

Town settles “Huff” case; amortization of short-term rentals is null and void

By Kim Lewicki

On Friday, Dec. 19, the long-contested Huff v. Town of Highlands case which was

filed Oct. 2021, was settled in plaintiff Huff's favor while also ending the town's goal of amortizing short-term rentals in resi-

dential zones 1 and 2.

“After serious discussion with the Town attorney con-

- See HUFF page 7

•INSIDE THIS ISSUE•

Mayor on Duty	2	HS Sports.....	11
Weather	2	Spiritually Speaking	14
Snapshot.....	2	Police & Fire Report.....	15
Investing at 4,118 Ft.....	4	Classifieds	17
Letter	8	Events.....	18



HPD officer Christy Evans HPD Captain Leah McCall with their little shopper.



Christy Browning and HPD Chief Andrea Holland with their shoppers.

Candidates line up for March's primary ballot

By Kristin Fox

Last Friday noon was the deadline to file for the upcoming 2026 Primary Election. Several local government seats are up in the next election including the sheriff, register of deeds, clerk of court, three county commissioners' seats, and two school board seats.

Four people are officially running for the Macon County Board of Commissioners District 1 seat which includes the Highlands area (Ellijay Flats, Highlands and Sugarfolk Precincts).

Republican candidates include Donald (Don) Lee Willis, Jr., John Allen Shearl and

• See **CANDIDATES** page 10

Annual 'Shop with a Cop' brought joy to all!

By Kim Lewicki

On Dec. 9 and 16, 21 lucky children joined members of the Highlands Police Department at Walmart to participate in the annual Shop With A Cop (SWAC) excursion.

Thanks to donations from

businesses and citizens in the Highlands community, each child was given \$200 to shop 'til they dropped for themselves, their siblings and even their families.

SWAC was started in Macon County over 30 years ago with the idea that children would buy

a gift for themselves and a gift for someone else but this year they were allowed to also purchase necessities for the home including water, food, paper supplies, and small kitchen appliances.

“This year many of the

children will be buying necessities for the home because of inflation and food insecurities being at an all-time high in Macon County,” said Highlands SWAC organizer Caroline Cook.

SWAC makes a long-lasting

• See SWAC page 8

Merry Christmas from Highlands Sotheby's International Realty

This season reminds us of the beauty of gathering and the strength of community. We are grateful for the trust you place in us and wish you warmth and joy throughout the holidays.

Highlands | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

M^cCULLEY'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 •

My wishes from Santa for Highlands

I have a wishlist for Highlands going into the new year. Whether I get all that I believe we need as a town, may or may not become a reality, but I am always hopeful.

First on my list is that we find a Public Works Director and Town Engineer to replace Lamar Nix who retired at the end of December. This vacancy may be harder to fill than replacing John Dotson on the Town Board. Qualifications for serving on the Town Board can be defined broadly, but not so for a Public Works Director and Town Engineer.

A Public Works Director must have experience in understanding an array of utilities such as the electric grid, water, sewer, roads, sidewalks, and sanitation services. Seasoned professional engineers, by virtue of their training, have that knowledge. The town has advertised the position as Public Works Director along with the requirement of being a professional engineer, a license that La-



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

mar held and used in his work for the town.

The other items on my list are capital projects. First on the list is the completion of the new playground at the recreation department. I hope we have a ribbon cutting ceremony for this facility in early summer.

Second, I hope the town can move forward with the Plateau Boys and Girls Clubs to build a facility at the recreation department. Highlands needs

such a program for our young people.

There are other items on my list. One of which is that the county will update its Room Occupancy Tax legislation that has been the same as it was when passed by the legislature in 1985. All surrounding counties have made changes to their enabling legislation years ago.

I also look forward to a decision by community stakeholders and the board about how to repurpose the site of the former Highlands Playhouse. The new use of the property will have to be for a public use, not private or commercial development.

While I do not expect any immediate decision, it is time to re-landscape the downtown business district. Specifically, trees going down Main Street will have to be replaced in the future.

I look forward to several infrastructure projects beginning and some even being completed. That fourth electric circuit that will serve the downtown area should be ready sometime in the summer or early fall. The upgrade to the force main sewer line on the Franklin Road should be done by early summer. The upgrade to the Dog Mountain waterline and tank could be operative by the first part of the year. Hopefully, the upgrades to the water plant will also get underway.

And I hope the next Mirror Lake dredging stage can begin this year also. Engineers are optimistic that the sediment can be deposited at the Rich Gap Transfer Station on top of the old, retired landfill. If that plan gets final approval the 5-million-dollar project can start.

• See MAYOR page 10

• SNAPSHOT •





Santa is on his way!

Do you have a heartfelt, funny, interesting, or beautiful photo you would like to share in our "SnapShot" section? Email it to highlandseditor@aol.com or text it to 828-200-1371, with a brief description and a name. No anonymous photos will be accepted.



Photo by Lori Mathis

• WEATHER •

Thu, 25-Dec	Fri, 26-Dec	Sat, 27-Dec	Sun, 28-Dec
 61°F 44°F	 61°F 47°F	 64°F 47°F	 58°F 24°F
Warm with clouds and sun	Mostly cloudy, mist; warm	Sunshine and remaining warm	Mostly cloudy with a shower
RealFeel®	RealFeel®	RealFeel®	RealFeel®
High: 62° Low: 44°	High: 60° Low: 46°	High: 67° Low: 44°	High: 55° Low: 44°

For Real-time Weather and the Extended Forecast, go to www.highlandsinfo.com and click on Weather

Highlands Newspaper

www.highlandsinfo.com

Phone: (828) 200-1371

Email:

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

265 Oak St. PO Box 2703

Highlands, N.C. 28741

Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved.

5,000 copies printed weekly.

Independently verified by:

Gannett Printing Knoxville TN

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 • www.highlandernc.com

EST.



1957

HOWARD HANNA

ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE



LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL

Home for the Holidays

At this time of year, we're reminded that a home is more than an address. It's the laughter, the gatherings, and the traditions that make the season unforgettable. From our family to yours, thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey.

Here's to new memories, new beginnings, and the perfect place to call home.

HIGHLANDS-DOWNTOWN OFFICE | 828.526.8784

CASHIERS OFFICE | 828.547.0022

SAPPHIRE OFFICE | 828.507.3156

WILDCAT CLIFFS OFFICE | 828.526.4525

Rooted locally. Connected globally.



*Scan to see our
luxury listings*

Leading

REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
22ND THE WORLD[®]



**Open for
Breakfast &
Lunch
8a to 3p**

DON LEON'S

Open Tues. - Sat.
Pet Friendly Place Where Friends Meet

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, and more!

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

Bryson's Food Store
Proudly Serving Highlands, North Carolina since 1977

The best meals start here!

**Gift Cards make a
great present idea!**



**Open daily
7:30a to 6:30p**

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



**"... all is calm, all
is bright."
Merry Christmas
from**

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

BEE GLEESON
Broker | Realtor* | 404.307.1415
BeeGlee4@Gmail.com

PAT GLEESON
Broker | Realtor* | 828.782.0472
PatrickGleeson4@Gmail.com

JESSICA HABERKERN
Broker | Realtor* | 254.718.7494
JessHaberKern@Gmail.com

HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com | 210 North Fifth Street, Highlands, NC 28741

• INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft •

Let heaven and nature sing

Merry Christmas Everyone!
The Christmas music is everywhere. It's ubiquitous. It all begins around Halloween, and about now you may be growing weary and have forgotten it's importance in your life. I know, how many times can you hear "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree" before you break?

