




# Highlands' Newspaper

**FREE**

Volume 8, Number 36

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Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010

<b>FRI</b>  75 \ 58F	<b>SAT</b>  77 \ 59F	<b>SUN</b>  76 \ 55F
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**Thurs., Sept. 9**  
 • At Hudson Library, "Home Buying" – at 5:30-6:30 pm. Presented by Sue Gorski of RBC Bank.  
 • At Mountain Findings, special warehouse sale. Christmas items galore! 432 Spruce Street, behind Bryant Funeral Home.  
 • Live Music at The Downhill Grill at Scaly Mountain Outdoor Center 7-9 p.m.. BYOB.

**Fri., Sept. 10**  
 • At Paoletti's Restaurant, "Not Even Brothers" playing acoustic at 9:45 p.m.

**Sat., Sept. 11**  
 • At Whiskers on Main Street in Highlands, Friends for Life animal adoption from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 • At The Bascom, Turner's and Lehr's works will be featured in The Bascom's Fire and Heat by Three exhibition in the loft gallery  
 • Highlands Motoring Festival at Kelsey-Hutchinson Park at Pine Street from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cars will be auctioned off at 3:30 p.m. All proceeds from the auction will benefit local charities. Hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages for purchase.  
 • Celebration of Books, 9-3 at the Civic Center. 25 authors will sell and sign their books. Lunch available. Door Prizes. For more information, call Deanna at 743-1683.  
 • At Cyprus International Restaurant, live music beginning at 9 p.m.

**Sunday, Sept. 12**  
 • First Presbyterian Church of Highlands celebrates the church's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A reception in Coleman Hall immediately following the service.  
 • The 18th Bel Canto at PAC at 4PM. For tickets, please call 828-526-1947.

**Monday, Sept. 13**  
 • The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society and The Bird Barn in Highlands hosts a program on bears at 7:30 pm at the Highlands Civic Center. The program is free, but donations to Appalachian Bear Rescue are welcome. Light refreshments will be served at 7 p.m.

## Health Department taking the lead in Buck Knob area dog deaths

Residents of Scaly Mountain still don't know exactly why so many dogs in the Buck Knob neighborhood are missing or turning up dead.

Rumors are rampant – some claiming foul play by someone in the area who wants to see the dogs dead – someone who people claim is poisoning them with pesticides

or herbicides containing the biochemical organophosphate, rather than a standard antifreeze concoction.

Antifreeze as the killer was ruled out last week by veterinarians at the Rabun Animal Hospital where tests pinpointed the culprit as organophosphate.

Following a preliminary inves-

tigation by Macon County Animal Control, which investigated when dead dogs were first reported three weeks ago, is now working in consort with the Macon County Health Department.

"Our investigation into sick and missing animals in Scaly is just

• See DOGS page 7

## Town water system now tight

Losing 20% of public drinking water within a municipality is OK according to the state of North Carolina, but not losing up to 60%.

At the Aug. 18 Town Board meeting, Town Engineer Lamar Nix, updated commissioners on the state of Highlands water supply – which is now in good standing and no longer losing the 60% recorded over the past year.

After a three-week review and leak detection assessment with the NC Rural Water Association – which helped the town crew analyze the entire system – several small leaks were found, which accounted for the loss of 50-gallons or less.

However it took a bit more sleuthing to determine the reason for the high percentage of water loss.

"We couldn't figure the cause of the major loss," said Nix. "We were billing for less than what was going out and of course suspected a lot of leaks. But once we fixed them, we were still losing 30% to 40%."

• See WATER page 24

## VB Varsity first in conference



Last Thursday the HS Varsity Girls Volley Ball team beat Hiwassee Dam — a big deal for the team which has been chasing a win against Hiwassee Dam since 2006. This puts the girls first place in conference. They also beat Blue Ridge Tuesday night at home. Above, senior Courtney Rogers hits against Blue Ridge. Photo by Stephanie McCall.

## Color predicted for fall

Visitors to Western North Carolina's mountains can look forward to a vibrant display of color this autumn.

That's because weather conditions during the spring and sum-

mer point to an above-average fall color show, said Kathy Mathews, Western Carolina University associate professor of biology specializing in plant systematics.

• See COLORFUL page 8

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## Homeowners want fallen trees out of Lake Sequoyah

How to rid Lake Sequoyah of dead trees that have fallen from its shore was first brought up at the Aug. 18 Town Board meeting.

Lake Sequoyah homeowner and resident June Hogue spoke during the public comment period saying that a survey conducted by her husband revealed 24 trees in the lake.

"Since Lake Sequoyah is part of Highlands' water source, we would like to know who is responsible for removing the trees?" she asked. At that time no one had an answer.

At the Sept. 1 Town Board meeting, Commissioner John Dotson resurrected the subject.

In North Carolina, property lines of parcels along waterways typically go to the middle of the creek, stream, or in this case the lake. As such, the responsibility of tree removal falls on the property owner.

• See TREES page 8



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# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • LETTERS •

### Jane, would you consider something else?

Dear Editor,

This is another Open Letter to Jane Woodruff

You sent all of us "Postal Patrons" a letter asking us to support your idea for a new post office on your newly acquired land at the intersection of Highways 106 and 64. Before I can support such a project, I have some questions for you.

How do you know that the proposed location will be safer than the current post office? Will your new project make that intersection even more hazardous by adding additional "curb cuts"?

What are your intentions for the larger portion of the tract? If you do not know the answer to that question, why is your post office idea already so specific? Is the postal service in favor of this proposal?

Will you build the post office according to postal regulations and turn the DEED over to the Postal Service, or will you grant them a long term lease thereby creating a business deal for you and your heirs?

Is this the best use of your money? All of us have benefitted from your generous gifts to the Highlands community including the Rec Park and the Highlands Cashiers Hospital. Recent major 501 (c) 3 organizations have virtually depleted individual contributions to older, more urgent causes.

I understand that you no longer support the Highlands Cashiers Hospital. Are you aware of its precarious financial state? With your tremendous influence wouldn't your time and money be better spent asking Highlands and Cashiers homeowners and businesses to support our hospital? Would you help promote initiatives such as the MasterKey Program as an example of how many of us can help sustain the health of the hospital? Residents need to be told by you that you alone cannot maintain a viable hospital... that their participation is absolutely necessary!

Our community can certainly do without a new post office. We as a community cannot abandon our hospital.  
Ann Maxwell  
Highlands

### Proper use of pesticides is crucial

Dear Editor,

Last week I read the article in Highlands' Newspaper about the 16 dogs that

## • HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



### 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

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died in the Scaly Mountain area. Apparently, the veterinarian was able to trace the cause of death back to a chemical class of insecticides known as Organophosphates.

Organophosphates are insecticides like Malathion and Dylox. Dylox is commonly used for grub control in turfgrass and Malathion is typically used on ornamental plants. When used at label rates and in accordance to the label, neither will have any effect on the surrounding environment. These are just two examples of organophosphates, that homeowners can purchase at Reeves, Lowes or Home Depot. It is not necessary to have a pesticide license to apply these. On golf courses, this is another story! Every superintendent completes hours and hours of continuing education every year to maintain a license that allows us to responsibly apply these.

There is a huge misconception about pesticides these days. In the 1930s-70s pesticides of all types were literally thousands of times more toxic than those used today! Today, companies like Bayer, are improving chemistry to target pests without harming the surrounding environment.

So the point is, if you plan to apply a pesticide, READ THE LABEL! What rate is it to be applied at? Does it need irrigated after the application? As a responsible homeowner, we owe it to the community to take every precaution.

In the mean time, hopefully the NC Dept of Agriculture can pinpoint where this problem started. And if you are not sure, there are 10+ excellent golf course superintendents and many extremely qualified landscape contractors on the plateau that would be more than happy to answer any question you have so things like the death of animals don't happen in the future.

Brian J. Stiehler, GCGS,  
Highlands

### In Memory of Kevin Petrone

A benefit for Vince and Jimmy Petrone is set for Sept. 25 at Tate's Landscaping new building on NC 106.

Come join us and help raise money for Jimmy and Vince to pay bills since the passing for their father Kevin Petrone.

Starting at 8:30 a.m. a motorcycle ride will begin at Wright Square in Highlands for those who would like to ride in honor of Kevin. Cars are welcome to participate. There will be a \$20 rider fee with lunch included.

The riders will return around 12:30 p.m. to Tate Landscaping. While the ride takes place there will be BBQ plates available — \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. There will also be a car wash, raffle and live band. Lunch is 11:30-2.

• See LETTERS page 3



## • OBITUARY •

### Robert C. Calloway

Robert C. Calloway, age 78, of Highlands, died Wednesday, September 1, 2010 at a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Ira and Hazel Speed Calloway. He was a retired building contractor and a US Army Veteran of the Korean War. He loved to coon hunt and loved raising coon dogs. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather and was a member of Buck Creek Baptist Church.



Susan (Suzy) Alene Calloway, who died in 2004, and preceded in death by two sisters.

Funeral services were held Saturday, September 4, 2010 at 2pm at Buck Creek Baptist Church, with Rev. Rick Harrell and Rev. Alton Dendy officiating. Burial was in the Church Cemetery. Pallbearers were Clayton Vaughn, Michael Houston, Glandon Vaughn, Algie Bolick, Tony Corbin and Paul Corbin. The Franklin

VFW Post #7339 and American Legion Post #108 conducted complete military graveside rites.

