

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 5, Number 32

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Aug. 9, 2007

On-going

- Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.

- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.

- Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.

- Register for summer's nature day camps at the Nature Center. Please call 526-2623 or visit the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/hbs.

- Nantahala Tennis Association: Meets Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. -noon for Round Robin at Highlands Recreation Park. All levels of play welcome.

- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

- Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.

- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. Bring your mat. \$7 per person per class or \$50 for a monthly pass. Call 526-4340.

- Beginners Clogging class Tuesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.

- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

Every Monday

- Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. \$3 per person.

Every Tuesday

- Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. at Community Bible Church. Summer series on 1 & 2 Peter. All women are invited

Every Thursday

- At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.

Every Saturday

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.

Through Aug. 12

- The Highlands Playhouse, "My Way." Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Thursday, Aug. 9

- The Zahner Lecture Series at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center Dr. Tom Hat-

ley, Sequoyah Distinguished Professor of Cherokee Studies at WCU, presents "Conservation and Reconciliation: A Cherokee Appalachian Perspective." It's free.

Friday, Aug. 10

- CLE lecture at PAC featuring Dr. Rob Young who will discuss "Global Climate Change: Fact or Fiction." Tickets are \$20 for CLE members and \$30 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811.

Aug. 10-11

- 2-day Trunk Show at Carolina Eyes in Wright Square featuring O&X, ProDesign, Denmark, KIO YAMATO catered by Ristorante Paoletti's and Wolfgang's Restaurant and Wine Bistro, 4-7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 11

- Sunflower Festival at Chestnut Hill from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come for lunch, arts & crafts, merchandise.

- 26th Annual Bob Jones Invitational Tournament, featuring Walker Cup Players. 9:30 shotgun at Highlands Country Club. Proceeds benefit Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Wayne Caldwell signing "Cataloochee" 1-3 p.m. and author Sarah Colton signing "Tilt 69" 3-5 p.m.

- Hurricane Creek plays at Instant Theater from 8 p.m. Call 828-342-9197 for ticket reservations.

- Live music featuring the JW Band at High Country Cafe at 5 p.m. with a spaghetti dinner for \$7 continuing with the band, dancing, and an auction. Donations accepted for the American Cancer Society.

Sunday, Aug. 12

- Highlands Community Players announce audition dates for the October production of "The Raindrop Waltz" by Gary Carden. Auditions will be held at the Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands on Sunday, August 12 at 4 p.m. Three women, ages 18-70 and six men, ages 20-70. Scripts are available at the Hudson Library in Highlands. Call 526-4904.

Monday, August 13

- Highlands Community Players announce audition dates for the October production of "The Raindrop Waltz" by Gary Carden. Auditions will be held at the Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands on Monday, at 6 p.m. Three women, ages 18-70 and six men, ages 20-70. Scripts are available at the Hudson Library in Highlands. Call 526-4904.

- Six-course wine dinner at Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro at 6 p.m. Featuring Oakville Ranch Winery. Call Leah at 526-3807 for reservations.

Wednesday, Aug. 15

- Loving Literacy Premier Gala with the HCP performing "How the Other Half Loves." Wine, hors d'oeuvres, hilarious comedy, coffee, dessert and a special drawing. Tickets are \$125. Call 526-9938.

County-run Rec Park a maybe

The newly formed county-wide recreation commission is ready to get to work.

At its first meeting Monday, July 30, the six representatives from Franklin, Nantahala and Highlands met with Macon County Commission liaison Bob Sim-

pson to appoint chairman Matt Bullis, whose volunteer position is advisory. The countywide recreation program director hasn't been hired, yet.

At a luncheon meeting on Thursday, Aug. 2, at which High-

• See REC PARK page 20

Festival to showcase sunflowers



On Saturday, Aug. 11, the Chestnut Hill Sunflower Festival is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be food, arts & crafts, treats for the eye and palate with a backdrop of sunflowers. It's free!
Photo by Bill Bathurst

New school programs aim to keep students engaged

As students progress through the education system, the flame ignited that first day of Kindergarten risks being extinguished by the everydayness of the learning process. Bad grades, personality conflicts, problems at home, learning disabilities and other factors all eat

away at a student's ability to succeed at school.

"Administrators are working with school-based teams to research innovative ways to familiarize our students with a wide array of course offerings and ca-

• See SCHOOL page 22

Rules about fire alarm and mutual aid responses change

Automatic fire alarms are becoming an increased burden on fire departments and their automatic aid departments.

In 2006 the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department responded to 396 calls – 35 more than in 2005 –

with the increase coming in the fire and related category which had a total of 263 calls – 55 more than last year. There were 82 fire alarms.

"As more home and business

• See FIRE ALARMS page 22

• Inside •

Obituaries	3
FORUM	2
Wooldridge	4
His & Hers	5
Another View	6
Cooking on the Plateau	8
Upcoming Events	26
Classifieds	32
Police & Fire	35

Board OKs restaurant parking

The parking saga concerning Fressers Eatery and Don Leon's Café is over, at least for now.

At the Aug. 8 Zoning Board meeting, members ruled in favor of reissuing both restaurants' Special Use Permits (SUPs) and allowing the continued use of remote parking at Furniture South across N.C. 106.

Since remote parking was disallowed some years ago, only three restaurants in town have grandfathered rights to remote parking – Fressers, Don Leon's and Wild Thyme.

But for awhile, owners of Fressers and Don Leon's didn't know if they would be able to stay in business.

Back in May, the town investigated the remote parking situation at Furniture South and recalculated both the square footage of the building and the parking on site. It determined that due to the inclusion of Wachovia Bank and Furniture South's 35,000 square feet, it no longer had 41 extra parking spaces for use by the restaurants as off-site parking.

According to the town's recalculation, there were now 16 spaces available – four for Fressers and 12 for Don Leon's. That reduced Don Leon's seating capacity to 51 from 55 but kept Fressers the same at 60.

Then in June, on advice from their attorney, owners of Furniture South, Jimmy Strahan and Patri-

• See PARKING page 20

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
86-67°F	83-63°F	80-61°F

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

• LETTERS •

Choosing battles



Kim Lewicki
Publisher

A lot of ruckus was made in the Aug. 7 edition of The Highlander newspaper about an alleged illegal meeting between a Macon County commissioner and two Highlands Town Board commissioners.

While it's absolutely true and important that the press serve as a watchdog of government, it's also important to make sure illegal activities have indeed taken place before accusing government officials of such action.

The social luncheon meeting held last Thursday at the very public Fireside Restaurant between Macon County Commissioner and recreation commission liaison Bob Simpson and Highlands Town Board members Amy Patterson and Dennis DeWolf, who also sit on the Highlands Recreation Committee, was not an illegal meeting according to the North Carolina Open Meetings Law.

Commissioner Simpson invited Patterson and DeWolf to the luncheon meeting to meet the chairman of the county's newly formed recreation commission, Matt Bullis, and to explain the county's vision for countywide recreation programs and facilities. That vision begins with the county operating the Highlands Recreation Department as it does the Franklin Recreation Department.

The NC Open Meetings Law says meetings of public officials must be publicized and open to the public but — GS 143-318.10 (d) — also clearly states "However, a social meeting or other informal assembly or gathering together of the members of a public body does not constitute an official meeting unless called or held to evade the spirit and purpose of this article."

Because this wasn't considered an official meeting, and because it was held in a social, informal, very public setting, where minutes weren't taken, business wasn't acted upon and where no one was trying to hide anything, it didn't evade

•See FORUM page 35

Let's get it right! Don't be ugly!

Dear Editor,

There has been a lot of discussion about merchants placing goods outside. It seems there has been very little mention of why a limitation is necessary. None of us want an ugly, tacky, cluttered, or distasteful display of "goods" in Highlands. The appearance of Highlands is very important to all of us. This includes the merchants near those who want/need to display their wares outdoors.

The Town is trying to find a simple solution that is easy to enforce. There seems to be only two solutions that meet these requirements. The first is an ordinance that allows no merchandise outdoors. The other is an ordinance that allows each business owner to do whatever she/he wants. Both are simple and easy to enforce! However, neither is feasible.

To paraphrase a Supreme Court decision, "We can't define ugly, but we know it when we see it."

When I told my wife that I wanted to build a replica of the Eiffel Tower in the front yard — out of my old beer cans, she very quickly made a decision concerning appearance. Yes, no Eiffel Tower. That is the responsibility of the town committees

and the Board — appearance monitor and enforcer.

Outdoor display of goods is vital to some merchants and important to others. But, let's get it right. I propose a fairly simple solution that works for the business owners and still offers protection for the beauty of Highlands. The Board can craft an ordinance that requires a simple, one page permit for the display of outdoors merchandise. The cost of the permit could be free or just a dollar or two. The permit application would include a sketch of where the goods would be placed, the quantity and description. The application would be submitted to the Highlands Appearance Committee for review and approval. Any application that was not easily resolved could be passed on to the Town Board.

The permit could be issued for a permanent display or for a temporary, special purpose display. Any display that departed from that approved by the town, could be cause for revoking the permit.

Larry Brannan
Highlands

I'm a member of the 'I Love Fred' club

Dear Editor,

Regarding "I Hate Fred" club member Roger Jenson's letter in the Aug.

2 edition, I thought I'd ask for equal time as a member of the (very small, ha) "I Love Fred" club.

Since we're safe from the possibility of Fred actually becoming mayor, we don't really have to worry too much about his suggestions becoming law, so how's about we relax a little? Remember, the heading at the top of his column is "Laughing at Life" — AKA "humor."

His column (except for the occasional serious one, which carries a disclaimer) never fails to give me a chuckle, which I sorely need. It isn't required reading, as far as I know, so those *not* amused by his writing shouldn't have to torture themselves. (Of course, it could be that Mr. Jenson's letter was a "plant" by ol' Fred himself, designed to invite controversy). Still smiling...

Martha MacMillan
Highlands

Driving manners should be a collaboration

Dear Editor,

My wife and I were recent visitors in Highlands and while we were there, I read your article about driving manners in the July 26 edition of Highlands' Newspaper with great interest.

Even though I am a part-time Florida resident, I am a native Tar Heel and I do understand the frustration of driving behind a too-slow driver. However, the older I get, the more I would rather be behind a driver going too slow than one going too fast, especially on mountain roads.

After spending a couple of days driving around the Highlands area, I agree with you that some rules of friendly driving are needed to request (not force, intimidate, irritate or insult) the slow driver to pull over.

Although I typically drove the speed limit, there were times I felt unwelcome on the roads. Perhaps your hopefully-humorous suggestion of a "Pull over, stupid" bumper sticker should read "Take your tourist money and go home. We don't want your slow-driving butt on our roads." That was certainly the message I received from some of the local drivers. Of course, all the over-priced boutiques and fine dining establishments might not agree with that message.

In one incident, I was driving behind an out-of-state car going about 20 mph

•See LETTERS page 17

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to edit submissions. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper. Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

"Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper"

Member N.C. Press Association

FREE every Thursday; circulation 7,500; 100+ distribution points

Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-0782

Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor — Kim Lewicki Cartoonist — Karen Hawk
Reporter — Susanna Hearn Circulation & Digital Media
Copy Editor — Tom Merchant Jim Lewicki



Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com

265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

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

• OBITUARIES •

Ruth Beatrice Moye

Ruth B. Moye, 92, died peacefully in her summer home in Highlands on July 6, 2007. During the rest of the year, she has lived with her husband in Lake Worth, FL, since 1953. She was an award winning artist and active member of the Lake Worth Art League. She and her husband supported a number of philanthropic interests.

Mrs. Moye was born April 20, 1915 in Bridgeport, IL and was the daughter of Inez Perkins Seed and Frank E. Seed. She graduated from Bridgeport High School and married Kenneth H. Moye in 1935. They celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary this past June.

Ruth is survived by her husband, 92, and sister Doris Cooper; daughter Susan de Moye of Jupiter and sons Jeffrey Moye of Jupiter and James de Moye of Port St. Lucie, Florida. Ruth has five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and two great, great grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 10-10:30 a.m. Monday, August 13. A memorial service will follow in the chapel of Bryant Funeral Home in Highlands.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made in Ruth's name to Highlands-Cashier Hospice, 190 Hospital Dr., Highlands NC 28741. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tom Eugene Picklesimer

Tom Eugene Picklesimer, 100, of Whiteside Cove community died Saturday, July 7, 2007 at Fidelia-Eckerd Living Center in Highlands. He was a native of Jackson County, the son of the late Henry Benson and Effie Mae Alley Picklesimer. He was a farmer. Memorial services were held Saturday, Aug. 4 at 2 p.m. at First Methodist in Cashiers.

The Franklin and Sylva VFW and American Legion will perform complete military graveside rites. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Dr. John Calvin Baker

Dr. John Calvin Baker, 93, of Highlands, NC died Friday, July 27, 2007 at a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was born in Jones County, TX, the son of the late William Calvin and Martha Bell Mann Baker. He was a WWII Veteran of the US Army where he served as a Captain. He practiced dentistry until he was 83 years old in Abilene, TX. He was of the Presbyterian faith.

He is survived by a son, Dr. J. Scott Baker and his wife, Rebecca; one granddaughter, Bailey Elizabeth Baker and one grandson, Forrest Baker.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, August 1, at Chestnut Hills Retirement Community. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Irene Stevens

Irene Stevens, age 85, of Highlands, died Saturday, August 4, 2007 at Fidelia-Eckerd Living Center. She was born in Whitley Co., KY, the daughter of the late Oney and Rose Powers. She was married to Ralph Stevens who passed away in 1999. She was a supervisor for J.C. Penney for 29 years. She was a missionary president for the Nazarene Church in Sarasota, FL. She won a lifetime achievement award for building churches in London, Mexico, and three in the Caribbean Islands.

She is survived by one son, Ralph Stevens and his wife, Jackie of Highlands, NC; two sisters, Lucy Rains of Dayton, Ohio and Nancy Orth of Wilder, KY; three grandchildren, Mark Stevens, Karla Stevens, and Kirk Stevens; three great-grandchildren, Joshua, Jordon, and Kara Stevens.

A graveside service will be held later at Sarasota Memorial Park in Sarasota, FL. Bryant Funeral Home, Franklin, NC is in charge of arrangements.

• MILESTONES •

Ryan Grady graduates basic training

Air Force Airman 1st Class Ryan Grady has graduated from basic training and the SERES survival program at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

During the eight weeks of training, airman Grady participated in all areas of Air Force missions and organization along with the specialized training in SERES.

Airman Grady was Guidon Bearer of his Flight 421 and was transferred to the SERES headquarters at Fairchild Air Force base in Wahington where he continues his training to become a teacher in the SERES

program. (SERES is the Survival and Rescue unit of the Air Force.)

Ryan was in school at Florida State University when he enlisted into the SERES 4 year program.

Ryan was a 2005 Graduate of Naples High School, Naples, FL.

Airman Grady is the son of Tom and Ann Grady of Highlands and Naples, Florida, and grandson of RW Mac Grady of Franklin and Vero Beach, FL. Ryan is also the nephew of RJ and Cindy Grady of Lake Toxaway."

A 2-Day Trunk Show Party!

Friday & Saturday
August 10 & 11 from 4-7 p.m.

Friday introducing:

O&X
NEW YORK

Pro Design • Denmark
& Wine & hors d'oeuvres by
Ristorante Paoletti's

Saturday introducing:

KIO YAMATO
TITANIUM

& Wine & hors d'oeuvres by
Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro

CAROLINA 
Wright Square • 141 Main St. RSVP • 828-787-2020



Mela Wilson
Petunia Pickle Bottom
Pears and Bears
Trish Scully
Icky Baby
Baby Bella Maya
CAKE by Petunia

Tea
Vineyard Vines
Little Raggio
Tee Pee for Me
Aristabrat
Ya Ya Bambinos
Silly Goose

Jackson & Madeleine
classics for children

On the Hill | South Fourth Street | Highlands, NC | 828.526.1504



Listen to the sounds of the flowing stream as you relax on the covered deck of this almost new mountain home. This 4 BR/ 4 .5 BA home has floor to ceiling stone fireplace in the great room and gleaming hardwood floors. The open kitchen has everything the chef in the family would want, with granite countertops and top of the line appliances. A great home for two families to enjoy with two master suites on the main floor. Offered for the first time at \$898,000.



Highgate home with vaulted great room with stone fireplace, upscale kitchen with wine bar and antique island. Travertine tile throughout all the baths, granite surfaces among the kitchen and baths, vaulted master with deck access and large closet, both upper level guest suites offer vaulted ceilings and private baths. 2 car carport and National Forestry protection. Lower level can be converted into daylight bedroom and family room. \$1,195,000



Nestled on the Cullasaja River in town of Highlands is this incredible Tom Chambers log home built in 2005. With a private dock, fire pit and canoe launch this home is the perfect Appalachian Mountain Home. 4 BR on the main level and 2 BR upstairs. Plus a den and magnificent covered deck. A charming two car carport, privately gated and impeccable landscaping. A real chef's kitchen with industrial grade appliances. Too many high end features to mention. \$1,995,000



A rare find on Big Bear Pen Mountain. Tucked behind a large thicket of rhododendrons, this wonderful farm-styled home features a large covered front porch with great mountain views. The master is on the main floor and guests can have their own privacy with two guest bedrooms upstairs. A nice yard in back is perfect for dogs and children to play. \$775,000



Large 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath traditional family home in a great neighborhood close to town and the hospital. Beautiful grounds with stocked fish pond, studio/playhouse, and mature fruit trees. Bonus room over the 2 car garage could be used as office or playroom. All freshly painted and new carpet makes this home move-in ready. All this tucked on 1.77 acres for \$695,000



This well maintained home is within short walking distance to the main Club House, pool, tennis and golf at Trillium Links and Lake Club. Overlooking the first fairway with mountains in the background, the home boasts 3 bedrooms and 3 1/2 baths, expanded lower den area creating an office/ library space, and expanded upper deck. This is a wonderful home for entertaining. Membership in Trillium Links and Lake Club is mandatory. \$729,000



450 N. 4th Street - Highlands, NC 28741

828-526-1717 866-526-3558 Toll Free

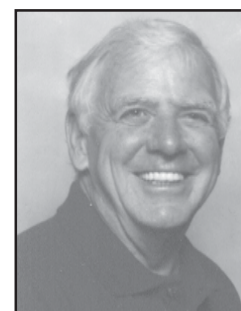
Visit our NEW website:

www.meadowsmtnrealty.com

• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

The 'Mad at Fred' club lives on

Writer's note: If you are laughing at me, sad with me, mad at me, love me or have become emotional in some way over what I write, then, and only then, am I successful.



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback
is encouraged!
email:**

askfredanything@aol.com

He had invaded my space with his wagging finger just inches from my nose. I wanted to grab and break it with one quick movement but I am no longer a man of violence. White stuff formed around the corners of his mouth and his spittle splashed on my cheeks. Because he was in such a rage, I just stood, looking down, with my hands in my pockets.

"A pack of lies, this is the worse case of yellow journalism I have ever read. It's disgusting and you should be brought up on charges. I just might sue you. I will never read this newspaper again, Mr. Smartass!" When there was a pause, I looked him squarely in the eyes and said softly, "Are you aware I write nonsensical fiction?"

His rage bubble instantly burst. He couldn't believe I said that to him. He had gotten so caught up in his anger over what I wrote, he forgot the simple fact I write a lot of things that aren't true. I make fun.

I love my work but I get into trouble often. I am always amazed at people who regularly read my stuff and give me pats on the back this week, then hate me the next. I write foolishness, just adding enough truth to the story to make it sound somewhat legit. Sometimes I wonder how much of what I write is taken as truth. The prevailing attitude of some is for me to make fun of everyone and everything as long as it doesn't get too close to them. If it does, out comes the finger in my face.

This is my attempt to educate a few of my loyal readers who sometimes get off track. I get lots of tips and ideas, but some folks get confused about what I do. There is nothing funny about someone getting arrested or an illegal immigrant being deported. This is not a gossip column and I don't write the news. If I write gossip, you can bet it's all garbage. My goal is to exaggerate and write stuff so outrageous no one could believe it. When there are segments of truth in the story, it's even more fun.

Lots of folks want me to make fun of the police. I get tips often but can't use them because, plain and simple, they aren't amusing. I don't do malicious, at least not on purpose, but I love to make

fun of the police if I can find a good story. If you're a regular reader, you know I have slam dunked the cops in the past, all in fun.

Here's an example of how I work. A friend of mine, Dwayne Meeter, had a terrible experience last summer. He was attacked by several dogs which resulted in him falling and badly injuring himself. The police were notified and reports were filed. Not funny, right? That's what you think. In time the bruises and cuts healed while I waited like a panther to nail him. I knew

Dwayne writes satire himself so I waited until the last scab fell off then, in a column called "The Kentucky Party" I publicly accused him of being attacked and bludgeoned by his wife. If you know the Meeters like I do, it's hilarious. Best of all, no harm was done.

Sometimes I become creative and make up a totally non-real, non-existent story about a fictitious someone or something. Invariably, I will get a call from a reader saying, "I know who you're talking about and you have no right to say such terrible things without all the facts." They slam down the phone before I can say, "Huh?"

And remember the "nose sucking" story? Was that funny, or what? His name will remain secret forever but I couldn't pass up a comment like that. I can keep a secret.

So, if you have a fun story I can twist, distort and not hurt anyone maliciously, drop me a line at askfredanything@aol.com and give me an opportunity to use it.

Oh, this is funny. I once got an e-mail from a guy who didn't want me to know who he was. His email address was DougReed@dnet.com. Way to go Doug. DUH!

Help us get Highlands School ready for students!

Volunteers Needed
for Classroom Clean Up
Elementary Classrooms:

Fri., Aug. 24, 10 a.m. to -3 p.m.
Middle and High School

Classrooms:

Thurs., Aug. 23, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Call Debbie Holt at 526-2537 or
421-7556 and leave message.

• HIS & HERS •

It's a Girl!

I was born on August 17th - Mae West's birthday - an auspicious birthday for someone who did not want to go unnoticed. Sometimes I feel like Eubie Blake: "If I'd known I was going to live this long, I'd have taken better care of myself." I have become reconciled to my artificial knee, which John calls "Willard Scott," because it's bald and can tell the weather.

Last week, I found the old baby book my mother put together so lovingly years ago. New parents may feel harried and overwhelmed, but it's such a good idea to take the time and effort to put down those thoughts and comments which may be priceless years later. I love knowing that I was wanted — and wish every child that came into the world was as eagerly awaited as I was.

My poor mother was pregnant in Key West in mid-August before the days of air conditioning, a fact that in my book assures that she will never have to enter a nursing home unless she so desires.

