
MICHAUD & RAUERS  
REALTY GROUP

**THE MICHAUD RAUERS GROUP**  
828.526.4101 | 488 MAIN ST, HIGHLANDS

# Happy Labor Day!



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO WORK  
TO KEEP AMERICA RUNNING

**BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY**  
HOME SERVICES

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN  
REALTY

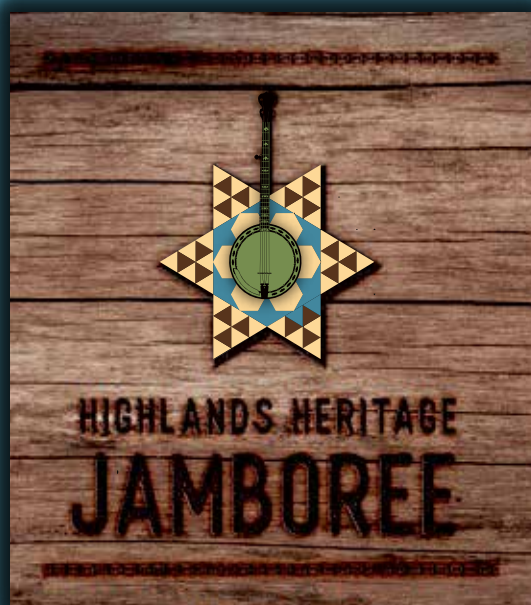
LUXURY HOME SPECIALISTS ON THE HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS PLATEAU

828.526.1717 | [MeadowsMountainRealty.com](https://www.MeadowsMountainRealty.com)

488 Main St., Highlands | 2334 Cashiers Rd, Highlands | 196 Burns St, Cashiers







CELEBRATING HIGHLANDS' HERITAGE  
FEATURING TRADITIONAL MUSIC,  
DANCING, BBQ & MOONSHINE

PERFORMANCES BY  
U.S. NAVY BAND: FOUR-STAR EDITION  
J CREEK CLOGGERS  
HIGHLANDS BAGPIPERS &  
SLEDHOUSE TRIO WITH DARREN NICHOLSON

Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park  
Saturday, September 27, 1-7:30pm

*Join us!*

THE HEIGHT OF HAPPINESS

HIGHLANDS  
NORTH CAROLINA

— ELEV. 4118 —

# Celebrate Your Labors



*Stylish hats at affordable  
prices!*  
Visit The Highlands Hatter  
To get your  
Hattitude adjusted!



Open 10am Daily  
828-482-1920  
221 N. 4th St.  
(Across from Town Hall)

Fine American Handcrafts including  
Pottery, Jewelry, Fun Gifts and More!



PEAK  
EXPERIENCE

828-526-0229  
2820 Dillard Road  
Highlands, NC



Shop clothes,  
home, gifts & more  
with us at  
The Molly Grace!

(Across from Town Hall)  
(828) 526-8390  
207 N 4th St., Highlands



338 Main St.  
526-4777



- Tinctures and oils
- Hemp products
- Jewelry/accessories
  - Felt decor
  - Dreamcatchers
  - Local art
  - Candles

(828)421-3546  
361 Main St • Highlands  
(Next to Annawear)



# Celebrate Your Labors



Gourmet Kitchenware

- Cookware
- Grillware
- Bakeware
- Cutlery
- Gadgets
- Tabletop
- Stemware
- Small Appliances

**(828) 526-5226**  
**450 Main St.**  
**Highlands**



- MerSea
- Splendid
- Level 99
- Unpublished Jeans
- Kork-Ease
- dolce Vita
- Charleston Shoes
- Able



114 N. Fourth Street • Highlands  
 828-526-5404  
 allisondianeclothing@gmail.com



The Highlands-Cashiers Film Festival is Thurs.-Sun., Sept. 18-21 and features four days of competition film screenings, workshops and presentations by emerging filmmakers, actors, acclaimed industry presenters and award-winning professionals.

All genres will be showcased, including features, documentaries, shorts, and international films on the Main Stage at PAC and in the Martin-Lipscomb Theatre. For complete schedule and tickets go to [www.highlandscashiersfilmfestival.com](http://www.highlandscashiersfilmfestival.com)

## A Day with the Wylers: Legacy, Craft, and a Vespa Ride Through Rome

By Megan Lewicki

Some films live in the culture like old friends — familiar enough to quote yet layered enough to surprise on every return. Roman Holiday is one of them. On Friday, Sept. 19, the Highlands-Cashiers Film Festival offers audiences a rare chance to see it as part of a day shaped around the life and work of its director, William Wyler.

The morning begins at 9AM with Directed by William Wyler, a documentary that steps beyond the filmography to consider the man himself. Told through archival material and conversations with collaborators, the portrait that emerges is one of precision and persistence: a filmmaker equally at home in the grandeur of Ben-Hur and the quiet tensions of The Best Years of Our Lives. The film doesn't just catalog achievements — it traces the evolution of an artist navigating changing eras, technologies, and tastes without losing his own sense of truth.

Two hours later, the focus shifts from the sweep of a career to the intimacy of a single work. Catherine Wyler, the director's daughter, will introduce a full screening of Roman Holiday, offering her own perspective on the production that launched Audrey Hepburn into stardom and paired her with Gregory Peck in one of cinema's most enduring duets.

The film is often remembered for its charm — the chaotic Vespa ride through postwar Rome, the sly exchanges, the bittersweet farewell — but Wyler's direction gives it something harder to pin down: a sense that these characters live beyond the frame. Catherine's presence in Highlands bridges the distance between what we see and how it was made. She understands her father's discipline and instincts not only as his daughter, but as a film professional who has navigated the industry herself.

Experiencing the documentary and the feature back-to-back reveals the connective tissue between them: the meticulous preparation, the commitment to casting, the willingness to let silences speak as loudly as dialogue. It's a pairing that turns a festival day into a kind of master class — not in the technicalities of filmmaking alone, but in the artistry of storytelling that endures.

And the day doesn't end there. Sept. 19 continues with additional screenings and conversations across the festival, culminating in the Bogart Cocktail Party — a nod to Hollywood's golden age that invites guests to swap the theater seat for an evening drink and good company. Taken together, the schedule offers something rare: a full day in which Highlands becomes both a cinema and a salon, a place where stories are told on screen and extended in conversation long after the credits roll.

**New Fall Arrivals & up to 50% off Summer styles**

**ANNAPPEAR**

- Free People • THML
- Z Supply
- Michael Stars
- Vintage Havana

**Jeans by:**

- Joes • AG
- Citizens
- Hudson

**Shoes by:**

- Mother
- ShuSh
- Diba
- Blowfish
- Matisse

355 Main Street  
 (in The Galax Theatre)  
 526-4660

**AQUATALIA**

*Jeffrey Campbell*

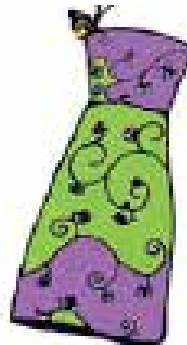
**CLOUD**  
 footwear

*Sam Edelman*



S. 4th Street  
 526-4473

**NEW FALL ARRIVALS & UP TO 75% OFF SUMMER ITEMS**



*Wit's End*

A Highlands tradition since 1940  
 Our 85th season on Main Street

828-526-3160



## The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Poorer



**T**his is a fact of life that reasonable people can agree on. The rich increase their wealth at the expense of workers who can't afford health insurance, and struggle to pay rent/the mortgage, and put food on the table. Historically there is a tipping point, which is where we are heading today. We need better leaders and better education to have a society where everyone gets a fair shake. We need a coordinated master plan which includes all progressive organizations! Bucking the System, available on Amazon under Books, addresses income inequality and what we can do about it.

