

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 6, Number 46

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008

This Week in Highlands

- Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

- Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to benefit The Bascom. For a raffle ticket, call 526-4949, ext. 8#.

Mon. & Wed.

- Middle School students After School Program from 3-5 p.m. at the Rec Park. For more information please call 828.526.3556.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

- Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$50 a month.

Mondays

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

Thursdays & Fridays

- Live music at The Rib Shack from 7-10 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

- Chad Reed at piano at ...on the Verandah restaurant from 7 p.m.

Saturdays

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant at 9:30 p.m.

Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 13-16

- Highlands Culinary Weekend at area restaurants, accommodations and merchants with a variety of classes, tastings, dinners, and events. Call 526-5841. For a complete event listing, see page 18.

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 14-16

- At Acorn's on Main Street, a MarieBelle Chocolates Trunk Show. MarieBelle offers fine gourmet chocolates for the true connoisseur.

Friday, Nov. 14

- At Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street, author Virginia Willis signing copies of "Bon Appetit, Y'all" from 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15

- At Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street, author Paul Evancoe signing copies of "Own the Night" from 1-3 p.m.

- The Highlands Plateau Greenway trail construction work trip on Saturday at 9 a.m. To participate call Hillirie Quin at 526-2385.

- A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8#.

Thursday, Nov. 20

- The Annual Ladies Banquet at the Rec Park featuring keynote speaker Yvonne Welch. All ladies are invited for free. Call the First Baptist Church for information at 526-4153.

Magistrate office joins computer age

Most folks believe they are living in the 21st century, but for the Highlands Magistrate the era just dawned mid-October 2009.

Believe it or not, prior to mid-October, Highlands Magistrate Pat Taylor, who adjudicates civil cases and conducts preliminary hearings in felony cases to determine

whether there is reasonable and probable cause for further proceedings or trial, had to pound out forms in triplicate on an old electric typewriter.

Now, thanks to Clerk of Superior Court Vic Perry, Sheriff Robert Holland, Senator John Snow and Chief District Court Judge Danny

Davis, he uses a keyboard and a mouse to enter information that is automatically linked to the District Court System in Macon County.

"This has been a real breakthrough," said Taylor. "It saves me time at the typewriter typing out forms after putting carbon sheets between the pages, and it saves me trav-

el time because I no longer have to immediately drive the paperwork down to the Clerk of Court in Franklin."

Though the system still requires a paper trail, it's no longer the only trail that leads to Highlands when it comes to arrest warrants, conditions

• See MAGISTRATE page 16

Citizens come through for students and coach

By Dinah Davis

Thanks to generous donations by Highlands Country Club members, Highlands School now has a "Smart Bus" activity van.




In mid-June, a trio of year-round residents and Highlands Country Club members - Bill Cheney, Carter Davis and Ray McPhail - went quietly to work, recruiting other members of the club to become part of the "HCC All-star Team" and raise the funds needed for the 15-passenger "Smart Bus."

Before long, 24 members came to the table to meet this need and to honor Coach Butch Smart and his Fighting Highlanders' tradition of excellence.

The diesel-powered bus

• See CITIZENS page 34

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
55-38F	42-25F	41-24F

Veterans honored at county meeting



Citizens, the Macon County Commission and Brigadier General F.P. "Bodie" Bodenheimer, who has served his country for 39 years, looked on as the Marine Corps League displayed the nation's colors at the onset of Monday night's commission meeting in Franklin. In honor of Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, the White sisters sang the National Anthem and Bodenheimer read a passage written by Benjamin Franklin. Commission Chairman Charlie Leatherman also announced that the Drake family has donated \$25,000 to the Veterans' Memorial being constructed in Franklin.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Recreation agreement passes

Over the years, political diplomacy between Highlands and the county has been taxed to the limit when it came to hammering out an interlocal recreation agreement.

But those days appear to

be over.

At the Monday, Nov. 10 Macon County Commission meeting, County Attorney Lesley Moxley suggested the commission OK the agreement on the grounds that it mirrored last year's agree-

ment.

She said the only difference this year, was the addition of Pine Street Park as part of the town's recreation facilities.

• See RECREATION page 22

• Inside •

Letters	2
Obituaries	3
Wooldridge	4
Salzarulo	5
From Turl Pond	7
Cooking	8
From the Mayor	10
Aother POV	11
Culinary PULLOUT	18
Classifieds	30
Police & Fire	35
Fun & Games	35

Middle East expert presents 'Iraq 101'

This is part 3 of a multi-part series

On Oct. 20 Middle East expert Sandra Mackey explained the factors, history and passion behind the turmoil in the Middle East. Her talk discussed ramifications of actions both within and outside the areas of Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Israel - a region she says is "very complex and constantly changing."

Recap

"Another problem is that none of group-led militia groups of the Sunis, Kurds, Shites, have dismantled their militias. These are groups within groups each having a militia. Until the militias are taken apart and there is a national government in Iraq and a national security system protecting the citizens, then you haven't achieved a national government.

Kurd Cessation

Are the Kurds going to secede? This is a huge issue in the northern part of Iraq known as Iraqi-Kurdistan. The U.S. could well find it

• See MACKEY page 23

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Single-Payer Health Care Proposals

Dear Editor,

Your "Forum" and "Reflections" articles in the Oct. 16 issue highlighted problems with the current system for paying for medical care, and promotes a one-payer system. These comments are not intended to oppose a single-payer concept, but to emphasize that more government involvement is not the cure all for all our social needs. A vivid example is the current financial crisis. This crisis was caused because government, in the Carter and Clinton administrations, interfered with sound credit practices by mandating that lenders make loans to sub-prime borrowers. We cannot afford another costly, but defective program that interferes with a sound competitive market system and has unintended adverse consequences.

Those articles also promoted more government involvement as the solution. The current ineffective system was designed by government (politicians) and administered by government (bureaucrats.) So the main question is: What are the chances government can design and administer an effective program that involves more government?

Like many other government programs, Medicare and Medicaid created as many problems as it solved. Prior to Medicare and Medicaid, physicians charged patients, to a great extent, on ability to pay. This enabled them to charge some patients less and provide free care, and hospital readily provided indigent care. Medicare now provides care for seniors and Medicaid provides for certain qualifiers. But many others are left without, and medical costs have greatly increased due to mandates, costly bureaucracy and fraud. Congress has attempted to control rising medical cost by a fixed-rate reimbursement schedule to hospitals and physicians that is under funded. Current reimbursement rates, which are subject to political whelms, do not cover actual cost of providing care and services. This is the worse approach as it compounds the problem. Hospitals and physicians then inflate their schedule of fees and charges, attempting to recover losses by getting more income from insurance companies and private payers. This causes the cycle of increased insurance premiums and other costs.

The politically motivated prescription drug program is another example of a defective government program that does not effectively address the issue. Because of so much government involvement (some call it interference) in the medical profession,

many physicians are retiring early or limiting their Medicare and Medicaid patients. Of more significance is that many intelligent young people are forsaking the medical profession for other careers with less government intrusion. This is creating a serious shortage of future physicians and creates the real possibility of rationing medical care with or without socialized medicine, an even greater problem.

At what point do we draw the line on what constitutes entitlements and "social compact" programs, just what is a "right?" The Constitution guarantees the right "to pursue happiness and well being," it does not guarantee them. Are Americans "entitled" to medical care provided by government, or do citizens have the foremost responsibility to provide health care for their families. Government should provide a safety net for some circumstances, but government's primary role should be to help provide opportunities and encourage personal responsibility — not dependency. The issue of medical uninsured is used to promote more government involvement. Of the estimated 45 million uninsured, about half are illegal aliens who frequently receive uncompensated care and compound the problem. Most of the others could afford reasonable insurance if they placed priority on their families' health and

avoided heavy debt created by excessive spending.

Again the question is, is Congress, with politicians whose priority is re-election (raising campaign funds, promoting "entitlement" programs and bargaining their votes for earmarks to gain support) capable of designing an effective program? They certainly can not without major input from business, including the insurance industry, and the medical profession. Any plan must also provide for market place competition and encourage personal responsibility.

Julian Franklin
Highlands

An open letter to President-elect Obama

Dear President-Elect Obama,

What a joy your election gives me. I have been working for 22 months in one way and another to be a part of this day. You have been at it much longer. I have every faith in your ability to get the job done to bring America back to its rightful place in the world and to lessen the disparity between rich and poor and give all our people a chance for good health care, a fine education, and opportunity to work.

I have prayed constantly these last few months and Tuesday was such a beautiful day that I felt that God had taken part directly in your winning the presidency.

What I want you to hear from me is that your inner guide and faith must direct you to keep your cool integrity and to make decisions with guidance but mostly with what is in your head and heart.

You also have a brilliant wife and two smart daughters that can give advice. Please do not let others manipulate you. We are behind you, millions strong. I know Rome wasn't built in a day but I've been around a while and I remember the CCC in my little town when I grew up in Wisconsin. That gave young men a place to work rebuilding infrastructure and we need that again. I want the wealth redistributed and I don't mean with hand-outs but rather with the basics of food and shelter, of good schools, of universal health care. And have men of integrity rather than ambition around you (and women) and listen to them but make up your own mind.

Chuck Hagel is a good one. Wish Wellstone were still around. You will know the men and women you can trust. Political agendas can be very selfish and self serving. You know this but so do lots of us out here.

We'll be watching and listening and supporting you when you have to do what is unpopular. I think we've turned North Carolina blue and that wasn't easy. We got Kay Hagan in the Senate. Emily's List helped you to get good women near you. Women think differently as Michele can tell you and they must be a part of the equation of what you do. I just celebrated my 21st birthday (born in leap year). Roosevelt was President from my first years in school until my senior year in college so what he accomplished is familiar. I look at you as that same sort of bright person with a big heart and a good head.

Maybe I will meet you one day. My son Matt went to hear you in Raleigh and he was thrilled and impressed. I have four children and 10 grandchildren and my first great-grand child. All but one supported you. We all cried at 11 pm when the west coast put you over the top and all those people in Chicago were waving and yelling. We all cried with joy. I still do when I think about it. We wanted so much for this big victory and it came. Wow! This is just to let you know that you have a sacred mandate. You must remain modest and concentrated but like Mandela, you have a destiny.

God Bless you Senator Obama and keep you safe and well.

Your friend Patricia Boyd
Highlands

• See LETTERS page 3

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper.

Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m.

There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

"Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper"

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• OBITUARIES •

Harry Kenneth MacDougall, Jr.

Harry Kenneth MacDougall, Jr. was born July 16, 1928 to Dorothy Lucille Trinkle and Harry Kenneth MacDougall, Sr. in Willoughby, Ohio (suburb of Cleveland). They moved to Miami, Florida in 1929. Harry was a graduate of Andrew/Miami Jackson High, attended the University of Florida and the University of Miami. He graduated in 1959 with a BA in business. He served as Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, in 1953 – 1954. While working at Home Federal Savings & Loan he met the love of his life, Della Lucas. After 42 years he retired from Home Savings Bank/Wachovia, in 1996.

Harry was loving and generous to his family and friends. He was always known as the "eternal optimist;" he loved the Lord, cherished his family, and lived life to the fullest.

Harry is survived by: wife, Della; daughter and her husband, Heather & Joe Mangum; son and his wife, Mickey and Dawn Lucas; brother, Malcolm MacDougall; sisters, Shirley Landgren and Pam Kuykendall; their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held Thursday, November 13 at 10 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, NC.

Please make any donations in memory of Harry Kenneth MacDougall, Jr. to: Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, P.O. Box 190, Highlands, NC 28741.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

• MILESTONES •

Former Highlands School student named Ms. Georgia Tech

Eden Smith, daughter of Kathy and Fred Smith of Highlands and Atlanta, was named Ms. Georgia Tech at Tech's homecoming game in Atlanta on October, 25. Eden is a former Highlands School student. She is a senior majoring in industrial and systems engineering. Some forty candidates each for Mr. and Ms. Georgia Tech are nominated by the various campus organizations and are considered based on a variety of factors. These include academic achievement, leadership and involvement in student activities. The top ten are voted on by the 19,000 students, about 25% of which are female.



... LETTERS continued from page 2

'Emotional' vote will ruin country

Dear Editor,

I have often said that this country will fall because of the ignorance of the people, and that point is proven when people like Kim Bonsteel writes a letter like the one she wrote in this paper in the Nov. 6 issue.

Most people that voted for Mr. Obama did so out of emotion, and her letter only proves she is one such person. Choosing the leader of the most powerful nation on the planet should be based on critical thinking, NOT emotion. Her attack of Mr.

Swanson was totally uncalled for and only proves her ignorance.

The vast majority have no idea what Mr. Obama's record in the Illinois state senate was, has never looked at the Library of Congress site to see what few bills he sponsored, voted for or against and have never looked at articles 1 or 2 of our constitution. Primarily they voted on emotion!

With some homework you will find that right now in the house there is a bill

•See LETTERS page 17

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• LOOKING AT LIFE •

Stand by America, here comes change

Congratulations, America, you've just elected a man as your president who wouldn't even qualify to be a member of his own security detail. What were you thinking, America? DUH! Because of Obama's past associations and shady connections, he couldn't be a policeman, an FBI agent or work for the CIA. In fact, he couldn't hold any position of trust outside the slimy political arena where anything goes. He's too shady. Positions of trust and

honor require a person to have a clean and unmarred background. Running the United States of America...well, that's a whole different pan of worms.

To prove my point, I have a friend who couldn't qualify to work for the FBI because his sister was married to Sonny Capone, son of Al Capone. He would have made a fine agent. It mattered little that Sonny had a wife and children, led a clean life and had rejected his father's criminal ways. The FBI,

like most federal agencies, set their standards high. Having a member of the Capone family connected with the FBI, even through marriage, was unacceptable. I mention this to reiterate how unqualified our new president is to hold a position of trust outside of politics.

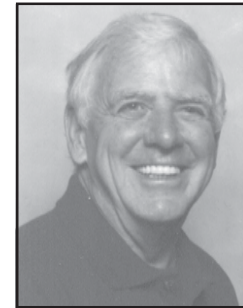
Praise the Lord, the race is over. Unfortunately, after a short honeymoon period, lowlife media pundits will start slicing up our new president by digging up dirt that should have surfaced months ago. Standby, America, you're about to see change like you've never seen before...maybe not since 1776. For those who bought the ticket, I hope you enjoy the ride.

Furthermore, I'm sick and tired of CNN and MSNBC with their liberal slant and I'm equally fed up with FOX News and their not so fair and balanced conservative bla bla bla. Actually I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired. Maybe with a socialistic government the media will be silenced like in Russia and Americans can get some P & Q.

I'm so bored with TV, I'm rewiring my set so that "Friends" is on every channel. That's my current mentality. Does anyone report truth anymore? Independents, like me, are starving for political truth...or is that an oxymoron? You're right; forget it.

When this race started two years ago, I took a hard look at Obama and thought he was a fresh new face who might bring change to the ugly and corrupt politics I detest. He seemed different, smart, articulate, knowledgeable and, best of all, he was a minority. But as time went on and I continued my research, I began to see red flags that troubled me. Just as the FBI, the CIA and the National Security Agency reject applicants with red flags, I rejected Obama.

I asked myself which candidate had



Fred Wooldridge

•
Feedback is encouraged!
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

the most red flags. After much work, I voted for John McCain, not because he was smarter, but because he had less flags. (Please don't label me a Republican.) Also, McCain is a patriot and man of great honor who still gets wet eyes when he speaks of the many heroes he served with while being beaten in Hanoi. Also, I figured my grandchildren had a better chance of staying alive with McCain than with Obama. America disagreed.

I believe staying alive trumps everything, including a bad economy and a war. Being dead is like holding your breath forever and what good is redistributing the wealth if you have mold on your cheeks in your coffin?

Apparently Americans have forgotten we enjoyed a thriving and growing economy for almost seven years with George Bush. They punished McCain for their forgetfulness. Americans got hooked on Obama's silver tongue and researching the truth went out the window.

If what I said about Obama not being qualified for a position of trust offends you, then read this. Currently, here's the state of

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 17

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• AN INVITE FOR WWII VETERANS •

Fly with us to Washington D.C.

The Rotary Club of Highlands would like to invite you to see the WW II Memorial in Washington, D.C. which has only been open since 2004. It will be our honor to honor you on this trip of one day, fly up in the morning and fly back that afternoon on a chartered jet out of the Asheville Airport.

This trip is part of the Honor Air Flight Network that began in 2006, and has since sent hundreds of veterans, totally free, to Washington to visit a number of the memorials in addition to the WW II Memorial.

Memorials such as the Vietnam Wall, Korean War Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, Changing of the Guard and the Marines Monument.

As of now 2 trips are being planned for early 2009, and there may be more. If you are interested please call: Bert McCall at 828-526-9736; Doc Wilson at 828-526-2568 or Steve Perry at 828-787-2323.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Can America learn to live without again?

There are probably close to a million Americans who share November 10 as a birthday, but for each of them it is his or her personal holiday. Some companies reward employees with a paid holiday on their birthdays. A woman who works for us has scheduled a vacation day on her birthday every year for the past 12 years. November 10 is Lizzie's birthday and I had to work late. She made the best of it. Helen, her Mom, took her to lunch, and Lizzie took Bull to Brick Oven for pizza. Bull, ever the thoughtful one, suggested that Lizzie eat at Wolfgang's while he waited in the car, windows cracked, eating pizza, I guess. Lizzie was understandably disappointed, and I felt guilty, but we operated until after eight. By the time I got home, it was almost 9:30. Happy Birthday, Lizzie. Sorry I couldn't be with you.

Except on Lizzie's birthday, or Bull's, I don't mind working late. I don't care much about my birthday. I guess I've had enough of them that they aren't that special anymore. In fact, I'm grateful to have the good health and good fortune to work late. Too many people in this country aren't working at all. Another 200,000 lost their jobs just last month. A good friend of mine, a cosmetic surgeon in South Carolina, has seen his once flourishing practice decrease to almost nothing. He laid off his office nurses, who were, at least temporarily, among the unemployed. Now he and his wife run the office, and as he describes it, he's a lot like the Maytag man in the old commercials.

I hope that President Obama or the Economy God, or whoever influences economic fortunes, brings a quick end to the current recession. We are accustomed to prosperity, and when we experience a downturn, we expect it to be brief. Just this morning I had the disturbing realization that the Great Depression began with the stock market crash in 1929 and didn't end until World War II pulled us out of it. That's more than a decade of national pain. It could happen again. I think the enormity and the seeming futility of government bailouts prove that we are not immune.