Maman's doctor, Herman Moore, had only one request of her, that she not deliver on the day of his Moose Lodge meeting. You guessed it. He missed the meeting. I was the only baby in the maternity ward, but my mother was not the only patient. A hit man for the Mob had been injured in a shoot-out. Much like the plot of *Sister Act*, they had put him in the maternity ward of the Key West hospital to recuperate from gun shot wounds, feeling that no one would look for him there. He was in the room next to my mother's, with an armed policeman guarding the door.

It was so hot during the delivery that Dr. Moore was shirtless, and in bathing trunks. My father was being a total nuisance, and the doctor devised a plot to get rid of him for a while. Each of the General Electric employees in Key West had been given an electric fan. The doctor wisely suggested that my father go home to get the fan and bring it back to make the delivery room more comfortable. Sure enough, my father returned with the fan, to find he had a daughter.

My name was a matter of debate. My father wanted "Fern;" my mother held out for "Michelle Annette." Considering my nickname in high school was "Itchy



Michelle Mead & John Armor
 michiamead@aol.com
 John_Armor@yale.edu

Weed" (a take-off on Michie Mead), I dread to think what they would have made of Fern. (I apologize in advance to all women named "Fern.") They had just come out with the statistic that every third baby born in the world was Chinese. I looked like that baby, born with almond eyes and a

full head of dark, straight hair. My mother's last meal before delivery had been in a Chinese restaurant. Hmm.

Over the years, I have seen my birthday as a good time to reflect on the past, and especially a time to be grateful. I used to celebrate the event with a special tradition. My father had been a regular blood donor, and when he passed away, I felt it was my turn to take up the tradition on his behalf. Twice a year — for my birthday and for Thanksgiving — I would go to the local blood bank in New York, and give blood. It was my way of showing my gratitude for the many blessings of my life — a loving family, a good education, wonderful friends, a roof over my head, a decent job. Giving blood was the least I could do.

Imagine how crushed I was, then, to discover that they have changed the rules for giving blood. Check out the American Red Cross website blood donation eligibility guidelines, folks. "Persons who have spent long periods of time in countries where 'mad cow disease' is found are not eligible to donate." I lived in Europe from 1980 to 1994, and readily admit to snarfing down my share of *steak-frites*. This seems to have sealed my fate, blood-wise. My taste for beef has put me in the same category as intravenous drug users and people with tuberculosis. Go figure.

So, if you are one of my faithful readers, and you would like to help me celebrate my birthday, would you do me a favor? Go donate blood on my behalf. I'd do it if I could. Blood stocks are always low in the summer, and I'm sure they'd love to hear from you. I'm sure you have lots to be grateful for, too.

NOTE: The Franklin Community is sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, Aug. 30 from 12:30 pm to 5:30 p.m. The blood drive will be held at First Baptist Church, located at 69

• See HIS & HERS page 15



Highlands Playhouse ANNOUNCES

\$5 off ticket prices
 for Friday performances
 available only during *My Way*
 and *Talley's Foley*

362 Oak St. Highlands, NC 28741 828.526.2695
 HIGHLANDSPLAYHOUSE.ORG



**A laugh is the shortest distance
between two people.**

Come laugh with us at the four shops at

TWIGS
 at Highlands Edge

"Everything for your Nest"®

Hours: 9-6 Mon.-Sat. • Sun. 10-5
 Cashiers Road about one mile from town • 526-5551

The Chambers Agency, REALTORS



info@chambersagency.net
www.chambersagency.net

Want a Highlands home of your own?
Call The Chambers Agency, REALTORS
Want a lot, parcel or acreage in the Highlands area?
Call The Chambers Agency, REALTORS
Want a vacation rental in the mountains?
Call The Chambers Agency, REALTORS
VACATION RENTALS
You can check home availability and **BOOK ONLINE**
with our secure server.

FOR SALE – You can read important facts and information on our listings – contact us and we can send you info on ANY listing. **Call 526-3717 • 401 N. Fifth Street**

Ib

Highlands Playhouse

SUMMER SEASON

2007

My Way
a tribute to Frank Sinatra

Sponsored by
BARBER CUSTOM HOMES, INC.

July 26 - Aug 12

Performances are Tuesday - Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m.
362 Oak St. Highlands, NC 28741 828.526.2695
HIGHLANDSPRAYHOUSE.ORG

The Sanctuary Communities

Creating new approaches to old values
in mountain living...High mountain
retreats 20 minutes from Franklin
and Sylva and a new Traditional
Neighborhood Development in the
historic heart of Franklin.

Come see what we are doing in person.
But by all means, watch
our progress on our website at
www.SanctuaryNC.com



Tim Ryan Owner/Developer

(828) 349-4465 • (866) 449-4465

TimRyan@SanctuaryNC.com



• ANOTHER VIEW •

On the death of chickens, dogs and men

I love the operating room. It has, in one hospital or another, been my home for the past 39 years. My home, my office, and my stage. I was in Japan in 1970, living in an operating room at Camp Zama Army Hospital. We cared for the dependents of military personnel stationed in Japan, but our primary mission was treatment of casualties of the war in Viet Nam.

Jim Bascom, one of our surgeons, was removing metal fragments from the legs of a young soldier. I had administered a spinal anesthetic and was visiting with the soldier while Jim worked. The Department of Defense was preparing a documentary to demonstrate the chain of evacuation from the swamps of Southeast Asia back to the "World."

A film crew was in my O.R. that day, recording our link in the chain. Jim and I were enjoying ourselves, playing to the cameras. I held up a painting and identified Jim's daughter, Vanessa, as the artist. I said that I hoped the folks back in Washington would enjoy her work and recognize her talent. The young soldier looked up at me. "Sir," he asked, "May I ask you a question?" "Anything," I answered. "It's not like the real Army."

Unlike the Army he was accustomed to, an Army of harsh discipline and strict stratification, we were loose, irreverent, bordering on democratic. "Well," he stammered uncomfortably, "have you seen the movie MASH?"

The Army had banned it from military theaters throughout the Pacific. I had not seen it, but it was high on my list of things to do on returning to the World. If it was too bad for the Army, it was just right for me. "The Army, in its infinite wisdom," I answered his question, "has decided that MASH would be bad for troop morale. We are not permitted to view it."

"You don't have to see it, sir," he said, now more at ease and enjoying the exchange. "It's just like your operating room". We all laughed and hoped the people at the Pentagon would get a kick out of the exchange, but were pretty sure that they would not.

Last Friday, I dropped a bomb in the operating room, just to see what conversation it might elicit. Earlier in the week, we had discussed the allegations of Michael Vick's involvement in dog fighting and extraordinary cruelty to the losing animals. "I think I'll go to a cock



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

fight this week end," I said blandly. A guy in the room said that he had witnessed a single cock fight. He said that it was one of four or five events which had profoundly altered his life.

I was skeptical that a retired Army officer, who had claimed to have seen a good bit of combat could have been so moved by dead chickens.

I was pretty repulsed when I saw David Gossett's Mom chop off a hen's head in her back yard, but it hadn't given

me night mares or changed my life. I asked him to explain.

He told of how a gigantic mountain man claimed his defeated, badly injured rooster. He gently lifted the animal from the pit, cradled him in his arms, whispered something, kissed the bird, shed a tear, and snapped his neck.

It sounded like an exaggeration to me. As a child, I been pretty disgusted when I watched David Gossett's Mom cut off a chicken's head with a hatchet, but it hadn't altered my life.

"A more life altering experience than seeing people die?" I asked.

"What?" he challenged.

"You know, soldiers, ours and theirs."

"It was the love that this hard, primitive man displayed. He cried. I'll never forget his tears. He loved that bird."

I felt like the hook was pretty well set. I said, "If he loved him so, why did he put him at risk. It doesn't take a genius to know how most fighting rooster careers end."

"It's like when your mother dies," he answered. "You love her. You know she's going to die someday, but that doesn't keep you from crying and being sad when she does."

"Wait a minute," I countered, "You weren't responsible for your Mom's death. You didn't put her in the pit."

"They want to fight. It would be unnatural to keep them from fighting. It is the reason they live," he answered.

"That's the same excuse the guys who fight dogs use; they say that the dogs are bred to fight, live to fight, must fight. Last week you rejected that position," I reminded him.

"Dogs are different," Steve answered. "The dogs must be trained to fight. They aren't naturally aggressive."

"The ones in my neighborhood fought naturally," I said, "when I was a kid. Besides," I continued, "even if the birds really enjoy fighting, a lot more of

• See SALZARULO page 15

• CONSERVATIVE POV •

And the beat goes on....

Since the last time we communicated live, I have had the dubious distinction of having my first (and last, I hope) ambulance ride and my first helicopter ride. After the excellent doctors in Asheville put my heart back together, I was released into "normal" life with the strict prohibition that I must keep my blood pressure down. Calm is not my normal condition.

One of the things I learned while being fixed was what a horrible feeling it was to be doped up. There were a couple of days when I had no idea where I was or why I was there. Why anyone would choose to be oblivious to reality on purpose used to escape me until I emerged from my personal funk.

The first thing I can remember hearing newswise was that an NBA ref, Tim Donaghy, was accused of point shaving or call blowing or doing whatever to change the outcome of games. One wonders why a guy earning \$325,000, with a beautiful home on a golf course in Florida, would risk it all.

Then we hear of his personal gambling habit and then his connection to the mob. While the sun doesn't rise and fall on professional basketball, it is a huge business. It remains to be seen what one man's weakness can do to the future of the sport. After all, if you can't trust the officials, can you really get enthused?

Evidently, it was Lindsay Lohan's turn to be arrested for the stupid trick of the week. It appears she got out of rehab just in time to get busted for drunk driving and cocaine possession. That worked well. We learned something from her recent scrape with the law. The ankle bracelet she was ordered to wear after her release from rehab isn't monitored in real time so, she could, and did, party it up and get back in trouble. My guess is her career is finis.

And then there is the matter of Michael Vick and the dog-fighting enterprise that took place on his property in Virginia. Vick says he knew nothing about it. His partner says he was fully involved. A trial in a few months will sort it out. This case has taken on a curious direction. To provide a little background, Vick is the exciting, talented quarterback of the Atlanta Falcons.

Arthur Blank, founder of Home



Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged. Email
swansonson@dnet.net

Depot and current owner of the Falcons, and, incidentally, a white man, decided that his man Mike was going to be the highest paid NFL player and gave him a \$130 million contract. Blank practically took Vick into his family. Since Vick's problems became known, the black community has decided to play the race card and blame the white man for making a stink over this

vicious, heartless, disgusting sport. Evidently, the NFL felt there was enough evidence that Vick was involved to banish him from the Falcon's training camp.

It was at this point that I seriously considered discussing drug therapy with my doctor. Reality was getting too kinky.

Then, to top it all off, Cindy Sheehan, says Nancy Pelosi isn't liberal enough to suit her, so Cindy is going to run for Nancy's seat. This poor soul may have fooled some folks when she became a self-appointed anti-war spokesperson but I never felt it was about her son who was killed in the war; it seemed like it was all about Cindy. Demanding a personal audience with President Bush, Sheehan seemed to bask in the limelight provided by an adoring media, covering her every move like she was really pertinent to the issue.

This scenario demonstrates how completely insane our political landscape has become.

Finally, just as I think I can face reality head on, the I-35 W bridge collapses. Now, if you can't depend on Interstate bridges to hold up, what can you rely on?

Having been born and raised in Minneapolis, and having visited there recently, I drove that bridge a few times and it looked pretty safe to me. It seems to me that when a structure the size of that bridge goes down, the reason should be fairly apparent.

So what does all this have to do with anything? Not much other than to point out that the world around us seems to be unraveling and that each of us needs a firm foundation to help us through these crazy times. Drugs seem to be the escape mechanism for many. Not for me. While we indulge our children and grandchildren with goodies, let's provide some spiritual guidance to help them face the future.

Raspberry Fizz

BEADING, POTTERY & MORE


- Full line of quality beads and beading supplies
- The area's only "Paint-Your-Own" Pottery studio
 - Fun and whimsical gifts
- Book your beading and pottery parties now!
526-8123

On Main St, between Buck's and Highlands Fine Art



SILVER EAGLE
Native American Jewelry, Arts & Crafts
468 Main St. Highlands, NC 28741 (828) 526-5190

Needlepoint
of
Highlands



Barbara B. Cusachs

828-526-3901
1-800-526-3902

THE DRY SINK
HIGHLANDS, NC



Casafina

- Gift Cards
- Accessories
- Gourmet Kitchenware
- Dinner Settings

Open Mon - Saturday • 10am to 5pm
450 Main Street Highlands, NC 828-526-5226

Cute little house on two lots in Mirror Lake area



For Sale By Owner

Newly Refurbished. 2/2.
Woodburning fireplace. Wood floors, new kitchen, new bathrooms, Jacuzzi tub.

New Price

\$385,000
Call 828-342-2302

"Heart of the High Country"

Highlands' Own
TV Show...on Northland
Cable Channel 14.



Everyday at 8 a.m., noon, 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 10 p.m., & midnight.
The Visitor Information Program
airs at 7 am, 9 am, 4 pm, 6 pm,
9 pm, and 11 pm.

Bryson's



Food Store

The place for all your summer meal fixins'

In the Meat/Seafood Department we have T-Bones, Rib-eyes, NY Strips, shrimp, crab, catfish...

On Sale Now!

Don't forget a wine to match dinner?

Reds for Steaks

Whites for Seafood

We've got an extreme variety that no one else has.

Come by and talk to Nan.

Visit our Deli for the best Fried Chicken in town, fresh-baked breads, cheesecakes, and organic gourmet desserts.

For Sale Now!

Visit our Produce Section for local seasonal fruits and vegetables including sweet corn, tomatoes, Vidalia onions, eastern cantelopes, seedless, sweet watermelon and peaches.

We offer an extensive variety of organic and whole wheat products and specialty foods from around the world!

**At Bryson's Food Store,
you'll find everything you need for the
accompanying recipes.**

Located in Highlands Plaza • 828-526-3775 • Fax: 828-526-0430

• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Simple salad inspirations

For your next summer gathering, pass on the macaroni salad and can the coleslaw. Break from tradition with a colorful, cooling and crunchy side dish that's easy to make and sure to please and think outside the refrigerator lettuce crisp-er.

Let your imagination inspire new spur-of-the-moment salad combinations. Keep a can of three-bean salad in the pantry or refrigerator and team it with: cubes of cooked ham and mozzarella cheese; red bell pepper strips, sliced cucumber and sliced green onion; or cooked corn,

cooked shrimp and chopped red bell pepper. If you have a day when time is a bit more flexible, try this Savory Bean & Pasta Salad. It makes a great side dish for the family and also as a potluck offering. The colorful medley of prepared bean salad, beets, pasta, grape tomatoes and cubed provolone cheese accented with garlic and oregano takes on an Italian accent. It's as simple as stirring together all of the ingredients and chilling until serving time. Visit www.SenecaFoods.com to order. Get inspired this salad season! It's easier than you ever imagined.

Beet and Corn Salad

Preparation Time: 15 minutes Makes: 4 servings

- 1 16-ounce jar whole pickled beets
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup fresh, cooked or frozen corn (thawed, if frozen)
- 1/4 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup stringless sugar snap peas
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
- Dressing
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 2 to 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

2 teaspoons chopped fresh basil
Drain beets, reserving 2 tablespoons liquid. Cut beets into quarters and combine with celery, corn, pepper, snap peas and parsley in medium bowl.

To prepare dressing, whisk together reserved beet liquid, vinegar and mustard. Slowly whisk in oil until well blended.



Stir in basil. Pour over beet mixture; toss gently to coat. Serve immediately, or chill.

Nutrients per serving (1/4 of recipe): 144 calories, 20g carbohydrate, 1g protein, 7g fat, 428mg sodium, 0mg cholesterol, 1g dietary fiber, less than 1mg iron, less than 1mg thiamin, 518 IU vitamin A, 27mg vitamin C.

Savory Bean & Pasta Salad

- 1 can (15 ounces) 3 bean salad, undrained
- 3 cups cooked medium shell or corkscrew pasta
- 1 cup grape tomatoes, halved (all red or mixed red and yellow)
- 3/4 cup 1/2-inch cubes provolone cheese (3-1/2 ounces)
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh oregano

1 teaspoon minced garlic
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
Stir all ingredients together in large bowl. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Adjust seasoning as desired.
Makes 6 to 8 servings

Nutrition information per serving:
218 calories;

8.6g protein; 41g carbohydrate; 5g fat; 577mg sodium; 11mg cholesterol; 2.8g dietary fiber; 1.7mg iron; 339 IU Vitamin A; 165mg calcium. All materials courtesy of READ Bean Salads (Seneca Foods)



Sapphire Valley

Art and Crafts Festival


Saturday, August 11
Sunday, August 12
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Route 64, 3 miles east of Casheirs

More than 100 artists and crafters displaying and demonstrating their original works
Live Bluegrass Band • Food • Drinks
Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society Stopo 'n Adopt
FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING
For more information, call 828-743-1163

CP COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

Home and property on Apple Lake!



5 lots – 2.16 acres, plus, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home on two levels. Cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace, spacious decks, two-car garage & gorgeous landscaping. Offered at \$1.2 million; OR home plus one lot at \$895,000

Call Pam Taylor • (cell) 342-6988, 526-9027, 526-2520

• SPECIALTY FOODS •

Your next great party starts here.



basketcase

gourmet foods
whole bean coffees
entertainware
custom gift baskets

294 south 4th st.
"on the hill"
(828) 526-5026

526-5933

August Produce

Vegetable Stand

Now Open for our 4th Season



We are looking forward to another season serving our loyal and our new customers with local and fresh produce!

Family owned & operated
Open 7 days a week 10-6
on the Franklin Road

Whole Life Market

Stop by and see our wide selection of
Local Organic Produce,
Specialty Gourmet Foods, Quality Supplements, Organic Body Care, Natural Health Books & References, & Local Hand-Crafted Gifts.

"For a Healthier Life"

On the Corner of Foreman Rd. & Hwy. 64E
Monday-Friday 10 am - 5:30 pm
Saturdays 11 am - 4 pm
Call 526-5999

DUSTY'S

RHODES SUPERETTE

A Grocery & MORE!

A unique selection:
Specialty Foods,
Hand-cut Meats – All Natural
Now Available. Fresh,
Homemade Cakes Breads
and Sweets. Cookbooks,
Gifts and more!

Come see our new look
and new products.

Mon-Sat, 8-5:30 • 493 Dillard Rd.
526-2762



Gourmet to Go & Catering

526-0383



Wed.- Sat. • 11-6
Next to D&J Express Mart at
Main & 1st Street



Kilwin's Open Late

Fudge & Ship Special
Three slices of fudge
(1.5 pounds)
Shipped anywhere in U.S.
\$19.95 (Includes Shipping)

Mon, - Thurs, • 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. • 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Closed Sundays

Chocolates • Fudge • Ice Cream •
Gift Baskets • Nationwide Shipping
370 Main Street • 828-526-3788

Jams, Jellies,
Preserves,
Relishes &
Gourmet Treats




Mon-Sat • 10-5

The GOOD EARTH POTTERY



Corner of
5th and Main
787-2473

APPAREL

Now Open for our 21st Season!
Featuring our same great lines




Lots of fun Summer dresses!

Hard Tail • Junk Food
Citizens of Humanity • Split
Necessary Objects
Project E
Free People • True Religion
Michael Star Tees

355 Main Street
in The Galax Theatre

VILLAGE KIDS



Children's Apparel
and shoes
Sizes 0-16

In the middle of Main • 526-5799

CHESTNUT COTTAGES

A Park Home Community
"Affordable, Peaceful and In Town"
Lot and Cottage Packages from \$169K to \$199K



Call (828) 526-5939 for an appointment
or email chestnutcottages@mac.com

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday • 2-6 p.m.
Sales Person on Duty
Free Cokes

674 Chestnut Street – Highlands, NC

REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND

Principles to live by

I am an optimistic person by nature, I can always find something positive in any situation. I do get depressed sometimes, when I feel like I have made a major mistake or failed someone I care about, but it never lasts long. It is hard for me to understand how someone can be severely depressed for an extended period of time.



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

and instantly made the decision to jump off the bridge. An amazing sequence of events ensued culminating in a police officer pulling up just behind Ms. Zahn on the bridge as she got out of her car. He ran and caught her just as she leapt over the bridge railing. The camera in the police cruiser was running, and you can see

the video on YouTube (just type "Tina Zahn" in search box). Recently I saw the film "The Bridge," which is a documentary about people who commit suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge. For a film about something so depressing, it is paradoxically filled with life and beauty. It constantly brings in scenes of people living — sailing, walking with friends, painting — and beautiful images of the bridge to balance the sadness and the pain.

After the jump she began electroconvulsive therapy and slowly regained the ability to function. She attributes her miraculous save to the group of nine women who prayed for her everyday. She says the most important part of her healing was God, but she had been very active in a church, including developing a "personal relationship with God," before the jump so for people who are skeptical of religion this will not be very convincing.

I feel like the film is a gift that helps viewers better understand the complexity of human nature.

One of the things that struck me was that some of the people who jumped had good friends. I had always imagined that someone driven to that extreme would be alone in the world, with no one who cared for them. But one man in particular had some very good friends. Yet he still reached the limit of his tolerance of the pain of life.

As I read her book I noticed that she had a very negative take on life, even about things that were good. For example, her in-laws were very generous towards her kids, buying furniture for the nursery and clothes. But instead of being grateful Ms. Zahn complains about how they weren't the things she would have bought. But she could have bought these things — both she and her husband had good paying jobs.

Not long after watching this film I saw a book entitled *Why I Jumped* (248.8Z) at the Hudson Library and grabbed it.

The movie "The Secret" (although I have major philosophical problems with the main premise) makes a powerful statement: there are two principles to live by. Gratitude and humility. These principles are the bedrock of a spiritual life.

Tina Zahn suffered from postpartum depression, but also had lingering problems from very early sexual abuse by her stepfather and the problems caused by a very dysfunctional family.

As I read *Why I Jumped* I started wondering if perhaps depression is really a sickness of the spirit. By spirit I mean that part of us that is beyond the body and the mind: the soul.

After the birth of her second child, she fell into such a deep depression she could no longer take care of herself, much less her children. She was heavily medicated, but her comment on anti-depressants was that they didn't make you feel good, they made you feel *nothing*.

A depressed person is not experiencing gratitude and humility. A depressed person sees only the negative, he is always complaining about the way things are. In "The Bridge" two people made the comment that the person who committed suicide had unrealistic expectations so was always disappointed by life.