## ...TOWN BOARD continued from page 1

to present a plan – how to fund the “renovation” and what the use would be.

“I’m disappointed it’s not standing room only, tonight,” said Commissioner John Dotson.

Mayor Pat Taylor said someone had suggested preserving the façade somehow and using it somewhere and saving the seats. There was also talk about a National Historic Preservation Society stepping in, he said.

Following the two suggestions from people in the audience, Commissioner Dotson said to bring a plan to the September Town Board meeting.

“But it needs to be a plan that is fully funded and decisive,” he said.

During the following Town Board meeting, commissioners voted to have the Town property surveyed – the property that encompasses the Town Hall, the Police Station, the Playhouse the ABC store, and the Macon County EMS buildings.

### Resignation of commissioners

With Commissioner Brian Stiehler’s resignation, the mayor asked the board to think about initiating a policy regarding future vacancies on the Town Board when they aren’t covered by state statute. The board said situations not covered by statute

could be discussed as they come up.

### Alcohol use in the park

Allowing people to drink alcohol during fourth of July activities in KH Founders Park is still undecided. Commissioner Amy Patterson still believes it shouldn’t be allowed due drunkenness, even though Police Chief Andrea Holland said there have never been issues at any music event in the park or previous July 4 festivities.

Though the town allows alcohol at the Saturday music events in the park, it hasn’t allowed alcohol in the park on Fourth of July, something the police say is not enforceable because there are too many people.

“If it’s unenforceable, why are we trying to enforce something that is unenforceable?” asked Commissioner Dotson.

Even though there weren’t any problems, Captain Leah McCall said that given the size of the crowd in the park for the fireworks, more than the usual two officers should be present.

No decision was made, but the board reviewed the alcohol policy for public spaces and events drawn up by the Town Attorney. Responsible parties who serve or allow alcohol will have to fill out the permit

• See TOWN BOARD page 27

## LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! • MLS #103221 | Lower Price | Zoned B-4



### Your chance to own a piece of Highlands history and true walk-to-town home

1st time on the market. This property has been home, home occupation, B&B, and is zoned B-4. There are three 1/BD, 1/BA apartments and current leases are protected for up to six months after contract. The main level is paneled with clear Chestnut. Wood floors, a small kitchenette, storage, full bath and four rooms. The attic is floored in and runs the entire length of the house with great storage. The basement has a dirt floor, and the original locust post supports this home.

### MLS 105769 | \$775,000 | 2 Bedrooms | 2 Baths



### Adorable log cabin in the woods!

Two bedrooms, two baths, a bonus room/loft, detached workshop, and a real yard- all in the town limits. When you reach the circular driveway, the first thing you’ll notice is its beautiful entrance leading to a covered front porch that wraps around the house like a well-loved hug. This home is being sold unfurnished and is ready for you and your family!

401 N. 5th Street Highlands • 828-526-3717 • info@highlandsiscalling.com • www.highlandsiscalling.com





**Want it SOLD? Talk to John.**

**Want EXEMPLARY SERVICE?  
Talk to John.**

**WANT THE BEST DEAL?  
TALK TO JOHN!**



HIGHLANDS | \$4,995,000 | MLS# 1000338

- SANCTUARY ON 1ST - New Construction
- Private Gated Community in Downtown Highlands
- Walk to restaurants, Entertainment, & Shopping

Listed by The Michaud Rauers Group Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty



HIGHLANDS | \$3,995,000 | MLS# 1000498

- BEAR MÓR - New Construction
- Private Gated Community near Downtown Highlands
- Only nine .75+ acre homes available

Listed by The Michaud Rauers Group Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Meadows Mountain Realty



HIGHLANDS | \$1,250,000 | MLS# 1000265

The Rolling Woods neighborhood is home to a standout property that offers stunning views of Little Bear Pen Mountain. This 4BR/4BA home features a chef's kitchen and a two-story great room with a stone fireplace.



SAPPHIRE VALLEY | \$568,000 | MLS# 1000844

In the heart of Sapphire Valley and close to everything! Walk to four restaurants, Red Bird Golf, and ski slope. Five minutes from Cashiers crossroads. New finishes, flooring, water heaters, A/C, expanded deck. All SVMA amenities included.

**JOHN BYNUM | 828.200.0144**

john@bhhsmmr.com | 2334 Cashiers Road, Highlands, NC  
MeadowsMountainRealty.com

**BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY**  
HOMESERVICES

**MEADOWS MOUNTAIN  
REALTY**





## ...SCHOOL continued from page 1

The Highlands School experience is generational with many, many parents who graduated from Highlands School arriving with their children Monday morning to continue the tradition.

Some arrived extra early to enjoy the free breakfast, and some got there when the bell rang, but everyone sported smiles.

"As I begin my 8th year in administra-

tion and my third year as principal at Highlands School, I feel blessed and honored to serve such a wonderful community of students, teachers, and staff," said Holbrooks. "I am grateful to be part of a productive school year where we will be teaching rigorous courses, fostering a nurturing environment, and ensuring our students are prepared for college and careers upon graduation."

The school day begins at 8 a.m. but doors open at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast, and students may proceed to their classrooms beginning at 7:45 a.m. The school day ends at 3:05 p.m.

"I look forward to a fantastic year ahead and to continuing our journey of growth and success together!

## ...HEALTH from page 1

general public as well as health department employees, commissioners held a joint meeting with the board of health. Chairman Josh Young wanted to give the health board a chance to talk face-to-face about the issues and complaints.

For several months, commissioners have fielded complaints about the health department, so many that Young described it as "overwhelming." The complaints have ranged from low morale to concerns about the Health Director Kathy McGaha. Some of the complaints stated the work atmosphere was "toxic." Issues expressed from the general public include problems with animal control and environmental health, specifically the backlog of permitting.

Health Board Chair Jerry Hermanson introduced the 11 members of the health board to the commissioners – eight are designated health professionals and three members are from the general public as required by state law.

It quickly became evident that there was a communication issue between the two boards. In addition, several of the health board members are new and still learning their role on the board. Many members of the health board also expressed their concern that they were unaware of any problems with the health department and were hearing about the complaints for the first time at the joint meeting.

Even though some of the health board members urged commissioners to reconsider due to the new members and because the health board members were unaware of the complaints, commissioners unanimously voted to take over of the health board. A law enacted by North Carolina in 2012 allows the board to have authority over the health department.

Two meetings of the Health Board took followed – a special meeting at which no action was taken and the regular meeting during which Dr. Charlie Vargas and Health Board Chair Jerry Hermanson got upset and left the meeting and building, subsequently resigning from the board of health.

Liaisons to the health board, Commissioners John Shearl and Barry Breedan, have expressed their concerns about the health department saying they would like the board of health to be an advisory board to the elected commissioners who would be in charge of the department.

  
MOUNTAIN LAKES  
MEDICAL CENTER  
162 Legacy Point Clayton, GA 30525

Your Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) & Audiology Care  
All in One Location!