A friend of mine, until recently a well-to-do Alabaman, said that he didn't mind being poor as long as everyone else was poor. His words reminded me of stories that my parents and grandparents told as I was growing up. Neither of my grandfathers lost his job during the depression, and while neither family could boast wealth, both were adequately housed, well fed, and warmly clothed. They felt a re-



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

sponsibility and a kinship with those less fortunate, and when a hungry, unemployed man showed up and the back door, they always made sure that he left with a full belly. They never mentioned a guy knocking on the front door. Recently, I saw a guy sitting at the corner of US 441 and GA 246, in Dillard. He had a sign that said, "Work for food." I wondered how close we might be to 1929.

With few exceptions, a sense of community has been missing in this country for many years. It returned briefly following the Challenger disaster and again after 9/11/2001. There have been other moments when we have felt as one, events as monumental as President Kennedy's assassination and as trivial as the U.S. hockey victory in 1980 have brought us together. Mostly though, it has been every man for himself. I'm not hoping for another depression. I would gladly pay higher taxes and welcome \$4 gasoline

if it meant a return to full employment. I do wonder how we would react if this downturn were deeper and longer than any in the memory of most of us living today. I think we would once again open our doors to the hungry, but I'm not sure. We have shown our generosity time and time again, whether after Katrina in our back yard, or in the wake of a tsunami, half a world away. But those were brief, explosive,

distant events, at least for those of us who don't live there, didn't die there, or who lost everything, in those disasters. I don't know how we would handle grinding, protracted, personal poverty.

My parents were shaped by the depression, and passed much of that mentality on to me. I still clean my plate and wear clothes long after a younger person would have discarded them. My wife and son

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WOLFGANG'S RESTAURANT & WINE BISTRO

Upcoming Events

CULINARY WEEKEND

Friday, Nov. 14

Domaine Serene, Wine Spectrum Luncheon.
Boutique Winery Gala, "Battle of the Sexes"
Women Winemakers vs. Male Winemakers "Battle of the Sexes" Gala Cocktail Party.

Saturday, Nov. 15

Silver Oak Cellars Wine Dinner with Tom Johnson "Life is a Cabernet!"

THANKSGIVING DINNER

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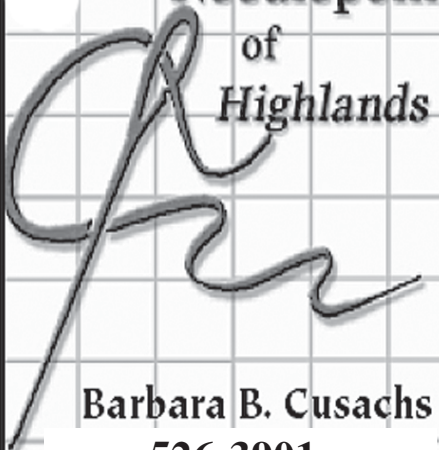
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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

The times they are a-changin'

"Come senators, congressmen – please heed the call,

Don't stand in the doorway – don't block up the hall,

For he that gets hurt – will be he who has stalled,

There's a battle outside – and it's ragin'.

It'll soon shake your windows – and rattle your walls,

For the times they are a-changin'."



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

fight against global warming has an unexpected ally in mushrooms growing in dry spruce forests covering Alaska, Canada, Scandinavia and other northern regions, a new UC Irvine study finds.

"When soil in these forests is warmed, fungi that feed on dead plant material dry out and produce significantly less climate-warming carbon dioxide than fungi in cooler, wetter soil. This came as a

surprise to scientists, who expected warmer soil to emit larger amounts of carbon dioxide because extreme cold is believed to slow down the process by which fungi convert soil carbon into carbon dioxide.

Knowing how forests cycle carbon is crucial to accurately predicting global warming, which in turn guides public policy to curb greenhouse gas emissions."

Well, I'm comforted to know that the imminent threat to the existence of mankind is based on such precise science — and here you thought that your '84 Ford or smoke-belching factories were the culprits. If I understand the drivel above, if we just send a few thousand illegals up north to plant mushroom fields in dry forests — or is it cooler, wetter forests — after sufficient fungi eats enough dead plant material, we should have solved the whole problem, or would we make it worse? I think it's worth a try.

Now that our President-elect has had a few days to give us a hint as to how he plans to effect CHANGE, let's look at his first few appointments. Rahm Emmanuel was picked as his chief of staff. Active in Clinton's campaigns and administration, Emmanuel is known as a cutthroat politician and a wise choice

but certainly nothing new. He's nasty.

Then there's John Podesta, chosen to co-lead Obama's transition team. Podesta was the last of four White House Chiefs of Staff in the Clinton administration. It's strictly unofficial, but it is my understanding that even Erskine Bowles (his predecessor) wasn't unprincipled enough for Clinton, so Podesta got the job. For what it is worth, both Emmanuel and Podesta are Chicago boys.

Larry Summers is on the short list to be Obama's Secretary of the Treasury, a critically important position immediately, even before the inauguration. Summers served in that post in the tail end of the Clinton administration.

Competent men, and he'll need them.

I don't know what Bob Dylan had in mind when he released this tune in 1964.

I don't have any idea what Bob Dylan ever had in mind. All I know is this particular verse seems strangely prophetic considering what happened at the Democrat convention that year. Is it any surprise that Dylan re-released the song earlier this year in light of the Obama tsunami?

On that subject, now that the bad news is in, I am curiously calm and placid about the whole thing, reconciled that the R's and we conservatives somehow deserved what we got. I am reminded of the story of King David and his son's death. For those of you who are scripturally challenged, Second Samuel tells us about David's sending Bathsheba's husband to his death in battle while she was carrying David's child. The Lord took exception to this behavior and since He had further plans for David, He let him live, but struck their baby boy with a fatal illness.

When the boy was sick and dying, David fasted and wept, but upon hearing of his death, David cleaned up and had a good meal. His servants felt this was strange way for a man who just lost his son to act and told David so. David said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again?'"

I've been kicking and screaming about the potential demise of conservatism in government for forever, fearing we've squandered the mandate the 1994 House won so convincingly. I didn't miss many meals but I prayed mightily for God's mercy, which He chose to withhold. Now that the conservative movement has stalled out, I'll stop my whining for a while, hoping for a miracle that will put a roadblock in our apparent march toward socialism.

Now this item bent my brain like a pretzel. According to *ScienceDaily*, "The

• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Socialism



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

I found it amusing that after failing to scare the American people with “palling around with terrorists” and “un-American,” the McCain camp grabbed the scariest thing they could think of, which was to call Obama a “socialist.”

I would guess that only “communist” would be scarier to Americans but McCain judged he couldn’t get away with that.

On election night after Obama had been declared the victor, I heard conservative commentators say things like “leftist policies are out of step with the nation;” “adopting leftist policies would be political suicide;” “Obama must govern from the center to succeed;” “the lesson from this election is the only time Democrats win is when they become like Republicans.”

I couldn’t believe the gall of these people: Obama had won a much larger percentage of the popular vote than George W. Bush ever dreamed of and yet they were still saying their conservative policies were what Americans really wanted.

Every American over the age of 40 was indoctrinated by Cold War anti-communist propaganda. If you doubt that we were indoctrinated, watch the film “Atomic Café” which is a collection of films from the 1940s and 50s.

I heard someone joke that when young people hear the word “socialist” they think it means someone with a lot of friends on Facebook.

A lot of people think Karl Marx invented socialism, but the idea has existed in various forms for centuries, including among the earliest Christians. In Acts, chapter 4:32-35 you’ll find this passage: “All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. . . There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.”

“Socialism” is a term which has been used to label a wide array of political and economic beliefs. But generally socialists advocate a democratically controlled economy run for the benefit of all. The unfettered competition of capitalists is controlled by government policies such as regulations on businesses and progressive taxation to decrease income inequality and to provide for social welfare.

Socialism does not mean a centrally planned economy, as was practiced in the Soviet Union. Socialism means using taxation to finance social programs for the good of the whole. The word “socialism” is rooted in the word “social” of course — taking care of the society. A socialist government takes care of those things beyond the power of individual citizens: regulates the economy, keeps our air and food safe, educates our children, provides

a safety net, etc.

Albert Einstein wrote an essay for the first issue of a socialist magazine (*Monthly Review*) in May, 1949: “The abstract concept ‘society’ means to the individual human being the sum total of his direct and indirect relations to his contemporaries and to all the people of earlier generations. The individual is able to think, feel, strive, and work by himself; but he depends so much upon society — in his physical, intellectual, and emotional existence — that it is impossible to think of him, or to understand him, outside the framework of society. It is ‘society’ which provides man with food, clothing, a home, the tools of work, language, the forms of thought, and most of the content of thought; his life is made possible through the labor and the accomplishments of the many millions past and present who are all hidden behind the small word ‘society.’ It is evident, therefore, that the dependence of the individual upon society is a fact of nature which cannot be abolished — just as in the case of ants and bees.”

Last month a conservative cartoonist published a cartoon that showed a carefully drawn Karl Marx wearing a button that read “Spread the Wealth,” the phrase made famous in Obama’s response to Joe the Plumber. The truth is Obama wants to increase the top income tax bracket from Bush’s 35% to Clinton’s 39%. As Steve Coll wrote in *The New Yorker*, (October 20, 2008, “That Which is Not Socialism”): Under Obama’s plan a wealthy person will pay approximately \$45,000 in additional taxes for every \$1 million in income after they reach the highest possible bracket. “That’s enough to buy a small BMW, yes, but in the great scheme of things, this does not seem to qualify as an argument about socialism. If it did, then Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford would be Bolsheviks. In 1975, when Gerald Ford was President, the top U.S. federal-income-tax rate was 70% — that’s right, almost twice what it was under Bill Clinton.”

Nobel-winning economist Paul Krugman wrote last week: “Anyone who doubts that we’ve had a major political realignment should look at what’s happened to Congress. After the 2004 election, there were many declarations that we’d entered a long-term, perhaps permanent era of Republican domi-

nance. Since then, Democrats have won back-to-back victories, picking up at least 12 Senate seats and more than 50 House seats. They now have bigger majorities in both houses than the G.O.P. ever achieved in its 12-year reign. Mr. Obama ran on a platform of guaranteed health care and tax breaks for the middle class, paid for with higher taxes on the affluent. John McCain denounced his opponent as a socialist and a ‘redistributor,’ but America voted for him anyway.”

Exit polls showed that 51 percent of Americans believed government “should do more” than it is doing — a reversal of the Reagan-era majorities that believed government should do less. Perhaps this is what the conservatives are really scared about: the American people are finally realizing that “leftist,” “liberal” (remember how liberal was such a dirty word in 2004 it was called the “L-word”?) and — gasp — “socialist” policies are more in their interest than conservative free-market anti-regulatory policies.

I hope Obama will be bold and ignore the calls to moderate his campaign policies.

• All of Katie Brugger’s columns are available on her website:
www.kathleenbrugger.com

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Gifts of the season pumpkin treats

Baked homemade gifts are an easy and delicious way to share the joy of the holidays. This year, indulge family and friends with the spiced goodness of pumpkin treats. Versatile pumpkin is scrumptious in more than just a silky pumpkin pie. These classic recipes deliver on the taste of the season. In fact, they're so good, you'll want to make extra for yourself!

For more holiday recipes, tips for these recipes or to view a step-by-step video on how to make a classic Pumpkin Roll, visit VeryBestBaking.com.

Spiced Pumpkin Fudge

Makes 48, 2 piece servings
2 cups granulated sugar
1 cup packed light brown sugar
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter
2/3 cup (5 fluid-ounce can) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk

1/2 cup Libby's 100% Pure Pumpkin
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
2 cups (12-ounce package) Nestlé Toll House Premier White Morsels
1 jar (7 ounces) marshmallow crème
1 cup chopped pecans
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
LINE 13 x 9-inch baking pan with foil.
COMBINE sugar, brown sugar, evaporated milk, pumpkin, butter and spice in medium, heavy-duty saucepan. Bring to a full rolling boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Boil, stirring constantly, for 10 to 12 minutes or until candy thermometer reaches 234° to 240° F (soft-ball stage).

QUICKLY STIR in morsels, marshmallow crème, nuts and vanilla extract. Stir vigorously for 1 minute or until morsels are melted. Immediately pour into prepared pan. Let stand on wire rack for 2 hours or until completely cooled. Refrigerate tightly covered. To cut, lift from pan; remove foil. Cut into 1-inch pieces. Makes about 3 pounds.

Mini Pumpkin Pecan Orange Soaked Cakes

Makes 12 cakes
1/2 cup chopped pecans
1 package (18.25 ounces) spice cake mix
1 can (15 ounces) Libby's 100% Pure Pumpkin
1 cup vegetable oil
4 large eggs
Orange Syrup (recipe follows)



PREHEAT oven to 350° F. Grease and flour two 6-cake mini Bundt pans. Sprinkle nuts over bottom.

COMBINE cake mix, pumpkin, vegetable oil and eggs in large mixer bowl. Beat on low speed for 30 seconds or until blended. Beat for 4 minutes on medium speed. Spoon about 1/2 cup into each mold.

BAKE for 20 to 25 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in cakes comes out clean. Remove from oven. With back of spoon, carefully pat down dome of each cake to flatten. Let cool in pans for 5 minutes. Invert cakes onto cooling rack(s). Poke holes in cakes with wooden pick. Spoon a tablespoon of Orange Syrup over each cake. Allow syrup to soak in. Cool completely before serving or wrapping for gifts.

Orange Syrup: Place 1/4 cup butter, 1/2 cup granulated sugar, 2 tablespoons water and 2 teaspoons grated orange peel in small saucepan. Bring to a boil. Remove from heat. Stir in 2 tablespoons orange juice.

• All materials courtesy of: Libby's Pumpkin and Family Features.



• HIS & HERS •

Electile Dysfunction

Well, the 2008 election is finally over, and I say, not a minute too soon. Ever since John and I started doing this column – alternating weeks – we have had an unwritten rule that he writes about politics, and I don't. This has always seemed fair – after all, he does politics for a living, and I'm just like a lot of other people, an interested and concerned citizen.

This became even more important when John ran for the Republican nomination for the 11th District of North Carolina. Not only was I his campaign manager; I was also his fiancée. The opinions that folks wanted to hear about were his, since he was the one running for Congress, not me. I didn't want to confuse the voters, or take away from John's campaign, by expressing opinions we don't share. Looking back, I think I did a pretty good job of keeping my mouth shut – not something I do easily or often. But now that the election is over, I can finally come out of the closet.

Oddly enough, I did not vote for anyone. My mother had to have an eye operation in Virginia. When they wouldn't change her appointments a little to allow us to make our way from the World War II War Brides Conference in Orlando, Florida, by car, the two of us had to hop on a plane, and hightail it back to Waynesboro, West Virginia. Since I hadn't realized I wouldn't be back in North Carolina to vote, I missed the deadline for absentee voting. On this most important of elections, there I was, on the sidelines with no voice. OK, maybe a little voice, but not one that counted for much.

As a child, I grew up in a Republican household. My father was a lifelong, rabid Republican. My first appearance in the local paper was a photo of me holding a hand-drawn "I like Ike" sign when I was a little girl. In high school, I joined the Young Republicans and campaigned for Barry Goldwater. The House Rule was always "As long as you live under my roof and I support you financially, you will have the same opinions that I do." While that works for very young children and people of weaker opinions than mine, something definitely had to give around the time I went off to college.

The more I looked at the way the world worked, the less I liked being stuck in a category. I couldn't see any logic to how political candidates got picked, or how



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John Armor**
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good people got passed over for people with good media skills and not much substance. At one point, unable to sit at the dinner table and have a civil discussion together, my father and I did not speak for two years.

It was around this time that I became a registered Independent. I wanted to be free of any party ties or obligations, able to vote my conscience. That's what I do to this day. Of course, in so doing, I cut myself out of one perk – that of being able to vote in the Primaries. I also made another moral decision – as a dual national, I can vote in the elections in both the United States and France. When I lived in France, I voted in the French elections, but not the American ones. And now that I'm back in the States, I vote in American elections, not the French ones. I refuse to vote in elections where I am making a decision without having to live with the consequences of my vote, and where I don't have daily access to the media so that I can make an informed choice.

I'm 58 years old, and have voted numerous times. This particular election has been marred by a nastiness and hatefulness which dismays me. If you didn't agree with the person in the post office line or next to you at the grocery store checkout, you were an idiot, an uninformed politically naïve fool, a tree hugger, a hopeless idealist, and worst of all, un-American. I have heard normally reasonable, thoughtful people tell me in complete honesty that they think the United States should go over and bomb Mecca. One can only assume that they are the same people who would be horrified if militant Muslims planned to bomb the Vatican. When did all this craziness become OK?

I accompanied John to several conventions. At one affair, an earnest young woman handed me a Hillary Clinton barf bag, which featured the candidate in a witch's costume on a broomstick. "How dare you!" I chided the young woman. "When you demean one woman, you demean all women. You can object to her politics, but you don't have to make her an object of ridicule." God knows, I'm no fan of Hillary Clinton, but I don't think she deserves to be on a toilet brush – something I saw at a political rally on the campaign trail. When did things start getting so mean-spirited and downright ugly?

• See HIS & HERS page 32

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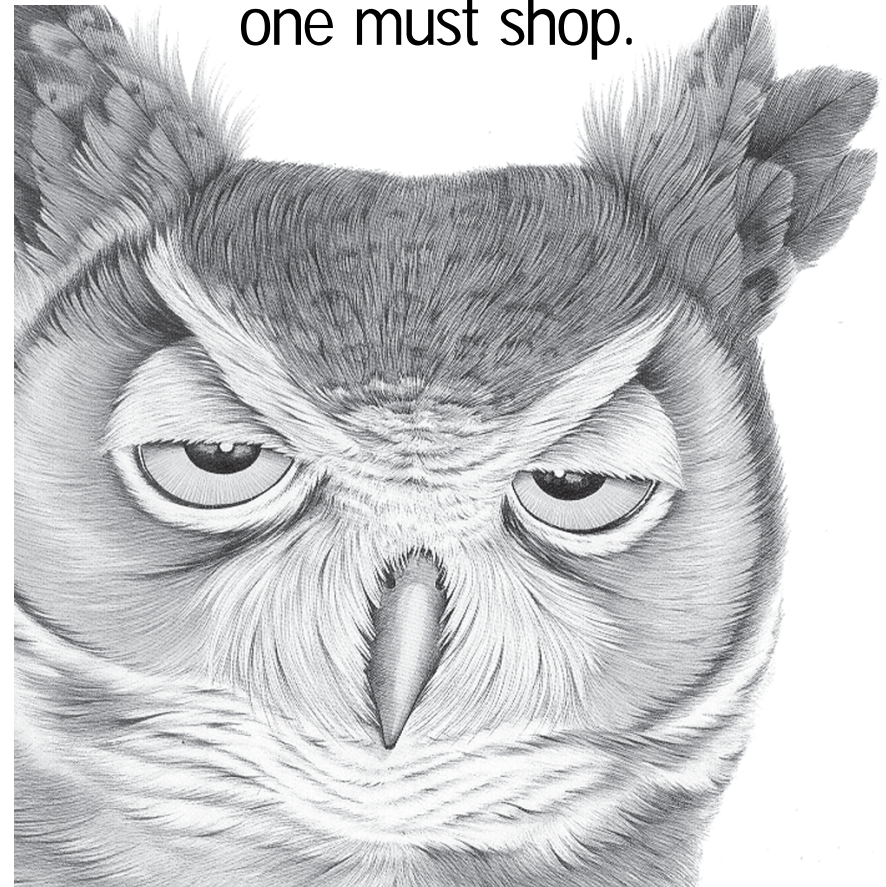
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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

It's time to move on to other things

The citizens of Macon County can be proud of the great turnout for the election November 4. Sixty-eight percent turn-out is quite good and tells a lot about not only the importance of this election but also about the patriotic feeling which is apparent in our community. Whether the election turned out the way you wanted it or not, I think we can safely say that the process in our area was successful. Indeed, change seems to be in the air. With the myriad of problems we have in our country at the present time, let us all hope and pray that our newly elected officials will solve some of these major problems. Our system may not be perfect but there is not one better anywhere in the world.

