

Highlands Newspaper

Volume 23, Number 33

Digital Version at HighlandsNewspaper.com

Thurs., Aug. 20, 2026

Students, teachers and staff prepare for 1st day of school - Mon., Aug. 24

By Kristin Fox

Next Monday, August 24th marks the opening of the 2026-2027 school year for the Macon

County School System. Thirteen schools including elementary, middle, virtual and high schools will open their doors to welcome

around 4,400 students for the upcoming school year. Macon County is home to two of the

• See **SCHOOL** page 8



The glassed pavilion at OEI's The Farm on Arnold Road is a total loss.

— submitted photo

Monday night fire destroys pavilion at The Farm

By Kim Lewicki

The morning of Tues., Aug. 18 dawned bright and balmy belying the damage done the night before when severe thunder and lightning storms raced

across Franklin, Highlands and Cashiers.

Trees and power lines were downed and a fire, presumably ignited by lightning, struck Old

• See **FIRE** page 7

Community readies Pine Grove School for thriving future

Proceeds from BBQ fundraiser Sat., Aug. 22, will ensure its perpetuity

By Kristin Fox

With the full support of the county, local members of the Ellijay and Sugarfork community have worked together to preserve an important piece of Macon County history – the Pine Grove School.

Built in 1912, the two-room school building once served local students from as far away as the Gold Mine and Walnut Creek communities. The school still stands honoring its past, as well as serving as an active community center for future generations.

Last spring, the Macon

• See **PINE GROVE** page 4

•INSIDE THIS ISSUE•

Mayor on Duty	2	Hospital News	18
Weather	2	Spiritually Speaking	22
MileStone	2	Police and Fire.....	23
Investing at 4118 Ft.....	6	Classifieds	25
Letter	11	Events.....	26



Kyle Reinheimer crosses the 5K finish line in 16.28 minutes.

— Photo by Michele Schwartz, Divine Landscapes

Twilight 5k participants ran for The Gordon Center

Saturday, Aug. 15 marked the 14th year runners from across the country gathered in KH Founders Park on Pine Street to run for a cause supporting youth-oriented nonprofits in Highlands.

This year 195 runners started when the gun went off at 6 p.m. and 193 finished.

The Overall and Top Male

winner was Kyle Reinheimer, 24, of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, who set the new course record at 16.28 minutes. Last year's winner local Timmy McDowell, crossed the finish line at 17:14.

About \$20,000 was raised by the Highlands Rotary-sponsored event this year for the Gordon Center.

— Kim Lewicki



**Move-In Ready
Living in Cullasaja
Club - Elevated Design
& Club Amenities**



Jody Lovell
(828) 226.6303

34 Crescent Trail | MLS 1002936

Highlands | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

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.mcculleys.com

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• MAYOR ON DUTY •

Data Centers and more at tonight's TB mtg.

Thursday is the August Town Board of Commissioners meeting at the Highlands Community Building next to the ball field. It will begin at 7 pm with public comment first on the agenda. You can also view the meeting on the YouTube link on the town website. No workshop session is scheduled for this month.



Highlands Mayor
Patrick Taylor

A major item for the meeting is a public hearing concerning a one-year moratorium on data centers within the town. This moratorium will give the board time to review and strengthen current ordinances that may limit and prohibit such high impact uses in the business and residential districts.

Realistically, it is highly unlikely such an operation would be financially workable in Highlands given the limited space and prohibitive cost of land in the town.

Nevertheless, the board always needs to look ahead and plan for all eventualities.

Now some folks on Facebook have circulated the notion that the mayor and board are having this hearing to approve data centers for Highlands. That idea is wrong; the opposite is true. I speak for the board when I say we do not want disruptive uses in the Town of Highlands, a community that has always

been seen as a retreat from such high-impact activities.

The state mandates a public hearing for citizens to express their concerns about a given issue, as will be the case with data centers. I will say that there really is no need to convince commissioners that data centers are not a good fit for our town. I expect the board to approve the moratorium on data center construction once the hearing closes.

I also urge the Macon and Jackson County Commission Boards to take similar steps to limit or prohibit these kinds of uses in our counties. The problems data centers create with power consumption, air pollution, and incessant noise far outweigh any economic benefits.

The board will also hear a report from McGill Engineering concerning critical issues of the Mirror Lake Dredging project. Several decisions remain about the project's scope and direction. The good news received this week is that the NC Department of Environmental Quality has approved the alternative disposal site. This approval will generate savings that can be directed toward additional dredging.

I encourage residents near the lake to come to the meeting or view it remotely to hear the report and discussion. Also, the Mirror Lake Improvement Association has a tentative plan to hold an on-the-lake site meeting on Thursday, September 10 at 6 pm. Mike Hansen and I will be at the meeting to answer any questions and to provide an overview of the dredging plan. We will confirm the meeting before Labor Day.

• See MAYOR page 11

• MILESTONE •



Hitting the net for students

Charlotte Muir, of Highlands won the 27th annual Franklin Tennis Tournament which raises money for the middle and high school tennis teams in Franklin.

• WEATHER •

Thu, 6-Aug	Fri, 7-Aug	Sat, 8-Aug	Sun, 9-Aug
72°F 64°F	73°F 64°F	77°F 61°F	78°F 62°F
Humid; a p.m. t-storm or two	Humid; an afternoon t-storm	A shower and t-storm; humid	A p.m. t-storm in spots
RealFeel®	RealFeel®	RealFeel®	RealFeel®
High 82° Low 68°	High 82° Low 68°	High 86° Low 65°	High 86° Low 65°

Highlands NC 4-Day Forecast By AccuWeather.com

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

Highlands Newspaper

www.HighlandsNewspaper.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.

For Cashiers News & Events go to:
cashiersnewspaper.com

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



JULIE OSBORN



PAT ALLEN



Pat Allen

REALTY GROUP

Not The Biggest... Just The Best!



Big Public Open House Weekend at 1875, Highlands' Newest Exclusive Gated Community!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5-6 | 11:00AM - 4:00PM EACH DAY

*Indulge in delicious charcuterie while learning about this fabulous community
and don't forget to register for a chance to win an exciting gift card!*



VIRTUALLY STAGED

42 High Gate Drive, Highlands

MLS# 1002714 | \$3,100,000 | 4BR/4.5BA modern sophistication in 1875, Highlands' newest exclusive gated community, with quality construction, dramatic ceilings, wonderful kitchen with scullery, and **garage apartment**.



VIRTUALLY STAGED

86 High Gate Drive, Highlands

MLS# 1002744 | \$2,999,999 | 4BR/3.5BA modern residence with stone accents, fabulous kitchen with grilling pantry, elegant baths, and all the latest bells and whistles. **Highlands' newest gated community.**

DIRECTIONS: From Main Street in Highlands, travel South on Dillard Road/Hwy 106 past Highlands Country Club to High Gate Drive on the right (approximately 1.7 miles). Proceed through the gate and follow the signs to both houses.

JULIE OSBORN

828.200.6165 | julie@patallenrealtygroup.com

PAT ALLEN

828.200.9179 | pat@patallenrealtygroup.com

www.patallenrealtygroup.com | 828.526.8784 | 295 DILLARD RD, HIGHLANDS

Voted America's Best by RealTrends Since 2021





**20% off
IV Therapy**



August Specials



**20% off
Hydrodermabrasion**



**20% off
Focus
Treatment**



**Mid-Summer Reset:
Glow Outside. Recharge Inside.**

- Target skin concerns with Focus Lens Array Laser
- Replenish your body with customized IV therapy.
- Refresh your skin with Hydrodermabrasion

828-482-4430
828-349-1280

rejuvenatewnc@gmail.com




...PINE GROVE continued page from 1



The Pine Grove School building is at 38 Peaks Creek Road, right off US 64 west (Highlands Road).

County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution transferring ownership to the Pine Grove School Community Club. The resolution includes the stipulation that the school will continue to be used as a polling place for the Sugarfork and Ellijay communities.

"The Pine Grove School is a very special property and is a pillar of that community," said Commissioner Chairman Josh Young. "I'm glad to see it's going to get the love that it deserves. And I think it's positive that it's a polling station. I think that's pretty sentimental."

With ownership of the building, the financial responsibility for upkeep and improvements to the building now belongs to the community club. Fundraising is one way the group will uphold this responsibility, with an upcoming BBQ dinner the group has scheduled.

On Saturday, August 22 from 4 to 7p, the group will be having a BBQ dinner with dessert at \$12 per dinner. Everyone is invited to attend. To-go boxes will also be available.

"Every plate purchased helps make a difference in our community," said Lori McClure Smith, club vice-president. "Your support helps preserve and improve our community center for families, events and future generations."

Over the last 20 years, it has been the efforts of the community with help from the county that has kept the school building open.

The Pine Grove School located, at 38 Peaks Creek Road, Gneiss (Franklin), opened its doors in the early 1900s.

The school was built to replace an older school located across the street by the river that had served the community from 1855 to 1900s until it was destroyed by a fire. In 1949, the Pine Grove School closed its doors due to school consolidation but continued to be a polling place through the early 2000s until due to disrepair it was deemed unsafe.

With demolition on the horizon, concerned community members decided to save the school so in 2005 the Pine Grove School and Community Association was formed to raise money and organize labor for the repairs and renovations of the school building.

The county supported the restoration project by providing \$15,000 to help get the project started and pledged to match funds raised.

The group saved all that they could from the original school. One by one, the original pine floors were taken up, sanded, refinished and then replaced. A kitchen and two bathrooms were added so the building could be used as a community center.

The restored Pine Grove School Community Building opened on July 8, 2006. A realistic historic classroom was recreated with student desks and teacher's desk, vintage school books, an old flag, a chalkboard, a (non-functioning) wood stove, a dunce hat, antique metal lunch pails, and photographs of former students and teachers.

The Pine Grove School served as a community center until 2021 when the

• See PINE GROVE page 5



540 Chestnut Street, Highlands, NC 28741

5 Bedrooms · 3.5 Baths · \$3,895,000

Enjoy the charm of mountain living paired with a vibrant cultural lifestyle, with world-class performances, fine dining, boutique shopping, and all that Highlands has to offer just a short stroll from your front door. Set on beautifully landscaped grounds, this elegant home offers exceptional privacy, surrounded by mature evergreens that create the feeling of a secluded estate in the heart of town. A welcoming sense of arrival begins with the lush front gardens and continues to the enchanting rear courtyard, where a waterfall and fountain provide a tranquil backdrop for outdoor living. The inviting screened porch, complete with a wood-burning fireplace, serves as an additional living space overlooking the picturesque gardens. Thoughtfully maintained and move-in ready, the home also features a two-car carport with floored attic storage, additional guest parking, a generator, central vacuum system, gas starters in all four fireplaces, custom closet shelving, and a fully encapsulated crawlspace. Combining privacy, luxury, and convenience, this exceptional Highlands property offers the opportunity to enjoy the very best of mountain living in one of the area's most desirable in-town locations.