On the other hand, there are certain Hymns and Carols that I find myself singing and whistling year-round. Within their melodies and words are thoughts and wisdom that touch the soul and warm the heart. They are the special sounds of Christmas that make Highlands sing and give us hope!

There's a hymn called Blessed Assurance that you hear around Christmas, and it's always been one of my favorites. Blessed Assurance was written by a blind woman named Fanny Crosby with help from her friend Phoebe Knapp. There's a line in the song that goes "This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long."

Every one of us has a story. My story differs from yours no doubt. But it also may be similar to yours in this way. You've discovered Highlands, NC and you LOVE it! And right about now you're in Atlanta, Birmingham, Houston, Charleston, Tampa, or Ft. Lauderdale wondering how you can spend more time here. Bee and I spent our "Corporate Years" running the race in Atlanta. But for 23 years we rented and visited in Highlands year-round while I fly fished pretty much every stream on the Plateau. Highlands became part of our story and part of our soul. We looked at each other just over 10 years ago and said, "some chapter in our lives, we gotta live in Highlands."

In 2015 we purchased our cottage near Mirror Lake. This is my story, and it's



Pat Gleeson
828.782.0472
Christie's
International Realty

being repeated in Highlands a lot. We've never looked back and are "praising our Savior all the day long" (from Blessed Assurance) for guiding us here. If this is your story, too, there are 312 professional real estate Brokers here who can help you figure it out.

You must know Climb Ev'ry Mountain written by Rogers & Hammerstein, which is certainly a Hymn of Highlands. You know the words... "Climb every mountain, ford every stream, follow

every rainbow, til you find your dream." It may sound corny, but The Sound of Music is my favorite movie of all time.

What gets into your soul are the mountains and the streams in Highlands. There's an old Bible verse in Psalm 121 that goes like this "I lift up my eyes into the mountains... where does my help come from... it comes from the Maker of heaven and earth." If you're feeling the tug right now, you need to get up here. As we like to say about this special place... "Highlands, NC... come for a visit, and stay for a lifetime."

And finally "Silent night, Holy night, all is calm, all is bright." Bee and I were married on December 4th, 1993 in a Christmastime wedding. The entire congregation stood up and sang both verses of Silent Night at the end of our wedding. I am touched every time I hear Silent Night, even in July. Let's face it, we all need light in our lives. Silent Night is one of the Hymns of Highlands, where "all is calm, all is bright." Merry Christmas Everyone, and c'mon up!

• *Pat and Bee Gleeson along with Jessica Haberkern are proud to be with a team of "Helpers" and Real Estate Brokers at Christie's International Real Estate Highlands-Cashiers. You can reach us at 828.782.0472. Please stop by for coffee and conversation (210 N. 5th Street in Downtown Highlands).*

...HUFF continued from page 7

from its mistakes. Enforcement of the existing, lawful zoning rules is a necessary first step in protecting residents and neighborhoods," they said.

According to the mayor, the Town

Board considers the issues in the "Huff" lawsuit to be settled and resolved.

"This settlement is a rewarding end to what's been an arduous process," said Huff.

EVERY DAY IS A REASON TO CELEBRATE
WHEN YOU OWN YOUR OWN HOME.

Merry Christmas

From Our Home To Yours

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HOME SERVICES

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY

WWW.MEADOWSMOUNTAINREALTY.COM | (828) 526-1717

488 MAIN ST, HIGHLANDS | 2334 CASHIERS RD, HIGHLANDS | 196 BURNS ST, CASHIERS



SCAN THIS
QR CODE TO
DISCOVER
LUXURY LISTINGS
AND MORE!

©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.



HIGHLANDS DINING



HIGHLANDS BURRITO

Highlands' Favorite Spot for Fast, Fresh Mexican
& the Best Margaritas in Town



**Now Offering
CATERING**

DINE IN OR TAKE IT TO GO
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
INN**



**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-4
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

**WILD THYME GOURMET
RESTAURANT**

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**

**Christmas
WITH DUSTY'S**

Every holiday gathering can be unforgettable
with delicious food on your table from Dusty's!
Appetizers to dessert
Entertaining made delicious!

Open in December – Wed.-Sat.
Open Christmas week: – Tues. Wed., Fri., Sat.
828-526-2762
493 Dillard Road



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

...HUFF continued from page 1

cerning the details of the “Huff” case and the future of amortization, the Town Board directed the Town attorney to negotiate a settlement,” said Mayor Pat Taylor. “The settlement agreed upon lessens the burden placed on the taxpayers of Highlands by ending an inevitably long court battle with an uncertain ending.”

Jennifer Huff with Save Highlands said they are pleased that the town commissioners came to a unanimous vote on the settlement of Huff v. Highlands, and on amortization.

“From day one, we have maintained that the law is on our side. In closing this chapter, we have successfully achieved our mission of protecting established property rights in Highlands,” she said.

Background

In 2021, the Highlands Board of Commissioners verbally agreed to enforce an existing zoning ordinance that would prohibit new short-term rentals in R-1, R-2 residential zones, classifying them as commercial uses not permitted in those districts.

Jennifer Huff and other property owners argued that this interpretation was a “reinterpretation” of the ordinance and that STRs had been allowed for decades. They formed the “Save Highlands” group and filed a complaint in October 2021 contesting the town’s legal authority to regulate STRs in this manner.

The Town of Highlands, the defendant, filed a motion to dismiss the complaint on December 20, 2021.

The case languished until “Huff” filed a motion for attorneys’ fees on Aug. 26, 2022, and moved for partial summary judgment on Jan. 24, 2023.

Upon request of both parties, on Feb. 17, 2023, the court entered an order to “stay” this action for a period of six months due to pending legislation in the General Assembly that could clarify the matter.

Both parties requested the stay be extended to Oct.

1, 2024, which the courts executed on Oct. 26, 2023.

Then, on Sept. 19, 2024, the Town passed an ordinance amortizing the use of property in the R-1 and R-2 zoning districts for rentals of less than 30 days to take effect September 15, 2027. Until that date, existing STRs in zones R1 and R2 were allowed to continue but new STRs were prohibited.

On Oct. 18, 2024, “Huff” filed a notice for partial summary judgment for attorneys’ fees to be heard on November 30, 2024. Those motions were heard on that date in Macon County Superior Court.

Then, on Dec. 11, 2024, the State enacted Senate Bill 382 that revised N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601(d) to broaden the definition of “down-zoning.” The bill captured all local ordinances passed 180 days prior to the effective date of the bill, which included the Amortization Ordinance passed by the town Sept. 19, 2024.

In North Carolina, down-zoning is changing a property’s zoning to a more restrictive, lower-density use. Law (SB 382) now generally requires written consent from all affected property owners for such changes, preventing local governments from unilaterally reducing density or permitted uses without owner agreement.

By two separate orders entered on March 11, 2025, the court granted “Huff’s” motion for partial summary judgment and motion for attorneys’ fees, but the amount was to be determined.

With the passage of Senate Bill 382, “Huff” amended their complaint to add a claim that the Amortization Ordinance was unconstitutional and prohibited by Senate Bill 382.

The “Town” then countered saying the amortization ordinance was constitutional and furthermore disputed the amount of attorney’s fees claimed by “Huff.”

“Huff” said they had incurred more than \$220,000 in legal fees and intended to ask for no less than that from the court which had deemed the town libel but had yet to name a figure.

However, after deliberating in several closed sessions over the past year, the most recent being prior to the November Town Board meeting, the Town Board agreed to settle the case.

The town accepted the ruling that the Amortization Ordinance was deemed null and void by the court and agreed to remove it from the Unified Development Ordinance.