To me one of the most important post-election happenings is the ability for the adversarial relationships which went on during the campaigns to be healed in the congratulatory speeches which occur after the results are in. I have lived and worked in countries where political opponents remain enemies for life in word and deed, and the results of that kind of attitude nearly destroys the ability to work together for the common good. Although to a certain extent that can happen here, let us hope that those adversarial relationships do not hinder the process of problem solving. The speeches immediately after the results were known by both presidential candidates were two of the best representations of what our system is all about. Both were outstanding speeches which hopefully will bring reconciliation to hard fought campaigns.

Thank goodness we now have this long campaign behind us and we can return to the business of the country. We can begin to heal the wounds and get some action in solving the many problems we



Mayor Don Mullen

have both in the state and the nation. Let us all hope that the gridlock in Washington can be broken and consensus can be obtained for the good of our country.

I would like to commend the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for the incredibly fine work they are doing to preserve important pieces of real estate in our area. And they have been doing it for

100 years, beginning with Satulah Mountain in 1908, making them the oldest such organization in North Carolina.

The most recent addition to the Land Trust was 82 acres of Little Scaly Mountain property owned by the Mountain Retreat and Learning Center which preserves some rare 400-year-old dwarf white oak trees on that mountain. I have followed the progress of the Land Trust for many years and have been impressed with the professionalism that exists in that group which is directed now by Gary Wein. Mercedes Heller, the president of its board, is a dedicated local volunteer to the preservation of our pristine forests and mountains. Both the Land Trust and the Mountain Retreat are to be commended for this wonderful addition to preservation on the Highlands-Cashiers plateau.

This weekend we look forward to a great culinary event with the festivities beginning at the Pine Street Park under the tent on Thursday evening. There will be sampling of wines and food from our great restaurants and wine producers. The first such event was held last November and was such a success that the plan is to repeat it every November. The weekend will be filled with great food in most of our restaurants for your eating enjoyment. Come one, come all!



NCS at Rec Park

Highlands New Century Scholars participate in a team building activity at the Rec Park -- one of many activities offered by the NCS program to enrich students and help them reach their potential in leadership abilities.

Pictured from left is Gabrielle Tilson, the teacher, Emily Munger and Shelby Houston.

• ANOTHER POV •

The Supreme Court and naysayers

You would think that those people after two years of pontificating about what evils Senator Obama would do if elected would be tired of it by now — I know I am. Over the last year the level of attacks intensified to the point that bordered on the absurd. They talked about it on the airwaves and wrote about in their columns; if elected Obama would change our county into a Socialist state, he would create a nation of people getting a free handout, or he would be weak on terror and turn the country into a second-rate power. All of it failed in its desired affect of scaring the American people. It obviously didn't work and Senator Obama was elected in spite of such lies and distortions.



Matthew G. Eberz
Feedback is encouraged
Email: matt@matteberz.com

Unfortunately, even with the election over those naysayers continue to pronounce that ominous doom is nearer than we think and brought to you by now President-elect Obama.

A recent article made the assertion that one of the goals of President-elect Obama will be to appoint Supreme Court Justices "who will wipe their feet on the constitution."

I am amazed on many levels by the statement. First, that the author has such an inside knowledge of the President-elect's agenda; I follow the political scene fairly carefully and I was totally unaware of the "feet-wiping" agenda. Second, I am surprised at the agenda item since Obama spent from 1992 until 2004 as a Senior Lecturer teaching Constitutional Law at the University of Chicago Law School. It seems odd that he would want now to "wipe his feet" on something he taught and held in the most reverence for 12 years.

According to the article, President-elect Obama will accomplish this feet-wiping campaign by his stacking of the court with judges "who will alter their decisions depending on who the parties in the case are." Can this be true? Let's look at look at two things shall we: the Constitution and the Supreme Court.

The Constitution of the United States is the document that is the basis for all laws in the United States. You would think that a document that had such far reaching influence would be huge in it size. In fact, by my unofficial count, there are just 4,381 words in the Constitution. There are also 484 words in the Bill of rights (first 10 Amendments to the constitution) and another 2,960 in Amendments 11 through 27 (actually there are only 25 as the 18th Amendment was repealed by the 21st). That's a total of 7,825 words. I don't think most people realize how relatively small the document is.

The 7,825 words in the Constitution form the basis of all laws for this county; that's not even 1 % the size of the tax code. The Constitution does not clarify every right, every duty and every obligation of the American people. Its language sometimes requires us to interpret the meaning. The Constitution is all about interpretation. Take for example the Second Amendment, which specifically says "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Question: Is that perfectly clear? Answer: No. Does it mean that the Militia *and* the people can bear arms, or does it mean that the people *in* the Militia can bear arms? And let's not forget the timeframe of the document, 1791, and what "Arms" were available to the people. Did the founding fathers intend that the people could bear any type of Arms no matter how powerful? The musket of 1791 is a far cry from

assault rifles and submachine pistols of today. In 1791 a person could take his musket and shoot someone, but if he wanted to make a bigger bang he had to drag a cannon behind him. But even then, I think dragging the cannon would have attracted some notice and thereby limit the person's ability to surprise. Today a person can carry a submachine pistol under his coat and fire 100 rounds a minute into an unsuspecting crowd. I don't think the founding fathers had the submachine pistol in mind when they drafted Article Two of the Bill of Rights. Enter the Supreme Court, enter interpretation, and the Court interpreted the Second

Amendment and upheld the 1986 law that made the manufacture of machine guns for civilian ownership illegal.

The Fourth Amendment states that "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." Now talk about room for interpretation. This Amendment has been the focus of the most heated arguments in recent times; the Patriot Act and Guantanamo to name just two.

On one hand those who argue that the "defend the Constitution, 100%" argue that the court cannot interpret the Second Amendment to limit individual gun rights, yet can say the court can ignore "no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause" of the Fourth Amendment because they think the people might be connected to terrorists. Its all seems inconsistent.

Now as for the Court itself; the "liberal" justices of the current Supreme Court are Stephen Gerald Breyer (appointed in 1994), Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1993), David Souter (1990), and John Paul Stevens (1975). Those considered as conservatives are Anthony McLeod Kennedy (1988), John G. Roberts, Jr. (2005), Antonin Scalia (1986), and Clarence Thomas (1991). In the near future two judges are expected to retire: Ginsburg and Souter, both are considered "liberal." It looks like President-elect Obama will get to nominate two replacements to the court and if he does appoint two liberal judges, that is, judges who tend to interpret the law in favor of individual rights then the court will remain at its current level of 5 to 4. So even of the President Obama does appoint two members to the court I dare say there will be little feet wiping going on.

What makes the Constitution the powerful document that it is, is its brevity. It defines the principles but not the specifics, and thus it is free to grow and change as we grow and change. The Constitution does not make laws for us but it is a checkpoint to make sure laws that are made do not violate the principles in the Constitution and that's its real power.

Some people say that we can use the Constitution as a shield to keep us secure by making laws to see us, touch us, and investigate us in ways we've never done before. But I have Another Point of View; I believe that laws that don't protect every American protect no American, and laws that violate your freedom violate my freedom, and I'm all about personal freedom.

• Matthew Eberz has decided this is his last column.

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• VIDEO GUY •

‘Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont’

The 2005 British comedy drama, starring the incomparable Dame Joan Plowright (Spiderwick Chronicles, Tea With Mussolini, Widows Peak, Enchanted April, and about 50 other films, comic, dramatic, historic, and more, dating back to pretty close to the creation of film), Rupert Friend (Libertine, Pride and Prejudice), Zoe Tapper (Midsummer Nights Dream), Anna Massey (The Importance of Being Earnest), and, in his last role before he died, Robert Lang (Four Weddings and a Funeral, Great Train Robbery).



Stuart Armor

Directed by Dan Ireland, screenplay by Ruth Sacks, based on the novel by Elizabeth Taylor.

The Storyline: Sarah Palfrey (Plowright) is a genteel woman of a certain age, recently widowed, but not yet ready to be done. She is looking forward to a life of refinement, theater, fine dining, and sharing scintillating conversations with the guests at her new residence, the elegant and luxurious Claremont Hotel. Which it (the Claremont, that is) undoubtedly was at one time, but that time was probably many, many years ago.

The Claremont, like many other things, has faded just a bit as the years have gone by. The charm of her new lodgings have worn a bit thin — a little dusty, and a little rusty. Her new companions, while exhibiting a certain amount of eccentric appeal, are not the scintillating associates she had envisioned, her family will only visit when they can (and they can't). But a chance encounter with a young neighbor, Ludovic Meyer (Rupert Friend, in his first really prominent role) gains her a new friend, some new interests, and renews an interest in life that risked going dormant.

Ludovic gains a lot from this unlikely friendship as well, including, ironically, a more youthful and more flexible perspective. He also gets a bit of a kick in the hind end, and a bit of a wake up call, to get started with life, even if you are not quite sure what or where the finish line may be.

Really good performance by the whole cast, but the show undoubtedly belongs to Joan Plowright and Rupert Friends, and they are both terrific (Plowright has never given a bad performance, even when she has been in bad movies), the story is unashamably cute, light, schmaltzy and tear jerking, and it fills the bill well.

It is described as a comedy/drama, but, as is often the case with British cinema, it is a drama, and good drama often has some elements of humor, but this is more of a

“smile” story rather than a “laugh out loud” story, with a bit of tears, and some “Yep, been there, done that, should have done something else.”

If you like this film, give a look to “Mrs. Henderson Presents,” “Kinky Boots” (not as weird as it sounds, by the way, great story), “Marilyn Hotchkiss Ballroom Dancing & Charm School” (a brilliant but almost unknown film), “My House in Umbria,” and the

classic “Harold and Maude.”

These and about 5,000 others are available for sale or rent at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give a look.

Leadership Class takes a look at the economy

It was a timely topic for the initial Leadership Highlands' Focus Day discussion.

“Area Economy” happened to be the first of six subjects that the 2008/2009 class examined as they embarked on a year-long leadership program this November 5.

Against a backdrop of falling leaves and a crackling fire, the current class learned how Highlands' economy was formed, discussed where we are today, and took a look at where we might be headed in the future.

Ran Shaffner kicked the day off with a fascinating discussion about Highlands history and how it has evolved with the changing economy. Then a panel of four local businesspeople - Marlene Alvarez, Bob Kieltyka, Terry Potts and David Wilkes - shared their experience and insight about the challenges and rewards they face in today's local economy and what they see ahead.

Later, the class took a closer look at the current regional and national economy with William T. “Tilt” Thompson Jr., senior policy fellow for the Institute for the Economy & the Future at Western Carolina University's College of Business. Tilt shared an in-depth regional economic-base analysis as well as insights and reflections of the current U.S. economic crisis.

The mission of Leadership Highlands is to develop and maintain an effective network of committed leaders in the Highlands community. The current class is: Elaine Carlton, Leslie Cook, Joe Cooley, Jan VanHook Healey, Eric NeSmith, Julie Schott, Joe Simmons, Brian Stiehler and Steve Stokes. For more information on Leadership Highlands, visit the Highlands Chamber of Commerce or www.highlandschamber.org.

• COACH'S CORNER •

Five things I learned this weekend

1. The NFL tends to run in cycles between defense and offense, and this year goes to the defense. Gone are the days of the "Greatest Show on Turf" and the prolific offenses of Manning and Brady. Instead, this year's NFL is led by the smash-mouth Tennessee Titans, whose quarterback is a cast-off (Kerry Collins) and whose offense struggles to score on a regular basis. Also experiencing success are the Bucs, Panthers and resurgent Falcons, all of which who are built on defense and the ground game. This is not even to mention the NY Giants, who have soared to 8-1 on the strength of Brandon Jacobs and Derrick Ward.

2. While defense may rule the day in the NFL, the college game has seen prolific offenses take control, with every top 5 team averaging over 31 points per game and 4 of the top 5 teams averaging close to 50 points per game. Also of note, the SEC and the Big 12 rule the top 5, and it is almost a lock that the winner of the SEC championship will face the winner of the Big 12 championship in the BCS title game.

3. Opening night in college basketball was on Monday, as I watched the Duke Blue Devils play the Presbyterian Blue Hose. I then watched Duke play Georgia Southern on Tuesday, and what I took away from both of those matchups was not incredibly encouraging. Notably, I saw quite a few different looks from Duke in those matchups, as well as an eleven man rotation. However, I have seen this before and will not be fooled. If Coach K plays eleven men against UCLA in the championship game of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic, then I will be more likely to believe that Duke will finally use their depth. Also of note, Duke shot 49 FT's against Georgia Southern, and yet only made 26...not a good sign if you want to make a deep run in March.

4. I watched a piece on ESPN about Brandon Jennings, who was a top recruit last year in the United States and decided to go to Europe and play basketball instead of going to college. While this is certainly a good move for Jennings in that he gets paid while he is learning and developing his skills, it could signal major trouble for college/amateur basketball in the United States. With other sports allowing players to earn money at an early age (tennis, golf and baseball come to mind) the college game may be facing a major decision about pay for play in the near future.

5. And finally, while I have made a lot of jokes at the expense of Phil Fulmer



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

over the last 15 years (4 play playbook, the gravy IV, drawing a sideline penalty by enticing him with a sticky bun, etc.) I thought it was pretty disgraceful that the Tennessee players quit on him like they did this weekend against Wyoming. Fulmer lives and breathes Tennessee, and is a sure-fire Hall of Fame coach that brought the Vol Nation a national championship. I agree with the

fans and the administration that it was probably time for a change, but those kids should have enough respect for the man to leave it all on the field these last few games. Instead, they get embarrassed by Wyoming in Leyland Stadium and may end up losing out if they don't pull an upset of their own. Sad times for the Volunteer Nation...but look at the bright side...at least we will hear "Rocky Top" a few less times than usual.

Highlands School Middle School basketball

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands Middle School Basketball teams opened their season last Monday by splitting a pair of games with the Rosman Tigers.

The Middle School girls gave a great effort against Rosman, but came up short with a final of 34-16. Kalyn Billingsley led the way for the Lady Highlanders with 6 points, Lindsey Wagner added 2, Emily Gabbard 3, Rebekah Parks 2, and Emily Shuler scored 3 to round out the scoring for the Lady Highlanders.

The Middle School Boys began their season with an impressive 51-10 rout of Rosman. Tyler Munger paced the Highlanders with 10 points, and Justin Morgan added nine in a game in which all Highlander players saw action.

This Monday, the Highlanders traveled to Dillard to face the Rabun Gap Eagles.

The Middle School girls again played hard, but finished on the wrong end of a 30-17 final score. Both teams were scoreless at the end of the first quarter due to the strong defense of both squads. In the nightcap, the Middle School Boys lost a heartbreaker 27-25 after a furious fourth quarter comeback that saw the Eagles 12 point lead cut to just two points.

Shawn McCall led the Highlanders with 7 points and Parker Sims added 8 rebounds.

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- *William Bradford*

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• HOSPITAL NEWS •

Hospital to offer free flu shots

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will offer free flu shots to the general public at a special, one-day-only clinic on the hospital campus Nov. 26.

Hospital personnel will be giving flu vaccinations between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Suite 103 on the first level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. There will be no charge, but pre-registration is required and supplies are limited.

Those interested in signing up for the clinic should call 526-1434 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointment slots will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis in order to reduce waiting times.

Summary of the October meeting of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors

To keep the news media and the public better informed about Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we are providing you with a summary of the more significant actions and discussion items that occurred at the Oct. 23 board meeting.

- Board Chairman Bud Smith welcomed and introduced several new board members who were present at the meeting. In attendance were Ron Hogan, Lynn Dillard, Chief of the Medical Staff David Wheeler, MD, and new Foundation president Earle Mauldin. The fifth new board member, Frances Oakley, was out of town and unable to attend.

- Kris Keen, manager of Information Technology for the hospital, unveiled a new website for the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. The site is being implemented in phases and is being designed by Jonathan Brodman of the IT Department. He showed board members the initial version of the site currently on the web, but also gave the board a peak of the next version, which utilizes Flash generated graphics. The Eckerd Center site can be accessed by going to www.eckerdlivingcenter.com, or through the hospital's website at www.highlandscashiershospital.org (click on the tab at the bottom). The new site features information on the nursing center, its mission, services, key administrative staff, and activities, as well as a Resident's Bill of Rights.

- Griffin Bell, Jr., co-chairman of the Patient Care Committee, gave an overview of the committee's purpose, composition, and measures taken to monitor the quality of patient care and maintain the hospital's high standards. The committee meets quarterly, and has approximately 15 members, half of which are administrative staff and half of which are from the medical staff. Frank Leslie, vice president of operations then reported on two projects the committee has under way.

- Leslie said the hospital now has new software that helps track and report any patient care incidents. The software not only replaces a paper system, but instantly noti-

fies the clinical department managers responsible of an incident, as well as the hospital risk manager. He also said the hospital's Medication Verification Team continues to explore both procedures and systems available to prevent errors in dispensing medications. The hospital traditionally has a very low rate of medication errors, and currently utilizes a hand-held, bar-code based computer system to track medications. However, the hospital is always looking to improve technology and the rate of staff compliance.

- Hospital President and CEO Ken Shull gave the financial report. He reviewed the financial statistics for the month of September. He reported the average daily census was down slightly last month from the prior year (10.1 compared to 11.20 last September), and the total number of patient days also declined by about 10 percent. However, the total number of patient days for the fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, was roughly the same as in the prior year (within two percent). The year just ended saw big increases in both the number of inpatients and observation patients, but those jumps were offset by a decline in the number of swing-bed patients and the length of time they were under care.