PAM NELLIS
Realtor®

M: 828.787.1895 O: 828. 482.5022

Pam@HighlandsCashiersCire.com

All information provided is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed and should be independently verified.

IVESTER JACKSON
BLACKSTREAM



CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



...PINE GROVE continued from page 4

association disbanded after deciding they could no longer keep the premises up and turned it back over to the county.

In 2024, an individual made an offer to the county to buy the property. A new group banded together to form the Pine Grove School Community Club with the goal of the regaining ownership of the school to preserve this important piece of county history.

"Commissioners and County Manager Warren Cabe were very helpful in assisting our community club with getting set up to take over the property," said club president Marci Holland. "They installed heating and air, which was very beneficial for our future use of the building. The county also made some necessary repairs prior to turning the property over to us. New exterior doors were installed, the guttering was repaired and updated, and cool seal coating was applied to the roof. We were very appreciative of these repairs."

Last year, the Pine Grove School reopened and was celebrated with an open house, attended by former students, neighbors, and friends.

"Our vision for the school is for it to be utilized as a community center," said Holland. "We would like to rent the space out to citizens for things such as family reunions, wedding and baby showers, book club meetings, craft meetings, or any other event that would enrich the community."

"Preserving the schoolhouse means a great deal to me and to our group as a whole," added Holland. "Many of us are ancestors of former students of Pine Grove School and grew up in Gneiss where it is located. Many other members are not native to our area, but have a deep commitment preserving the history of the schoolhouse and to enhancing a sense of community and togetherness."

HC Film Festival lineup for 2026

The 2nd Annual Highlands Cashiers Film Festival set for Sept. 16-19 will showcase a mixture of 12 films and documentaries including seminars and talks with directors and producers.

For information about screenings and tickets, go to www.highlandscashiersfilm-festival.com

The 2026 films are: Hold Onto Me, Honeyjoo, If These Walls Could Rock, Malory's Ghost, Patriots Day, Natchez, The Oldest Person in the World, Papertown, Susan, The Last Class, and Path of the Panther.

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

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

Open for the last 41 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.

30% off Cleaning & Repairs

66 Summit Trail, Highlands

\$2,195,000 • MLS# 1002246

**4 bed
4 baths
2-car
garage
and
views!**



Andrea Gabbard

c: 828.200.6742

AndreaGabbard@gmail.com

Recognized as one of the top

100 Agents in NC

*RealTrends'

Highlands

Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Mountain Life
PROPERTIES

A luxury boutique brand, local market knowledge and impeccable service.



Kinzey Parker Holm
BROKER®

404-858-1363
RealEstateBroker.Kinzey@gmail.com




**HIGHLANDS
EXPERTISE
ELEVATED
EXPERIENCE**

- Highlands resident for 18 years
- Representing buyers and sellers across the Plateau
- Seamless service from Atlanta to the mountains
- Backed by 79+ years of Dorsey Alston trust

LET'S TALK
Brian Seifried, REALTOR®
770.309.1143

DORSEY ALSTON
REALTORS®
404.352.2010

• INVESTING AT 4,118 Ft. •

Rings of growth

Recently, I saw a fascinating post on social media from the Highlands Biological Station about a Hemlock tree that dates back to 1559! And it's still standing! If you don't have access to Facebook, find someone who does or contact the HBS to find out how you can see the short video.



Jeannie Chambers
Chambers Realty
& Vacation Rentals

Liam Stiefel used the coring of the Hemlock and counted 467 rings. If you've ever seen a slice of a tree, you know that some of the rings are very close together and others are further apart. Usually wide rings are when the tree had good weather and plenty of water and the more narrow rings may have signified a slow growth, possibly due to a harsh winter, or drought, etc.

In the case of this Hemlock, Stiefel assigned a high-pitched tone for the wide rings and a low tone for the narrow ones. Each ring tone is unique to a specific year and to watch the four minute sixteen second video is like listening to a time lapse of the last 467 years.

According to the post, "You can hear it get crowded out in 1679 ..." This would be from trees, not people or the growth of homes or buildings. This tree survived the woolly adelgid crisis as noted in the post, "What you hear in the last 20 seconds is light arriving through the gaps where its neighbors used to be." I'm not saying trees have feelings, but ... well, maybe they do, in a way. Survival of the fittest, right?

What if we could see the growth rings of the area in which we live? The aforementioned Hemlock started in 1559, long before any history of recorded establishments. There would have been hunters, Indians and unspoiled lands as far as the eye could see. Later on, the southern Blue Ridge mountains started having some Scots and Scot-Irish settlers, farmers, hunters and up until the early-mid 1800s, indigenous Indians.

It is a matter of personal opinion what ring tone would be assigned to our area's growth. What do you think? If you were to assign our area as a liv-

ing, breathing being, what ring tone would you give to the following? Remember, high notes would be a positive thing, and the lowest note would be something considered detrimental to the area. There should be a wide range of tones in between, because we live in gray areas, not black and white.

1875 – Kelsey and Hutchinson founded Highlands, NC as a health and summer resort.

1883 – Highlands had a population of about 300 people. Macon County had about 5,000.

1900 – "a few hundred" in Highlands, about 875 in Highlands Township and 12K Macon County

1950 – 514 in Highlands, 2000 Highlands Township and 16,000 in Macon County.

1975 – 950 in Highlands, about 2,300 Highlands Township and 18K in Macon County

2000 – 909 in Highlands, 2600 in Highlands Township and 29,000 in Macon County

2025 – 1,080 in Highlands, 3,200 in the Highlands Township and 39K+ in Macon County

Note that these are all year-round residents. In the Town of Highlands as in some other towns in western NC, these numbers can be multiplied by 25 times during the season which has increased from two months to six months.

In this hypothesis of monitoring imaginary growth rings of the area, maybe one should consider what time of year the measure is made.

What about when certain things were built or started? (if not correct, they're close)

- 1928 – Highlands Country Club
- 1956 – Sapphire Valley
- 1961 – Wildcat Cliffs County Club
- 1962 – (original) Highlands Falls Country Club
- 1970 – Sky Valley
- 1987 – Wade Hampton
- 1989 – Cullasaja Club (Arvida)

...FIRE continued from page 1

Edwards The Farm pavilion.

"Luckily, no poles were broken but there were power outages on Chowan, Memorial Park Drive, and Picklesimer," said Highlands Town Manager Josh Ward. "Power was restored around 2am and there was a big tree down on Chowan and two on Cullasaja, and Memorial Park."

Old Edwards property on Arnold Road didn't fair as well. The glass pavilion went up in flames and is reportedly "totaled."

"Last night, a fire occurred at The Farm at Old Edwards destroying the main pavilion and minimally damaging the barn. We are deeply relieved to share that no guests or team members were injured," said OEI CEO Richard Delany. "Thanks to the swift action of Highlands first-responders with assistance from

neighboring towns and counties, the fire was contained entirely to that single event venue. All other Old Edwards properties and amenities remain fully operational and unaffected."

According to Asst. Fire Chief Robbie Forrester, area fire departments called when the alarm went out and they offered to help.

Highlands Fire & Rescue (HF&R) responded at 9:53pm and "Scaly, Cashiers, Satolah, Cullasaja, Franklin, and Otto all came to help," said Forrester.

A few from HF&R stayed through the night to monitor the burn – they were relieved Tuesday morning.

Delany said no events were taking place Monday night and no one was hurt.

"We presume it was a lightning strike, but we are waiting on the final word from the inspectors," he said. "It started right around the same time as that massive lightning storm Monday night just before 10pm"

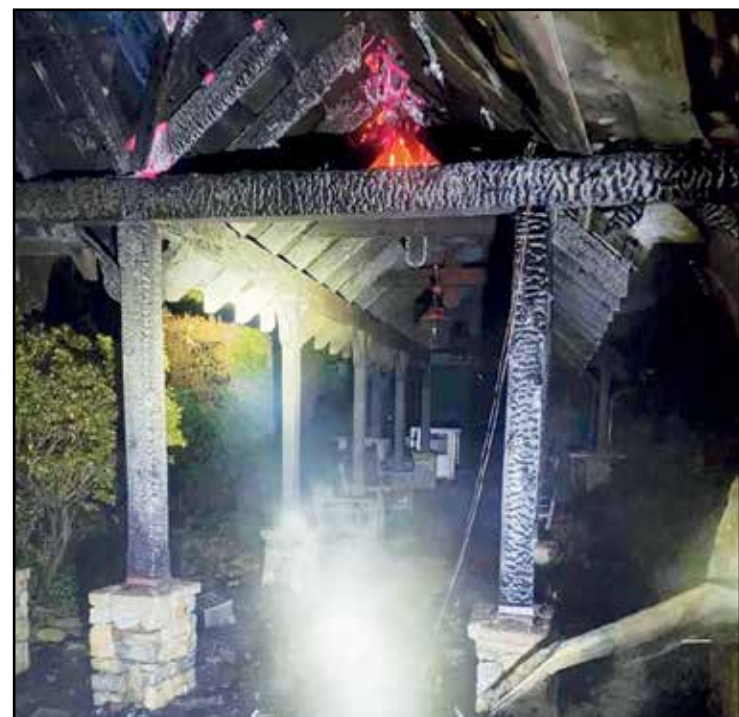
Delany said the pavilion is a total loss but thankfully the barn (dated from the 1800s) only needs a little work and the kitchen was saved – all thanks to the fire departments.

Since the Old Edwards Hospitality Group isn't a "box" hotel, Delany said OEI has other venues it can use while repairs are made at The Farm.

"We have other clubs and venues – Old Edwards Reserve at Lake Keowee, Glen Cove Club and the Old Edwards Club – and we are certain our members will understand our need right now."

In addition, Delany said they are currently reaching out directly to event hosts and guests to discuss the next steps.

"We again extend our sin-



– submitted photo

cere gratitude to the local first-responders for their immediate response, and we thank everyone

for their kind messages of sympathy," he said.

Commercial • 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.



Vacation Rental on Big Bear Pen

**MLS 1003282
\$1,250,000**

2 BR/3 BATHS. All on one level, garage, wood floors LOTS of storage and furnished

VRBO: NO!