In addition, the “Town” agreed to pay “Huff” \$70,000 for incurred attorneys’ fees and to deposit \$150,000 into a legal defense fund for use by “Huff” or their assignees if the Town ever tries to amortize again. Also, “Huff” shall be entitled to bring legal action alleging the same or related claims to the claims currently in the action against the “Town,” including any and all claims related to the regulation of any STR use in the Town of Highlands even those regulations already enacted. The “Town” also waives any time-based defense on the grounds of any statute of limitations or laches.

Despite the passage of Senate Bill 382 that revised N.C. Gen. Stat. S 160D-601(d) and broadened the definition of “down-zoning,” which was enacted Dec. 11,

2024, the amended UDO prohibiting new STRs in R1 and R2 after Sept. 2022 is still the law in Highlands.

“The town’s acceptance of this settlement does not negate the short-term rental ordinance the Town Board passed on September 15, 2022. The regulations of this ordinance will continue to apply and be enforced. The ordinance prohibits new short-term rentals in R1 and R2 zones,” said Mayor Taylor.

What’s new is the amortization ordinance that the town passed in Sept. 2024 being deemed null and void and ordered to be removed from the Unified Development Ordinance with pending penalties if such a move is ever attempted again in Highlands.

Members of the Highlands Neighborhood Coalition (HNC), the group who lobbied against existing and future STRs, said they are disappointed in the settlement.

“The Town of Highlands announced the disappointing news that it is settling a lawsuit filed in October of 2021 challenging its authority to regulate short-term rentals in residential neighborhoods,” said HNC representatives. “The Town made clear that this settlement does not have any effect on the short-term rental ordinance adopted by the Town Board in September of 2022 restricting short-term rentals in R-1 and R-2 neighborhoods. However, the settlement does void the Town’s intention to phase out (amortize) existing short-term rentals by 2027.

“While the 2022 ordinance was a very welcome first step, it did not solve the problem. The Town failed to publish a definitive list of the legally operating short-term rentals as of Sept. 15, 2022, failed to provide enforcement to address the numerous nuisance complaints of neighbors, and never asked for documentation, such as lease agreements or payment of occupancy taxes, to prove the entity was in compliance with the stated requirements. Because of the lack of enforcement, new short-term rentals have been springing up in neighborhoods across Highlands with impunity,” HNC said.

For existing STRs to continue, properties must be rented at least once every 12 months.

Though HNC has repeatedly requested a list of STRs in Highlands, according to GS14-43.11 local governments are not allowed to require owners to register STRs. Attorneys contend that a publicized list of such could be seen as an indirect form of registration.

“HNC believes that Highlands, its residents, and its neighborhoods are worth fighting for,” said HNC representatives. “With amortization no longer an option, now is the time for the Town to become serious about enforcing its zoning ordinance.

“Without a comprehensive published list of approved short-term rentals, how are homeowners to know if they live next door to a legally or illegally operating short-term rental? How is a prospective buyer to know whether or not the house they are buying is next door to a short-term rental or can be operated as a short-term rental?

“Zoning enforcement is a critically important function of a local government. Let’s hope the Town learns

• See HUFF page 4

• DINING •

OPEN: Monday-Saturday | 1a to 9p



**MEXICAN RESTAURANT
& TEQUILA BAR**

72 Highlands Plaza • Highlands • 828-482-2974

...SWAC continued from page 1

impression on the children who participate in the program with many having benefitted from the program more than once.

Shopping with a cop helps create a bond between the officers and the children showing them that cops are not the bad guys – even for children whose family

members have been incarcerated or had other bad experiences with law enforcement, said Cook.

“Many times, a bond between the child and ‘their Cop’ happens,” she said. “With some children who shop multiple years requesting ‘their Cop.’”

New this year, the children were taken to Chick-fil-A for a meal before shopping.

“We haven’t been able to do this since before COVID,” said Cook.

During their Dec. 9 visit to Chick-fil-A, a cow dressed as Santa entertained the crowd. During the Dec. 16 visit, an elderly gentleman handed Cook \$50 to add to the Christmas pot.

“That \$50 was used for overage which happens when items the kids pick out go over the \$200 mark, and many of the Cops pull out their own wallets to make up for the difference,” she said.

Since 2007, Cook has been the force behind raising money for the escapade. She also partners with the Mountain Garden Club, and the Rotary Club of Highlands, whose SWAC Rotary Bingo helps out in a big way. This year, Realtor Pat Allen helped make this year’s Bingo one of the most successful ever.

This year \$28,000 was raised and if it’s like last year, Cook hopes money will keep coming in through January.

“Every little bit helps and even though Christmas shopping will soon be over, whatever is collected will go into the fund for next year with the number of children recipients growing each year,” she said. “Many thanks to all who helped



HPD Officer Ashley Moore’s shopper picked a bike.

a child who without their donation would have little or no Christmas,” said Cook.

Donations are still being accepted. Please send them to: Caroline Cook, P. O. Box 2785, Highlands, NC 28741 or drop a check by Highlands Police Department. Make checks out to Shop With A Cop or SWAC. Donations are tax deductible.

• LETTER •

Great job, Lamar. We will miss you

Dear Editor,

Lamar Nix has done a fantastic job as our Town Engineer. I called him today as he was leaving his office to tell him how much Betsy and I appreciate him. His knowledge of the Town Infrastructure is unmatched. We are surely going to miss him.

Congratulations Lamar on a Job Well Done and enjoy your well-deserved retirement for a little while. I don’t think Highlands will be able to get by without some assistance from you.