Still, gross revenue was up significantly for September (nearly \$2.2 million compared to \$1.8 million), but so were contractual adjustments, which rise along with revenue. Most of those reductions to gross revenue represent charges the hospital cannot collect from Medicare. Three quarters of the hospital's business comes from patients covered by that program. Net revenue for the month (nearly \$1.6 million was also more than the prior September, but Shull said the hospital still showed an operational loss (before depreciation) of \$63,000 for the month. While that was less than during the same month last year, it was worse than budget projections. The hospital had projected more net revenue and had hoped to show a small profit (before depreciation) for the month.

• See HOSPITAL page 15

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Area 'Relay' teams presented plaques



Team captains from the 2008 American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Mountain Top were awarded achievement plaques during a recent wrap-up celebration at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Captains and their team totals are, from left, (front) Debbie Mackie of Keller Williams, \$2,401.50; Betty Fisher of Just For You, \$31,633.03; (back) Kristy Norris of Wachovia, \$1,409.28; Sue Gorski of RBC Centura, \$3,559.35; Linda Henderson of Vicki's Victors, \$12,187; and Debbie Grossman of Fressers Eatery, \$3,342. This year's event total, which included eight additional teams and several business sponsorships, was \$85,700. For more information about starting a Relay For Life team, call Linda Henderson at 743-3295. For more information about the American Cancer Society, call 1-800-ACS-2345.

... HOSPITAL continued from page 14

Julian Franklin, chairman of the Program and Facilities Committee reported that the committee discussed the need to study the corporate structure of the hospital and how it impacts reimbursement under Medicare's designation as a Critical Access Hospital. The hospital wants to see if restructuring by spinning off the nursing facility and physician clinics could improve the hospital's level of reimbursement from Medicare. Shall covered the subject more fully later in the meeting.

Also under study by the committee is the utilization of space in medical office buildings located on the hospital campus to see if any cost-savings are possible. The committee has also been meeting with representatives from Trehel Corporation regarding the renovation of the existing Cashiers Medical Office Building. Preliminary drawings have been presented and now are being taken to the next level with more detail and color.

•See HOSPITAL page 17



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... MAGISTRATE continued from page 1

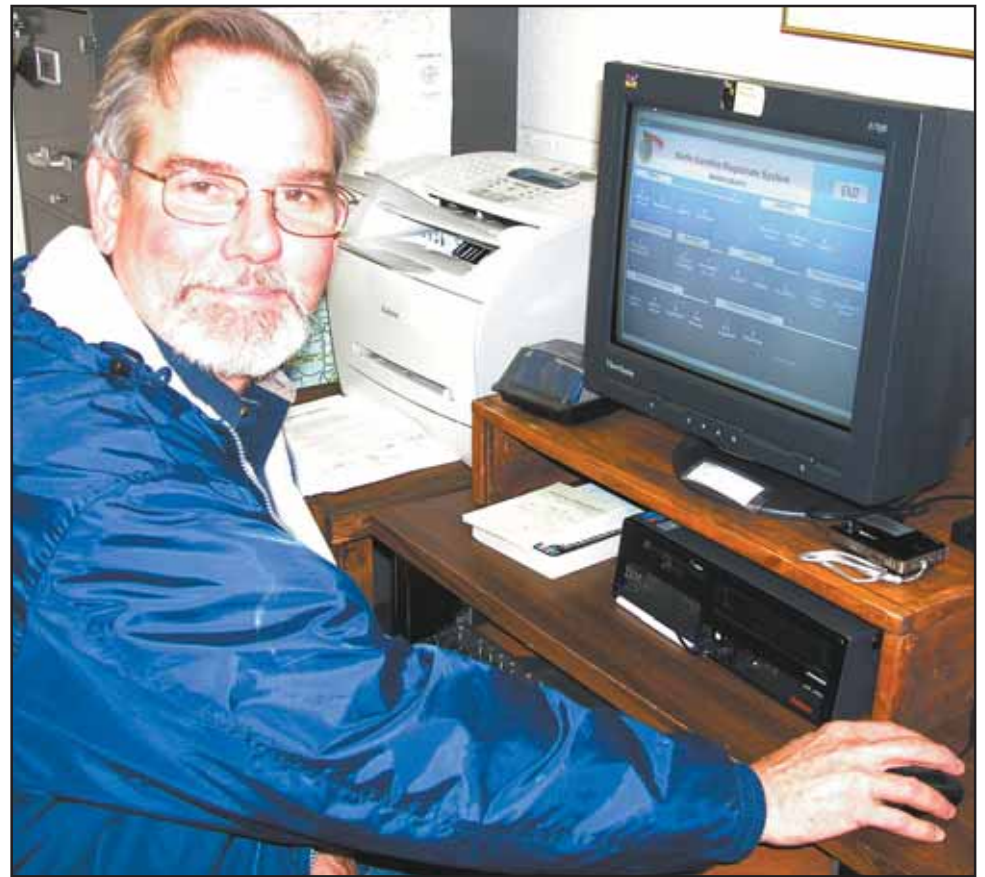
of release and secured and unsecured bonds. Plus, the Clerk of Court doesn't have to re-enter Taylor's paperwork into the computerized system after he delivers it to Franklin.

For more than a year, Perry, Holland, Snow and Davis, have been working with the Rural Courts Commission which started with a meeting hosted by Holland at the courthouse in Franklin.

"After a needs-study was conducted, the Rural Court System became intent on making sure all the rural court systems in small court districts and communities had the technology needed to operate the courts in all areas of North Carolina," said Taylor. "After the study, Judge Davis was able to request that we get the necessary equipment in Highlands, which he determined was long overdue."

Taylor said now all his arrest warrants and court proceeding documentation are generated on the computer which saves times, especially when multiple processes are required for one person for multiple offenses, he said.

"Now I don't have to constantly re-type in triplicate paperwork about a person accused of multiple offenses," he said. "Now, it's a seamless effort. I type it once and whatever I generate is automatically sent to the Clerk's computer system where it is downloaded and automatically posted. There's no re-typing of anything."



Magistrate Pat Taylor's job just got easier.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Due to the software associated with the system, Taylor is also hooked into the state which helps him immediately identify people, their past criminal history and through the state's court intranet, he can see if someone arrested in Macon County has any outstanding, active warrants statewide.

In addition, updates and changes to state statutes and laws used to come to him via snail mail, but due to the computer age, those stopped coming because it was assumed everyone who needed that information, could

log on to the computer.

For Taylor to stay up-to-date, he had to drive to Franklin and log on to the Clerk's computer system at the court house.

Now he can sit in the Magistrate's office in Highlands and in seconds have everything he needs at his fingertips to do his job and stay on top of it.

— Kim Lewicki

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Kiwanis donates dictionaries

The Kiwanis Club of Macon County/Franklin donates dictionaries for every third grade student in Macon County. Now in the third year locally, this program has helped lots of young children, which is the focus of Kiwanis International. Chris Brouwer, Kiwanis, is shown here presenting some dictionaries to Highlands third grade teacher Ashly Coppage, surrounded by some of her students.



... LETTERS continued from page 3

that this man supports that will mandate that you must put 5% of your 401K into a government fund, that will give them the right to borrow from your 401K just like they borrow from your social security.

Dear Nancy is the leader of this bill and he is a huge supporter of it. Then you have government health care. See where this has taken all the other nations? Before you say anything about that, remember these nations have doctors from third world countries working in the medical field because they can not afford anything else. IF that kind of health care is so very great then why do most people who are really sick come to America for treatment? Remember all those who died trying to get to this nation, because they did not like the nation they lived in or its government. Now we are moving in the same direction as those countries these people died trying to get away from.

As for the economic policies? Again go to the Library of Congress and track this yourself, Jimmy Carter, this was the beginning. He is also the very reason our troops are over in the Middle East. No, he did not send them there, but his foreign policies began all this! Reagan inherited the debt by the way. Again a little study will do wonders, before one speaks with emotion. Then the down fall of the economy was further caused by the Clintons, Bush, Sr., but most of all, congress. The real hard fact here is

that two years ago this mess began to speed right at us because of this very congress we now have. It was this congress that has spread the process to the present day.

As for Obama, well his true lack of experience will show and in a way that will negatively impact the U.S. He wanted to make Oprah Winfrey a member of his cabinet, tell you anything?

On the morning of Nov. 5th, the day after the elections, the Pakistanis celebrated the Obama election by its Hamas groups firing rockets into Israel, Doesn't this tell you anything! Syria celebrated it by pointing their rockets into Israel and though they did not fire any to my knowledge, when you have these groups standing behind this man, people you should be very worried.

So as I have said, the ignorance of the people will be the downfall of our nation. I might add also that I find Mr. Swanson to be a very intelligent man and I for one like his columns. Mrs. Bonsteel must not think him too obnoxious because she has admitted to reading his columns ever since he began writing for Highlands' Newspaper. As for the lies, that is a knife that cuts both

Johnny Owens
Highlands

• See LETTERS page 21

... HOSPITAL continued from page 15

The project will likely be done in phases, he said.

• Dr. Don Mullen reviewed the accomplishments of the Governance Committee during the past year. Those included approving a new set of hospital bylaws, reworking the committee structure, conducting performance evaluations of board members, and the CEO, and identifying new board members to serve for the coming year. The new directors have been elected and two have already been through board orientation, he said. Two other members still need to undergo orientation.

He reported that the Governance Committee is now recommending adding a new board committee. He said the Fidelia Ecker Living Center Committee would be composed of board members as well as members of the administrative staff of the Living Center. Following a brief discussion, the board voted to form the committee and asked Chairman Smith to appoint its members.

• Although the Medical Staff did not meet in October, Chief of Staff David Wheeler, MD, briefly discussed the need for more primary care physicians, especially as Dr. Mark Wagner leaves to become a hospitalist in South Carolina and Dr. Mark Heffington moves to the coast. He reported on some joint recruiting efforts by the hospital and Mountain Area Family Medicine to bring either an

internist or family practice doctor to the area as soon as possible. He said the loss of Dr. Wagner from the emergency room roster of physicians will further stretch the capabilities of the current physicians to provide around-the-clock coverage.

• During his Foundation Board report, Chairman Earle Mauldin said efforts are already under way to map out a major campaign to raise funds for the renovation of the Cashiers Medical Office building. If the project is to be built in phases, he said, the foundation hopes to be able to raise the money for each phase as it is built.

• In his administrator's report Shull said the hospital continues to move forward in developing a partnership with Dr. David Wheeler in Mountain Area Family Medicine and to recruit one or more physicians to replace Dr. Mark Heffington. He said Dr. Mark Wagner's last day in the office will be Nov. 21, and that a search is already under way for another primary care physician to serve the Highlands area. The hospital has been exploring ways to provide additional primary care services in the meantime.

• Shull said an outside expert has visited the hospital and is currently studying whether or not there may be legally appropriate ways to financially separate the nursing center, the hospital, and its physician practices

• See HOSPITAL page 21

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

our Congress. Twenty-nine members have been accused of spousal abuse, seven have been arrested for fraud, 19 have been accused of writing bad checks, 117 have been involved in bankrupting at least two businesses, three have been arrested for assault, 71 have credit reports so bad they can't qualify for a credit card, 14 have been arrested on drug-related charges, eight have been arrested for shoplifting and 21 are current defendants in lawsuits. In 1998

alone, 84 Congressmen were stopped for drunk driving, but released after they claimed Congressional immunity. None of these clowns would qualify to be a police officer so Obama will fit right in.

Wait, are you sitting down? Thirty-four congressmen have been arrested for cock fighting. Cock fighting? Surly there's a joke there somewhere.

But hold it while I throw up 'cause I'm not laughing.

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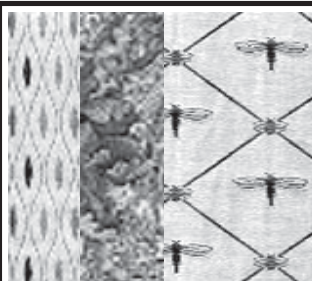
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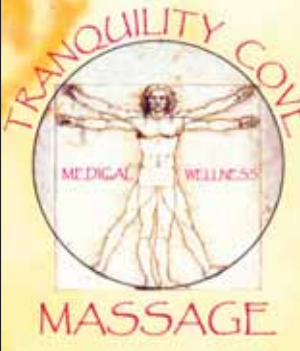
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Thursday, Nov. 13 - 7 p.m.
Opening Gala Reception
Pine Street Park, under the big tent
Participating restaurants, chefs, and wineries will be presenting a taste of all that Culinary Weekend offers. Enjoy the sounds of Hip Shack and revel in an amazing night of food, wine and fun. Every foodie's dream amidst the splendor of Fall in Highlands. Shuttle service will be provided from Highlands Recreation Park and Highlands Plaza to Pine Street Park. Please utilize shuttle service for this event, as parking on site will be extremely limited. Call 526-2112 for tickets. \$100 per person

FRIDAY, NOV. 14
Country Breakfast Buffet
Venue: Main Street Inn. \$10.95. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more

11 am - 1 pm
Simple Pleasures of Ice Cream
Venue: SweetTreats

Ice cream personality Scottie Mayfield will entertain you with an intimate look at the growth of Mayfield Dairies, as well as the history of everyone's favorite treat — ice cream. Enjoy a delightful lunch of SweetTreat's signature seafood bisque, and a choice of salad and sandwich. Then top it all off with a custom created ice cream, using whole, fresh fruits, nuts, candies, and of course - Mayfield Ice Cream. \$20 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 40.

11 am - 1 pm
Candy Making
Venue: Kilwin's Chocolates & Ice Cream

11:30 am
Domaine Serene Flavor Spectrum Luncheon
Venue: Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro.

Four wines from Domaine Serene will be paired with three separate food pairings, food that will mirror the wine, contrast with the wine, and a food and wine pairing that will be slightly controversial. Let your taste buds soar and find out which pairing you like the best. Challenge your senses! \$55 plus tax and gratuity. Limit: 50

Noon
Off The Beaten Path, Cooking Class and Luncheon
Venue: Cyprus

Ristorante Paoletti
Uptown Italian Dining Since 1953
Downtown Highlands Since 1984
Serving Dinner from 5:30 p.m.
Wine Spectator's
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440 Main Street

Highlands 2nd Annual Culinary

Let's get together and cook some food from lesser known places: Finnish afternoon snack; roasted pork and greens from Akra, Ghana; Inonesian-American food from Surinam, South America; Dendi fried corn cakes from Salvador, Brazil; Pelmeni from Kiev, Ukraine. Will include instruction, food, wine and or beer. Kitchen knives will be available or bring your own. No kitchen skills are required- just bring your sense of humor and a smile. \$79. Limit 30. .

noon - 2 pm
A Taste of Spice
Venue: ...on the Verandah
Enjoy a true culinary delight as the wines of Oregon's Amity Vineyards and the style and flair of ...on the Verandah's flavorful dishes delight your senses. Experience a delightful afternoon with winemaker Myron Redford and Chef Andrew Figel. \$50 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 50

noon - 3 pm
Piedmont Wine Tasting
Venue: Paoletti's
Barolo, Barbaresco, Barbera and Super-Piedmontese wines from Enotec Imports will be showcased. Blair Taylor, Owner/Importer offers his insight on the great wines of Piedmont, one of Italy's premier wine regions. \$50. Limit 35

2:30 - 5 pm
Margaritas and Mojitos
Venue: Pescado's Highland Burritos
Upscale Tex-Mex Offerings paired with something to tickle your fancy. \$40

5:30-8:30 pm
Local Farmer's Bounty Dinner
Venue: Madison's Restaurant
5-course Dinner Showcasing the produce and products of our local farmers. \$75 per person. 5-course Dinner (no beverages included), inclusive of tax and gratuity. \$169 per person. 5-course Dinner (includes a perfectly paired experience of wine, selected by Chef Bill Heubel for every course), inclusive of tax and gratuity. Two seatings available at 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm Reservations Taken Through Madison's

6:30 pm
St. Supéry Wine Dinner
Venue: Fresser's Eatery
Chef/Owner Debbie Grossman along with pastry chef Boni Lampman will dazzle your taste buds as they meticulously prepare an amazing menu paired with

Fireside Restaurant
for brunch, lunch & dinner



Wright Sq. • 526-3636

five varieties of St. Supéry's magnificent wines. Donna Creese, east coast representative, will be on hand for this memorable event. \$135 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 50

6:30 pm
Guest Chef Wine Dinner Series
Venue: ...on the Verandah
Executive Chef Andrew Figel and Executive Chef Jeremy Lieb of Atlanta's Trois Restaurant invite you to a creatively tantalizing evening with a modern twist to traditional French Cooking. The menu is classical, the delivery is contemporary. This year they are joined by Michael LaGrange of Caymus Vineyards & wines of the Wagner Family. Be a part of an event that will delight all your senses. \$145 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 75

7:30 pm
Battle of the Sexes -- Cocktail Gala
Venue: Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine Bistro
Wine, Food, Art, Music and Dancing... what more could you want from a Gala??? Six wonderful wineries will be represented here with food pairings both food tables and passed throughout the night. The showcase is a wine tasting from three female winemakers versus three male winemakers and we will see which wines will prevail. Owners and Representatives from Raptor Ridge, Crocker and Starr, Selene, Robert Craig, Anderson's Conn Valley and Arcadian wineries will be present for this wonderful event! Wesley Wofford, a sculptor, from Summit One Gallery, will be sculpting! \$150 plus tax and gratuity.

7:30 pm
Adelsheim Wine Dinner
Venue: Log Cabin Restaurant
Enjoy the warmth of three fireplaces in a 1924 Log Cabin as The Log Cabin Restaurant hosts Dave Adelsheim, owner of Adelsheim winery, the second oldest winery in Oregon for this unforgettable five-course dinner. Cuisine such as scallops, pheasant and venison paired with single vineyard Chardonnay, Pinot Noir an Ice Pinot Noir for dessert. \$95 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 50. See details on page 27.