Book your vacation rental

directly and save - highlandsiscalling.com



Your own Highlands Sanctuary

**MLS #1002006
\$2,999,000**

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

...SCHOOL continued from page 1

three K-12 schools in the state – Highlands School and Nantahala School.

The 12 schools in the MC School system are:

The Peak, Cartoogechaye Elementary School, East Franklin Elementary School, Franklin High School, Highlands School, Iotla Valley Elementary School, Ma-

con Early College High School, Macon Middle School, Macon Virtual Academy, Mountain View Intermediate School, Nantahala School, and South Macon Elementary School.

Including Highlands School many of the schools in the district will be welcoming new teachers and staff.

From Superintendent Josh Lynch:

"It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026-2027 school year! I hope your summer has provided time to rest, reconnect with family and friends, and enjoy the beauty of our mountains. As the first day of school approaches, I cannot help but feel the excitement and anticipation that accompanies a new beginning. There is something special about the start of a school year. The energy of students returning to classrooms, educators preparing engaging learning experiences, and schools once again coming alive with opportunity, purpose, and hope reminds us why this work is so meaningful.

"Each new school year represents a fresh start. It is a chance to set new goals, embrace new challenges, and celebrate new accomplishments. For our students, it is an opportunity to discover their strengths, develop meaningful relationships, and build the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for the future. For our teachers and staff, it is another opportunity to make a lasting difference in the lives of children through encouragement, compassion, and high expectations. Every interaction, every lesson, and every act of kindness helps shape the future of our students,

"At Macon County Schools, our mission extends far beyond academics. We are committed to creating learning environments where every student feels safe, valued, challenged, and supported. We believe that strong relationships are the foundation of student success, and we will continue to foster a culture where students are known, families are welcomed, and employees are respected and empowered. Together, we will prepare students not only for graduation, but also for success in college, careers, military service, and life.

"I continue to be inspired by the dedication of the incredible people who make up our school district. Our teachers, principals, teacher assistants, bus drivers, cafeteria staff, custodians, maintenance

teams, office personnel, and support staff each play an essential role in the success of our students. Your commitment, professionalism, and genuine care create schools where children can learn, grow, and thrive. Thank you for the difference you make every single day.

"Throughout the year, I look forward to visiting classrooms, attending school events, celebrating student achievements, and connecting with families and staff across the district. These opportunities remind me why Macon County Schools is such a special place. The strength of our district has always been our people and our shared commitment to doing what is best for children.

"As we begin this new school year together, let us approach each day with optimism, purpose, and the belief that every student can succeed. Let us encourage one another, celebrate our successes, learn from our challenges, and continue working together to provide exceptional opportunities for every child entrusted to our care.

"On behalf of the Macon County Board of Education, welcome back to the 2026-2027 school year. We look forward to welcoming students back to our classrooms on Monday, August 24. Thank you for your continued trust, partnership, and unwavering support of Macon County Schools. Together, let us make this an extraordinary year of learning, growth, and opportunity"

From HS Principal Sarah Holbrooks:

"We are pleased to welcome several new staff members to Highlands School this year. Merissa DeHart joins us as our new Kindergarten teacher, bringing a passion for early childhood education. Jennifer Shackley will serve as our new 6th-grade ELA/SS teacher, inspiring our students with her dedication. We also welcome Brooke Waldroop as our new EC teacher assistant, Cheryl Durden as our new custodian, and express our gratitude for their commitment to our school community.

"This year, we've made a few updates to the student handbook. Notable changes include the addition of an AI Policy, clarification that pajama pants are not considered school appropriate, and guidelines emphasizing proper care of school-issued devices. Additionally, page 21

• See SCHOOL page 21

Bryson's Food Store

Proudly Serving Highlands, North Carolina since 1977

The best meals start here!

Wine Tasting every Thursday, 2-5p



Open daily 7:30a to 7:30p

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

FOR SALE!

556 Shortoff Road, Highlands, NC 28741

Cozy Country Cottage in Highlands 3BD | 1BA | STR | +/- 0.41 ACRES

\$495,000







Merritt Shaw
828-421-7593
Merritt@MountainLifeRE.com

Mountain Life PROPERTIES



HOWARD HANNA

ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE

Unrivaled Resources. Exceptional Results.

Proudly introducing
Howard Hanna Allen Tate Highlands-Downtown

Backed by the nation's largest family-owned real estate company, we combine innovative marketing and leading technology to deliver an exceptional real estate experience across the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau.

NOW OPEN
411 N 4th Street
Mill Creek Shopping Center
828-547-0757

CASHIERS | HIGHLANDS-DOWNTOWN | MURPHY | SAPPHIRE | WILDCAT CLIFFS

Contact Howard Hanna Allen Tate today.



HOWARDHANNA.COM

HIGHLANDS DINING

HIGHLANDS BURRITO

Tuck into Tasty Mexican Favorites
and the Best Margaritas in Highlands



Host your next party at Highlands Burrito
for birthdays, game days & more!

CALL 828-526-9313 TO BOOK

 **DINE IN OR TAKE IT TO GO**
226 South 4th Street, Highlands, NC



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

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

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 | 828-482-7776

Open for our 37th Season



Open Tuesday - Saturday

Dinner Starts @ 5:30 PM

Serving Easter Brunch 11 AM - 2 PM

Outdoor Dining / Dine-In Art Gallery / lakesiderestaurant.info



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



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

Lunch: 11a-3:30p
Dinner:
5:30p - closed



415 4th Street • 828-500-1827
(next to the Blue Bike Cafe)



HOT MESS
WAFFLE IT YOUR WAY



Open Daily 9a to 5p – CLOSED WED. & SUN.

HIGHLANDS
— BISTRO —
"formerly DonLeon's"

Elevated Comfort Food | International Menu | Family Owned



AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PARTIES AND CATERING
Open Tuesday-Saturday

BREAKFAST 7 AM-10 AM | LUNCH 11 AM-3 PM

Open Thursday-Saturday DINNER 5PM-8 PM

828.482.1513 | 462 Dillard Rd, Highlands, NC 28741

• LETTER •

5-time draft dodger isn't fit to be commander-in-chief

Dear Editor,

The commander-in-chief of all U.S. military branches showed his concern for the welfare of sailors and marines by saying that their nine uninterrupted months aboard the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln is "not nearly long enough."

Coming from a man who never served his country and who has been branded as a five-time draft dodger I suppose that is to be expected. After all, he chastised the late John McCain, whose fighter jet was shot down over Hanoi, and for 5 1/2 years was a captive, beaten and tortured in a North Vietnamese prison.

The man who thought that he knew Trump well, the late Lindsey Graham, once questioned Trump's fitness to be commander-in-chief saying that attending a military high school was no substitute for the military service that Trump avoided. "He doesn't represent my party, and he doesn't represent the values that the men and women in uniform are fighting for." Trump didn't then and he obviously doesn't now.

David Kahn
Cashiers, NC

75 year celebration is at Dusty's Sun., Aug. 30

Dusty's Rhodes Superette
Established 1951

❖ Celebrate with us
75 Years of Serving You!



Join us Sunday August 30th
Drop by 11:00 - 2:30
and celebrate
with light bites
music and prizes!



...MAYOR continued from page 2

Another agenda item will be a board discussion about reviewing the Highlands Comprehensive Plan. The discussion will focus on how to work with the Highlands Planning Board to determine where the town is in implementing the comprehensive plan.

Finally, I will not be at this board meeting. Sallie and I have the opportunity to have a family vacation in Maine, and this week was the only time everyone in our family could be there. Mayor Pro Temp Jim Tate will preside over the meeting. Jim will also host the Community Coffee with the Mayor on Friday at 11 am at the Hudson Library. Please come to the coffee, where Jim will take questions about town plans and issues.

• DINING •



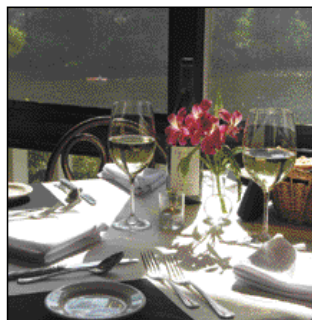
DUSTY'S
'YOUR GO TO PLACE FOR
STEAK* BURGER* CHICKEN* PORK
HOT DOGS* RIBS* SAUSAGE
TAKE AND BAKE SIDES AND DINNERS
FRESH SIDES, SANDWICHES & SALADS
BAKED GOODS* WINE* CHEESE
GOURMET FOOD & MORE!!



TUES.-FRI 9:30-5:30 SAT 9:30-5
493 DILLARD RD 828-526-2762

...on the Verandah
Restaurant
on Lake Sequoyah

43 Years of Fine Dining



NOW
OPEN

7
Nights a week
5:30-9p

828-526-2338

US 64w • Highlands

www.ontheverandah.com



HOME FOR SALE!

343 Cullasaja Drive, Highlands, NC 28741

Main House | 2BD | 2.5BA | .55+/- Acres
Separate Duplex | Two 1BD & 1BA

*Mirror Lake views, Highlands charm
and excellent income potential.*

- Versatile Guest Accommodations
- Lower Unit Leased
- Sold furnished with a few exceptions
- Large fenced patio
- No Homeowners Association

Contact Denise Boothby for details
828-482-2434



Divine Landscapes

Highlands Newest Art Gallery

Bringing the beauty of the Plateau into your home



In Village Square next to The Secret Garden
456 Oak Street, Highlands, NC
www.mydivinelandscapes.com
754-422-7327

Read Highlands Newspaper, Highlands' only locally owned newspaper, free from everywhere – on the street or on the web.

Digital version at www.highlandsnewspaper.com
Click on Local News.

Delivered and uploaded every Thurs. AM
Sapphire, Lake Glenville, Cashiers, Highlands, Scaly Mountain, Otto and Franklin



MARIA'S HOUSE MUSEUM

141 Main Street | Highlands

mariashousemuseum.com

Free Admission

Friday, Saturday 10-4 | Sunday 1-4



Classical Paintings
Rembrandt Etchings
Militaria
(15th to 20th century)
Modern Weapons

• LITERACY & LEARNING NEWS •

Equipping students to succeed: TL&LC welcomes learners for the 2026-'27 academic year

The Literacy & Learning Center is excited to welcome new participants alongside returning families as it kicks off the 2026-27 school year, providing a diverse range of free educational resources tailored for students of all ages.