Marc Hehn
Highlands



66 Summit Trail, Highlands
VIEWS INCLUDED
2 car garage, 4 BR, + office
MLS# 1002246 | Offered for \$2,450,000

Andrea Gabbard
c: 828.200.6742

Highlands Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

AndreaGabbard@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

5:00 PM

**COMMUNITY BIBLE
CHURCH**

3645 CASHIERS ROAD HIGHLANDS, NC

COREY JAMES GALLERY & Estate Consignments

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



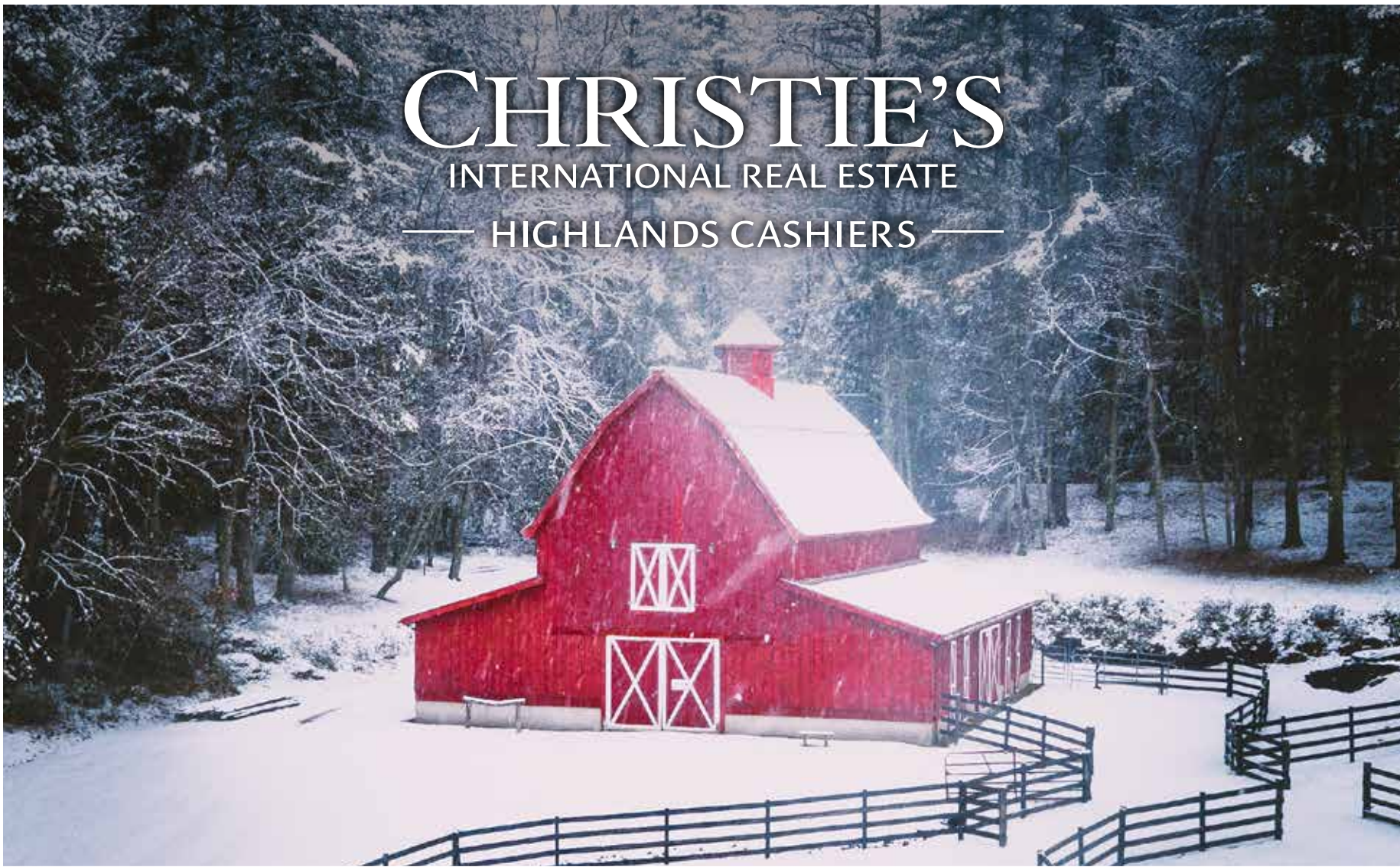
(828) 526-4818

On the corner of 3rd & Spring

CHRISTIE'S

INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

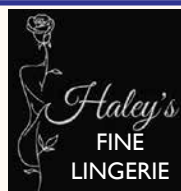
— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —



*Wishing You the Happiest of Holidays
and a Prosperous and Peaceful New Year!*

The Plateau's Fastest Growing Luxury Brokerage

828.482.5022 | HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com | 210 North Fifth Street, Highlands, NC 28741



**Where Comfort
Meets Luxury**



**Specialized bra fittings ~ loungewear
and lingerie**

Open

Tuesday-Saturday 11a-5p

468 Carolina Way

(Across the street from KH Park)

828-371-7890

www.haleysfine lingerie.com

...MAYOR continued from page 2

The town did get a gift early in the form of a recent 1.17 million dollar grant to replace the old generator that powers the water plant during an emergency like Hurricane Helene. The 30-year-old generator currently in operation will be replaced with a new ultramodern generator system.

The town has also applied for other grants totaling several million dollars to upgrade the water lines. Hopefully, we will get these grants at the beginning of the new year.

So, as we move toward the new year, to paraphrase a Dusty Springfield classic, "I'm Wishing and Hoping." All the best to you and our community, too. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Read Highlands Newspaper for free
from everywhere ...**

on the street or on the web.

**Go to www.highlandsinfo.com. Click
on Local News.**

**Delivered and Uploaded every
Thurs.AM**

...CANDIDATES continued from page 1

Joseph (Joey) Arlen Wilson. Shearl, who has served as commissioner since being elected in 2024, is seeking a second term on the board.

In addition, Calvin Russell Lunn signed up to run representing the Democratic party for the District 1 seat.

Commissioners Gary Shields and Danny Antoine said they will not seek reelection to the board of commissioners in the upcoming election.

The two seats for the Macon Board of Commissioners District 2 (Iotla, Mills-hoal, North Franklin, East Franklin, South Franklin, Union and Smithbridge Precincts) have eight people who have signed up to run from both political parties.

Since there are two seats available, the top two vote getters from each party will advance from the primary to the general election.

Terry Lee Bell and Janet Jacobs Greene are the two Democrats who signed up to run.

Having a female run for county commissioners has been a rarity in the history of Macon County elections. Only two females have been elected to serve on the board of commissioners. Jerry R. Stewart was the first female elected to the board and served one term from 1988 to 1992. Greene who has signed up to run again in 2026, also served as a county commissioner for one term from 1998 to 2002.

Five Republicans put their name in the hat for the two District 2 commissioners' seats including Dylan James Castle, Jason Bradley Salmon, Daniel Kenneth Reitmeier, Raymond Nicholas (Nick) Lofthouse, Kellie McConnell Burns and David Benjamin Culpepper.

The primary will be held on March 3, 2026. Early voting for the March primary will begin on Thursday, February 12, 2026, and will continue until Saturday, February 28, 2026.

The primary will be held in two locations – the Highland Civic Center on 600 N. 4th Street, Highlands and the Carpenter Community Building on 1288 Georgia Road, Franklin. Both locations will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Incumbent Macon County Sheriff John Brent Holbrooks, Republican, will be running for a second term in the up-

coming election. He will face Republican Robert (Bob) Wayne Cook in the March primary for the seat. There was not a Democratic opponent who signed up to run for sheriff.

Incumbent District Attorney for the Prosecutorial District 43, Ashley W. Hornsby, Republican, will be seeking another term. The 43rd District includes Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon & Swain Counties. Hornsby is running unopposed in the upcoming election.

In addition, Macon County native Kevin Corbin, Republican, will also be seeking reelection to the North Carolina Senate District 50 for a fourth term representing citizens of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Macon, Jackson, Swain and Transylvania Counties. Corbin will be challenged for the seat he has held since 2021 by Democrat Tom Downing from Cullowhee.

Republican Karl Gillespie of Franklin will be seeking another term at House Representative District 120, representing Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Macon Counties. Democrat Caleb Allen Brown of Highlands will challenge Gillespie for the seat he has held since 2021 in the general election.

Incumbent Republican Charles Marion Edwards US House of Representatives District 11 will face off with Republican Adam Rion Smith during the primary.

Two local elections have already been decided as both are running unopposed. Macon County Clerk of Superior Court Shawna Danielle Thun Lamb, Republican, will serve another term as the county's Clerk of Superior Court and Philip Todd Raby, Republican, will serve again as the county's Register of Deeds.

Two seats on the Macon County Board of Education will also be on the ballot in the 2026 election including District 2 and District 4 at-large seats. The board of education's seats are non-partisan and will not be on the primary ballot.

Stephanie Laseter currently holds the seat for District 2 and Diedre Breeden currently holds the seat for District 4 at large seat.

The cut off to sign up for the school board will be at a later date

**DECEMBER
Specials**

Kybella — \$150 off a syringe

All Juvederm Filler — \$100 off a syringe

Botox/Dysport/Xeomin/Jeuveau — \$10 / Unit

**We have Gift bags, and
Stocking Stuffers for Sale!**



\$445 Value for \$285



\$165 Value for \$100

**Purchase \$300 or more and
receive \$25 to \$50 extra**



**Cranberry Facials
20% off
Regular price \$140**



rejuvenatewnc@gmail.com

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

• HS SPORTS RECAP •

Highlands Athletics: Highlanders close out 2025 with gritty performances

As the calendar turns toward the new year, the Highlands Highlanders basketball programs have officially wrapped up the 2025 portion of their schedule. It was a week defined by defensive battles, standout individual performances, and a thrilling comeback victory for the Lady Highlanders.

