

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 5, Number 46

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2007

On-going

- November auctions at Scudder's Galleries Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. Viewing from Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 352 Main St.

- 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.

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

- 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. 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 Wednesday

- "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. The study will meet in the Fellowship Hall — beginning promptly at 6:15 and will last approximately one hour.

- Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

- CBC will offer the AWANA program for kids — K-5th grade non-denominational Bible-based program for kids — from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

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.

Friday & Saturday, Nov. 16-17

- ITC presents David Milford and Madeleine Davis in a staged reading you do not want to miss, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* by Mark Twain at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Call 828-342-9197 for further information.

Sunday, Nov. 18

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on an old railroad bed thru woods and along the Tallulah River in Terrora Park, GA, with the option of dinner in Clayton GA. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitor Center on Hwy. 441 at 2 p.m. Drive 60 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. No pets, please.

Wheeler house burns in Saturday fire

About 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 10, life changed for Dr. Patti Wheeler and her family but thanks to the community that is Highlands, change won't be as bad as it could be.

A couple of neighbors in the vicinity of Satulah Ridge Road had just returned home from a

hike up Whiteside Mountain when they saw smoke billowing out of the eaves of the Wheeler house.

"We stopped the car and as we watched, the house ignited with the smoke turning into flames," said Ginger Slaughter. "That's when I made the first 9-1-

1 call in my life."

Slaughter said within seven minutes the Highlands volunteer fire & rescue department was on the scene extinguishing the fire and preventing it from spreading to nearby houses.

"It looked like fire was also

• See FIRE page 28

Coolley new town planner

After almost a year, Highlands now has a Planning and Development Director.

The job title has changed, but for the most part the duties of Joseph Coolley will mimic those of the previous Zoning Administrator/Planning Director.

Coolley is currently a lawyer with the Smith, Gambrell & Russell Land Use Group in Atlanta, GA.

"He decided to go back to law school and become a lawyer late in life," said Mayor Don Mullen. "Before that he was a city planner."

• See PLANNER page 11




Room tax talk heats up

Now that the bond issue is put to rest, the county commission is ready to focus on the room tax money.

Since the mid 1980s three percent of the room tax money levied by every lodging establishment in Macon County including hotels, motels, bed & breakfasts, and vacation rentals has been given back to the Highlands and Franklin chambers of commerce. By law, the money can only be

• See ROOM TAX page 5

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
46-25°F	50-32°F	51-35°F

Veterans remembered



About 30 people attended a poorly publicized affair held to honor veterans Sunday, Nov. 11 where a memorial erected on the outskirts of town was unveiled. No one from the county or town government was in attendance, but in all fairness, Highlands' Newspaper learned of the affair only two hours prior when Pastor Todd Strubel of the Methodist church announced it from the pulpit. Join Highlands' Newspaper in honoring our veterans by placing flowers at the memorial at the corner of 6th Street and Horse Cove Road in commemoration of our veterans.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Horton new county manager

It only took three months for the county to find its next county manager and as it turns out, he's been here before.

Commissioners found what they believe the county needs in C. Jack Horton, 57, current county manager of Caldwell County in Lenoir, N.C.; population 78,000. He begins January, 7, 2008 at a salary of \$125,000.

At the Nov. 13 commission meeting, the board emerged from a brief closed session to announce Horton's hiring.

However, following a Macon County Commission Nov. 2 closed meeting, which was continued from Oct. 22, during which Horton was interviewed and employment discussed, Caldwell

• See HORTON page 10

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Highlands receives top Traffic Safety Honor

By Ladee Cheyenne Reporter

AAA Carolinas' Foundation for Traffic Safety awarded Highlands the top honor as North Carolina's most Outstanding Traffic Safety Community. The Foundation has given this award in the past four years in an endeavor to recognize cities that make a strong effort to make their state's highways safer.

According to the Triple A Foundation, cities are chosen based on crash statistics, the number of law enforcement officers per capita, the presence of a formal traffic safety program and an existence of a special traffic division. Statistical analysis is performed by the Center for Transportation Policy Studies at UNC Charlotte and selection is made by the Foundation.

According to statistics, Highlands Police Department, for the town of Highlands, recorded just two crashes for the year with no pedestrian or bicycle crashes. With a now 11-person police force, Highlands has one of the highest ratios of police per capita. For its efforts in working hard and being successful in reducing traffic crashes, the Highlands community was honored as Traffic Safety Community of the Year in its population category of 10,000 people or less.

The success of the Highlands

• See TRAFFIC page 13

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

• LETTERS •

Highlands needs to stand up and fight



Kim Lewicki
Publisher

Failure of the bond issue means slower growth for school facilities, a halt on expansion at the Southwestern Community College campus on Siler Road in Franklin, the mixing of a new senior citizen center and EMS building; no new recreation facilities in the county, a library in Nantahala, or expansion of the library in Highlands.

Failure of the bond issue also means the county commission will be turning over every stone looking for "extra" money – selling surplus buildings, schools and property — likely even tapping room tax money.

At the Tuesday, Nov. 13 Macon County Commission meeting, commissioners discussed the establishment of an Occupancy Tax Study Committee to learn how to best disperse of the funds collected by lodging establishments in Macon County. At the Nov. 26 continuation meeting, study committee candidates will be discussed.

In all fairness, commissioners have said the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce has supplied detailed audits by an independent auditor indicating its books are in order, but that isn't the case for Franklin's Chamber. That lack of accountability by Franklin is one reason the county initiated changing the way room tax money has been disbursed for the last 20-some years. Even though the Franklin Chamber said it now has an independent auditor working on its books, future room tax allotments may be decreased for both chambers/visitor centers.

There has been talk of sliding some room tax money to the Economic Development Committee and to a new Tourism Development Commission. County Attorney Lesley Moxley is investigating whether such practices would be legal, particularly where economic develop-

•See FORUM page 21

Remind wounded you care

Dear Editor,

What a great idea!

When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, please include the following: A Recovering American Soldier; c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center; 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW; Washington, D.C. 20307-5001.

Tax revolt evidenced by election results

Dear Editor,

What has happened that resulted in Macon County voters voting down the bond referendum in the recent election? My answer to the question is: Could we be experiencing a tax revolt?

This was the year for property taxes to increase with revaluations and then our leadership attempted to layer another bill on us with a record-setting bond debt.

The failure should make our leaders consider what we, the people think is needed for the betterment of our community.

Norm Roberts
Franklin

Democracy requires real leaders and thinkers

Dear Editor,

Many of you may not know of a brilliant political move that I witnessed (thanks to CSPAN) of a Senator who defied all the political advisors and think tanks in Washington.

On Tuesday, Nov. 6, one candidate for president, backed by 22 co-sponsors of a bill (mostly Democrats) HR799/333, won a majority of votes to continue the process of the impeachment of Dick Cheney.

You may remember I wrote a letter earlier concerning the act of impeachment and its importance to truth in government. But what was so astounding was the bill surprised both sides and passed with a huge support of Republicans. If you like football or even tennis this was quite the match of political play/game strategy.

The bill as it is written is quite lengthy (read it for yourself at THOMAS the Library of Congress website) and legally sound. It was created for the purpose of debate on the lawful conduct of the VP, citing the now well read lies concerning the invasion of Iraq and the continuum of this reasoning for the invasion of Iran.

It seems the Democrats were not happy with this bill and worked to kill it when unexpectedly the Republicans started to vote NOT to kill it. The Democrats switched gears and started switching their votes – let's just say a vote that was supposed to take 15 minutes (normally) took 55 minutes. HMMM..connect some dots. I'll leave you to do it as you wish but the final vote was 135 votes from Dems to kill it and 165 from Reps not to. The end result is there will be a decision from the judiciary committee (headed by Sen. John Conyers who supports the impeachment) and thus a possible impeachment.

Thank you President-elect Dennis Kucinich for being a thoughtful leader and not afraid of breaking some political party rules to save this country and uphold his oath to the people and the Constitution. Oh yeah, thanks to the Republicans, too, for agreeing there are possible grounds for impeachment!

Please be an American and make your own political decision based on facts (beyond the major media) and common sense and not party lines.

Lee Hodges
Highlands

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or 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

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'Walk a mile in his shoes'

Dear Editor,

This letter is written in support of Macon County Board of Commissioners Chairman Charles Leatherman. This dedicated public servant deserves our appreciation and gratitude.

I have tremendous respect for Mr. Leatherman's work as commission chair, because I walked miles in the same shoes he now wears. I commend him for his position of sticking to his guns and not being held hostage to a revenue-neutral budget.

Chairman Leatherman helped the volunteer fire departments achieve their needs in order to serve the public by going over the budget by \$220,000, which averaged roughly to 43 cents per tax bill. This is a small amount to pay for these essential services; to see the fire department in time of need is priceless.

Mr. Leatherman has kept the needs of the schools on track in Macon County

•See LETTERS page 21

Recipients receive Bel Canto proceeds

Right, Bascom-Louise Gallery Director, Kaye Gorecki, accepts proceeds from this year's Bel Canto recital from Bel Canto Outgoing Chairman Richard Joel and Incoming Chairman Stell Huie.

Below, Bel Canto recital proceeds were also given to Highlands School music teacher John Gorecki and Assistant Principal Jim Draheim.



• OBITUARY •

Elbert E. Jenkins, Jr.

Mr. Elbert E. Jenkins, Jr., born in Macon and a resident of Glynn county Georgia for the past 24 years, died Nov. 1, 2007.

He attended Lanier High School in Macon as well as Mercer University and Capitol Radio Engineering. He worked for Bibb Paper Co. in Macon and as the General Manager of Bearings Supply Co. in Macon. He was in the U.S. Air Corps as a radio instructor as well as the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

Elbert was a member of Sigma Pi Fraternity, Phi Eta Sigma, Pan Hellenic Council, Glee Club Orchestra and Chorus, and College Band. He was an honor graduate of Mercer University.

He was a member of the Macon Radio Club, Macon Camera Club, Lions International, Military Amateur Radion Society, American Radio Relay League and the American Legion. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Macon and St. Francis Catholic Church of Brunswick.

He received the American Legion Medal of Honor in 1930 and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1942 to 1945 as part of the 155th AAC's Squadron, and was promoted to major in the Reserves upon separation.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine Jenkins of Brunswick (formerly Catherine Amis of West Palm Beach, FL); son, Tommy Jenkins (Kay) of Brunswick, daughter, Nancy Welch (Charles) of Highlands, NC, granddaughters, Marsha Welch of Nashville, TN, and Katie McDonald (Jason) of Asheville, NC; grandsons Carter Welch (Christina) of Jacksonville, FL, Thomas Jenkins of Atlanta and Robert Jenkins of Brunswick, and three nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Elbert's life was held Monday, Nov. 5, at St. William's Catholic Church on St. Simons Island, GA, with the Rev. John Kenneally officiating.

Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home, Brunswick, was in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be made to Our Lady of the Mountains Church in Highlands.

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It's light. It has character. It's obsessively clean. It's complete with desirable things - mountain views, stone fireplace, vaulted ceilings with beams, screened porch, plantation shutters, and a second lot. A surprise is the dedicated home theater with 102" screen and Dolby Digital sound. And, not unimportantly, this 3 BR, 2 1/2 bath home is priced to sell at \$629,000 furnished.



This home on Lake Sequoyah has an exterior which is a perfect balance of stone, cedar shake and bead board. The great room, dining room, kitchen, and master suite share the same lovely view of the lake. The master boasts a fireplace and an upscale bath. The lower terrace level has two wonderful guest suites, den, and exercise room all also with a lake view. Expansive decks on both levels are perfect for entertaining or relaxing. \$1,350,000



Mountain and golf view from this HFCC home. Soaring ceilings in the great room, kitchen, and master bathroom. The large eat-in kitchen opens onto an expansive, covered and open deck. Located fronting the 13th fairway at Highlands Falls Country Club. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths. An added bonus is a view of Big Bear Pen Mountain. \$739,000



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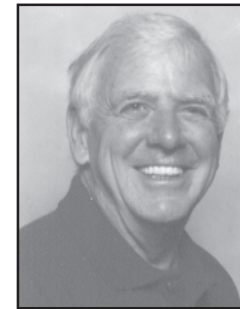


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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Warning: the appearance police are coming...hide your ugly wife!

Dear Mr. Wooldridge: The appearance committee conducted an inspection of your home and we have concluded you are currently in violation of our rules and regulations concerning dirty gutters. Please have your gutters either painted or cleaned within the next 30 days or you will be subject to a \$100 fine. Sincerely, the Appearance Committee.



Fred Wooldridge

•
Feedback
is encouraged!
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

I am freaking out as I stared at this letter in disbelief. It's about my home in Florida and I am sitting in Highlands. Even worse, the chairman of the appearance committee is my good friend and next door neighbor, Cathy. How could she do this to me? Dirty gutters? Then I remembered the old adage, if you want to turn neighbor against neighbor and friend against friend, put them on a committee and watch what happens.

I raced down to Florida with scrub brush in hand and had not even finished the last section of dirty guttering when I opened the Highlands' Newspaper and discovered the Appearance Commission of Highlands is also hard at work losing friends and aggravating everyone. Only the Highlands' Appearance Commission is funnier than the one in Florida for several reasons.

For starters, Highlands' appearance folks have no authority, like policemen with no bullets. Now that's funny. The one in Florida can actually fine me \$100. Also, the chairman of this committee is Rick Siegel, a friend that I can't even look at anymore without bursting out laughing. He played the "out to lunch" guy in "How the Other Half Lives" and I still picture him wearing those horn rimmed glasses and displaying that "duh" look. Then, just when that memory started to wane, I see him perform at the Highlands Playhouse in the all male review. Come on, Rick, how can I take anything you say serious anymore? And Puleeeese do something about your legs. Anyway, he is much too funny to be chairman of anything.

Now I find that Rick is not only the funniest man in Highlands, but also an expert on appraising stucco volume. How can he have so many talents? Stucco volume is not even taught in college. Does he also have the ability to spot noncon-

forming material from a distance or is that a talent only held by Pat Taylor? Oh, was I happy to hear there might be a grandfather clause on nonconforming material. My house is crawling with the stuff and, of course, I am a grandfather.

This all reminds me of my early days in business as a rappelling instructor in Highlands. I was overwhelmed by the rules and regulations set forth by the United States Forest Service where I

conducted all my business. Then I met an old retired ranger who gave me a great piece of advice. He put his arm around me and said, "It's easier to ask for forgiveness than for permission."

A light went on in my head. I'll do what I want until I get caught, then plead for forgiveness and promise not to do it again. It worked perfectly. That's when I learned they don't have a clue what's going on in the forest. I only used the tactic a couple times and, in the end, I had a warm and friendly relationship with the rangers. Of course, they didn't have an appearance committee or any expertise in stucco and kiosk design.

Apparently, some Highlanders are using the "don't ask and pray a lot" approach with the appearance committee, realizing there is little they can do about it. If Highlanders were smart, they would realize that the new car wash station at Highlands' Plaza is the new standard for designers to follow.

How foolish for the RBC Centura Bank to create an ATM kiosk that doesn't look like a car wash. Getting your car washed and banking all at the same time would have received a standing ovation from the appearance committee. Obviously, RBC has no vision, somewhat like the people who are against Pine Street Park.