Early Education Excellence

Children begin their learning experience in TL&LC's dedicated Pre-K program, which runs weekdays from 8 am to 12 pm. Centered on purposeful play and foundational literacy skills, the curriculum nurtures social-emotional development and problem-solving abilities in a welcoming environment designed to help young learners and their families feel instantly comfortable.

After-School Learning Initiatives

For older youth, TL&LC offers afternoon support running Monday through Friday to reinforce classroom learning:

• Kindergarten through 3rd Grade:

Young learners receive

targeted homework assistance alongside unique, hands-on activities. These enriching experiences are boosted by our strong community partnerships with local organizations, including The Bascom, the Highlands Biological Foundation, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, Hudson Library, and the Highlands Fire Department.

• 4th through 8th Grade:

Older students gather daily for structured academic support, receiving the guidance they need to tackle complex homework assignments, navigate research projects, and master core curriculum concepts.

Personalized Individual Tutoring

To support students who need customized instruction, The Center maintains individual tutoring services. Open to learners of any age across all academic disciplines, these one-on-one sessions typically meet twice weekly for one hour to build subject mastery and self-confidence.

As the school year commences, TL&LC remains dedicated to encouraging academic exploration, personal development, and educational achievement for all participating students.

Registration Details

Applications are currently being accepted across all offerings:

• After-School Registration: theliteracyandlearningcenter.org/youth

• Pre-K Registration: theliteracyandlearningcenter.org/pre-k

For Pre-K information, please get in touch with Carolyn Middlebrooks at cmiddlebrooks@theliteracyandlearningcenter.org. For other enrollment inquiries, programmatic details, or questions, please reach out to Bonnie Potts at bpotts@theliteracyandlearningcenter.org or call 828-526-0863. Please also feel free to visit TheLiteracyandLearningCenter.org.

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

The art and history of woodturning

Woodturner John Alden Tagliarini shared the art, history, and enduring appeal of woodturning during the Rotary Club of Highlands' Tuesday program on August 4th. Hosted by Rotary member and The Bascom Executive Director Billy Love, the presentation traced the evolution of woodturning from the ancient Egyptian bow lathe of 1300 B.C. to today's precision electric lathes while highlighting the craftsmanship that has remained at the heart of the trade for centuries.

Tagliarini, who began woodturning in 2011 after taking his

first class at the John C. Campbell Folk School, has taught at The Bascom since 2021 and serves as president of the WNC Woodturners. He explained the importance of understanding the medium—from the characteristics of softwoods and hardwoods to the differences between green and seasoned wood—and discussed techniques such as peeling, scraping, and shearing with traditional gouges and chisels. Passing around both his tools and finished pieces, he demonstrated how woodturning transforms natural materials into both functional objects and

fine art.

The presentation concluded with a lively question-and-answer session covering topics ranging from tool sharpening and design planning to sourcing wood and the unique beauty and delicate nature of cedar. Tagliarini encouraged anyone interested in learning the craft to explore classes and the welcoming community of woodturners at The Bascom, noting that the immediate gratification of shaping wood into something beautiful often sparks a lifelong passion for the craft.

FEATURED COMMUNITY

CHESTNUT HILL

HIGHLANDS, NC



Chestnut Hill

OF HIGHLANDS



MORE TIME FOR WHAT MATTERS

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Housekeeping Available | No Exterior Painting |
| Lock and Leave Convenience | No Roof Replacement or Repairs |
| No Lawn Maintenance | Social & Wellness Opportunities |
| No Gutter Cleaning | Catering Available |

CONDOS AVAILABLE

- 1 Bedroom - \$350,000
- 2 Bedrooms- \$465,000
- 3 Bedrooms- \$750,000

Enjoy effortless mountain living! Fully updated condos with modern finishes throughout. Relax on your private patio or deck, take advantage of the community & clubhouse amenities, including a fitness room & game space. Garages available!

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HOMESERVICES

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN
REALTY

© 2026 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.

For More Information
Contact Us at 828-526-1717



An evening on the set of The Gardener – a prelude to 2nd Annual HC Film Festival Sept. 16-19

By Kim Lewicki

About a 100 people turned out for the 2nd viewing of Dabney Day's "The Gardener" at PAC last Saturday.

To wet everyone's appetite, and as a prelude to the 2nd annual Highlands Cashiers Film Festival set for Sept. 16-19 at PAC, The Gardener was one of four, 2025 films to be re-screened, most for free, this summer.

Since much of the magical, spiritual, and uplifting elements

of The Gardener was filmed at Ray and Diane McPhail's compound on Lake Sequoyah, patrons paid the ticket price to experience the setting for themselves.

They were treated to champagne, a walk in the garden and the chance to gather with Dabney and Diane to hear what inspired the movie and more.

Also available for sale was the book, The Gardener, written by Dabney, which is featured in the movie as a guide to pro-

tagonist Sabena's transformation from the career-driven woman in charge of a cosmetic empire to the "person she was meant to be."

As explained by Dabney, "The Gardener emerged from the belief that within each of us lives a quiet, guiding light. When we listen to that voice and follow it, we are forever changed. In the darkest moments, even the smallest flame can reveal the path forward — and it is our choices along that path that de-

fine who we become."

Patrons gathered in the guest house, which is where Sabena lives in the movie, to hear the path Dabney took over the last 30 years as she dreamt of and eventually wrote and directed The Gardener with the help of her personal and business partner executive director Mike Macke.

Diane and Dabney have known each other for 40 years and when Dabney determined that the McPhail compound was the perfect spot for the film, the

McPhails opened their home and hearts to the crew and cast for six weeks of production.

To find out where the next screening of The Gardener is go to www.thegardenermovie.com/findascreening

The Gardener exemplifies the offerings people can look forward to during the 2nd annual Highlands Cashiers Film Festival. For a listing of what's to come, go to www.highlandscashiersfilmfestival.com/2026-festival-schedule



The book, The Gardener, is filled with beautiful illustrations and inspiring quotes exemplifying the restorative power of nature.



From left, Dabney Day, Mike Macke and Kim Lewicki of Highlands Newspaper



Dabney signed copies of The Gardener while Diane explained the "art of creation."



Diane McPhail and Dabney Day held court in the living room of the guest house featured in the movie.

Photos by Jim Lewicki

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •



From left: Jackie Reyes
Hannan and Faviola
Olvera

Celebrating freedom & resilience: Congratulations to Highlands' newest U.S. citizen!

Building on the inspiring success of individual tutoring efforts, which previously helped TL&LC student Violeta successfully pass her exam and become a U.S. citizen, The Literacy & Learning Center launched a brand-new structured Citizenship class earlier this year. Designed to prepare local adult learners for every step of the naturalization process, the class continues to run strong today, with a second session potentially being offered later this year to meet growing interest in the community.

It is through these very opportunities that TL&LC is thrilled to celebrate with Jacky Reyes Hannan, Highlands' newest citizen of the United States!

Achieving citizenship requires immense dedication, months of rigorous study, and a deep understanding of U.S. history, government, and civics. Jacky's hard work, perseverance, and commitment to this goal serve as an absolute inspiration to everyone at TL&LC.

This incredible accomplishment was supported every step of the way by TL&LC's extraordinary Adult Education instructor, Faviola Olvera. Faviola's unwavering dedication to her students goes far beyond the classroom. Not only does she tirelessly guide learners through the complex preparation for the naturalization exam, but her devotion is so deep that she frequently travels alongside her students to cheer them on in person at their official swearing-in ceremonies!

In Her Own Words: A Q&A with Jacky

How did TL&LC help you with the citizenship process?

"Being in a class made a huge difference. I don't think it would have been easy to study everything on my own. The classes kept me on track, and having a teacher who really knew the material made it much easier to understand and remember."

How will this change your life?

"It will open doors for me; for example, I can continue my education. I will also have a greater sense of stability, not just for me, but for my family as well."

What is the first thing you did as a citizen?

"The first thing I did was register to vote. Becoming a citizen is one of the proudest moments of my life, and the opportunity to vote is one of the greatest privileges and responsibilities that comes with it. For me, voting is more than just casting a ballot—it's having a voice, giving back to the country I proudly call home, and helping shape its future. I don't take that responsibility for granted, and I'm deeply grateful and incredibly excited to participate in the democratic process for the very first time."

Faviola's mentorship and Jacky's determination represent the absolute heart of TL&LC's Adult Education and Citizenship programs. Watching local neighbors achieve their dreams and step into this new chapter is a powerful reminder of why free, accessible education matters so much to the Highlands community.

Congratulations, Jacky – TL&LC is so incredibly proud of this achievement!



The Rock 'n' Roll Hotel You've Never Heard of Has a Story to Tell

Sept 16-19, 2026

For more than 60 years, the Sunset Marquis hotel in West Hollywood has served as a behind-the-scenes gathering place for some of rock 'n' roll's biggest names. Its unlikely place in music history is the subject of *If These Walls Could Rock*, one of eight films competing at this year's Highlands-Cashiers Film Festival (HCFF) at the Highlands Performing Arts Center. Directed by Tyler Measom and Craig A. Williams, the documentary is the untold story of the Sunset Marquis. Featuring a Hall of Fame lineup including Bruce Springsteen, Ringo Starr, Slash, Cyndi Lauper, Morrissey, Dave Grohl and many others, the film dives deep into the debauchery, the music and the magic that made the Marquis the heartbeat of rock 'n' roll for more than six



decades. Founded by George Rosenthal, the West Hollywood hotel was transformed into a music-world landmark through his work with his son, Mark Rosenthal. Their father-son relationship is at the heart of the film, alongside the wilder stories of the artists who passed through the hotel. Billy Bob Thornton, who calls himself the "unofficial mayor" of the Marquis, serves as a kind of guide through the hotel, taking viewers into the rooms, hallways, and poolside corners where decades of rock 'n' roll history unfolded. For Cyndi Lauper, the connection is personal. She has called the Sunset Marquis "my home away home", a sentiment that

echoed throughout the film by generations of artists. The filmmakers shared, "Within five minutes of walking in the Marquis, you may hear a rock and roll story that sounds completely made up, but come to learn is true. Still beyond the many amazing musical stories, the father-and-son tale at the heart of the hotel is what truly inspired us to create this film."

If These Walls Could Rock is one of eight competition films at this year's Highlands-Cashiers Film Festival, a four-day festival bringing world-class documentaries and dramas to downtown Highlands.

Tickets for the film and full festival lineup are available now through the Film Pass, VIP Pass, and Film Festival Society Membership at www.highlandscashiersfilmfestival.com/passes.