Her mother took Ms. Zahn into her own home to take care of her while her husband worked and took care of the kids. One morning her mother said to her, "Why can't you just get over this depression?" Ms. Zahn replied, "Don't you think I would if I could?" And her mother said, "Then snap out of it!" Ms. Zahn looked down, saw her car keys,

Depression could be seen as the height of egotism — the world should

• See BRUGGER page 15

• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Scholarships, Pine Street Park & more

One of the great fund raising events which has occurred each year in Highlands for many years is the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic. The event is scheduled this year for Monday, August 27, at the Cullasaja Club, and I encourage all who can to participate. If you do not play golf, contribute to the Scholarship Fund anyway.



Mayor Don Mullen

The purpose of the event is to support the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund which was begun in 1975. Over the past several years over \$50,000 yearly has been contributed in scholarships to Highlands School graduates who are given an opportunity to attend colleges, universities and trade schools beyond the high school level. An endowment fund was created in 1987 and now has an investment of nearly \$700,000.

It has given the Town a great pleasure each year to award these scholarships to worthy individuals at a special ceremony in the gym at the school at the end of the school year, and it is my hope that the community will continue to support this wonderful event so that our youth can continue more advanced education. Sponsorship donations can also be mailed to: Town of Highlands, P.O. Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741, or simply dropped by Town Hall. Please be generous to this very worthy cause.

Soon the "Pine Street Park" will be turned over to the Town of Highlands. Therefore, it is important that the Board of Commissioners over the next few weeks begin to institute a policy for the use of the park in the future. The first move of the board along these lines last week was to appoint two commissioners, Hank Ross and Amy Patterson, to a subcommittee of the board to begin the process. Soon they will report back to the board their recommendations.

Eventually, I would like to expand this committee to include interested citizens to begin to look at the overall cultural activities in the town to be called the "Cultural Activities Committee." The thought process regarding the duties of this committee have just begun to develop, but it

would involve creating a central location for ticket purchases for not-for-profit organizations along with policy setting for the purpose of increasing utilization of all the wonderful cultural activities we have going on in Highlands.

This Cultural Activities Committee would report directly to the board and would also oversee other recreational activities in town. For this reason both the Recreation Department of the town and the Chamber of Commerce would necessarily be involved. We welcome public input as we develop these ideas and prepare to officially appoint such a committee.

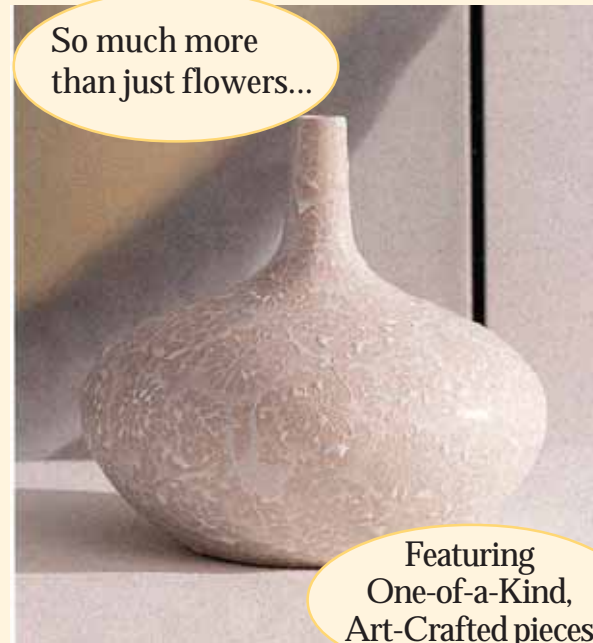
I was glad that the Board of Commissioners was able to solve the problem Cynthia Strain was having getting available space for her September Art Show. Oak Street will be closed for her event. But this is a temporary solution and is not precedent setting.

I personally believe in these kinds of events in town because I think it is good for the town and creates fun and excitement during the important summer time in Highlands when businesses need customers. Some large towns even close off their main street for important events. One such town is Charleston.

Sometimes I think we are a bit rigid in our ability to allow projects and events which promote not only Highlands and bring more visitors to our town but also enhance our cultural activities for ordinary citizens. Attempts to block events like this only feeds the idea that we are a "club oriented town" and not open to others who also would like to enjoy Highlands. As I have said before, we do not want an Aspen-type atmosphere to develop and destroy the village character which has been so important to us over the years. We want to always welcome those people who may not be able to afford club memberships but want to enjoy the quality of venues and business establishments we have in Highlands. Let's not become a "bah-humbug" town.

Let me know what you think.

So much more
than just flowers...



Featuring
One-of-a-Kind,
Art-Crafted pieces

Best of The Bunch

In the Dillard Road
Village Shopping
Center with easy
parking!
526-0409



Dillard Rd Village

466 Dillard Road
Highlands, NC



Available for Lease

Suite sizes in square feet:
**1,300 / 1,350 / 2,000 /
4,000 / 6,000 / 8,000 / 10,000**

- Great Space
- New Owner
- Competitive Rates
- Available Spring 2007

Contact:

Bob Boyd - JWB Realty Services, LLC.
Office: (770) 622-3050 Cell: (404) 274-5200

3400 Rivergreen Court Suite 500 Duluth, Georgia 30096

Global warming – fact or fiction? Find out at CLE's program

Dr. Rob Young, Associate Professor of Geology at Western Carolina University and Director of the Program for the Study of Developed Shoreline, returns for his second year to lecture for CLE, this

time on global warming. Young has presented his research and ideas to national audiences in The New York Times, the PBS show NOW, on NPR's Morning Edition and in over 100 newspaper articles.

The lecture will be held at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands on Friday, Aug. 10 from 10-noon. There are a limit-

ed number of spaces still available; tickets are \$20 for CLE members, \$30 for non-members. Call the CLE office to register at 526-8811.

• HIGHLANDS FINE DINING •

Think "Fressers" for Lunch & Dinner!



Gourmet meals • Fabulous Desserts • Wine
Brown-bagging permitted

Music with Cy Timmons Wed.-Sat at 6 p.m.
Open for lunch and dinner
Call for reservations • 526-4188

151 Helen's Barn Avenue, Highlands

Wine Spectator Award Wine List



Open Sundays thru August!

Dinner from 5:30 p.m.

Lakeside Restaurant

531 Smallwood Avenue on Harris Lake • Dinner Reservations 828-526-9419

Why wait for a special occasion?
At Madison's every day is special!

~ Serving Brunch each Sunday ~



Highlands most beautiful upscale dining destination celebrates every day with their Elevated Southern Cuisine and their Wine Spectator Award Winning wine list. Lunch or dinner, the service will make you feel, dare we say, *special*.

445 Main Streets Adjacent to the Inn ~ 828-526-5477 ~ www.olderwardsinn.com

Ristorante Paoletti

Call 526-4906 Fine Italian dining since 1953. 440 Main Street

Serving Dinner Every Evenings from 5:30 p.m.
Reservations recommended
Wine Spectator's "Best of Award of Excellence"

WINE DINNER
Join us Monday,
August 13 at 6 p.m.,
for an elegant
6-course
Wine Dinner
featuring Oakville
Ranch Winery.
Paula Kornell,
General Manager of
Oakville Ranch will
be our host.
Please call Leah at
526-3807.



WOLFGANG'S RESTAURANT & WINE BISTRO

474 Main Street • 526-3807
Wine Spectator Best of Award of Excellence


Serving Dinner from 5:30
Open 7 nights a week
Reservations Recommended

The Bistro is open at 3 p.m.
featuring wine and small plates

"The Place" for wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, private parties and wine dinners! Take-out available.

...ON THE VERANDAH "...Highlands Most Scenic Dining"

Dinner nightly from 6 p.m.
Sunday Brunch 11 am – 2 pm.



Wine Spectator Award Since 1987

Music nightly including Chad Reed, Angie Jenkins and Paul Scott.


828-526-2338

Reservations suggested.
otv1@ontheverandah.com

Oak Street Café

"Fabulous Food in a Casual Atmosphere"

Serving Lunch 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Serving Dinner from 5 p.m.
Everyday




Two Entrances – Main and Oak streets • 787-2200

Cyprus Dinner: 5-11 nightly
Live Music Saturdays

International Cuisine

N.C. 106 in Dillard Road Shopping Center • 526-4429



Don Leon's Cafe
Serving Lunch
7 Days a Week • 11am–3pm
Serving Dinner
Thurs-Sat • 3-8 p.m.

"Park any place but eat at Don Leon's!"
30 Dillard Road, 526-1600


Fabulous New Dinner Buffet
Also Serving Breakfast Buffet Daily




The Highlight of Highlands

Live Entertainment
Thursday – Saturday

270 Main Street • www.mainstreet-inn.com • 828-526-2590 • Open nightly except Sun. & Tues.



Flat Mountain Rd.
Call 526-2121 for reservations

Dinner Tuesday-Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
Breakfast Sat. and Sun. 8-11 a.m.
Champagne Brunch on Sundays noon-2 p.m.
Hal Philips at the piano Fri. & Sat. 7-9 p.m.
Also: Loose Moose – Full Service Bar

Pet food affected by recent recall

By Sally Hensen
Reporter

Following the latest product added to the pet food recalls last week, pet owners may be wondering what food is safe for their companions.

Though many assume the "natural" route is safe, several types of Natural Balance dog foods were included in the same recall identifying Castleberry's products as at risk for the toxin that causes botulism, and because of this, even "natural" foods can't be trusted to be entirely safe.

The idea behind alternative pet diets is a simple one: before domestication, cats and dogs ate what they could find in the wild, which was mostly a meat-based diet along with some fruits and vegetables. Even though many pet owners think vegetables and grains are good additions to balance their pets' diets, our cats and dogs ancestors subsisted mostly on smaller animals like rodents. This is why many "raw" or "natural" pet foods contain crushed and ground-up bones and other parts humans would normally discard: a hungry feral cat doesn't just eat the meat off of a mouse but devours nearly the entire carcass.

Grains have been added to modern pet food to bulk up the food and provide extra fiber, but many pet owners have tried to find foods with little or no grain additives since Menu Foods' lengthy recalls in which tainted wheat gluten was at least partially to blame. While grains themselves are not harmful to our canine and feline companions, the fact that corns and wheats are listed in the first few ingredients of many commercial pet foods raises a red flag as to the nutritional benefits the food provides.

The primary ingredients should be meats, but byproducts and other fillers don't count as good sources of protein. Pet lovers should be wary of buying anything that has a grain product in the first three ingredients on the label because the first few ingredients are the ones that make up the biggest percentages of the food. One exception to this rule seems to be rice or brown rice: it's a better source of fiber than other grains and it's OK if it's one of the primary ingredients as long as meats are included in them as well.

These are a few of the reasons that alternative diets are gaining popularity, but how do you know exactly what your cat or dog needs? Some companies do all the work for you by offering raw food kibble or even frozen meat products that you thaw and give directly to Fido or Fluffy.

Brands such as Innova Evo, Timberwolf and Primal Pet Foods are made from raw ingredients and come in several convenient sizes, but consumers should be aware that these foods are very rich in calories, so the switch from an old food to a new food should be done gradually. Cats or dogs have to adjust to the protein-rich foods, and giving too much of the new food too soon can cause digestive problems.

Other companies produce foods that

resemble traditional pet store offerings, but they use human-grade meats, grains and vegetables. While this seems to be a better alternative to traditional pet food ingredients that aren't heavily monitored, owners should keep in mind that human food is not above being contaminated or recalled as well. Some brands that offer pet diets made from human foods are Life's Abundance and Primal Pet Foods.

The Newman's Own brand of pet foods is entirely organic. While it comes in very few flavors and might not be for the finicky cat or dog, it provides a rare opportunity to ensure your pet is getting the purest ingredients. Castor and Pollux Organix is also made from all organic ingredients.

Nature's Variety and Raw Advantage offer a product that is a departure from the familiar 20-pound bag of kibble. Nature's Variety provides 100% fresh frozen USDA chicken, turkey or beef, while Raw Advantage sells frozen bones and turkey necks which are sure to delight your dog. They also produce meats combined with organic herbs and organic vegetables, too, as well as a vegetarian option.

If you do choose to assemble your pet's diet from your own raw ingredients, be aware that uncooked meats can harbor parasites and bacteria. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), almost a third of dogs who were fed a raw diet had salmonella in their digestive tracts. Even if your pet shows no symptoms of these bacteria, you or your family could be infected if you come in contact with traces of the meat in your dog's mouth, bowl or feces.

The CDC recommends cooking all meat you plan to feed your pets, but because the cooking process destroys some nutritional qualities in the meat it is important that dogs and cats get additional nutritional supplements. Meat alone isn't enough to satisfy our pets' nutritional needs. Vitamins are an option, but it's easier to purchase ready-made foods or pre-prepared mixes to add to meat instead of trying to guess and make your own.

A lot of pet owners have switched their pets to a diet made up of dry food since many wet/canned foods were included in the Menu Foods recall. However, there is hope for senior pets who need a softer food or for those who prefer a wet treat now and again. Many of the natural/organic companies mentioned in this article also offer canned foods made from raw or organic ingredients, including low-fat and puppy varieties. Some also provide large and small breed choices in their dry food so you can be sure the size of the kibble isn't too small or too large for your best friend.

No one can be certain that the food purchased for and given to our pets is 100% free of contaminants, so keep an eye on pets and report any unusual changes to the veterinarians right away.

Many of these natural pet foods and supplements can be found on the website <http://www.onlynaturalpets.com>.

NEW TO HIGHLANDS!

State-of-the-Art, Climate-controlled, Self Storage

Highlands Storage Village

OPENING AUGUST

Featuring:

- Independent temperature and humidity controls
- Gated access with keypad access
- Digital Video Surveillance
- Carpeted units
- Covered portico loading area
- Various sizes – 5'x5' to 10'x20'

10% discount to first 50 renters • 526-4555

2821 Cashiers road (2.5 miles east of Main between Flat Mtn. & Buck Creek)

Call now to reserve advertising space in our Aug. 30 Labor Day issue. 526-0782

**7 Days A Week 24 Hours
A Day...Even Holidays**

We will
locate,
excavate
and
pump it!



Mention this ad & SAVE \$25

Roto-Rooter Plumbing & Drain Cleaning of Highlands and Cashiers now offers septic tank pumping, drain field cleaning and septic field location.

Think your drainfield needs replacing?

The majority of drainfield problems occur due to build up in the drain lines. Roto-Rooter can clean lines, saving you thousands of dollars when compared to replacing lines.

Based in Highlands • Call 526-8313 • Free Estimates

Macon County Public Health joins Castleberry food recall effort

Inspectors with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services have removed more than 10,000 cans of potentially contaminated food products that were still on NC store shelves more than two weeks after a recall was issued due to potential botulism contamination. Because so many products had not been removed from shelves after the recall notice; local environmental health specialists at the Macon County Public Health Center are joining the removal effort to make sure the products are removed from sale.

The products include more than 25 brands of chili, beef stew, corned beef hash and flavors of canned dog food produced by Castleberry's Food Co. of Augusta, Ga. Consumers and store owners may visit www.maconnc.org for links to a list of the recalled products, information about botulism, and instructions for disposing of recalled products. Spanish language information is also posted.

Barry Patterson, RS, Environmental Health Supervisor at the Macon County Public Health Center said that state inspectors had found that many smaller stores and markets had not been informed by their suppliers of the need to remove these products from sale. Patterson said that the state has requested that local environmental health specialists and public health staff visit additional stores to identify and remove any of the products still on shelves.

Patterson also advises that consumers check their kitchen pantries, and emergency food stockpiles for these products, since canned meat is a common product to be stockpiled for use in emergency situations.

Patterson quoted guidelines for disposal set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which calls for double-bagging unopened cans before throwing them away. The CDC also recommends that consumers wear gloves and eye protection if dealing with an opened product. Put the product in a sealable bag, then wrap two plastic bags around it and tape it tightly. Dispose of it in household trash out of reach of humans and pets. Slowly remove gloves and dispose after use. Wash hands with soap and running water for at least two minutes.

Botulism is a rare but serious paralytic illness caused by a nerve toxin. Symptoms of botulism include double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, dry mouth and muscle weakness. The illness can cause paralysis, respiratory failure and death. Symptoms usually occur from 18 to 36 hours after eating contaminated food.

Anyone who is experiencing any of these symptoms should immediately contact a physician. For additional information about botulism or disposal guidelines, visit the CDC's Web site at www.cdc.gov/botulism/botulism.htm. For more information about the food recall, telephone Castleberry Foods at 1-800-203-4412.

• See related article on page 13.

• PLACES OF 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 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY
Sky Valley, Georgia
The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbelding, Pastor
Church: 706-746-2999
Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770
Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
Rev. Cass Daly • Office - 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion - 11 a.m.
(Highlands Community Center on U.S. 64 next to the ballfield in Highlands
Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Women's weekly Bible study at 2 p.m.
Wednesday: Men's Bible study at 8 a.m.
at First Baptist Church
Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES
3rd & Spring Streets
Sunday 11 a.m.
Wednesday testimony meeting 7 p.m.
Study room open Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Everett Brewer
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Prayer - 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service - 1st & 3rd Sunday - 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)
www.cbhighlands.com • 526-4685
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. Students' Dinner
(free for kids in 8th grade and younger);
5:30 p.m. Supper; 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 pm Small Groups
for kids Pre-K through 8th; 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm Adult
Bible Study 6pm-7pm Choir Practice

• Small Groups are offered for all ages throughout the week, see our website or call for more info.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968
Sunday: 8 A.M. - Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Chapel
8:30 A.M. - Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.
Monday: 4 P.M. Women's Cursillo Group
Tuesday: 8 A.M. Men's Cursillo Group
4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry
Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice
Thursday: 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
10:30 A.M. Daughters of the King

• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.
(nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30
p.m.;
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: Worship - 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.;
School - 9:30 a.m.; Youth - 6:30 p.m.; Choir - 7:15
Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6 p.m.;
Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sun.: Worship - 11 a.m.; Sun.School - 9:30 & 9:45.
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers
Choir - 7

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sixth Street
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Senior Pastor Todd Struble; Asst. Pastor Mike Harris
526-3376
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group
Wed: Supper; 6; 6:15 - children, youth, & adults
studies; 6:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)
Thurs:12:30 - Women's Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
Chaplain Margaret Howell
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741
Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD
Services at the Church in the Wildwood in Horse
Cove. Sundays at 7 p.m. through Labor Day. Dress is
casual. Old fashioned hymn-sing.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Choir - 6 p.m.
Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. - 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE
St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871
Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.
For more information, call (706)-745-1842.

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Tien, Priest
Parish office, 526-2418
Sundays: Mass - 11 a.m.
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
(through last Saturday of October)

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Clifford Willis
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 Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.;
Evening Worship - 6 p.m.
Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth - 7 p.m.
For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Rev. Wayne Price
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769
Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

... SALZARULO
continued from page 6

them would survive if guys like your buddy didn't strap little razors to their feet."

Steve was losing ground, and he knew it. He dodged commenting on the practice of adding of weapons to make the show more bloody and lethal. "Killing the bird was the humane thing to do," he claimed. "It would have bled to death or become infected and died a painful death."

"Or stopped bleeding and survived, or overcome his infection and survived, to peck around the front yard and enjoy his retirement. I don't have a lot of experience with chickens, or roosters, but the ones I've seen seemed pretty content to be pecking.

"Chickens have weak immune systems. It would have died a terrible death," he reiterated, and added, "They're not like dogs."

How could I argue with that? "So that's it. It comes down not to cruelty, but to the quality of the immune system. Be sure to tell PETA."

It had been another great day in the operating room. I wondered how many of the staff realized that I had never attended, and would never see, a cock fight.

... HIS & HERS continued
from page 5

Iotla Street in Franklin, NC. Please call 369-9559 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Giving blood is a worthwhile thing to do at any time during the year, but give blood or platelets this August and you could just walk away with a shopping spree as part of the Give a Little - Buy a Lot promotion. All participants at American Red Cross blood or platelet drives during August can register to win one of two \$500 gift cards. Two \$500 gift cards will be awarded and participants can register for a chance to win every time they donate. Blood and platelets donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh no less than 110 pounds. It is safe to give blood every 56 days and platelets every two weeks. To learn more about Give a Little - Buy a Lot, or to find a convenient place to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) or visit www.redcrossblood.org.

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She's been living in Highlands since mid-November 2006, and is a member of the Highlands Writers Group. To date, she has not suffered from Mad Cow Disease; she's just a little cranky.

... HOSPITAL continued
from page 21

referred the idea to the Planning Committee for further investigation.

• Shull also reported that the American Cancer Society wants to add a new event to its Mountain Top Relay for Life, set for Aug. 24 at the Highlands Recreation Center. Relay officials want to honor all area medical providers, past and present, by inviting them to walk a couple of laps together the night of Relay. The event is being called the Medical Mile, and the invitation is open to both current and retired area physicians, nurses, medical technicians, hospital staff, their family members, Hospice employees and volunteers, other hospital volunteers, members of the hospital and foundation boards and any one else who has worked in the medical field here or elsewhere. Shull extended a special invitation to board members and their spouses to participate in the 7:30 p.m. ceremony.

• In an important note, Shull reported that a state inspection of the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center was completed earlier in the week and that the results had been favorable. While inspectors did make some minor recommendations, they found no patient care issues or instances of violations that might constitute actual or potential threats to residents.

• Finally, the Foundation chairperson reported that the hospital's Annual Fund Drive is currently under way. Some 11,000 letters have gone out asking area residents to support the hospital. Mrs. Manley said the initial response to the annual plea has been very positive. Last year's annual drive saw a record number of donors.

... BRUGGER continued from page 10

be different than the way it is to make me happy. I don't mean egotism in the sense of egotistical (proud) but in the sense of self-centered like a two-year-old who thinks the world revolves around her.

I don't mean to trivialize depression in any way. It is a very serious problem for many people. I just want to suggest that maybe the reason it is so hard to treat is because we have been misdiagnosing it as a physical and/or mental problem when in fact it is a disorder of the spirit.

Some people do survive the fall from Golden Gate Bridge; a young man who survived his jump appears in "The Bridge." He laments that everyone treats him differently; he wishes his family would understand that they no longer need to worry about him committing suicide. "I have a different soul. I have different principles," he said.

He didn't say what those principles are. But I can imagine what they are: gratitude and humility.