On the other hand, an all wood ATM could be stolen by a redneck with an oversized chainsaw. He could have that baby on the back of his pickup in about 5 minutes. Back to the drawing board on that one. I know Pat will use his expertise in building design to come up with something more better. How about an ATM station made of pottery? Nah!

P.S. - Did I just say more better?

• ANOTHER VIEW •

Helping others feels good

The passenger, a short, stout, Hispanic man of about 30 waved to warn me of a problem. I was at the crossroads in Cashiers, on my way to pick Bull up from school. His truck had stalled and would soon start backing up north bound traffic on NC 107.



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

I might have cursed the presence of aliens in my neighborhood, blasted my horn, and shook my fist. Instead, I pulled off the road, parked, and helped push the truck off the road. The truth is that three Hispanic youths were already pushing the truck and had gained enough momentum to steer it to safety without my help. One wore the white coat of a restaurant worker, the others, the rough clothes of day laborers. The four of us pushed while the driver steered the truck off the highway and into a parking space. It was a tight squeeze, but I was able to find just enough room on the rear bumper to lend a hand.

As I returned to my car, the Mexican guys waved their thanks. I hadn't checked their immigration status, or tested their English language fluency. I wouldn't be surprised if they were all undocumented, and grateful waves may have been as close to English as they could get. I enjoy helping. It feels great, and it felt especially good today. I can't describe the warmth in those smiles or the appreciation in the waves. It felt a lot like a good night kiss from Bull, or a firm hand shake from a dear friend, like sitting in front of a warm fire on a cold December night. I had done almost nothing, but it felt great all the same. Those guys are thousands of miles from home and family, trying to forge a better life, living under miserable conditions, surrounded by an often hostile native population. The undocumented live in fear of deportation. All risk exploitation.

I didn't do much. I had to hurry or the moment would have passed before I had done anything. They knew how little I had contributed, but I believe that they were also aware that helping them, reaching out to them, had been important to me.

This is what we do in America. We help neighbors in need. The race, religion, economic condition, or immigration status of our neighbors shouldn't matter. I did nothing more, less in fact, than carrying a basket of store bought cookies to new resident on the block. My insignificant little act might have been the first kindness these guys had experienced

since they left home, the first welcome, the initial indication of acceptance. They might have been driving a poorly maintained, uninsured truck, with an empty gas tank. The driver may not have had a valid driver's license. It really doesn't matter. Helping matters. Accepting matters. Treating all people as you would wish to be treated matters a lot.

... **ROOM TAX** from pg 1 used to promote tourism.

But lately the county has been concerned about the proper use of the room tax money.

"It is necessary to remember that the county has been put on notice concerning a variety of deficiencies in collection and use of occupancy tax," said County Manager Sam Greenwood. "The corrective steps, when taken, should remove all concerns about the noted deficiencies and ensure the proper and accountable use of occupancy tax funds."

The county took its first "corrective" step by forming a nine-person study committee comprised of each chamber director, a representative from a lodging enterprise in Highlands, Franklin and Nantahala, Macon County Commissioners Bob Simpson and Brian McClellan, and a representative from each of the town boards.

At the Wednesday, Nov. 14 Town Board meeting, Commissioner Hank Ross was appointed to represent Highlands on the committee.

Commissioners asked the chamber directors — who will be non-voting members of the study committee due to a conflict of interest — to return Nov. 26 with nominees from their town to represent the lodging industry.

"I urge you to select someone from your areas with a multi-use facility with at least an inn and a restaurant so representation is from a broader spectrum," said County Commissioner Brian McClellan.

At the Tuesday, Nov. 13 commission meeting, the board heard from representatives from both chambers, urging the commissioners to both form the "study committee" promised in June when re-distribution was discussed and to understand how vital the chambers' roles have been in promoting tourism in the county.

"I feel it is worth repeating that revenues generated over just the last 10 years have increased 62% thus indicating that the

•See ROOM TAX page 11



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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Therapy for everyone, continued

Last week I wrote about the idea that everyone should make regular visits to




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a mental health professional just as they do to a physician or dentist. I also imagined having classes in school that would help children learn about social interaction. I've thought about this some more in the intervening week.

Psychologists say when we are born we do not distinguish any separate "thing" in the world around us: our perception is that everything is One. We see sights and hear sounds but our perception is that they are all part of one connected whole. When we close our eyes that world disappears (why peek-a-boo is so fun).

The development of the mind is a slow process of learning to see boundaries; to see things as separate entities, and to learn the names of these things. Slowly we begin to realize that there is more than One, there is a multitude.

First Mother separates out from the formlessness, then we learn, for example, that those things out there are "our" toes.



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

We learn that dogs go woof-woof. Cats go meow. I'm a girl. You're a boy.

In the process we make a model of the world in our minds, what social scientists call a mental map of reality.

We also must learn to see things in accordance with the culture we are born into. In this country we learn that a cow goes moo, and a cow makes hamburgers to eat. In India a child learns a cow goes moo, and a cow is sacred. Same cow, different mental map.

On Halloween when my husband and I were filming people in their costumes, it was an interesting look into the development of these mental maps.

Babies were wide-eyed and wondering, looking around fascinated at the amazing lights and colors. The world was a kaleidoscopic lightshow.

Toddlers were often on the verge of tears or panic — why? Because the world they thought they were starting to understand had all of a sudden turned upside down and they felt threatened.

A toddler I know was terrified on Halloween night twice, once when she saw a man dressed as the Straw Man from The Wizard of Oz, and the second time when she saw a man dressed as a mummy. People aren't supposed to have straw coming out of their clothes and hat; they're not supposed to have strips of cloth wrapped around them. She was terrified because she had been successfully putting together her mental construct of the way the world works, and all of a sudden on Halloween she saw example after example that brought many of her conclusions about the world into question.

Kids in the 4-6 year-old range were serious and watchful, but they knew this night was about candy so they were willing to tolerate the weirdness. But once the kids were 7 or 8 they were ready to really get into the fun. By this age our mental maps are developed enough to not only cover most of the basic elements of reality but also allow for some rule-bending and breaking.

All of us have gone through this process of putting a mental map of the world together, and we do it alone, with little assistance from others. Of course other people help us make sense of the world—this is a *blue* balloon, that's a *red* lollipop. But in a real sense we are alone in this process, because almost no one talks about the process itself.

Concurrently with building our mental model of the outside world we build a mental map of our self, what we call our identity.

Everyone's mental map of the external world is slightly different from everyone else's because we inevitably have different points of view and experiences that affect how we see any thing. But usually there is a large area of agreement in how we see a thing, for instance, the American and the Indian in the earlier example would probably not have any trouble agreeing on a lot of the cow's features.

When it comes to the mental maps of our interior worlds, our self-identities, however, there is much less basis for confirming the reality or truth of a feature. We don't remember that we were the ones who put together this sense of self, we only know that we feel insecure and unsure of who we really are. Our person-

•See BRUGGER page 34

Let High Country Cafe prepare your Thanksgiving Meal!

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• HIS & HERS •

My New York City marathon adventures

The first Sunday in November is Marathon Sunday in New York, and I was a bit sad to have missed it this year. You wouldn't think it to look at me, but I've "done" the New York Marathon...twice.

My interest in the Marathon began several years ago. I'd gone out to get my **New York Times**,

and was chatting to one of the doormen in my apartment building. Suddenly, there was the most unearthly sound, and we looked in the direction of the noise. "What in heaven's name is that?" I asked. "Oh, it's the New York Marathon" he replied. It was my first introduction to The Roar. The Roar? That's the noise we Manhattanites make when the runners cross over the 59th Street Bridge (remember Simon & Garfunkel's **59th Street Bridge Song?**) into Manhattan. After that, I made a point of heading uptown, and finding a good vantage point to watch each Marathon Sunday.

Sometimes, just watching the race is a marathon. You have to go early to get a good viewing place, only to have last minute arrivals emotionally blackmail you into letting them get in front of you because they are shorter than you! I fell for this twice, only to have so many people sneak in front of me that I couldn't see the race. The third time, I was prepared. "Hey, can we get in front of you? It won't be a problem. You can see over us." I had been waiting for two hours already, and was prepared. "Sorry" I replied cheerfully. "If you want a good place, you just have to come early, like me." "Bitch!" they yell, and stomp away. As we say in New York, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me."

The good will and camaraderie are unbeatable. You stand around long enough to make friends with the people next to you. The folks to your right are British, cheering their daughter, Heather. When Heather rounds the corner, and comes into view, we start yelling like loonies, "Come on, Heather! Heather, you rock! You go girl!" Heather turns, and looks bemused at the screaming locals, joining her proud parents. For that brief moment, we're all Heather's family.

The wheelchair competitors have



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

the admiration of all of us. The elite runners are thrilling. The most fun part is the arrival of runners in costumes. Men in kilts get whistles from delighted female viewers. Bavarians run with goofy beer stein hats; Parisians have Eiffel Towers strapped to their heads. Peels of

laughter greet the runners dressed in cow suits, complete with udders. National flags drape the shoulders of many runners. "Bravo" is a universal cheer, so we shout it until we are hoarse. The energy and excitement keep us going, long after our legs have gone numb, and we only go home when the trickle of runners has died down to almost nothing.

A year later, I watch a feature on Marathon volunteers. It takes so many people behind the scenes to run this event. One category caught my attention – the interpreters. While many of the runners speak a little English, it's still comforting to have people fluent in their mother tongue. On a whim, I sign up. An information pack comes in the mail, and early Marathon Sunday, there I am, launching myself into the unknown.

Despite the hour, the interpreters' area in Central Park is packed. It's a veritable Tower of Babel, with so many languages being spoken. Many interpreters have done this before; the

newbies, like me, initially feel a bit awkward until we get our bearings. We're called to a meeting place on a huge boulder, where we are thanked by the organizers, pick up our sandwiches and bottled water, and then the sorting begins. One by one, they call out our

languages, and we strain to hear our specialty. "French" they shout, and a bunch of us break from the pack, and huddle together in the damp and dew. "OK, who knows anything about medicine?" "How do you say 'are you

•See HIS & HERS page 20

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Thanksgiving tradition: Something for everyone

Thanksgiving today brings people with different tastes to the same table. If you're faced with pleasing a variety of dietary preferences, plan a menu that will have something for everyone.

Start with the stuffing — a Thanksgiving menu "must". You can delight your guests by offering more than one kind. And, you can also vary the ingredients for certain dietary needs.

"Thanksgiving brings everyone to the table," said Ed Begley, Jr., host of Living with Ed (HGTV) and star of the past hit TV show, St. Elsewhere. "It's a loving gesture of hospitality to plan a menu that reflects everyone's tastes and special needs." Begley adopted a vegetarian lifestyle in 1970; one of his favorite recipes is Savory Nut and Vegetable Stuffing.

For an "all inclusive" Thanksgiving and to begin some new traditions:

- Plan your menu with guests' special dietary needs in mind.
- Ask your guests for any special recipes you can prepare.
- Have a Thanksgiving mini "pot luck." (Guests with special dietary needs and traditions are often happy to bring a dish to share with others.)
- Serve buffet style and label special dishes: sugar-free, vegetarian, kosher, low-fat, or dairy-free.

Make Thanksgiving a very welcome table this year, offering a variety of tastes to suit everyone. Check out delicious ideas at www.thanksgivingtips.com.

Apple and Pecan Stuffing

- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 3/4 cup apple juice

1 box (two 6 oz. bags) Mrs. Cubbison's Seasoned Dressing

- 2 cups chopped, peeled Granny Smith apple
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 2 & 1/2 – 3-quart casserole dish and set aside. Place the butter or margarine in a large skillet, and melt over medium heat. Add the celery and onion and sauté for 5 minutes, or until the vegetables are soft. Add the chicken broth and heat for 2 minutes. In a large bowl, combine all of the remaining ingredients. Add the sautéed vegetable mixture and mix well. Transfer the stuffing to the prepared dish, cover and bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until heated through. If a crisp top is desired, uncover the dish and bake for 10 additional minutes.

Savory Nut and Vegetable Stuffing

- 1 box (two 6-oz. bags) or Mrs. Cubbison's Seasoned Dressing
- 1/4 cup melted margarine or oil
- 1 & 1/2 cups chopped onions
- 1 & 1/2 cups chopped celery
- 1 cup of chopped carrots
- 1 cup chopped almonds or walnuts
- 1 cup chopped apples
- 1 & 1/2 cups sparkling apple cider

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Add onions, celery, and carrots. Sauté vegetables until tender, about 3 to 5 minutes. Toss with seasoned dressing, nuts and apples. Gradually moisten dressing mixture with liquid, blending lightly. Cool thoroughly. Lightly spoon stuffing mix into turkey. Spoon extra stuffing into a greased 2 & 1/2 or 3-quart casserole dish. Bake covered for 30 minutes at 350°F. Remove cover and bake 5 minutes longer, or until top is browned and crispy.

• Courtesy of Family Features



• CONSERVATIVE POV •

What in the world is going on?

We spend a great deal of time and energy being concerned about our government, and rightly so. Who leads us, and how, is of extreme importance to us and the rest of the World. However, like it or not, as the globe consolidates, we are loosing our grip, and our influence on the rest of the World is diminishing.

If you need proof, consider the plunging value of the dollar, while the euro gains strength against it daily. The US dollar used to be the investment of choice for foreign governments. Currently, the Chinese are threatening to bail out of \$1.4 trillion of US securities that would depress the dollar even further. So, it is important for us to understand how other significant countries are being governed, and by whom.

In November, 2005, Angela Merkel was elevated to the position of Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. Her power is roughly equal to that of Prime Minister. The administration she replaced, along with that of France, was unfriendly to the US and created additional difficulties in an already complicated diplomatic environment. Merkel, however, is a conservative who has indicated she will be generally cooperative with US diplomatic aims and is a welcome friend.

A second advantageous change in Europe occurred when Nicolas Sarkozy was elected President of the French Republic in May of this year. He replaced Jacques Chirac, notorious antagonist of the US. Sarkozy immediately replaced Dominique de Villepin, Chirac's partner in demonizing our diplomatic efforts, with Francois Fillon as Prime Minister. Unlike other structures, in France's democratic government, the President has the power.

We remember the antagonism that existed between the US and France when traveling to France was considered treasonous behavior and French fries were renamed "freedom fries". All was not pleasant between the two governments.

Upon taking office, Sarkozy made it clear that his regime desired to be very friendly to us, and has demonstrated his sincerity at almost every opportunity.

Another win for our side.

On the other hand, the United Kingdom swung the other way. We lost a great ally and friend when Prime Minister, Tony Blair, was replaced by Gordon Brown in June, 2007. Blair had presented himself as a close friend of President Bush and dem-



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

onstrated his loyalty by joining in the Iraq war effort. Britain's troops secured the southern front and were invaluable in keeping access to the Persian Gulf open to the flow of personnel and supplies.

Unfortunately, Blair's willingness to provide help to the US likely caused his political demise. Brown is a horse of a different color. His attitude towards the US certainly is not the "shoulder to shoulder" policy Blair maintained.

Brown has either not clearly formed his direction in this regard, or has not chosen to make it clear to the rest of the world, or at least so that I can understand it. He does profess to be a strong supporter of Israel, which needs all the friends it can get.