Home Stand Against Andrews (Dec 16th)

The Highlanders hosted Andrews for a mid-December clash that saw high intensity across all three games.

JV Boys

The JV squad fought hard but ultimately fell 39-54. Jonathan Carpenter was a force on both ends of the floor, leading the team with 18 points, 5 rebounds, and 4 steals. Sam Conner provided a solid secondary scoring punch with 12 points.

Lady Highlanders Secure Redemption

Seeking to avenge a heart-breaking one-point loss from earlier this season, the Lady Highlanders played a literal "game of inches." After holding a slim 1-point lead at halftime, Highlands found themselves trailing by two entering the final frame.

The 4th quarter belonged to the home team, as they out-scored Andrews 19-10 to secure a 41-36 win. Hunter Conner: 17 pts, 12 rebs (Double-Double), Jordyn Borino: 10 pts, 6 asts, Taylor Hays: 3 pts, 8 rebs.

Varsity Boys

In a highly competitive matchup, the Varsity Boys kept Andrews within striking distance, trailing by just 7 at the half. Despite the effort, they couldn't close the gap in the second half, falling 47-56. Isaiah Vilardo led the way with 18 points and 8



Brett Lamb
Highlands School
Athletic Director

rebounds, while Paolo McRae stuffed the stat sheet with 13 points, 7 rebounds, and 6 assists.

Road Trip to Robbinsville

The Highlanders ended exam week by traveling to Robbinsville for a tough road test.

JV Boys

The JV team struggled early against a relentless full-court press. The turnovers led to easy transition baskets for Robbinsville, creating a hole the Highlanders couldn't climb out of, resulting in a 35-54 loss.

Lady Highlanders:

A Defensive Masterclass

The game of the night belonged to the Varsity Girls. After an 8-8 first-quarter tie, Highlands locked down defensively, holding Robbinsville scoreless for the first five minutes of the second quarter to

lead 23-15 at the half.

The drama peaked in the final two minutes. After Robbinsville surged back to take a 45-44 lead, the Lady Highlanders responded with a clutch transition play: Jordyn Borino found Charlotte Westendorf for a layup to retake the lead with 45 seconds left. A massive blocked shot by Borino in the waning seconds sealed the 46-45 victory.

Varsity Boys

The night concluded with the Varsity Boys facing a significant size disadvantage against Robbinsville. Despite the effort, the size in the paint proved too much to overcome in a 47-82 loss.

Looking Ahead

The Highlanders will head into the winter break to rest and regroup. They return to action at home on January 2nd to host Rosman.

Commercial • Cabins • Close to Town • Sanctuary • Waterfalls



One of the last BEST locations this close to Main Street.

MLS #103221
\$2,700,000

Zoned B-4 (light commercial) or residential. Ready for your renovations.



2BR/2BA storybook cabin

MLS #105769
\$750,000

Private location. Close to town, landscaped with perennials, wrap-around deck, easy parking and workshop



Your own Highlands Sanctuary

MLS #1002006
\$3,850,000

Walk to town and enjoy the beautifully landscaped lot, with pond and waterfall, view of Harris Lake and Satulah Mountain. 4 BR/4 bath, very unique with too many features to list.



2 minutes to Main Street

MLS #1002100
\$765,000

4 BR/2 bath 'yesteryear' cottage with 'Old Highlands' Charm. Love it like it is, renovate to your liking, or use while building your dream home on the 1.21 +/- acre lot.



Have you ever wanted your own waterfall?

MLS # 1002193
\$995,000

Satulah Falls is this 3.48 acre tract just outside the town limits. This is the last piece of land owned by the Harbison family.



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





LUTHERAN CHURCH

OF THE HOLY FAMILY

*Christmas Eve
Service*

3:00 pm

2152 DILLARD RD, HIGHLANDS

Come and fellowship with us!

Season of Advent

Sunday, December 21

11am - Sunday Celebration

Monday, December 22

12pm - Service of Light

Wednesday, December 24

2:30pm - Piano Prelude

3pm - Christmas Eve Service

4:30pm - Harp Prelude

5pm - Christmas Eve Service

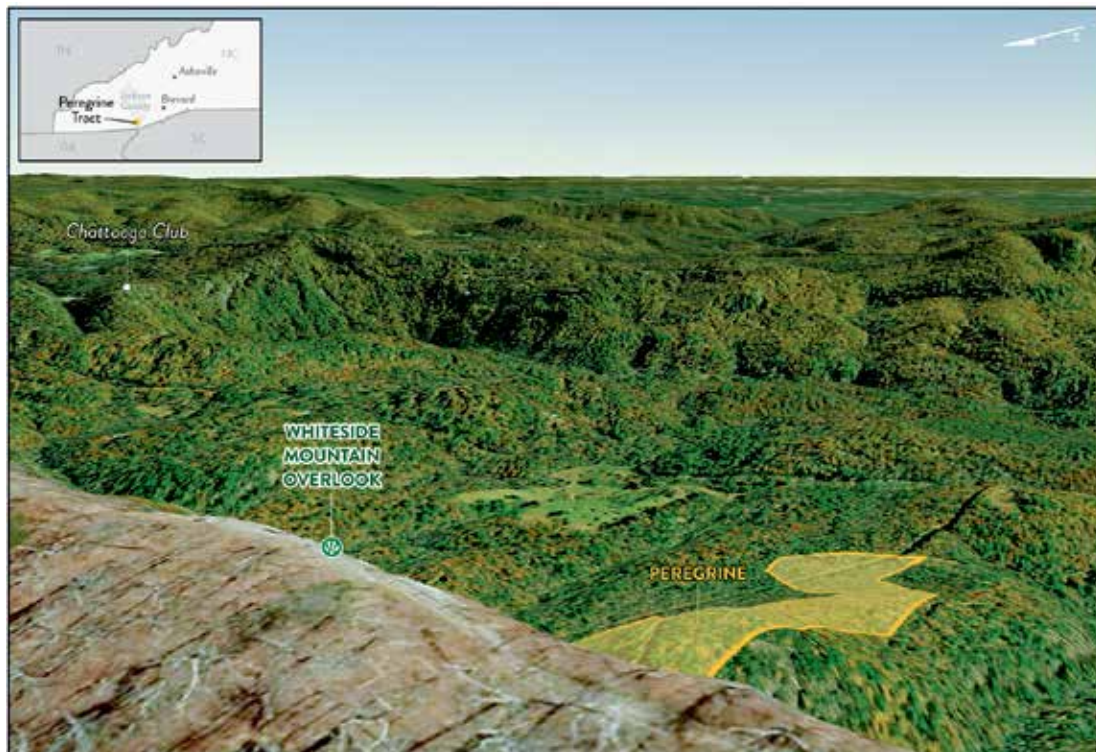
All are welcome - Please join us!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
471 MAIN STREET, HIGHLANDS NC 28741 | 828.526.3175

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Grassroot effort thwarts development of 104-acre tract in Jackson County



The Open Space Institute (OSI) and Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust (HCLT) today announced the acquisition of the 104-acre Peregrine Tract along the southern face of Whiteside Mountain.

Permanent protection of the property, which had been approved for development, marks a major victory in longstanding efforts to safeguard one of southern Appalachia's most scenic and ecologically significant landscapes. Images can be accessed at openspaceinstitute.com/to.com/b/VSI4I; please credit OSI/Mac Stone.