Southern Style Dinner Buffet
Venue: Main Street Inn
\$24.95

Anytime
Relax, Refresh, Rejuvenate
Tranquility Cove Massage with Lisa Wilker Located at the Peggy Crosby Center \$70. Call 828.200.0018 to set an appointment.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15
Country Breakfast Buffet
Venue: Main Street Inn. \$10.95. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more

10 am - 12
Baking with Boni
Venue: Fresser's Eatery
Come play with the dough or just enjoy as pastry chef, Boni Lampman, demonstrates how to make irresistible

al Culinary Events Weekend

bread that you too can make at home. Your fresh baked breads will be perfectly paired with Fresser's fabulous blue crab soup along with other delectable delights. \$40. Limit 30

11 am - 1 pm

Southern Comfort

Venue: ...on the Verandah

Accompany ...on the Verandah and Virginia Willis, producer and author of *Bon Appetit, Y'all!* Three Generations of Southern Cooking, for the ultimate cooking demonstration. Beginning with a tasty Southern Comfort cocktail, this culinary showcase will demonstrate how to prepare classic Southern favorites and offer some tricks of the trade. During the course of the event, participants will be able to enjoy the delicacies. Recipes will be provided. \$40 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 40

noon

Hot and Spicy Cooking

Venue: Cyprus

This class will revolve around chilies, demonstrating some of the most delicious cuisines from the world over, plus an open selection of great beer from the USA, Europe, and Asia. Menu ranging from a little bit piquant to extremely hot. Featuring: Bhutanese Roasted Chiles with Sheepmilk Cheese Sauce; Thai Pad Prik, Shrimp and Sundried Chile Salad; Spanish Caldo Verde with Piri Piri; Chicken Masala in Banana Leaf from India. Will include instruction, food, wine and or beer. Kitchen knives will be available or bring your own. No kitchen skills are required- just bring your sense of humor and a smile. \$79. Limit 30

noon - 2 pm

All Things Wonderful Fashion Show Luncheon

Venue: Main Street Inn

Drake's Diamond Gallery, Rosenthal's, and McCulley's Cashmere will host a ladies luncheon fashion show. \$19.95 Limit 50

noon - 2pm

Grand Tasting

Venue: Paoletti's

Casual wine tasting of a selection of 50 to 100 wines; Informative and authoritative yet informal and fun; A chance to taste wines from Italy, France, California and the Willamette Valley. Offering the chance to sample wines from premium producers for purchase by the case with Special Pre-Holiday Pricing. \$20

Sip and Stroll

2-5 pm

Experience the wares of Highlands' fine shops, while tasting and enjoying a selection of wine & paired with cheeses from Bryson's Food Store. Carolina Eyes, Extreme Threads, The Toy Store, Cyrano's, The Christmas Tree, Village Kids, Bryant Art Glass, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry, McCulley's, Wits End, Dutchman's Design, John Collette Fine Art, Drake Diamonds, Summit One Gallery Maps and starting points will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce. \$35. Limit 75

2 pm

Holiday Entertaining Cooking Class

Venue: The Fireside Restaurant, Gallery Room

Holiday cooking demonstrations will educate, entertain, and inspire new culinary delights. We'll showcase

a variety of wines to pair with your favorite holiday dishes and present new, elegant-made-easy, ideas to create memorable meals. The Christmas Tree On The Hill will have decorated the dining room to give you ideas you can incorporate into your holiday. \$15. Limit 30

2, 3, & 4 pm

Biltmore Estate Wines and Chocolate Heaven

Venue: Basketcase

294 S. 4th Street, "on the Hill" - Cost \$15 per person - Reservations appreciated, but not necessary, call for more information. 828.526.5026

6 pm

Catena Alta Wine Dinner

Venue: The Farm at

Old Edwards Inn & Spa

6-7 pm Cocktail Reception, 7-10 pm Wine Dinner. Three Night Weekend Package is Available at Old Edwards Inn and Spa. Please call 828-787-2625 for details. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity

6 pm

Piemontese Wines, Open Dining

Venue: Paoletti's

House cuisine paired with fine selections for your dining pleasure. \$ Menu

6 pm

Silver Oak Cellars Wine

Dinner

Venue: Wolfgang's Restaurant & Wine

Bistro

Wolfgang's Restaurant has always had a very special in our hearts for Silver Oak Cellars and this is probably because of the wonderful friendship between Tom Johnson, East Coast Sales Manager of Silver Oak Cellars and Mindy and Wolfgang Green. We will be featuring Twomey Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot and Pinot Noir, Alexander Valley Cabernet and Napa Valley Cabernet. Join us for a night of culinary memories and divine libations. Wesley Wofford, an artist, from Summit One Gallery will be sculpting another night.

6:30 pm

Play It Again Tom - Caribbean Fusion, Part II

Venue: ...on the Verandah

Executive Chef Andrew Figel welcomes back Atlanta's One. Midtown Kitchen Executive Chef Tom Harvey for a return engagement of last year's "Caribbean Fusion Dinner." Paired with amazing selections from the Majestic Fine Wines Portfolio (Archipel, Hartford Family Winery & Matanzas Creek Winery), the evening's menu is truly complete. \$115 plus tax and gratuity

7 pm

Dim Sum and Selections of Edwards Sellers,

Paso Robles, California

Venue: Cyprus

Enjoy a great array of Dim Sum (Chinese Tastes), delivered steaming hot to your table, on a traditional cart. \$79

7 pm

Holiday Food, Wine and Ambiance Dinner

Venue: Fireside Restaurant

Chef Travis Schultz will present a pre-fix menu including final version from the afternoon's cooking demonstrations. Wines chosen specifically to enhance each course will be served. \$85. Limit 30

7:30 pm

Grateful Palate Wine Dinner

Venue: Log Cabin Restaurant

For the second straight year, Log Cabin Restaurant will be hosting The Grateful Palate Imports out of Australia for an entertaining culinary experience. This year, we decided to kick it up a notch and feature "R Wines," a partnership between Grateful Palate owner Dave Phillips and winemaker Chris Ringland who himself has produced 13 wines that scored 100 pts. Highlighting this five-course dinner will be some yet to be released wines. \$110 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 50

Southern Style Dinner Buffet

Venue: Main Street Inn

\$24.95

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Tranquility Cove Massage with Lisa

Wilker

Located at the Peggy Crosby Center \$70. Call 828.200.0018 to set an appointment

Sunday, Nov. 16

Country Breakfast Buffet

Venue: Main Street Inn. \$10.95. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more

7:30 pm

Sunday Buffet

Venue: Chestnut Hill

A delightful menu featuring Lamb, Game Hen and Local Trout. \$35 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 20

Anytime

Relax, Refresh, Rejuvenate

Tranquility Cove Massage with Lisa

Wilker

Located at the Peggy Crosby Center \$70. Call 828.200.0018 to set an appointment



...on the Verandah

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 Sundays: School – 10 a.m., Worship – 11
 Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
 Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.

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

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

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 SAINTS**
 NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
 Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
 Office – 526-2320
 Sunday: Holy Communion – 11 a.m.
 (Highlands Community Center on U.S. 64 next to
 the ballfield in Highlands
 Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.
 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.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
 www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
 3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
 Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;
 6:30 p.m. High School Group
 Wednesdays: Dinner 5 p.m.-6 p.m.; 6 p.m. programs
 for all students; 6:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study
 Thursdays: Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.

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

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
 Sun.: Worship 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
 Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175
 Sun.: Worship – 10:55 a.m.; Sun.School – 9:30 &
 9:45.
 Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Bible Discussion &
 Breakfast
 Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers
 Choir – 7

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

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
 Chaplain Margaret Howell
 2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741
 Sundays: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Adult discussion
 group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion – 10:30
 HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
 8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
 Pastor Matt Shuler, (828) 526-8425
 Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
 Choir – 6 p.m.
 Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. – 7 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE
 St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin
 828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rev. Clifford Willis
 Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7
 Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD
 290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
 Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;
 Evening Worship – 6 p.m.
 Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth – 7 p.m.
 For more information call 526-3212.

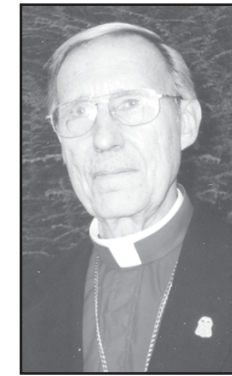
SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH
 Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.
 Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
 Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
 828-369-3633
 Lay Led Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
 Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

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

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

'Thanks be to God'



The Most Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling
 Chapel of Sky Valley, GA

In my denomination the service is ended with these words: "The mass is ended. Let us go and serve our risen Lord." To which the congregation, with great exuberance, responds, "Thanks be to God."

In 51 years of ministry, I have never been sure if they were excited about going out to serve the world for Christ, or just that the service was finally over.

Well, I am excited because now I can say with great exuberance, "The election is ended. Let us get back to living a normal life." And all of you say, "Thanks be to God."

The phone is once again devoid of all those calls to encourage me to vote for this candidate or that, on this issue or that, gone is the never ending back stabbing and mud slinging by men and women who call themselves people of faith. It is beyond me which faith because that character resembles nothing I have ever taught or learned in the context of faith.

No matter if you voted for a young senator of color with dreams of change and this excited your vision for our country, or a more experienced older man, gray-haired, disabled in his arms from years of torture, whose running mate brought the mother out of the kitchen and into the front lines of Washington politics, it is over. Thanks be to God!

But now, what do we do to heal the wounds that a campaign inevitably produces?

How do we put all the political wrangling behind us and suture the wounds that this campaign has created without leaving an everlasting scar?

How do we once again become people of faith and trust in our way of choosing a leader and acknowledge that no matter if your candidate won or lost, the hand of a just and loving God was in all of it?

God wisely refuses to be Republican or Democrat, Liberal or Conservative. How long have we heard, "God is on our side" only to be hear the other side saying the same words?

God is omnipotent, and omnipotent he is, not silly putty to be molded into the image we would like him to be. He is not attached to strings that can be manipulated to make him our puppet, no more than he made us his. He gave us free will. And with this free will, he allows us to use judgment based on ethics and morality, patterned after commandments handed down to Moses which we violate with great abandon daily.

Politics brings out the worst and not the best during a campaign. Now we must move on. It is a new day with new objectives and new goals and challenges.

There is room at the wheel of progress for everyone's shoulder, to which I say, "Thanks be to God."

... HOSPITAL continued from page 17

that would lead to better financial reimbursement from Medicare. As a Critical Access Hospital under Medicare, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is allowed to collect its actual costs plus 1 percent for the treatment it provides patients covered by that program. However, some of the administrative and operational costs that would otherwise fall entirely under the hospital's cost structure now have to be divided among the hospital, its nursing center and the physician practices it owns. The nursing center and physician practices do not fall under the Critical Access sys-

tem. So spinning off those holdings into separate corporations could perhaps reallocate many administrative costs more fairly, possibly effectively increasing the amount of reimbursement the hospital receives from Medicare.

• Finally, Shull reported that Dr. Toby Lindsay's office in Cashiers had been broken into, and that while a good deal of damage was done to the alarm and the phone system, very little was taken. He said no narcotics are kept on site.

... LETTERS continued from page 17

God have mercy on us

Dear Editor,

Spiritually speaking, how can we Christians - believers in the Lord and all that encompasses - vote a person to be our President who believes in abortion. The taking of innocent life. Hellllllllllo!

Mr. Obama said he does not know when life begins (the Saddleback debates). That to me is shameful, I am sorry. God is shaking his head at us. God knew America was going to do this, but still he is wondering why. After all the Lord has

taught us - told us in the Bible - his very words - and we still voted Obama in. Well, only 52% of the people are the reason that this person is the President - not God. God is allowing it, because we have free will and that is that.

We just have to pray, pray and pray some more for God's endless mercy to always be upon us.

Frances Minerva
New York

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Sports Page



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(828) 526-9822

Girls' Clubhouse on trash patrol



Last Friday members of The Girls' Clubhouse picked up litter on Oak, Main, First and Third streets as part of their litter route. The girls are raising money to buy gifts for the needy during the holidays. Pictured from left are Veronica Garcia, McKinley Mosely, Elizabeth Houston, Supervisor Kim Lewicki, Grace Brassard, Meredith Garren and Ivy Satterwhite.

... RECREATION continued from page 1

The agreement between the county and the town is mainly a financial one saying that the county will pay the town \$500,000 a year in arrears on a quarterly basis to help offset the cost of operating its recreational facilities.

The facilities are the Civic Center, swimming pool and bathhouse, four tennis courts, a multi-purpose court, three picnic shelters, walking trails, the ball park, the Performing Arts Center and Pine Street Park.

The agreement requires annual renewal and is subject to approval by both boards.

One major aspect - the termination clause - was changed Monday night, more in Highlands favor than the county's and was suggested by Commissioner Ronnie Beale.

"Basically what we have here is a 30-day contract because either side can terminate with 30 days notice, but it seems to me the termination time should be at least three months or 90 days because payments are disbursed on a quarterly basis," he said. "Shouldn't the termination time be the same? I should think Highlands would prefer this, too."

Highlands Commissioner Dennis DeWolf was in the audience Monday night as the town's representative and agreed that those terms would be preferred by the town.

Furthermore, Moxley said the agreement forwarded to the county by the town was a "basic barebones agreement written for specific purposes two years ago that meets the state statutes but it could be changed or expanded."

The county commissioners voted unanimously to pass the agreement contingent upon Highlands accepting the termination change. Commissioner DeWolf said he didn't think that would be a problem.

Highlands commissioners have been tiptoeing around the recreation issue simply because it's been the cause of much dissension between the two boards during past county administrations.

At the Nov. 5 Town Board meeting, commissioners discussed the need to request more than the standard \$500,000 a year - a figure the county has been paying for several years first for sewer expansion and later for recreation - simply because recreational expenses in Highlands are closer to \$700,000 a year.

Recreation Director Selwyn Chalker said that just in the previous week, of the people who signed in at the Civic Center, 33 lived within the town limits and 88 lived in the county.

Town commissioners contend that those statistics substantiate their claim that the majority of people who use the town recreational facilities live in the county not the town, so financial requests for recreational money is not only legitimate but should perhaps be increased in the future.

Though it appears there may be a crack in the door for negotiations, since Monday night's agreement is through fiscal year 2008-09, which ends June 30, 2009, changes will likely have to wait for the next fiscal year.

- Kim Lewicki

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... **MACKEY** continued from page 1

self in a military operation against the Kurds to keep them from seceding from Iraq. Autonomy is the least thing the Kurds want; what they really want is independence.

This is a concern because if the Kurds are able to claim the city of Kirkuk which has 40 percent of the Iraq oil then they have basis to establish an independent country. Then all sorts of problems up here with Syria, and Turkey — both with large Kurdish population — will develop. The Kurds are have already been involved with northern Iraq militarily in a not infrequent basis over the last two years. And have Kurdish population in Iran which is also going to get into this. So definitely, it is in the interest of region and in the interest of the U.S. to make sure the Kurds stay in Iraq and not open a wider front of instability up north. So yes, we may have to get involved militarily.

What is "Victory?"

Interpreting the military success of the Surge as being a victory is a little early. At this point what does "victory" in Iraq mean? We kept lowering the bar and right now victory is defined as "you just exit Iraq and leave it stable enough that you kind of keep a lid on

instability in the Persian Gulf because that's what we are really concerned about."

One problem in all this is we've not really been honest as to why we went into Iraq in the first place. Yes, we wanted to get rid of Hussein and get a better government for people but also it was about oil in Persian Gulf. That's a legitimate reason because the whole industrialized world needs the oil — India, China, Japan, Europe and so forth. It really is an international problem there. So it's legitimate for oil to be on the table. But for whatever reason, we never really talk about that.

So we have given up on Iraq being the Switzerland of the Middle East, but we want to just keep the lid on this area so oil flows a tolerable prices.

So what do?

The thing is — which is recognized across the board now — is we can't stay in Iraq indefinitely. Even before the current economic crisis, we didn't have the money. We were really being stretched by the military operation we don't have the manpower.

The army particular is really at the breaking point. There are problems with recruitment; they are having to lower standards to

get people in; they are raising age limits; and lowering education requirements. In this mix is that the ones leaving the army are captains — the next generation of officers with number of years in army used to it as a highly professional organization. Now, they're not signing up again because they say stress on their families is too great. Some have gone back for three and four tours. They are really demoralized. This is a very real problem. The idea of having a draft sounds good but the army is so technological that to get the people in and to train them to get them up to speed on the technology requires several years. So this is a huge problem.

The other thing to deal with is how long can we stay with blessing of Iraqis. Obviously, the U.S. can stay there as long as it has the military power to stay there, but the perception of the U.S. staying after Iraqis say 'we want you to go' is a real problem.

This is a hearts and mind war which has moved from a shock and awe war to a cold war type of conflict of ideas. It isn't good for us to be in Iraq uninvited. Now, we're up against the wall.

On Dec 31, 2008, the mandate the U.N. gave the U.S. to go into Iraq ends. So we need

an agreement with the Iraqi government called a Status of Forces Agreement to stay. We have dozens of these around the world wherever American troops are in any capacity there is a Status of Forces Agreement with that government. It outlines a timeframe and most importantly, no American military person can be tried by courts of that country. All military are given immunity.

The truth is we are having problems with the Iraqis. The agreement is on the table in parliament now, that says "No American combat operations in Iraq after July of 2009; that American troops will be withdrawn back into bases by 2009 and by 2011 all troops will be gone. When that happens, Americans in the country are American citizens not military personnel and they can be tried in Iraqi courts and military personnel who aren't involved in actual military operation — say they are out on street and decide to rape someone — then they go into Iraqi court. If this "agreement" passes, Iraqi will be only country with that sort of thing in effect. So it's a big problem, so we are starting to pull down in Iraq.

• Next week — America's emerging foreign policy in the Persian Gulf.

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• BUSINESS NEWS •



Each year RBC Bank sponsors a pumpkin decorating contest for the 2nd Grade students at Highlands School. Pictured with bank representative Sue Gorski are this year's winners: Jared Shearl from Mrs. Miller's class and Bety Garcia from Mrs. Cox's class. The pumpkins were displayed at the bank the week of Halloween and patrons voted for their favorites.

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Summit One Gallery's Wesley Wofford to be featured

"Highlands Culinary Weekend" opens Thursday night, November 13 with a Gala at Pine Street Park. On hand will be Summit One artist, sculptor, Wesley Wofford. Wesley earned an Oscar for his work in "A Beautiful Mind" and an Emmy for the HBO movie "The Lives of Peter Sellers". The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences commissioned him to create a bust of Carl Reiner for their museum last year. Other movie and television credits include: *Hannibal*, *Ali*, *Collateral*, *Lady in the Water*, *Gleason* and many more.

Wesley will have works in progress as well as finished works at the Gala, including the sculpture created for the Culinary Weekend, inspired by Bacchus, the God of Wine. Stop by to meet him and see a sculptor at work. He will also be the featured artist at Wolfgang's for the Domaine Serene Flavor Spectrum Luncheon on Friday, November 14, the Battle of the Sexes, cocktail Gala on Friday evening and the Silver Oak Wine Dinner on Saturday, Saturday 15.

Also in conjunction with the Culinary Weekend, Sum-



Wofford Pantina Bear



Norfolk Island Pine



Julie Hillard



Barnyard

mit One Gallery and Drake's Diamond Gallery will be participants in the Sip and Stroll on Saturday, November 15 from 2-5pm. Call the Chamber of Commerce for tickets or more information: 828.526.5841

Last but not Least: "The Gift" opens at Summit One Gallery on Saturday, November 15 with an Artists' Reception, 5-7pm.