Where Brown stands in the confused world of diplomacy remains to be seen.

Three days prior to Spain's 2004 national election, the Madrid's commuter train system was bombed. About 200 were killed and approximately 2000 were injured in the attack. The effect of the bombings was to likely cause defeat of the then incumbent conservative Partido Popular party, a friend of to the US, and turn the election to Rodriguez Zapatero and his Partido Socialista Obrero Espanol. One of his first acts was to withdraw the few troops Spain had contributed to the effort in Iraq and signal his lack of solidarity with the US.

Let me be the first one to admit that foreign relations is not my strong point. It's not even my point. So, when it comes to analyzing Vladimir Putin's style of leadership and diplomacy, I'm adrift. The former KGB agent and still member of the Communist Party at one time had President Bush convinced he was a good guy and a friend. Subsequent events proved controversial and cast doubt on Bush's assessment. Most recently, he vigorously objected to our plans to build a missile shield in the Check Republic. He offered an alternative plan, which would use an existing facility in Azerbaijan and would replace our management of the operation with that of others. Putin is definitely leaning toward the one-world structure being currently promoted and is ruling toward that end.

These leaders, and others, will have an increasing influence on the world of which we are a part. The more we know about them, and other major leaders, the better. Knowledge is power, and we're losing ours.

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... HORTON from page 1

County issued a press release announcing Horton's resignation.

County Attorney Lesley Moxley said Caldwell County's actions were not related to anything improper on the part of the Macon County Board of Commissioners.

"I wasn't present at the closed meeting so I don't know exactly what was said, but it's perfectly legal for a county board to discuss terms of employment with a candidate and say something like 'would you come on board?' during the interview in a closed session," she said. "If someone turns in their resignation based on that question and prior to the board voting in open session, they do so at their own peril. A person can't be hired until the board votes in open session which it did Tuesday night."

Moxley said the terms of Horton's contract were only just finalized so for the board to vote on the question prior to Tuesday's meeting would have been premature.

Horton was the Macon County Manager from 1985-1991 until he accepted a position as Haywood County's first non-elected manager.

In 1991 he accepted the position at Caldwell and has been there for 15 years.

With a degree from Appalachian State University in Political Science and minor in Local Government Administration, he has spent most of his career in the southwestern and western counties of North Carolina.

Besides wanting to return to Macon County where he has life-long friends and family ties, he was ready for a change. "Macon County has a reputation for progressive government which speaks well of the county," he said.

He comes with extensive experience in every aspect of county government

including personnel, capital expansion programs and expenditures, human services, and public safety. "I believe I can hit the ground running," he said. "I know what the county needs to proceed."



Jack Horton

Meanwhile, County Manger Greenwood says though he's looking forward to December when he'll attend his final commission meeting, "you always feel reluctant leaving something you've worked hard to build up, but there comes a time to turn it over to someone else."

Like Horton, Greenwood worked two stints for Macon County - first from 1979-1985 then again from 1996 until now.

"I've known Jack for a long time and I know he will be OK," said Greenwood. Like Horton, Greenwood said Macon County has a reputation as a progressive county "but it also has a reputation as a hard place to work," said Greenwood.

That reputation stems back to the early 1990s when county finances weren't as stable as they are now. "We're in good shape now, but after Jack left in 1985 the county had a new manager every year for four years until I was hired and it took a while to straighten things out."

In January Greenwood will work as a consultant for local governments in Western North Carolina while he eases into retirement.

HS Girls Middle School Basket Ball Team



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Katlin Lewis



Sayne Feria



Skyler Wagner



Copeland Hardin



Jenny Coram



Emily Murphy



Kim Machuca



Gabrielle Tilson



Emily Munger



Kalyn Billingsley



Becca Johnson



Stephanie Smart

HS Boys Middle School Basket Ball Team

Boys' Coaches:
 Steve Massey
 Noel Buras
 Jessie Munger
Girls' Coaches:
 Tracy Austin
 Michelle Munger

... ROOM TAX from page 5

Highlands Chamber has succeeded not only in promoting travel and tourism in Macon County but also has successfully generated additional revenue while overseeing these funds," read Executive Director of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce Bob Kieltyka.

Ric Neal, president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce made a plea for a quick decision.

"Because we have not had a clear direction of these occupancy revenues and who would be responsible for their allocation in the future, it is causing difficulty for the Franklin Chamber to finalize its 2008 budget."

Room tax proceeds varying from \$500,000-\$600,000 a year with each chamber getting back the proportion levied by the lodging establishments in their areas. The Highlands Chamber of Commerce/ Visitor Center has been getting between \$240,000-\$280,000 a year.

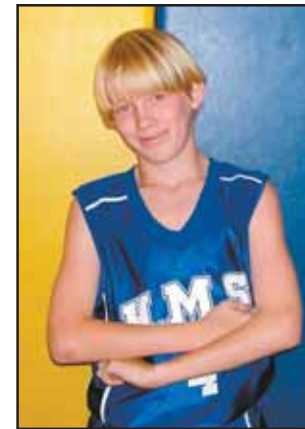
Greenwood said hopefully at the Dec. 10 meeting, county staff will present reports on room tax collection questions including recipient audit requirements, legal review and recommendations on allowable expenditures plus an update on the current collection of revenues.

... PLANNER from page 1

Besides a law degree, Cooley has a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology College of Architecture and a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture with a certificate in Environmental Studies from the University of Florida College of Architecture.

The town received about 30 applications for the position, considered five seriously and had three "close calls" said the Mayor, before hiring Cooley.

He will be paid \$67,000 a year and will begin work no later than December 31, 2007.



Clayton Dunn



Corbin Hawkins



Tyler Owens



Chase Flowers



Austin Reese



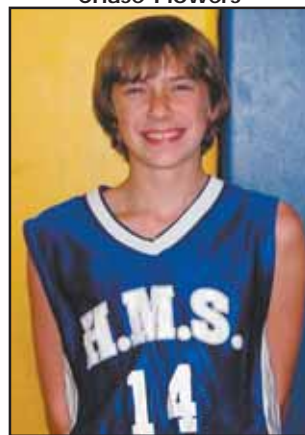
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• Not pictured is Clayton Creighton

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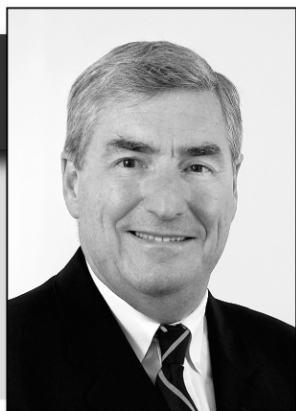
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A Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Dozier earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech and his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA. He completed his residency in general surgery at Atlanta's Georgia Baptist Medical Center and affiliated hospitals.

For the past 28 years he has practiced in Atlanta at hospitals such as Emory's Crawford Long and the Atlanta Medical Center, where he was formerly chief of general surgery and a member of the surgical residency teaching staff. He is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Georgia, and is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

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• VIDEO GUY •

'Stranger Than Fiction'

The 2006 surrealist/comedy/drama, directed by Marc Forster (Kite Runner, Monsters Ball), Starring Will Ferrell (Anchor Man, Elf, Blades of Glory) Maggie Gyllenhaal (Sherry Baby, Donnie Darko) Dustin Hoffman (in practically every movie ever made between The Graduate to Perfume: The Story of a Murderer), Emma Thompson (Harry Potter), Nannie McPhee) Queen Latifah (Beauty Shop, Last Holiday).

The Storyline: This is the story of Harold Crick (Ferrell does an excellent job in this, far and away his best performance), his wristwatch, and the voices in his head. Previously, Harold's life had been fairly orderly, compulsively so, in fact. An obsessive counter, time saver, he is well suited to his job as an IRS auditor. It is only when he begins to hear his life being narrated that things become odd. He, unlike some of us, finds the voices in his head a little unsettling, so much so that he starts to do rather uncharacteristic things, like becoming interested in women (hard not to, when the woman in question is Maggie Gyllenhaal) becoming unable to complete audits, he almost even stops counting his steps and the tiles on the floor.

However, once he overhears mention of his impending demise, he gets a little perturbed, consults with a psychiatrist,



Stuart of
The Movie Stop

who tells him he's crazy. He seeks a second opinion, and naturally, the next most logical course is a literature professor (Hoffman), and this actually begins to bring about some progress. Seems our protagonist (hard pressed to refer to him as our hero) is a character in a developing novel, and has a real good chance of getting bumped off by the final chapter, unless he can track down the author. His

wristwatch will become anxious.

Very cool, very weird, VERY fun, marginally creepy, this is a well done and clever story, and I usually don't care that much for Will Ferrell (that doesn't seem to have harmed his career very much), but in this show, his goofy, dead pan delivery works flawlessly. Great performance by the supporting cast, but no question, this is Ferrell's show. Overall comic, but some genuine angst and drama. Completely different kinds of roles for Ferrell, Thompson, and Latifah, but all do a wonderful job. So does the wristwatch, and rarely does a wristwatch get cast in such a good role in a mainstream film.

Not many others that are a lot like this, but a few that contain similar elements are Sliding Doors, Lady in the Water, Brazil, and Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind. These and about 5,000 other titles are available at Movie Stop Video, Stop on by and give a look.

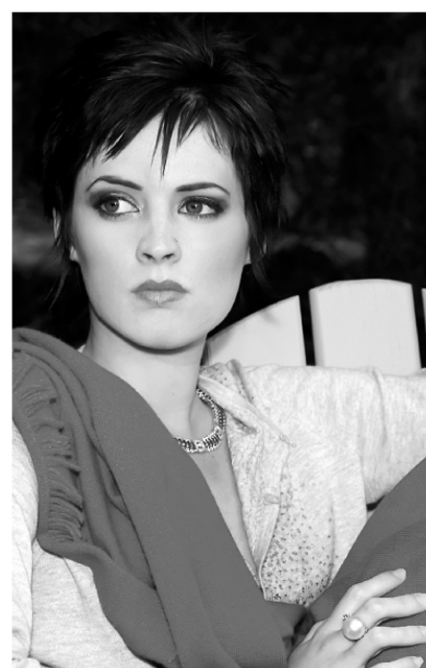


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... TRAFFIC continued from page 1



At the Nov. 7 Town Board meeting, Mayor Don Mullen recognized the Highlands Police Department's honor. Pictured is Chief Bill Harrell and Mayor Mullen.

Police Department, as noted by Chief W. E. Harrell, has been in part due to the strategic implementation of a higher visibility philosophy and the development of other vehicular operator awareness measures to serve as a deterrent to speeding on heavily traveled roads during the peak and/or rush hour times.

The department's utilization of "Operation Ghost Rider," which was created with the deployment of its spare car, is the simple tactical placement of this spare cruiser in strategic locations to slow down vehicle operators. The deployment of other measures, such as the speed measurement trailer which heightens drivers' awareness of excessive speed habits, further adds to the successful strategy of reducing traffic crashes in the Highlands area.

"To make our community as safe as possible" is the mission statement of the Highlands Police Department. Chief Harrell's message to motorists is: "to simply stay focused with the task at hand when driving on roads."

In determining what constitutes an accident, and whether or not fender benders are included in the police report weekly figures and whether or not these figures are factored in into the numbers which establishes the criteria for the award, the Chief said "Actually, there are some relevant dynamics which must be factored in. The state does not recognize accidents that have monetary damages less than \$1,000 unless persons are injured. Minor accidents resulting in damages less than \$1,000 are considered non-reportable accidents according to the state; however, as you know, the public is still required to make that report to

the authorities. We still generate a non-reportable accident form for those who might wish to pursue even small damages to their insurance. Most insurance companies will not even talk to them unless they have a report of some nature."

Chief Harrell said he is excited and proud that the Highlands Police Department has been recognized for its efforts to provide a better, safer quality of life for its community. A total of 15 cities received honors in traffic safety for their efforts in this same analysis period, whose public safety officials were honored during a Foundation-hosted awards luncheon held in Durham, N.C.

Highlands, Huntersville and Tarboro were named the top three safest cities in North Carolina, within their respective population categories. Highlands was tops in the less than 10,000 population category, while Tarboro was the winner in the 10,000 to 30,000 population category and Huntersville was tops among municipalities with a population greater than 30,000.

Other winners within the same population category as Highlands of less than 10,000 but who ranked lower were: Laurel Park, Henderson County, Bladenboro, Bladen County, Robersonville, Martin County and Edenton, Chowan County.

The awards were presented by Lyndo Tippet, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Transportation and President Tom Crosby of the AAA Carolinas' Foundation for Traffic Safety.

The foundation has offered to purchase a sign for the town. At the Nov. 7 Town Board meeting, Mayor Don Mullen said the board will consider the best place to put it.

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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Changes ahead for Highlands

I would like to congratulate those who won the election for Town Commissioner last week on Election Day. For an off year election we had a 50% turnout which I consider good. Most places have off-year election percentages in the 10% to 20% range. As you all know, Buz Dotson and Larry Rogers were elected for their first term as commissioners and incumbent Dennis DeWolf was re-elected. I congratulate all the candidates for a good clean campaign in which the issues were aired out so well to the citizens of Highlands in a sincere and civil manner.. Those of us who are already on the board look forward to working with these men in the coming years as we all try to continue to keep Highlands the wonderful place it is. There are many big issues before the board and well prepared discussions are important at our public board meetings.



Mayor Don Mullen

on the board. I thank Alan for not only his persistence on issues he felt strongly about but also for his wonderful friendship over the last few years. Thank you Herb James and Alan Marsh. There are few more dedicated to the well being of Highlands than the two of them and each of them is a real gentleman in the way they relate to people and handle difficult situations.

These changes will take place on the board at the first meeting in December at which time the newly elected board members will be sworn in. This election also changes the board committee composition, and we will all be working on these appointments over the next month. As most of you know we have several important committees which meet almost on a monthly basis to make recommendations to the full board. They are the public works, the finance, the recreation and the police committees. The proper function of these committees is essential for the efficient workings of the town of Highlands. Members of these committees will be appointed at the first meeting in December as well.

Yes, change is in the air as we move forward positively in Highlands. With the passage of the liquor by the drink referendum, some restaurants and other public places will also be changing the way they do things. A more orderly control of alcoholic beverages will now be possible. This will also add more responsibility for the ABC Store as we consider a new ABC facility at some time in the near future.

At this last board meeting we also approved the guidelines for the use of our newest employee of the town, Ruby, our canine addition to the police force. Chief Harrell has been working for this for a long time and the addition of a drug sniffing canine will go a long way to reducing illegal drugs in our community. Those involved in this illicit use of mind killing materials take heed. We are coming after you to make Highlands a safer and better place to live.

We also announced a public hearing for our December meeting regarding proposed amendments of the Zoning Ordinance concerning Greenways and perennial streams and the adoption of a Greenway Plan Map. Those who are interested in these changes are encouraged to get copies of them and come to the public hearing in December to make comments so the commissioners can make a final decision on these issues.



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• COACH'S CORNER •

College Hoops Preseason Top 10

1. Memphis: The Tigers are loaded with top talent, returning four starters including stud guard Chris Douglas — Roberts and behemoth Joey Dorsey filling the lane. However, this ranking is much more based on the arrival of freshman Derek Rose than anything else. Rose is a one and done freshman, but his presence on the perimeter is a perfect addition to the frenetic pace that the Tigers want to force.