**The Elephant's
Foot Antiques**

Antique and Decorative
Home Furnishings,
Accessories and Lighting

680 N. Fourth Street
828-526-5451

• BUILDERS & ARCHITECTS •

RAND SOELLNER ARCHITECT
Mountain Architecture & Interiors
website: randarch.com

Phone: 828.743.6010
Cell: 828.269.9046

randsoellner@earthlink.net NC Lic.9266 FL Lic.AR9264



Ask about
"Green Building
Options!"

Steve Abranyi
828-787-2297
828-342-3234

GREEN MOUNTAIN BUILDERS
Custom homes and remodels

Whether your property is on top of a cliff or lakeside, we have the experience to make your home a reality.

Corner of 2nd and Spring streets
Highlands, NC 28741
(828) 526-4929

Visit us at www.WarthConstruction.com

SBC Schmitt Building Contractors, inc.
"Building Dreams Since 1965"

Call today for information.

Highlands – 828-526-2412
Lake Toxaway – 828-883-8004

or visit our website at:
www.schmittbuilders.com

 **Christ Anglican Church**
Traditional • Conservative • Orthodox
at the
Highlands Community Center
Serving Cashiers and Highlands

Sunday, August 12
Holy Communion
11:00 a.m.
The Rev. Paul Blankinship
Asst, All Saints Anglican Church
Asheville, NC
All services are at the
Highlands Community Center
on Highway 64 next to the ballpark.
For more information, call the
Christ Anglican Church office at 526-2320
office@christanglicanchurch.com
**VISITORS AND FRIENDS
ARE WELCOME!**

Sushi Bar now open at Golden China Restaurant

Prepared fresh per order
Monday-Sunday



Chef Wang really knows how to do Sushi!
-Mason Neil

We go for the Love Cruise Sushi!
- Lucas Calloway

A full service Chinese Restaurant serving wine & sake. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days a week with lunch buffet Monday-Friday

In Highlands Plaza
526-5525

Bryant Art Glass Has Moved To 216 S. 4th Street ...on the hill!



Open Mon.-Sat. • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Open Sundays in September & October noon-5 p.m.

Local wins at Make-A-Wish Foundation car show

On July 28, in the cool mountain air of Western North Carolina, there was a fundraiser for the Make-A-Wish Foundation held as a music festival and car show on the campus of the Sapphire Valley Community Center.

Thirty-six cars, each more than 30 years old, competed with their \$30 entrance fee serving as a donation to the cause.

Most of the entrants were Mercedes sports cars such as Gullwings and 300 SL Roadsters. There were Jaguars, Corvettes, Cobras, and a lone Austin-Healey.

In the classic category Bob Stanek, of Marietta, GA., won with his 1934 Mercedes-Benz 170 Cabriolet "C," a car he had previously driven across the U.S. in the Great Race.

Edi Walker, of Highlands, won the sports car class with her 1955 Austin-Healey 100, one of the first Healys produced.

After the festival, local chairpersons K.B. and Elda Pearce hosted a lavish reception for all entrants and their families followed by an outdoor concert on the slopes of Sapphire.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central and Western North Carolina is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to grant wishes of children with life threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

This year's festival raised in excess of \$40,000 which will be spent granting wishes to children in Macon,



K.B. Pearce presents an award to Edi Walker who won the sports car class with her 1955 Austin-Healey 100 at the Make-A-Wish car show. With her is her husband Tom and two grandchildren, Anastasia and Celeste Walker.



K.B. and Elda Pearce present Bob Stanek with his award who won with 1934 Mercedes-Benz 170 Cabriolet "C."

Jackson and Transylvania counties between the ages of 2 ½ and 4.

loving Literacy
A Premiere Gala

A premiere showing of HCP's "How The Other Half Loves"

A live performance to benefit the Literacy Council of Highlands

Wed., Aug. 15th
6:30 p.m. | PAC
www.highlandsliteracy.org
or (828) 526-9938
ext. 240 for tickets

Help us get Highlands School ready for students!

Volunteers Needed for Classroom Clean Up Elementary Classrooms:
Fri., Aug. 24, 10 a.m. to -3 p.m.
Middle and High School Classrooms:

Thurs., Aug. 23, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Call Debbie Holt at 526-2537 or 421-7556 and leave message. You will be contacted the week of Aug. 20.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

on U.S. 64 a couple of miles outside Highlands. Shortly, several other cars bunched together behind us. Immediately behind me was a sports car with a couple of teenage-appearing boys. In a few minutes, the sports car turned on his lights and blew his horn a couple of times. The car in front kept creeping along doing about 20. The sports car repeated his lights and horn routine. I don't know whether the lead driver understood the signals, but I understood what he wanted and I still felt the signals were being rude and impatient. Finally, the lead car turned off and the sports car passenger extended the bird finger as he passed. Now I became the recipient of the sports car's affection, even though I increased my speed to 35, the posted speed limit. I did not intend to give him the satisfaction of intimidating me off the road, so I did not pull over. When I finally reached my street and turned off, I too received the kid's love and middle finger. I did not see their license plates, so I don't know whether they were local or out-of-state. But they were definitely rude, impatient, disrespectful and vulgar. I expect this scenario replays several times daily and I agree that your community needs to find a solution to the problem before tourists like myself decide to go somewhere else where we're more welcome.

I have some ideas to address the problem, for what it's worth. All affected parties – the local drivers, the slow-pokes, local community leaders and the highway department – share responsibility. Starting in reverse order, I suggest the highway department and community leaders develop some rules of etiquette for mountain driving. The rules should be publicized in all media outlets and posted prominently along the narrow, curvy roads. The highway department should also enlarge the pull-off areas to make them safer to pull into and prominently mark them, so that out-of-towners will know where they are. I did not use the existing pull-offs partially because I did not know where they were far enough in advance to use them and many of them were so small, I could not safely pull into them.

The slow-poke drivers, like myself, should honor the posted etiquette signs and pull over when traffic is stacking up behind them. And the local drivers need to slow down! In just two days, I witnessed numerous instances of cars, SUVs, service trucks and vans speeding around blind curves and crossing over the center line. I don't care how familiar the driver is with the road and the curves, unless he has x-ray vision, he can't see through those rock walls to know what idiot is coming around the next curve towards him. And many local drivers need to be more respectful and patient with the slow out-of-towners. That slow-moving car ahead may be helping his job and saving

his life!

And quoting Forrest Gump, "that's all I've got to say about that"!

Wayne Jenkins

Careful what you wish for

Dear Editor,

Responding to Dr. Salzarulo and the others in his camp. Have they considered a border patrol to restrict Florida licensed autos from entering North Carolina and specifically Highlands? Are they aware that there are many money spending tourist- and tax-paying residents of North Carolina living in Florida?

Discourage people from the flatlands from visiting Highlands and in due time less traffic on the roads; less traffic at the shops and stores; less traffic at doctors' offices; less money donated and collected for the arts (which I believe to be excellent.)

Dr. Salzarulo and those in your camp, with enough effort you may (not likely) get what you all wish for. Yours, a fortunate and grateful Highlands tourist and visitor.

Ronald A. De Anna

Letters to columnists should be private

Dear Editor,

I was appalled and dismayed to open the August 2 issue of your paper and see my private email to Dr Salzarulo published as a letter to the editor. According to your records, the publisher/editor is Kim Lewicki. When did you change your name to Henry Salzarulo? Don't you know it is extremely rude to publish other peoples' communications without their consent? This a grievous breach, not just of manners, but journalistic integrity.

My letter to Dr. Salzarulo was never, in any way, intended for public dissemination. It was meant as a quasi-humorous rant from one driver to another. I would never insult visitors to our area in a public (nor, for that matter, a private) forum, and my email was intended simply to congratulate, and commiserate with, Dr. Salzarulo privately on his amusing comments regarding one of life's little annoyances.

If any visitors to the area were offended by my letter, I apologize on behalf of the editor of the Highlands' Newspaper. Should you find occasion to visit Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, I assure you that you will find compassionate, competent care. (The bit about homicidal rages was a JOKE, OK?) Enjoy your stay in Western NC, and, oh by the way, if someone catches up with you from behind on our scenic roads, would you please pull over?

Cynthia J Harris

• OUTDOOR - INDOOR REMODEL-RENEW •

HIGHLANDS HARDWARE

330 Dillard Road
Upper Level of Highlands Decorating
Phone: 828-526-3719



Luxury Linen Services

Specializing in the custom care of your bed and table linens.

Call

1-800-295-0017 or 864-295-0017

828-743-5451

Village Square in Sapphire

HomePlace Blinds & Design Of Sapphire Valley



Custom Window Coverings – Heritance® hardwood shutters
Duette® honeycomb shades, Country Woods® Collection™
Custom Closet Systems, Unique Home Accessories

HunterDouglas
Gallery



P.O. Box 593
Walhalla, SC 29691

American Upholstery

We Repair Furniture from frame

Residential or Commercial • 37 Years Experience

Free Estimates • Free Pick-up and Delivery

Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday

102 S. College Street • (864) 638-9661

DRY CRAWL SPACE...

The answer to your mold and mildew problem!

Clean Space:

Crawlspace encapsulation system.

Check us out on the web at

drycrawlspaces.com

Call for a free estimate: 828-743-0900



Daniel & Brenda
Hamilton

Dan, Dan, The Carpet Man

Specializing in Commercial and Residential

If it goes on the floor, we'll bring it to your door!

Carpet - Vinyl - Hardwood - Ceramic

Call: (828) 349-9009 or 342-1740

Relay for Life Benefit at High Country Cafe

On Saturday, Aug. 11, there will be live music featuring the JW Band at High Country Cafe at 5 p.m. with a spaghetti dinner for \$7 continuing with the band, dancing, and an auction. Donations will be accepted for the American Cancer Society. The evening is sponsored by the "Just for You" Relay for Life team. Everyone is invited!

WET BASEMENT?

All-Dry
of the Carolinas
Basement Systems
Basement & Crawl Space Specialists

- ✓ Save Up to 50% Over Other Methods
- ✓ Transferrable Written Warranty
- ✓ Patented Crawl Space Solutions
- ✓ **FREE Written Estimates & Inspection!**



Schedule your appointment **TODAY** and receive a **FREE** book!

800-551-2421

www.all-dry.com



The Literacy Council of Highlands hosts gala to raise funds for programs

The Literacy Council of Highlands provides educational assistance to over 150 students and Highlands residents yearly. Over the last 16 years, these offerings have grown into five programs, all provided at no charge to the community.

The After School Tutoring program provides individualized, one-on-one tutoring to students of all ages. This instruction is provided in all school subjects including reading, elementary math, advanced math such as Algebra II and Geometry, as well as Chemistry and Social Studies. Currently, there are 65 students enrolled in this program. This is the largest of the five programs, with up to 25 volunteers assigned to these subjects, giving students the needed help that is not available to them elsewhere.

The GED program is offered to students who wish to finish their high school education, assisting them in obtaining their General Equivalency Diploma. Through these GED classes, students are prepared for the five components of the GED test through individual tutoring, small group classes and practice tests.

The Computer Lab program provides ten computers for student usage of all types. The computer lab utilizes three different educational software programs that serve four out of the five programs offered. The Lexia program is a phonics-based reading aid. It is designed for school aged students beginning with kindergarten and has five different levels of learning. My Reading Coach software is aimed toward adult literacy. In addition, the computers are equipped with the Rosetta Stone language learning software.

The Adult Literacy program provides one-on-one tutoring for adult students who struggle with reading and writing. An astonishing 51% of the adult population in Macon County cannot read a magazine, fill

out a job application. The Literacy Council works hard to outreach to our fellow community residents who could benefit from these services.

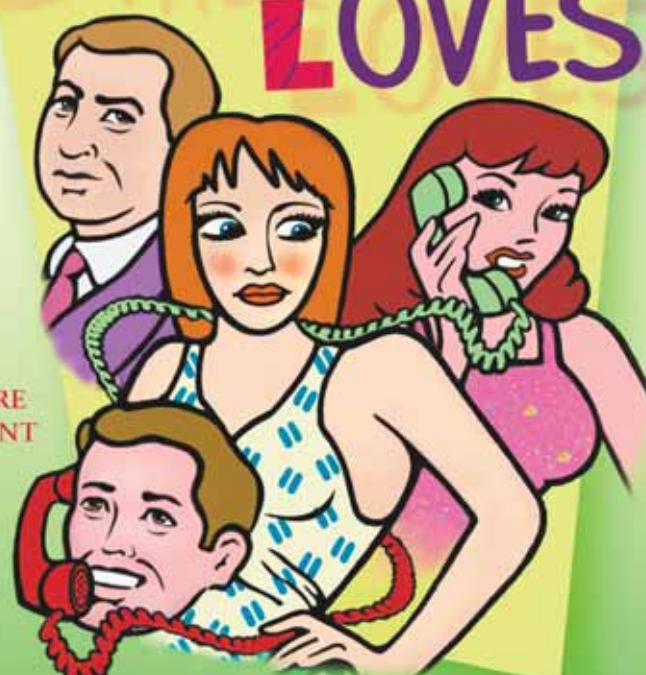
The English as a Second Language program provides instruction in English language skills to the non-English speakers of our community. Group classes are offered in three levels: beginning, intermediate and advanced and provide the opportunity to practice conversational topics that are essential to everyday life.

It requires a lot of hard work, and money, to keep these programs going. The Literacy Council of Highlands receives no federal funds. The Council relies on donations from community members to cover ninety-eight percent of the operating expenses.

Help the Literacy Council of Highlands help your neighbors by attending Loving Literacy - A Premiere Gala. Highlands Community players will present "How the Other Half Loves" on Wednesday, August 15th, at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. The opening reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres, catered by Let Holly Do The Cooking, will begin at 6:30 p.m. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. and after the play, coffee and dessert will be prepared by Jan Zehr of Blackberry Hill Bakery and Deli.

Individual tickets are \$125 and can be purchased by contacting any member of the Literacy Council of Highlands board members: Helene Siegel, Mary Lou Nolan-Bazan, Jere Sewell, Matt Eberz, Farrel Zehr, Susan Smith, Linda Driver, Marjorie Fielding, Curt Sears, Bob Tietze or Julie McClellan. Tickets can also be purchased or donations made at www.highlandsliteracy.org or by calling The Literacy Council of Highlands at (828) 526-9938 at extension 240.

HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES



HCP
HIGHLANDS
COMMUNITY
PLAYERS
Presents

MATURE
CONTENT

A Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn
Directed by Nancy Reeder

Aug. 16-19, 23-26, 2007

Evenings at 7:30 p.m. / Sunday Matinees at 2:30 p.m.
Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands, NC 28741

For Tickets Call: **828-526-8084**
www.highlandscmmunityplayers.org

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wayne Caldwell, author of 'Cataloochee,' and Sarah Colton at Cyrano's Saturday

Western North Carolina novelist Wayne Caldwell will sign copies of "Cataloochee" at Cyrano's Bookshop on Saturday, Aug. 11, from 1-3 p.m.

Mr. Caldwell's saga set in a remote valley of the Smokies has drawn praise from both critics and readers. Published by Random House and compared to "Cold Mountain," Caldwell's first novel follows the Carter, Banks and Wright families from the end of the Civil War until the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park forces their relocation from their home.

In fact "Cold Mountain" author Charles Frazier says "Wayne Caldwell's roots run deep into the Appalachian past. Cataloochee's rich cast of characters spans generations and collectively their stories form a brilliant portrait of a community and a way of life ... a lost America." In its review of Caldwell's novel the Raleigh News and Observer wrote: "It's hard to avoid comparisons to 'Cold Mountain' or to escape the huge literary shadow cast by that peak. But Wayne Caldwell's 'Cataloochee' deserves to: Despite superficial connections, this is a distinctive and engaging debut that brings to life the people of an isolated Haywood County community and their long-gone ways." Mr. Caldwell is from Asheville, but his ancestors lived in Cataloochee. If you're looking for an exciting historical tale set here in the mountains, "Cataloochee" is a perfect read for summer or fall.

Sarah Colton is another Asheville na-

tive (though she divides her time between that city and Paris). Ms. Colton will autograph her new book "Tilt 68" at Cyrano's from 3-5 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

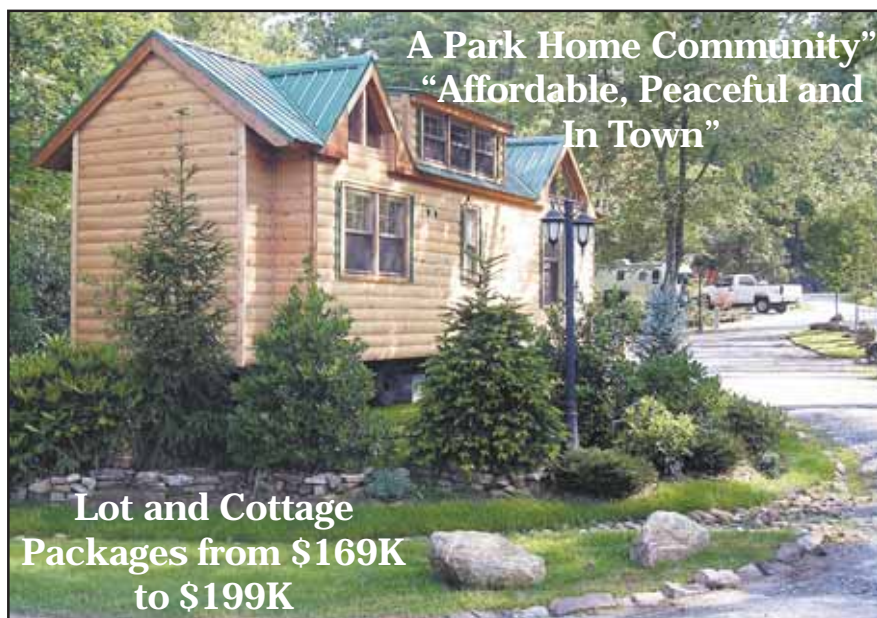
"Tilt 68" is a coming-of-age novel that tells the story of Louisa Ellington, a freshman at a genteel woman's college in North Carolina during the tumultuous era of anti-war and race riots, Bobby Kennedy and the pill.

Ms. Colton is a freelance writer whose work has appeared in Glamour and Redbook magazines and in a short-story anthology.

In an interview with the Asheville Citizen-Times, Ms. Colton said that she herself went to St. Mary's College in Raleigh during that period and that long after college, memories of those turbulent years troubled her: "The question that I kept asking myself is, 'What happened? What happened during those years that made society flip over,'" she said. "It looked like we had everything to gain, yet we voted with our feet and busted out of all the rules." If Ms. Colton resembles the author photo on the back of her book, she'll be a lot of fun to meet and talk to — and read.

Cyrano's Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an e-mail to cyranos@nctv.com; to learn more about our store please visit www.cyranosbooks.com.

Chestnut Cottages feature park-like atmosphere



Call (828) 526-5939 for an appointment

Bear Mountain Outfitters

"We Outfit You For Life!"

Mon-Thurs - 10-5
Fri & Sat - 10-6
Sun - 11-5



Men's, Women's, & Children's Outdoor Apparel, Casual Clothing, Shoes, Boots, Hats, Socks, Backpacks, Purses & Outerwear



Corner of 3rd & Main • 526-5784

THE BIG SALE

20% to 50%
off Everything*

NEST

802 N. 4th Street • Highlands

Open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, only
10-5

526-5023

*Sorry no adjustments to prior sales.
No gift wrap. Oriental rugs are not included.
All sales are final.

Wholesale Down Comforters & More!



- Down comforters
- Down blankets
- 600 & 440 thread count sheet sets
- Feather beds
- New shipment of sheets

526-4905

Next to Farmers Market on the Main Street side

Monday-Saturdays
10 a.m.-4 p.m.



Japanese Flower Arranging Classes will be offered at the Church of the Incarnation, Main St., Highlands, in June and August for beginners and intermediates.

For reservations call:
Sibbie Wilson, 828-524-1281
Or drop by the Stone Lantern.

Skyline Lodge "Rooms & Cabins with a View" & Restaurant

828-526-2121 or 1-800-5-SKYLINE
Flat Mountain Road • Highlands

Loose Moose
Full Service Bar
open Tues. - Sat.
5:30 p.m. until



Rock Fireplaces, Private Balconies, 2 & 3 bedroom cabins, Conference Center, Heated Pool, Lake & Waterfalls, Tennis Courts, Wedding Deck, A.C., Jacuzzis

Spend your advertising dollar wisely. Call
Highlands' Newspaper at 526-0782

THE Summer House

Distinct and Customized
Products...

- Summer House Collection of Upholstery
- Coordinated Bedding
- Interior and Exterior Lighting
- Collections of Original Art
- Extensive Selection of Unique Accessories
- Gifts
- Kitchen and Pantry Items

Handcrafted Furniture by:

Tiger mounTain
WoodWor kS

2 miles from Main Street
2089 Dillard Road • 526-5577
Paula & Barry Jones

Manley's Auto Service

1597 S. Fourth Street
828-526-9805

- Complete Auto Care
- Towing Service Available
- U-Haul Rentals
- ASE Certified



Manley's Towing Service

526-9805 or 342-0583

- 24 Hour Service
- AAA provider
- Local & Long Distance Hauls

James "Popcorn" Manley
Owner/Operator

... REC PARK continued from page 1

Highlands' Newspaper was present, two commissioners from the town of Highlands Recreation Committee, Commissioners Amy Patterson and Dennis DeWolf, sat with Commissioner Simpson and Bullis to hear about the county's recreation vision.

One aspect involves the county taking over the operation of the town's recreation programs – not ownership of its buildings or fields – just operations and maintenance. "All this came out of the recreation master plan and the "town meetings" we had which outlined wishes of the public as to recreation facilities and programs," said Simpson. "This will be beneficial for the town and the county and will ensure equal programming everywhere in the county."

Under the new vision, all current recreation department employees would be retained, but would become employees of the county instead of the town.

Running the Highlands Recreation Department costs the town between \$500,000 and \$625,000 a year. Though the proposal is just in the "talking phases" and the idea hasn't been discussed by the Highlands Town Board as a whole, Commissioners Patterson and DeWolf said the proposal sounded interesting and said it would free up money previously spent for recreation for use in other areas.

"We've been paying to operate the Rec Park with money that comes out of Highlands taxpayers' pockets even though the Rec Park also serves people outside the town limits at this end of the county," said Patterson.

Simpson said if programming is expanded it's likely more personnel would be hired at the Rec Park and a wider scope of programs offered to reach "every age group." "We need recreational activities for adults and children. We want to look at what's good for the kids," he said. He said statistics prove kids involved in activities are less likely to get into trouble.

With the expansion of programs, could come the expansion of buildings or the building of new buildings – considered capital expenses. One snag in the proposal would be deciding which party would pay for capital improvements – the town or the county?