"This acquisition is a triumph for conservation and community," said Dr. Maria Whitehead, Senior Director of Land at OSI. "By protecting the Peregrine Tract, we are completing a critical piece of the conservation puzzle for the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau and the Chattooga Valley. We offer our deepest gratitude to the

Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and to grassroots network of local volunteers and supporters whose unwavering commitment and kindness have turned this inspiring vision into reality."

Lance Hardin, Executive Director of HCLT, said, "We are deeply grateful to our partners at OSI and for the enduring regional spirit that has made it possible to preserve this area's extraordinary landscapes. Together, we are continuing a century-long tradition of conservation progress on and around the Plateau. The speed and effectiveness of this project is a testament to what can be accomplished when conservation organizations and dedicated community members unite around a bold vision."

OSI acquired the Peregrine Tract on December 15, and a second transaction anticipated in 2026 or 2027 will make HCLT the permanent owner. Once their acquisition is complete, HCLT will hold title to the property as

a public preserve, guaranteeing that the land will be accessible and protected in perpetuity.

The property lies at the heart of the Whiteside Mountain/Devil's Courthouse Natural Heritage Area, ranked "Exceptional" by the N.C. Natural Heritage Program—the state's highest designation for biodiversity and landscape connectivity. From its ridgelines, one can see vast hardwood forests and the sparkling headwaters of the Chattooga River, one of the nation's first rivers ever designated as Wild and Scenic. Now protected forever, the Peregrine Tract ensures ecological continuity from mountaintop to river valley, safeguarding water quality in the Chattooga River system and preserving one of the most biologically rich ridgelines in the southeastern United States.

Previously permitted for a 28-lot development, with a road, utilities, and subdivi-

• See GRASSROOTS page 13

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Tales of past drug interactions



From left: Highlands Rotary Club President Randy Foster; Matt Slappey, Clayton GA Rotary Club Program Dir; Jeff Fincher, past President Clayton Rotary

...GRASSROOTS continued from page 12

sion entrance already in place, construction was expected to begin in early 2026 had OSI and HCLT not acted swiftly to conserve the Peregrine Tract. Securing the property for conservation secures the iconic Whiteside Mountain viewshed while preventing erosion and sedimentation in the Chattooga and fragmentation of a critical wildlife corridor. In the coming years, partners plan to restore natural habitats, remove subdivision infrastructure, and create new public recreational access.

The Peregrine Tract is the keystone in a region of national conservation significance. Butressed on two sides by U.S. Forest Service lands, the tract directly links to the cliffs and forest communities of Whiteside Mountain and the Nantahala National Forest, bridging a vital gap between permanently protected landscapes. Keeping this landscape wild and undeveloped ensures ecological continuity from the mountaintop to the head of the Chattooga, supporting a network of forests and streams that sustain wildlife and water quality, while also bolstering a nature-based economy.

This rugged terrain harbors rare granitic domes, an-

cient oak-hickory forests, and globally rare species including nesting peregrine falcons, rock gnome lichen, pink-shell azalea, and Hartweg's locust, in addition to declining species such as roughed grouse and golden-winged warblers. The Peregrine Tract also plays a vital hydrological role: its slopes drain into the Chattooga River system, one of the state's Outstanding Resource Waters, providing clean water for people, businesses, and wildlife across three states.

With its conservation, the property will also offer new recreation options in a remarkable landscape: it could serve as a key link in the proposed Blue Ridge Connector Trail—a continuous hiking route stretching from Clayton GA to Cashiers NC—and create new access for rock climbers to Raven Rock on the west side of Whiteside Mountain.

The acquisition was made possible by extraordinary support from a dedicated community of donors. To date, OSI and HCLT have raised \$5.9 million toward the total project cost of \$8.25 million, and additional funds are needed to complete the project. Donations to sup-

The Rotary Club of Highlands recently enjoyed an inspiring program from Matt Slappey, Clayton, GA Rotary Club Program Director. Slappey shared from his experiences "Tales of Past Drug Interactions." Tasked several years ago by Washington DC's National Security Administration (NSA) to deal with drug cartels and drug lords in many countries, including Argentina, the Turks and Caicos, Slappey shared both the serious and more humorous sides of multiple ordeals, discoveries and situational moments. Acknowledging the "War on Drugs" may not be completely "won," but the cause is valiant and worthy of our best efforts.

port the project can be made through OSI at openspaceinstitute.org/southeast or HCLT at www.hcltnc.org/peregrine.

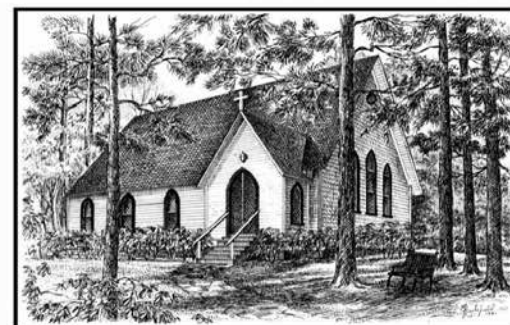
• About the Open Space Institute

Founded in 1974, the Open Space Institute (OSI) has been a partner in the protection of more than 2.5 million acres in the eastern U.S. OSI's Southeast office, established in Charleston in 2014, has been a partner in the protection of more than 210,000 acres across the Southeastern United States, the vast majority of which will be open to the public. Visit OSI online at openspaceinstitute.org/southeast.

• About the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust

Since 1909, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust (HCLT) has been protecting the unique and irreplaceable landscape in and around Cashiers and Highlands. As a 501c3 charity organization that is nationally accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, HCLT has permanently conserved over 4,500 acres and counting of ecologically valuable land and water on the plateau. Visit HCLT online at hcltnc.org.

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Saturday, December 20

5:30 pm Winter Fire Concert

A Cinematic Holiday Concert

with Glenn Basham & Michael Yannette

Christmas Eve - December 24

3:30 pm Christmas Eve Children's Pageant

5:30 pm Lessons & Carols

Christmas Day - December 25

12:00 pm Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

1448 Highway 107 South, Cashiers, NC 28717



Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church

Christmas Eve Masses

Our Lady of the Mountains • 2 pm

St. Jude's Catholic Church (Sapphire Valley) 4 pm

Christmas Day Masses

St. Jude's Catholic Church (Sapphire Valley) • 9 am

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church • 11 am

New Year's Day Masses

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church • 9:30 am

St. Jude's Catholic Church • 11 am

315 N. 5th Street, Highlands • 828-526-2418

www.olmhIGHLANDS.com

3011 U.S. 64, Sapphire • 828-743-5717

www.stjudeofsapphirevalley.org

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING



Choose the way of peace and love

Pastor, Emily Wilmarth
First Presbyterian Church

Many of us could tell the Christmas story by heart. It's likely we've seen a pageant or two in our time, the roles often filled by our youngest church members. The little Joseph in his bathrobe, Mary with a pillow stuffed into her costume.

The story is so familiar that we sometimes forget that the way we tell it might not be the way it really reads in the Bible. For example, the innkeeper is usually a role with lines in the children's pageant. Someone stands at the door and tells Mary and Joseph they can't stay in the "inn" because there's no room.

But did you know there's no actual innkeeper in the Bible? There is just a verse, written in Luke's gospel, that reads, "And Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the inn." (Luke 2:7)

Much has been made of the fictional innkeeper throughout the centuries. Often, the innkeeper has been portrayed as a villain. He's either too busy or too stingy to figure out a way to accommodate Mary and Joseph in proper housing. He's short on hospitality, but long on profitability. He's often used as an illustration for how we humans are too busy or our lives are too full to make room for Jesus. The innkeeper is a bad example, and we should not be like him.