Memorials may be made to the Buck Creek Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, c/o Geneva Vaughn, 133 Embers Drive, Highlands, NC 28741.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Alene Houston Calloway; one son, Mark Calloway of Highlands, NC; two sisters, Lois Bolick of Highlands, NC and Lily Rhodes of Franklin, NC; one grandchild, Callee Bowman, two great-grandchildren, Tucker and Tootsie Bowman all of Franklin, NC. He was preceded in death by a daughter,

... LETTERS continued from page 2

### Playhouse offers quality work

Dear Editor,

My family and I have been coming to Highlands since 1967 and one of the wonderful attractions of the town are the productions mounted each season by The Highlands Playhouse. The theater makes an important contribution to the town.

I saw the production of "Lettice & Lovage" at a Sunday matinee on August 15 and was delighted with it. The play was witty, intelligent and filled with unpredictable turns of plot. I think what lifted this particular production above many others was the caliber of the two main players, Regina Ross and Cheryl Chambers. In the hands of less capable actors, this play would not have flown so high.

Keep up the excellent work and I'm looking forward to next season!

William Jinks

### Wrongful Death lawsuit filed

Dear Editor,

This week, on behalf of my deceased daughter Elizabeth Coram's estate, I filed a Wrongful Death law suit in Macon County District Court. Initially named in it are Mr.

Larry Murray, and Mr. Adam Hicks. More defendants will be added over time.

As many of you recall, Elizabeth died July 9<sup>th</sup> of last year due to a lethal dose of illegal prescription drugs combined with alcohol. (She had an acknowledged drinking problem, had gone to a rehab center the summer before, and was attempting, as are many, to deal with her drinking issue.)

Some person took in all of \$40.00 for the drugs that killed her. She had started her senior year, and was on a short break between summer courses at her beloved Wofford College. She had just made an A in her first senior level course, and was talking of graduate school at Chapel Hill.

But instead, on a hot Thursday night in July she ended up in a black rubber body bag at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in beautiful downtown Highlands, with Susan and I staring down at her pale lifeless body. We were circled by law enforcement officers, all warning us of dire legal and physical consequences, if we dared touch our daughter. (Foolish men. threats are meaningless when you are looking at your dead child, but out of respect for her dignity and the law we didn't touch her.)

Several acquaintances have congratulated me on getting revenge by filing this legal action. I told them this is not about revenge.

No, this legal action is about saving our still-living young people, and the overall peace, tranquility, and safety of this area, which is a major reason we all are here. Su-

san and I had children late in life. We thought," get out of Atlanta, move to Highlands. The girls will be safe there." WRONG!

You may want to consider not only just how safe your children or grandchildren are, but also how safe you, as an adult, will be in the future. If we and our elected political leaders allow the lawless local drug-dealing culture to continue to flourish unchecked, everyone will be affected eventually.

Based on a year's worth of research, Susan and I believe the Macon county law enforcement leadership (Let me be clear, I am not talking about the fine deputies we have, I am talking about our Sheriff and one or two key staff members) and the criminal justice system are pathetic or worse. It is my opinion, these politicians will do nothing meaningful to protect us, unless we as a community demand and do what is necessary to force them to obey the oath of office they took: for these authorities (or their replacements) to act decisively to drive these dangerous people from our small community! (I'll discuss this at a later date).

This summer we had an open gun battle in broad daylight in downtown Cashiers, a mid-day armed robbery in Highlands, a grandfather beaten to death by his visiting grandson. All are logical progressions and outcomes of an unchecked drug culture which realizes local law enforcement is no threat to their activities.

Just like an infestation of cockroaches or rats, drug dealers only get worse and more blatant, if you try to tolerate and live

with them and the drug curse they bring. Drug dealers, like any untreated pestilence, eventually overrun you. Either we, as a community, get them (the drug pushers), or in this very small world called Highlands, sooner or later, one way or the other, they'll get us.

In the last year, our research has forced Susan and me to find out about the ugly underbelly of life in and around Highlands (trust me, you would be very shocked). We feel, if we chose to do nothing and remain silent, we would be partially responsible for future young bodies that end up in black rubber bags down at Bryant-Grant's funeral parlor. (In my opinion all of this doesn't seem to bother our county sheriff.. a man who I initially helped elect and supported.)

Maybe you, too, should ponder what your personal lack of concern and action may contribute to future tragedies. (I should say, until I buried my 22-year-old daughter, I was as guilty as anyone else of ignoring this drug world around us.)

But make no mistake about it! The drug related pile of dead young bodies (both overdoses and suicides) which has slowly accumulated around Highlands and Cashiers over the last few years is truly a shameful statement on our area. It is a blight and curse on our supposedly elite community and it's moral, political and law enforcement leadership. (I don't include the current Highlands police department or political leaders in this condemnation. I'll return to this subject at a later date).

• See LETTERS page 8



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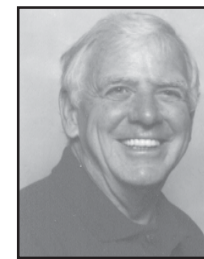
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## • LAUGHING AT LIFE •

### Why did God invent women?

For men only



Fred Wooldridge

If you're a woman, this might be one of those weeks you may wanna consider not reading my column. I know, I know, by making that suggestion, I've compelled women everywhere to read every word. Remember, all ya gotta do is suggest a woman not do something and, POW, they're gonna do it. Now, tell me I'm wrong.

Just for the record, I don't have a clue why God invented women. Also, for the record, I don't take the Bible literally. For example, I'm sure God didn't create this colossal mess on earth in just six days, taking a break on the seventh day. God doesn't take breaks. Like almost all Christians, I'm a cafeteria Christian. I pick and choose what I want to believe.... or not. Some refer to us as "going straight to hell" Christians.

According to the Old Testament, things were clicking along at a happy pace on planet Earth. Adam was Earth's only human, living in Iraq where the Garden of Eden was located, snacking out on fruit and veggies and living the good life. There was no need for women because God created Adam to live forever. How sweet is that?

Then God put Adam into a deep coma, worse than sleeping off a night out with the guys, and fashioned a woman from one of his ribs. This really happened 'cause men have one less rib than women. Count them! When Adam woke, there was this naked woman standing there. Can you imagine the fright? Anyway, from that moment on, the proverbial excrement hit the electrically driven oscillating device and Adam's wonderful life abruptly ended. Read your Bible.

Shortly after Eve's arrival on Earth, she started hangin' out with snakes. That should have told Adam something right there. Then she ordered Adam to take one teeny, tiny, nibble from an apple forbidden by God and Adam's wonderful life ended. One lousy nibble from one tiny apple and Adam lost his right to live forever. Wow, talk about a colossal screw up! Then, in typical woman fashion, Eve blamed the poor snake and Adam had to wear fig leaves and go to work for Wal-Mart. Even worse, Adam had to have sex with the same woman who ruined his life. Guys have been doing that ever since.

Wait, it gets worse. Adam and Eve had a mess-a-kids and since there was no one else

for their kids to have sex with, they had to choose a brother or sister. Back then, everyone was sleeping with his sister... like in Kentucky. Yuck! This is why, to this day, our eyes are too close together and we are condemned to play bridge. Then one of Adam's kids, named Cain, wiggled out and committed the first murder by killing his sheepherder brother, Abel. It's not clear why this

occurred, but you just know it was because the guy was sleeping with his sister. It doesn't appear sheep were involved so let's not go there. Since there was no prosecuting attorney to issue subpoenas, the murder was not investigated.

Well, thousands and thousands of years have passed and thousands and thousands of murders have occurred since then. Women are now in control of everything because men taught them to play golf.

And, to this day, poor ole Cain is still paying a huge price for killing his brother. In Paris, there's a prominent nude statue of Cain, created by Henri Vidal. Unfortunately for Cain, he's sporting a teeny tiny penis in full view for everyone to point and laugh at. Adding to his humiliation, a pigeon is pooping on his head. None of this would have happened if God had not invented woman. Are you writing this down?

Now don't get me wrong, I love my li'l missus and she really is more than just my better half. If she wasn't in control, I'd be out of control, writing stupid stuff about Adam and Eve. Actually, I should be fired... will someone please fire me!

And when my li'l missus isn't home, I try to recreate the 'Adam in the Garden' feel and hang out (pun) naked, eating figs, pretending there are no women. But when the li'l missus comes home, she points and laughs. I hate when that happens.

Yesterday I decided to share my feelings with her about how women have totally messed up this planet. She listened patiently, waiting for me to finish, then whispered, "Hush and eat your apple."

P.S. - See why I don't take the Bible literally?

Have you read Fred's book, *I'm Moving Back to Mars?*

Feedback is encouraged!  
email:  
askfredanything@aol.com



• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

**Exactly what is happening in Scaly Mountain?**

Sixteen dogs have recently died in Scaly Community, all apparently from organophosphate poisoning. That's the loss of a lot of good friends and hunting companions under extremely curious circumstances. I don't think so many dogs could have been accidentally exposed to a toxic insecticide unless they were traveling in a pack, and that is not the case.

Organophosphates, the responsible agents, are the core of many pesticides, but are equally harmful to mammals. I have firsthand experience with these toxic chemicals. My brother and I once felt the effects. It was nearly 40 years ago on a September evening. We were students at Indiana University and had planned to return to school the following morning. We were sitting on the porch, grilling steaks and enjoying a gin and tonic while Mom prepared the rest of the meal in the kitchen. Swarming mosquitoes disturbed our otherwise pleasant evening. That was when Mom came to the rescue with a can of insect spray.

After a wonderful dinner Pete and I decided to go to a local bar for one last drink of



**Feedback is encouraged.**

**email:**

**hsalzarulo@aol.com**

summer vacation. Before reaching the bar, we were overcome with feelings of profound weakness, nausea and terrible abdominal cramps. We drove home and collapsed in bed.