Dr. Keith Jackson, MD, ENT  
Emory University and  
Medical College of Georgia



Dr. Erica McVey, Audiologist  
University of Texas

Contact: (706) 782-0478

CONNECT



[www.mountainlakemedicalcenter.com](http://www.mountainlakemedicalcenter.com) / [www.mlmcpphysiciansgroup.com](http://www.mlmcpphysiciansgroup.com)

**\$50,000 ESTATE SALE • FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, AUG. 29 AND 30 • 9AM TO 5PM**

**POLE BARN FULL OF ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES OVER 50 YEARS OLD.**

Old, new, and black powder guns, Civil war items and much, much more. Friday and Saturday, Aug. 29 and 30. • 9am to 5 pm.

505 Shirley Pressley Road. Glenville, N C. • Check or Cash. Lots of parking.



# 1st Day at Highlands School Mon. Aug 25, 2025

Photos by Kim Lewicki





Check out the  
monthly specials for  
August

**REJUVENATE**  
LASER CENTER

**20% Off**

**SculpSure**  
Laser Body Contouring

No downtime!

Non-Invasive, Non surgical  
body enhancement

Tones and sculpts  
the body

Eliminates fat  
cells, permanently!



**The O2 Lift Facial**

Bring your skin back to life with  
this luxurious, oxygenating  
treatment that refreshes and  
revitalizes for instantly radiant,  
luminous skin.

Franklin: 828-349-1280  
Highlands: 828-482-4430

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

**Restore your youthful appearance;  
Enhance your facial beauty.**



*Dr. Wenzel offers state-of-the-art  
cosmetic procedures including  
rhinoplasty, facelifts, eyelid surgery,  
fillers and more.*



Before



After

**Call today  
for a  
consultation.  
(828)  
550-3344**



209 Hospital Drive, Ste. 304  
Jane Woodruff Clinic Bldg, Level 3 • Highlands  
(828) 550-3344  
[www.wenzelfacialsurgery.com](http://www.wenzelfacialsurgery.com)

...NEW continued from page 1



From left: Jacob Franklin, MS ELA/SS Teacher; Zach Schenk, MS ELA Teacher; Breanna Holland, 5th Grade Teacher; Lisa Phillips, Data Manager; Chelsea Moses, Exceptional Children Personal Care Assistant; Nicole Bloedow, MS Math Teacher; Whitney Billingsley, 1st Grade Teacher; Beatrice Adams, Kindergarten Teacher; Christina Tift, Kindergarten Teacher; Jeanette Coey, 1st Grade Teacher Assistant; Tom Hansell, Secondary Exceptional Children Teacher; Jeremy Chapman, Elementary Exceptional Children Teacher; Donna Stewart, 2nd Grade Teacher; Tim Kilpatrick, English Second Language & Exceptional Children Teacher Assistant.

has two new kindergarten teachers – Beatrice Adams and Christina Tift.

Adams is a graduate of Lees McRae College in Banner Elk, NC. She moved to North Carolina four years ago from Chiddingfold, England and fell in love with the area. While at Banner Elk, she founded and captained a college dance team. She loves to spend her time dancing.

Tift lives in Franklin with her three sons. She is originally from California and is a fourth generation Mexican American. She has a Bachelor in Elementary Education and over 27 years' experience in early childhood education. Tift currently attends Western Carolina University to continue her education. On a personal note, she loves flowers especially orchids and lilies.

Four other teachers will be joining the Highlands School elementary team -- Whitney Billingsley, 1st grade teacher; Jeanette Coey, 1st grade teacher assistant; Donna Stewart, 2nd grade teacher; and Breanna Holland, 5th grade teacher.

Billingsley is from Scaly Mountain and attended Highlands School from kindergar-

ten through 12th grade. After college, she taught three years on the coast of North Carolina, and for the past two years she has been teaching in Illinois. Aside from teaching, she enjoys spending time with her loved ones and exploring the outdoors.

Stewart was born in South Carolina, but has spent most of her teaching career out west. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Montana and taught special education in Missoula for nine years. In 2017, she moved to Brewstar, Washington and taught first grade for three years. In 2020, she moved to North Carolina with her son. For the past five years she has been living in Cullohee and teaching fifth grade at Blue Ridge School in Cashiers. Her favorite hobbies are landscaping her yard and hiking. With her sister, she has started her dream of section hiking the Appalachian Trail, and since 2020 she has hiked almost 700 miles.

We were unable to get information about Breanna Holland by press time.

**Middle School**

• See NEW page 25

**Open for  
Lunch  
11a to 3p**

**DON LEON'S**

**Open Tues. - Sat.**

**Pet Friendly Place Where Friends Meet**

**With the same menu, low prices, FREE coffee and an older more mellow attitude!**

**Come by for a visit and enjoy those Appalachian Fries and a Gyro!**

**Salads • Pitas • Burgers • Philly Cheese Steak • Shrimp Pita • Susan's Rueben  
Italian Sausage • Appalachian Fries • Onion Rings • Jambalaya • Kabobs  
Shrimp Gumbo • Soups**

**Dine in or Call in your order for Pickup! • 828-482-1513  
462 Dillard Road, Highlands (across from Dusty's)**



## ...NEW continued from page 24

Highlands School has added three new middle school teachers to their team -- Jacob Franklin, English language arts/social studies teacher; Zach Schenk, English language arts and Nicole Bloedow, math.

Jacob Franklin was born in Franklin but grew up in southwest Florida on Fort Myers Beach. His education background is in political science and government. Franklin has a passion for history and the stories of humanity. Outside of the classroom he enjoys photography, woodworking and hiking.

Zach Schenk recently moved to North Carolina from Cleveland, Ohio where he taught middle school English language arts for two years. Prior to that he lived in South Korea for three years teaching English as a second language. In his free time, he loves to travel, write, listen to music and cook.

Niki Bloedow is a 2000 graduate of Highlands School where she is proud to say she attended from kindergarten through 12th grade. After attending Clemson University, she taught in South Carolina for 15 years and has been teaching at Franklin High School for the past 8 years. Aside from teaching, she enjoys spending time with her family and traveling.

Exceptional Children & English Second Language

Highlands School welcomed four new teachers and staff to its exceptional children team -- Jeremy Chapman, elementary exceptional children teacher; Tom Hansell, secondary exceptional children teacher; Tim Kilpatrick, English second language & exceptional children teacher assistant; and Chelsea Moses, exceptional children personal care assistant.

Jeremy Chapman has spent the last seven years as a lead teacher in public schools, building on five years of experience as a teacher assistant. He kicked off his teaching journey in Jackson County Public Schools and moved to Macon County Public Schools in 2019. He holds a Master's Degree in Educational Administration. When he's not in the classroom or working with students you'll find him serving as a student pastor in Franklin. He's also a certified travel agent and proud owner of Castaway Adventures.

Tom Hansell grew up in Florida around Kissimmee and joined the Navy in 1977. He has had the opportunity to travel to a lot of places on the Atlantic side of the world, including the Arctic Circle and Panama Canal. He has a degree in criminal justice as well as exceptional children. He has been teaching for 29 years. He has lived in Macon County for 35 years.

## Highlands Bolivia Mission auction is Sept. 8 at MLT

After a lull of five years, the Highlands Bolivian Mission is having an auction fundraiser this fall. On Sept. 8 at the Martin Lipscomb Theater, a variety of interesting items will be offered during both live and silent auctions. Beginning at 6pm, the silent auction will continue until 7:30 when the live auction will begin.