"The Gift" is a small works exhibition featuring the artists of Summit One; artists Jane Smithers, Scott Upton, Rosemary Stiefel, Diane McPhail, Joe Adams; ceramic artists, Julie Hilliard, Priscilla Flowers; wood turner, Michael Gibson and many others have created new, smaller works for this exhibition. Fine Art and Craft perfect for gift giving, top table and bookcase art. "The Gift" continues through December 31. Give a gift that will last forever...an Artful Gift.

Summit One Gallery, located in "The Galleries", South Second Street, Highlands NC 828.526.2673

• For a complete list of Culinary Weekend events, go to page 18.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

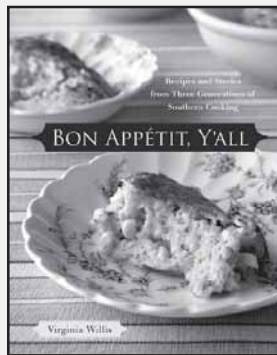
Two authors at Cyrano's this weekend

Virginia Willis, author of "Bon Appétit, Y'All: Recipes and Stories from Three Generations of Southern Cooking," will be at Cyrano's Bookshop on Friday, Nov. 14, from 6-8 p.m. to autograph her marvelous new cookbook. And on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 16, from 1-3, Paul Evancoe will sign copies of his exciting thriller "Own the Night."

In talks to start her own cooking show, and heralded by many in the know — both professional chefs and food writers — as the next Big Thing in Southern cooking, Virginia Willis is still the real deal when it comes to vittles: Vidalia Onion Soup With Bacon Flan, New Southern Chicken & Dumplings, Boeuf Bourguignon, Meme's Fried Okra, Angel Biscuits, Bourbon Sweet Potatoes and Fried Catfish Fingers with Country Rémolade are just some of the 200 mouth-watering creations found in "Bon Appétit, Y'All: Recipes and Stories from Three Generations of Southern Cooking."

Atlanta-based Willis first took to food in her grandmother's Montezuma, Georgia, farmhouse kitchen, then soaked up Cajun and Creole cooking during her youth in Louisiana. She began her professional career by apprenticing with Nathalie Dupree (who contributed the Foreword to "Bon Appétit, Y'All"), before becoming kitchen director for Martha Stewart's television show. (Ms. Stewart says of her new cookbook, "I love it!"). Willis attended the prestigious French cooking school, école de Cuisine La Varenne and cooked with the late Julia Child.

This fall the Atlanta Journal Constitution wrote about "Bon Appétit, Y'All": "Gorgeously photographed and filled with warm notes about recipes learned from her mother, grandparents, and friends, [it] seems designed as an ideal gift," and the Raleigh News & Observer noted that "Simple, great ingredients are the hallmark of this book, whose recipes display a great flair for techniques that are Southern and European. The food becomes timeless and borderless. . . . It's Southern, sure, but with a refreshing twist." And because Willis has led cooking classes for years, her dishes are straight forward and doable. "These are recipes to cook in the home kitchen," she writes in the introduction, "not restaurant-driven creations; 'Bon Appétit, Y'All' is my way of saying 'Welcome to my southern kitchen; pull up a chair!'" As part of this year's Highlands Culinary Weekend, Willis's teaching skills will be on display Saturday during a cooking demonstration at the restaurant...on the Verandah. But don't miss



her Friday evening at Cyrano's: The Journal-Constitution described Willis as "camera-ready, with her salt and pepper hair pulled into her signature ponytail and a slick of red lipstick revealing a full, sly smile. She is sturdy. Not a tight-sweater chef like Nigella or Giada, but just as beautiful. And her voice rolls along like a Patsy Cline tune."

If author and retired Navy SEAL Paul Evancoe taught you everything he knows he'd probably have to kill you. After a career that included combat, service as Director for Special Operations in the U.S. State Department's counter-terrorism section and then leader of the National Nuclear Security Administration's office of emergency response, Evancoe surely knows where the bodies — and uranium — are buried. But Lt. Jake Boucher—the hero of Evancoe's novel "Own the Night"—knows where the gold is buried. During the 1968 Tet Offensive in Vietnam, Boucher's platoon of Navy SEALs witness a plane crash while on a mission to rescue a POW deep inside enemy territory in Cambodia. The story resumes in present day as the rescued POW, Leon "Pat" Patterson, retires from the FBI and offers his old SEAL benefactor some closely held information that the plane was carrying South Vietnam's gold reserves from Saigon, in advance of its impending fall to the Communists. The SEALs reunite and return to recover the gold, but what they find involves them in the heart of an intricate conspiracy, threatening the entire U.S. government and the security and lifestyle of every citizen.

Vince Flynn, author of such best-selling thrillers as "Memorial Day" and "Protect and Defend" says, "'Own the Night' is a page turner — it's raw and real. Paul Evancoe masterfully skewers fact and fiction into an exquisitely evocative story that will both disturb and delight you. I can't wait for the sequel." And fans, don't worry: Evancoe already has one in the works. Mr. Evancoe lives in Maryland, where he is president of Aegis Industries, Inc. And here's some television trivia: Evancoe is long-time friends with retired SEAL Rudy Bosch, who gained fame in the first edition of CBS's "Survivor"; Evancoe was Bosch's commander! Cyrano's Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an e-mail to cyranos@nctv.com; to learn more about our store please visit www.cyranosbooks.com.

On-going Events

• The Bascom is offering a host of art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens from now through the end of the school year. For more information, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 0#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext 258) or friends.of.panthertown@gmail.com or online at www.jmca.org

• Four churches prepare to "Walk to Bethlehem." The Macon County Public Health Center is continuing a successful faith-based wellness program. Four local churches, with assistance from the Health Promotions Program at the public health center, are embarking on a virtual journey from Franklin to Bethlehem as a part of the "Walk to Bethlehem" program. The four participating churches include First United Methodist Church, Holly Springs Baptist Church, Prentiss Church of God, and Watauga Baptist Church. The Walk to Bethlehem program encourages church members to be more physically active and make healthier food choices. According to the Centers for Disease Control, everyone needs at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days to stay healthy. As a part of the Walk to Bethlehem program, the public health center provided a pre-event health screening to the churches.

• Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A wide variety of items currently are needed, including books and magazines, CDs and DVDs, and small pocket books, which fit neatly in the BDUs (Battle Dress Uniforms). Phone cards, lounge pants, grey or black t-shirts, and cards of encouragement are also in great demand. Consumables such as insect repellent, lotions, and other hygiene products must come new, in original packaging. Monetary donations to fund the flat rate APO shipping at \$10.95 per box should be left at the front desk of Chestnut Hill. The drop point for all items will be under the flagpole at the Chestnut Hill Clubhouse on Clubhouse Trail. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

• Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. If you are in grades 6th-12th then this is the place to be! The church is located at 6201 Highlands Rd. next to Exxon. For more info call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7540 ext 203, www.cullasajaag.org.

• Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to Benefit The Bascom. To purchase a raffle ticket, call Four different images will be available for sale and for raffle, so people can buy all four images for \$2,000 and have four different chances of winning. Call 526-4949, ext. 8#.

• Yoga at the Rec Park, 7:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesdays. Call 526-4340 for information.

• Yoga in the bottom floor of Jane Woodruff Building, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays. Call 526-4340.

• 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.

• 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 Woodruff room 201, 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

Mon. & Wed.

• Pilates Classes Level 1 of Jane Woodruff at the hospital at 4 p.m. \$10 per class. Call 526-5852.

• Middle School students After School Program from 3-5 p.m. at the Rec Park. The program is free and will include a snacks, homework help, arts/crafts, sports, community involvement projects, and mini field trips. Parents will be required to register their child(ren) upon their second day of attendance and children will be required to sign in daily. For more information please call 828.526.3556.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$50 a month.

Wed., & Fri.

• Open AA meeting noon at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Tues. & Thurs.

• Dance Aerobics with Susan, 8:30 a.m. at the Rec Park.

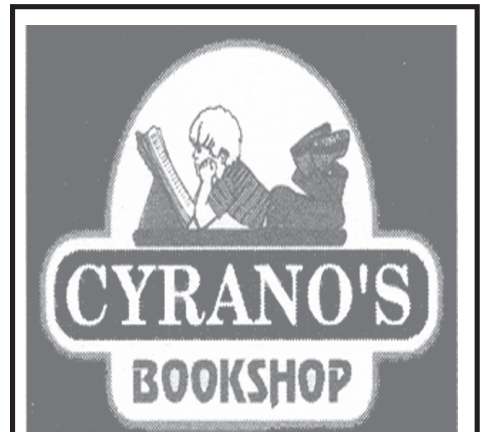
First Mondays

• 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.

Mondays

• Open AA meeting, 8 p.m. at the Episcopal

• See EVENTS page 26



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Upcoming Book Signings

Friday, Nov. 14

6-8 p.m.

Virginia Willis

"Bon Appetit, Y'all: Recipes and Stories from Three Generations of Southern Cooking"

Saturday, Nov. 15

1-3 p.m.

Paul Evancoe

"Own the Night"

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Church at Fifth and Main streets.

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

Tuesdays

- 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.

Wednesdays

- Highlands Mountain Top 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.

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.

1st & 3rd Thursdays

- The local affiliate of NAMI NC (National Alliance on Mental Illness), NAMI Appalachian South, meets from 7-9 p.m. at the Family Restoration Center, 1095 Wiley Brown Road, Franklin. NAMI offers peer support, education, and advocacy for individuals suffering from serious mental illness and their families and loved ones. Contact Ann Nandrea 369-7385, Carole Light

524-9769 or Mary Ann Widenhouse 524-1355 for more information.

Thursdays

- Al-Anon meeting, noon at the Episcopal Church on Main and Fifth streets.

Thursdays & Fridays

- Live music at The Rib Shack from 7-10 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

- Chad Reed at piano at ...on the Verandah restaurant from 7 p.m.

Saturdays

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant at 9:30 p.m.

Through Nov. 22

- The Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences presents Celebrate Clay, a pottery show featuring Western North Carolina Potters. Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hambidge can be reached at 706-746-5718 or visited online at www.hambidge.org.

Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 13-16

- Highlands Second Annual Culinary Weekend at Highlands' area restaurants, accommodations and merchants partner to present a variety of uniquely designed classes, tastings, dinners, and events. Call Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center at 866-526-5841 or 828-526-5841. See page 18.

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 14-16

- At Acom's on Main Street, a MarieBelle Chocolates Trunk Show. MarieBelle offers fine gourmet chocolates for the true connoisseur.

Thursday, Nov. 13

- Highlands Culinary Weekend Opening Gala Reception at 7 p.m. at Pine Street Park. Shuttle service will be provided from Highlands Recreation Park and Highlands Plaza to Pine Street Park. Please utilize shuttle service for this event, as parking on site will be extremely limited. Please see the Reservation and Ticket information page for purchasing tickets. \$100 per person.

Thursday, Nov. 13

- The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host Reid Conway from NC State Energy Office at a program at noon at Tartan Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin. The Energy Office is the lead agency for energy programs, services and information for consumers, businesses, government agencies, schools, and policy makers. He will discuss methods found throughout WNC to save energy for free. Lunch is available by reservation — email lwvmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info or call 369-5007. The public is invited.

Friday, Nov. 14

- Culinary event at ...on the Verandah from noon - 2 pm. "A Taste of Spice" featuring Myron Redford, Winemaker of Amity Vineyards. \$50 plus sales tax & gratuity

- Culinary event at ...on the Verandah at 6:30 p.m. Caymus Vineyards & Wines of the Wagner Family is OTV's Guest Chef Wine Dinner Series Jeremy Lieb of Atlanta's Trois Restaurant. \$145 plus sales tax & gratuity

- Wine Luncheon at Wolfgang's Bistro. Domaine Serene, Flavor Spectrum Luncheon. Call Wolfgang's at 828.526.3807 or visit our web site at www.wolfgang.net.

- Wine Dinner at Wolfgang's Bistro. Boutique Winery Gala, "Battle of the Sexes" Women Winemakers vs. Male Winemakers "Battle of the Sexes" Gala Cocktail Party. Six wonderful wineries will be represented at Wolfgang's with pairing of food both at the wine tables and passed throughout the night. Call Wolfgang's at 526-3807.

- At Sweettreats from 11 am - 1 pm, Simple Pleasures of Ice Cream. Ice cream personality Scottie Mayfield will entertain you with an intimate look at the growth of Mayfield Dairies, as well as the history of everyone's favorite treat — ice cream. Enjoy a delightful lunch of SweetTreat's signature seafood bisque, and a choice of salad and sandwich. Then top it all off with a custom created ice cream, using whole, fresh fruits, nuts, candies, and of course- Mayfield Ice Cream. \$20 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 40

- At Kilwin's from 11 am - 1 pm. Candy Making

- At Cyprus International Restaurant at noon, Off The Beaten Path, Cooking Class and Luncheon. Let's get together and cook some food from lesser known places: Finnish afternoon snack; roasted pork and greens from Akra, Ghana; Inonesian-American food from Surinam, South America; Dendi fried corn cakes from Salvador, Brazil; Pelmeni from Kiev, Ukraine. Will include instruction, food, wine and or beer. Kitchen knives will be available or bring your own. No kitchen skills are required- just bring your sense of humor and a smile. \$79. Limit 30.

- At Paoletti's Restaurant from noon - 3 pm, Piedmont Wine Tasting Barolo, Barbaresco, Barbera and Super-Piedmontese wines from Enotec Imports will be showcased. Blair Taylor, Owner/Importer offers his insight on the great wines of Piedmont, one of Italy's premier wine regions. \$50. Limit 35

- At Pescado's Highland Burritos from 2:30 - 5

pm, Margaritas and Mojitos. Upscale Tex-Mex Offerings paired with something to tickle your fancy. \$40.

- At Oak Street Café & Restaurant from 5 - 8 pm, Food, Flame and Brew. Oak Street Café's Executive Chef, Charles Emrick, invites you to an exciting outdoor/indoor event. Featuring outdoor grilling of some of the world's most intriguing cuisines. Highland Brewing Co. will be on hand with some of the finest and freshest ales in the southeast. \$75. Limit 75.

- At Madison's Restaurant from 5:30-8:30 pm,

Stiefel botanical book raffle to benefit The Bascom



Artist Rosemary Clark Stiefel explains the love behind the botanical book she created for The Bascom at a gathering earlier this year. The Bascom is raffling Stiefel's one-of-a-kind book of original watercolor botanicals to benefit art centers capital campaign. Stiefel donated to The Bascom the original, hand-crafted book containing 20 watercolor botanicals, and raffle tickets are being sold for \$500 each, with only 400 tickets being sold. The book, leather-bound and made in Italy, features another 30 pages of images and text about the botanicals. In addition to a raffle ticket, every ticket purchaser will receive a gift of a giclee reproduction, suitable for framing, of a Stiefel watercolor botanical: Pitch Pine, Solomon's Seal, Jewel Weed or Turk's Cap Lily. The reproduction is 75% of the original size of the botanical appearing in the book. "These giclees make great holiday presents," said Bob Fisher, The Bascom's board chairman. For more information or to purchase a raffle ticket, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949, ext. 8#, or visit www.thebascom.org/book-raffle.

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QUANTUM OF SOLACE

rated PG-13

Friday: (4:30), 7:10, 9:30

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:30), 7:10, 9:30

Mon - Thurs (4:30), 7:10

MADAGASCAR:

ESCAPE 2 AFRICA

rated PG

Friday: (4:10), 7, 9:10

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:10), 7:10

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES

rated PG-13

Friday: (4:20), 7:15, 9:20

Sat & Sun: (2:15), (4:20), 7:15, 9:20

Mon - Thurs: (4:20), 7:15

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3:

SENIOR YEAR

rated G

Friday: (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

Mon - Thurs: (4:15), 7:05

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weekly show about Highlands

Mountain Home

Showcase

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Visitor Information Program

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DVDs of

Heart of the High Country available at the Hudson Library and Movie Stop



Northland Cable Television

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Historical Society Christmas Showhouse set for Dec. 6-7



This year the Highlands Historical Society has arranged for this Joe Webb log house on Satulah Road to be featured as its Christmas Showhouse. The house, now owned by Jim Green, was built in the 1930s and is one of the largest of the homes built by Joe Webb. The Showhouse will be open from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7. Local decorators are now at work planning how they will decorate each of the rooms in the house. Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased at Cyranos Bookshop or in front of Bryson's Food Store on either day of the event. Proceeds will benefit the Historical Society. Shuttles will run from Bryson's to the Showhouse.

Local Farmer's Bounty Dinner, 5-course Dinner Showcasing the produce and products of our local farmers. \$75 per person. 5 course Dinner (no beverages included), inclusive of tax and gratuity. \$169 per person. 5-course Dinner (includes a perfectly paired experience of wine, selected by Chef Bill Heubel for every course), inclusive of tax and gratuity. Two seatings available at 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm Reservations Taken Through Madison's.

• At Fressers Eatery at 6:30 pm, St. Supéry Wine Dinner. Chef/Owner Debbie Grossman along with pastry chef Boni Lampman will dazzle your taste buds as they meticulously prepare an amazing menu paired with five varieties of St. Supéry's magnificent wines. Donna Creese, east coast representative, will be on hand for this memorable event. \$135 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 50.

• At Lakeside Restaurant at 7 pm, The Opus One Experience. For the second year, Owner/Chef Marty Rosenfield, of Lakeside Restaurant, is offering an unbelievable tasting of three vintages of Opus One Wines. Take pleasure in a delectable menu that will effortlessly compliment these outstanding wines. \$195 plus tax and gratuity Limit 40.

• At the Log Cabin Restaurant at 7:30 pm, Adelsheim Wine Dinner. Enjoy the warmth of three fireplaces in a 1924 Log Cabin as Dave Adelsheim, owner of Adelsheim winery, the second oldest winery in Oregon for this unforgettable five-course dinner. Cuisine such as scallops, pheasant and venison paired

with single vineyard Chardonnay, Pinot Noir an Ice Pinot Noir for dessert. \$95 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 50.

Sat. & Sun., Nov. 15-16

• The annual all children's play "Cinderella" 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Call 706-212-2500.

Saturday, Nov. 15

• The Highlands Plateau Greenway will have a trail construction work trip on Saturday at 9 a.m. To participate call Hillrie Quin at 526-2385 or hmquin@verizon.net. Participants will be furnished the necessary tools and safety equipment. Participants should bring water, lunch, rain gear, a day pack to hold everything. Boots and warm clothes that can get dirty are advised.

• NANTAHALA HIKING CLUB will take a 4.6 mile moderate hike, with an elevation change of 1000 feet, from Long Branch to Glassmine Gap on the Appalachian Trail to Rock Gap in the Standing Indian Area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin at 10 AM. Drive 25 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please. Call leaders Bill & Sharon Van Horn, 369-1983, for reservations.

• A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8# or email jconnor@thebascom.org.