Some hours later I staggered into the bathroom and embraced the toilet, familiar position in those days. I clung to it. My head dangled limply above the seat while I vomited again and again. The moaning and retching awakened Dad, who walked into the bathroom and called me a "no

good drunk," an understandable mistake given the scene before him and my social history.

It was days before we recovered enough to return to school. I tried, without success, to persuade Dad that we weren't drunk, but victims of some mysterious malady. It was a few years later, sitting in a toxicology lecture that I finally pieced it together; organophosphate poisoning. But by then, Dad was dead.

When I was in the Army, I read an interesting story in the "Pacific Stars and Stripes," an official Army publication. Four thousand sheep had mysteriously died in Utah, with-

•See SALZARLOpage 10

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**...on this day**

**Sept 9, 1947**

A moth lodges in a relay of a Harvard Mark II computer, shutting it down. The moth is preserved at the Naval Museum in Dahlgren, Virginia.

In the realm of computation there can be a level of some frustration, but problems with your computer have baffled those much more astute. Has your machine ever got a bug? You might consider, now or later, calling an exterminator. That way, you won't work yourself into a froth if nothing more than an errant moth. Happened before, but it was made right, this insect was a real mega bite. they usually stick to fabric and floss, but this one decided to go for the DOS

**• HIGHLANDS FINE DINING •**



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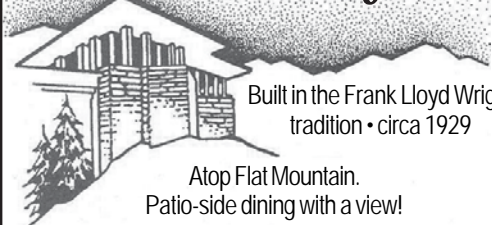
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(Full menu at www.mainstreet-inn.com)

**• COACH'S CORNER •**

**Boise St. joins the BCS party**

It's hard not to root for a team that plays on a blue field in a state with an overall population smaller than the metropolitan area of Charlotte, NC.

Boise State, from the moment that they defeated Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl years ago, has been seen as the "little engine that could" by most of college football. With a cute field nicknamed the "Smurf Turf" and two BCS bowl victories in the last four years, the Broncos have become the darlings of mid-major college football. Unfortunately for the rest of the BCS, they haven't yet gotten the memo that Boise St. has turned into a national powerhouse.

You don't believe me? Don't believe that a team with a popgun-armed quarterback and a bunch of three-star recruits is a powerhouse? Well consider this evidence.

Monday night the bunch from Boise rolled into Washington DC to face Virginia Tech in a glorified road game. Fedex field was filled with Hokie fans, and even the scoreboard flashed Virginia Tech colors throughout the evening (guess they didn't get the concept of "neutral.") Despite the noise and being over 2,000 miles from home, the Broncos defeated the Hokies even with over 100 yards worth of penalties and two costly turnovers.

Beating a top-10 team despite penalties and turnovers is not the stuff that "mid-major" Cinderella's are able to do. Nope, that is the mark of a football powerhouse. Boise certainly fits that bill, even after blowing a 17-0 first quarter lead.

Boise St. head coach Chris Peterson — well he's no Nick Saban or Urban Meyer. He's just gone 50-4 in his brief five-year career, going undefeated twice during that span. And while you may say that Boise plays a cupcake schedule, that's not their fault. They would love to play in a bigger conference, but their stadium only seats 35,000 and they don't have near the revenue that the huge football powerhouses control. (BTW — huge football powerhouse Ole Miss, yeah, they lost to 1-AA Jacksonville State despite not committing a single penalty all game).

College football is all about revenue, and while Boise State has been able to get a sniff of the ol' boys club, they are going to need to win out to make a big time dent in the system.

Therefore, I implore you in this space to cheer for Boise State. Cheer for them to make it through the rest of their cupcake schedule unscathed. Cheer for them to make it to the BCS national championship



**Ryan Potts**  
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

where they will face a blue-blood such as Alabama or Ohio State. Cheer for Boise State to win the national championship, upsetting all of college football in what would hopefully be the final nail in the carcass of the bloated BCS system.

If Boise State wins, its national championship would be criticized by all of college football. Remember now, Butler was within a shot of winning the college basketball championship. Do you think that their title would have been criticized had they won? Cheer for Boise State, so that perhaps college football can get the tournament championship that the fans and schools truly deserve.

**• HS SOCCER •**

**Tough challengers put Highlands to the test**

Highlander coach Chris Green wanted to prepare his veteran team for the state playoffs by scheduling tough non-conference opponents, and it appears to be paying early dividends.

The Highlanders traveled to Asheville last Tuesday to face an Erwin team ranked in the top 10 in 3A. The Highlanders went down 1-0 early before a goal from Michael Shearl evened the game at 1-1.

The second half saw Highlands end up on the short end of some questionable officiating as Erwin managed to take a 2-1 lead off of a penalty kick. Despite a couple of quality chances late in the second half, Highlands was unable to equalize and the Warriors put the game away with ten seconds left to provide the final margin of 3-1.

Having played well enough to win at Erwin, the Highlanders were fired up to face Brevard at home on Thursday. The Highlanders got on the board early as freshman Tyler Munger scored to give the Highlanders a lead that they would not relinquish. Senior Tucker Bates beat the buzzer, scoring with just 3 seconds left in the half to put Highlands up 2-0. After conceding a goal, Michael Shearl scored off of a free kick to complete the scoring as Highlands walked away with a 3-1 victory.

Highlands will wrap up the majority of their non-conference schedule this week before opening SMC conference play on Monday at Andrews.

... DOGS continued  
from page 1

beginning," said Barry Patterson with the Health Department. "We are going door to door with a questionnaire looking for a common thread in the cases."

Questions involve when and where dogs were walked, and based on the answers Patterson said he hopes to establish a timeline as well as pinpoint possible contamination locations.

"We are getting a lot of calls from people who are understandably upset," said Patterson. "Some are telling us hearsay about deliberate poisonings using the pesticide but we are taking a very methodical approach to this."

Patterson said though his department is concerned and alarmed at what's happening in Scaly Mountain, the Health Department's first concern is for people.

"Our main concern is for the human population," he said. "Because if dogs and other animals can get into this stuff, people can, too."

Organophosphate is found in herbicides and pesticides and used to control weeds and insects.

Compounds containing organophosphate work on the nervous system and can kill dogs and cats if ingested or absorbed through the skin - even through their paws.

If exposed, the diagnosis is grim. Almost immediately, dogs have seizures, have difficulty breathing, begin shaking, drooling, vomiting and having diarrhea. "It's known as Sludge Syndrome and basically their bodies just start shutting down," said Dr. Steven Arbitter with Rabun Animal Hospital.

"This is not a case of 'let's wait and see if he or she gets better,'" he said. "The animals must be brought in right away for the antidote."

Over the past weeks, doctors at Rabun Animal Hospital have successfully treated dogs who have been exposed to the chemical with an antidote, fluids and heat application.

The widespread death toll suggests the animals have been exposed to the biochemical either by direct contact or by ingesting the vomit or fecal matter of infected animals.

"This chemical is commonly used and is absorbed by the environment and will dissipate after rains," said Arbitter.

People particularly along Buck Knob Road are encouraged to leash their animals, keep them fenced or walk them on asphalt until rains wash away the chemical, assuming that's the culprit.

John Hook, Director of the Macon County Animal Shelter, encourages residents to contact his office at 349-2106 to report any vicious animals and not to take matters into their own hands.

He said there are ordinances on the books where people can be charged with cruelty to animals if they lace food with poison or antifreeze or they can be charged if their dogs attack other animals or people.

- Kim Lewicki

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### ... LETTERS continued from page 3

We are a tiny community. On a per capita basis our kill rate on young people, would make Miami or Atlanta blush. But so far, what do we as a community do about this shameful issue? Well, we clink our cocktail glasses, hunt our deer and fish a little, flood into our door to door churches, build fabulous art complexes, tee up the little white ball, go for a hike, stick our head in the sand, and pretend it isn't happening here. Well it is, and in all probability, within much less than a 10-minute drive of your front door. The children are around it constantly.

Any community that can't or won't

protect its young has serious flaws. And that reality more and more permeates our cities. This is one reason Highlands thrives on its reputation as a refuge from an increasingly harsh world. That reputation is already in serious jeopardy as our "little drug problem" becomes more known by the rest of the world. You are deluding yourself, if you think the outside world hasn't already noticed.

So if you don't believe a pile of dead young people is of any personal concern to you, you might consider the economic damage this problem, if it continues, will eventually do to Highland's brand image as

a peaceful, safe, crime free mountain refuge.

I should point out that as long as you aren't my family member, my employee, or providing a critical service to the community. Then what your personal pharmacological habits are is not my concern. It is only when you try to finance your habit by selling drugs to others, that you have become the enemy of this community.

There is a famous quote by Edmund Burke, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

I address this specifically to the men of our community. It's a man's place to protect his family and community. I would

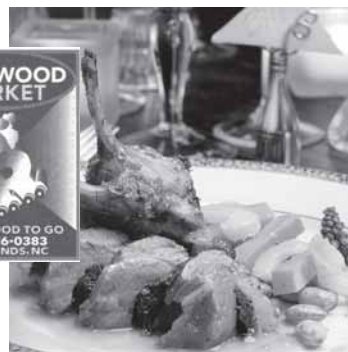
hope that you would see the need to deal with this curse that has descended on all of us. We hope you stand with us. If not, we have decided we will see this through regardless.