But could it be that "there was no place in the inn" meant that there was no place appropriate for giving birth there?

Could it be that Mary and Joseph went to the stable because that was best for everyone? The most comfortable place for hours of labor, rather than crammed in a crowded inn? The most private place for delivery, and post birth? The most secluded place for those first baby squalls to echo against the walls? Maybe innkeeper had the wherewithal to give Mary and Joseph housing in the best place possible. Maybe it wasn't rejection after all.

If this is true - and we'll not ever know if it is or isn't - then we have some questions to ask ourselves.

What assumptions have we made about a character we know nothing about? What conclusions have we drawn without having all the facts? What are we willing to believe because that's what we found written in traditional pageant script? Even though it wasn't written in the Bible?

We're quick to do that, aren't we? Point a finger. Cast blame. Even when we don't know the whole story. The problem with pointing a finger at someone else means we're always pointing three fingers back at ourselves.

It's always easier to point out someone else's flaws than name and accept our own.

• See SPIRITUALLY page 15

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

BLUEVALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice. Pastor 706-782-3965

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

Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting: 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

828-269-3546 • Rev. Jamie Passmore. Pastor

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

CASHIERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. 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 • 743-5470

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 • 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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

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

5th and Main streets • 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

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

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 • Pastor Steve Doerter 743-9814

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

HAMBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

Wed. Kidsquest 6p.; Worship 7p.

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson • 11339 Buck Creek Road

The Highlands Central Baptist Church is temporarily sharing the facilities of the Shortoff Baptist Church.

Sunday Worship is at 9a. & 6p. Wednesday Worship is 6p

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

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.

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. Richard Salmonson

Sundays: School: 10 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.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): 9am & 11am

Visit our website: www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com

Our Bazaar Barn supports outreach in the community.

Open Fri & Sat. 11am-3pm

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

85 Sierra Drive. Franklin • 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

• FIRE REPORTS •

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Dec. 16.

Dec. 16

• At 8:50 a.m., the dept. responded to a call of an illegal burn on Poplar Street.

• At 9:42 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Country Club Drive.

• At 10:02 a.m., the dept. responded to a Co2 alarm at a residence on Upper Carriage Hill Drive.

• At 6:53 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident involving a deer on US 64 east (Cashiers Road).

Dec. 17

• At midnight, the dept. provided public assistance at a residence on Harbison Orchard Road.

• At 6:40 a.m., the dept. re-

sponded to a motor vehicle accident on Buck Creek Road.

• At 8:59 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Oak Street.

Dec. 18

• At 8:04 p.m., the dept. responded to a motor vehicle accident on Flat Mountain Road.

• At 9:41 p.m., the dept. investigated the cause of smoke at a location on Oak Street.

Dec. 19

• At 1:36 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Highlands View Road.

• At 4:44 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Main Street.

• At 9:21 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location

on Skyline Lodge Road.

• At 11:22 a.m., the dept. responded to a downed tree on Main Street.

• At 1:38 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Mountain Laurel Drive.

• At 3:06 p.m., the dept. was called to provide mutual aid to Scalp FD but it was cancelled en route.

Dec. 21

• At 2:34 a.m., the dept. assisted Highlands Police Dept. at an incident on NC 106 (Dillard Road).

• At 9:39 a.m., the dept. assisted Highlands Police Dept. on a search on NC 106 (Dillard Road).

Dec. 22

• At 4:07 a.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Johnwood Road.



Around 7 p.m., Dec. 16, HF&R responded to a motor vehicle accident involving a vehicle and a deer on the Cashiers Road. The driver was not injured.

— Photo by Rachel Lewicki

Multiple agencies assist in search

By Lt. Tim Broughton
HPD

This past weekend, the Highlands Police Department, along with Highlands Fire and Rescue and the Macon County Sheriff's Office, engaged in a missing persons search.

At approximately 9:04 pm on Dec. 20, 2025, Sergeant Thomas Parker stopped a vehicle traveling down NC 106 to investigate a possible impaired driver. After Sgt. Parker began speaking with the driver, identified as Erika Vann, Vann fled the scene in the vehicle, traveling south on NC 106. Sgt. Parker began searching for the car, but when he caught up, he found it unoccupied, rolling down NC

106/Dillard Rd. with the driver's door open. In the interest of public safety, Sgt. Parker used his patrol vehicle to bring the unoccupied vehicle to a stop safely.

Due to the temperatures being in the 20s, Sgt. Parker contacted the Macon County Sheriff's Office and Highlands Fire and Rescue to aid in a search to ensure Vann was uninjured and not in danger. Searchers utilized thermal cameras and K9 units and stayed out until approximately 5:30 am, looking for Vann when, due to low visibility, the search and rescue operation was suspended until daylight.

At daylight, searchers continued looking for Vann utilizing drone pilots. Vann made contact

with a family member at approximately 2:30 pm. Once Vann was located, Investigators determined that she had travelled on foot to her place of employment, where she sheltered until a family member took her to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Vann's employer was not aware that she was on the property.

Sgt. Parker obtained charges on Vann, who was later served with warrants, by the Macon County Sheriff's Office, for Driving while Impaired, Resisting Public Officer, Flee to Elude Arrest, and Injury to Property. Vann was transported to Macon County Detention Facility, where she was issued a secured bond.

...SPIRITUALLY continued from page 14

It's worse when we do it without knowing all the facts. When we accuse someone of something we don't actually know they've done. In this case, we've invented a whole character, who gets actual lines in actual Christmas pageants, who was never even in the Bible.

Which, I suppose, you could call imaginative. Filling in the gaps of the story. I just hope we can use our imaginations to build people up,

to think the best of our fellow humans, rather than thinking the worst of them. I think that's what Jesus would do.

You know, it's not always a bad thing to fill in the gaps. To use our imaginations. God created us with imaginations, after all. But how do you want to use that gift? To imagine the best? Or the worst?

When it comes to people you don't know, will you imagine the best? Or the worst? When it comes to people who aren't like

you, will you imagine the best or the worst? When it comes to situations for which you don't have all the facts, will you imagine the best, or the worst?

Whether joyfully or begrudgingly, the innkeeper DID make room for the holy family.

Like that imagined character, we can be those who imagine a way of hospitality, a way of self-sacrifice, a way of peace, a way of love.

Which way do you choose? Use your imagination.

Christmas

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES DECEMBER 24TH

5:00 PM
Family-Oriented Candlelight Service

7:00 PM
Christmas Eve Eucharist *(approx. 30 min.)*

9:00 PM
Lessons and Carols *(approx. 30 min.)*

11:45 PM
Midnight Eucharist *(approx. 15-20 min.)*

ALL HELD IN CHURCH SANCTUARY

Highlands United Methodist Church

315 Main Street, Highlands NC

(828) 526-3376

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

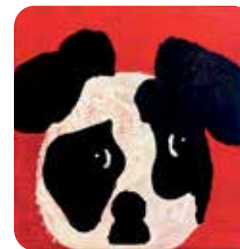
ryan.bears@allentate.com



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



ALLAN DEARTH GENERATORS AND SONS

► 828-526-9325 ◀

Generators aren't just a "thing" we do, generators are all we do!

GENERAC
Cummins
KOHLER

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 hos-



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

Edwin Wilson

Cell (828) 421-3643

Office/fax (828) 526-4758

wilsongrading@yahoo.com

828-200-9217

Fully Insured

Crane
Rentals
Available



MENDOZA TREE EXPERT

Quality Tree Care & Removal 18+ years

estimates@mendozatreecare.com

mendozatreeservices.com

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



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.