Many jewelry items, art and a falconry outing will offered in the silent auction along with an open bar and plenty of lite bites. The live auction will feature a spectacular pendant fashioned by Jannie Bean Fine Custom Jewelry with a fine Bolivianita brought back from Bolivia by Dr. Baumrucker and two pieces hand made by T. A. Anderson Goldsmiths also featuring Bolivianitas. For the art enthusiasts, there is a seriograph by the famous contemporary artist, LeRoy Niceman, The Kenya Leopard, valued at \$5,000! The buyer of this lot will also receive a book on the artist.

Because Shiraz Gallery has donated an oriental carpet yearly to the mission, there will be several rugs available for purchase. Many of these items will be available for

viewing at the Highlands United Methodist Church where bidding on these items will begin.

The Bolivian Mission has been helping people in Montero and the surrounding areas in Bolivia for 27 years, and they have just finished refurbishing the roofs on three buildings and completed a new house for the older boys who are still in college. The Bolivian government stops supporting the foster home for anyone over 18 years old, and none of the boys are even finished with high school at that point of their lives. High School lasts six years there, and to help end the cycle of poverty, the mission continues to support the boys until they have completed college. Many of these graduates of the home have started their own businesses and have stable families. The mission stresses hard work, no alcohol or drugs and education as the path to a better life.

Please come and enjoy the auction fundraiser at the Performing Arts Center. The tickets are \$50/person and can be obtained by calling or texting Dr. Baumrucker at 828-200-0902.





**HIGHLANDS**  
NORTH CAROLINA

THE HEIGHT OF HAPPINESS | ELEV. 4118

# Outdoor Concert Series

**Each Friday and Saturday night from May through September, the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands, NC hosts live music downtown.**

*Join us for our August concerts!*  
All shows take place from 6 – 8:30 p.m.

<i>Friday Night Live</i> <b>Town Square   343 Main Street</b>  <i>Showcasing traditional mountain music and local talent</i>	<i>Saturdays on Pine</i> <b>Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park 411-499 Pine Street</b>  <i>Featuring a variety of popular, regional bands and musicians</i>
<b>AUGUST 1</b> <b>Ezra &amp; Katie</b>	<b>AUGUST 2</b> <b>High 5</b>
<b>AUGUST 8</b> <b>McClain Family Band</b>	<b>AUGUST 9</b> <b>HC Oakes Band</b>
<b>AUGUST 15</b> <b>Shawn Lane Trio, Featuring Lane Brothers</b>	<b>AUGUST 30</b> <b>Southside Station</b>
<b>AUGUST 22</b> <b>Spare Parts Bluegrass Band</b>	
<b>AUGUST 29</b> <b>The Foxfire Boys</b>	



[visithighlandsnc.com](http://visithighlandsnc.com)



# SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

## Why do Catholics Honor Mary?



**Fr. Jason Barone**  
Our Lady of the Mountains  
Catholic Church

In dialoguing with non-Catholics, I often receive questions about Mary and why Catholics pay her so much attention. One thing is clear: many misunderstandings abound. With this column, I simply wish to offer how Catholics understand the mother of Jesus.

Firstly, Catholics do not worship Mary – adoration belongs to God alone and to adore a creature would constitute idolatry. Any reverence given to Mary reflects veneration of her and ultimately of the gifts God gave her.

Catholics see Mary as fulfilling numerous important roles in the Old Testament. For instance, as St. Paul describes Jesus as the “New Adam” (Rom 5), so church fathers have described Mary as the New Eve since the time of St. Irenaeus around 180AD: “...the knot of Eve’s disobedience was loosed by the obedience of Mary.” As Eve was “the mother of all the living,” (Gen 3:20), so the New Eve is the mother of all those living in Christ, that is “those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus” (Rev 12:17).

Mary is also considered the Ark of the New Covenant, which was the most sacred and venerated object of Israel and where God “overshadowed” (Ex 40:34; Lk 1:35) and dwelt with His people. St. Luke compares Mary’s visitation to Elizabeth (Lk 1) with the ark entering Jerusalem (2 Sam 6). Both remain for “three months,” David and John the Baptist “leaped,” and both David and Elizabeth asked, “how is it that the ark/mother of my Lord should come to me?” John, likewise, describes the ark, now in heaven, as “a woman, clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, with a crown of twelve stars (Rev 11:19-12:1).

Catholics also see this “crown” as reflecting Mary’s fulfillment of the Old Testament kingdom’s “Queen Mother” first established by Solomon when he enthroned his mother, Bathsheba, and gave her the role of intercessor, saying: “Make your request, my mother; for I will not refuse you.” The Queen Mother title and office continues to be seen throughout the books of Kings. It is no surprise, then, that the establishment of the Kingdom of God (as the re-establishment and fulfillment of the OT kingdom) would see the mother of the King as Queen Mother. Christ even refuses to deny His mother at Cana as she intercedes for the wedding guests.

Some see attention given to Mary as distracting from Jesus. I personally do not see them in competition. If “it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me” (Gal 2:20), then when I look to heaven, I can truly say “Our Father,” and likewise see Mary as my mother.

Upon its completion, the new OLM church on 5th Street will have inscribed above its front doors the penultimate words said by our dying Lord on the cross as He looked upon His mother and the disciple whom He loved: “behold thy mother” (Jn 19:27).

# • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

## BLUEVALLEY 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

## GRACE CHAPEL ON HIGH HOLLY

9615 Dillard Rd Scaly Mountain, N.C.

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas. <http://www.Graceonhighholly.com>

Sunday School 9:45; Worship 11; Prayer Service Wed 5:30p Men’s

and Women’s Bible Study throughout the week

## CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Rev’d Dr. Marc Robertson & Rev. Nick McGee

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

CAC@christanglicancashiers.org • 828-743-1701

Sunday: Adult Christian Ed, 9:15a; Holy Eucharist, 10:30a; Fellowship

11:45a; Wed: Bible Study/Contemplative Prayer, 5p

## CHRIST CHURCH OF THE VALLEY, CASHIERS

Pastor Jacob Tedder • [jacob@cashiers.church](mailto:jacob@cashiers.church) • 743-5470

[www.cashiers.church](http://www.cashiers.church)

Sun. 10:45a; Wed Study 5:15p supper and childcare.

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

283 Spring Street - Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

Testimony meeting: 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

## CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

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

1st & 3rd Sunday night Service: 7 p.m.

Wednesdays – Supper at 6 p.m.

## COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

[www.cbchighlands.com](http://www.cbchighlands.com) • 526-4685

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

Sun: Service 10:45am, Children’s 10:30am

Wed.: Youth 5:30-7pm; Women’s Bible Study: Mon. 4:30pm, Tues.

10am; Men’s Bible Study: Wed. & Thurs. 7am @ Zookeeper Bistro

## COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SKY VALLEY

706.746.3144 • 696 Sky Valley Way #447

Pastor Steve Kerhoulas

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

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. W. Bentley Manning, Rector • 526-2968

5th and Main streets • [www.incarnationwnc.org](http://www.incarnationwnc.org)

Sunday: Rite I, spoken, 8 am in Chapel, Rite II with Choir 10:30 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](http://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

Rev. Emily Wilmarth, pastor; Rev. Kelley Connelly Asso. Pastor

828-526-3175 • [fbchighlands.org](http://fbchighlands.org)

Sun.: Adult Ed: 10a; Worship 11a.; Tues: Men’s Group 10a;

Wed: Bell Choir 4p. Chancel Choir: 5:30p

## GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am

## GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CASHIERS

Non-Denominational-Contemporary Worship

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

[www.gracecashiers.com](http://www.gracecashiers.com) • Pastor Steve Doerter 743-9814

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

## HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

## HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

Wed. Bible Study: 6 p.m.; Sundays: Worship: 11

## HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson • 11339 Buck Creek Road

The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily shar-

ing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.