If you are ready to stand and protect this very special place, then get proactive. Let all of our elected officials know your concerns and demands for action. It is your right and duty as a citizen. You can call me at 828-526-9678. I'd like to discuss the issue with you.

Highlands is a very small town. Sooner or later everybody knows everything, if

• See LETTERS page 24

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### ... TREES continued from page 1

"We can't go onto people's property to remove trees or in this case retrieve trees from the lake because it is private property," said Town Engineer Lamar Nix. "That is unless they break loose and travel down the lake to the dam. In that case we can remove them from the dam."

Commissioner Dotson suggested working with property owners on Lake Sequoyah to help coordinate their efforts to remove the trees because if they break loose and begin floating "they will become a problem," he said.

However, the commission did agree the property owners should shoulder any expense associated with the tree removal.

"It's their property so it's their responsibility to take the trees out if they want them out," said Commissioner Larry Rogers.

Mayor David Wilkes agreed. "This goes back to the property owner," he said.

However, with dead hemlocks peppering the shores of Lake Sequoyah, Mirror Lake and the Cullasaja River, DENR officials say

the problem of trees falling into waterways – private or public – is an issue that will have to be tackled sooner than later.

DENR representatives said if the trees become a hazard due to a municipality's water source they may become an Emergency Management issue.

Warren Cabe, Macon County's Emergency Services Director, said his department gets calls from landowners about trees that have fallen into streams but unless they accumulate at a dam, bridge, or culvert, or are causing an erosion problem on a state or municipal street right-of-way, usually it is up to the property owner to remove the trees.

"During Hurricane Ivan we did do a stream restoration project that removed some debris from waterways but that was administered by the Macon County Soil and Water folks," he said.

Meanwhile, as far as Highlands' waterways go, homeowner- or lake-owner associations are expected to handle the problem on their own.

### ... COLORFUL continued from page 1

"It's been a hot year in North Carolina, with above-average temperatures this summer. Rainfall has been slightly less than average during the spring and summer. These are two factors I look at when thinking about the timing and quality of fall leaf color change in the mountains," Mathews said.

"While your garden may not have fared so well because of the soaring temperatures in June and July, the well-established trees and shrubs of our forests do not appear to have been adversely affected. All of which should lead to very nice color change this October," she said.

Mathews believes that the formation of ample yellow, orange and red pigments in the leaves seems to correlate with dry weather throughout the year. The drier the climate, the more brilliant the fall leaves tend to be, she said.

"I predict this fall color change will be variable throughout the Southern mountains, but on the whole we should expect to see rich and attractive color change this season," she said.

Cooling temperatures during the fall contribute to the decomposition of chloro-

phyll, the chemical that gives leaves their green color in spring and summer. As chlorophyll breaks down, yellow pigments – always present in the leaves, but masked by the green of chlorophyll – are revealed, and new red pigments are produced.

Although peak fall color typically occurs during the third week of October, the peak may arrive a bit later this year, perhaps more toward the end of October, because of the warm temperatures, Mathews said.

"Peak color corresponds to the first frost date of the year," she said. "If frost comes later than usual, so will the peak color change of the leaves."

The color change should begin at the higher mountain elevations in late September and continue through mid-November in the lower levels of WNC.

"Look for the earliest color change to take place on the sourwoods and dogwoods, which both turn red, as well as the tulip poplars, which become yellow but tend to turn brown early," Mathews said. "Colorful maples, with hues of red, orange and yellow, and birches, which turn yellow, bring us into the peak period. Finally, oaks turn orange and red to round out the later color change in the season."



• CONSERVATIVE POV •

**So this is your recovery summer...**

I'll get to that in a while, but first - my wife is a hummingbird fan, and has feeders around to attract the little beauties. As I sit to write this column, one of the feeders is directly in my line of sight. I have watched, for some time, two of the flying jewels swooping and soaring, ducking and dodging, each trying to keep the other from the prize - a sip of Momma's special nectar. After what seems like forever, they both disappear. There were no winners, just a lot of energy expended. Watching exhausts me. They'll be back.

In my mind, I couldn't help but compare their tiring air dance with the current episode of the eternal struggle over Israel's land, and, ultimately, Jerusalem. Every now and then, the flap will reignite. Sound and fury, signifying nothing, will go airborne. Sensing another opportunity to display its worthlessness, the State Department enters the scene, holds photo ops, and the participants go back to whatever they do when they aren't shaking their fists for the world to see. Meanwhile, thinking people shake their heads in wonderment over the futility of it all. God will let us know the time and the outcome, not the State Department.

My apologies if you received the email I have taken these pithy sayings from. They need to be spread. "Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience."

Back to the rosy environment created by the "Recovery Summer." Or, is it really a "Summer of Despair," as described by Carly Fiorina, candidate for Senate from California?

The following is picked from a recent Michelle Malkin column: "An indignant President Obama complained last week, 'I can't spend all of my time with my birth certificate plastered on my forehead.'" But I digress.

"Last week, Obama's state Department handed in America's first-ever report to the United Nations' Commissioner for Human Rights in conjunction with something called the 'Universal Periodic Review.'

In short, the 29-page document is a self-aggrandizing report card touting the administration's far-left domestic and foreign policy initiatives for the world's approval. The report includes a section on 'values and immigration,' which essentially singles out Arizona's immigration enforcement law as a human rights deficiency 'that is being addressed in a court action.'" I haven't recovered from that



**Don Swanson**  
Feedback is encouraged. Email [swansonson@dnet.net](mailto:swansonson@dnet.net)

one. "Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting in a fruit salad."

As was reported at length in recent columns, the economy continues to bounce along what we hope is the bottom, with no improvement on the employment scene. Logically, personal consumption remains puny and business spending is too. The problem continues to be lack of clarity

on tax policy and what is really in the Obamacare nightmare. The conditions that existed at the beginning of the summer remain as murky now. No recovery there.

"The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese."

How goes the man, himself? Well now, there may be some recovery here. Give him credit. He keeps a horrendous schedule, what with showing up here, there and everywhere, finding a television camera at every venue. I know he wore me out; imagine the strain on him. This summer may have been just the therapy he needed. Several rounds of golf a week, I've lost count of the vacations, numerous entertainment extravaganzas at the House, it's all good. The spring seems to be back in his step.

"To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research."

So much for his step - what about his misstep? Rassmusen Reports carries a piece written by Larry Sabito, hardly an enemy of liberal politics, which says, "Conditions have deteriorated badly for Democrats over the summer. The economy appears rotten, with little chance of a substantial comeback by November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unemployment is very high, income growth sluggish, and public confidence quite low. The Democrat's self-proclaimed 'Recovery Summer' has become a term of derision, and to most voters - fair or not - it seems that President Obama has over-promised and under-delivered." I couldn't have said it better myself.

"I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you."

So what does the future hold in store for us? I understand Obama will tell us his plan for a "Fall Recovery," and will have done so by the time you read this. I hear he will tell us about "kick-starting small business." Well, sir, if you have the answers, why didn't you institute them before now? The day of reckoning draws nigh.

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... SALZARULO continued from page 5

out an alien in sight, on a ranch near chemical weapons testing facility. The Army denied responsibility, but added ironically that steps had been taken to prevent a recurrence in the future. Either subsequent tragedies were covered up or the measures were effective, measures which, I assume, included keeping the gas in its canister when sheep were down wind.

I'm sick about the dogs in Scaly, and I wish there some way to ease the pain their owners are feeling. I've said "Good bye," to some fine dogs and loyal companions. Anna and Eschuche were the best. I still miss them. Atilla, Mattie, and Guzzman were all fine dogs and good friends, and all are sorely missed at our place.

It's just that I can't buy the explanation that the poisonings were accidental and that the Highway Department was responsible.

They're not the Army. Crews at the beach regularly spray for mosquitoes without mass deaths of family pets. Maybe they spray something less toxic than organophosphates. Has anyone asked the Highway Department if they have been spraying organophosphates, compounds similar to those used in chemical weapons? Another thought; if people can put antifreeze on hot dogs, what's to keep them from dousing the dogs with insect poison.

We pretend we live in an idyllic area, free of crime. Officials might choose to ignore a crime rather than taint the myth. It's happened before. It might be happening again? Do we have a shred of evidence to back the "spray gone terribly wrong" theory, are we too lazy to investigate properly, or have we simply forgotten that these critters are our best friends?



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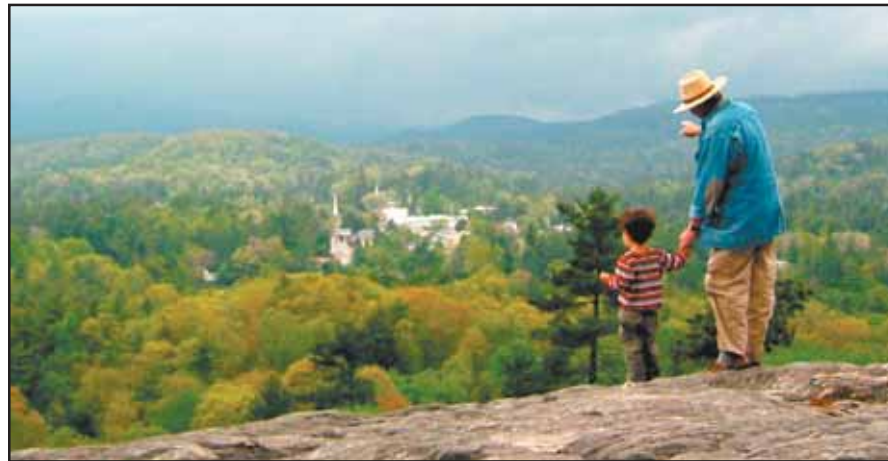
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## • JUST HERS •

### Hauling ash

By Michelle A. Mead-Armor

It didn't strike me until I got home with John's remains. I'd had him cremated in Asheville. Ashes from Asheville, dust to dust. It was just one more fact that joined the jumble of odd, sad, silly facts surrounding John's death.