• Culinary event at ... on the Verandah from 11

a.m. to 1 p.m. "Southern Comfort" Cooking Demonstration featuring Virginia Willis, Author of Bon Appetit Y'All. \$40 plus sales tax & gratuity

• Culinary event at ... on the Verandah at 6:30 p.m. "Play It Again Tom — Caribbean Fusion, Part II" Tom Harvey of Atlanta's One. Midtown Kitchen Warren Sangeorge of Majestic Fine Wines. Featuring Archipel, Hartford Family Winery & Matanzas Creek Winery. \$115 plus sales tax & gratuity

• Calena Alta Wine Dinner at OEI's The Farm. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. For reservations, call 866-526-8008.

• Wine Dinner at Wolfgang's Bistro Silver Oak Cellars Wine Dinner with Tom Johnson "Life is a Cabernet!" Featuring Twomey Merlot, Twomey Pinot Noir, Alexander Valley Cabernet and Napa Valley Cabernet from Silver Oak Cellars. Call 526-3807.

• At Fressers Eatery from 10 am – 12, Baking with Boni. Come play with the dough or just enjoy as pastry chef, Boni Lampman, demonstrates how to make irresistible breads that you too can make at home. Your fresh baked breads will be perfectly paired with Fressers fabulous blue crab soup along with other delectable delights. \$40. Limit 30.

• At Cyprus International Restaurant at noon, Hot and Spicy Cooking. This class will revolve around chilies, demonstrating some of the most delicious cuisines from the world over, plus an open selection of great beer from the USA, Europe, and Asia. Menu ranging from a little bit piquant to extremely hot. Featuring: Bhutanese Roasted Chiles with Sheepmilk Cheese Sauce; Thai Pad Prik, Shrimp and Sundried Chile Salad; Spanish Caldo Verde with Piri Piri; Chick-

• See EVENTS page 28

Wine Dinners at The Log Cabin Restaurant



Friday, Nov. 14 • 7:30 p.m.

Adelsheim Wine Dinner

Enjoy the warmth of three fireplaces in a 1924 Log Cabin as The Log Cabin Restaurant hosts Dave Adelsheim, owner of Adelsheim winery, the 2nd oldest winery in Oregon for this unforgettable 5-course dinner. Cuisine such as scallops, pheasant and venison paired with single vineyard Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and an Ice Pinot Noir for dessert.

\$95 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 50

Saturday, Nov. 15 • 7:30 p.m.

Grateful Palate Wine Dinner

For the second year, Log Cabin Restaurant is hosting The Grateful Palate Imports out of Australia for an entertaining culinary experience. This year, we decided to kick it up a notch and feature "R Wines," a partnership between Grateful Palate owner Dave Phillips and winemaker Chris Ringland who has produced 13 wines that scored 100 pts. Highlighting this 5-course dinner will be some yet to be released wines.

\$110 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 50

Reservations required

On Log Cabin Road behind Hampton Inn • 526-3380





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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

en Masala in Banana Leaf from India. Will include instruction, food, wine and or beer. Kitchen knives will be available or bring your own. No kitchen skills are required- just bring your sense of humor and a smile. \$79. Limit 30

- At Main Street Inn from noon - 2 pm, All Things Wonderful Fashion Show Luncheon. Drake's Diamond Gallery, Rosenthal's, and McCulley's Cashmere will host a ladies luncheon fashion show. \$19.95 Limit 50

- At Paoletti's from noon - 2pm a Grand Tasting. Casual wine tasting of a selection of 50 to 100 wines; Informative and authoritative yet informal and fun; A chance to taste wines from Italy, France, California and the Willamette Valley. Offering the chance to sample wines from premium producers for purchase by the case with Special Pre-Holiday Pricing. \$20.

- Sip and Stroll from 2-5 pm. Experience the wares of Highlands' fine shops, while tasting and enjoying a selection of wine & paired with cheeses from Bryson's Food Store. Carolina Eyes, Extreme Threads, The Toy Store, Cyrano's, The Christmas Tree, Village Kids, Bryant Art Glass, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry, McCulley's, Wits End, Dutchman's Design, John Collette Fine Art, Drake Diamonds, Summit One Gallery Maps and starting points will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce. \$35. Limit 75

- At The Fireside Restaurant at 2 pm, Holiday Entertaining Cooking Class. Holiday cooking demonstrations will educate, entertain, and inspire new culi-

nary delights. We'll showcase a variety of wines to pair with your favorite holiday dishes and present new, elegant-made-easy, ideas to create memorable meals. The Christmas Tree On The Hill will have decorated the dining room to give you ideas you can incorporate into your holiday. \$15. Limit 30

- At Basketcase, 2, 3, & 4 pm, Biltmore Estate Wines and Chocolate Heaven, 294 S. 4th Street, "on the Hill" - Cost \$15 per person - Reservations appreciated, but not necessary, call for more information. 828.526.5026

- At The Farm of Old Edwards Inn & Spa at 6 pm, a Catena Alta Wine Dinner, 6-7 pm Cocktail Reception, 7-10 pm Wine Dinner. Three Night Weekend Package is Available at Old Edwards Inn and Spa. Please call 828-787-2625 for details. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity.

- At Paoletti's at 6 pm, Piemontese Wines, Open Dining. House cuisine paired with fine selections for your dining pleasure. \$ Menu

- At Cyprus International Restaurant at 7 pm, Dim Sum and Selections of Edwards Sellers, Paso Robles, of California. Enjoy a great array of Dim Sum (Chinese Tastes), delivered steaming hot to your table, on a traditional cart. \$79

- At Fireside Restaurant at 7 pm, Holiday Food, Wine and Ambiance Dinner. Chef Travis Schultz will present a pre-fix menu including final version from the afternoon's cooking demonstrations. Wines chosen specifically to enhance each course will be served. The Christmas Tree On The Hill will offer a beautifully decorated dining room. \$85. Limit 30

- At Lakeside Restaurant at 7 pm, Duckhorn Vineyards Wine Dinner From our quaint setting on Harris Lake, delight in the company of our local ducks, while enjoying 5 varietals of Duckhorn wines perfectly paired with Lakeside specialties. Exceptionally suitable wines will be paired with our excellent food and fabulous location. \$150 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 40.

- At the Log Cabin Restaurant at 7:30 pm, Grateful Palate Wine Dinner, featuring "R Wines," a partnership between Grateful Palate owner Dave Phillips and winemaker Chris Ringland who himself has produced 13 wines that scored 100 points from Australia. Highlighting this five-course dinner will be some yet to be released wines. \$110 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 50.

Sunday, Nov. 16

- At Chestnut Hill Retirement Village at 7:30 pm a Sunday Buffet. A delightful menu featuring Lamb, Game Hen and Local Trout. \$35 plus tax and gratuity Limit: 20.

- NANTHALA HIKING CLUB will take an easy 2-mile hike to Mud Creek Falls in the Sky Valley area. Hike suitable for children 10 or over. Meet at Smoky Mt. Visitor Center on 441 South, Otto at 2 PM (Highlands or Cashiers hikers call for alternate meeting place). Bring a drink, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Drive 12 miles round trip from Franklin. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, Nov. 17

- Western Carolina University is offering a SAT preparation workshop from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday in Room 137 of the Cordelia Camp Building. Students will learn study strategies specifically for the SAT. Equal time will be devoted to both mathematics and verbal skills. Instructors for the workshop will be Terri Caron, head of the math department at Swain County

High School, and Cassie Dickson, outreach counselor with WCU's Educational Talent Search. Registration is \$49. To register, call the Division of Educational Outreach at (828) 227-3688 or visit the Web site <http://learn.wcu.edu>.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

- Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy and the Open Space Institute are hosting a public event to celebrate recent accomplishments at 11 a.m. at the Community Foundation of Western N.C. office on the 16th floor in the BB&T building in Asheville, Suite 1600. They will announce future wildlife conservation efforts for the Highlands of Roan land conservation initiative, focusing in particular on partnerships that advance State Wildlife Action Plan protection priorities in the Southern Appalachians. Directions, parking info, and a map are located at <http://www.cfwnc.org/about/directions.html>

Wednesday, Nov. 19

- The Iconic Smothers Brothers are coming to Cullowhee, NC. Tom and Dick Smothers with special guest appearance by the Yo Yo Man will be performing at the Fine & Performing Arts Center at Western Carolina University to help raise awareness and funds for R.E.A.C.H of Jackson and Macon Counties. To order your tickets contact the Fine and Performing Arts Center at 828-227-2479.

- An American Red Cross Adult CPR with AED and Infant/Child CPR course will be conducted by the Macon County Public Health Center. 8:30 a.m. until

Ladies Banquet Nov. 20



Yvonne Welch

First Baptist Church will be hosting our 12th Annual Gwynne Robinson Holiday Banquet next week on Nov. 20 at the Highlands Civic Center. All ladies are invited to attend. The keynote speaker is Mrs. Yvonne Welch.



151 Helen's Barn Avenue, Highlands

Friday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 pm St. Supéry Wine Dinner

Chef/Owner Debbie Grossman along with pastry chef Boni Lampman will dazzle your taste buds as they meticulously prepare an amazing menu paired with five varieties of St. Supéry's magnificent wines. Donna Creese, east coast representative, will be on hand for this memorable event. \$135 plus tax and gratuity. Limit 50. (Wine will be available to purchase that night at a significant discount so you can stock up.)

Saturday, 10 am - 12 Baking with Boni

Come play with the dough or just enjoy as pastry chef, Boni Lampman, demonstrates how to make irresistible breads that you too can make at home. Your fresh baked breads will be perfectly paired with Fresser's fabulous blue crab soup along with other delectable delights. \$40. Limit 30

Also, open for regular dinner service all weekend. Cy Timmons performing Saturday night 6 p.m. until.

Call for reservations • 526-4188

Help needed to maintain mountain trails



Volunteers are needed to maintain Panthertown Valley trails at monthly work days, usually on the last Thursday of the month. Due to Thanksgiving, the upcoming work day has been rescheduled to Thursday, November 20th at 10 am at the Cold Mountain entrance. Anyone interested is welcome to attend - no previous experience is necessary, but participants should be in good physical condition. Volunteers should bring a backpack, lunch, plenty of water, work gloves, rain gear, and if possible, hand tools such as folding saws, hand pruners, or loppers. Information about work days, are posted on our calendar of events at www.j-mca.org. For information about membership and volunteer opportunities contact Nina Elliott, the Friends of Panthertown Coordinator, at 828-526-9938 (ext. 258), by email at friends.of.panthertown@gmail.com or online at www.j-mca.org.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

4:30 pm Participants must pre-register and pre-pay at the Macon County Public Health Center before Monday, November 17, 2008. For more information on class fees, please call Jennifer at 349-2439.

• At the Jackson County Public Library in Sylva at 7 p.m. a free author event featuring Jackson County author Thomas Rain Crowe. Crowe's new book of essays on the environment also features the artwork of Robert Johnson, who is noted for his imagistic and imaginary landscape paintings and drawings, and is an ardent environmentalist. Thomas Rain Crowe, also

'Prince of Dark Corners' at PAC Nov. 29



Gary Carden, popular folklorist and storyteller from Sylva, NC, is the author of a play entitled, "Prince of Dark Corners." The play, starring Martin Higgins, will be presented at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Nov. 29 at 8 p.m..

Gary Carden had his audience laughing until they cried when he appeared at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street last summer. Now he will return to PAC to introduce a play he has written, "Prince of Dark Corners." Carden graduated from Western Carolina University, then taught literature and drama for 15 years, worked for the Cherokee Indians another 15 years and has spent the last 15 years as a lecturer and storyteller.

Last summer Carden's performance at PAC featured a story he calls "Blow the Tannery Whistle" about life in Sylva when he was being reared by his grandparents after his father was murdered by a local drunk. He claims he told his first stories to 150 white leg-horn chickens in a dark chicken-house when he was six years old. His audience was not terribly attentive and tended to get hysterical during the dramatic parts.

Carden's appearance last summer at PAC was to a full house, so tickets to this month's performance of his play is strongly advised. Tickets are \$15 each and may be charged by calling 526-9047.

active in regional environmental issues, is an internationally published and acknowledged poet, publisher and non-fiction writer who lives in the Tuckasegee community in Jackson County, NC.

Thursday, Nov. 20

• At the Albert Carlton – Cashiers Community Library, "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" is the fourth in the Indiana adventure series. Dr. Henry "Indiana" Jones (Harrison Ford) becomes entangled in a Soviet plot to uncover the secret of the mysterious Crystal Skulls. The movies will be shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p. m. The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated. Movies are among the many services provided to the community by the Friends of the Library

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 21 & 22

• The annual all children's play "Cinderella" 7 p.m. at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Call

706-212-2500.

Saturday, Nov. 22

• Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sumptuous hors d'oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. \$20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

• A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8# or email jconnor@thebascom.org.

• NANTATHALA HIKING CLUB will take a 5.5 mile strenuous hike over Rabun Bald and down the east slope to Hale Ridge road, with an elevation gain of 300 feet and a descent of 400 feet. Meet at the Scaly Mtn. Post Office at 9:30 AM. Drive 5 miles round trip with car shuttle. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy shoes, hiking preferably boots. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets

please.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will offer free flu shots to the general public at a special, one-day-only clinic on the hospital campus Wednesday. Hospital personnel will be giving flu vaccinations between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Suite 103 on the first level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. There will be no charge, but pre-registration is required and supplies are limited. Those interested in signing up for the clinic should call 526-1434 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointment slots will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis in order to reduce waiting times.

Wed.-Mon., Nov. 26-Dec. 1

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Mary Louise Jewelry Trunk Show. Exclusive line of 18k gold jewelry with a distinctively feminine flair.

Highlands Culinary Weekend Events at...



...on the Verandah
Highlands' Most Scenic Dining Overlooking
Lake Sequoyah

Friday, Nov. 14, noon—2 pm

A Taste of Spice"
featuring Myron Redford, Winemaker of Amity
Vineyards
\$50 plus sales tax & gratuity

Friday, Nov. 14, 6:30 pm

Caymus Vineyards &
Wines of the Wagner Family
Featured for OTV's Guest Chef Wine Dinner
Series
Jeremy Lieb of Atlanta's Trois Restaurant
\$145 plus sales tax & gratuity

Saturday, Nov. 15, 11 am — 1 pm

"Southern Comfort" Cooking Demonstration
featuring Virginia Willis, Author of Bon Appetit
Y'All
\$40 plus sales tax & gratuity

Saturday, Nov. 15, 6:30 pm

"Play It Again Tom — Caribbean Fusion, Part II"
Tom Harvey of Atlanta's One. Midtown Kitchen
Warren Sangeorge of Majestic Fine Wines
Featuring Archipel, Hartford Family Winery &
Matanzas Creek Winery
\$115 plus sales tax & gratuity

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HELP WANTED

RETAIL MANAGER — The Bascom seeks experienced art gallery manager for retail store & information desk. Winter: part-time. Spring, summer & fall: full-time including some evenings & weekends. Duties: locate, vet, purchase or commission, display, promote & sell high quality crafts & artwork; develop & manage budget, point of sale & inventory control; hire, schedule & supervise sales associates. Required: college degree & five years related experience. Submit resume & cover letter by November 14th to: Director, The Bascom, P. O. Box 766, Highlands, NC 28741.11/13

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION — The Bascom seeks experienced art educator with strong academic, organizational & communication skills for management position. Develop, plan, budget & deliver studio courses (via contract faculty), artist-in-residence workshops, school age & adult programs. Required: college degree & five years related experience; PC & AV skills; master's degree preferred. Submit resume & cover letter by November 14th to: Director, The Bascom, P. O. Box 766, Highlands, NC 28741.11/13

NOW HIRING AT BUCK'S COFFEE CAFE OF CASHIERS — Call Steve at 828-200-9824 after 4 p.m. 11/6

SKILLED MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS — needed by Thompson who has immediate openings in the Franklin, NC area. Candidates must have strong electrical and mechanical experience in a manufacturing environment. Successful candidates will be responsible for maintaining all production equipment and associated hardware. Electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic and mechanical skills required. Strong PLC skills and robotics experience a plus for some positions. Requires 5 to 7 years of maintenance experience in a manufacturing environment. Shift work and some overtime required. Excellent compensation and benefits. Salary based upon experience. You may apply using any of the following resources; apply online at www.thompsonind.com, email resume to tnorman@thompsonind.com or apply at the Franklin, ESC office. EOE.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is actively seeking a responsible and en-

ergetic individual to fill the full-time position of Director of Children and Youth Ministries. Bachelor's degree or five years related experience required. Send resumes to HUMC, P.O. Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741. Attn: Scott Roddy or email inquires and resumes to humcsc@dnet.net.

SOUS CHEF — Experience required. Full time position available. Team player. Call 787-2200.

MLT or MT needed in the laboratory at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Second and third shifts available with an occasional weekend and holiday rotation. Registry of ASCP or equivalent is required. Must be able to work alone. 3-5 years experience as a generalist with blood banking is preferred. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

PHYSICIAN BILLING MANAGER: needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full time position available. Responsible for managing all billing procedures for the physician's offices. At least 3 years of office and insurance billing experience. CMA, EMT, or similar training and certification. Current training in coding is required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RNs 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 Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. PRN positions are available. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

WORK WANTED

WILL DO ODD JOBS, YARD WORK. JUST ASK. CALL 526 8525.

WILL DO MOST ANYTHING — clean houses, baby sit, caregiver. Call 526 8525.

CUSTOM TILE AND SLATE INSTALLATION. 828-526-4889.

PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED CHEF — with 15 years experience in 4 and 5 star restaurants available to prepare custom menus for you and your family. Your kitchen or mine. Will travel for specialty/organic ingredients. Long-term/year around or special event catering available. Special dietary needs accommodated. Please call 743-0649 or email eleanorcrowe@aol.com for consultation or questions.

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

SAPPHIRE VALLEY — Beautiful 1,500 sq. ft. available Feb. 1 \$1995/month. Call 743-2299. 12/7

DEVELOPER CLOSEOUT! — Unit at Freeman Center on N.C. 106 available for Rent/Own at \$1,995 monthly or for sale at \$379,900. That's a purchase price of only \$165 per sq. ft. Call 526-5296 or 828-421-3161.

PRIME OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT — 800 sq. ft., air-conditioned, heated, plenty of parking. Call 526-5673.

RETAIL/OFFICE SPACE - 800 - 3,000 Sq Ft. Located in Highlands Plaza. Entrances on Hwy. 28 & 106. Great Visibility. High Traffic. Abundant Parking. Reasonable Terms. Best location in town. Call 864-630-0808 for info.