Ryan Potts
ryanpotts@hotmail.com

2. North Carolina: All discussion of the Heels begins and ends with Tyler Hansbrough. The Hansborg (as I affectionately refer to him as) is the hardest working player in college basketball, and he usually enforces his will in the post against all comers. UNC loses superstar Brandan Wright, but has ample replacements in the post. What UNC does not have is a replacement for wing Reyshawn Terry, whose versatility will be solely missed.

3. Kansas: This will be Bill Self's most talented team since he has taken over for Ol' Roy Williams at Kansas. The Jayhawks will depend on Sherron Collins and Julian Wright to dominate in Self's hi-lo style of offense. The biggest issue for Kansas this year will be to overcome Self's history of flaming out early in the tournament, which is the biggest factor for the residents of the Phog.

4. UCLA: Love is in the air for the Bruins, Kevin Love that is. With the addition of Love—who was the most coveted recruit for 2007, Ben Howland and the Bruins look to finally bring home a national championship after two straight Final Fours. Love's presence will give the Bruins a force down low that they have lacked the last two years, but PG Darren Collison will have to be more consistent for the Bruins to return to the Final Four.

5. Georgetown: The biggest news for the Hoyas this summer was the return of big Roy Hibbert to DC for another season. Hibbert's return will ensure that the Hoyas are a threat in the Big East and on the national scene. Don't overlook the presence of Dajuan Summers on the perimeter for the Hoyas — his 3-point shooting was critical to Georgetown's Final Four run last year.

6. Tennessee: Chris Lofton returns for what seems like his 13th season in a Volunteer uniform. Lofton may be the best guard in the nation when it is all

said and done this year, but Tennessee is going to have to find a consistent inside presence if they want to make a serious case for a national championship.

7. Washington State: The Cougars return all-world guard Derrick Low and look to build on a surprising run in last year's NCAA tournament. The Cougars are well coached, hungry, and have a terrific home court advantage in

Pullman, where they were almost unbeatable last season. Can they handle being the hunted rather than the hunter? That remains to be seen.

8. Oregon: The Ducks lose only one starter from last year's Elite Eight run (Pac — 10 first teamer Aaron Brooks) and are led by mighty mite guard Tajuan Porter. The biggest question for Oregon is how well they will play on the road, where they struggled at times last year.

9. Indiana: The Hoosiers return both AJ Ratliff and DJ White, but the biggest addition will be super freshman Eric Gordon, who scored 33 points in his debut on Monday night. Indiana is loaded in the backcourt and will be the early favorite to win the Big 10(+1)

10. Duke: This could be too high or too low for the Blue Devils depending on how well they shoot the basketball. The addition of freshman Kyle Singler and Taylor King provide tremendous perimeter firepower for Duke, but they have little inside presence and could get run over by bigger teams in the paint.

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Garden club offering scholarship

With Thanksgiving approaching and Christmas and Hanukah just around the corner, families gather together to share the memories of the past and some to plan the future. This is a great time for graduating seniors to consider their plans to further their education and expand their opportunities for their future.

Since 1996 the Mountain Garden Club of Highlands, through the Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Scholarship, has provided more than \$28,000 to qualifying students.

Scholarships are available to students interested in horticulture, environmental studies, forestry, landscape architecture, marine biology or other related fields. To qualify, students must maintain a 2.5 grade point average or higher and be a resident of Scaly Mountain or Highlands, or be a graduate of Highlands School.

Katy Betz shared with us what the scholarship and connection to the club has meant for her.

"The Mountain Garden Club scholarship has meant so much to me through the years. Not only does the club help pay for all of my expenses, which is terrific, but by receiving those checks, attending the meetings, and exchanging correspondences, I keep in touch with my hometown," said Betz. "It's so nice to know that I have the support of the MGC when I'm away at school. The members are always so thoughtful and concerned about how I am doing. The Mountain Garden Club scholarship has been a wonderful blessing to me

for the last four years, thank you so much.

Any student interested in this scholarship opportunity should contact Elizabeth Motts, chairman of the scholarship committee at 526-3083 or contact the guidance counselor at the school for more informa-



Mountain Garden Club's butterfly garden at Highlands School.

Christ Anglican Church participating in four drives for needy

Christ Anglican Church is having a "Winter Coat Drive" to benefit Highlands Emergency Council through Dec. 2. Donations of; gently worn men's, women's and children's coats will be accepted. Drop them at the office at the Peggy Cosby Center or bring them to the Highlands Com-

munity Center worship service, Sunday between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The church is also participating in the "Bright Hope International Med Pack" program. Med packs of basis toiletries such as soap, antibiotic cream, toothpaste/toothbrush, lotion, talcum powder, cotton swabs,

facial tissues, petroleum jelly, a wash cloths and a Bible are for men, woman and children in Africa. For more information, call Mary Beth Houston at 526-2320.

Another project is the "Baby Bottle Highlands Fall Campaign." Fill baby bottles with extra change, dollars and checks

to help men and woman who are facing an unplanned pregnancy.

Christ Anglican Church members will also be donating canned food to the Food Pantry at the Highlands United Methodist Church through the end of November.

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Paulk new administrative director of PAC

Meadows Mtn. Realty sells house of \$6.3 million

The Rainwater Estate, at the top of Highlands Country Club, has sold for a record \$6.3 million, the highest price ever paid for a single-family home as reported in the Highlands-Cashiers Multiple Listing Service.

Mark Meadows, of Meadows Mountain Realty and President of Highlands Properties represented the buyer. "We are very elated about returning the estate to its previous grandeur" said Mr. Meadows.

The 11.77-acre estate at the top of Highlands Country Club is surrounded by stunning panoramic views of Blue Valley, and include a stone and cedar main house with five bedrooms, a guest wing, his and her master suites, a wood-paneled library, a gourmet kitchen, a full bar, and an elevator. The home's expansive interiors are imbued with white oak floors, crystal chandeliers, and walls of windows and stone terraces that showcase spectacular views.

The estate's park-like grounds include old stone retaining walls, fruit trees, mature landscaping, a guest house, a caretaker's residence, a barn, and a stone viewing tower.

The developers of Rainwater, Will Stolz and Ray McPhail, (who also created Ravenel) have plans to take advantage of the existing mature landscaping to give an "olde world" feel to this newly created six homesite development. "We have one of the highest elevations on the highlands plateau and certainly the very best views" says McPhail.

Meadows Mountain Realty is a premier real estate office on the Highlands/Cashiers plateau and is the listing agent for this new development. For information call Meadows Mountain Realty at 526-1717.

At its Annual meeting on Nov. 3, the board of directors of the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC) paid tribute to outgoing members, Sandy Cohn and Caroline Cook, who were replaced on the board by Stewart Manning and Dr. Jack Sapolsky. Mr. Cohn and Ms. Cook had served on the board of PAC since its inception.

At the Nov. 3 meeting the board also welcomed Don Paulk as its full-time administrative director. He will manage the building, including its facilities and finances, as well as its schedule of events. Paulk says he feels quite at home at PAC, since he worked there three years as business manager of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival.

Stewart Manning and his wife, Brenda, are now year-round members of the Highlands community, having moved here from Athens, Georgia where Stewart still owns a kitchen design company. Until his retirement Dr. Sapolsky was a surgeon in Atlanta but now lives in Highlands year-round.

Elaine Whitehurst, president of the Performing Arts Center, says the upcoming year at PAC could not be more exciting. "In the last year our dream of expanding the building has come true, we have a full-time administrative director, we have replaced two wonderful board members with enthusiastic new ones, and the schedule of events includes all our old favorites plus many



Don Paulk (left), the new administrative director of the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, greets new board members, Stewart Manning (center) and Dr. Jack Sapolsky (right) at PAC.

great additions. One very special addition will be a school play with cast and crew from Highlands School, directed by Ronnie Spilton of the Highlands Community Players. HCP is also planning its first-ever musical at PAC! And the Chamber Music Festival has already contracted with musi-

cal favorites and musicians who will become favorites! Are we excited? You bet we are!"

Anyone interested in staging performances at PAC may call Don Paulk at (828) 526-9047.

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Unsightly junk in county and recycling bill subject of 'League' forum

By Sally Hanson
Reporter

Topics on the environment were the focus of last week's Macon County League of Women Voters' monthly meeting. Haywood County Planner Kris Boyd talked about his county's ordinance for junkyards, while Ma-

con County Planner Stacy Guffey spoke about what needs to happen for our county to adopt a similar ordinance. Additionally, Debby Boots promoted a Senate bill that proposed a refundable deposit on recyclable containers such as plastic water bottles.

Boyd opened with the statement that

the issue of junkyards and junk cars is the single most difficult issue concerned with private property rights. Haywood County's ordinance has been in place for about 10 years, and seems to be working well so far.

"Our ordinance just deals with fencing, screening and spacing," Boyd said. Fences must be either solid wood or made up of vegetation at least six feet tall, although he acknowledged that due to topography even a six-foot fence won't obscure everything.

"We developed a format that required fencing and screening of existing facilities," he said. For new facilities there are other requirements like setbacks from rights-of-way and a certain distance from schools and churches, but there is nothing in the ordinance that will prevent these facilities. "We must have ordinances to help clean up our counties," he said.

Boyd said that because there are other facilities that may have junk cars or scrap metal, the ordinance was expanded to include more than just junkyards. "It covers service stations, wrecker services, and any place having junked automobiles sitting around for lengths of time," he said.

Most counties have junkyard and junk car guidelines through their solid waste facilities. Currently, Haywood County's ordinance is enforced through the sheriff's office. "We have a certified deputy that is dedicated full-time to our junkyards and other facilities' ordinances," Boyd said.

The county chose this route for enforcement because general statues allow law enforcement officers to write citations for violations of county ordinances. These citations are criminal citations, just like speeding tickets, Boyd said.

"The bottom line is that it is a necessary evil to have a junkyard," Boyd said. Every community has to have one to properly dispose of cars, heavy equipment, manufactured housing, and metal," he said.

Boyd also addressed the issue faced by car collectors. "A lot of folks feel like you're infringing on private property rights, especially those involved with antique automobiles," he said. He mentioned that many collectors have a few parts cars, which can be an eyesore. "I am an avid old car restorer myself: I have five or six of my own. Some of those look very bad. I keep those in a barn so they can't be seen," Boyd said.

He stated that it can be difficult to deal with individuals to get them to understand and try to work through any issues in a nice manner. "I don't anticipate that it's going to get any easier anytime soon."

Stacy Guffey said that while there are some state laws that deal with junk cars, their enforcement depends on bringing in someone from outside of Macon County. "We can't depend on the state," he said. Guffey cited some issues last summer that required the enforcement of state statutes, and noted that it was nearly impossible to have them

enforced. "We have to do these things on a local level."

Macon County has discussed legislation concerning junk on peoples' property before, but each time the issues have come up they have eventually been dismissed because of anticipated difficulty in enforcement.

"Property rights end when they affect someone else. You have a right to have junk on your property if you make sure it's clean, not affecting the environment and not affecting the economy for everyone else," Guffey said.

Guffey also said that if individual citizens won't take responsibility for such junk, the government should be able to force them to take responsibility. "We talk about mountain values, but where is our moral responsibility?" he asked.

According to Guffey, 80% of North Carolina's 100 counties have junk ordinances in place. He said "Macon County is lot cleaner than it was when I was a kid; a lot of that has to do with property values." He said that this is the primary reason why there aren't junkyards in the Highlands area mainly because it's just not lucrative to have a lot of junk."

"We need to create the will to do something about it. We've talked about it for 50 years, and I encourage you to follow through, write letters, and start campaigning," Guffey said.

The first step is to get a local ordinance, and he recommended a junkyard/junk vehicle ordinance to start with. "We also need minimum housing codes to deal with things like dilapidated or abandoned homes," he said. Additionally, to prevent old mobile homes from being deposited on land, Guffey said a mobile home graveyard ordinance would be helpful.

"We have to have local controls for these things, and we need to identify who will be responsible for enforcing such ordinances," Guffey said. Several concerned citizens attended the meeting and seemed to be motivated by the presentations.

At the end of the meeting, Debby Boots reminded citizens about the Senate Bill 215/Litter Reduction Act of 2007, better known as the "Bottle Bill." This bill includes the proposal to add a 10-cent deposit to the sale of all beverage containers. Local redemption centers would be set up, and consumers could collect refunds for each container that is returned.

Not only would this prevent many cases in which recyclable materials are simply not recycled, but it would also provide an incentive to pick up roadside litter and turn it in for money. "Taxpayers paid \$16.6 million last year to have the Department of Transportation (DOT) pick up litter along the roadsides," Boots said. Ten million pounds of litter were picked up by the DOT, and about half of this amount was bever-

•See LEAGUE page 21



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James "Popcorn" Manley
Owner/Operator

... HIS & HERS continued from page 7

feeling faint?" "You in the red jacket, how do you say 'are you feeling nauseous?'" Before we know it, the interpreting team for the M.A.S.H. unit is chosen. I am among them, honored to have such a responsibility my first time.

There are several M.A.S.H. units, but I'm in the biggest one. We are stationed just past the finish line. At this point, runners have completed the Marathon, received their medal for participating, and a special blanket. Now, they are walking slowly to prevent cramps, and heading toward the area to pick up their clothes and reunite with loved ones. We are instructed to line the area, and talk to the runners in our specialized language. "Bravo" we yell. Then we get creative. "You the man," "We're proud of you," "Good job," we shout. Some of us get funny. "Hey, you wanna start all over?"

Many of the runners are in a world of their own, but some glance in our direction, grin, and applaud us. Some are crying. After training for a whole year, some runners fall apart emotionally when they've met their goal, and feel they have nothing more to look forward to. We're told to go up to them, talk quietly, and stay with

them until they look like they've gotten it together again.

I see a French runner in his mid-30s who is clearly losing it. "Hi, I'm Michelle," I begin, in French. "What's your name?" "Pierre" he mumbles, in a haze. "Can I walk a bit with you, Pierre?" I take his arm, and start chattering away in French. It takes him a long time, but finally his eyes seem clearer and focused. "Are you going to be OK now, Pierre?" "Oui, merci" he says, smiling.

I rejoin the M.A.S.H. unit. So it continues for several hours. Blisters, fainting, nausea, dehydration – and something that surprises me – people who have drunk so much water that they have flushed most of the salt out of their bodies. We open up little packets of salt, and tip them onto the runners' tongues. Some of what we see is upsetting, but bearable because we know we're helping out. An ambulance is called for a runner who looks like he's having heart problems. We're lucky that no one dies on us that year. Some years aren't so lucky. And then it's all over. Our supervisor tells us we can pack up our stuff, and go home. I gather my official parka, and wearing my Marathon t-shirt, interpreter's badge

and cap, trudge off home. I'm already planning to volunteer the next year, which I do.

So, what's the lesson from all this? Well, volunteering, for one. And getting involved in things that are a little outside your comfort zone. Heck, I'm no athlete, but I sure enjoyed getting to know them. There are always ways to help out, and in a small community, it's not hard to find folks who need your help. Don't make the same good people get stuck doing the lion's share of the work all the time! The unexpected bonus of volunteering? It makes you feel good. And if you're not a very nice person, people will actually think better of you. In a small town, that's not a bad thing.