**Walk-ins
Welcome!**



**Hair Cuts,
Color & Styles
for
Men &
Women**



Monica



- Beard
Sculpting
& Trims
- Luxury
Shaves
- Men's Cuts

**Balayage • Eyebrow Tints & Facial Waxing
Premium Hair Extensions
Bridal Services**

**322 Main Street • Highlands, NC
828-482-1112**

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!



**THE
FIREFWOOD COMPANY**

Highlands • Cashiers • Atlanta

828.200.3050

bobhenritze@gmail.com • www.firewoodcompany.net

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Mountaintop Art & Craft Show returns to Highlands Aug. 29-30 for 20th Year

One of Highlands' favorite summer traditions returns August 29 and 30 as Mountaintop Rotary presents the 20th Annual Mountaintop Art & Craft Show at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in downtown Highlands.

The two-day event celebrates 20 years of art, community and giving back, bringing more than 100 outstanding artists and fine craft exhibitors to the heart of town. Visitors can spend the weekend browsing one-of-a-kind artwork, enjoying food and live music, and taking part in family-friendly activities throughout the park.

Saturday's activities include a Kids Zone featuring the Teddy Bear Hospital, sponsored by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, along with face painting, LEGO Mania, Swiftie bracelet making and snow cones. At 11 a.m., students from PACE Education Theatre will perform songs from Shrek.

Also on Saturday, the Sip & Stroll will run from 1 to 6 p.m., with refreshments from The Smokehouse and Western Carolina Brew & Wine. Mick Mayer and Lisa Rankin will provide live



music during the afternoon.

On Sunday, guests can continue shopping while enjoying music from the Standard Elevation Trio from 1 to 3 p.m. Four-legged visitors are welcome as well, with complimentary treats provided by The Park on Main Hotel.

The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Donations collected during the

event support youth programs across the Highlands-Cashiers Plateau.

The 20th Annual Mountaintop Art & Craft Show is presented by Mountaintop Rotary and sponsored by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visit Highlands and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices-Meadows Mountain Realty. More information is available at HighlandsArtShow.com.

CLE wraps up 2026 Season with history, sports, and science talks

**By Audra Bullard
CLE Programs & Communications Director**

The Highlands-Cashiers Center for Life Enrichment's (CLE) 2026 program series is coming to an end. Be sure to check out these last few programs before summer on the Plateau winds down.

On Wednesday, August 26th from 2-4 PM, author and retired physician William Rawlings will lead a history "double lecture." For the first half of his presen-

tation, Rawlings will discuss the Twin Land Scandals of Early Georgia, which ultimately resulted in the loss to Georgia of the land that became Alabama and Mississippi after the Revolutionary War. In the second half of his lecture, he will pivot to Civil War history, and discuss the Lost Stone Mountain Memorial. William Rawlings is a sixth-generation resident of Washington County, Georgia. He is an avid world traveler, photographer, and writer with 15 of his books cur-

rently in print. He is a three-time recipient of the Georgia Author of the Year Awards in the fields of History and Suspense.

On Thursday, August 27th from 2-4 PM, the Tampa Bay Rays Vice President of Baseball Systems, Brian Plexico, will join CLE for a talk on Uncle Charlie, the Tampa Bay Rays' innovative software program built on the principles of Moneyball efficiency and competitive advantage. Plexico will address

• See CLE page 17

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

The Bascom hosts Dahlia Judging Talk ahead of 16th Annual Dazzling Dahlia Festival

Free session led by Festival Directors Peggy Boruchow Arnette, Libby Eustis and Kim Daugherty prepares growers for the Single Bloom Competition



The Bascom: A Center for the Visual Arts will host “What Makes a Blue Ribbon Bloom? A Dahlia Judging Talk” on Saturday, August 29, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on The Terrace at 323 Franklin Road in Highlands, North Carolina. Free and open to the public, the session will be led by Dahlia Festival Directors Peggy Boruchow Arnette, Libby Eustis and Kim Daugherty, who will walk participants through how a dahlia is evaluated for the Dazzling Dahlia Festival’s Single Bloom Competition.

The talk is the second in a two-part educational series ahead of The Bascom’s 16th Annual Dazzling Dahlia Festival, which runs September 10 through 12 on the Bascom

campus. Where the first session, held in May, covered the fundamentals of growing a competition-ready bloom, this program turns to what happens after the flower is cut: how it is selected, evaluated and staged for the show table. Participants are encouraged to bring two or three dahlias from their own gardens for hands-on guidance.

“Learning to see a dahlia the way a judge does gives growers confidence,” said Priscilla Gallo-way, The Bascom’s Community Engagement Manager. “Peggy, Libby and Kim bring years of hands-on experience to this talk, and that practical knowledge helps growers at every level, from first-time entrants to longtime competitors.”

The Single Bloom Competition is the festival’s signature event, open to growers at every level, including an open division and a novice division for newer entrants. The juried show is on view Friday, September 11, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., and Saturday, September 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The talk is free and requires no advance registration.

...CLE continued from page 16

how Uncle Charlie integrates data, biomechanics, and scouting to help the Rays Front Office reduce risk and increase return on investment. He will also discuss how the information provided by the software guides the organization in amateur drafts, trades, and player development in the minor leagues.

Finally, CLE’s 2026 Program Series concludes on Thursday, September 3rd with Dr. Scott Fridkin’s talk on “The End of Antibiotics,” sponsored by the Highlands-Cashiers Health Foundation. Dr. Fridkin will describe the mechanism by which antibiotic resistance occurs, the need and prospects for the development of new techniques and strategies to combat resistance, and the role pharmaceutical companies and government can and should play to address this

urgent public health problem. Dr. Scott Fridkin is a professor in the Department of Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine and Epidemiology and at Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health. He received his medical degree from Loyola University and is an infectious disease physician. He trained at the CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer and worked at CDC for 25 years in hospital infection prevention, outbreak response, and tracking on antibiotic-resistant infections.

Each of these lectures cost \$35 for CLE Members, and \$50 for Nonmembers. For more information or to register, please visit clehighlands.com or call (828) 526-8811. Thank you for a wonderful 2026 season!

MOUNTAINTOP ART AND CRAFT SHOW 29-30 | AUGUST | 2026

KELSEY HUTCHINSON FOUNDERS PARK
HIGHLANDS, NC

OVER 100 ARTISANS AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
FOOD BY HIGHLANDS SMOKEHOUSE 11:00 - 2:30 EACH DAY -
SMOKED SAUSAGES, BBQ SANDWICHES AND FRESH SIDES



SATURDAY 10AM-6PM

10 AM ARTIST AWARDS
11 AM PAC EDUCATIONAL THEATER -
SELECTIONS FROM THE HIT *SHREK: THE MUSICAL*
1 PM MICK MAYER - ACOUSTIC FAVORITES FROM THE MAIN STAGE
3 PM LISA RANKIN - SINGS ALL-TIME FAVORITES
FROM THE MAIN STAGE

SUNDAY 10AM-4PM

1 - 3 PM STANDARD ELEVATION TRIO -
SMOOTH SUNDAY JAZZ

DON'T MISS THE KIDS' ZONE!

- Art projects
- Lego and bead creations
- Face painting (Sat. only)
- Teddy Bear Hospital from Highlands-Cashiers Hospital (Sat. only)



BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES

MEADOWS MOUNTAIN
REALTY



• HOSPITAL NEWS •

Advanced orthopedic care is available for the community at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

As more people choose to remain active throughout their lives, the need for orthopedic care continues to grow. Whether recovering from an injury, managing arthritis, or seeking relief from chronic pain, patients increasingly want access to highly specialized care without the inconvenience of traveling long distances.

At Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we believe our community deserves access to exceptional orthopedic expertise. That commitment is reflected in the addition of two highly respected orthopedic surgeons whose specialized training expands the advanced orthopedic services available right here on the Plateau. We are proud to welcome Dr. James Post and Dr. John Sloboda

to our medical staff, bringing nationally recognized expertise in upper extremity, hip, and knee surgery to the communities we serve.

Dr. James Post specializes in hand and upper extremity surgery, treating conditions that affect everything from the fingertips to the shoulder. His expertise includes carpal tunnel syndrome, rotator cuff injuries, fractures, arthritis, tendon disorders, and other conditions that can significantly affect a person's ability to work, remain active, and enjoy everyday life. With more than three decades of experience, our community is fortunate to have a surgeon of his caliber.

One of the most exciting advances Dr. Post brings to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is endoscopic carpal tunnel release. Unlike traditional open surgery, this minimally invasive procedure uses a very small incision and specialized instrumentation to relieve pressure on the median nerve. Patients often experience less post-operative discomfort, smaller scars, faster recovery, and an earlier return to work and the activities they enjoy. Offering this advanced procedure locally allows patients to receive leading-edge care without the burden of traveling outside the region.

Dr. Post also utilizes advanced arthroscopic shoulder techniques and modern fracture fixation methods that improve outcomes while helping patients recover more quickly. His expertise reflects our commitment to offering specialized orthopedic care that combines advanced techniques with the convenience of receiving treatment here.

Complementing this expertise is Dr. John Sloboda, a fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon specializing in adult hip and knee reconstruction. Following his orthopedic residency, Dr. Sloboda completed an Adult Reconstruction Fellowship at Virginia Tech Carilion, where he received an additional year of highly specialized training focused exclusively on complex hip and knee replacement and joint preservation.

Dr. Sloboda's practice includes primary hip and knee replacement, arthroscopy, and complex revision procedures for patients whose previous joint replacements require correction. His focus is re-



**Tom Neal CEO, CNO
Highlands-Cashiers
Hospital**

storing mobility, relieving pain, and helping patients return to the activities that make life enjoyable.

After completing his fellowship, Dr. Sloboda served on the faculty at Carilion Clinic, where he helped train future fellowship surgeons in adult reconstruction while caring for patients with complex joint conditions. Bringing that level of experience to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital further strengthens our ability to provide advanced orthopedic

care for our region.

An important part of Dr. Sloboda's approach is the use of modern rapid recovery protocols that prepare patients before surgery and support earlier rehabilitation afterward. By optimizing medical conditions before surgery, incorporating physical therapy before and after surgery, and using multimodal pain management strategies, patients often recover more comfortably while reducing their reliance on opioid medications.

Dr. Sloboda also performs muscle-sparing procedures, including quad-sparing knee replacements and direct anterior hip replacements. These techniques minimize disruption to surrounding muscles and soft tissues, allowing many patients to experience less pain, faster healing, and a quicker return to normal activities. For appropriately selected patients, these advances may even allow them to return home the same day as surgery.