Simpson doesn't know if there is a legal reason why the county can't expend

money for capital improvements for Highlands Recreation except for the fact that the town of Highlands will maintain ownership of all buildings, property or new buildings built on town property.

He said there's a chance the county can't legally be fiscally involved with capital improvements or expenditures on Highlands properties, but will confer with County Attorney Lesley Moxley.

"So where would that money come from?" asked Commissioner Patterson. "If the county can't finance capital expenditures on Highlands property, we have to have a way to raise money for the expansion of buildings new programs might require other than taxing Highlands taxpayers," she said.

Simpson had suggested the county rent the town's recreation properties for \$1 a year but Patterson said increasing the rent would enable the town to put money aside for future capital expenditures to recreation facilities, if Highlands is responsible for those expenditures.

"The capital expenditures are the only stumbling block. We need to come up with something rather than putting this on the backs of the Highlands taxpayers," she said.

Bullis agreed saying the rent money could be put in a fund earmarked for Highlands recreation capital expenditures in anticipation of capital improvements.

Both Patterson and DeWolf said the scenario had merit, but an iron-clad contract would have to be drawn up and the capital expenditure snag worked out. Bullis said it might be a way of healing relations between other areas of the county and Highlands and serve as a way to bring the county closer.

Patterson and DeWolf said they will discuss the issue at the Aug. 15 Town Board meeting.

Meanwhile, Simpson said County Manager Sam Greenwood told him the contract releasing the 2006-2007 recreation money had been sent to the town. Town Administrator Richard Betz said the town received the contract Thursday of last week and it has been signed and returned to the county. With contract in hand, the check for \$425,000 will be released.

– Kim Lewicki

... PARKING continued from page 1

cia Thornton, rescinded their standing agreement to allow remote-parking for Fressers and Don Leon's Café.

When Strahan and Thornton rescinded the agreement, it meant the restaurants couldn't comply with the stipulations of their original SUP – mainly that they supply one parking spot per three seats, plus one space for every two employees.

To stay in business, they had to re-apply for a SUP with a parking variance since neither had enough on-site parking to satisfy the seat-parking ratio.

Without the remote parking, Fressers'

seats would have been reduced to 48; Don Leon's would have been reduced to 15.

However, at Wednesday's Zoning Board meeting, Interim Zoning Administrator Richard Betz produced a letter dated Aug. 8, reversing Strahan and Thornton's June decision to disallow remote parking. This turned the tables for Fressers and Don Leon's.

"Our attorney re-looked at the issue and reversed his decision," wrote Strahan and Thornton. This meant the remote parking could be used and they didn't need a

• See PARKING page 23

• HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL •

Summary of combined July meeting of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors

To keep the news media and the public better informed about Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we are providing you with a summary of the more significant actions and discussion items coming before the hospital's board of directors at its most recent meeting on Thursday, July 26.

- Yvonne Smith, MHS, RD, CDE, and director of the HealthTracks program at the hospital gave a short educational presentation to board members on the many health and fitness programs and classes offered each year. In addition to its nationally-certified cardiac rehabilitation program, HealthTracks also provides fitness memberships to the general public, exercise classes in toning, yoga, and Pilates, as well as a physician-directed weight loss program (Healthy PathWeighs) and a number of educational programs such as smoking cessation.

- Dr. Jim Rothermel, who chairs the board's committee on physician recruiting, and hospital CEO Ken Shull, reported on ongoing efforts to recruit a general surgeon. Shull said that one surgeon who recently visited the area had responded very positively to the facilities available here, the quality of the staff and physicians in the surgical department, and to the nature of the area itself. He said the hospital was engaged in serious negotiations with that physician, but that no agreement has been signed and many hurdles remain.

- Finance Committee Chairman Julian Franklin reported that the hospital once again showed a loss in June, due largely to the fact that the hospital has not yet been able to secure the services of a general surgeon, which would have helped its revenue picture substantially. While the June results put the hospital slightly behind budget projections for the current fiscal year, Foundation Chairperson Cassandra Manley re-emphasized the Foundation's commitment to support the hospital as needed while it rebuilds its surgical program.

- Dr. Don Mullen, chairman of the board's Governance Committee, reported that his group is working on nominations for three positions on the board that will become open at the end of September (when several terms expire). He said the committee received a number of suggestions, but that has not yet finalized a slate of nominees to present to the full board for a vote. The committee is also in the process of evaluating the performance of every board member, an annual process recommended by a nationally-known governance consultant who helped to restructure the board last fall.

- He also reported that the committee had met with the board's attorney, Thomas

R. Stukes of Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge, and Rice of Greensboro, NC, who has been working on updating the wording of the board's bylaws. No major changes are planned, but the board wants to be sure its bylaws are consistent and reflect current legal terminology.

- Chief of the Medical Staff Mark Wagner, MD, reported that two members of the current medical staff were up for routine recertification, and recommended that the board approved renewing privileges for visiting OB-GYN Carmello Hernandez, MD and visiting radiation oncologist Dr. Charles Thomas. The board approved that recommendation. Wagner also reported that one of the pathologists associated with Piedmont Pathology, the Anderson SC group that provides pathology services to the hospital, has retired from that group and therefore resigned his privileges here. Based on the Medical Staff's recommendation, the board approved privileges for a new radiologist who is a member of an outside group that provides backup services to the hospital.

- In other credentialing action, the board also accepted the recommendation of the Medical Staff to extend the privileges of staff radiologist Rodney Stinnett, MD to include reading general MRI images, now that he has completed special training and obtained the required experience in that particular part of the radiology field. The hospital will continue to utilize outside radiologists with appropriate credentials to read less common and more specialized MRI images as needed.

- On another radiology topic, Shull informed the board that the Greenville, SC firm of Cameron Construction has been hired to do the remodeling necessary to install the hospital's new nuclear medicine camera. For the last several years the hospital has been served by a mobile nuclear unit, but after evaluating the usage and potential profitability of operating its own unit, the hospital decided last fall to move ahead with the project. The unit will be installed in the old board room, which backs up to the current radiology department. Construction is expected to begin Aug. 6 and take approximately three months.

- Shull told the board that the hospital has recently been approached by the town's ad hoc committee investigating the need for affordable workforce housing, asking if the hospital might consider using a currently undeveloped part of its campus as a potential site for an unspecified number of housing units. The hospital has considered building its own residential units for hospital employees in the past, but the project never came to fruition. The board

• See HOSPITAL page 15

When quality and exceptional customer service count...choose



Come see our new arrivals...
late summer blooming
hydrangeas, perennials and
shrubby.

Plus, everything else you need
for your mountain garden!

We have a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, custom containers, roses, perennials, annuals, ivys and much, much more!



Visit us at our 2 locations....

Main Street (next to Citgo)

828-526-4212

Hwy 28 South and Cherokee Drive

828-526-3387

Open Monday-Saturday 8-6

Sunday 10-5

• SALONS & SPAS •

Michael's
FOR HAIR AND NAILS
at Old Edwards Inn
4th & Church Streets
(Parking on Church Street and Valet
Parking available at Old Edwards Inn)

**Specializing in Designer Cuts
and European Hair Color**
Clients will enjoy full use of the
fabulous Spa Amenities Building
and the Spa Cafe on the day of
their appointment.
Call 526-9887

Pro NAILS

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Mon.-Sat.
Appointments & Walk-ins
526-8777



- Sea salt spa -
Pedicure & Manicure
- Solar Nails
- Diamond & Gel Nails
- Complete Waxing Services

Corner of 5th & Main



Patricia Barnes • Master Cosmetologist
Caprita Barnes • Master Cosmetologist
Sharon Taylor • Massage Therapist NC LMBT #1429
Justin Taylor • Ace Certified Personal Trainer
OPEN: Tues. - Fri. 10-6 • Sat. 10-3 • Monday by appt.

(828) 526-4192
460 Dillard Road Village

All Seasons Salon

Signature Hair Designs for Men & Women
Razor Cuts • Color • Perms
Off the Alley Behind Wolfgang's
Oak & Fifth Streets



Barbara, Gale & Van • 526-0349 • Open Mon - Sat

Creative Concepts Salon

549 E. Main St.
- Upper Level -

at
The Falls on Main

526-3939

Tracy, Joe, Lacy, Heather, Stephanie and Janet Marie



Spa on Spring

Troy Wood • NCLMBT 5385
Denise Wood • NC License Esthetician
Jane O'Neil • NC License Esthetician

- FACIALS • BODY TREATMENTS
- CUSTOMIZED PEELS • MASSAGE
- THERAPY • MICRODERMABRASION
- MAKE-UP APPLICATION • HAIR
- REMOVAL • LASH & BROW TINTING

225 Spring Street • Highlands

828-526-8832
SpaOnSpring@aol.com

Mountain Magic Salon

Hair & Nails

Call for appointment
526-4049

Hair Stylists: Marisa • Nail Tech: Sharon

Tues.-Sat. 8 a.m. until • 44 Satolah Road.

... FIRE ALARMS continued from page 1

owners install automatic fire alarm systems, the number of responses to these systems has grown as well," said Macon County Emergency Services Director Warren Cabe. "In most cases these alarms are instigated by non-fire related causes such as operator error or electrical surges. By NC DOI exempting these responses from what they consider a typical structure fire response, we are able to send just the primary department and not the secondary mutual aid department as well. This keeps departments in their districts maintain their coverage levels, and it keeps volunteers at their homes or jobs, and it keeps unnecessary emergency vehicle traffic off our streets and highways."

Effective immediately, the NC DOI Office of State Fire Marshal's NC Response Rating System will no longer consider Automatic Fire Alarms as Structure Fire response in its rating system, said Tim Bradley, senior deputy fire marshal with the N.C. Dept. of Insurance.

"We will still require a minimum of one engine and four people for a response to all automatic fire alarms and the response to these alarms will be verified during each department's log," said Bradley. "But secondary departments will no longer respond." He said fire departments should

evaluate their procedures and determine how they want to handle automatic fire alarm initial responses.

Cabe said if there is an indication the fire is real, such as a smell of smoke, then departments will treat the call as a full structure response and send the primary fire department and automatic aid department. "If a fire department officer has reason to suspect a structure fire, they of course can ask for the 911 office to send the automatic aid departments.

In Highlands' case, these secondary mutual aid calls involve neighboring districts, counties and even states.

In 2006, 71 mutual aid calls from neighboring fire and rescue departments in Cashiers, Scaly and Satolah, Ga., with majority of those assisting Cashiers most of which are cancelled en route.

These calls run the gamut of false fire alarms to rescue missions. When neighboring fire and rescue departments can depend on each other it helps keep insurance rates in check but it tasks volunteer fire department's personnel. But now that only the primary department is allowed to respond, those calls should cease.

Houston said the majority of mutual aid calls to Cashiers were cancelled en route, but the department still has to respond.

... SCHOOL continued from page 1

reer fields," said Superintendent Dan Brigman.

Besides keeping that flame alive, a by-product of Highlands School's new middle school "mini-course wheel" might be the snuffing out of drop-out thoughts when ninth-grade comes around.

"Ninth grade seems to be the time for dropping out of school," said Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter. "Many times it is because the high school curriculum and high school expectations are so different from middle school."

Over the years, Highlands School typically has two students drop out of their "class" in the ninth or tenth grade. Compared to bigger schools in the county and the state, that number is miniscule, but still worth tending to, said Jetter.

Highlands School's size and the fact that it's a K-12 school enables a mixing and creative approach to learning. The new wheel curriculum is a series of six, six-week exploratory, hands-on, project-focused mini-courses. "The classes in the wheel will introduce students to various academic and vocational topics, introduce them to the expectations of high school teachers, and give them interesting and fun assignments through which they can learn," Jetter said.

He also said Introducing middle school students to high school teachers - the teachers teaching the wheel curriculum - is one way to alleviate the fear factor associated with high school and could even set some

students on a career, or academic path.

"One of the reasons we are having high school teachers teach most of these mini-courses is so students understand high school teachers and their expectations. If the high school teachers can build a rapport with the middle school students prior to high school, then when they get to high school, they are much less likely to drop out due to the fear of the unknown," he said. The wheel is also an attempt to give the middle school students a sampling of a number of different topics that can be relevant to them now and in the future.

Jetter said Study and Testing Skills should help them do better in all classes and on all tests. Strategic Thinking can help them learn how to solve problems. Current Affairs is about the things going on in the world today that will affect them as young adults. The Culture and Language class, the Writing class, and the Vocational class are all aimed at the same thing - keeping learning relevant, interesting, and making learning something you 'do', not something that 'happens' to you.

Plus, with the wheel concept, if students aren't interested in a topic, they can see the light at the end of the tunnel because they're not going to be in the course all year. Jetter said he's trying to address the boredom and frustration, but says like in any course, students must still apply themselves.

•See SCHOOL page 25

... PARKING continued from page 20

variance.

Allan Schultz, owner of Fireside Restaurant, lobbied hard against the re-issuance of the restaurants' SUPs – particularly the re-issuance of Don Leon's permit — questioning the town's method and calculations used to determine Furniture South's square footage.

He produced a tax map contradicting the town's calculations.

"The old tax map may say different, but I can only speak to the current calculation we provided as testimony," said Betz. The Planning Department used on-site measurements and GIS aerial photographs to verify its findings.

Chairman of the board, Bill Rethorst said information on tax maps represents different formula for different purposes and didn't think it spoke to the issue.

Owner of Don Leon's Café, Ellen West- nedge, retained Attorney Leonard Baer to present her case. When Schultz questioned the town's calculations, he asked as a matter of policy what relevance Schultz's testimony had to the case?

"My standing is as an adjacent property owner and a citizen coming to a town meeting and if I have to provide parking, the fair thing is to make everyone provide parking," he said.

Betz said that was exactly what the

board was doing – making the restaurants provide parking as required by the ordinance. He also said that the town was going to investigate the seating in all the restaurants in town and make sure everyone was in compliance.

Member Bill Conway said he was comfortable with the town's most recent calculations. "We're a town board and should accept what the town provided," he said.

Ted Anderson, Chairman of the Wright Square Association, said since no one really uses the remote-parking, Wright Square is providing parking for Don Leon's and Fressers in its private lot near Helen's Barn.

"When you allow remote-parking, you are forcing us to provide parking for Don Leon's. You're saying we have to police our lot, but that's not easy to do. Is the town going to help us police the lot?" he asked.

Betz said the town has no jurisdiction on private parking lots and it wouldn't be able to help in that regard.

New member Allan James said he appreciated Wright Square's problem, "but it's their problem, because it's their parking," he said.

Anderson said it's most likely that people are going to park where it's most convenient and closest and he said Don Leon's slogan of "Park anywhere but eat at Don Leon's" doesn't help matters.

In the end the board re-issued the SUPs for both restaurants with the stipulation that the remote parking spaces at Furniture South be properly delineated as required by the parking ordinance; that signage be erected directing patrons to the parking and classifying it as such at Furniture South; and it all be done within 60 days.

Betz said the Planning Department would recheck the square footage of Furniture South and if there is a discrepancy he would report back to the board and an adjustment would be made to both SUPs.

Member Tony Potts suggested the board ask the town to revisit the entire parking issue and ordinance.

"Over the years, the central business district has expanded and a lot has happened," he said. "We've expanded Main Street parking and provided more public parking. Maybe there should be an overlay district where if your business is adjacent to public parking some allocation of that is allowed, like in B1."

There are no parking requirements of businesses in the B1 district.

– Kim Lewicki

Highlands
Office Supply

- Complete line of office supplies
- Laminating • Fax Service
- Greeting Cards
- Laser paper
- Ink Cartridges

Highlands Plaza
526-3379

FOR SALE



2 BEDROOM 1 BATH CHALET
1,177 SQUARE FEET W/ LOFT
OFF TURTLE POND ROAD
.89 ACRE LOT, BACKS TO USFS
\$179,000 CALL TY 828-577-9261



AFTERWARD SWING BY PEREGRINE

One of the nicest things about Highlands Cove is that you don't have to live here to enjoy all that goes with it. Our many amenities are open to the public, pay as you use. There are 18 holes of spectacular golf where the views are nothing short of inspiring. A clubhouse with a fully stocked golf pro shop. A practice facility that rivals any in the area. And a PGA professional staff.



HIGHLANDS COVE
GOLF

Discriminating diners will take delight in the carefully crafted cuisine that flows from Peregrine at the Cove. Located in the clubhouse, the atmosphere is relaxed and casually

elegant. The menu is classic continental American and entirely handmade. Our chefs are passionate about serving up an excellent dining experience. And the full-service bar will quench any thirst.

Great golf. Fabulous food. Excellent service. Enjoy Highlands Cove today. We're located six miles east of Highlands on Highway 64. The course is open daily. Call 828-526-4185 for a tee time. Peregrine dining hours are seasonal. Call 828-787-2465 for our dining schedule, reservations or information on special events.



PEREGRINE
AT THE COVE



In the award-winning Clarks Chapel Community of Franklin, North Carolina

One great address deserves another:

www.SunsetMountainEstates.com

Up to
\$50,000
In Upgrades - INCLUDED!

Go site-seeing for available homes, home sites and spectacular specials. The mountain retreat you've been dreaming of? The luxury year-round home you've only wished for? It's here, waiting to be discovered. Log on, visit or call today.

In need of instant gratification? **Choose from FOUR NEW MODEL HOMES** of unique character and grand scale. These homes are move-in ready or soon to be completed and **are now at extraordinary prices.** Find expansive great rooms, gourmet kitchens, guest rooms with baths en suite - all with luxury upgrades and amazing attention to detail throughout.



Lot 13



Lot 7



Lot 8

Lot 13	Mountain Cove	4 Bdrm/4 Bth/Bonus, 3337 sf	NOW \$795,000
Lot 7	Windstone Place	3 Bdrm/2.5 Bth/Bonus, 3416 sf	NOW \$699,000
Lot 8	Mountain Cove II	4 Bdrm/5 Bth, 2687 sf	NOW \$795,000
Lot 12	Crest Lodge	3 Bdrm/2 Bth/Bonus, 2946 sf	NOW \$525,000

Square footages are approximate. Prices, features subject to change.

Rise above the ordinary.
Now with extraordinary savings.

Exceptional building sites from the \$70s
Custom, luxury homes from the low \$500s to over \$1 million.

Toll free **1-866-WNC BUYER** (1-866-962-2893)
or **828-349-0028**



SUNSET
MOUNTAIN
ESTATES



Represented exclusively by The Men on a Mission Team/Exit Realty

... SCHOOL continued from page 22

"We'll see how it goes, but I feel it has got to be better than sticking students in an elective or two they don't want to be in and then making them take it the whole year. The hope is — the belief is — that students who are interested in some aspect or aspects of their school, will find school interesting and relevant to them will want to stay in school," he said. "Just look at the statistics on student athletes; some of them stay in school because athletics are so appealing to them."

Last year, middle school students were only given elective choices of French or Band for the entire year — two electives not every middle school student wants or can excel at.

"You can imagine how the students who didn't want to be in band stayed on task or how the students who had to take French but didn't want to be there applied themselves," he said.

Macon County Schools Early College High School is the county's way of addressing the drop-out and boredom problem some students experience. Students apply while in middle school and enter in the ninth-grade. Students take high school and college courses which offer a different path for those losing interest in school or for those who aren't interested in participating in a traditional high school.

"To provide expanded course offerings and keep all students engaged in the learning experience, strong partnerships with local colleges and universities are essential," said Brigman.

This past February, the NC State Board of Education reported that a large percentage of dropouts, dropped out to enter a community college because they wanted to get on with life and career training.

When students graduate from Macon County's Early College High School, they will have a two-year degree with which they can either enter the job market or enter a four-year institution as a junior.

North Carolina's dropout rate increased slightly in 2005-06 to 5.04% from 4.74% in 2003-2005. However, many parts of the state experienced decreases in dropout events with 46 of the 115 local districts reporting decreases.

Five of the largest school districts account for a disproportionate amount of the increase. Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Wake, Guilford, Cumberland and Winston-Salem/Forsyth schools accounted for 56 percent of the increase in the grade 9-12 dropout events. Overall, the state recorded 22,180 dropout events in grades nine through 12.

In Macon County for the 2004-2005 school year, 79 students dropped out of high school; in 2005-2006 that number rose to 90.

State law requires school officials record the reason for a student's decision to drop out of school. Recently, there has been a rapid increase in the number of students who reported dropping out of high school to enroll in a community college.

In 2003-04, 7 percent of dropouts reported community college enrollment as the reason; in 2004-05, the percentage was 9.6. In 2005-06, 12.1 percent or 2,692 students gave community college enrollment as the reason for dropping out.

A majority of dropout events continue to be related to attendance issues. Other reasons identified include students moving with school status unknown and academic problems.

State Board of Education Chairman Howard Lee found the results troubling but said he fully expects that trend to improve in coming years as the state's efforts to improve its high schools take root.

"The Board, the Department of Public Instruction and other organizations are working closely with local districts to reinvent high schools to make them more rigorous and relevant to today's students. The fact that we see a significant increase in students dropping out to enroll in community colleges shows that they understand education will be important to their future. Life is demanding in the 21st century, and we need to make sure students are ready to meet those challenges," he said.

"In Macon County, we are very fortunate to have Southwestern Community College working in partnership with us in K-12 education to support our school district's Early College program," said Brigman. "Through the partnership, students and other members of our community also have greater access to dual enrollment opportunities and world-class workforce training opportunities. Working together in partnership with parents, local businesses, and other educational organizations, our students have a much greater opportunity to share in economic prosperity and security for many years to come."

While in high school, Macon County students can take courses that satisfy both high school requirements and count as transferable college courses.

By the 11th and 12th grade, students can satisfy elective requirements by taking ITV Southwestern Community College courses or web-based internet courses.

Jetter said he doesn't have all the answers and said Highlands School's approach may only be doable in a K-12 school. "This might work; it might not work. We don't know. Even though we don't have many dropouts in Highlands School, we can always improve so, why not try? I know most dropouts are condemning themselves and their families to a lifetime of low wages and struggle unless they are really fortunate. That is why Highlands School wants to have zero dropouts"

Superintendent Brigman said the Macon County School System is stretching every available dollar to ensure all students have access to a wide array of programs and resources throughout their K-12 experience.

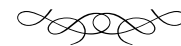
"Today, public schools are given the charge to prepare students for jobs that didn't exist just a few years ago and for jobs that have yet to evolve," he said.