Life's a marathon. The only reason to be on the sidelines is if you're cheering someone else along.

• 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. Michelle is a member of the Highlands Writers Group. Her main forms of exercise are running at the mouth and jumping to conclusions.

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



... FORUM continued from page 2

ment is concerned.

So where does that leave Highlands? — scrambling to find a legitimate way to keep the room tax money generated by Highlands lodgings — \$240,000 to \$280,000 a year — in Highlands.

If association with the Chamber of Commerce is a shot in the foot, then Highlands should consider changing its shoes, but it should not give up the fight concerning room tax proceeds.

Room tax money can only be used to promote tourism in the county. Furthermore, it can only be disbursed to an association — not a specific entity for a specific event. That's why since the mid-1980s the county has been disbursing the money to chambers of commerce/visitor centers.

The problem is the gray area between the business conducted by chambers of commerce — which are member-based organizations — and visitor centers which exist solely for tourists.

The county's chambers and visitor centers — excluding the privately owned Smoky Mountain Visitor Center on U.S. 441 in Franklin — share buildings, personnel and operating expenses.

In Highlands there is a Chamber of Commerce director and an assistant and a Visitor Center Director.

If the county decides to send only part of the room tax money generated in Highlands back to Highlands — which has been suggested — it's likely the Chamber of Commerce will have to trim some corners. Membership dues won't be enough to sustain the chamber anymore.

That's not to say as lawful recipients of room tax funds the visitor center can't survive on proceeds, but the entire scenario would have to be redesigned, at least in Highlands. But the chamber/visitor center has switched gears before.

Years ago — pre-chamber director Bill Bassham days — the chamber/visitor center was a different organism. It only paid \$1 a year rent to the town for use of the office above Town Hall; it operated with two full-time employees, and 14 volunteers, nine of which worked year-round. Chamber Director Christy Kelly was paid with membership dues and Pat Barnes was paid with room tax money. In addition, only Highlands businesses were allowed to be chamber members and the chamber disbursed some room tax money to nonprofits that could justify their promotion of tourism.

When Bill Bassham was hired, everything changed. The chamber and visitor center split into two offices with the chamber and its membership services moving to Main Street near Wolfgang's and the visitor center staying in its spot at Town Hall. Two more full time people were hired — an assistant for the Visitor Center Director and an assistant for the Chamber Director. Furthermore, instead of being a Highlands Chamber it became a Highlands Area Chamber which opened the membership territory to businesses far removed from Highlands. Currently there are 400 Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce members. About that time, the practice of disbursing room tax money to nonprofits stopped, too.

"We can't afford to do it anymore," said Bassham. Little wonder. Overhead had skyrocketed.

Though the Chamber/Visitor Center cut employees by one when it moved to its current spot on Main Street across from Reeves Hardware, overhead is still high. That's one reason the Chamber is concerned about the prospect of room tax proceeds decreasing.

In case there is a plan to keep the majority of Highlands' room tax money in Franklin, Highlands should have a Plan B.

One idea — alliances could be formed amongst the nonprofits that are part of the tourism machinery in

Highlands. That way, instead of fighting individually for handouts from the town and county whose nonprofit funding is capped at \$50,000 annually, they can fight as an alliance and go after room tax proceeds — the big bucks due Highlands.

The Highlands Community Players, The Highlands Playhouse, The Instant Theatre Company and the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center could form a Highlands Performing Arts Alliance; the Summer/Fall Colors Art Show, the Village Square Arts & Crafts Festival, the Highlands Own Arts & Crafts Show could become the Highlands Arts & Crafts Alliance; the restaurants could form the Highlands Culinary Alliance; and so on.

Once a room tax disbursement board is formed, the alliances could apply for and demand room tax proceeds to support the events they produce which draw tourists year-round to Highlands. With various alliances demanding a share and crying "foul" — and not just the Chamber of Commerce and the Visitor Center — a lot more noise could be made.

In any case, Highlands should be ready to fight. The county may be able to justify decreasing room tax distribution to its chambers of commerce, but it can't legitimately cut out its visitor centers or justify keeping the majority of Highlands' portion of room tax money in Franklin. After all, Highlands generates upwards of 50% of the room tax money for the county.

People may not agree with the way the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center spends the \$240,000 to \$280,000 it is given each year, or even that the chamber faction of the organization should continue to get money, but the one thing everyone will agree on is that the 3% room tax collected by Highlands lodgings should come back to Highlands in some form or fashion.

If citizens and organizations care about Highlands getting its fair share from the county and believe they deserve it, they should attend county commission meetings in Franklin and ask for it. They shouldn't rely on others to make their case for them; they should make it themselves.

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Commissioner Board Room in the court house.

Remember: "Out of sight really is out of mind."

... LETTERS from page 2

and will continue to do so, despite the failure of the bond referendum. The leader of the county board of commissioners takes the heat for all board decisions. Chairman Leatherman will vote yes for children when it needs to be done, regardless of how difficult it may be. He is steadfast and truthful in times when true things are not easy to say. He will guide the county in placing our schools in the best possible position.

Charlie, I have walked in your shoes. I know how tough it is to balance all the competing interests. With the support of incumbent board members, who understand the complexity of keeping up with the growth in Macon County, along with newly elected officials who are just now learning the difficulty of the situations we face, with the guidance of Charlie Leatherman, we can progress toward the goal of responsibly managing the school system for all of our citizens.

Daniel A. Bryson
Past Chairman, MC Board of Commissioners
P.S. On this Veteran's Day, thank you also, Mr. Leatherman, for your contribution to our freedom, along with all the other military veterans. By being a veteran, Charlie has defended our children's freedom; as our county chairman, now he will work to ensure their education.

• See LETTERS page 22

Summit One
GALLERY
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November 17–December 31

Norma Smith
Mixed Media

Mark Hutchison
Photography

Sarah Morgan Wingfield
Works on Paper

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... LEAGUE from page 18

age containers alone.

It's not just a matter of filling up the landfills, according to Boots. Having to make new beverage containers to replace the ones that were thrown away uses energy. "Last year, 200 billion beverage containers were sold in the United States, and around 130 billion of these were discarded in some way," Boots said. Approximately 50 million barrels of crude oil had to be used to replace the containers that were thrown away.

The bill was introduced in the Senate this past year but no final decisions were made. Boots brought a petition to the meeting and asked for signatures to encourage lawmakers to take another look at the bill when they meet again next year.

• HOSPITAL NEWS •

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Dr. Martin retires from H-C Hospital

Dr. Leila Martin, left, Nancy Callahan, right, and host of other friends and well-wishers recently celebrated Dr. Martin's retirement from her career as a full-time anesthesiologist at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. The good bye party, which was held on the hospital campus, was hosted by fellow anesthesiologist Dr. Dave Register, and his wife Ann. Dr. Martin, the hospital's first full-time anesthesiologist, joined the medical staff here in 1997. While she is leaving her regular duties at the hospital, she plans to stay in the area and pursue her interest in painting. She will continue to fill in when needed in the hospital's operating room.



... LETTERS continued from page 21

Freedom does work

Dear Editor

For several years, a group of Macon County citizens have been referred to us as nay sayers, against everything, always

negative. To an extent, when it comes to inefficient County government, they're right. Sometimes we wonder why we stick our necks out and incur the wrath of certain people. What keeps us going is the occasional opportunity to join with thousands of our friends and neighbors in sending a message to government that they are out of touch with the people. Knowing you are with the majority is a good feeling.

To address the recent expressions of taxpayer dissatisfaction, the Real Property Transfer Tax referendum, specifically, was flawed at the outset. When three of our Commissioners came back from a NC Association of County Commissioners meeting a few months ago, a meeting held for the purpose of encouraging increasing revenues at the County level, they were all excited about a proposed Land Transfer Tax, or Real Property Transfer Tax or Home Tax. No matter what you call it, Macon's voters didn't want another tax, and they knew we didn't need it.

Regarding the other five spending referendums, evidently the theme "Something for Everyone" didn't resonate with the voters. Unless I missed something along the way, it isn't the job of government to provide something for everyone, especially when doing so incurs huge amounts of debt and enormous interest obligations. Thank God the people of Macon County didn't allow themselves to be led down the road of

financial irresponsibility that would have haunted us for decades.

A question arises. How could the commissioners be so out of touch with the people that they placed these referendums on the ballot? To go 0-6 would indicate that either they misread the people they represent, or they thought they, along with the School Board, could put on a full-court press, and sell their bad

ideas to a gullible public. Obviously, the people are a good deal more thoughtful than they were given credit for.

Many of us are following the run-up to the presidential primaries in just a couple of months. Perhaps we should show the same interest in our County government.

Your input has a lot more impact on local matters than on National races.

It's time for Macon's Government to prioritize the needs of the county and start accomplishing what they say must be done. There is plenty of existing surplus to do many of them immediately. There is enough cushion in the current tax rate to do other projects in the future without a significant increase in property taxes.

Oh, by the way, we're not against everything. We're FOR Lower Taxes, Less Government, More Freedom. Freedom does work.

**Don Swanson
Macon FreedomWorks**



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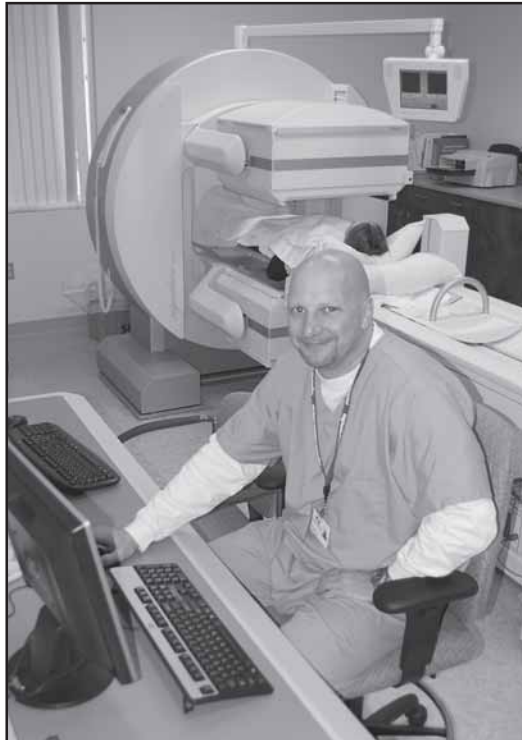
ALL ARE WELCOME!

• HOSPITAL NEWS •

Nuclear medicine now available full time at hospital

An important radiology tool is now available at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital full-time.

The hospital's new nuclear medicine camera went into operation Oct. 30, several days ahead of schedule. It replaced a mobile unit that visited the hospital several times a month. The new camera's all-digital technology is a step up from that mobile unit, and produces images as good as, or better than, any unit in Western North Carolina, says Alex Lane, CNMT, RT (R,N), a 10-year veteran in the field of nuclear medicine.



Alex Lane, CNMT, RT (RN)

Lane, who joined the hospital's radiology department last month, should know. He's worked at a number of other hospitals around the region, including spending six years as a nuclear medicine technologist at Mission Hospitals in Asheville, which has seven nuclear medicine cameras.

Although a widely used diagnostic tool, Lane says nuclear medicine is one of the least known parts of a modern radiology department. Radionuclide scanning, as it is also known, can be used to diagnose problems with the heart, gallbladder, liver and spleen, kidneys, lungs, veins, bones, thyroid and several other glands, including some types of cancers. Officials conservatively estimate the hospital will perform between 300 and 400 nuclear procedures during the first year. In fact, the new unit has performed 10 nuclear scans during its first nine days of operation.

"Having nuclear medicine available here full time will not only be much more convenient for area patients, it will assure our physicians of having access to excellent, state-of-the-art images on which to base their diagnoses. This is certainly an important step forward in the level of care we can provide," said hospital President and CEO Ken Shull.

And he adds that a greater proportion of the revenue generated by those procedures will now stay with the hospital, improving the hospital's financial pic-

ture for a number of years to come.

Radionuclide scanning produces pictures of internal parts of the body using small amounts of radioactive isotopes that are introduced into the body, either by ingestion or injection. A gamma camera detects the radiation emitted by the isotope. By varying the types of materials combined with the isotopes, technologists can target various organs or internal structures that cannot be seen well with standard X-rays. Many abnormal tissue growths or tumors are particularly visible using radionuclide scanning. But perhaps the most important aspect of

the technology is that it can allow doctors to see how a particular organ is functioning.

That's particularly true for studies of the heart and the gallbladder, two of the most common uses of nuclear medicine. A HIDA scan (hydascan), for example, allows physicians to see how well the gallbladder, liver, and bile ducts are functioning. A radioactive tracer is introduced into the bloodstream. That tracer is removed by the liver and added into the bile that normally flows through the bile ducts to the gallbladder. The gamma camera takes pictures of the tracer as it moves through the liver, bile ducts, gallbladder, and small intestine.

When an ultrasound fails to show the problem with the gallbladder, such as gall stones, nuclear medicine is usually the next diagnostic tool doctors turn to, says new general surgeon F. Augustus Dozier, MD, FACS. If the gallbladder fails to empty adequately in a proscribed amount of time, it is likely diseased and may need to be removed.

Using nuclear scanning to study organ function is also important when it comes to heart disease.

"In my opinion, it's the screening modality of choice for evaluating patients with coronary artery disease (CAD), or for screening certain patients for suspected coronary disease," says Highlands cardiologist Carl M. Curtiss, MD, FACC. "It's

a well-established standard of care, because it can help confirm a diagnosis of CAD and also assess the severity of the disease."

In patients who have not suffered a heart attack, nuclear scanning is often a means of confirming the presence and se-

verity of CAD prior to heart catheterization, which is the "gold standard," he adds.

A cardiac perfusion scan can measure the amount of blood reaching the heart

•See HOSPITAL page 34

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• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL VARSITY B-BALL •

The season has begun

The girls team lost to Forsyth on Nov. 9 to Wesleyan on Nov. 10 and Rabun Gap Nacoochee on Nov. 13.

"We are a young team but there is a lot of potential and ability," said Coach Brett Lamb. "We need to continue to work on the fundamentals of the game and improve one game at a time. The private schools that we played over the weekend were loaded with talent, with many of the athletes being college bound in basketball. It was a tough way to begin the season but a way for us to see where we would like to be down the road in the season."

The first home game is Friday, Nov. 16 against Hayesville. The girls play at 6:30 p.m. and the boys play at 8 p.m.



Highlands Brie schmitt with the ball at the Rabun Gap game. Below Michael Shearl takes the ball down court at Rabun Gap. Photos by Stephanie McCall

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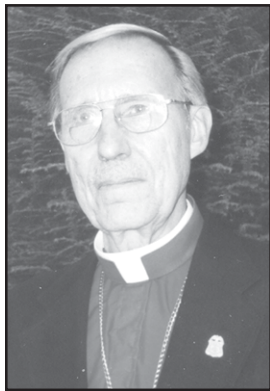
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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Saint who?



+The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling
Chapel of the Sky

We are in Oslo, Norway. It is Dec. 11, 1979, and the temperature is below zero, not unusual for this time of year.