The addition of Dr. Post and Dr. Sloboda represents more than the recruitment of two exceptional surgeons, it reflects Highlands-Cashiers Hospital's continued investment in expanding access to specialized healthcare services. Our vision is to ensure residents of Highlands, Cashiers, and the surrounding communities have access to advanced orthopedic care delivered by highly trained specialists using modern, evidence-based techniques.

As healthcare continues to evolve, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital remains committed to bringing outstanding physicians, innovative treatment options, and compassionate care to the communities we serve. By investing in specialized expertise today, we are ensuring our patients have access to exceptional orthopedic care for years to come.

WHOLE LIFE MARKET

Natural Products Store

Hours: 9am-5pm
Mon-Sat
828-526-5999

Wholelifehighlands@icloud.com

LOCATED AT 680 N 4TH ST, HIGHLANDS

NECTAR Organic smoothie/juice
bar located inside Whole Life Market

HIGHLANDS HOSTESS

HAPPIEST IN
Highlands

— YOUR LOCAL INSIDER —

LOCAL CELEBRATION PLANNING -
CURATED WEEKENDS - CONCIERGE
SERVICES - INSIDER VIP EXPERIENCES

HAPPIESTINHIGHLANDS.COM

828.200.2659

RYAN HENDERSON

828-482-7062

Custom • Decks • Bathroom
Remodel • Paint
Tiling • Carpentry
BeSpoke Shutters
Interior & Exterior Needs

**COREY JAMES GALLERY
& Estate Consignments**

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

On the corner of 3rd & Spring
(828) 526-4818

...INVESTING continued from page 6

1998 – Trillium

There are plenty more, but there's not enough room to mention all of the inns, B&Bs, and hotels that began. Most are gone, but there is Highlands House, now Highlands Inn still operating which was started in 1880.

Things come and go and more times than not, scuttlebutt abounds and that's one thing that hasn't changed.

VZ Top developed on Little Yellow Mountain (Do some people even realize it's called anything other than VZ Top?) Franklin Press, Nov.2, 1972 "44, two-three-bedroom condominiums built for year-round living overlooking Highlands Country Club." That was BIG news for quite some time. I have heard hundreds of times, "What are those things sticking out on the side of the mountain?"

In today's world, the rumor mills still churn, and everyone feels the need to weigh in with how it should have stayed or how much better it will be with changes. Think back over just the time YOU have been a part of YOUR community, wherever you live. Apply the "rings of growth" and assign a ring to each year. What would it sound like?

Today's Investing at 4118 is dedicated to the memory of my husband, Overton Tucker Chambers. Tucker loved Highlands, especially the trees. There were a few that I'm sure he thought were his friends, one in particular that I named, Tucker's Spirit Tree.

MOUNTAIN LAKES MEDICAL CENTER

162 Legacy Point Clayton, GA 30525

Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT)

Audiology Care

All in One Location!



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



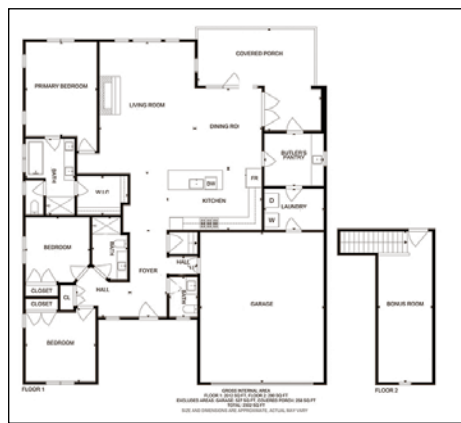
Dr. Erica McVey,
Audiologist University
of Texas

Contact: (706) 782-0478

CONNECT



www.mountainlakesmedicalcenter.com / www.mlmphysiciansgroup.com



Floor plan for illustrative purposes only.

159 Stoney Creek Circle
Highlands, NC
3 Bed 2.5 Bath
\$1,445,000 • MLS#1003773

Brian Seifried
770.309.1143
404.352.2010

DORSEY ALSTON
REALTORS®





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.

Friday Night Live

Town Square | 343 Main Street

Showcasing traditional
mountain music and local talent

AUGUST 7
Johnny Webb

AUGUST 14
McClain Family Band

AUGUST 21
Shawn Lane Trio

AUGUST 28
Spare Parts Bluegrass Band

Saturdays on Pine

Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park
411-499 Pine Street

Featuring a variety of popular,
regional bands and musicians

AUGUST 1
Yacht Rando

AUGUST 8
Blake Ellege + The Resonators

AUGUST 22
Will Thompson Band

AUGUST 15 & 29 - NO CONCERT



visithighlandsn.com

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Mountaintop Rotary hears update on Highlands Bolivian Mission and new

Mountaintop Rotary was pleased to welcome Dr. John Baumrucker, who provided members with an update on the Highlands Bolivian Mission, including its current activities and ongoing work with a foster home for boys in Bolivia.



John Martin, President and John Baumrucker

Dr. Baumrucker also shared details about an exciting new wheelchair initiative designed to provide greater mobility and independence to people in Bolivia. The goal is to raise \$28,000 to purchase 270 wheelchairs for individuals in need.

The funds raised locally will be matched by the Wheelchair Foundation, making it possible to complete the initia-

tive and significantly expand its impact. The project is likely to happen in November of 2027 and volunteers are welcome to come and experience the joy of distributing these chairs in six or seven cities near the foster home and stay at the Mama Joanna Guest House on the grounds of the foster home.

Mountaintop Rotary appreciates Dr. Baumrucker's continued commitment to the people of Bolivia and looks forward to supporting efforts that bring hope, opportunity and greater quality of life to those in need.

Arranging the perfect floral arrangement

The August meeting of the Laurel Garden Club gave members an opportunity to learn how to make their own floral arrangements even more beautiful. Ken Proctor, a Certified Floral Designer and Florida State Master Designer, provided an overview of the elements of floral design and demonstrated how to use a variety of fresh



flowers and permanent botanicals to make exquisite arrangements. Ken shared several arrangements that he made especially for this meeting and explained exactly how each was put together to result in arrangements that drew ooh's and ahh's from everyone! As a freelance designer in Amelia Island, Florida and here in Highlands, Ken has created beautiful floral arrangements for every imaginable special

event. Members left their meeting ready to gather flowers from their gardens and begin work on their own floral arrangements.

• *The mission of the Laurel Garden Club, whose dedication to conservation, civic beauty, and horticultural enrichment, has helped shape Highlands into the flourishing community we know and love. For more information about the Laurel Garden Club, please go to its website:*
www.laurelgardenclubhighlands.com

...SCHOOL continued page from 8

is now a policy requiring parents to communicate transportation changes to the office by 2 p.m. to ensure all students arrive safely at their destinations.

"Students will continue to receive free breakfast each morning. However, lunch prices have increased to \$4.40 this school year. We encourage all families to complete the lunch application. This helps us ensure accurate funding and support.

"Looking ahead, we hope to expand our offerings by establishing a Pre-K classroom at Highlands School next year. We are actively working on licensing and plan to pursue this addition in the upcoming budget cycle, though final approval is still pending," she said.

According to Superintendent Josh Lynch, the Macon County Board of Education will work in conjunction with the Macon County Board of County Commissioners to schedule a joint meeting in September to once again discuss the Board of Education shortfall, which

is why the Pre-K class was canceled for the '26-'27 school year.

"Our enrollment remains steady, with approximately 85 elementary students, 85 middle school students, and 160 high school students. We have right around 330 students currently enrolled for the 26/27 school year," said Holbrooks.

"We are excited for the start of another school year! Our community showed tremendous support during the 4th annual cleanup day this past Saturday, and our teachers are eager to welcome all Highlanders on Monday morning.

"As we embark on this new year, I feel blessed to serve such an incredible community. This marks my ninth year at Highlands School, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work, grow, and learn alongside our students and staff," said Holbrooks. "I am also proud that my three children attend Highlands, receiving an exceptional education through Highlands School and Macon County Schools."

Rotary

Club of Highlands
Chartered 1945



Rotary Club Report from Josh Bryson, President, Rotary Club of Highlands



As President of the Rotary Club of Highlands, I am continually inspired by the remarkable spirit that defines our club and the positive change we foster in our community. Rotary is more than an organization—it is a movement built on fellowship, service, and a shared vision of creating a better world.

Here in Highlands, our club exemplifies the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self." Through countless volunteer hours, charitable initiatives, and community projects, we work side by side to address local needs, uplift our neighbors, and create opportunities for growth and well-being. Whether it's supporting education, promoting health, or lending a helping hand to those in need, every effort reflects our unwavering commitment to making a difference.

A perfect example of this was the Rotary Club of Highlands Twilight 5k race that supports local organizations focusing on children of our community.

Let us continue to embody the ideals of Rotary and inspire others to join us in our mission of service and goodwill.

111 301 VIVVO

Josh

JOSH BRYSON,
PRESIDENT

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •



From left: Josh Bryson, President Highlands Rotary Club; Danielle Hernandez, Regional Program Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters; Billy Love, Rotary Host

The Rotary Club of Highlands recently enjoyed an informative presentation, hosted by club member Billy Love, featuring Danielle Hernandez, the Regional Program Director for Big Brothers-Big Sisters of America. Danielle began by introducing herself while also providing a bit of history about the organization and was pleasantly surprised to learn most of the Rotary members were quite knowledgeable about the Plateau chapter.

During her presentation, she highlighted the nearly 50% growth in the Pla-

teau's enrollment, with 112 "Littles" now in the program. But, the need for "Bigs" is still great, with a waiting list of 50 children on the Plateau. She presented data showing the success achieved vs. peers not in the program, including a 20% greater likelihood of the participants going to college and 68% improvement in academic performance.

Danielle finished her presentation with a call to action for those present — join her work as a "Big" and commit to getting a "Little" through high school.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Coming up in August, the Rotary Club of Highlands will feature weekly luncheon programs including:

On Aug. 11th, the Club heard from Tom and Sparkie Folkers about Creating Lasting Impacts – One Family at a Time.

On Aug. 18th, Club member Commissioner Bill Grubb provided a comprehensive briefing about the Highlands Plateau Greenway.

On Aug. 25th, Peggy Boruchow Arnette and Kim Daugherty will get us ready for the highly anticipated Dazzling Cahlia Festival taking place Sept. 10 at The Bascom for the Visual Arts.

On Thurs., Aug. 13, the Rotary Club of Highlands sponsored Bingo Night at the Highlands Community Building to benefit the Scaly Mountain Women's Club.