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/SCALOY MOUNTAIN/CASHIERS



**Kiln dried
FIREWOOD**
Delivery or pickup

2460 Cashiers Road • Highlands 828-526-2395

highlandslawnandgarden.com

• CLASSIFIEDS •

FOR SALE

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



2005 PANOZ GTLM. CONVERTIBLE. = 67k miles. Factory Flag/Press Car, Road & Track Article. Flown to 24 Hour@LeMans. \$45K. I have it all. Call Sid at 478-731-8451 or email, siddumas@gmail.com (st. 9/18)

FOR RENT

3 BED, 2 BATH HOUSE FOR RENT. Rolling Acres. \$3,000/month. Available Dec 1. Huge yard. Hardwood floors. All appliances. No animals. Outdoor fire pit. Warm, friendly place and neighborhood. Call Dick at 828-200-4264. (st. Dec. 25)

LONG TERM RENTAL – Top of Eagle Ridge. Flat yard. 4 bed/3 1/2 BA. Central HVAC, water/sewer. Cable TV. 4,000 ft. elevation. Parking for 3 vehicles. Call 828-743-2655. (st. 10/9)

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 or 404-323-9444. (st. 7/10)

4 BD/3BA FOR RENT HIGHLANDS – Updated farm home, located between Highlands & Cashiers off Hwy 64. \$3,200/month, includes all utilities with high speed wifi. Call Marcy 828-482-4239 (st. 7/10)

2BD/2BATH SINGLE WIDE \$1,100 per month internet included. First last security. Mark 828-200-0765. (st. 5/29)

SERVICES

EXPERIENCED PRIVATE IN-HOME CARE. Resume upon request. Mori Smith. 228383-4448. (st. 12/4)

QUALITY HOUSEKEEPING – Mori Smith. 228-383-4448. Resume upon request. Serving Highlands and Franklin. (st. 12/4)

CREATURE COMFORTS – In House Pet or People sitting. Call Peg Ellis. Retired RN. References available. 828-200-1028. (st. 11/20)

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)

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.

Cardinal Cleaners

Fine Dry Cleaning Since 1960

Next to Slabtown Pizza in Cashiers

828-743-9100

ATTENTION:

Highlands

Dry Cleaning Customers!

Bring this ad for a 20% discount

on your first order

AND

All subsequent orders.

We look forward to serving you!

Next to
Slabtown
Pizza
in Cashiers



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!**

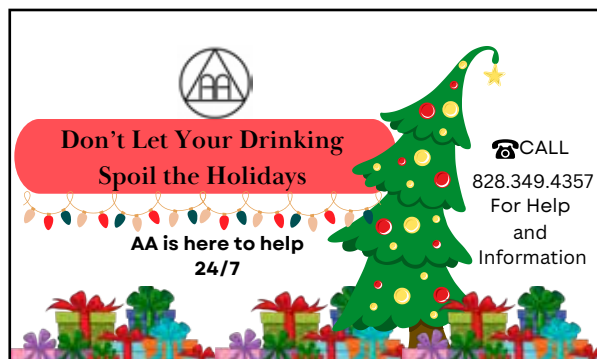
- Same-day service for most maintenance and routine repairs.
- Top-tier diagnostic & programming tools – just like the dealer.
- New tire, alignment & balancing equipment for precision and speed.
- Same experienced technicians.

We service ALL domestic and foreign vehicles.



Also serving customers in:
Atlanta, GA | Dallas, TX | Houston, TX

Come see the difference.



OLD EDWARDS

HOSPITALITY GROUP

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

Apply at www.olderdwardshospitality.com/careers

Email careers@olderdwardsinn.com

Phone: 828-787-2631

NOW HIRING
for Key Sales
Office Roles

• 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 Thurs. 3:30-7pm, 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

Winter Hours: Friday & Saturday Dec. 19-20

• Open: 10 am - 1 pm. Spruce Street. www.mountainfindings.org

ICE SKATING IN PARK

• Thurs., 3:30-8p; Fri. 3:30-10p; Sat. 1-10p, Sun. 1-5p
Hours will be extending during Thanksgiving and Christmas vacations. \$8 with or without skates.

ALL WEEK

• Scaly Mountain/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 at Scaly Mountain @ Grace Chapel, 9915 Dillard Rd., Scaly Moun-

tain each Tues at 5:30 pm and Highlands @ the 1st Presbyterian Church, 471 Main St., on Monday at 5:30 p.m. and on Wednesday & Fridays @ 12:00 noon. Open in-person meetings are also held in Cashiers @ the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library, 249 Frank Allen Rd. on Sunday at 5pm, 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 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

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 Vivian Brewer. 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

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

Tuesdays

• Strength Training at the Rec Park 8:15-9:15 am.

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

• ESL classes at The Literacy & Learning Center, 6-7 p.m. 675 S 4th St. Highlands.

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

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.

Wednesdays

• Digital Navigators will be at the Hudson Library from 1-3 PM, digital navigators will host a Tech Time drop-in time at Hudson Library with the goal to assist attendees with basic smartphone, laptop, iPad and tablet skills. Tech Time sessions offer one-on-one help on any personal digital device. Tech Time is a chance for residents of all ages to bring their devices and ask any questions. Learn how to set up an email account, mute your cell phone, back up and store files. Those are just a few of the skills we teach patrons. For more information, call the Library at 828-526-3031. This program is free and open to the public.

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.

3rd Friday thru April

• Senior lunches at the Rec Park in the meeting room at noon.

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

• Dec. 20th meeting is cancelled. Meeting will resume in January. The American Legion Post 370 meets at the First Methodist Church at 315 Main St. in their community room/909 chapel. Breakfast at 9a; meeting is at 10a. Email ncpost370@gmail.com or just join us at 9am.

Sundays

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

Thru Dec. 27

• At The Bascom, Holiday Market. Handcrafted gifts and holiday-themed workshops.

'Tis the Season!



**THE
FIREWOOD COMPANY**
828.200.3050

SILVER EAGLE

Native American Jewelry
Crystal & Gem Gallery



349 Main Street, Highlands, NC
828.526.5190 silvereaglegallery.com



COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES
Real Estate

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



highlandermountainhouse.com

Highlander Mountain House & The Ruffed Grouse Tavern

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

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | MEADOWS MOUNTAIN REALTY
HOME SERVICES



453 Eagle Ridge, Sapphire NC
3 Bed / 3.5 Baths and VIEWS for miles!
Modestly offered at \$1,259,000



Faye Wurm
BROKER
828-200-1345

Cristina Vives
BROKER
561-427-8829

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 \$2,100,000



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
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



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



**JULIE OSBORN
& PAT ALLEN**

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

HOWARD
HANNA
ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE

Pat Allen
REALTY GROUP



LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL

Leading

REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
IN THE WORLD



**DAVID
BOCK
BUILDERS**

www.BockBuilders.com 828-526-2240



**"... all is calm, all
is bright."
Merry Christmas
from**

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

BEE GLEESON
Broker | Realtor® | 404.307.1415
BeeGlee4@Gmail.com

PAT GLEESON
Broker | Realtor® | 828.782.0472
PatrickGleeson4@Gmail.com

JESSICA HABERKERN
Broker | Realtor® | 254.718.7494
JessHaberKern@Gmail.com

HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com | 210 North Fifth Street, Highlands, NC 28741



HIGHLANDS OFFICE | 225 MAIN STREET

Cell: 828-506-0173

Office: 828-526-4663

debby@landmarkrg.com



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** MEADOWS MOUNTAIN
HOMESERVICES 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.



...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.