A short old lady is hunched forward with the wrinkles of time etched on her face, sad eyes deeply set, no longer accustomed to this weather, although she had been born in Romania.

Tears creep out of both eyes, not of sadness, although the face gives witness to much sadness seen, but now from the cold winds of an Oslo winter.

What sets her apart from the people on this street is her clothing. She is dressed in a blue-bordered sari, no coat. On her feet are sandals, not winter boots. A small crucifix hangs from the corner of her sari. It is wrapped tightly around her head.

Her name is Agnes Bojarhiu, but the world knows her by another name. She is Mother Teresa, the "Saint of the Gutters" of Calcutta.

Mother Teresa saw a need to minister, both physically and spiritually, to the "poorest of the poor," the sick, the dying beggars and street children in September of 1946.

She claimed that Christ spoke to her that day, the tenth of that September in 1946, with these words, "Come, come, carry Me, the Christ, into the holes of the poor."

He told her, "Come be My light to help them live their lives with dignity, and so encounter God's infinite love."

But why this woman? Why now, December 11, 1979? Why Oslo in the dead of winter? To accept the world's accolades, in the acceptance of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mother Teresa started a one-woman mission in the hell holes of Calcutta in 1948, which was to become a world beacon for the love of God. Her acceptance speech was simple, as she was. She told the world that day what it needed to hear.

She said, "It is not enough for us to say I love God but I do not love my neighbor, since in dying on the cross, God has made himself the hungry one, the naked one, the homeless one.

Jesus' hunger," she said, is what "you and I must find and alleviate." She reminded the world "that radiating joy is real" because Christ is everywhere. Christ in our hearts, Christ in the poor we meet, Christ in the smile we give, and the smile that we receive.

This was December 1979, but now we know that

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 30

• 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.

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Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770
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Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Men's Bible study at 8 a.m.
at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

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.

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6:30 p.m. High School Group
Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m. Supper (free for kids 8th grade and under); 6:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study; 6:30 p.m. programs for students.

Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

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.

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Sun.: Worship 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

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Dr. Don Mullen, Associate Pastor 526-3175
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HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Thurs: 12:30 - Women's Bible Study (nursery)

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Rev. Clifford Willis

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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

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

'Invitational' exhibit opens Nov. 17 at Summit One Gallery

Summit One Gallery will host an "Invitational" exhibition opening Saturday, Nov. 17 with a *Meet the Artists Reception* from 5-7 p.m. Summit One owner, Mary Adair Leslie has "invited" three artists not currently represented by Summit One to exhibit during November and December.

Norma Smith, *Mixed Media*, has recently received her MFA from Johnson State College, VT. She received her MA (Painting and Drawing) from Western Carolina University and her BFA (Painting and Drawing) from Ohio University, OH. This body of work, which was part of her Master's Thesis, is an exploration of our present age, looked at through the lens of the past. What social structures, systems of thought and ideas have created the strata upon which current thought and philosophies exist? Smith says, "I can only understand this technological age of



Mark Hutchison -- Photography, Eden

whirling ideas, transient thoughts and spiritual disconnects by asking how it is we have come to this place historically."

Mark Hutchinson's *Photography* has been honored by both Fuji Film USA, Inc., & Eastman Kodak Co. He has been represented internationally in numerous galleries & exhibitions the last two decades, as well as in magazines, such as *Outdoor Photographer*, *Photo District News*, *American Photo*, *Professional Photographer*, *VIEW Camera*, *Fuji Film ProFiles*, *Atlanta Magazine*, *Blue Ridge Country*, *Our State North Carolina*, *VIEW Magazine*, among many others. His photography has brought national attention to the beauty of the Highlands Plateau. Mark has been photographing on the Highlands Plateau for 25 years, using medium & large format cameras. Mark studied with the late, great 20th century Master Landscape Pho-

tographer, Eliot Porter, and seeks to carry on his tradition of environmental preservation through his art.

The native Atlantan, Sarah Morgan Wingfield, *Works on Paper*, relocated to Highlands fulltime in 2005. She attended University of GA, received her BFA from the Atlanta College of Art and post baccalaureate studies in Arabic at GA State University. In 2002 Wingfield was named to the Board of the American Museum of Paper-



Sarah Morgan -- Mixed Media

making and in 2003 was honored by the Crane Paper Company in *Crane Paper Co. Salutes American Hand Papermakers*. For Sarah Morgan education has been a lifelong pursuit; either in giving workshops or taking them to explore new territories. She integrates the disciplines of drawing, painting, sculpture and printmaking in her work. To her every piece is a new adventure.

"Invitational" will continue through December 31. Summit One Gallery is located in "The Galleries," South Second Street, Highlands NC. 828.526.2673 summitonegallery@verizon.net www.summitonegallery.com

Norma Smith -- Remembering Delphi, Know Thyself



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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Scudders donates auction proceeds to Summit Charter School

Last month, proceeds of the auction of a Frederick Remington bronze entitled, "The Scout" purchased by a friend of Jane Woodruff's were donated to the Summit Charter School.



Nancy Bruin accepted a check from Frank Scudder on behalf of Summit Charter School in Cashiers.



Al Scudder, Sr., with Jane Woodruff, right, and friend, left.

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... FIRE continued from page 1

in the brush behind the house traveling toward the neighbors, but the fire department took care of it all quickly," said Slaughter.

Meanwhile, Dr. Patti was in the emergency room at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital sewing up a patient's hand when she got a phone message saying "her house was on fire and she needed to call home."

"I figured if the house is on fire there's no point in calling home, so I finished working on my patient and then Rita Garland and I got in the car and headed home," she said. They arrived about 5 p.m.

"By the time I got home, there was no deck and there was smoke and firemen everywhere," said Patti.

Given the dry conditions and potential for harm to the neighborhood, Highlands Fire & Rescue had called for backup from the Cashiers, Scaly and Satolah, GA, fire departments.

Except for smoke-damage, the bedrooms and living room were not charred, but the kitchen, dining room, roof and washer and dryer area downstairs were destroyed.

"I ran in and grabbed all the important items I could think of at the time – pictures, birth certificates stuff like that, and packed both vehicles," said Patti. "Later that night after the fire had re-ignited and the fire department had returned, she returned, too, and grabbed all the picture albums, souvenir boxes. "Things you can't replace that I had forgotten before," said Patti. "The little notes the kids wrote in pre-school, that sort of thing."

Before the second fire ignited, she had three calls from people offering the family a place to stay. In the interim, Patti and the children, Samuel and Sally, alternate between Anne Tate's house and Dr. David Wheeler's home. For the long term, while the insurance claims are settled and the home re-built, she's taking Betty Kizer up on her offer to live at her home while she's away for six months.

No humans were in the Wheeler home at the time, though their 15-year-old cat Cocoa died due to smoke inhalation. Dick, a big black lab-mix was fine, just anxious about all the people, sirens and commotion, said Patti. "At one point a fireman said I had to do something with him because he wouldn't let them in the house."

At 3:45 p.m., Saturday, when high-schooler Sally Wheeler darted in and out of the house to pick something up and there was no sign or smell of fire. Luckily, she was gone by 4 p.m. when the call went out.

Except for Cocoa, everything that was lost can be replaced and the Wheelers are just grateful for the response from the Highlands fire department and their safety.

"For now we will just rest in the warmth of the community," said Patti.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

- November auctions at Scudder's Galleries Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. Viewing from Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 352 Main St.

- 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.

- 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.

- 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. 10 a.m. until noon. 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.

- 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.

Every Wednesday

- "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. The study will meet in the Fellowship Hall — beginning promptly at 6:15 and will last approximately one hour.

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

- Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

- CBC will offer the AWANA program for kids — K-5th grade non-denominational Bible-based program for kids — from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Every Third Wednesday

- Study sessions at the Universal Unitarian 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 Dilard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.

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

Every Friday

- The Girls' Clubhouse meets in the school cafeteria 3-4:30 p.m. All 6-8 grade girls are welcome. Come have fun while serving others. For more information, call Kim Lewicki 526-0782.

Friday & Saturday, Nov. 16-17

- ITC presents David Milford and Madeleine Davis in a staged reading you do not want to miss, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* by Mark Twain at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Reservations are suggested. Call 828-342-9197 for further information. Refreshments are sold at each event. Check for everything ITC by visiting: www.instanttheatre.org.

Friday, Nov. 16

- American Red Cross Blood Drive at Angel Medical Center (120 Riverview Street, Franklin), 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 369-4166 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors can enter a drawing for 2 Delta Air Lines domestic round-trip tickets! Volunteer blood and platelet 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. All volunteer blood donors must show a photo ID. To find a convenient place to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543).

Saturday, Nov. 17

- Concert by "This Beautiful Republic" 7 p.m. at the Franklin High School Fine Arts Center with special guests "Our Heart's Hero." Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door. Call 305-542-1835.

Sunday, Nov. 18

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on an old railroad bed thru woods and along the Tallulah River in Terrora Park, GA, with the option of dinner in Clayton GA. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitor Center on Hwy. 441 at 2 p.m. Drive 60 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations No pets, please.

Tuesday, Nov. 20

- American Red Cross Blood Drive at The Chef and His Wife (Iotla Street, Franklin) 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please call 231-1372 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors will receive a coupon for a dessert from The Chef and His Wife and can enter a drawing for 2 Delta Air Lines domestic round-trip tickets! Volunteer blood and platelet 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. All volunteer blood donors must show a photo ID. To find a convenient place to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543).

Saturday, Nov. 24

- Annual Town Lightning with carols on Main Street at Methodist Church at 6 p.m.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop author Mary Kay Andrews signing three books from 1-3 p.m.

- At Instant Theatre the second annual Tree Lighting Dance at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$2.50 for children. No reservations are necessary. Call 828-342-9197 for further information. Refreshments are sold at each event.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 8-mile

strenuous hike from Beech Gap to the Appalachian Trail and Timber Ridge. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298 for reservations. No pets

- The Nantahala Hiking will take a moderate-to-strenuous 6-mile hike to several waterfalls and Little Green Mtn in Panthertown Valley. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 8:30 a.m., returning 2-3 p.m. Drive 15 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Walter Taylor, 743-6977, for reservations. No pets please.

Monday, Nov. 26

- The Art League of Highlands and Summit One Gallery on South Second Street in Highlands have arranged for a special tour of the gallery on Monday at 12:45. Meet at the Recreation Park at noon where a light lunch will be provided prior to traveling over to Summit One. Director Mary Adair Leslie will speak on the current "Invitational Exhibit" which features Norma Smith, Mark W. Hutchison and Sara Morgan Wingfield. Members of the Art League of Highlands who are represented by Summit One Gallery are Neal Adams, Kathie Blozan, Priscilla Flowers and Rosemary Stiefel. For further information call ALH President Caroline Cook at 828-526-2742. Guests are welcome for lunch at the Rec Park and the Summit One Gallery tour.

Tuesday, Nov. 27

- Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce Fall Finale and annual business meeting will take place from 6-8 p.m. at Highlands Inn. All Chamber members are invited to attend. Advance reservations can be made by calling the Chamber at 828-526-5841. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

Saturday, Dec. 1

- Highlands Annual Christmas Parade, 10 a.m. on Main Street.

- "I'm Dreaming of a White Elephant Sale" in the Instant Theatre Studio, noon to 4 p.m.

- Arts & craft sale at the Conference Center.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 2.5-mile hike to the south face of Whiteside Mtn., descending with extreme caution on the rough and rocky path that the climbers and rappellers use and climbing out by the same steep trail. We will walk beneath the rocky cliffs of the mountain, looming spectacularly above, an awesome experience, but NOT FOR THOSE WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Highlands Bank of America or at the Whiteside Mtn. parking area at 9:45 a.m. Drive 10 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear gloves and hiking boots. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader, Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations. No pets, please.

Sunday, Dec. 2

- HCP auditions from 2-6 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. Scripts are available at the Hudson Library in Highlands. For questions or more information please call: 828.526.5440.

- East Coast Girls Volleyball showcase for 9th-12th grade girls at the Greensboro Sportsplex from noon-4 p.m. \$40 per player before Nov. 5; \$60 per player thereafter. Call Lucky Dog Volleyball at 877-665-6661.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on the Kimsey Creek Trail at Standing Indian Camp Ground. Drive 45 miles round trip. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (across from

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Burger King) at 2 p.m. Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes

are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. No pets, please.

This Friday and Saturday at Instant Theatre



Madeleine Davis and David Milford in "The Diaries of Adam and Eve" at The Instant Theatre Friday, Nov. 16 and Saturday, Nov. 17 at 8 p.m.

A performance piece of Mark Twain's "The Diaries of Adam and Eve" will be held at the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16 and Saturday, Nov. 17, only.

In Twain's "translation" Adam comes across as the original couch potato, grumpily uninterested at first in his new female companion who keeps pestering him with her all-too-innovative ideas. Eve, by contrast, is the talkative, ever curious experimenter whose inquisitive nature prompts her to name all the animals in the garden, among other things. "The Diaries of Adam and Eve" is a funny and touching retelling, full of Twain's sarcastic humor, incisive intelligence, and subtle touches of pathos for the foibles of human nature.

Performing the roles of Adam and Eve are two of the finest actors to ever grace a Highlands stage, David Milford and Madeleine Davis. David was seen on the ITC stage this past September in the dramatic production of "Copenhagen" in the role of Heisenberg. Previous to that he appeared at Atlanta's Theatre-in-the-Square in the leading role of Willie Stark in "All The Kings Men," for which he received a nomination as Best Actor for this year's Atlanta Theatre Awards. Ten years ago he played the male lead roles in "Sylvia" and "Damn Yankees" at the Highlands Playhouse. David has appeared in regional theatre coast-to-coast for 39 years. During that time he has also appeared in feature films, television and radio.

Madeleine Davis is well known and admired by Highlands' theatre going au-

diences. Most recently she was seen in August on the ITC stage in their production of the North Carolina Premiere of "My Secret Weapon." Her previous ITC appearances include, "The Turn of the Screw," "Little Entertainments," "Cocktail Hour Theatre," "Sylvia," and "Carpe Noctum Theatre."

Madeleine has appeared in many Highlands Community Players productions, most recently last spring in "Enchanted April." In Asheville she has been in "The Tempest," "Henry IV, Parts I and II," and "She Stoops to Conquer" with the Montford Players. She holds an MFA in theatre from the University of Alabama.

These two evenings of the "Diary of Adam and Eve" are sponsored by Jolie's of Highlands. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for 17 and under.

Coming up on Saturday, Nov. 24, the ITC will hold its second Tree Lighting Dance with Hurricane Creek. The dance will begin immediately following the annual tree lighting and choral singing at the Methodist church. Just walk across the street to the Studio on Main. The dance is sponsored by Carolina Eyes in Highlands.

Admission to the dance is \$10 for adults, \$2.50 for 17 and under. Dec. 1, the ITC is having a unique "I'm Dreaming of a White Elephant Christmas Sale." The doors open after the Highlands Christmas Parade ends at noon and will run until 4:30 p.m. For more information call the box office at 828-342-9197. The Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street, Highlands, upstairs. An elevator is available at the back of the mall.

Monday, Dec. 3

• HCP auditions from 5-9 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. Scripts are available at the Hudson Library in Highlands. For questions or more information please call: 526-5440.