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

## HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas, Pastor 526-3376

In-Person and live-streamed Worship Services

909a Bluegrass and 11a Traditional

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

## HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH: ELCA

2152 Dillard Road • 526-9741

Rev. Ken Langsdorf

Worship/Communion: 10:30 All are welcome.

Visit our website: Holy Family Lutheran Highlands NC

## MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Zane Talley

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

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

## MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

Franklin • 828-634-1312 • [mountainsynagoguewnc.com](http://mountainsynagoguewnc.com).

Services: 1st Fri. and 3rd Sat. 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

(4.5 miles from NC 107)

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

## OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Jason K. Barone – 526-2418

Sat. 4pm 5/24/25-10/25/25; 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

Mass: Sun. 9a (English); Mon. 9:30a (Vatican II in Latin); Tues. 7p

(Spanish); Wed., 9:30a (English)

## THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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

Sunday Service (summer): 8am, 9:30am & 11am

Visit our website: [www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com](http://www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com)

Our Bazaar Barn supports outreach in the community.

Open Thurs - Sat. 11am-3pm

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive, Franklin • [uufranklin.org](http://uufranklin.org)

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

## WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Sam Forrester/Cashiers • 828-743-2122

Sunday School: 10 am. Worship Service: 11 am



# • POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

**Highlands Police entries from Aug. 12. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a summons/citation, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or those of public officials have been used.**

## Aug. 12

• At 1:12 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on NC 106 (Dillard Road).

## Aug. 14

• At 5:47 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on N. 5th Street between Laurel and Spruce streets.

• At 7:03 p.m., officers responded to a

two-vehicle accident on Main Street.

## Aug. 16

• At 8:58 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Church Street.

## Aug. 18

• At 12:56 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Satulah Road between Worley Road and Barratt Lane.

## Aug. 23

• At 4:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Trailborn Hotel parking lot on Log Cabin Lane.

## Aug. 24

• At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a

call for service at a residence on Laurelwood Drive regarding an unattended death.

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

## Aug. 19

At 1:48 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Crescent Circle.

## Aug. 20

At 5:06 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west (Franklin Road).

At 6:41 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Dolly Lane.

At 5:06 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west (Franklin Road).

At 9:39 p.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Horse Cove Road.

## Aug. 21

At 2:16 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Morewood Road.

At 5:06 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at the hospital.

At 6:46 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Sassafras Gap Road.

At 7:56 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Big Bear Pen.

## Aug. 22

A little past midnight, the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on US 64 west (Franklin Road).

At 3:24 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street.

At 3:55 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm on Skyline Lodge Road.

At 4:03 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Main Street.

At 4:24 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Bowery Road.

At 7:03 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Country Club Drive.

## Aug. 23

At 8:06 a.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on NC 28 south (Walhalla Road).

At 8:38 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree on Horse Cove Road.

## Aug. 24

At 12:45 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Buck Creek Road.

At 10:54 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Whiteside Cove Road.

## Aug. 25

At 11:42 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Spring View Lane.

At 7:30 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Clubhouse Trail.

## Aug. 26

At 2:09 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Azalea Lane.

At 8:27 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Big Bear Pen Road.

## ...TOWN BOARD continued from page 20

and indicate how many law enforcement officers they will have on hand. The permit will be finalized at the September Town Board meeting.

## Room Tax

With local bills due to the legislature by April 2026, commissioners agreed to begin work on getting the 1985 legislation regarding the use of Room Tax money changed so some of it can be used by municipalities to offset the impact of tourism when it comes to bathroom upkeep, sidewalks, parks, garbage, and more.

They discussed increasing the tax from 3%, which goes to the chambers/visitor centers to promote tourism, to up to 6% so the extra can be used by municipalities.

With the presentation of the Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center 2024 audit, Mayor Taylor and other commissioners spoke highly of the new Executive Director Johanna Fein saying she represented a “new age of openness and transparency.”

“She is working to improve everything she has limited control over,” said Commissioner Jeff Weller.

## Highlands Hurricanes score at swimming nationals in Houston

By Steve Hott

Head Coach

Highlands Hurricanes Swim team

From Monday, July 21 thru Sunday, July 27, eight members of the Highlands Hurricanes were in Houston, Texas competing at AAU Swimming Nationals (Jr. Olympics).

They were: Hayden Bysura, Emma Denisoff, Dodo Zhang, Ian Batista, Justin Powell, Bella Batista, Luca Maseko, and Jayce Powell.

These eight swimmers teamed up with seven other swimmers from the FAST, JCST, CCAC, and SMAC (the other four teams of the (MSL) Mountain Swim League) to form Team MSL.

They competed against teams from across the country including: Team Florida, Team New England, Team Hawaii, Team Guam, Team Arkansas...40 plus teams...

The boys team finished 19th.


All of the points scored by Team MSL were scored by members of the Highlands Hurricanes.

Medaling for the Hurricanes were: Hayden Bysura - 6th place 200 Meter IM (Individual Medley), 7th place 100 Meter Backstroke, 8th place 100 Meter Butterfly,

8th place 200 Meter Freestyle; Dodo Zhang - 7th place 100 Meter Backstroke, 8th place 200 Meter Backstroke; Luca Maseko - 6th place 50 Meter Breaststroke; Emma Denisoff swam the 50, 100, and 200 M Freestyle, and the 100 M Breaststroke; Ian Batista also swam the 50, 100, and 200 M Freestyle, and the 200 M IM; Justin Powell swam the 50, and the 200 Meter Freestyle; Bella Batista swam the 50, and the 100 Meter Freestyle; Jayce Powell swam the 50 M Freestyle, the 50 M Backstroke, and the 200 M IM.

Bysura also swam in the 200 and 400 M Medley and the 200 and 400 M Free Relay; Zhang also swam in the 200 and 400 M Medley and the 200 M Free Relay; Ian Batista also swam in the 200 and 400 M Free Relay; Justin Powell also swam in the 200 M Medley Relay.

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



**GOOD DEEDS DONE HERE**

**STUART SLOAN, REAL ESTATE LAW**  
828-482-8088 STU@SLOANVANHOOK.COM



## HIGHLANDS CHURCH

9a Sunday mornings  
LIVE STREAM: Andy Stanley

• • •

Following Jesus makes your life better,  
And makes you better at life!

For details, text Bee at 404-307-1415



## Ryan M. Bears

Branch Leader

Cell: 803-271-5426

Off ce: 828-526-8784

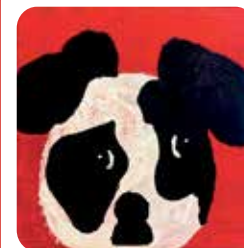
ryan.bears@allentate.com



We are home.®



ALLEN TATE REALTORS/PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP



## LISA THOMPSON DOG SITTING

- daily drop-in visits
  - overnight & extended stays
  - dog walking
- 828.424.4637**

### Whiteside Cove Cottages

5 log cabins nestled in the hemlocks on 25 acres at the base of Whiteside Mountain.