Madison's

RESTAURANT AND WINE GARDEN

Come See What's New At Madison's

**3-Course Chef's Tasting Menu
Offered 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
\$45**



**Madison's summer menu features
new side dishes and homemade breads
to enhance your dining experience.**

Serving Lunch, Dinner Daily and Sunday Brunch

FOR RESERVATIONS OR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL 828-526-5477
445 MAIN STREET • HIGHLANDS, NC

130738

Acorns

THE SHOP AT OLD EDWARDS INN

**European and American Antiques
Gifts and Home Accessories
Designer Women's Apparel
Jewelry, Handbags and Scarves
New Bridal Registry**

**Juliska Trunk Show
European Glass and
Ceramic Tableware
August 17-19**

828.787.1877

Open Every Day

465 Main Street

Highlands, North Carolina

OWNED AND OPERATED BY OLD EDWARDS HOSPITALITY GROUP, LLC

129257

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Dance with Hurricane Creek Aug. 11 at ITC



The Kings of Rock n' Roll and Rhythm and Blues, Hurricane Creek are back in the Instant Theatres Studio on Main. Prepare to move and groove Saturday Aug. 11 at 8 p.m. in Highlands' most popular dance hall. Call early for reservations at 828-342-9197.

On-going

- Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.

- Nantahala Tennis Association: Meets Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. -noon for Round Robin at Highlands Recreation Park. All levels of play welcome.

- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.

- Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.

- Register for summer's nature day camps at the Nature Center. Please call 526-2623 or visit the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/hbs.

- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

- Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.

- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. Bring your mat. \$7 per person per class or \$50 for a monthly pass. Call 526-4340.

- Beginners Clogging class Tuesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.

- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

- "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodward room 201. It is designed for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. The group meets 10 a.m. until noon. For more information, call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

First Mondays

- Participate in your hospital by joining the Auxiliary of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Auxiliary meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. at the hospital.

Every Monday

- Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. \$3 per person.

Every Tuesday

- Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.

- Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

- Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. at Community Bible Church. Summer series on 1 & 2 Peter. All women are invited

- Open Studio Night Figure Drawing: Informal instruction available for beginners. Bring your sketch pad or paint box for a leisurely session of figure drawing/painting. Cost is \$12, \$10 for "Friends" of the Gallery.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

- Classical Yoga Beginner Level Class 8:15-9:30 a.m., 464 Carolina Way. Other classes available. Mats and blankets provided. \$14 per single/\$12 package rate.

Every Wednesday

- Highlands MountainTop Rotary Club meets at the Highlands Conference Center at 7:30 a.m.

Every Third Wednesday

- As part of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin's "Life-Span Learning Curriculum," there are "Wednesday Night Chautauquas" which are media enhanced study sessions at the UU Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

Every Thursday

- At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.

- Al-Anon Meetings, noon in the First Presbyterian Church basement at Fifth & Main Street.

Every Saturday

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.

- Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is \$5 per student.

Through Aug. 12

- The Highlands Playhouse, "My Way." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the Box office at 526-2695 for ticket information.

Through Tuesday, Aug. 14

- Summer Art Camp is held at Bascom-Louise Gallery. To register, call 526-4949.

Through Tuesday, Aug. 23

- At Summit One Gallery on South Second Street and Helen's Barn Ave, "Go Figure" featuring Joe Adams, Betty Foy Botts, Shari Erickson, Mase Lucas, Diane McPhail, Jane Smathers, Wesley Wofford, Tom Bluemlien, Lonnie Busch, Libby Mathews, Toby Penney, Rosemary Stiefel.

Thursday, Aug. 9

- The Zahner Lecture Series continues at 7p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center Dr. Tom Hatley, Sequoyah Distinguished Professor of Cherokee Studies at Western Carolina University, will give a talk entitled "Conservation and Reconcili-

ation: A Cherokee Appalachian Perspective." It's free.

Friday, Aug. 10

- CLE lecture at PAC featuring Dr. Rob Young who will discuss "Global Climate Change: Fact or Fiction." Tickets are \$20 for CLE members and \$30 for nonmembers. Call the CLE office to register at 526-8811.

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 11-12

- Cashiers Quilters Guild quilt show at the Sapphire Valley Community Center east of Cashiers on U.S. 64. A quilt will be raffled off the last day of the show. Tickets available at Ingles in Cashiers and at Bryson's Food Store in Highlands.

- Sapphire Arts & Crafts Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sapphire Valley U.S. 64 3 miles east of Cashiers.

Saturday, Aug. 11

- Sunflower Festival at Chestnut Hill from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come for lunch, arts & crafts, merchandise, Come for the flowers! Local vendors will display treats for the eye and palate. Call 526-5251.

- 26th Annual Bob Jones Invitational Tournament, featuring Walker Cup Players. 9:30 shotgun at Highlands Country Club. Proceeds will benefit Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Wayne Caldwell signing "Cataloochee" 1-3 p.m.

- Hurricane Creek plays at Instant Theater from 8 p.m. Call 828-342-9197 for ticket reservations.

Global Climate Change: Fact or Fiction?

What is the evidence for a warming global climate? Where is there a firm scientific consensus and where are there

still disagreements? CLE welcomes back popular lecturer Dr. Rob Young from Western Carolina University on the important issue of global climate change. This lecture will present the data used by climate scientists to understand our changing Earth. Included will be a detailed examination of possible human contributions to the problem through the burning of fossil fuels, as well as a vigorous discussion on the economic impacts of doing something about it.

Dr. Rob Young, Associate Professor of Geology at Western Carolina Univer-

sity and Director of the Program for the Study of Developed Shoreline, returns for his second year to lecture for CLE.

Young has presented his research and ideas to national audiences in The New York Times, the PBS show NOW, on NPR's Morning Edition and in over 100 newspaper articles.

The lecture will be held at the Martin-Lipscorn Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street

in Highlands on Friday, Aug. 10 from 10-noon. There are a limited number of spaces still available; tickets are \$20 for CLE members, \$30 for non-members. Call the CLE office to register at 526-8811.



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, "Creativity in Later Life" – Dr. Eugene Bianchi. Free and Open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambridge.org for more details.

• Live music featuring the JW Band at High Country Cafe at 5 p.m. with a spaghetti dinner for \$7 continuing with the band, dancing, and an auction. Donations will be accepted for the American Cancer Society. The evening is sponsored by the "Just for You" Relay for Life team. Everyone is invited!

Sunday, Aug. 12

• Highlands Community Players announce audition dates for the October production of "The Raindrop Waltz" by Gary

Carden. Auditions will be held at the Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands on Sunday, August 12 at 4 p.m. "The Raindrop Waltz" calls for three women, ages 18-70 and six men, ages 20-70. Scripts are available at the Hudson Library in Highlands. For more information please contact Virginia Talbot, Director, at 828.526.4904.

Monday, August 13

• Highlands Community Players announce audition dates for the October production of "The Raindrop Waltz" by Gary Carden. Auditions will be held at the Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands at 6 p.m. "The Raindrop Waltz" calls for three women, ages 18-70 and six men, ages 20-70. Scripts are available at

the Hudson Library in Highlands. For more information please contact Virginia Talbot, Director, at 828.526.4904.

• Six-course wine dinner at Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro at 6 p.m. Featuring Oakville Ranch Winery. Call Leah at 526-3807 for reservations.

Wednesday, Aug. 15

• Loving Literacy Premier Gala. The Highlands Community Players will partner with the Literacy Council to present a special performance of "How the Other Half Loves." The gala begins with wine and hors d'oeuvres then moves to the hilarious comedy and ends with coffee and dessert and a special drawing. Tickets are \$125 per person and all proceeds benefit the Literacy Council. Call 526-9938 for ticket information.

Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 16-18

• The North Carolina Premier of "My Secret Weapon" by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thurs.-Sun. Aug. 16-19

• How the Other Half Loves, will be held at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC), Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 16-26

• The Highlands Playhouse, "Talley's Folly." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695.

Thursday, Aug. 16

• Way Down South: Southern Photography exhibit is held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library), showcasing the Arnell, Golden, and Gregory and a consortium of outstanding photographers, including Highlands' own Reuben Cox. Admission is free. For more information, call (828) 526-4949.

• A Volunteer Kickoff Party will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery on Aug. 16

'My Way' at the Playhouse through Sunday



Allie Payton with Sam Dunaway at the piano during the Playhouse production of "My Way" playing through Sunday.

For those who crooned along with Ol' Blue Eyes in the day, the Highlands Playhouse production of "My Way" is just for you.

The young cast of Gabe Russo, Jim Noe, Allie Payton and Shannon Webber, belted out some of Sinatra's 1,300 songs mimicking an era their grandparents likely remember fondly.

In between songs the cast included tidbits about Sinatra's life – loves and all – which even with today's lax standards, sounds scandalous.

Still, his songs are remembered and still sung today by singers young and old. So, for light-hearted trip down memory lane, sit back and enjoy the best of Frank Sinatra with "My Way."

The musicians Sam Dunaway at the piano, Mary Bynum at the bass and Greg Maldin at the drums, delivered the "cocktail bar" atmosphere flawlessly.

There are four performances left. Call the box office at 526-2695. Don't forget the \$5 ticket discount for Friday's performance. – **Kim Lewicki**

at 10:30 a.m. for anyone interested in volunteering there. Free refreshments. To RSVP, call 526-0207.

• "Meet-the-Artists/Movie Night at the

• See EVENTS page 28

• ART GALLERIES •

Mill Creek Gallery & Framing

Located in Highlands Village Square • Oak Street at 5th (behind Wolfgang's)

Custom Picture Framing
(including laminating service)

Art and crafts by local artisans

Hours:
noon to 5 Mon. thru Sat.
(828) 787-2021
cypicturelady@aol.com



Mon-Sat 10-5
Sun 1-5

381 Main Street • 526-0667

Robert A. Tino Gallery



New Awning,
New Lighting, New Look!
Mirror Lake Antiques

215 S. 4th Street "on the Hill"
P.O. Box 702, Highlands, NC 28741
526-2080

TiN Roof studio

Fun & Functional Arts & Crafts

Open Mon-Sat
9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Sun. 1-4 p.m.

828.526.3900
1990 Dillard Road
(Hwy 106)
Highlands, NC



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Cashiers Library. The movie is "Miss Potter" starring Renee Zellweger as Beatrix Potter. The reception with light refreshments begins at 5:45 with the movie starting promptly at 7:00. Seven Fontana Regional artists whose work is on display will be at the event.

Friday-Saturday, Aug. 17-18

- A printmaking class with Toby Penney will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library) from

Aug. 17-18. For more information, call the gallery at 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 17-19

- At Acorn's, Juliska Trunk Show. Juliska's rich European heritage spans six centuries and combines historic shapes with imaginative new interpretations of glass and ceramic for home decor and tableware.

Friday, Aug. 17

- The ADP1 Alumni luncheon will be at 11:30 a.m. at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. For more information, call Emily Buskirk at 526-2458.

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 18-Sept. 2

- 2007 Cashiers Designer Showhouse, two-week event at The Lodges at Millstone, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except Sun-

day, when the House is open noon to 4 p.m. There will be a shuttle from the Cashiers Community Center to the Lodges. Tickets can be purchased before you board a van or at the showhouse for \$25.

Saturday, Aug. 18

- A free, drop-in "Interconnections" fiber art class will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library) on Aug. 18 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call the gallery at 526-4949.

Saturday, Sept. 15

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Anne Sharpsteen with Vivian Cash signing "I Walk the Line" 1-3 p.m.

- At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, "Memories of Betty's Creek: Stories of the Early Days of Hambridge" - Gena Latimer Smith and Dorothy Dickerson. Free and open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambidge.org for more details.

Sunday, Aug. 19

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy two mile hike on the Albert Mountain Trail. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 44 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-2860, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 21-25

- The North Carolina Premier of "My Secret Weapon" by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 23-26

- How the Other Half Loves, at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Wednesday, Aug. 22

- Open House at Highlands School from 4-6 p.m. Parents and students can meet teachers and find rooms, meet administrators, HS students can purchase parking places (\$25) and rent locks for lockers for \$10 - only school issued locks are allowed on lockers - and get locker assignments. Middle School students can also get locker assignments and rent locks.

- The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village Nature Series presents Gary Wein and "Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Dummies." Presentation at the library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow. It's free but donations are graciously accepted. Call 526.9938 x254.

- Musical Interlude concert at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. It's free.

- "A White Cross Gathering" for Sigma Chi Brothers at noon at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. RSVP Lester Freeman at

lester1421@verizon.net or call 828-743-9013.

Thursday, Aug. 23

- Caymus Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Reception begins at 6 p.m. and guests will be seated for dinner at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited, and advance reservations are required. Call 828-787-2604.

Thursday, Aug. 23

- The meeting will be held at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers library at 7 p.m. and everyone is welcome. Roger Lowe has fished Western North Carolina all his life having learned the secrets of local streams from his father and other top local fishermen of the past generation. His book and video on local fly patterns describe a lifetime of fly fishing knowledge and experience. He will discuss techniques and strategies for late summer fishing when water levels and hatches are low. A raffle for Orvis waders and boots will follow the speaker. Call 743-2078 for information.

Saturday, Aug. 25

- Free health screenings at the hospital. Pre-registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Jerry Soud signing "Life As I Slice It" 1-3 p.m.

- At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, "Creating A Life: Stories From One Artist's Journey" - Wayland Moore. Free and open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambidge.org for more details.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 4-mile hike to Whiteside Mt. and the Devil's Courthouse. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Exxon station on the Highlands Road in Franklin or at 10:15 a.m. at the Highlands Bank of America. Drive 34 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader David Sapin, 369-2628, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, Aug. 27

- Town of Highlands Highlands School Scholarship Golf Tournament at the Cullasja Country Club. To sign up call 828-526-3531.

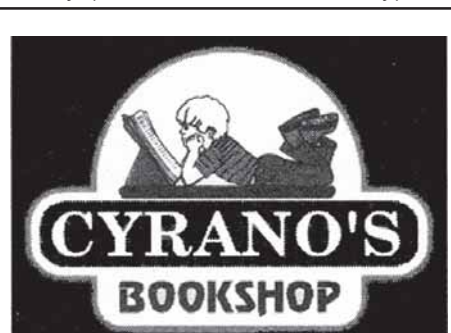
Wednesday, Aug. 29

- Wine Dinner at ...on the Verandah featuring chef de cuisine Julie Miller bring a South African fusion experience. Cost is \$95 per person plus tax and gratuity. For reservations, call 526-2338.

Saturday, Sept. 1

- Breakfast and Bake Sale for the Bolivia Mission at Highlands United Methodist Church at 9 a.m. For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

Thursday, Sept. 6



390 Main Street • 526-5488

Upcoming Book Signings

Saturday, Aug. 11

Author Wayne Caldwell signing

"Cataloochee" 1-3 p.m.

Sarah Colton signing

"Tilt 68" 3-5 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 18

Author Anne Sharpsteen with Vivian

Cash signing

"I Walk the Line" 1-3 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 25

Author Jerry Soud signing

"Life As I Slice It" 1-3 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 7 - 8

Authors George Eilison and

Thomas Rain Crowe

Monday, Sept. 10

Author Ron Rash signing

"Chemistry and Other

Stories Stories" 1-3 p.m.

Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin

524-2076

NOW PLAYING

Aug. 10-16

RUSH HOUR 3 rated PG-13

Daily: (2:15), (4:15), 7, 9:15

THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM rated PG-13

Daily: (2), (4:20), 7, 9:20

UNDERDOG rated PG

Daily: (2:10), (4:10), 7:10, 9:10

THE SIMPSONS MOVIE rated PG-13

Daily: (2), 7

I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK AND LARRY rated PG-13

Daily: (4:05), 9:05

The 2007 Ruby Cinemas Free Summer Kids Movie Program shows at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Theatre • Music • Comedy • Movies • Dancing

TICKET TO ENTERTAINMENT

Box Office 828-342-9197

(Must be presented at door)

www.instanttheatre.org



Instant Theatre Co.
Studio on Main

\$2.00 OFF

\$2.00 OFF

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: Caribbean Lively-Up at Artists Shari Erickson's & Doug Gifford's at 6 p.m. Caribbean cuisine and wines by Tim Lundy of Rosewood Market, part of art sales to benefit Cashiers Fire & Rescue Department. Call 526-2673.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 7-10

• At Acorn's Coralia Leets Trunk Show. Distinctive jewelry with precious and semi-precious stones, gems and pearls set in 14k and 18k gold.

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 7 - 8

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, authors George Eliason and Thomas Rain Crowe.

Sunday, Sept. 9

• Bel Canto Recital's 15th Anniversary Celebration, 4 p.m. at the Martin-Lipscorn-Performing Art Center with festive buffet following at the Highlands Falls Country Club. Proceeds benefit the Bascom-Louise Fine Art Center and the Highlands School music program. for tickets call 828-526-5252.

Monday, Sept. 10

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Ron Rash signing "Chemistry and Other Stories" 1-3 p.m.

• "Missed Highlands, 2007" All Male Beauty Pageant at the Highlands Playhouse at 8 p.m. General Admission tickets are \$50 and reserved seats on the first two rows are \$100. For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

Wed.-Sat., Sept. 12-15

• This year's Macon County Fair's theme is "The Barn Door is Open at the Macon County Fair." The Fair Association extends to the public the opportunity to construct an educational booth using this theme. This is an excellent time to better acquaint the public with your organization. To obtain an application please call the Extension Office at 349-2046 or come by our office at 193 Thomas Heights Rd. and pick up an application.

Saturday, Sept. 15

• A class on Scherenschnitte, Wycinanki and Chinese paper cuts, like in the photo above, will be offered at the Bascom-Louise Gallery. The class is a series of paper workshops that art teacher Robin Miltner is offering throughout the season. Learn a new skill, amaze your friends and experience an international craft all in one day! To register, call the gallery at (828) 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 21-23

• At Acorn's, Earthborn Pottery Trunk Show. Handcrafted pottery from Leeds, Alabama that is dishwasher and microwave safe.

Saturday, Sept. 21

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital FREE Health Screenings. Registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434.

Wednesday, Sept. 26

• The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village Nature Series presents Jim Costa and "Bugs in the Night-Exploring the Di-

HCP's 'How the Other Half Loves' coming Aug. 16



"Clothes maketh the man," the saying goes. If this is true for us ordinary folk, think of how much more so this is with actors! Anyone who has a doubt about this should look back at high school graduation photos. Notice how the geekiest of boys and the biggest tomboy in the senior class are transformed into visions of sophistication by the wearing of formal attire?

Rehearsals are in full swing for the Highlands Community Players final production of the 2006-2007 season, Alan Ayckbourn's witty comedy, *How the Other Half Loves*. Up to now, the actors have been busy, perfecting their lines and learning that "stage footwork" of being at the right place at the right time. Now the actors are adding costumes, with changing hair styles as well, to further get into character.

The play revolves around complicated affairs of the heart, mixed with office politics, involving three married couples. At the center of the

action is Frank Foster, played by Highlands newcomer, David Hoffman. Frank is the sweet, but clueless owner of the company where Bob and William work. Bob, a charming womanizer, is having an affair with Fiona, Frank's wife. Bob and Fiona are played by seasoned actors Stuart Armor and Ronnie Spilton. Bob is married to Teresa, a harried young mother trying to cope with marriage and motherhood. Teresa is played by Highlands' native, Katie Cockran. Add to the confusion, Mary and William, the unwitting players in the marital woes of the two other couples. Mary is played by HCP newcomer, Marsha Shmallo while William is played by Rick Siegel, a veteran of many local productions.

The opening night performance is Thursday, Aug. 16, at 7:30 p.m. followed by a reception. Additional performances are on Aug. 17, 18, and 23-26 at 7:30 p.m., with Sunday matinees on Aug. 19 and 26 at 2:30 p.m.

On stage at ITC Aug. 16-18 & 21-25

Opening Thursday, Aug. 16 at the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main the North Carolina Premiere of a new play, *My Secret Weapon* by Carol Caldwell.

Rex Reed, film and theatre critic for The New York Observer says this about the play: "Carol Caldwell is a terrific writer with a fresh new voice, and *My Secret Weapon* is a mesmerizing new play about White House first ladies that makes you laugh while it teaches you something ... New York, get ready, it's on its way!"

There is little doubt the first lady holds a special place among the American Commonwealth, and Nashville playwright Carol Caldwell explores this unique role with a sharp blend of wit and wisdom, giving us an intriguing spin on what really makes the Oval Office go round. The playwright's extrapolation



Jenny King as the Lady in the Royal Blue in "My Secret Weapon."

leads us into areas where cold-hearted dragon ladies, doting grandmothers, ambitious eggheads and demure Southern beauties aren't always what they seem.

No one knows how much of the script is based on fact and how much stems from the fertile imagination of the playwright. But that is of little concern to the audiences, who will be treated to delicious evenings of "what if." Whatever your political leanings, *My Secret Weapon* is sure to satisfy that all American obsession with celebrity.

My Secret Weapon plays August 16-18 and the 21-25 at 8 p.m. in the Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square, Main Street, Highlands. For reservations call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197. *My Secret Weapon* is Sponsored in part by Bill Nellis of Nellis Communities.

versity and Biology of Nocturnal Insects," at the Albert-Carlton Library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 pm. Call 526.9938 x254 for information.

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 28-30

• The Highlands Playhouse Antique Show is on Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center On Sunday, the hours are 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. The day before the Antique Show opens, there will be a black tie optional preview party. The Playhouse is currently selling tickets for the preview party for \$75 at the box office. Tickets for the Antique Show go for \$10. Call 828-526-2695.

Thurs.-Sunday, Oct. 4-7

• The Highlands Playhouse, "Forever Plaid." Performances are Tuesday-Satur-

day at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the Box office at 526-2695 .

Friday, Oct. 5

• Collect Spirits Auction at Fine Art Center.

Monday, Oct. 8

• The Peggy Crosby Center Golf Classic hosted by the Old Edwards Inn & Spa 9 a.m. at the Mountain Top Golf and Lake Club in Cashiers. Cost is \$250 per person, or \$1,000 per team. Call 526-9938, ext. 410 to sign up.

• Bolivian Auction and dinner at Highlands Country Club to benefit the Bolivian Mission. For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

Thurs.-Sunday, Oct. 11-14

• The Highlands Playhouse, "Forever

• See EVENTS page 34

• STATE & FEDERAL POLITICS •

Transfer Tax defeated

By Senator John Snow

About three years ago I retired from being the Chief District Court Judge for the 30th judicial district. After 27 years behind the bench I, like most people who have worked a job for that long, was ready for something new. About noon on my last day of work I stepped from behind the bench for the last time and went back to my office to change out of my judge robe. In the office I put my suit jacket on and then walked back into the court room to announce my candidacy to run for this job.