Saturday, Dec. 8

• The Highlands Community Christian Choral Christmas Concert is at 4 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 9-mile hike on the GA Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell picnic area to Sandy Ford Road with a car shuttle of 10 miles, partly on a dirt road with one stream to ford. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. Drive 60 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Doug Deane, 864-718-9265, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Sunday, Dec. 9

• The Highlands Community Christian Choral Christmas Concert is a 7 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church.

Saturday, Dec. 15

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike up Osage and Rocky Knob mountains with nice view from both, and elevation gains and descents of 200-300 feet each. Meet at the Scaly Mtn. post office on Hwy. 106 at 10 a.m. Drive 4 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Sunday, Dec. 16

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 1.5 mile hike over fields and old roads on the Tesseentee Historic Farm near Otto. Meet at the Smoky Mtn. Visitor Center on Hwy. 441 at 2 p.m. Drive 6 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for

reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Saturday, Dec. 22

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-hike, with a 500 foot elevation change, to the lower Whitewater Falls from the Bad Creek Reservoir parking area. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations.

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Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

Merry Christmas from the McKim Family



The McKim Family invites the community to its Christmas Open House, Saturday, Dec. 1 from 6-10 p.m., at 181 Chestnut Lane in Highlands, 828-526-5273.

'Paint Day' at the Highlands Emergency Council on Poplar Street



On Saturday November 3, 19 people gathered to paint the Highlands Emergency Council building. The Highlands Emergency Council provides food, clothing, furniture, heating help and many other donated items to those who are in need of help in our community. All donations are available to anyone in need and are kept in confidence. The painters enjoyed a great lunch prepared by the Highlands Emergency Council. The paint and supplies were provided by the First Presbyterian Church, with a substantial discount from Highlands Ace Hardware. The participants in the photograph are from left: Ricardo Morales, Jim McCord, John Henry, Anna Lee Henry, Mary Baty, Ann Chastain, Bob Tietze (standing), Hillrie Quin (kneeling next to Kate), Gustavo Gonzales, Mary Ann Creswell, Magarito Torres, Jose Luis Dominguez, Linda James, William Creswell. Not included in the photograph are: Ann Greenlee, Amanda Taylor and Skip Taylor, Jeff James, and Jason Coggins

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 25

just three months before, September of that very year, she confided in her confessor these words: *Jesus has a very special love for you, Father Van der Peet, but as for me, the silence and the emptiness is so great that I look and do not see; listen and do not hear; the tongue moves in prayer but does not speak. I want you to pray for me.*

She would later confess that during those years which followed the founding of her mission, she suffered darkness, loneliness and torture. This continued until her death.

She said she suffered hell, and at one point doubted the very existence of heaven or even God.

She said the smile she gave was a "mask" or a "cloak" that covered everything.

All this was kept secret until just a few months ago when the most unthinkable happened. A priest violated the sanctity of the confession and made the pain of Mother Teresa's life a public event.

As an orthodox Anglican bishop, I find this inexcusable. A reason for all who confide in their clergy to doubt the secrecy of what is told once thought sealed in confidence.

But there is another side to this from which we can learn.

Now we know that the once "Mother Teresa on the fast track to sainthood" was above all, human in all possible ways.

In spite of her doubts and anguish, she continued to serve her God, even when she could not find him. Or could she? And was she looking in the wrong place, because he was there in front of her daily? He was in each and every face she caressed.

His hands were those she held as life slipped away. The wounds of Christ were in the palms, sides and feet of every beggar in the gutters of Calcutta.

The resurrection of Christ was symbolized by the lifting of the dignity out of the grave of despair in those who found new life by the healing hands of this "saint in suffering."

I caution those both in and out of the church who see this exposure of the other dimension of Mother Teresa as reason to discard her and the praise and glory she has so justly earned.

She has given new hope to all of us who daily struggle with our doubts and questions, fears and frustrations, when we look for God, and He seems to have abandoned us.

Maybe He is not lost but very much found in all the places we need to see Him: in each other's love. Amen.

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• STATE & FEDERAL POLITICS •

Illegal immigration tops list of citizens' concerns

By Congressman Heath Shuler

Illegal immigration is an ever-increasing problem facing communities across Western North Carolina and our Nation. With over 12 million people currently living in the United States illegally and thousands more coming in every week, illegal immigration is one of the most pressing issues facing America today.

Every year illegal immigration costs North Carolina alone nearly \$1 billion in three areas – health care, education and incarceration. This problem is straining our state and local government budgets to the breaking point. Every dollar that state and local governments have to spend on illegal immigration is a dollar that cannot be spent on road construction, school improvements, services for the elderly, or environmental protection.

For years, Congress has failed to act. Americans are very upset at their government for not taking action, and they have a right to be. We cannot continue to ignore this problem and hope that it goes away.

I had consistently heard from people across Western North Carolina that illegal immigration was a top concern and an issue they wanted me to address. Upon taking office in January, I began examining the issue in-depth and looking for a solution. I sent members of my staff to the U.S.-Mexico border to see the problems up close. I met with business groups to hear their concerns. I spoke to local law enforcement officials and national police organizations about the problems illegal immigration caused for them. I met with officials from the Department of Homeland Security to hear about the challenges they faced and the opportunities they saw. What I took from all those meetings was that we had to do three things above all else: secure our borders, make sure those working here are here legally, and enforce our existing laws. Then, I went to work writing a bill.

Last week I introduced that bill, the Secure America with Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act, H.R. 4088. This bill has the support of both Democrats and Republicans, with 100 cosponsors from all regions of the country. It provides a sensible solution to the illegal immigration crisis that is affecting every part of our Nation.

The SAVE Act is 3-part plan to stop illegal immigration – strict emphasis on border security, employer verification, and interior enforcement.

First, the SAVE Act addresses border security by increasing manpower and making needed technological and infra-

structure improvements on America's northern and southern borders, including 8,000 new Border Patrol Agents and provides the infrastructure they need to be effective. This will prevent illegal immigrants from entering our country.

Second, it expands the E-Verify program to provide all employers with the tools they need to ensure that their employees are here legally. The E-Verify program is a simple, effective, and free program that allows employers to efficiently and quickly ensure that the people they hire are legally allowed to work in the U.S. The program will be phased-in over four years, beginning with the federal government, federal contractors, and employers with over 250 employees. Smaller businesses would begin using the system in a graduated manner. The system is firm, yet fair.

Third, the SAVE Act also provides the tools, resources and infrastructure necessary to enforce existing federal laws and penalize offenders. It increases the investigative abilities of Immigration and Customs Enforcement by adding more agents and more training. Additionally, it provides assistance for state and local law enforcement. This will ensure that when illegal immigrants are arrested or detained, they are deported, not released.

The Senate has failed twice to pass "comprehensive" immigration bills that provided amnesty to those who entered the country illegally. Some people support that idea. I, along with most of the American people, oppose that idea, because it is wrong to reward someone for breaking the law. However, we cannot allow our differences to prevent us from

taking action. Congress cannot continue to ignore the issue of illegal immigration and hope someone else solves this problem. The American people deserve better, and they are expecting Congress to act. The SAVE Act give us that chance to act by securing our borders, turning off the job magnet, and enforcing existing laws.

The SAVE Act is good for America. It is good for American workers. It is good for American businesses that are abiding by the law. It is fair to those who have come to America legally, and it is what the American people have asked for.

America is a nation of immigrants, but it is also a nation of laws. The SAVE Act provides us with the opportunity to both honor our heritage and respect the rule of law. I sincerely believe this is the right thing to do.

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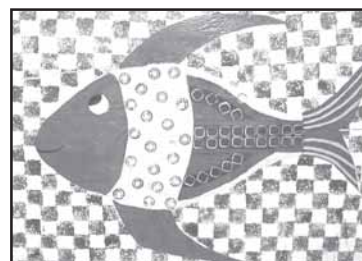
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Highlands' Newspaper

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Highlands, NC 28741

828-526-0782

HELP WANTED

CHESTNUT HILL OF HIGHLANDS seeking waitstaff. Benefits, pre-employment drug screening and background check. EOE. Apply in person at 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC 29741. (828) 526-5251.

COMPUTER VOLUNTEER NEEDED AT ART CENTER — Calling all techies: the Bascom-Louise Gallery is in need of a volunteer to help the nonprofit art center with its computers. From networking to printer issues to backing up their computers, the art center could use an extra person to volunteer his or her time to help. The art center also needs a wide range of other volunteers to help with several different areas: gallery docents, hospitality workers, gallery shop workers, clerical assistants, visitor services, library assistants, teaching assistants and Movers and Shakers (those who help with prop building, landscaping and other indoor and outdoor physical activities). For more information on volunteer opportunities, call (828) 526-0207.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL

Full-time, Tuesday through Saturday, position. Responsibilities include storing and distribution of medications, supplies and products, under the supervision of a registered Pharmacist. Responsible for routine audits and maintaining records. Previous experience in purchasing and inventory control preferred. Current licensure is required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time position. Hours are from 7:00am to 3:30pm. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Experience in hospital cleaning preferred. Other cleaning experience help-

ful. Must be able to communicate and follow instructions in English, both oral and written. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 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.

Full-time, Part-time, and PRN positions for day and night shifts. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employment. 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.

FOR RENT

IN-TOWN APARTMENT — one bedroom, one bath, full kitchen, washer/dryer. Heat & air. \$750 mo. plus utilities. Call 526-2598.

IN-TOWN APARTMENT — 800 sq. ft. one bedroom, one bath. Full kitchen. \$600/month. Call 770-827-0450.

ON MIRROR LAKE — Charming 3 bed, 2 bath. Huge sunroom, stone fireplace, 3 decks, canoe, furnished. Available Nov-May. \$1500 a month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.

COTTAGE FOR RENT — 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/AC, FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$800. monthly plus utilities. Call 526-1684.

HOUSE FOR SALE WITH "RENT TO BUY" OPTION — In town. 3 bedrooms,

2 baths, 2 decks. \$975/month. Sales Price: \$259,000. Ownership arrangement negotiable. Call Jimmy at 970-819-3815.

VACATION RENTAL

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB — Sorry, golf and club privileges not available. \$2,495 a week. Call 912-230-7202.

CUTE 3 BED/2 BATH Mirror lake home \$1,350-\$1,550 + utilities a month, less than mile from Main Street. Call 770-977-5692

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

UPPER CLEAR CREEK ROAD AT CORNET LANE 1.20+ acres less than 4 miles to Main Street. Paved Access. Some winter views 3 sided corner lot has old logging road as your driveway. \$62,500 Call 526-9021 or 787-2307.

BUCK CREEK; 1600 sq.ft. finished basement, creek front. Handicapped accessible w/elevator; 3 BR 2 large BA. \$329,000. 828-524-6038

UNPRECEDENTED DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY on 100 acres in picturesque Mountain Grove, (1A5) Macon County, NC. Combine the pleasures of a secluded mountain valley and high mountain real estate. Live on your own farm with 30 acres of pastures, two barns, a remodeled main house, and a new log cabin for guests. Develop the rest. Or create one spectacular community. Streams and creeks throughout. All this within 20 minutes (via a soon to be paved State Road) of the historic downtowns of Sylva and Franklin. Nothing like it in the whole region. Call or email Tim Ryan at 828-349-4465 for more information. TimRyan@sanctuarync.com - www.Sanctuarync.com

FREE '07 HUMMER 3 WITH PURCHASE OF THIS NEWLY REMODELED HOME — 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH HOME WITH BEAUTIFUL LONG RANGE VIEWS, 2 LIVINGROOMS, RECREATION ROOM, GRANITE KITCHEN, FIREPLACE, GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY, CAN BECOME A DUPLEX! \$369,000. CALL 305 458-0033

BEAUTIFUL RV/PARK MODEL LOT — Falls View Resort. Dillard, GA. \$72,000 706-746-0002

LOT — COWEE RIDGE ROAD, Highlands (off Hwy. 64). 4,500 ft. elevation. Great views, Two acres. Southern ex-

posure. 4 bedroom septic installed, community water, paved road, gated community. \$300,000 Firm. Call 478-741-8818. FSBO.

RV LOT — North Carolina Mountains: At Lake Toxaway Lot and 1/2 Beautifully Landscaped with Stone Work and Plantings Yearly Fees \$350. \$120,000. 863-651-1411

COACH CLUB HIGHLANDS NC — Chestnut Street. Gated Motor Coach resort lot in town Very nice 200 sq. ft. Lindal Cedar Coach House. Fully Landscaped with Extensive patio area. Outdoor kitchen, gas fire pit, overlooking 85 ft of stream Rare find. 828-787-1014 or 352-258-4187

CREEK IS FREE! — With the purchase of one or both of these wooded parcels, just off Highway 28 in the NE Georgia mountains within 15 minutes of Highlands. 1.09 acres and/or 1.10 acres on a county-maintained road. Serious inquiries only. Please call 864-710-4577 for information.

IN TOWN — 3 bedroom, 2 bath, stream, large level yard. Easy walk to Main Street. \$450,000, by owner. Call 828-226-6123. 12/21

HOUSE FOR SALE (ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA) — Two bedroom, one and 1/2 bath conch house for sale at Mile Marker 86, near Founders Park on Oceanside. House sits on a 8,520 square foot lot in a great subdivision with a public boat ramp on the next street over. Founders Park, which is across the street, has a park with a boat ramp, marina, pool, beach, tennis courts, etc. Great deal — owner moving out of state. \$475,000. Call 305-852-4369 for more info.

OCEAN FRONT — Beautiful home in Surf City, N.C. zoned residential/commercial. Walk to pier and town. 7-bed, 4 full baths. Separate apartment. Good rental income. Call 919-340-2280.

LAKEFRONT ACRE IN SCALY — \$25,000 OBO. Details. P.O. Box 260789, Pembroke Pines, FL, 33026.

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.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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. \$189,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

IN TOWN — 3/2.5 log home. The cottages lakeside at Harris Lake. Less than 2 years old. \$329,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and ½ 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.pixelitvIDEOS.com/townhome

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.

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.

ITEMS FOR SALE

MASSEY FERGUSON DIESEL DELUXE 35 WITH POWER STEERING. Completely rebuilt, repainted, new tires. Includes scrape blade, and an 8,000 lbs. tandem axle trailer. Sharp Package! \$7,500. Call (828)526-1684 and leave message.

GENERATOR, portable Briggs & Stratton 10,000 Watt 18 HP 8 Gal Fuel Tank 3 years old. never used. New \$2,199. Now. \$1,000. Call 828-526-4784 or 404-255-4894.

SEIL BUNK BED SET – Very Nice Desk; One 11X15 rug, Lt. in color, very good condition; Mountain Bike w/car carrier, helmet. Call 828-526-4064.

ANTIQUE ORNATE WALNUT Victorian gold velvet sofa and blue chair. Call 369-0498 and leave message.

BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTURES: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, \$8.00 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Wide barn siding, \$3/ft. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to reassemble. 215-529-7637. Delivery available.

FREE STANDING WOOD-BURN-

ING STOVE – with blower. \$200. Call 828-349-3534.

FRIGIDAIRE UPRIGHT FREEZER. Excellent condition. \$100.(828) 526-9107.