**800-805-3558 • 828-526-2222**

## Align Therapeutic, PLLC.

Mental Health Therapy

Nicole Dilbeck

LCMHCA, LCASA

www.aligntherapywnc.com

nicole@aligntherapywnc.com

828-526-6370

Accepting New Clients  
in Highlands and Franklin



CHRISTIE'S  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

HIGHLANDS  
CASHIERS

Colleen Kerrigan, *Broker*

615-400-5498

colleen.kerrigan.wnc@gmail.com

Authenticity, Honesty, Integrity

Highlands Office 210 N. Fifth Street



## CHESTNUT STORAGE

Storage Units Available

Secure 24-Hour Access

Easy In - Easy Out

Great Rates - Great Terms

Call today to find out why we're  
"Highlands Premier Facility"

**828-482-1045**

*Look for our sign!*

Buck Creek Rd - 1/2 mile off Cashiers Road near the hospital



828-200-9217

Fully Insured

Crane  
Rentals  
Available



MENDOZA TREE EXPERT

Quality Tree Care & Removal 18+ years

estimates@mendozatree.com

mendozatreeservices.com



## Al Stoneham

Realtor-Broker  
Luxury Home Specialist  
Licensed in NC & GA

Cell: 828-332-9767

al.stoneham@allentate.com



We are home.®



ALLEN TATE REALTORS/PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP  
HIGHLANDS/SCALY MOUNTAIN/CASHIERS

## 360 MAIN STREET ESTATE JEWELERS OF HIGHLANDS

### WE BUY AND CONSIGN OLD JEWELRY

**Appointment Only!**  
**Call: 828-526-1960**  
**Text: 770-855-0825**  
**Email: ejofhighlands@gmail.com**



- Grading
- Excavating
- Driveways
- Build sites
- Hauling
- Septic Systems

## Edwin Wilson

Cell (828) 421-3643

Office/fax (828) 526-4758

wilsongrading@yahoo.com



COUNSELING  
CENTER  
OF HIGHLANDS

Peggy Crosby Center • 348 South Fifth Street

**828-482-7417**

info@counselingcenter.org • counseling-center.org

We are nonprofit and provide counseling on a sliding scale fee so everyone can receive the care they need regardless of ability to pay.



**Kiln dried  
FIREWOOD**  
Delivery or pickup

2460 Cashiers Road • Highlands 828-526-2395  
highlandslawnandgarden.com



# CLASSIFIEDS

## YARD SALE

**FRI. & SAT., AUG. 29 & 30.** 701 Dillard Road. 9a until. Unusual Finds.

**\$50,000 ESTATE SALE - POLE BARN FULL OF ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES OVER 50 YEARS OLD.** Old, new, and black powder guns, Civil war items and much much more. Friday and Saturday, Aug. 29 and 30th. 9am to 5 pm. 505 Shirley Pressley Road. Glenville, N C. Check or Cash. Lots of parking.

## HELP WANTED

**WE ARE LOOKING** for professional, responsible,

## Leaders Farmhouse Kinsale, Ireland

Restored cottage overlooking the sea.

Make this your home for golfing at Old Head  
leadersfarmhouse@gmail.com



813-765-6061 • WhatsApp +1 813-765-6061



**828-787-2360**

**2851 Cashiers Road, Highlands**

*We're proud to be a family-owned company with 43 years in the business, and even prouder to now serve the Highlands community.*

*~ Bob Saladna, Owner*

## Here's what's Highlands Automotive is all about!

- Same-day service for most maintenance and routine repairs.
- Top-tier diagnostic & programming tools – just like the dealer.
- New tire, alignment & balancing equipment for precision and speed.
- Same experienced technicians.

**We service ALL domestic and foreign vehicles.**

Also serving customers in:

Atlanta, GA | Dallas, TX | Houston, TX

**Come see the difference.**



positive people with a team-player attitude to fill, waitstaff, bartender, Busser & host positions. Apply in person at Wild Thyme Gourmet 343-D Main Street. No phone calls please. (st. 8/14)

## OLD EDWARDS

HOSPITALITY GROUP

- EXPERIENCED HOTEL/RESORT Sales Manager
- EXPERIENCED HOTEL/RESORT Catering & Events Manager
- Sales Office Manager
- Sales Associate

Apply at [www.oldedwardshospitality.com/careers](http://www.oldedwardshospitality.com/careers)

Email [careers@oldedwardsinn.com](mailto:careers@oldedwardsinn.com)

Phone: 828-787-2631

## NOW HIRING

for Key Sales  
Office Roles

## AVAILABLE

**CLIMATE-CONTROLLED CAR STORAGE.** Limited availability. Email if interested: LB@vsurgic.com (st. 3/6)

## FOR SALE

**11.62 ACRES, 7 MILES SOUTH OF HIGHLANDS.** \$287,301. Owner financing. 200 mature blueberry plants. 3 springs. Email [rickhavron@gmail.com](mailto:rickhavron@gmail.com). (st. 8/14)

**COACH CLUB** - Class A motorcoach lot and auxiliary building. One Half mile from Main Street! 850-572-8308. (st. 8/14)



**DIVORCE FORCES SALE:** 10-acre mountain top tract. 360 views of App Trail & Bartram Trail. Road in place, easy building site, drive right to the top of Buck Knob in Scaly Mtn. \$550k. [exitmountain@gmail.com](mailto:exitmountain@gmail.com): 828-276-3569 (st. 7/17)



**1968 JAGUAR XKE S 1.5 ROADSTER CONVERTIBLE** - Restored in very good condition I family owned All original paperwork available \$80,000. 252-216-9197 (st. 7/3)

**LAND** - 7.5 miles south of Highlands, 8.64 acres with spring, by far the best view in the area at \$200,000. 828-974-1137. (8/1)

**SEASONED FIREWOOD** - Any size load. call 828-342-6806. (st. 1/25)

**TINY HOME LOTS FOR SALE.** \$55k-\$85k ea. Each lot comes with GREAT MOUNTAIN VIEWS, water, power, and sewer run to each lot. [www.TinyMountainEstates.com](http://www.TinyMountainEstates.com) for more info. (10/30/25)

## FOR RENT

**I BR/I BAAPT** - LEAF & HOLIDAY SEASON RENTAL - located 6 miles from downtown Highlands off of Hwy 106. Fully furnished \$175 per night/ 3 night minimum - Starlink internet. Call Pam 828.482.2554 (st. 8/21)

**2BD/2BA CABIN** - 4.5 miles from downtown Highlands. Furnished or unfurnished. Annual lease. \$1,500/mth. Call Tom. 404-213-2431. (st. 7/24).

**HIGHLANDS 1-2 SPACES** - 1 large or 2 smaller spaces for rent in popular Mill Creek Shopping Center next door to

Blue Bike Cafe. Each space is 800 sq/ft at \$2,333/mo OR both spaces at 1,600 sq/ft for \$4400/mo. Inquires to Debi: [bock7@me.com](mailto:bock7@me.com) or 404-323-9444. (st. 7/10)

**4 BDM/3 BATH HIGHLANDS** - Updated farm home, located between Highlands & Cashiers off Hwy 64. \$4,500/month, includes all utilities with high speed wifi. Call Marcy 828-482-4239 (st. 7/10)

**2BD/2BATH SINGLE WIDE** \$1,200 per month internet included. First last security. Mark 828-200-0765. (st. 5/29)

## SERVICES

**RETIRED SPEECH THERAPIST** with years of geriatric experience offering private caregiving services. 828-564-6493. (st. 8/28)

**PLATEAU PAINTERS** - Interior and exterior painting, pressure washing, decks, and sanding and staining wood floors. Division of Chatlos Construction. Fully insured. Free estimates. Call Mike at 828-200-4071. (6/26)

**JUNK REMOVAL SERVICE** - We take anything. Call 828-200-0492 (7/31)

**DUMP RUNS.** Competitive Pricing. Call for details. 828-421-2655. (4/30)

**HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDYMAN** - Chatlos Construction - Remodels, Additions, Framing, Siding, Roofing, Decks, Painting. References. Insured. 828-200-4071. (4/30)

**NEED FURNITURE MOVED OR ANYTHING HAULED AWAY?** Call or text James of Going Gone at 828-421-2655. (7/31)

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

## ...MAYOR continued from page 2

for granting permission to serve alcohol. Those forms will be completed soon for organizations that wish to serve or sell alcohol at public events, such as those held in Founders Park.