On Sat., Aug. 15, the annual Highlands Twilight 5K Run and Walk took place in Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING



Ice Cream Social

**Sr. Pastor
Gary Hewins**
Community Bible Church

I was recently in an ice cream store when I noticed a young, 10ish year-old young man with his dad. They were sort of quietly, “chillin” for the afternoon. Confirming they were a father-son duo, I let the young guy know that I had recently lost my dad and that I had realized a couple of things since then.

I shared that I wished I had hung out with my dad more often, especially near the end of his life and that I wished I had called him more often just to talk.

They looked at each other and sort of did a man hug followed by a fist bump sort of thing. They soon left the store, eating their ice cream as they walked down the sidewalk with a renewed sense of mission for the afternoon and maybe for life.

I could tell the young man was considering our brief encounter not only for its subject matter but for the oddity of its occurrence. Our brief interaction as total strangers seemed more monumental than it should have. It seems like people don’t cross such unseen social barriers enough or often as needed nowadays. It seems more expected that we each should keep to ourselves, because that’s the norm.

People today may have “affordability issues” but we can all afford to be more friendly. Our culture needs to be more friendly. Perhaps we are far too comfortable looking at a phone at the expense of looking at one another?

I understand the need to teach our children all about “stranger danger” but hopefully we can still live outside of silent, sterile, social silos.

Maybe we have too many instances of “adult” leaders in our society who lack the maturity to get along with others and the rest of us are letting that kind of immaturity influence us?

Whatever it is, we seem to be losing our ability to freely interact and be friendly (or even the least bit concerned) for one another and maybe even helpful to one another.

The Bible has some pretty appropriate things to say on this matter. Do you know about the “one another’s in the bible?”

1. Love one another
2. Serve one another
3. Encourage one another
4. Bear one another’s burdens

• See SPIRITUALLY page 23

• PLACES TO WORSHIP •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Oliver Rice. Pastor 706-782-3965

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

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

5th Sunday Singing featuring Georgia Mountain Trio;

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

Senior Pastor: Rev. Amy Spivey

Assoc. Pastor: Rev. Wonyeong Lee 828-743-5298

Sundays: School at 9:30; Worship & Kids 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

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.

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

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 • fpchighlands.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.

Rabbi led service 3rd Saturday AM, 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 thru Oct 24.; 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

Bazaar Barn outreach is 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

• POLICE & FIRE REPORTS •

Highlands Police entries from Aug. 16. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a summons/citation, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or those of public officials have been used.

Highlands Police entries from Aug. 16. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a summons/citation, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor or those of public officials have been used.

Accidents responded to: Aug. 16

• Unit 1 was parked facing south in PVA of 200 Main. An unknown Unit 2 struck Unit 1 while leaving parking place. Unit 1 remained at rest in parking place. Unit 2 left the scene.

• During the week, 17 citations were issued and 53 warning tickets were issued.

Aug. 12

• At 3:26 p.m., officers responded to a report of a burglary/breaking & entering at a residence on Picklesimer Road. A rifle valued at \$500 and a pump action shot gun valued at \$500 were taken.

...SPIRITUALLY continued from page 21

5. Forgive one another
6. Pray for one another
7. Show hospitality to one another

There are other "one another's," but you get the point.

Do we have more obstacles between us than we do reasons to connect with one another? Anyway, let's all think about being a bit more friendly to one another if only because we need this from one another.

Friendliness is a deep need in a world where anxiety is on the rise and connection is on the decline. When I was a kid, we had occasional drills in school where we got under our desks to protect ourselves from the worst things that could happen to us, most of which were Russian in origin. The desks were well built, but that all seems so

Aug. 13
• At 1:40 p.m., officers responded to a report of a simple assault during a domestic dispute between siblings at a location on N. 4th Street.

Aug. 14
• At 9:30 p.m., Gardner Sharpe Jr., 78, of Highlands, was arrested for DUI when pulled over on US 64. He wasn't issued a bond. His trial date is Sept. 17.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue log from Aug. 4.

Aug. 11
• At 1:04 p.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on Whiteside Mountain Road.

• At 1:17 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Lower Brushy Face Road.

• At 11:52 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Leonard Road.

Aug. 12
• At 9:31 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cullasaja Drive.

Aug. 13
• At 6:48 p.m., the dept. provided a lift assist at a residence on River Court.

• At 11:45 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Holt Knob Road.

ridiculous now. Today, kids don't get under their desks, they listen for an active shooter in the hallway. A threat outside your math class is more anxiety causing than an army on the other side of the world.

Before we all become even more paranoid, maybe we can encourage the simplicity of reaching out to one another, regardless of who is telling us that we are each other's enemies.

Here is a verse that sums it up for me: "A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother – Proverbs 18:24.

The older I get the more "old school" seems to be more often the right thing to do. In our culture we used to be more friendly and who cares if that

Aug. 15
• At 11:31 a.m., the dept. provided public assistance at a location on Turtle Pond Road.

• At 6:11 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on N. 4th Street.

• At 11:56 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Chestnut Hill Drive.

Aug. 16
• At 5:52 p.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Spring Street.

• At 11:33 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Forest Trail.

Aug. 17
• At 11:59 a.m., the dept. responded to a fire alarm at a location on Arnold Road.

• At 12:22 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a location on Country Club Drive.

• At 7:51 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a tree on a power line on Chowan Drive.

• At 8:42 p.m., the dept. responded to a call of a power line down on Maple Lane.

• At 9:53 p.m., the dept. responded to a structure fire at OEI's The Farm on Arnold Road.

is "old?" Old can be good, too. There was a time when we were more friendly. The way forward seems meaning going back at times.

If you don't have a "pastor," will you allow me to be yours for a minute? I encourage you to get out there today only to interact more and care more and connect more.

I also encourage you to hang out more with your dad or whoever you know you need to be with. Remember, it's OK to take your eyes off your phone and place them on another. It's time to also use that phone to make an overdue call to someone that needs to hear "I love you" or "I appreciate you" or "I forgive you", or whatever. After all, it's in the Bible.



Attention Friends of Mirror Lake!

The Mirror Lake Improvement Association (M.L.I.A) Invites you to two important events to learn about the continuing DREDGING PLAN.

1. Tonight's – Aug. 20 – 7pm Town Board Meeting at the Community Building next to the ballfield

&

2. The M. L. I. A. Annual Meeting:

Thurs., Sept. 10, 6pm

at the Mirror Lake Bridge

(Refreshments will be served.)

Michael Hanson (McGill & Associates), the Engineering Firm retained by Town of Highlands, will address both events to explain, discuss, and take questions regarding the continuing Mirror Lake Dredging Phases 2 & 3.

Please Join Us!

For more information
call or text

Pat Gleeson, President, M. L. I. A.
at patrickgleeson4@gmail.com or



HIGHLANDS CHURCH

Come join us
each Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

- Small group environment
- Casual
- Breakfast included
- LIVE stream ANDY STANLEY (NPCC)

For more information and location
Call Bee at 404-307-1415



- 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

Offices in Cashiers and Highlands
828-482-7417
info@counseling-center.org | counseling-center.org



HOWARD HANNA
ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE
#1 Family-Owned in the U.S.

Al Stoneham
Realtor-Broker
Luxury Home Specialist
Licensed in NC & GA
Cell: 828.332.9767
al.stoneham@howardhannatate.com



**Granite Counter Tops
Kitchen and Bath
Custom Fabrication
Natural Stones**

Phone: 828-331-7730
Phone: 864-244-0504
southgranitelandscape@gmail.com
www.southgranitedesign.com

94-5 US-64 Cashiers NC 28717



ALLAN DEARTH GENERATORS AND SONS

► 828-526-9325 ◀

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

GENERAC
Cummins
KOHLER



Kiln dried FIREWOOD
Delivery or pickup

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

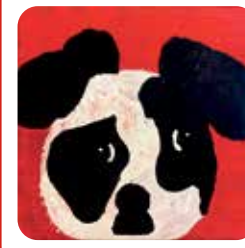
CHESTNUT STORAGE

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-



**LISA THOMPSON
DOG SITTING**

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

828.424.4637



Elevated Home Maintenance & Repairs, LLC
A Step Above the Rest

Carpentry • Tile Work • Drywall • Remodels
Painting • Flooring • General Labor • Realtor Punchlists

(828) 371-9071
ElevatedHomeMaintenance.com

**356B 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

PIANO TUNING

Professional Service Since 1985

Bob McCollum
828-507-5760
Bobboh1@yahoo.com

Business Card Ads
\$23 BW – \$28 color

Classifieds
\$10 for first 10 words, 30 cents each additional word

• CLASSIFIEDS •

FOR SALE

BECAUSE THE VARIANCE WAS DENIED,

I am selling a quantity of high-quality prime Douglas Fir lumber. Please let me know if you would like to make an offer. Peggy Phillips 727-422-9300. (st. 6/11)



MIRROR LAKE COTTAGE, 2/2, fully renovated. \$525k. Text only 828.421.2042.



COTTAGE ON LAKE BURTON \$129,500 - North Georgia Mountains. 1br/1ba. 1 year old with modern design, all appliances and furniture. Beautiful gated community. www.sugarmillcreek.com Tel: 912-222-2448



17FT ALUMINUM LAKE CANOE, excellent condition with paddles \$600. 828-421-0124 (st. 7/9)

1.06 AC LOT ON 8900 Buck Creek Rd. \$79,900. 828-421-0124 (st. 7/9)

HELP WANTED

IN SEARCH OF PART-TIME CHOIR DIRECTOR Highlands United Methodist Church is seeking a chancel choir director for their weekly Sunday traditional worship services at 11am. Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 4pm. Inquiries may be addressed to Rev. Dr. Randy Lucas, HUMC Senior Pastor, at randyhumc@icloud.com. (8/13)

CAREGIVERS NEEDED FOR PT DAY AND NIGHT SHIFTS. - Competitive wages. Background check required. text 828-200-9000 for details or apply online www.MyChoiceHome.Care (7/2)

FOR RENT

2BD/1BA HOME IN FRANKLIN. Washer/dryer, air-conditioned. \$1,100/mth. plus deposit. Call 828-421-8299. (st. 8/20)

NEW 2BD, 2BA, FURNISHED APARTMENT within a half mile of downtown. \$1,600 a month. Call 404-234-2516. (st. july 2)

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

SERVICES

MOBILE CARWASH/ DETAILING - THE DETAIL GUYS WNC (828) 745-3500 text .The detailguyswnc on facebook Full Service. We Come To You

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. (6/25)

HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HANDYMAN - Chatlos Construction - Remodels, Additions, Framing, Siding, Roofing, Decks, Painting. References. Insured. 828-200-4071. (6/25)

JUNK REMOVAL - We take anything. Call 828-200-0492

CUSTOM WELDING - gates, railings, trailer repairs, fencing, hand rails and more. I come to you! Call Gavin at 828-200-4219 or email smallgavin26@gmail.com

MURPHY'S PAINT CO. - interior/exterior painting/sheetrock repair/wallpaper removal/log homes/ decks. Insured. Free estimates. 828-332-0525 or 828- 421-8600. (5/21)

NEED FURNITURE MOVED OR ANYTHING HAULED AWAY? Call or text James of Going Gone at 828-421-2655. (7/30)



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 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.