During my announcement speech I promised a number of things that people could expect out of me. One of the promises was that I would keep open lines of communication with the district about the decisions that I would have to make in the Senate. I also promised to make sure that I would answer questions or get results for

you, and if I could not then I would tell you why. Over the last few months in session, I have received thousands of emails from people from across the district about all kinds of issues. As I am sure you have read by now in the paper, I voted against the budget - the only Senate Democrat to do so - and I think you should know why I did so.

One of the things that we have all experienced in our district is the loss of our traditional industry - namely manufacturing. Our part of the state has had a very rough time trying to recover from the removal of this traditional economic pillar, although we are finding some success through new high tech manufacturing. However, if you look back at all of the economic data it is obvious that the home building and real estate industries are taking up much of the economic slack in our

counties. These industries are providing our people and our region with jobs, keeping us economically viable, and are one of the main reasons that there are as many jobs as there are.

Our region has fared better than others in the wake of the loss of manufacturing jobs because of the home building and real estate industries. Unfortunately, the real estate market is softening and our economy is not as strong as it used to be. Therefore, I was concerned that a transfer tax would be a killer blow for the largest two industries in our area.

As I wrote about last week, this year's budget had a transfer tax in it. The transfer tax is a tax on the sale of a home. More than a fair majority of the many emails and letters I received this year were about this issue, and it seemed that every time that I was around in the district someone want-

ed to talk about it. I could not see the wisdom in placing a tax on the main industries that are providing jobs and revenue for our region.

Despite the economic impact of a transfer tax, there was a more important reason to me to vote against the budget. For the last two years I have been telling everyone that has written or spoken to me about the transfer tax that I would oppose it. It was my hope that the transfer tax would be brought up in a bill by itself that I could vote on. However, it was not and it could not have passed either the House or the Senate in a stand alone vote. The transfer tax was lumped into the budget where it was assured to pass. I was put into a situation where I had to either vote against a budget that included many good things for our state or keep my word to people. I chose to keep my word.

I was also concerned about the status of healthcare for teachers and other state employees in the budget. For the last few months I have received hundreds of letters from state employees from across our district, especially teachers, about a possible change to their health insurance plan which would switch it from the current indemnity plan to a PPO health insurance plan (Planned Provider Organization). The biggest difference between the two types of plans is that the indemnity plan would cover someone regardless of where they went to the doctor. A PPO health insurance plan only covers you if you go to a doctor who has joined a health insurance company's "approved list." For your doctor to join a PPO health insurance plan they must agree to a number of conditions - the most important one being to charge no more than the health insurance company tells them. The result of a PPO health insurance plan is that health insurance rates go down but only if you have a doctor in their PPO health insurance network. While there is a litany of debate about the good and bad of a PPO health insurance plan, a more fundamental problem exists in our part of the state. There are very few doctors who participate in PPO health insurance plans, and because of that, our teachers and other public servants are going to have a very difficult time getting access to local health care.

Prior to the budget vote I was working to ensure that our part of the state could be exempted from this or if the start date could happen sometime in the distant future so our doctors could be ready for this major switch. Most doctors in North Carolina are PPO health insurance plan members and the gross statewide savings was too much to keep the legislature from passing a statewide PPO plan for state employees. I am

• HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

High Country Cafe



Down home favorites everyday!

Breakfast & Lunch
6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday through Friday;
Saturday, 7 am.-1 p.m.

526-0572
Cashiers Road next to the
Community Bible Church

Stop in for slow-cooked BBQ, Ribs, Fried Chicken, Hot Wings and other Southern favorites that'll have you

Rib Shack LUNCH &
Catering Famous Barbecue



461 Spring Street • 526-2626

Sports Page



Sandwich Shoppe

Soups • Salads • Sandwiches
Desserts • Loaded Baked Potatoes

Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

314 Main Street • 526-3555

HILL TOP GRILL



"Where the Locals Eat for Quick Service Not Fast Food!"

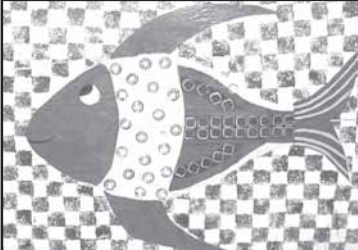
Hamburgers & Fries
Sandwiches & Salads
Ice Cream & More!

Open for lunch Mon.-Sat.
Now Trans Fat FREE
At 4th & Spring streets...on the hill

526-5916
\$10 minimum with credit card




Pescado's Burritos



In the middle of 4th St.
...on the hill

Open for lunch Mon-Sat
Open for dinner Mon-Fri

526-9313

Buck's Coffee Cafe

Open 7 days a week
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Coffee, tea, wine,
pastries, sandwiches

384 Main Street

• STATE & FEDERAL POLITICS •

working with Blue Cross Blue Shield right now to see how quickly we can get our district's doctors on this PPO health insurance plan before it goes into effect in the summer of 2008. I'd also like state employees from our district to continue to have access to healthcare across state lines, since so many in our district are closer to Atlanta than other large cities. Despite whatever we might work out, I did not think that this was a fair requirement to place state-wide, especially given the serious lack of PPO health insurance plan providers in our part of the state and in the Eastern parts of North Carolina.

The final thing which concerned me about this budget is the increase in spending. During the past three decades North Carolina's budget has grown only slightly faster than the national average, according to state and national budget figures. Since 1979, North Carolina's budget has grown an average 7.9 percent annually, compared with an average 6.5 percent in all states.

Fiscal analysts cite several reasons. North Carolina is one of the fastest-growing states, and that means increasing numbers of kids in school, more state employees and a greater demand for services. Costs

are rising, particularly on health insurance. But even with its budget on the rise, North Carolina spends less than most other states. In fact our spending is more in line with Mississippi, Tennessee, and Nevada but with much better results in areas like education. Despite many good results, we can always try a little harder to see if we are running a tight ship. This year we established an accountability office to ensure that things are being done effectively and efficiently, and I hope this can monitor spending increases.

Update from Washington, D.C.

By Heath Shuler

Congressman 11th District

Last week the House of Representatives passed a number of important bills, before members went back to their districts for the August District Work Period. We were able to finish work on the appropriations bills that fund the government, while also passing historic energy legislation, helping ensure our men and women in uniform receive the rest they need between deployments, and sending emergency aid to help Minnesota recover from the I-35 bridge disaster.

The two appropriations bills the House passed last week were: H.R. 3161, the Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration Appropriations, and H.R. 3222, the Defense Department Appropriations.

The Ag Appropriations bill provides for much needed investments to our rural communities. The bill significantly increases grant and loan programs that our rural communities can use for critical facilities, like health care, educational, public safety and day care facilities. Grants and loans for rural water programs also received increases so that more rural communities can expand water and sewer services. Finally, the broadband grant program was doubled by the Ag Appropriations bill to help the schools and hospitals in our communities gain needed access to the Internet.

The Defense Appropriations bill was a tremendous bipartisan accomplishment that passed the House 395-13. The bill provides the resources to equip and train our Armed Forces, while also honoring the men and women who serve. The bill raises troop pay by 3.5%, increases resources for programs including childcare centers, education programs and support to military families affected by the demands of war. The Defense Appropriations bill also ensures that our troops will not have the cost of their health care increased and invests the Defense Department's electronic medical

records infrastructure to foster better coordination between Defense Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The bill also provides much needed funding to the National Guard and Reserves so they can address critical equipment shortfalls. This increase will allow these units to continue their service overseas, while also being able to respond to natural disasters here at home.

In addition to the Defense Department Appropriations, the House passed the Ensuring Military Readiness through Stability and Predictability Deployment Policy Act, HR 3159. This bill will provide America's men and women in uniform the time they need at home between deployments to Iraq to recover physically and mentally. The bill states that if a unit or member of a regular component of the Armed Forces deploys to Iraq, they will have an equivalent amount of time at home before they are redeployed. This minimum rest and recuperation period will allow our Armed Forces to alleviate the readiness crisis they are currently facing.

In 2001, all active duty Army divisions were rated at the highest readiness levels and were fully manned, equipped, and trained. All of the Army's available active duty combat brigades have served at least at least one year-long tour of duty in Iraq or Afghanistan. An estimated 250,000 soldiers and Marines have already served more than one tour in Iraq. Additionally, the Secretary of Defense announced this spring that all tours of duty for active duty Army units would be extended from 12 to 15 months.

The House also continued its efforts to make America energy independent, curb global warming, and develop America's economy through renewable energy by passing two landmark energy bills last week.

The bills making up the House Energy Independence Initiative – H.R. 3221, New

Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act and H.R. 2776, the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2007 – will make historic investments in biofuels and new energy technologies, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and strengthen research and diplomatic efforts on climate change to protect the planet. These energy bills will strengthen our national security, create jobs, and protect consumers.

The Energy Independence Initiative closes loopholes that offer incentives for business to purchase Sports Utility Vehicles and repeals billions of dollars in tax subsidies and royalty relief provisions for big oil companies.

The House Energy Independence Initiative also fully incorporates the Small Energy Efficient Business Act (SEEBBA), H.R. 2389, which I sponsored and had passed the Small Business Committee with unanimous support earlier this year. The provision will help small businesses develop energy efficient practices and spurs investment in the production of alternative energy by small businesses by expanding the Small Business Investment Corporation.

The Energy Independence Initiative also contains energy efficiency provisions that will reduce emissions by as much as 10.4 billion tons through 2030 – more than the annual emissions of all of the cars on the road in America today.

Finally, the House unanimously approved emergency funding for repairs and reconstruction of the Interstate 35 bridge in Minneapolis, Minnesota that had collapsed on August 1. Our thoughts and prayers remain with all those who were affected by this tragedy.

Members of Congress have now returned to their districts for the remainder of August. I have many events scheduled throughout the 11th District and hope to see you.

DAY TRIPS & EXCURSIONS



Adventure Depot



Canoe & Kayak Tours
& Rentals
Hiking Trips
Llama Trekking
Pontoon Boat Tours
Fly Fishing Classes
Mtn. Bike Rentals
Rappeling

1-800-903-4401 • 828-743-2052
www.adventuredepot.net



DILLSBORO RIVER COMPANY, LLC

Mom Approved Rafting!

4-years-old or 40 lbs.
Rental & Guided Trips.

Across from downtown Dillsboro



Highway 441 Dillsboro, NC
(Toll Free) 1-866-586-3797
828-506-3610
www.northcarolinarafting.com

Family Float Trip Adventures

KID'S GO FOR \$10



Great Smoky Mt. River Fun
Tuckasegee Outfitters



1-888-593-5050
Hwy. 74W • Dillsboro, N.C.
www.raftnc.com

• CLASSIFIEDS •

Free Classified Ads for items FOR SALE less than \$1,000.

**All other terms:
20 words for \$5; \$2 for each 10-word increment.
Email copy to:
highlandseditor@aol.com
or FAX to 1-866-212-8913
Send check to:
Highlands' Newspaper
P.O. Box 2703
Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-0782**

HELP WANTED

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY'S programs in elementary education, special education, birth-kindergarten, psychology and educational leadership are developing adjunct professor pools for teaching in the region. Master's degree in the discipline area is required, doctorate preferred. Send vita to Amelia Schlott, 220 Killian, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723. Western Carolina University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

ATTENTION CHOCOLATE AND ICE CREAM LOVERS: Kilwin's Chocolates and Ice Cream has an opening for a part-time position Monday thru Friday from 12 p.m. until 6 p.m. We offer competitive wages, a fun atmosphere and benefits include chocolates and ice cream. Please call Jerry at 526-5788 if you are interested.

POLICE OFFICER — Successful candidate must be 21 years of age; BLET-certified; and submit to an extensive background investigation, drug screening, and psychological evaluation. Applicant must possess a valid North Carolina, South Carolina, or Georgia driver's license, for the state which they reside in as a permanent resident. Salary: \$26,847, DOQ Applicant must successfully complete the Highlands Police Department application process. Highlands Police Department, Capt. R.L. Forrester or Capt. T. Ensley, 310 Oak Street, Highlands, NC 28741, (828) 526-8734.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT — needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT — needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

EVENT PLANNER — needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

PANTHERTOWN COORDINATOR — Resumes are being received for part-time Panthertown Coordinator. Duties include recruiting and training volunteers for projects in Panthertown Valley, outdoor physical activities, fundraising and grant writing. Communication skills, commitment to environmental preservation and personal transportation are required. Send resume to Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance, 348 S. 5th St. Highlands, NC 28741. 828-526-9938 x 256, jmca@dnet.net.

FURNITURE DELIVERY — mostly in Highlands-Cashiers areas. Professional appearing individual experienced in dealing with the public. Non-smoker. Good driving record. Attention to detail. Monday through Friday, some Saturdays. Call the Summer House at 526-

5577.

CHESTNUT HILL is currently hiring for a part-time cook and wait staff. Apply in person at 64 Clubhouse Trail or call 828-526-5251 for an appointment.

SALES AND MARKETING PROFESSIONAL NEEDED FOR CHESTNUT HILL OF HIGHLANDS -- a premier retirement community of cottages, apartments and assisted-living. Must be positive, dependable and organized. Mail resume to Administrator, Chestnut Hill, 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC 28741 or FAX to 828-526-5240.

SALES - FULL OR PART TIME - Seasonal, weekends required. Previous sales or customer service experienced preferred. Must be professional. Non-smoking environment. Call the Summer House at 828-526-5577.

WE ARE CURRENTLY HIRING FOR A PART TIME TELLER AT OUR HIGHLANDS OFFICE! A high school diploma or GED is required, in addition to a minimum of 6 months of experience in a Teller or other cash handling, sales position. Candidates must have effective written and verbal communication skills, good computer skills, and a friendly, courteous and professional demeanor. First Citizens Bank offers excellent salaries and a comprehensive benefits program. Apply online at: www.firstcitizens.com/careers. Refer to the Job ID # when applying. EOE/AA

RN'S AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full, Part-time and PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

COOKS AND DIETARY AIDES AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Various shifts and days available. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Salary depends on experience. Full benefits available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. PRN positions for day and night shifts. Our wage scale is \$11 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time position available with alternating weekends. Responsibilities include cleaning patient and non-patient care areas, linen service, waste removal, sharps container removal and adhering to Infection Control/Sanitation functions and maintenance. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

WORK WANTED

LOOKING FOR A HOUSEKEEPER? Call: Manuela at 526-9586 (Highlands) Raquel Dugan at 524-4052 (Franklin) also, Experienced Truck Driver Seeks Full Time Employment: Please call 828-524-4052, or call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290

WANTED

TEMPORARY RENTAL IN HIGHLANDS for designer professional. Write P.O. Box 484, 2351 College Station, Athens, GA.

FOR RENT

WAREHOUSE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RENT. 1,100 - 1,800 sq. ft. bays with large overhead rolling doors. Rent is \$500-\$600 a month. Located one mile from the crossroads in Cashiers off 107 S. For more information please call Josh Barber 828-743-0077.

VACATION RENTAL

THE LODGE ON MIRROR LAKE - Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 828-342-2302.

ON LAKE SEQUOYAH - Three master suites with jetted tubs and showers, sleeping nook with private bath, 4 fireplaces, 2 living areas, newly renovated. Private dock with canoe and firepit. Call 828-342-2302.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE - Warehouse, 1,000 sq. ft. Cashiers Road. Call 526-4154.

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE - Log cabin at crossroads in Cashiers for sale or lease. Call 526-4154.

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE - 3 acres. U.S. 64 frontage, cashiers Road. 2 acres, 3 warehouses, good income. Call 526-4154.

HOUSE FOR SALE - HFCC 2 story split, 3/2, large lot, lake, golf course, mountain views, membership available but optional. \$795,000. Call 526-4154.

LAND BY OWNER - 3/4 acre lot. Close to Toan. Very, very, level building lot. Community water available. \$79,000. Call Ginger at 828-526-4959.

OCEANFRONT LOT KEY LARGO, FLORIDA - Cleared, buildable with all services. Last unimproved lot in Silver Shores subdivision. \$599,900. For information and photos call Frank (954) 964-7649 or email ft442@bellsouth.net.

TURTLE POND AREA. Acreage/view lots; borders National Forest 828 526 2759 marbago@hughes.net

NC, OTTO, 38 ACRES 10 miles from Georgia State line, high elevation, big views, driveway and homesite cleared call owner, 770-952-9100

NEW HOME/CHALET - 10 minutes from town off Turtle Pond Road. 2/1 with loft, .897 acres, 1,177 sq. ft. \$179,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

IN TOWN - 3/2.5 log home. The cottages lakeside at Harris Lake. Less than 2 years old. \$349,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and 1/2 bath. Walking distance to crossroads, restaurants and shopping. Large deck overlooking green lawn \$229,000. Call Manuel de Juan 828-743-1021. Owner broker. Visual tour at www.pixelitvdeos.com/townhome

LOT FOR SALE: Lot #8 Osage. This is almost 1 acre (.94+-acres). Lot has complete road system, 10 gallon well and Macon County septic permit. Don't miss chance! Rocky Knob fees of ONLY \$100 a YEAR! Call Chris Gilbert Broker/Owner (828)421 3161. Reduced \$109,000. Ready to build. No restrictions.

LOTS - Exclusive RiverRock, Tuckasegee Village: 2.1 acre Lot 48, great building site, adjoins horse farm. \$364,900; and THE premier view Lot 34, best view lot development. \$799,900 Call HUTCH (706) 831-

0892 owner/agent.

DEVELOPER CLOSE-OUT. Commercial purchase/rental: Last unit! 2,300+-sq ft unit/NC 106. Retail unit has 1,600+-sq ft on the main level with hardwood floors/700sq ft loft. Unit has separate meter, heat pump and 3ton A/C. Call Jim Tate (828) 371-0773. Owner/broker Chris Gilbert. Reduced to \$349,000 or rent to own.

FIX 'R' UPPER - 2,500 sq. ft home. 2-3 decks. 2-3 bed/baths. New furnace. Walk to hospital. Interior unfinished...must have imagination. Make offer. Call 828-200-9333.

MOTOR COACH SITE - Private, luxury motor coach site available for purchase. Downtown Highlands. Corner of Fifth St. and Chestnut St. Gated, restricted. Call 828-526-5333.

BY BUILDER - 4/3, new construction. Executive home. 1.5 acres, bordered by 2 creeks and a pond in a new up-scale subdivision less than 5 minutes from downtown Franklin. \$485K. Call 371-3669.

ADORABLE 3 BR/2 BA COTTAGE with wonderful mountain view. One mile from Main Street. Highlands. \$275,000. By Owner. For Appt. 828-526-1085.

ESTATE SALE

SATURDAY, AUG. 11 - at AB Climate Control in The Meadows off the Cashiers Road. Rain or Shine. Look for signs. Call 787-2382.

FOUND

SMALL, DIGITAL CAMERA on Satulah Mountain trail, Wednesday, July 25. Call with description to claim it. Call, 404-840-3020.

ITEMS FOR SALE

GE WINDOW AIR-CONDITIONER - Like New. 6,000 BTUs \$50. Call 526-5060.

STAINLESS STEEL DOUBLE KITCHEN SINK with Delta Faucets. \$45. Call 526-2713

LARGE, HUTCH-LIKE ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. Dark wood. 3 Large upper doors can accommodate television or stereo equipment. Smaller doors below with storage area. If you can come to pick it up, it's yours. FREE! We are near downtown Highlands. Call Melissa at 404-840-3020

USED PLAYSTATION 2 - With 10 games (Star Wars, Battlefront II, Lego Star Wars, Spiderman 2 and more) - Includes memory card, controllers, and other accessories. Asking \$350 or OBO. Call Gardner at 526-3008.

ANTIQUE SLOT MACHINES - 25c 1933 mills "war eagle" \$2,800; 10c mills 777 "special award" \$2,400. Mint condition. 828-862-3363.

ARMOIRE & DRESSER W/ 3 WAY MIRROR. Light Maple color. Excellent condition. \$600 for both or will sell separately. 526-9107.

BATH VANITY OAK FINISH - Simulated marble top Delta faucets \$89. Call 526-2713.

BATH TUB SLIDING DOORS WITH FRAME - one mirror door other opaque. \$11. Call 526-2713.

TV - 25 inch standard picture tube. Excellent picture. \$35. Call, 526-2713.

ANTIQUE SMALL (44"x72") ARMOIRE - May be chestnut. Shelves and hanging space. One drawer on bottom. \$450. Call 526-0545.

ETHAN ALLEN HUTCH - \$975. Call 526-4077.

FORMICA WALL UNIT - \$395. Call 526-4077.

ELECTROLUX VACUUM CLEANER - Late model. \$125. Call 526-4077.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

FARM HOUSE STYLE PINE TOP COUNTRY TABLE with white-washed legs, 6 chairs with white-washed legs. Best offer over \$700. Call 526-1597.

MASSAGE TABLE. StrongLite. Off-white cover w/ bolsters, haul bag. Ready for use. \$300. Very good condition. Call 526-8880.

CHINA CABINETS desk, rope-bed, trunk framed artwork, quilts, and more. Call 828-526-3836.

2003 AIRSTREAM TRAVEL TRAILER - 30' Classic with rear island queen, walk-thru bath, and dinette. Excellent condition, \$45K. (828) 526-5939.

ANTIQU BEAMS, FLOORING AND STRUCTURES: Hand hewn beams in oak and yellow pine. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4 per board foot. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Also selling entire log and timber frame structures. 215-529-7637 (www.jcwoodworking.info)

BEAUTIFUL FLOORING: Wormy white oak flooring, resawn, milled and ready to lay w/ t&g, 6-12" widths, \$8/sq. ft. 215-529-7637

LOG CABIN KIT - 32 x 24 8 1/2 inch yellow Pine logs. Walls only. \$9,999. Call 526-0241.

TIME CLOCK. Acroprint Model 125, and time cards. See Bob at SweetTreats, 526-9822.

BISTRO TABLES, 21" round (black and white), 2 black chairs. (4 sets @ \$125 per set). See Bob at SweetTreats 526-9822.

DINING ROOM FURNITURE. Very nice. Rectangular with two leaves 6 chairs, 2 with arms. Maple with upholstered seats. \$326 all inclusive. 864-972-8525 or cell 864-723-4101

HILTI TE 805 DEMOLITION HAMMER. New. Case & 4 bits. \$500. 828-526-2700 or 828-421-7886

SLEEPER SOFA - Neutral Plaid. Like New. \$145. Call 864-972-8525.