The board also conducted a first review of the recent audit and federal Form 990 of the Highlands Chamber and Visit Highlands. Over 1.4 million dollars in room occupancy tax is reflected in the documents that the board received. I appreciate the chamber sharing this information with the board and call upon them to share any such financial information that they send to the county each year. This financial information will be reviewed and discussed again by the board at a future workshop session.

At the meeting, I also called for the county to review the 1985 legislation that established the TDA system in Macon County. I believe a revision of this legislation is long overdue. Most counties in the state have already made such revisions that are allowed by law. The revisions provided more flexibility in how TDA funds can be used. A basic upgrade to the enabling legislation would eliminate any legal concern about whether TDA tax dollars can be used to clean and maintain visitor restrooms in the business district.

Two final items. The Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, September 15. Call (828) 526-2118 or (828) 787-2778 for more information. How do I know this information about the golf tournament? I got it from an announcement on the Town of Highlands App.

The second item is that everyone should have the Town of Highlands App on their cell phone. It is free on your App Store. As we enter hurricane season, the app will be vital in receiving emergency information if a storm hits the plateau.



# • HIGHLANDS AREA EVENTS •

## POOL SCHEDULE

• Lap Swim: Mon.-Fri. 6am-9:45am, and Saturday 10am-11pm - 6 lanes. Water Aerobics: 18 y+ Mon.-Fri. 10-11am with Karen Chambers. Adult Swim: 18y+ Mon.-Thurs. 11am-3:30pm, Friday 11am-1:30pm. Public Swim: Mon. thru Fri. 11a-7pm, Saturday 11am-6pm and Sunday 1-6pm

## PICKLE BALL

• At the Recreation Dept. every Monday - Friday 10am-1pm indoors for the winter (notice the days and time has changed),

## MOUNTAIN FINDINGS

• Open: 10 am - 1 pm. Spruce Street. [www.mountainfindings.org](http://www.mountainfindings.org)

## SATURDAY MARKET

• Farmers Market in KH Founders Park on Pine Street from 8a-12:30p rain or shine.

## 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 @ noon. Open in person

meetings are held in Cashiers @ the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library, 249 Frank Allen Rd. on Sunday at 5 pm, on Tuesday @ 7 pm, on Friday at 5 pm and on Saturday at 9 am. 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.Thurs.

• At First Presbyterian Church, ArtSpace is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The next exhibit will start in mid-August. For information contact [fpchkelley@gmail.com](mailto:fpchkelley@gmail.com)

## Mon-Wed-Fri

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

• Balance, Stretch & Strengthen Class at the Rec Park 8:30-9:30am. The cost for the class is \$30 a month and is led by Cathy Hodgson. Call the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more information.

## Mon., Tues., Thurs.

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

• Exercise Class with Michelle Lane at the Rec Park at 5:30. A combo class with different types of exercise. 828-526-3556

## Mondays

• At the Literacy Council, Free Online Weekly Classes. 6:30 - 7:30p. Online via ZoomFor the link, visit <http://theliteracyandlearningcenter.org/esl>

## 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. For more info call president Paula McDonald at 706-372-3004

## 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 info 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.

• At Wayfarers Chapel, Workshop for Writers - Tuesdays from 5-6:30 PM.

## Wednesdays thru Sept.

• Farmers Market every Wednesday May-Sept. at the Cowee School Arts & Heritage building in Franklin at 51 Cowee School Dr.

## 2nd Wednesdays

• Hudson Library, in partnership with VAYA Health, is hosting an educational series on adult mental health topics, at 11 AM. 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 appts are required - all are welcome.

## Thursdays

• Kickboxing 8:15-9:15a. at the Rec Park. No martial arts background necessary. Contact the Recreation Department at 828-526-3556 for more info.

• At First Presbyterian Church a free concert "Music for Prayer" at noon. These casual concerts are almost entirely improvised and last 30-45 minutes. This offering is called Music For Prayer.

• At Hudson Library, special children's events will be on tap on Thursday afternoons at 3:30 Kids Zone programs.

## Fridays

• At Hudson Library, Friday afternoons at 2 PM, there's a variety of children's programs including board games, STEM programs, and crafts.

## 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 9a and hold our monthly meeting at 10a. We invite ALL veterans to attend. Email [ncpost370@gmail.com](mailto:ncpost370@gmail.com) for more information or just join us at 9am.

## Sundays through August

• Church in the Wildwood, on Horse Cove Road. Old Fashioned Hymn Sing 7-8 p.m.

## Sundays

• At Wayfarers Chapel, Sunday Service: 10a 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).

## Thru Aug. 30

• At PAC, Mountain Theatre Company presents The Burnt Part Boys. For tickets go to [boxoffice@mountaintheatre.com](mailto:boxoffice@mountaintheatre.com). 828.526.2695

• Cashiers Designer Showhouse featuring Showhouse tours, community events, Showhouse Shops and an Art Auction. Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door. Visit [CashiersHistory.org](http://CashiersHistory.org) for tickets or to learn more.

## Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 28-31

• HCP presents "Social Security" at the MLT at PAC. Thurs. and Fri at 7p Sat. at 5p and Sun. at 1p. Tickets are available at HighlandsCashiersPlayers.com or by calling 828-526-2147.

## Sat., Aug. 30

• At Winding Stair Nursery, The Power of Native Plants - with Spriggy's Beescaping at 9a. Discover how native plants can transform your yard into a beautiful, low-maintenance haven for pollinators, soil health, and local wildlife. For more information call 828-369-9778 or go [www.windingstairfarm.com](http://www.windingstairfarm.com)

## Thurs.-Sun. Sept 4-6

• At The Bascom, the Dazzling Dahlia Festival..

## Sat., Sept. 6

• At Winding Stair Nursery, Landscape Design: Tips from a Pro at 10a. For more information call 828-369-9778 or go [www.windingstairfarm.com](http://www.windingstairfarm.com)

• The Pop-Up Pipers will appear in an unexpected location in downtown Highlands 4:30-5p

• Please join this Silent Prayer

Vigil, Silent Prayer Vigil at the corner of Main and NC 106 on the Post Office property from 12:30-2p.m.. This is a non-denominational, non-partisan event for us to gather together in silent prayer with the intention/focus: Do Unto Others As You Would Have Done Unto You. Bring your flag, banner, cross, and pray in silence.

## Mon. Sept. 8

• Highlands Bolivia Mission Auction at the Martin Lipscomb Theatre at PAC at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person. Call Dr. Baumrucker at 828-200-0902. Lite bites and open bar.