HIGHLANDS

DRIVING SERVICE

No Ubers. No Problem.

SAFE RIDES. LOCAL SERVICE. PEACE OF MIND.

WE GET YOU THERE SAFELY.

Call or Text to book your ride

Local. Trusted.

(References available)

828-342-3608

— PRICING —

\$30 PER CAR FOR A RIDE

More than 4 people means more than one trip. Cost for additional trip/car is:

\$50 ADDITIONAL CAR

OUTSIDE OF HIGHLANDS

Prices may differ.

• 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+ only.

PICKLE BALL

• At the Recreation Dept. there are three indoor Pickle Ball courts and six outdoor courts. Pickle Ball can be played every Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs. and Friday 10am-pm outdoors for the summer

MTN FINDINGS

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

FIBBER MAGEES

• Fibber Magee's Thrift Store on Laurel Street Hours. Wed. & Fri. - 10a too 4p. Sat. - 10a to 2p.

FARMERS MARKET

• The "market" is open every Saturday 8a to 12:30p in KH Founders Park on Pine Street.

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 Mountain each Tues & Sat at 5:30 pm and at 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 5:00 pm, on Tuesday @ 7:00 pm, on Friday at 5:30 pm and on Saturday at 9:00 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.

2nd 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

4th Mondays

• Highlands Planning Board meeting 5:30 p.m., in the Community Building.

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

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.

Tuesdays & Thurs.

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

Wednesdays

• The Literacy & Learning Center offers a FREE weekly Citizenship Class led by Faviola Olvera from 5:30 to 7 pm at 675 S 4th St in Highlands, this program is designed to help students navigate the complexities of the U.S. naturalization exam.

• 2026 marks a sesquicentennial in our nation's history and we will be celebrating those 250 years at the Macon County Historical Museum with a free Fall seminar on the American Revolution, reading and discussing Ray Raphael's The People's History of the American Revolution: How Common People Shaped the Fight for Independence. Participants will have their choice of in-person meetings at the Museum or meeting online using the Zoom platform. We will be meeting once a month, Wednesday evenings, from August thru November. Participants can sign up at tinyurl.com/amrevhistseminar Seminar leader John deVile holds a BA in Philosophy from UNC-Chapel Hill and a BS Ed from Western Carolina University He has taught American History and philosophy for 30 years in a public high school and has led adult seminars in

history and philosophy for the past seven years. He is the current Executive Director of the Macon County Historical Museum.

• Digital Navigators will be at the Hudson Library from 10a-noon 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. For more information, call the Library at 828-526-3031. This program is free and open to the public.

2nd Wednesdays

• Highlands Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting at 5:30 in the Community Building

Thursdays

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

3rd Thursdays

• Highlands Town Board meeting 7 p.m., in the Community Building.

3rd Saturdays

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



Through Aug. 30

• Mountain Theatre Company presents "Showstoppers" a high-energy, 90-minute multimedia spectacular that races through Broadway and Hollywood's most unforgettable musicals, from West Side Story and Dreamgirls to Singin' in the Rain, Chicago, Mamma Mia!, and more. Featuring dazzling costumes, cinematic visuals, and a world-class professional cast, this fast-paced celebration brings iconic movie-musical moments to life with thrilling vocals, dynamic choreography, and nonstop excitement. The ultimate musical celebration. For tickets call 828.526.2695 or go to boxoffice@mountaintheatre.com

Sun., Aug. 20

• At Dusty's on NC 106 (Dillard Road) Come celebrate 75 years

of business. 11a-2:30p. Light bites, music and prizes.

Fri., Aug. 21

• The Highlands Chamber of Commerce invites residents and businesses to safely dispose of sensitive documents during a free Community Shred Event on Friday from 9am to noon at Highlands Plaza, near Bryson's Food Store. The event offers the community a convenient way to securely dispose of documents containing personal or confidential information while supporting environmentally responsible disposal practices. The event is free, yet any voluntary donations will benefit the Highlands Food Pantry and Highlands Emergency Council.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 29-30

• Highlands Arts & Craft Show in KH-Founders Park on Pine Street 10a to 5p Sat. and 10a to 4p on Sunday. 120 vendors. Food available for purchase from Highlands Smokehouse, 11a-2:30p both days. Sip & Stroll Saturday. Tickets available at Sip & Stroll tent in front of the stage. Kid Zone, too.

Sat., Aug. 28

• At The Bascom, What makes a blue ribbon bloom? A dahlia judging talk. 11a-noon. Free and open to the public. No registration required. For more info, go to TheBascom.org.



Sept. 1

• Pop Up Pipers

Sat. -Sun, Sept. 5-6

• Public Open House at 1875, Highlands' newest exclusive gated community. 11a to 4p each day. Charcuterie, and registration for exciting gift card. High Gate Drive off Dillard Road.

Mon., Sept. 14

• Cashiers Cares 5th annual golf tournament will be held at Trillium Golf Club. Play is limited to first 96 players to sign up and Cost is \$300/player. The format is a scramble start at 10:30 AM. Lunch is provided and also awards party at the golf course. Raffles and Silent Auction featuring local merchants will be part of the activities, including golf foursomes at private clubs here on the plateau. There will be a Long Drive event with a Golf Pro and the chance to win a trip to Pebble Beach

to play golf. To sign up to play in the tournament go to the website which has all the details.

Wed, Sept 16

• A FREE 2nd showing of Rise, Ruin, and Restoration: A History of Lake Toxaway, The Return of Lake Toxaway is at 1p at the PAC. Documentary chronicles the creation of the resort on Lake Toxaway, the dramatic collapse of the dam in 1916, and the effort to resurrect the mountain lake some 40 years later. Director Dan Johnson will be available for comments following the film. Registration is required. Seating is limited. Arrive early. Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/1996882373935?aff=oddtcreator

• 2nd Annual Highlands Cashiers Film Festival Kick-Off Party - Free and open to the public at 6p at PAC. Bring the family, a picnic and lawn chairs and gather round a bonfire (weather permitting) with live music from Silly Ridge, Highlands-based acoustic bluegrass band, and enjoy a first meet-and-greet with Artistic Director Joy Jorgensen.

Wed.-Sat Sept. 16-19

• 2nd Annual Highlands Cashiers Film Festival held at the Highlands Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. For lineup and tickets go to www.highlandscashiersfilmfestival.com

Thurs., Sept. 17

• Library Party at the Hudson Library from 5-7 p.m. Unveiling the capital campaigns and newly completed outdoor spaces 5-7 p.m. Live music, food and drinks and tours.

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 19-20

• The Power of a Beautiful State: a 2-Day inner journey to calm, creativity and connection. The Mountain Retreat Ctr., \$150 to \$275. Info: LindaChmar@gmail.com or 404-909-9904

Sun., Sept. 20

• CLE's free annual Porchfest from 1-6 PM. Over 40 musicians will perform across 16 venues in Downtown Highlands.

Sat. Sept. 26

• The Annual Highlands Heritage Jamboree is at the KH Founders Park. It's a free event of live music, mountain dance, history and food. From 1:30-3:30p, it's the US Fleet Forces Navy Band: Four-Star Edition. At 3:30p the Foxfire Boys will perform. At 4p Highlands Smokehouse BBQ and moonshine will be available. Then from 5-7:30p it's the Darren Nicholson Band. Admission is free. Bring chairs or blankets.

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.CCPHHighlandsNC.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



LUXURY COLLECTION™

Of the 55,000+ BHIHS 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/



**LOCK &
LEAVE
MOUNTAIN
LIVING**



**11 Wood Lilly Way
Highlands, NC**

Offered
at \$749,000

- 3 Bed, 2 Bath
- Screened Front
Porch and Covered
Rear Deck
- Completely
and Luxuriously
Remodeled



Clif Gottwals

303.887.7479
Clif.Gottwals@Gmail.com

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
— HIGHLANDS CASHIERS —

HighlandsCashiersCIRE.com
210 North Fifth Street
Highlands, NC 28741



HOWARD HANNA
ALLEN TATE REAL ESTATE
Darlene Conley
Mountain Luxury
*Your Dream. Your Journey.
YOU'RE HOME.*
Dedicated to
finding the home
you've always wanted.
Cell: 404.427.2448
darleneconley@howardhannatate.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

Denise Boothby
828-482-2434
LiveLoveHighlands.com



CHRISTIE'S HIGHLANDS CASHIERS
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Highlands Office | 210 N. 5th Street

Cell: 828-787-1895
pamela.nellis@yahoo.com





Pat Allen

REALTY GROUP

Not The Biggest...Just The Best!

www.patallenrealtygroup.com

828.526.8784 | 295 DILLARD RD, HIGHLANDS



PAT ALLEN

828.200.9179

JULIE OSBORN

828.200.6165

More than
33 years of exemplary
service in the luxury
housing market!



JULIE OSBORN

VOTED AMERICA'S BEST by RealTrends since 2021

STAY A

moment

For vacation rentals, visit
LANDMARKVACATIONS.COM
or call 828-743-9234.



*your mountain story begins here—
embracing both the life you lead
and the getaway you crave*



Jody Lovell

(828) 226.6303

#1 Broker
IN THE CAROLINAS

\$1 Billion +

TOTAL CAREER SALES VOLUME

#8 Agent Worldwide

AMONG 26,100+
SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY AGENTS

PER REAL TRENDS, HCMLS AND COUNTY RECORDINGS

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.

**DAVID
BOCK
BUILDERS**

www.BockBuilders.com 828-526-2240

**We Serve to Help You
with Life's Next
Chapter ... Beginning
with Coffee and a
Conversation.**

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



...on the Verandah
Restaurant
on Lake Sequoyah

828-526-2338

43 Years of Fine Dining

NOW OPEN

7 Nights a week
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.