SOLID DARK OAK DINETTE CABINET. 19"x64"x84". 3 glass windows on top. 3 drawers on bottom. 2 bottom doors with keys. Imported from Belgium. Excellent condition. \$1,500. Call 369-3250.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1999 CAMARO - New tires, low mileage, 5-speed, 6-cylinder, excellent condition. Call 828-369-3619.

ANTIQU 1926 MODEL T FORD TOURING CAR - Fully restored. Needs a new starter. Selling for health reasons. \$15,000 but will discount cost of starter and ignition work. Great car and lots of fun. Call Horace Duncan at 526-3760.

2003 DODGE STRATUS - red exterior, gray interior, 30,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, A.C. PW, PS, PB, clean. \$8,000 OBO 828-526-3257.

1991 SUBURBAN 3/4 TON, 130K miles, 20K on Tranny, 350 V8, lift w/wheels & tires, good condition, never off-road, white/blue \$4350. Call 200-0013.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

THE REAL ESTATE BOOK - North America's largest and most successful "Home for Sale" magazine, is offering the chance to be an Independent Distributor of the Cashiers-Highlands area. This market meets the criteria of our other 400 successful territories. Comprehensive training, on-going support help ensure success. Candidate should possess strong sales skills, customer support & follow-up. No franchise fees or royalties. Initial start-up and working capital required. Contact Tara Truitt at 770-962-7220 Ext. 24608 or email ttruitt@treb.com for more information.

SERVICES

SPIC AND SPAN CLEANERS - looking for part-time cleaners to clean banks in Highlands and Cashiers. Call 828-691-6353.

TREE SERVICE - From view clearing to the most complicated tree removal, under brushing, stump removal/grinding/brush chipping/hauling and storm clean-up. For good quality, dependable services, fully insured, give us a call at 828-526-2251.

HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID TREATMENT - By J&J Lawn and Landscaping services. NC Licensed Applicator, Highlands, NC 828-526-2251.

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES - complete lawn and

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 35

• SERVICE DIRECTORY •

NATURE'S CREATIONS



Now is your chance to install self-contained waterfalls and ponds that look like the real thing. Call for an appointment. Free quotes. Landscaping also available. Call Johnny Billingsley

828-526-8670 or cell: 706 982- 2292

Edwards Electrical Service

Franklin Road
828-526-5147



Hatha Yoga

526-4340

Monday & Wednesday
7:30-8:30 AM
\$7.00 per class
Highlands Rec. Center

**James Fowler
FINISH
CARPENTRY
SUBCONTRACTOR**
828-342-4198
828-349-6443

Allan Dearth & Sons Generator

Sales & Service, Inc.
828-526-9325
Cell: 828-200-1139
email: allandearth@msn.com

Timeless Timber Frame Co.

is taking orders for vintage timber frame barns to be used in residential home construction, complete original or one of a kind custom cut frames. phone 1-877-328-6531 or visit us on the web at www.timelesstimberframe.com

Runaround Sue Pet Sitting



- Healthy Homemade Treats
- Birthday Parties
- Pet Photos
- Hand-crocheted Dog Clothing

Sue Laferty
P.O. Box 1991
Highlands, NC 28741
(828) 526-0844
slaferty@aol.com

FIVE STAR

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE



LIGHT AND DETAIL
CLEANING

HOME REPAIRS AND
IMPROVEMENTS

CALL TODAY 828-332-7201

New Carolina Carpet

Specializing in Carpet,
Vinyl and Hardwood

(828) 524-5933

369 Wells Grove Rd. | Anthony Sessock
Franklin, NC 28734 | Owner

(Next to Franklin Glass)

Scaly Mountain Trout Farm

The place to buy Apple Smoked Trout!

- You Catch
- No Limit
- No License
- Sold by the lb.
- Wholesale
- Open 9-7



218 Buck Knob Rd., Scaly Mtn., 7 miles south of
Highlands • 526-4676

Anthony

828-369-0172

Carpet Cleaning Extraction &
Carpet Installation

Don't Scream...

Get the help you
need with

TempStaffers!

Quality help for a day, a week, a season.

526-4946 • 342-9312





Freeman Gas

HIGHLANDS OPEN HOUSE NEW LOCATION CELEBRATION

Free Hot Dogs, Cokes & Prizes

Thurs, Fri & Sat ~ Aug 9th, 10th & 11th

Freeman Gas would like to invite you to their Open House New Location Celebration. Manager Stan Hummel and the Entire Staff invite you to come see the burning gas displays. Largest selection of Gas Logs and appliances in the area. Special prices on everything.



Stan Hummel
Manager

<p>OPEN HOUSE SPECIAL! Only \$398.00</p> <p>MONESSEN HEARTH SYSTEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •28,000 btu's •Vent Free ~ Available in Sand Only •Remote Control Available •Easy Access On/Off Switch <p>List Price \$1,299.95 Save \$901.95</p>	<p>Coleman OPEN HOUSE SPECIAL!</p> <p>Top of the Line! Only \$1,398.00</p> <p>C-8400-P</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •78,000 btu's ~ 6 Burners •2 - 12,000 btu side burners •304 Stainless Steel •1,142 sq inches cooking space •Infrared Burner <p>List Price \$3,999.95 Save \$2,601.95</p>
<p>Register for over \$1,300 in Free Prizes!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$450 Set of Logs • \$140 Turkey Cooker • \$350 Firebox • \$400 Heater • \$50 Cooking Set <p>Thurs Aug 9th & Fri Aug 10th ~ 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM / Sat Aug 11th ~ 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM You do not have to be present to win. Everyone is Eligible!</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE SPECIAL!</p> <p>20# Grill Tanks Filled Only \$6.00 each</p> 
<p>Deck Grill Only \$148.00</p> <p>VERANDA SBMPG3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Stainless-steel flame disk •Double-insulated, stainless-steel dome lid •200 sq-in of cooking space •5-year manufacturer warranty <p>List Price \$249.95 Save \$101.95</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE SPECIAL! Only \$298.00</p> <p>HEATMASTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Vented - Remote Ready •Uses No Electricity •10 Individually Crafted Logs •Colorful & realistic flame pattern •"Triple Layer" hand painted log detail <p>List \$799.95 Save \$501.95</p>
<p>•Free Tank Swap Out Family Owned - 71 Years •Immediate Installation</p> <p>•Free Safety Inspection •Complete line of Gas Appliances •Local Community Staff</p> <p>•Special First Fill Price •New Tanks Available</p> <p>•Underground Tanks Available •Gas Piping</p>	

Freeman Gas was established in 1936 and is still owned by the same family. If you want to do business with local people, call Manager Stan Hummel, Carolyn Hixon, Nathaniel Hollingsworth, John Engert or Justin Hurst.

FREE HOT DOGS ~ COKES ~ PRIZES ~ OPEN HOUSE



Freeman Gas *Since 1936*

526-0040

Just past the Summer House on the Right

The Freeman Center, Dillard Hwy

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Plaid." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the Box office at 526-2695 for ticket information.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 12-14

- At Acorn's, Mary Louise/Bijoux de Mer Trunk Show. Mary Louise's exclusive line of 18k gold jewelry has a distinctively feminine flair. Bijoux de Mer or Jewels of the Sea, specializes in pearls and precious stones.

Saturday, Oct. 13

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Sandra Brown signing "Play Dirty" 1-3 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 18

- Steele/Shooting Star Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Call 828-787-2604.

Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 8--11

- The Chamber of Commerce presents "Cooking Central" at the First Annual Highlands Culinary Weekend. Highlands area restaurants, accommodations, and merchants will partner to present instructional culinary courses/classes, tastings, and outdoor activities. Call 866-526-5841 or 526-5841.

Zamballis returns for Bel Canto

Early ticket sales indicate that many Highlands music lovers look forward to Bel Canto's 15th anniversary recital on Sunday, Sept. 9 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center.

For 14 years, the annual Bel Canto Recital has introduced Highlands to some of America's most accomplished opera singers. Among them, Stella Zambalis, Brenda Harris, Kristine Jenson, Joyce Guyer and Jeff Mattsey, all of whom have been on the roster of the Metropolitan Opera.

Many others have sung principal roles with the New York City Opera, the Chicago Lyric and the companies of Houston, Seattle, Miami and Atlanta. Most of them have performed in Canada, South America and Europe.

Supporters of Bel Canto have derived pleasure and satisfaction not only from hearing distinguished professional artists, singing beautiful music from opera and musical theater, but also from knowing they have contributed to the growth of the permanent art collection in the Bascom-Louise Gallery and to strengthening of the music program at the Highlands School.

The school and the gallery will be the beneficiaries of this year's Bel Canto when the recital celebrates its 15th Anniversary with a gala program presented by four re-

nowned American artists, two of them familiar to Highlands and two who will be heard for the first time.

The Anniversary Quartet will be composed by Stella Zambalis, the popular soprano making her fourth appearance; Kelly Anderson, baritone, who starred in 2005; and Phyllis Pancella, mezzo-soprano and mark Thomsen, tenor. They will be accompanied by Stephen Dubberly, master pianist and opera conductor, a Bel Canto mainstay since the recital's inception in 1993.

The anniversary recital, featuring beautiful music that has thrilled opera and concert audiences through the years, will be followed by a festive buffet-reception at the Highlands Falls Country Club which is included in the recital ticket.

Busy coordinating the anniversary celebration is the Bel Canto Steering Committee that has recently welcomed two new members, Lynne Winship and David LaCagnina. They join Patricia Boyd, Ed Bohling, Lewis Doggett, Kaye Gorecki, Janet Grantham, Stell Huie, Kitty Moore, Lucinda Painter, Keturah Paulk, Jonan Rainey, Horst Winkler and Richard Joel, chairman.

Tickets for the eagerly anticipated event that glorifies the human voice and benefits Highlands' school and art gallery may be obtained by calling 526-5252.



Stella Zambalis, soprano star of three Bel Canto Recitals, will return as a member of the 15th Anniversary Quartet on Sunday, Sept. 9, at PAC. The Highlands favorite is shown in her signature role of Puccini's Tosca.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

landscaping service, spring cleanup, gutter cleaning, under-brushing, tree removal, lot clearing, storm cleanup, rockwork, retaining walls, flowerbeds, firewood. 828-526-2251.

CLOCK REPAIR & RESTORATION – Antique or modern. Call to discuss your repair needs. Visit my website at www.oldclockrepari.com or call Joseph McGahee at 706-754-9631 or email to mogaheeclockshop@yahoo.com – 9/13

PRESSURE CLEANING SUMMER SPECIAL! Decks and homes, senior discounts. Call the "Fussy Painter for Fussy People." ATM Painting. Insured. Alan Davies. Call 828-577-9262.

SHIPPING SERVICES - STORK'S WRAP, PACK & SHIP UPS Ground & Next Day Air services and large furniture shipping available. Packing services and/or supplies. Gift wrapping and fax services. 323 Hwy 107 N., Cashiers, NC (1/2 mile from crossroads) (828) 743-3222

HOUSE CLEANING & ERRAND RUNNING – References available. Call 524-3261.

NEED YOUR HOME CLEANED? Call Charlotte at Letson Enterprise for a free estimate. 828-369-9127 or Bill at 828-421-0971.

PERSONAL COMPANION/CAREGIVER Whatever your needs may be we can help. References available (828)421-5940,(828) 399-1749.

FIVE STAR CLEANING & MAINTENANCE – Light and detail cleaning. Call 828-332-7201.

D.P. PAINTING & PRESSURE WASHING – Interior and exterior painting. Quality Work. References. In business since 1984. Dennis Perkins. 526-3542 or 371-2277.

YARD WORK & PRESSURE WASHING – Yard and property maintenance. Pressure Washing and odd jobs. Call Bruce at 828-369-3168 or 828 371-2766. 8/18

H & D HOUSE CLEANERS – We're the team for minor cleans. Dishes, bed, floors, & baths. Give us a call 'cause we are the Best!' 706-982-1994 or 706-782-0376

SCOTTS CONSTRUCTION 'ME FIX IT' – Decks, roofs, pressure washing, painting, lawn service, small electrical, floors, carpet cleaning, house cleaning! No job too small. 30 yrs. exp. Call David at 828-369-5886 or 828-347-5051.

C&C CONTRACTING – WE GET IT DONE – SMALL OR LARGE – Remodeling, decks, doors, windows or the whole house! Call Art Doughty at 828-508-1360 Workmen's Comp, General Liability, References

HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive-Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 526-8078.

MARK'S SEDAN DRIVING SERVICE – All airports -- Atlanta \$150, Asheville, \$110, scenic tours, parks, special occasions, restaurant trips. Town Car. Call 828-524-0424 or cell (239-292-3623).

... FORUM continued from pg 2

the spirit of the law. Consequently no illegal activity took place.

Though not always required, as has become the habit of both the Macon County Commission and the Highlands Town Board, the press was invited to sit in on the informal, social gathering.

Furthermore, Commissioner Simpson told Commissioner Patterson, that the press had been invited and he even told the waitress he needed a table for six because the press was coming. This clearly indicated that social or not, Simpson wasn't trying to hide the meeting or evade the spirit or purpose of the Open Meetings Law.

As publisher of Highlands' Newspaper, I was there and so was the publisher of The Highlander Newspaper. While the luncheon was being assembled, he and a woman came into the restaurant and sat down to eat at a nearby table.

Instead of being outraged and calling "foul," why didn't he simply walk over to the table, introduce himself and sit down?

Joining the group wouldn't have been an unnatural gesture especially since there were two town commissioners, a county commissioner and the publisher of his competition sitting there.

I guarantee, as publisher of Highlands' Newspaper, social luncheon meeting or not, had the tables been turned, I would have simply assumed I dropped the ball and forgot about the meeting. I would have said "hi" sat down and produced a pad of paper and a pen.

This isn't so much a story about an alleged illegal meeting; it's about a perceived missed opportunity and sensationalism.

There are lots of ways to write a story and in a small town and county where most everyone is on a first-name basis, battles should be chosen carefully.

It's clearly imperative that the press watch officials and call them on illegal or inappropriate moves, but as every citizen and lawyer knows, general statutes can be interpreted, argued and substantiated from various angles. That's why lawyers abound in our society.

Furthermore, the relationship between the press and the town and county governments is a delicate balance. Publicly accusing without proof, can land the press in hot water and at the very least cause sources to clam up. Once that happens, the press is doomed to press releases and puff stories.

The best policy is to stay informed. As in the past, as reporter and news editor for The Highlander and now as publisher of Highlands' Newspaper, I will continue to ask commissioners as to the necessity of closed sessions and continue to check on meeting times and places. The press and the public can do that, thanks to the open meeting law, and officials must disclose.

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Aug 1-6. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

Aug 1

- At 12:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in Highlands Plaza where one driver was cited for driving without a license.
- At 3:30 p.m., Village Kids reported a bad check for more than \$500.

Aug. 2

- At 9:50 p.m. Duncan Fuel reported a bad check to purchase gas, cigarettes and cash..

Aug. 3

- At 4:25 p.m., a motorist at Fourth and Hickory streets was cited for speeding 45 mph in a 25 zone.
- At 5 p.m., officers located a vehicle on the road blocking traffic which had been in a hit and run incident earlier.

Aug. 4

- At 10 p.m., a motorist at N. 4th and Foreman Road was cited for speeding 41 mph in a 25 zone.

Aug. 5

- At 9:30 a.m., a resident on Foreman Road reported damage to property where a mirror at the driveway had been broken.

Aug. 6

- At 9:20 a.m., a motorist at Mirror Lake and Hicks roads was cited for driving without a license.
- At 9:30 a.m., a motorist at Mirror Lake and Hicks roads was cited for driving without a license.
- During the week officers issued six warning tickets.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the weeks of Aug. 1-6

Aug. 1

- The dept. responded to a mutual aid call from Cashiers. It was cancelled.
- The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 east. One person was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was 1st responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Dillard Road. The person was transported to the hospital.

Aug. 2

- The dept. responded to a construction accident on Chestnut Street where a worker fell in a hole.

Aug. 3

- The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 east at Eastover Drive. Two people were transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Carolina Way where someone had fallen. The person was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at Wild Cat Cliffs Country Club where a person fell. The person was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at Old Edwards Inn.

Aug. 4

- The dept. responded to a call of a bee string at a residence on Buck Creek Road. The person was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Eastover Drive concerning a domestic dispute.

Aug. 5

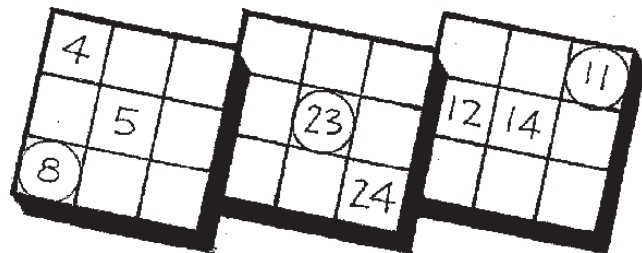
- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant where there was a small kitchen fire. It was extinguished with extinguishers. There was no damage.

Aug. 6

- The dept. responded to an alarm at Cullasaja Country Club due to work on the alarm system.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Chelsea Lane. The person was transported to the hospital.
- During the Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House on Saturday, Aug. 4, the dept. accepted donations in the amount of \$2,600 and gave out 700 hot dogs.

PseudoCube[©]

#BN1D – Level of Difficulty – Moderate



THE SETUP:

The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through the center number of the middle layer. Each diagonal contains 3 numbers equaling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

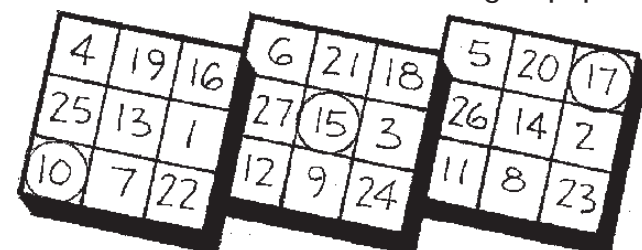
THE CHALLENGE:

Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

The first correct solution emailed earns a coupon for a FREE cup of coffee from Buck's Coffee Cafe on Main Street.

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com

Solution to #AN2D in the Aug. 2 paper



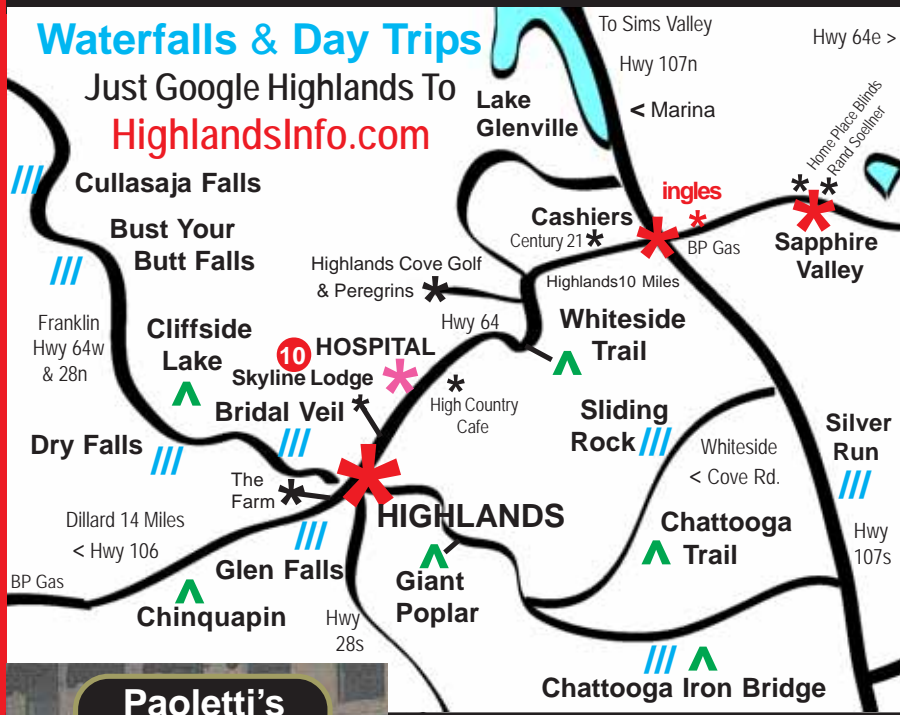
Find It All On This Map

The #1 Internet Directory For 5 Years In A Row

Upscale Lodging, Fine Dining, Unique Shops & Best Realtors

Waterfalls & Day Trips

Just Google Highlands To
HighlandsInfo.com



Highlands Map

HighlandsInfo.com

Please support our advertisers. They make this newspaper possible.

"My Way" - Frank Sinatra Tribute
Highlands Playhouse

"Night Crawlers" Cyprus - Sat.

"JW Band" - High Country Cafe - Sat.

"Hurricane Creek" Instant Theatre - Sat.

"Trunk Show" Carolina Eyes

"How The Other 1/2 Loves" P.A.C. - Wed.



Paoletti's Wine Spectator



Wolfgang's Wine Spectator



Madison's Wine Spectator

Highlands Lodging
Old Edwards Inn
Main Street Inn
Skyline Lodge
The Lodge

Highlands' Newspaper
#1 In Local Readership
7,500 Wk.- 30,000 Mo.

O.T.V. - Live Music
Cyprus - Live Music
Rib Shack Sports Bar
Skyline Piano Bar
Main St Inn Wine Bar
The Wine Garden
Fressers - Live Music

DINING	Shopping	Real Estate
1 Cyprus	1 Acorns	1 Buyer's
2 Golden China	2 AnnaWear	2 Century 21
3 Lakeside	3 Bear Mt. Outfit.	3 Chambers
4 Madison's	4 Bungalow	4 Cleaveland
5 Main St. Inn	5 Dry Sink	5 Country Club
6 On Verandah	6 Elephant's Foot	6 Meadows Mtn.
7 Paoletti	7 Raspberry Fizz	Galleries
8 Pescado's	8 Silver Eagle	1 Bryant Art Glass
9 Rib Shack	9 Stone Lantern	2 Tino Gallery
10 Skyline Lodge	10 Village Kids	3 Twigs
11 Wolfgang's	11 Wholesale Down	4 Summit One

"We Cut The Best Steaks In Town"

Dusty's Market

Cyprus
Taylor Barns
Best Bunch
Dillard Village
Retail Space Avail.
Call: 770-622-3050

Bryson's Foods
Gourmet Wines
Cheeses
Meats
Produce

Cabin Casuals
"Life is Good"
and Casual Resortwear
for all ages
The Falls on Main
828-526-3320

The Farm & Highlands C.C.
1 Mile Hwy. 106

Summer House & Tin Roof
2 Miles Hwy. 106

Manley's Auto Service
J&J Lawn & Landscaping
<<< 1 Mile Hwy. 28s