## Thurs. Sept. 11

• The International Friendship Center (IFC) invites the public to an Open House at the Highlands Food Pantry on Thursday, from 5:30-7:30 pm. The event will feature guided tours, light refreshments, and the debut of IFC's new organizational video

## Sept. 13

• At the Highlands Biological Station, Roots & Resonance, a celebration of native plants, Appalachian heritage, and the deep connections between people and place. Hourly guided garden tours of rare and unusual native plant sale; special presentation on George Masa by Paul Bonesteel and Janet McCue; and a reception and book signing. For more details on Roots & Resonance, please visit: <https://highlandsbiological.org/2025-native-plant-celebration/>.

## Tues., Sept. 16

• "An Enchanted Evening" at Dahlias by the Lake annual fundraiser for scholarships. The event will be held on the patio at the Sky Valley Country Club from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Live music, appetizers and drinks during the evening. A silent auction of quality art items and dahlia centerpieces will be available for purchase. Tickets are \$60 per person. To secure your reservation, please make your check payable to Sky Valley Garden Club and mail it to: 774 Sky Valley Way #269, Sky Valley, Ga 30537 Please include the name of each attendee on the "for" line of your check. Cutoff date for reservations is September 4th or sellout date, whichever comes first.

## Thurs.-Sun., Sept. 18-21

• The annual - Highlands Cashiers film festival. It's four days of competition film screenings, workshops, emerging filmmakers, and

## THE FIREWOOD COMPANY



**Delivered, Stacked & Ready to Burn!**

Highlands . Cashiers . Clayton . Atlanta

**828.200.3050**

[bobhenritze@gmail.com](mailto:bobhenritze@gmail.com) • [www.firewoodcompany.net](http://www.firewoodcompany.net)



## SILVER EAGLE

Native American Jewelry  
Crystal & Gem Gallery



349 Main Street, Highlands, NC  
828.526.5190 silvereaglegallery.com



**Country Club Properties**  
Your local hometown  
Real Estate professionals.  
3 Offices 828-526-2520  
www.CCPHighlandsNC.com



**Highlander Mountain House & The Ruffed Grouse Tavern**  
highlandermountainhouse.com

## Weichert

REALTORS  
Highlands Properties  
450 N. 4th St. Highlands, NC  
828-526-5522  
www.highlandsproperties.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY  
HOMESERVICES



CHARMAN'S CIRCLE  
TOP 2%  
OF THE NETWORK

LUXURY COLLECTION™  
Of the 55,000+ BHS agents across the globe,  
Faye ranks in the TOP 2% and is a  
Luxury Collection Specialist.

**FAYE WURM**  
828.200.1345  
faye@bhhsmmr.com  
2334 Cashiers Rd, Highlands  
https://fayewurm.meadowsmtnrealty.com/



## Charming Mountain Retreat Near Downtown Highlands



42 Hemlock Ridge  
4 BR 4 BTH  
2 fireplaces  
2 screened-in porches  
Gated community  
Sold furnished  
**Offered for \$2,400,000**



Andrea Gabbard  
c: 828.200.6742  
AndreaGabbard@gmail.com


Highlands  
**Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

114 N. 4th Street  
Highlands, NC



**Darlene Conley**  
Mountain Luxury  
Your Dream. Your Journey. YOU'RE HOME!  
Dedicated to finding the home you've always wanted.  
Cell: 404-427-2448  
darlene.conley@allentate.com

**Allen Tate Realtors**  
We are home.®  
ALLEN TATE REALTORS/  
PAT ALLEN REALTY GROUP



**Team RickSteve**  
"The Power of 3"  
Trusted advisors  
providing impeccable  
personalized service

**Allen Tate**  
We are home.®  
#1 IN THE CAROLINAS • 404-219-1349 • TEAMRICKSTEVE@ALLENTATE.COM

Landmarks on map: Civic Center Rec Park, Historic Village, Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC), EMS, Play House, K-H Park, Post Market, Hudson Library, Mrs French Market, Highlands Plaza, Blyssom, The Beacon Coastal Bridge, Endal Vail Falls, Dry Falls, Clarks Lake, Buck Your Butt Falls, Gullerage Falls, To Nature City & Travel Pool.

**Ace is the Place,**

## Reeves

Hardware  
At Main & 3rd streets  
Highlands 526-2157



**Highlands Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY  
114 N. 4th Street • Highlands, NC  
Local Expertise, Global Connections.  
Licensed in NC and GA  
office: 828.526.8300 • cell: 828.337.0706  
sheryl.wilson@sothebysrealty.com • highlandssir.com



**Luxury Listings**  
Mountain Life  
PROPERTIES  
**John Sheehan**  
(404) 790-9716

**CHRISTIE'S** | HIGHLANDS CASHIERS  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE  
Highlands Office | 210 N. 5th Street  
Cell: 828-787-1895  
pamela.nellis@yahoo.com







# MORE THAN 33 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE ON THE PLATEAU

Our clients rate us 5 out of 5 ★★★★★

## VOTED AMERICA'S BEST



5



### JULIE OSBORN & PAT ALLEN

828.200.6165 | 828.200.9179  
julie.osborn@allentate.com  
pat.allen@allentate.com



Pat Allen  
REALTY GROUP



LUXURY  
PORTFOLIO  
INTERNATIONAL

Leading

REAL ESTATE  
COMPANIES  
OF THE WORLD



**LANDMARK**  
REAL ESTATE SALES & VACATION RENTALS

HIGHLANDS OFFICE | 225 MAIN STREET

Cell: 828-506-0173

Office: 828-526-4663

debby@landmarkrg.com

6



DEBBY HATTLER  
BROKER



### Jody Lovell

### Why call Jody?

Ranked the #1 Broker in North Carolina for over a decade—and for good reason! Whether you're buying or selling, she brings unparalleled market expertise, top-tier negotiation skills and a commitment to delivering exceptional results. Your dream home or top-dollar sale is just one call away—you deserve the best! With over \$1 Billion in sales, you can be the next beneficiary of this track record.

Call her personally at 828.226.6303.

#### #1 Broker

IN NORTH CAROLINA

\$1 Billion +

TOTAL CAREER SALES VOLUME

#### Top 100

SOtheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY AGENT  
WORLDWIDE

Highlands

Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY  
HOMESERVICES | MEADOWS MOUNTAIN  
REALTY

If you want an  
award-winning real  
estate experience,  
choose an  
award-winning  
agent.



### MITZI RAUERS

Broker / Luxury Collection  
Specialist  
(404) 218-9123  
mitzi@bhhsmmr.com

\*Based on 2023 sales data. Out of a global network of 55,000+ BHHS agents.



## DAVID BOCK BUILDERS

www.BockBuilders.com 828-526-2240



Deborah "Bee" Gleeson  
404.307.1415

BeeGlee4@Gmail.com  
and

Pat Gleeson  
828.782.0472

PatrickGleeson4@Gmail.com

People ... are  
the investments  
that matter  
most

## CHRISTIE'S

INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

HIGHLANDS CASHIERS

HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com  
210 North Fifth Street,  
Highlands, NC 28731

30



...on the Verandah  
Restaurant  
on Lake Sequoyah

828-526-2338

42 Years of Fine Dining

Open  
7 nights

5:30-9p



www.ontheverandah.com

## M'CULLEY'S

### CASHMERE

Scotland's Best Knitwear

Open 7 days a week

526-4407

242 S. 4th St. & Pop up  
on Main Street

9