DINING ROOM TABLE & 8 CHAIRS – (7 w/o leaves) Great for Mountain Home. Nearly New. Good Condition. Leather & Upholstered chairs. \$1,000. Call Linda at 526-1517.

KING-SIZE HEADBOARD, \$40; new glass fireplace screen, (still in box,) polished brass finish, fits fireplace opening Height 24 3/4 " - 29 3/4". Width 30" to 37 1/2," \$125. Call 828-371-2999

LATE KENMORE FLOOR MODEL VACCUUM 5.0 power with 2-motor systems. \$149. Call 526-4077.

MEDICAL LIFT CHAIR – Used one week. Paid \$615, asking \$500. 526-5558.

ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE from Estate Sale. Double drop-leaf. Rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people Extends to 4x10 ft \$2,200. obo 828-787-1515

LARGE BIRDCAGE – 2 1/2 feet high by 1 foot 3 inches wide by 1 foot 2 inches deep. With feeders. \$40. Call 526-9245.

DOG KENNEL. 10' x 10' x 6', heavy gauge chainlink. Like New. \$175, was \$270. call 828.389.2722 Hayesville, NC

DELUXE VENTED GAS heater high btu, slightly used, \$100. 524-6038.

CUSTOM DECK SET – Painted aluminum Love seat & club chair with laminated waverly cushions. \$125. Call 526-1078.

MAHOGHANY CHINA CLOSET. 6-ft plus, mirror back, 4 glass shelves. Must see. Call 787-2307.

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

VANITY TOP SINK – 22"x37" with 4" back splash cream color, \$59. Call 526-4077.

NEW SHOWER DOOR – Still in box. 27" wide, gold color. Call 526-4077. \$79.

CHINA CABINETS desk, rope-bed, trunk framed artwork, quilts, and more. Call 828-526-3836.

ANTIQUE 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

MITSUBISHI 2006 RAIDER PICK-UP TRUCK – 4WD, Tool Box, 10,5000 miles. \$18,000. Call 526-0539.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE FOR SALE – 2002 Discovery – 38P Cat 330 HP. Immaculate. Double Slide. Smoke/pet free. Original owner. All options Electric awnings. W/D. Six new batteries. Extended warranty. Brake Pro. Falcon Hitch. 27,000 miles. \$90,000. Call 743-5593.

1991 HONDA PRELUDE – 190K miles. Runs Good. Looks Good. \$800. Call 200-9824.

2006 SUZUKI DR 200SE MOTORCYCLE – 29 miles, only, perfect condition, 1-cylinder, 4-stroke, 199cc. \$3,000. Call 828-342-6789 or home at 828-526-5507.

HANDICAPPED VAN – Dodge Grand Caravan, wheelchair accessible, automatic ramp, hand controls, 43,900 miles, \$16,000.00 526-9769.

1966 MUSTANG – 2-door coupe. \$12,000. Call 828-883-4214.

1999 CAMARO – New tires, low mileage, 5-speed, 6-cylinder, excellent condition. Call 828-369-3619.

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.

SERVICES

FIREWOOD "Nature Dired" Call 526-2251.

CUTTING EDGE TREE SERVICE - "Let us go out on a Limb for You." We specialize in tree removal, trimming, Lot/View clearing, under brushing and stump grinding. Quality work and Fully insured. For Free Estimate call 524-1309 or 421-2905.

TREE SERVICE – From view clearing to the most complicated tree removal, under brushing, stump removal/grinding/brush chipping/hauling and storm cleanup. For good quality, dependable service,

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 landscaping service, spring cleanup, gutter cleaning, under-brushing, tree removal, lot clearing, storm cleanup, rockwork, retaining walls, flowerbeds, firewood. 828-526-2251.

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.

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, Asheville, scenic tours, parks, special occasions, restaurant trips, auto delivery. Town Car. Call 828-524-0424 or cell (239)-292-3623. 10/25

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

UNIQUE BUSINESS FOR SALE in Highlands. Established Market. Call 828-200-0061.

LOST

LOST DOG IN SHORTOFF ROAD AREA. Australian Shepherd. Blue Merle. Female. No tale. No Collar. Needs seizure medicine. Reward. Call 704-560-2911 or 704-365-9614.

PUPPIES FOR SALE

BOXER/BULLDOG/SHEPHERD PUPPIES: 2 male puppies for sale. One of a kind dog that can box, fight bulls, and guard your house! Mother is CKC boxer/bulldog and father is German Shepherd. \$200. each. Call 526-2465 after 5 p.m.

NEAPOLITAN MASTIFFS – 6 male and 4 female - each weighing in at about 1 lb. at birth. Pups should be available to new homes by Dec. 15. noel@athernton.com

Fall Golf League starts in November! Sign up Now.




Full Swing Indoor Golf \$50/hr. 10-5 Mon-Sat (or by appt. before 10 and after 5)

Full line of Ladies & Men's MacGregor Clubs Adidas Apparel & Shoes and Hi-Tec Shoes

Available now at Rainy Day Golf Etc.



468 Carolina Way • Highlands • 526-9292

Dr. Dozier ready for business



New general surgeon F. Augustus Dozier, MD, FACS, (center) began his medical practice Highlands on Monday, Nov. 5. He is shown with the staff of Mountain Medical and Surgical Group, Mellissa Hall, LPN, (L) and receptionist Charlene Felts (R). The practice is located in Suite 104 on the first level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the campus of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Dr. Dozier went to work in the hospital's operating room almost immediately, performing his first surgical case, a hernia repair, on Tuesday afternoon. Even though it's his first week, Dozier says he already feels at home. "I feel like this is my dream job and I belong here," he said. "I think God has called me here."

... HOSPITAL NEWS continued from page 23

muscle when the patient is at rest and or when the heart is stimulated (by either exercise or special medication). As the tracer moves through the heart muscle, areas that have good blood flow show up brightly while areas with poor flow appear dark, indicating a potential blockage or muscle damaged by a heart attack.

By comparing pictures at rest and during exercise, physicians may also be able to see why the patients experience chest pain brought on by exercise. A perfusion scan can also help cardiologists like Curtiss see if the heart is getting enough blood after heart surgery or angioplasty. The other type of heart scan, a cardiac blood pool scan, can show how

the heart is pumping blood to the rest of your body.

Another frequent use of nuclear scanning at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is to see if cancer has metastasized to a patient's bones, says radiologist Rodney Stinnett, MD.

Although radiation is used in this scanning technique, the test is very safe. The actual dose of radiation the patient receives is quite low and lasts a short time. The radioactive preparations used during various procedures are prepared by a company in Asheville, which supplies a number of radiology centers around the region.

... BRUGGER continued from page 6

ality is an act we play for our lifetime. The blunt truth is that no human being really knows who she or he really is. The result is insecurity, uncertainty, and self-doubt.

Because nobody talks about the process of identity- and mental map-building, we think that other people somehow get their sense of self handed to them complete and whole; everyone else's "act" is truer than ours; we are neurotic freaks while (almost) everyone else is normal.

There are those of course who appear to be completely certain — the "winners" — but these people are just more adept at concealing their acts and insecurities

from others...and maybe even from themselves.

The idea of mental health classes in school would be to instruct children that this process of developing mental maps is completely normal. We would be taught: Everyone must create these maps, but always remember these maps are approximations of reality, not reality itself. No one knows who he or she really is so everyone suffers from self-doubt and insecurity. Here are examples of how this universal insecurity manifest and here's how to deal with it. And most importantly: you are not alone in your feelings.

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

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 8-12. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Nov. 8

- At 2:15 p.m., officers responded to an accident at Mt. Lori and N. Cobb Roads..
- At noon, a burglary of women's jewelry valued at upwards of \$3,000 was reported at a residence on Wyanoak. It is under investigation.

Nov. 9

- At 6:23 p.m, a motorist at Hicks Rad was cited for speeding 44 mph in a 25 zone.
- At 4 p.m., a simple assault was reported at Chestnut Village Walk.
- At 9 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 49 mph in a 35 zone at U.S. 64 and Webbmont.

Nov. 10

- At 10:45 a.m., at a structure fire on Satulah Ridge, police reported suspecting arson but the

fire marshal ruled the structure fire accidental and not intentional when an ignition source was found.

- During a traffic check between 3 and 4 p.m. at U.S. 64 west and Webbmont, seven motorists were cited for driving without a license.

- At 3:07 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving while impaired at U.S. 64 west and Webbmont.

Nov. 11

- At 11:20 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone at N.C. 106 and Arnold Road.

- At 10:55 p.m., Stuart Armor, 45, of Highlands, was arrested for DWI when officers responded to an accident when the car he was driving ran off the road at Little Bear Pen Road.

- At 6:20 p.m., officers responded to an accident at Highlands Plaza when it jumped the sidewalk and hit the building.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 8-12.

Nov. 8

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers.
- The dept. responded to an illegal brush fire at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road.

Nov. 9

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Lower Brushy Face Road. It was false.
- The dept. responded to a call of smoke in the house from smoldering ashes.

Nov. 10

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Smallwood Drive. The victim was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. responded to a structure fire on Satulah Ridge. They responded again later when it rekindled.

Nov. 11

- The dept. provided traffic control.

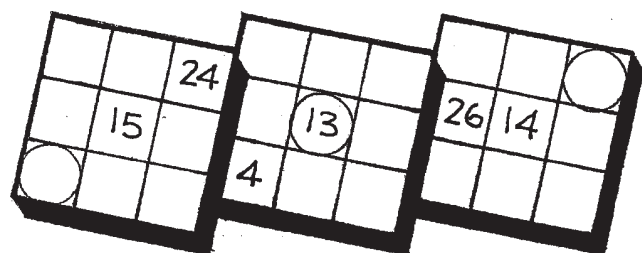
Nov. 12

- The dept. responded to an accident..

• FUN & GAMES •

PseudoCube[©]

#AZ3C - Level of Difficulty - Hard



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.

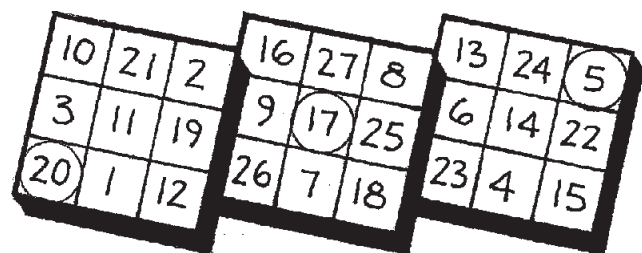
THE CHALLENGE:

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 #DNID in Nov. 8 issue



N-Cryptoku[©]

Object: Assign 9 different letters to each cell of 9 columns and 9 rows. In addition, nine 3 x 3 cells in the layout have the same nine different letters (this is similar to Sudoku but uses nine letters instead of nine numbers). A 'mystery word or phrase' using all nine different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different 'mystery word or phrase' (no spaces).

How to Solve: Determine the nine different letters among those given. Try to solve the mystery word using the clue given and write it in. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these ACROSS/ DOWN words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up your solution to the puzzle. Using your powers of induction, inference and insight, place missing letters in all blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or 3 x 3 cell.

Mystery Word "Bovine Waste"

Across

1. Major conflict (3)
2. Human male (3)
3. Possess (3)
4. Negative (2)
5. Pale (3)

Down

6. Human males (3)
7. Human male (3)
8. Negative (2)
9. Line of things (3)
10. Personal pronoun (2)

U		E	A	W	O ⁶	R
	⁷ M		C		E	
¹		R		O		U
	⁸ N		O	R	C	
C		W ²	A		U	E
	E			C	O	
³		N		⁹ R ¹⁰		C
	U	⁴ N		E	W	
E		M	⁵ W	N	O	

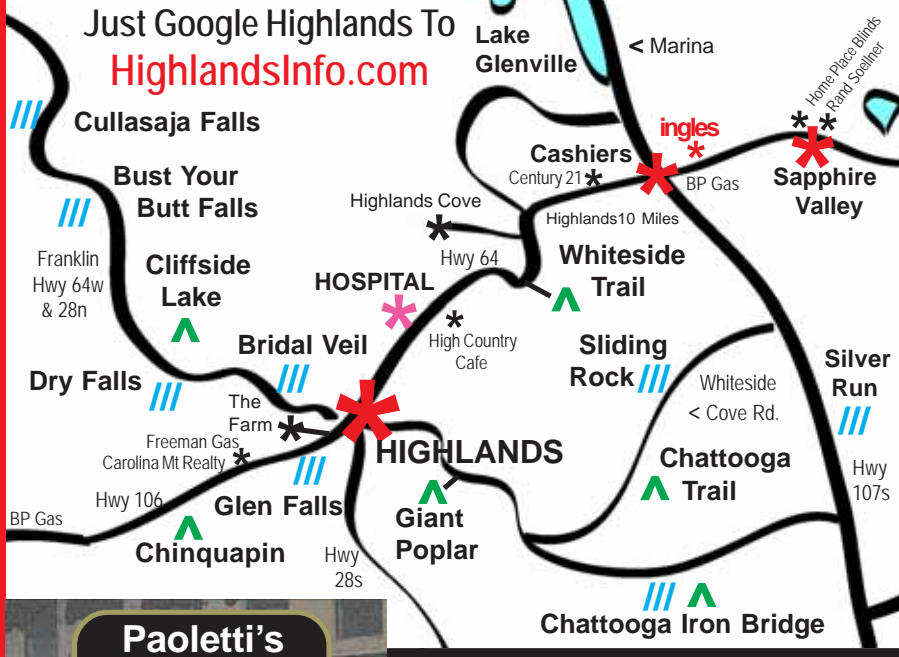
Solution to Nov. 8 puzzle

O	L	S	F	R	A	E	P	G
R	P	E	G	L	O	F	S	A
A	F	G	S	P	E	L	R	O
P	R	O	E	S	G	A	L	F
L	E	A	P	F	R	O	G	S
G	S	F	A	O	L	P	E	R
E	A	R	O	G	P	S	F	L
F	O	L	R	E	S	G	A	P
S	G	P	L	A	F	R	O	E

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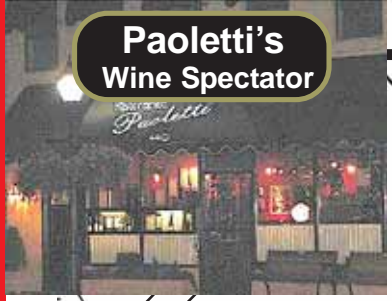
Highlands Map

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Instant Theatre
"David Milford"
Fri & Sat 8 pm



Paoletti's
Wine Spectator



Wolfgang's
Wine Spectator



Madison's
Wine Spectator

Old Edwards Inn
Main Street Inn
The Lodge

Scudders Gallery
Auctions
8 pm Fri & Sat

O.T.V. - Live Music
Cyprus - Live Music
Rib Shack Sports 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 Log Cabin	4 Bungalow	4 Country Club
5 Madison's	5 Dry Sink	5 John Schiffl
6 Main St. Inn	6 Elephant's Foot	6 Meadows Mtn.
7 On Verandah	7 Raspberry Fizz	
8 Paoletti	8 Silver Eagle	Galleries
9 Pescado's	9 Stone Lantern	1 Bryant Art Glass
10 Rib Shack	10 Village Kids	2 Tino Gallery
11 Wolfgang's	11 Wholesale Down	3 Twigs
		4 Summit One

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