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT — 1 bed, 1 bath, living area, kitchen and utility room. \$750/month. \$300 security deposit. Rent includes utilities (electric, water, heat, local phone.) one-year lease. Prefer non-smoker. No pets. Unfurnished. Good for 1-2 people. Call 526-9494. (st. 11/13)

AVAILABLE DECEMBER 10TH. Prefer long term. Location: Off Buck Creek Road and Shortoff...Highlands mailing address. 4 bedroom plus bonus room (can be used as bedroom); 3.5 bath..year round house for rent, rent to purchase or purchase. W/D, dishwasher. Walk in closet in Master. Master on main; deck, water feature, two car garage. Loads of storage. Will rent partially furnished or unfurnished. NO smoking; prefer no pets; \$2,200/mo plus utilities. Require one month security deposit that CANNOT be used as final months' rent. Pictures available upon request. Please call Jim at 828.200.0723 for rental information. 12/4

LUXURY LONG-TERM RENTAL HOME W/ OFFICE — Convenient "Heart of Cashiers." Quiet lake. Furnished 3 bdrm/3 bath with large home office. www.nc-mountainhouse.com \$2,600/month + utilities. (828) 526-3704 or (828) 526-0169. 11/27

LOOKING FOR CLEAN, QUIET NON-SMOKER WITH NO PETS — to rent furnished 1 bed, 1 bath apartment. \$600 includes all basic utilities. Cheaper with one year lease. Call 526-0079.

HOUSE FOR RENT AND SALE — 3/2 w/ office, great roommate plan 1600 sft., gated community, Scaly Mt. half way between Highlands and Clayton, access to 17 acre lake and hiking from 424 sq ft porch or watch sun rise from 424 sq. ft. deck. \$1,200/mo plus utilities. Internet and satellite available. No children, pets, or ATVs; house actively being shown for sale during rental. Call Pat 828-243-9646 re rent or Becky 828-526-2475 re sale. pserrer@mindspring.com

DOWNTOWN APARTMENT RENTAL — One bedroom (Queen), one bath, vaulted ceiling in great room, heat and air with gas fireplace. Fully furnished with W/D, cozy and comfortable. \$750 a month plus utilities. Call 526-2598 or 421-3614.

1 BED, 1 BATH and small room with bunk beds on Lake Sequoyah. Furnished, two boats. \$1,000 a month including utilities except phone. Call Tony at 828-332-7830.

SAPPHIRE NC — 2 Story 3Bed/3 Bath, Yr round views, 2 decks, remodeled, Furnished, 2 car garage. Available yearly or seasonal. 561-626-9556
2 BDRM, 2 BATH CONDO AT HIGHLANDS MTN. CLUB, next to Highlands Country Club. AC,

gas logs, hdwd floors, fully furnished. One small pet allowed. Deck & screened porch. In city limits. Amenities include heated pool, road & entrance snow removal. \$875 per month. 828-200-0786.

TWO-STORY APARTMENT FOR RENT ON CHENEY LANE — (3 minutes from Highlands/Cashiers Hospital). One-year Lease Agreement. Recent Renovation. Fully Furnished. Available October 1, 2008. 2 bedrooms/2 baths. 3 extra large closet. Kitchen with dishwasher and new JennAire cookstove, many kitchen cabinets. Washer/dryer, dining area, living room, cable and telephone connection, native stone fireplace. \$1,000/month, includes water, sewer, electricity. (Will negotiate) Single Family. References Required. No Pets. No Smoking. Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489. 11/13

2 BED, 2 BA HOUSE — Carport, Storage, Garage. \$800 a month. In Scaly. Call 423-715-7757.

2 BED, 2 BA, COTTAGE — W/D, 2 miles from town off Cashiers Road. Garage/basement, covered deck. \$925 a month. Call 864-944-1175.

FURNISHED 3BD/2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease \$1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

ATTRACTIVE 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH APARTMENT available for immediate occupancy. Desirable Main Street location features balcony, large kitchen with dishwasher, spacious laundry equipped with washer and dryer. Recently renovated. No smokers and no pets. Call John for details. 526-5587. References required.

DAYLIGHT 1 BED/1 BATH BASEMENT APARTMENT FOR RENT — One-year Lease Agreement. Available Now. (3 minutes from Highlands/Cashiers Hospital). Recent Complete Renovation. Fully Furnished, kitchen, dining area, living room, washer/dryer, cable connection, fireplace, \$600 includes water, sewer, electricity, Single Family, (Will negotiate) References Required, No Pets, No Smoking, Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489. 11/13

TURTLE POND 2 bed/2 1/2 bath, hot tub; furnished; no smoking/pets 828-526-2759.

3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE — In town. \$1250 per month. Very clean. 770-977-5692.

ON MIRROR LAKE — Charming 3 bed, 2 bath. Huge sunroom, stone fireplace, 3 decks, canoe, furnished. Available Nov-May. \$1,500 a month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.

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

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... HIS & HERS continued from page 9

I was walking down a hallway shortly before the election, and saw an older man shaking his head and muttering to himself. I asked him what was wrong. "I can't believe it!" he declared. "We may wind up having a Negro [his words, not mine] in the White House!" I don't suppose that it ever occurred to him that year after year, non-whites and women have had yet another white guy in that position.

I did not vote for Obama. I don't even know that if I would have voted for him that I could have. What I do know is that he is now going to be our next president, and we have the choice of either rallying around him, or sitting around spinning nightmare scenarios about how blacks are going to be running riot in the streets, Christianity is going to be banned, abortionists are going to be setting up shop on every street corner, they are going to take our guns away, and every foreign country is going to declare war on us. We can be bitter and divisive, which will be utterly unproductive for this country, and we can put this election behind us and do what Americans do best, pull together for the common good.

The other day I saw a very sad older lady sitting on a bench. "I can't believe the election results!" she wailed. Not wanting to be unkind, I tried to reason with her. "How old are you?" I asked. She replied

that she was 84. "Well, then" I teased. "Do you really want to spend the next four years of your life sulking and pouting, or do you think that you might find better ways to spend your time and energy?" She agreed.

Here's the way I see it. You win some, you lose some. We had a Republican president for the last eight years. Now, it's someone else's turn. That's the way this wonderful country works, and it does work, in spite and because of its differences and challenges.

It was good to be back in the choir after three weeks away. We all caught up on each others news, and of course, discussed the results of the election. John's political views are very well known, and I explained that, as a registered Independent, things sometimes got a bit heated at home. "I'll bet you and John don't talk about politics much in the bedroom," one choir member teased. "Not if anyone hopes to get lucky," I laughed.

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. Michelle is delighted that her home no longer resembles the Demilitarized Zone.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Century 21 names producers for October



Cathy Garren



Gary Garren

Cathy Garren, broker-owner, of the Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles Cashiers office was named Top Sales Agent and Top Listing Agent for the month of October.

Cathy Garren was also awarded the Bronze Producer award for her production last year and was the Top Listing by Volume agent for her office.

Gary Garren, broker-owner of the Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles Highlands office was named Top Listing Agent for the month of October.

Gary Garren was awarded the Silver

Producer award for his production in 2007 and the Top Listing by Volume & Units and Top Sales by Volume awards for his office last year.

CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles has moved its Highlands office to 468 Main Street and is open seven days a week with extended hours to better serve its customers. With seven offices total in Buncombe, Henderson, Jackson, Macon and Transylvania counties, CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles is ranked 52nd in the nation among CENTURY 21[®] companies.

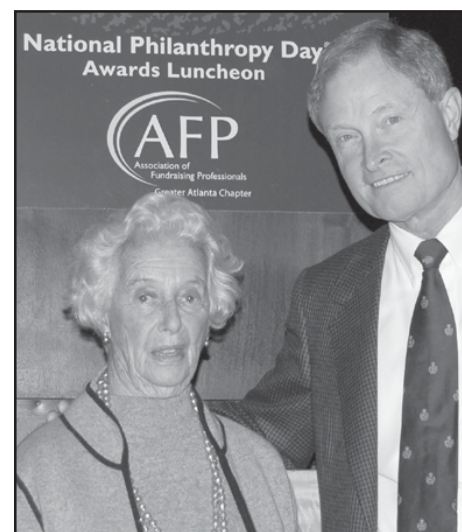
Frances Bunzl named AFP's 2008 Philanthropist of the Year

Frances Bunzl received the 2008 Philanthropist of the Year award from the Greater Atlanta Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals on Oct. 28 at the 25th National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon in Atlanta.

Bunzl, of Highlands and Atlanta, is a member of The Bascom's board and a major supporter of it and the High Museum in Atlanta. The High described her as "exemplifying the meaning of the word 'philanthropist' in its truest sense of someone whose charitable acts are driven by an innate desire to benefit others."

In addition to her involvement with The Bascom and the High, Bunzl contributes to Emory University, the Woodruff Arts Center, the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, the William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum Foundation, the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and the Atlanta International School. She also endowed the timpani chair for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in honor of her late husband, Walter, in 1988.

In recognition of her generosity, the art center is naming its new main gallery in her honor.



Frances Bunzl stands with Bob Fisher, chairman of The Bascom's board of directors, at the 25th National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon in Atlanta. Frances Bunzl received the 2008 Philanthropist of the Year award from the Greater Atlanta Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

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Boys Macon County basketball signups

Signups are being taken for Macon County Boys Basketball at the Highlands Recreation Park through Nov. 22. Boys ages 7-18 are invited to play. Must be age 7 by Dec. 31, 2008. The cost is \$35. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. Applications are available at Highlands Civic

Center.

A draft for the Bidly League, ages 7-9, is Saturday, Dec. 6 at 1:30 p.m. The draft for Junior League (ages 10-12) is the following week, date and time to be announced. Anyone interested in coaching or assistant coaching must fill out a

coaching application and additional paperwork available at the Highlands Civic Center.

A basketball clinic will be held at the Macon County Rec Park in Franklin for boys and girls ages 5 and 6. The cost is \$20. Players must be age 5 before Dec. 31, 2008. Call Michelle Munger at 828-342-3551 or 828-342-3850.

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... CITIZENS continued from page 1

cost \$55,000 and came complete with a DVD player so play-by-play action can be viewed while traveling to and from competitions. Soon it will also include a back-up camera.

Since it's a 15-passenger bus, a CDL license isn't required to drive it, which alleviates the school system's ongoing task of finding licensed CDL bus drivers to drive students to and from activities. In addition, since it's diesel-powered, the school system will pay for fuel expenses.

"People wonder why it took private donations to raise money for the bus and why the school system couldn't buy it, but the school system works on a fixed budget and must buy buses that serve the most people," said Smart.

He said a new 32-passenger bus is in the budget for 2009-2010 school year, but the 15-passenger bus will serve Highlands' needs perfectly.

This past summer, facing his forth surgery for cancer, Smart shared with these friends a desire to provide Highlands School with a dependable, right-sized and efficient activity bus. Refusing to allow anything to be named for him or have a legacy built in his honor, he said simply, "I want this bus for my kids at Highlands School; they deserve the best we can give them."

Several men came together to honor Coach Smart's contribution to the Highlands community, students and school. The group quickly submitted the activity bus idea to the administration of Highlands School and the Macon County School Board. Permission to raise money in honor of Coach Smart was granted.

"This demonstrates our concerns for the young people of Highlands getting on and off the mountain safely," said Bill Cheney.

Highlands School athletic director Coach Butch Smart continues to set records. Not only is he among the most successful high school basketball coaches in North Carolina with more than 660 wins, he is now one of the longest living known survivors of metastatic appendiceal cancer.

Since that diagnosis nearly eight years ago, Coach Smart has fought a tough opponent and encouraged others to do the same. He led the Highlands United Methodist Church team at the Relay for Life in 2007 staying out all night to walk and fight the beast. In 2008, only five weeks post surgery, he was at it again, walking until the rain sent him home. His excellent example as teacher, coach and cancer survivor is an inspiration to many.

A friend asked Smart to share the story



Bill Cheney, Coach Butch Smart and Carter Davis in front of the new 15-passenger activity van at Highlands School. Not pictured is Ray McPhail.



In the short time the bus has been on campus, it has been used for two middle school activities and on Tuesday, Nov. 11, Coach Brett Lamb took his girls basketball team down to Franklin for an afternoon of bowling.

Photos by Kim Lewicki

of his walk through cancer with a men's Bible study this past spring. His story reflected the great faith he has in God and the participation of many prayer warriors on his be-

half. Out of this presentation, the idea to give back to the community while honoring Coach Smart with the "Smart Bus" was born.

Flu shots available at health center Mon.-Fri.

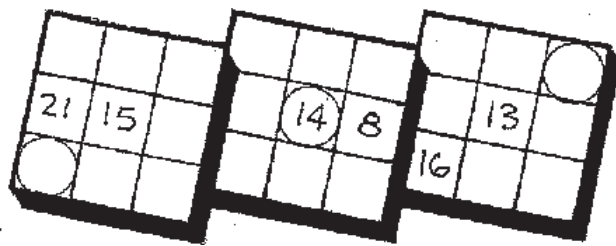
The Macon County Public Health Center is currently administering flu shots at their Franklin location on Lakeside Drive. Shots are available Monday through Friday

(except on holidays) from 8 am to 4 pm for both adults and children. The cost of the vaccine is \$25 for adults or it will be billed to insurance. Vaccine is free or billed to

insurance for children through age 18. No appointments are necessary. Call 349-2081 for more information.

FUN & GAMES

PseudoCube[©]



#AZ2F Level of Difficulty - Hard

THE SETUP:

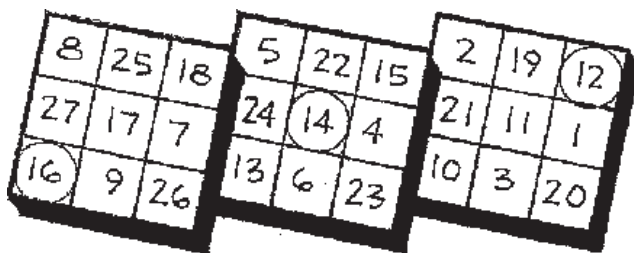
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through the center number of the middle layer. Each diagonal contains 3 numbers equalling 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!

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #DN2F in Nov. 6 issue



Sudo-Grams[©] 2008

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook

OBJECT:

A mystery word or phrase using all different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words will appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different mystery word or phrase (no spaces). Assign different letters to each square of each column and row. In addition, various cells (six, eight or nine) in the puzzle layout have the same different letters (this is like Sudoku but uses letters instead of numbers).

How to Solve:

Determine the different letters among those given. Write in the mystery word using the clue and these letters. 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 blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus your attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or cell.

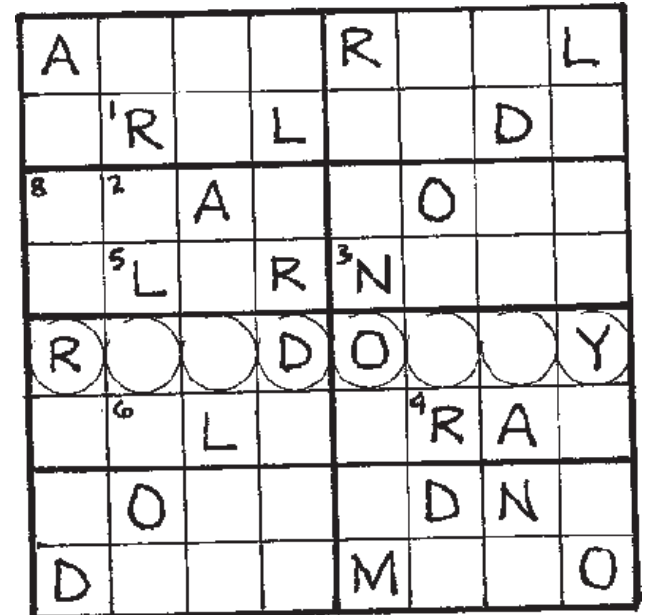
Mystery Word
#D804
Chaotically (8)

Across

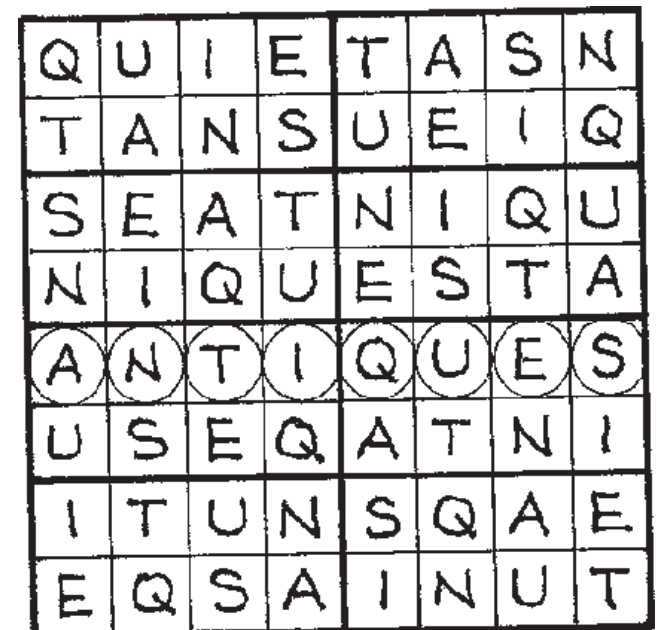
1. Medieval French knight (6)
2. Half Earth revolution (3)
3. Negative (3)
4. Move quickly (3)

Down

5. Sixth musical note (2)
6. That one (3)
7. Bob head (3)
8. Not either (3)



Solution to Nov. 6 Sudo-Grams



POLICE, FIRE & SHERIFF DEPT. LOG ENTRIES

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for Oct. 31-11-10. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Oct. 31

- At 11 a.m., officers were called about a cash theft by an employee of \$335.10 when an employee took items from the store to install at a customer's house, received the money and neglected to turn it in to the store.

Nov. 7

- At 18:15 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on N.C. 106 and U.S. 64.

Nov. 10

- At 7:15 a.m., officers are investigating an injury to real property on Harris Drive where banister rails were removed from a back porch.
- During the week, officers issued 1 warning ticket and responded to 1 alarm activation.

During the week the department responded to 1 alarm and issued 1 warning citation.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 5-6

Nov. 5

- The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 west. There were no injuries.

Nov. 6

- The dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident without injuries on N.C. 28 south.

The following are the Macon County Sheriff Dept. log entries the week of Oct. 26-Nov. 11.

Oct. 26

- At 1 p.m., deputies responded to the larceny of \$250 of plants from Highlands Falls Country Club.

Oct. 27

- At 7:30 p.m., deputies responded to the call of a larceny of power tools valued at \$575 from a residence on Western Rhodes Drive.

Oct. 30

- At 3:36 a.m., deputies responded to an alarm at Peak Experience on N.C. 106. All was secure.

Nov. 6

- At 23:18 p.m., Francisco DeJesus Olvera, 50, of Highlands, was arrested for DWI when he was found speeding 56 in a 40 mph on N.C. Dillard Road. He was released on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

Nov. 11

- At 10:15 a.m., Scott Houston Conard, 25, of Highlands, was arrested for passing worthless checks. He was released on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION