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the day that will be forever frozen in time, they'd let me stay in the room with John for hours. Things weren't particularly busy in that ward of the hospital, and I'd wanted to keep John where he was until at least one of his children could see him. It had always haunted me that I'd never been able to have a lock of my father's hair before he was cremated. My father and I shared the curse of the Mead's, "skinny hair" as my mother called it, baby-fine, wispy hair. It was my last link to prove that I was, in fact, my father's daughter, a fact which was glaringly obvious when you saw the two of us standing next to each other.

The nursing staff and I, joined by dear friends from Highlands, took up our vigil, waiting for John's daughter, Karen, to drive over from Raleigh. Dori and Jonathan would fly in the next morning. "She's 180 miles away," I said to the folks who would eventually need to prepare John's room for the next patient. "She's 120 miles away," followed by "She's just gotten off the exit." And then my precious Karen was there, kind and efficient, sensible and brave.

Did I have a funeral home in mind, I who thought I'd be bringing home a live, cranky husband, who would be fussy and demanding? No, I didn't have any funeral home in mind. The lovely people at the hospital had some suggestions, and Karen told me she'd handle everything, leaving me to stay with John just a little bit longer.

And then, he was there, Stanley, the wonderful man from Asheville Mortuary, Stanley with the kind demeanor, and the most startlingly beautiful blue eyes. "Did your husband leave you any instructions about his final wishes?" he said gently. Oh, yes, John had filled out the Five Wishes form, in his maddeningly illegible handwriting. "Let me write it," I would always say. "Nobody will ever be able to read it if you do it!"

"Did he want to be buried or cremated?" Stanley inquired. "Cremated," I whispered, and then, emboldened by grief. "But I'd like to have him stuffed!" People in the room turned around, intrigued and horrified. "Well, every time we'd drive down the Cullasaja Gorge, we'd get to the bottom, and see that taxidermy place on the right. I always threatened John I'd have him stuffed, so I could prop him up in the corner, just like a big ole bear, with his arms opened. Then, whenever I'd want one of

his huge hugs, I could just slip into his arms." I was beginning to realize how absurd this must seem to everyone, but I insisted on justifying my words. "Heck, if they can stuff a water buffalo, they can do a lawyer!"

But, no, my sweet Babboo was not going to be stuffed, he was going to be cremated. Thinking about the 14 months it had taken John to grow his flowing locks for his Benjamin Franklin role, I asked one of the nursing staff for scissors. "It's going to be burned up anyway," I said. Scissors appeared as if by magic, and rubber bands, too. I struggled with John's hair, making mini-ponytails. The scissors were dull, and John would have been horrified at the mess I was making of his beautiful hair. Still, I struggled on, determined that this



Michelle Mead-Armor  
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was one part of my husband they could not take from me. Finally, I looked at John, seeing him for the first time in years with short hair. He didn't look bad. He didn't look bad at all.

John was a car person. We'd be driving around Highlands, and he'd yell, "Look at that!" when some gorgeous old car would sail by.

"That's not a real Mustang!" he would sniff at the more modern Mustangs, he who had owed a powder blue version of the earliest of that model. One of his favorite cars was the bright red Corvette owned by our dear friend, Betty. Just seeing it parked in front of our church would have him grinning from ear to ear. Many kind people volunteered to drive me to Asheville to bring John's ashes home, but I had something special in

mind. I asked Betty if she'd let me bring him home in the red Corvette. And so, we brought John home in style, zooming along the roads of Western North Carolina, under the admiring smiles and waves of Corvette fans – two middle-aged ladies in a hot car. John would have loved it.

• See HIS & HERS page 21

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### TV show tips really do help when selling a home

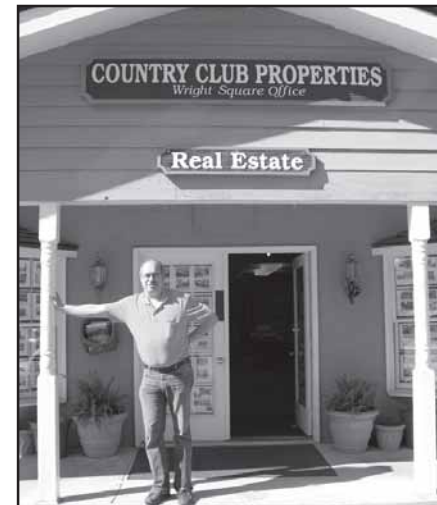
In the current economic climate, it can be an uneasy time for homeowners who are looking to sell. However, there are some inexpensive and easy ways to help make your home more attractive to buyers.

Before we discuss those tips, it is important to note that the best advice that a Realtor can give to sellers is to be flexible in your terms and to have an accurate picture of the value of your property. With that

being said, here are a few simple things that one can do to increase the value of a property without breaking the bank.

A seller's best friend can often be a fresh coat of paint in each room of the house. Painting a room is a simple, do-it-yourself task that can really pay dividends when showing a house. Stick with neutral colors, because they appeal to a broader base of people and can mesh with many different styles of furniture. Replacement of old wallpaper with a fresh coat of paint can also work wonders in terms of making the overall feel of the property more attractive.

The second thing that a seller can do is what the industry refers to as "staging." While many people who watch Home & Garden television have likely heard of staging, it is a lot more than simply placing furniture in a room. People who are looking to buy homes like to imagine themselves living there, and the little things can make a difference in a buyer's mind. For example, make sure that all of your lights are in working order and that the lights are turned on before the property is shown to allow potential buyers to examine the light patterns of the home.



**Terry Potts**  
 Broker/Owner  
 Country Club Properties  
 ccp4info@verizon.net

Also, ensure that all of your appliances are in working order and that the house is free of clutter. While the house itself may be spotless, cabinets full of knick-knacks can often be a deterrent in the mind of a potential buyer. Additionally, a garage can certainly increase the attractiveness of a home, but only if it is clean and uncluttered.

The final piece of advice that I have for sellers is to ensure that the

grounds of the property are well maintained. This can be a difficult task in Highlands, primarily because of the unpredictable weather, but also because of the seasonal nature of many residents. If a seller is unable to maintain the landscaping of the property, it would certainly be worth hiring a professional in order to keep the property in excellent shape. First impressions are very important in the real estate market, and for those who are looking to sell it is crucial that the exterior of the property catch the eye of a potential buyer.

While these tips can certainly help to increase the value and attractiveness of your home in the mind of potential buyers, it is best to remain flexible in terms of the current market. The true value of a home is an ever changing concept because it can be affected by so many outside influences.

However, it is important to remember that whether you are buying or selling your home, using a professional Realtor to help you navigate the current market is one of the best decisions you can make as a homeowner.

55709

## PISTOL CARRY PERMIT

CCW Class Saturday, Sept. 18th 8am-4pm

To Register Call: Jim Sottile (Former Detective NYPD) 828-349-0322  
 NEW LOCATION: Boiler Room at The Fun Factory, Franklin



# Ongoing and Upcoming Events



## Ongoing Through Jan. 2011

• The Green family is collecting coke can tabs to give to the Shriner's Hospital which turns them in for funds which helps the organization buy supplies. Please drop off coke can tabs at the Citgo Station across from the Rec Park (the old Stop n' Shop). Leave them with Ann or Trysta Green.

## Through 2010

• At The Bascom, Do Tell environmental sculpture: Patrick Dougherty. Admission is free. For information, call 828.526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Galleries are open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

• At Scaly Outdoor Center, Summer Dry Tubing. Call 526-3737.

## 125th anniversary coming up for First Presbyterian Church of Highlands

On Sunday, Sept. 12, the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands at 471 Main Street, celebrates the church's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Former pastors will gather with the congregation in Coleman Hall at 9:30 as they share vignettes of the church's history from their pastorates.

Dr. Stephen A. Hayner, President of Columbia Theological Seminary, will be the guest preacher at the 11 a.m. worship service.

There will be a reception in Coleman Hall immediately following the service.

To celebrate the past 125 years the church is publishing a photographic history of the church entitled *First Presbyterian Church of Highlands — The First 125 Years*, along with a reprinting of the *History of the First Presbyterian Church Highlands, North Carolina 1885-1985* written for the Centennial Celebration by Betty Holt.

## Annual Native Plant Conference set for Sept. 10-11

The Highlands Biological Foundation is pleased to announce the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants will be held on September 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> in Highlands, NC. The objective of the conference is to educate and inspire participants about the advantages of using native plants in their gardens. Participants are introduced to new concepts in ecology and conservation, given tips on design principles and informed about native perennials, shrubs and trees that work best in our region. The proceeds from the conference benefit the Botanical Gardens at the Highlands Biological Station, which was established in 1962 by the Biological Foundation as a refuge and demonstration garden for over 500 species of southern Appalachian plants.

This year's conference will host an excellent slate of professionals in the fields of Horticulture, ecology and landscaping including Richard Bir formerly of the NC Cooperative Extension Service. Mr. Bir has written extensively on woody plants of western North Carolina. Peter Loewer, the Wild Gardener, local plant expert and author of over 30 books on plants and gardens will share his knowledge and experience. Dr. John Pickering of UGA's Odum School of Ecology will inspire you to nurture the eco-

system in your backyard. Dr. Sean O'Connell of WCU will discuss the wondrous world of soil microbes. Award winning landscape photographers Kevin Fitzpatrick and Clay Bolt will discuss their work with a project designed to better familiarize humans with the plants and wildlife that share our environment. On Friday September 10<sup>th</sup> participants can choose between 9 excellent fieldtrips including *The Mad Hatter's Tea Party* with herbalist Ila Hatter, hikes to Lonesome Valley, The Southern Highlands Reserve, Panthertown Valley, garden tours with leading landscape designers and moss, photography and landscape design workshops. The fieldtrips offer something for everyone.

One of the highlights of the annual event is the native plant auction held on Saturday afternoon following the speakers. The auction is an excellent way to acquire rare and unusual native plants and to support a good cause.

The registration fee for the entire event is \$100 for HBF members and \$135 for non-members. Register early to ensure your first pick for the fieldtrips. Please call the Highlands Biological Station for more information on the conference or to register for the event 526-2602

• At Scaly Outdoor Center, Trout Fishing. Call 526-3737.

• Hospital Tours: "Grand Rounds" at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will be providing small group tours to interested area residents. Tours will be held periodically each month, through October. Tours begin at 7:30 a.m. and will include breakfast with HCH's doctors and a meet and greet with the new CEO, Craig James. Call the Foundation Office at 526-1435 as space is limited. Or RVSP by email at [info@hchospital.org](mailto:info@hchospital.org).

• Join us for lunch at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, where from May through October, you can enjoy an hour long Lunch and Learn educational seminar, on a variety of health topics, followed by Q&A session. Lunch provided; seating limited. Call 526-1313 or (828) 526-1250 today to make your reservation.

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes all week long. Call 828-526-1FIT.

• Nantahala Tennis Club meets everyday at 9 a.m. at Highlands Recreation Park. \$2 per person; all visitors welcome. Call 526-3556.

• **YOGA** – Moonrise Yoga -- The Highlands Dedicated Studio, 464 Carolina Way. Mon., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. All Levels. Mats provided. 526-8880. More info at [www.yogahighlands.com](http://www.yogahighlands.com) (10/28)

## Sundays

• Aftershock Youth meets every Sunday Night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God at 6201 Highlands Road, Franklin, NC. Contact youth ministers Seth & Sarha Henegar at 828 369-7540 ext 203.

• Old Fashioned Hymn-Sing at the Little Church of the Wildwood in Horse Cove. 7-9 p.m. Sundays through Labor Day. Kay Ward – 743-5009

## Mon. & Wed.

• Pilates Classes at the Jane Woodruff Clinic, 1st floor, at H-C Hospital taught by Sandie Trevathan at 4 p.m. A mat class for all levels. For info call 526-5852. (7/29)

## Mon., Wed., & Thurs.

• On the Mat Yoga at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation on Main Street. Enter through single door facing Mountain Fresh. Upper Level Jones Hall. Mon. & Wed at 7:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 10:45 a.m. Bring your mat. 828-482-2128. \$10/hour.

## Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Heart Healthy Exercise Class at the Rec Park. 8:30-9:30 a.m. \$20/month.

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

\$50 a month.

## First Mondays

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

## Mondays

• Closed AA meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

## Tuesdays

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

• Closed AA Women's meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

## Tuesdays & Thursdays (Beg. Sept. 14)

• Study Hall at the Literacy Council of Highlands in the Peggy Crosby Center from 3 to 5 p.m. Come do your homework, projects use the resources on site and get help from a tutor. For more information, contact Faviola Olvera at (828) 526-0925 or by email at [missolvera@yahoo.com](mailto:missolvera@yahoo.com).

• Kettlebell Class at the Rec Park with Ginger Baldwin at 5:15 p.m. Fast moving free weight kinetic chain movement for 30-40 minutes. \$8 per class. Call 526-3556 or 526-4959 to reserve a spot.

## Wednesdays

• \$2 off bar drinks at El Azteca. 70 Highlands Plaza across from Bryson's Food Store.

• The Highlands Mountaintop Rotas  
• See EVENTS page 14

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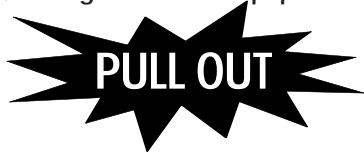
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# Ongoing and Upcoming Events

ry meets at 7:30 a.m. in the dining room at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Enter the hospital in the main or emergency entrance and follow the signs downstairs. Visitors are welcome. Meetings end at 8:30 am.

- Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.
- The Homegrown Buds, a home-school 4-H club, meets at noon at the Macon County Library on Siler Road in Franklin at 1 p.m.

### Wednesdays & Fridays

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

### Every 3rd 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.

Call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

### Thursdays

- Al-Anon meeting, noon at the Episcopal Church on Main and Fifth streets.
- Zahner Conservation Lecture Series every Thursday at 7 pm at the Highlands Nature Center May 13 through Aug. 5 It's free.

### Friday & Saturdays

- Live Music at The Downhill Grill at Scaly Mountain Outdoor Center 7-9 p.m.. BYOB.

### Every Third Saturday

- The Highlands Memorial Post #370 of the American Legion meets at the Shortoff Baptist Church. Breakfast is at 9 am. Meeting is at 10 a.m. All veterans are invited to attend.

### Every Fourth Saturday

- Friends of Panthertown work days,

are the fourth Saturday of each month. (Time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 526-9938 (ext 258).

- The Scaly Mountain Women's Club monthly Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast is served in the remodeled historical school house from 7:30-10:30 pm. \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Call Susan Bankston 526-9952 or email [sfbankston@gmail.com](mailto:sfbankston@gmail.com)

### Saturdays

- At Paoletti's Restaurant, intimate Wine Tasting at the bar at 1 pm. Great values in wines from around the world, available for retail sales daily. Cheese and Crackers are served. Cost: \$20 per person.
- At Cyprus International Restaurant, live music beginning at 9 p.m. No cover.
- Highlands Knitting & Needlepoint Guild meets to knit, crochet and needlepoint on the terrace at the Bascom. Questions? 526-1741.

### Through Sun., Sept. 12

- At The Bascom, Small Works Challenge: Bascom Members. Admission is free. For information, call 828.526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Galleries are open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

### Through Sun., Sept. 26

- At The Bascom, Kick-start! American Motorcycle Design. Admission is free. For information, call 828.526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Galleries are open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

### Thurs., Sept. 9

- At Hudson Library, Financial Management Lecture – at 5:30-6:30 pm. Presented by Sue Gorski of RBC Bank - Home Buying.

- The League of Women Voters of Macon County will host a forum for Board of Education candidates in the 2010 election. Incumbent Stephanie McCall is running for re-election in District 1; Larry Brooks will face incumbent Tommy Cabe in District 2; and incumbent Bobby Bishop and Gary Shields are facing each other in District 4. The forum will take place at Tartan Hall in Franklin. Lunch is available, at noon, by reservation. Call 524-5192 or email [lwvmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info](mailto:lwvmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info).

- At dance at the MC Community Center on Hwy, 441 S. in Franklin, NC, (across from "Whistle Stop Mall") from 6:30 to 9:00 pm with music by "Swingtime Band" for more information call (828) 369-9155.

- The Jackson County GOP is spon-

soring a Meet Conservative Candidates Event on Thursday, September 9, 5:30- 7 PM at the Savannah Community Center. Conservative candidates expected are those running for the Jackson County Commission, State Legislative Offices and Judgeships. Refreshments including hot dogs with fixin's and beverages will be served. All affiliated and unaffiliated voters especially those from Webster, Savannah and Green's Creek who are interested in hearing candidate's platforms are urged to attend. Additional candidate events are scheduled for Cullowhee on September 23rd, Qualla, on October 7th and Sylva on October 21st. Locations for the September and October events are to be announced. For additional information call Ralph Slaughter, Jackson County GOP Chair at Republican Headquarters, 828 586-9895 and 828 743-6491.

### Fri. & Sat., Sept. 10-11

- The Highlands Biological Founda-

## More than 30 exhibitors are bound for the Playhouse's 6th annual Antique Show set for Sept. 24-26

Graham Holiday, in just six years, has become a fixture at the Highlands Playhouse Annual Antiques Show, this year Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 24-26 at the Highlands Civic Center. He's the one with the collection of English antique furniture that impresses people with the most pedestrian knowledge on the subject.

Holiday was one of the first dealers Michael Weaver contacted back in 2005 when he began assembling the lineup for what has become an annual benefit for the Highlands Playhouse. The two dealers were friends from other antique shows and Weaver knew well what was in Holiday's inventory. Weaver simply says, "He has the best."

At the August Scott Antique Show in Atlanta, Holiday brought in an impressive collection of English furniture, nothing newer than 18th century. He has sideboards, butlers' desks, tables of every dimension and purpose, chairs ... anything that catches his eye.

Holiday, an Englishman by birth, now lives in and operates out of the Sarasota, FL, area. "When I first arrived here, I had a shop but not anymore," he said. "Now, I just do shows such as this. Oh, I dress up pieces of furniture. For example, if I have a sideboard I add whatever is necessary to make it look real. It's easy to picture a piece of his furniture in your home when he's finished with it.

Holiday's success and longevity is attributable to his keen eye at selecting his stock, and since closing his shop, has become more particular. "I don't want the



Antique exhibitor, Graham Holiday is packed and heading for the Highlands Playhouse annual antique show Sept. 24-26 at the Civic Center.

biggest stock, but I do want the best I can get," he said.

Advance tickets for the 6th Annual Highlands Playhouse Antique Show are on sale at the Highlands Playhouse or by calling 828-526-2695. Tickets are \$12 and are good for all three days: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 12 noon-5 p.m. on Sunday.

## Coexisting with Bears is topic at Civic Center on Sept. 13



The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society and The Bird Barn in Highlands will provide a program on bears at 7:30 pm at the Highlands Civic Center, September 13. Representatives from Appalachian Bear Rescue, Townsend, Tennessee will discuss how to get along with bears in bear country. They will emphasize the mistakes that people often make, problems that are created and dispel some common misconceptions about the danger of encountering a bear and offer advice for bear encounters, whether in your yard or in the woods. There is no charge for the program, but donations to Appalachian Bear Rescue are welcome. Light refreshments will be served at 7 p.m. Call Brock Hutchins at 787-1387 for additional information.



# Ongoing and Upcoming Events



tion hosts the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants. On Friday, participants can choose between 9 excellent fieldtrips including The Mad Hatter's Tea Party with herbalist Ila Hatter, hikes to Lonesome Valley, The Southern Highlands Reserve, Panthertown Valley, garden tours with leading landscape designers and moss, photography and landscape design workshops. On Saturday, one of the highlights of the annual event is the native plant auction held on Saturday afternoon following the speakers. The auction is an excellent way to acquire rare and unusual native plants and to support a good cause. The registration fee for the entire event is \$100 for HBF members and \$135 for non-members. Register early to ensure your first pick for the fieldtrips. Please call the Highlands Biological Station for more information on the conference or to register for the event 526-2602

## Fri., Sept. 10

- At Paoletti's Restaurant, "Not Even Brothers" playing acoustic at 9:45 p.m.

## Sat., Sept. 11 - Sat., Nov. 6

- At The Bascom, Fire and Heat by Three. Admission is free. For information, call 828.526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Galleries are open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

- At Whiskers on Main Street in Highlands, Friends for Life of Toxaway, NC will hold its animal adoption from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

## Sat., Sept. 11

- At The Bascom, Turner's and Lehr's works will be featured in The Bascom's Fire and Heat by Three exhibition in the loft gallery

- The third annual Highlands Motoring Festival will be held in downtown Highlands from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. presented with the Rotary Club of Highlands. This year, the festival will be accepting donations of cars to be auctioned off at 3:30 p.m. by Al Scudder. All proceeds from the auction will benefit local charities. Festival admission is free and there will be hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages for purchase. To register a pre-1980 car for judging, or donating a car for auction, contact festival chairman, Marc Pittman at 828-342-1898 or the Highlands Chamber of Commerce at 828-526-5841. Registration forms are also available online at [www.highlandsmotoringfestival.com](http://www.highlandsmotoringfestival.com).

- Celebration of Books with the Cashiers' Writers Group, 9-3 at the Civic Center. There will be 25 authors on hand to sell and sign their books. Lunch available.

Door Prizes. For more information, call Deanna at 743-1683.

- Property Owners of America.org (POA), will be making a presentation regarding the economic dangers of the proposed steep slope regulations at the FreedomWorks meeting 8:30 a.m. at the Angel Hospital Meeting Room. Just inside the main entrance on the right. We will also be discussing a very simple solution that the POA has created. For more information call Don Swanson at 524-2960.

## Sunday, Sept. 12

- First Presbyterian Church of Highlands at 471 Main Street, celebrates the church's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday at 471 Main Street. Former pastors will gather with the congregation in Coleman Hall at 9:30 as they share vignettes of the church's history from their pastorates. Dr. Stephen A. Hayner, President of Columbia Theological Seminary, will be the guest preacher at the 11 a.m. worship service. There will be a reception in Coleman Hall immediately following the service. To celebrate the past 125 years the church is publishing a photographic history of the church entitled First Presbyterian Church of Highlands—The First 125 Years, along with a reprinting of the History of the First Presbyterian Church Highlands, North Carolina 1885-1985 written for the Centennial Celebration by Betty Holt.

- The 18th Bel Canto at PAC at 4PM. For tickets, please call 828-526-1947.

- High Mountain Squares will be hosting a special "ANNUAL GREENWAY DANCE" ON Sunday at the Tasse Pavilion on the Greenway from 2-5 PM. Marty Northrup from Columbus, NC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. A picnic will be furnished at the dance. Everyone is welcome, so come in casual clothes and enjoy the food and dancing. All proceeds from the event will be donated to Rudy Saunders of Monroe, GA. Rudy, who has served as a caller at many of our dances, has been courageously battling lung cancer. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-369-8344, or 706-782-0943.

## Monday, Sept. 13

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society and The Bird Barn in Highlands will provide a program on bears at 7:30 pm at the Highlands Civic Center. Representatives from Appalachian Bear Rescue, Townsend, TN will discuss how to get along with bears in bear country. They will emphasize the mistakes that people often make, problems that are created and

dispel some common misconceptions about the danger of encountering a bear and offer advice for bear encounters, whether in your yard or in the woods. There is no charge for the program, but donations to Appalachian Bear Rescue are welcome. Light refreshments will be served at 7 p.m. Call Brock Hutchins at

787-1387 for additional information.

## Wednesday, Sept. 15

- The High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday night, September 15th, at the Macon County Community Building on route 441 South from 6:30-7

• See EVENTS page 16

## Fire and Heat by Three opens at The Bascom on September 11

Join us for the opening and a public reception



Works by mixed media artist Mira Lehr and ceramist Tom Turner will be featured in the *Fire and Heat by Three* exhibition opening at The Bascom on Saturday, September 11. Join us for public reception that evening 5-7 pm. For more information, call (828) 526-4949, ext 100 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

You are cordially invited to stop by The Bascom on Saturday, September 11 from 5-7 pm for a public reception and opening of the exhibition *Fire and Heat by Three*. The creative visions and bold, unique perspectives of artists' Alex Bernstein, Mira Lehr and Tom Turner will be on display in the Loft Gallery through November 6. Experience traditional and innovative uses of materials and processes employed in the making of contemporary works of art by these three featured artists.

This highly anticipated opening follows the success of the *Kick-Start! American Motorcycle Design* exhibition featured in The Bascom's Main Gallery through September 26. This highly original exhibition features vintage and antique bikes on loan from Wheels Through Time, a Maggie Valley, NC-based private collection. Among the featured motorcycles: a 1908 Brown & Beck Apache, a 1909 Pierce, a 1914 Harley-Davidson Racer, a 1925 Excelsior Super X, a 1933 Harley-Davidson Flathead and a 1953 Indian Chief. This exhibition is sponsored by Helen and Fred Cooper and Old Edwards Club members Barbara and Doug DeMaire, Judith and Robert Moore, Angela and Art Williams and Patsy and Bill Wolff.

Other exhibitions now at The Bascom: *Small Works Challenge*, Bascom Members; Selected Works from the Bascom Collection; Patrick Dougherty's *Do Tell* environmental sculpture and *On View: Artists in Residence and Three Weavers*.



Vance and Willis Willey enjoy the *Kick-start! American Motorcycle design* exhibition at The Bascom in Highlands. For information on all of The Bascom's exhibition, educational and outreach programs, call (828) 526-4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org).

All Bascom exhibitions are free and open to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org) or call (828) 526-4949.





# Ongoing and Upcoming Events

PM. Nelda Easton from New Boston, TX will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0995, 828-369-8344 or 706-782-0943.

## Thursday, Sept. 16

- Taize in Highlands, 5:30 at Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church.

- The Macon Chapter of the Western North Carolina Alliance will host a presentation on the ecological implications of paving Needmore Road located on the Needmore Preserve along the Little Tennessee River in Macon County, NC. Doctor Bill McLarney, a consultant for LTWA will present scientific information on the effects alternative paving proposals would have on this pristine ecosystem.

## Fri., Sept. 17

- At Paoletti's Restaurant, "Not Even Brothers" playing acoustic at 9:45 p.m.

## Sat., Sept. 18 - Sat., Nov. 27

- At The Bascom, Recent Works: Aaron Yakim and Cynthia Taylor. Admission is free. For information, call 828.526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Galleries are open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

## Saturday, Sept. 18

- A benefit for Colleen Fogel at Rec Park starting at 5 p.m. with dinner silent auction, cake auction senior class face painting and selling silly bands and necklaces to help raise money for her medical expenses. Colleen is fighting breast cancer.

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a field trip to the Highlands Biological Station and Sunset Rocks to look for migrating birds. Meet at the public parking area next to the town hall at 7:30 a.m. For additional information call Brock Hutchins at 828-787-1387. There is no charge to participate.

- Pistol Carry Permit CCW class, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Boiler Room at the Fun Factory in Franklin. To register call, Jim Sottile (former NYPD detective) at 828-349-0322.

## Sunday, Sept. 19

- Homecoming at Highlands First Baptist Church. Join us for the service at 10:45 a.m. and stay for a covered dish luncheon and music. Members, friends and local churches are invited. Plan to join us for this special day in the life of our church.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike on the Jack Rabbit Mountain Trail around Lake Chatuge in

Georgia, with an elevation change of 200 feet. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2 p.m. Drive 55 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-8620, for reservations. Visitors and children over ten are welcome, but no pets please.

## Monday, Sept. 20

- The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will meet on Monday at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Library at 7 PM and features Matt Kulp, fisheries biologist with the Smokey Mountain National Park who will discuss "What's Going on in the Great Smokey Mountain National Park - an aquatics and fisheries update including where to find the brook trout. Matt Kulp is a graduate of Penn State University with a MS in fisheries biology from Tennessee Tech. He has been with the park since 1995 and was the Park employee of the year in 2010. His focus is on Brook Trout inventory, genetics, native fish restoration, water quality and fisheries ecology. Following the speaker, a raffle will be held featuring various fly fishing accessories including an Orvis 5 weight fly rod. Everyone is welcome. Call 828-885-7130.

## Tues., Sept. 21

- At Hudson Library, Health Lectures by Dr. Sue Aery of Mountain Air Wellness Center. "10 ways to feed your child HEALTHY!"

- A public hearing to be held by NC-DOT in Bryson City, NC on the Needmore Preserve paving project.

## Wed., Sept. 22

- The Village Nature Series features "Hunters of the Sky" with Balsam Preserve's Michael Skinner. Children and kids at heart will be sure to learn something new while getting a chance to discover more about these creatures up close and personal with Highlands Nature Center Director, Patrick Brannon. The program will be followed by an ice cream social and is free to everyone in the community. No reservations are required. For more information contact HCLT at 828.526.1111.

## Thursday, Sept. 23

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a field trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway for fall migrants. We will return mid-afternoon so bring a light picnic lunch. Meet at the public parking area next to the town hall at 7:00 a.m. For additional information call Brock Hutchins at 828-787-1387. There is no charge to participate.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3-mile hike with a elevation

change of 625 feet, from Wallace Branch to Winding Stair Gap on a short stretch of the Appalachian Trail. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2 p.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-8620, for reservations. Visitors and children over ten are welcome, but no pets please.

## Fri.-Sun., Sept. 24-26

- Annual Highlands Playhouse Antique Show at the Civic Center from 10-5 Fri. and Sat., and noon-5 on Sunday. Tickets are \$12. More than 30 exhibitors from all over the world will be selling their wares.

## Fri., & Sat., Sept. 24-25

- At Paoletti's Restaurant, "Not Even Brothers" playing acoustic at 9:15 p.m.

## Saturday, Sept. 25

- A Litter Sweep beginning at 8:30 a.m. Call the Highlands Visitor Center to RSVP. 526-2112.

- At Community Bible Church, "The Relationship between Nutrition and Disease." Learn a way to reduce: cancer, heart disease, diabetes, alzheimers and other degenerative diseases. Led by Carol Johnson, a nutrition counselor, and Rebecca Cothran, a whole grains supplier. From 10am-noon. FREE but call 526-4297 for reservations.

- A benefit for Vince and Jimmy Petrone at Tate's Landscaping new building on NC 106. Come join us and help raise money for Jimmy and Vince to pay bills since the passing for their father Kevin Petrone. Starting at 8:30 a.m. a motorcycle ride will begin at Wright Square in Highlands for those who would like to ride in honor of Kevin. Cars are welcome to participate. There will be a \$20 rider fee with lunch included. The riders will return around 12:30 p.m. to Tate Landscaping. While the ride takes place there will be BBQ plates available — \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. There will also be a car wash, raffle and live band. Lunch is 11:30-2.

## Sat., Oct. 2 - Sat., Dec. 18

- At The Bascom, American Craft Today, Juried Exhibition, Admission is free. For information, call 828.526.4949 or visit [www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org). Galleries are open to the public, Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

## Thursday, Oct. 7

- Taize in Highlands, 5:30 at Highlands United Methodist Church.

## Fri.-Sun., Oct. 8-10

- The Greater Cashiers Merchant's Association Leaf Festival Chair Pat Grady

## Join 5 million North Carolinians and get your library card!

September is Library Card Sign-up Month – a time when the State Library of North Carolina and libraries across the state spread the message that the library card is the "smartest card." The goal is to make the library card the most valued and used card for North Carolina citizens. Over five million North Carolinians are card-carrying library users and during the last fiscal year over 44 million visited their public library and over 9 million used the Internet computers.

has issued a call for artisans and artists who wish to have a booth at the 2010 Leaf Festival. Although Festival space is expanded to flow from the Cashiers Village Green to the Village Commons for the 2010 event, early booth reservations are encouraged. For information and reservations call Chair Grady at 828 743.5858, the GCAMA office at 828 743.1630.

## Saturday, Oct. 9

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a five mile moderate hike from Park Gap down Park Ridge to the connector trail and back up Park Creek. Drive 40 miles round trip. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 9 a.m. Bring water, lunch; wear sturdy shoes. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298 for reservations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

## Beginning Monday, Oct. 11

- Rehearsals for the annual Community Christmas Chorale will begin at 7 p.m. Monday evening, at First Presbyterian Church with director Orville Wike and accompanist Angie Jenkins. Rehearsals will take place in the choir room which is located on the lower level of the new Faith and Fellowship Center. Since rehearsals are beginning later than usual this year, it is important to make plans to attend every rehearsal if at all possible. Two concerts are scheduled. The first will be Saturday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. and the second will be the following day, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. If you enjoy singing, please join us!

## Tuesday, October 14

- At Hudson Library, Financial Management Lecture – at 5:30-6:30 pm. Presented by Sue Gorski of RBC Bank — Understanding Your Credit Score.



## • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

### Discipleship: A different way of seeing



Chaplain Margaret Howell  
Holy Family Lutheran Church

I remember as a child of about 11 falling victim to horrendous headaches. They were so severe that I could not open my eyes without the light causing me even greater pain. I would lie on the sofa in our darkened den, trying not to move, since even the slightest exertion made it worse.

After several weeks of this, my parents, realizing that this was not going away, took me to the doctor. He ordered a series of X-Rays of my skull. My parents didn't say anything to me, but in later years I realized that they suspected a brain tumor.

I'll never forget the experience of being in a dreary small dark room with a cold steel table, my head strapped down so I couldn't move while this large and scary machine whirred in my face.

Over 15 different films were taken (It's a wonder I don't glow in the dark!) and then my parents waited for the results. To quote an unknown comedian, "X-rays were taken of my brain and nothing was found." The headaches continued until I was totally incapacitated. At school, I remember being told to run around our large playground by our teacher, and I almost had to crawl back to him, blinded by pain. He called my parents and my parents consulted my pediatrician and he then suggested that I have my eyesight checked (I had worn glasses since I was 7.)

It was found that my prescription had changed radically. New glasses were bought and the headaches ceased almost instantly. I remember how my whole world changed the moment I put on those new glasses. Everything was changed. The world was brighter, clearer; I could see details I never dreamed of. The way I perceived everything in my line of sight was radically changed. It was a different way of seeing...

In a reading from Luke 14: 26,27 Jesus is talking about discipleship to the crowds that were following him and starts out with a startling verse that has bothered Christians for centuries. "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."

Whoaaa. That seems a bit harsh, does it not?

Maybe it is just a different way of seeing...

Of course, Jesus didn't mean that we are to literally hate our families, but he is using hyperbole to make a point: Follow Him and the way you see, think and act changes. Priorities change. This perhaps explains many of our brothers and sisters claim to have been "born again." To be born again means to see things as though they were brand new. This includes everything: the world around us, and our relationships with the people in it. Too many peo-

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 21

## • PLACES TO WORSHIP •

**BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11  
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7  
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

**BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

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

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

**CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011  
Worshipping at the facilities of  
Whiteside Presbyterian Church, Cashiers  
Sunday: Holy Communion - 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday: Adult Forum - 10:45, Bucks Coffee Cafe, Cashiers  
Monday: Evening Bible Study at Whiteside Presbyterian - 5 p.m.; Bible Study & Supper at members' homes - 6 p.m.  
Wednesday: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church  
Thursday: Women's Prayer Group - 10 a.m., Whiteside Presbyterian Church; Healing Service at noon

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**  
283 Spring Street  
Sunday: Service - 11 a.m.; School - 11 a.m.  
3rd Wed. of month: Testimonial Service - 5 p.m.  
Reading Room: Wednesday - 3-5 p.m.

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

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685  
Pastor Gary Hewins  
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands  
Sun.: 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School, Prayer Group.  
10:30 am: Children's Program (Pre-K - 5th Grade), Merge for 6th Graders. 10:45 am: Worship Service. 5 pm Student Arts Group, The River Middle & High School Student Ministries.  
Tues.: 9:30 am: Women's Bible Study.  
Wed.: 5 pm: Dinner. 6pm: Children's Program

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**  
526-2968  
Sunday: Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)  
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

**FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN**  
Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977  
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.  
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.  
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children's Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.; Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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. Lee Bowman, Pastor  
Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175  
Sun.: Worship - 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.; Sun. School - 9:30 & 9:45.  
Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast  
Tuesdays: Bible Study - 5 p.m.  
Wednesdays - Dinner 6:30 p.m.; 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 8:30 & 11 a.m.; 5 p.m. Youth  
Wed: Supper; 6; 7:15 - 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 and Adult discussion group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion - 10:30  
HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

**LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD**  
Kay Ward - 743-5009  
Sundays: 7-8 p.m. Memorial Day - Labor Day  
Old Fashioned Hymn-Sing

**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

**MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH**  
Pastor: Clayton Lopez • 828-743-9704  
Independent Bible Church  
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. at Blue Ridge School  
Weds: Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Youth Group 6 p.m.

**OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor  
Parish office: 526-2418  
Mass: - 9 a.m.; Sun., Thurs. & Fri  
Saturday Mass - Mem Day through Oct. at 4 p.m.

**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**  
85 Sierra Drive • 828-524-6777  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Child Care - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Religious Education - 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Youth from 8th - 12th grades meet the second Sunday of each month from 5 - 7:30 p.m.

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





Herbert Plauché, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is unique compared to other area hospitals in that all physicians are Certified by The American Board of Medical Specialties, or have committed to Certification within two years of joining the hospital.

Board Certification means that the physician at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has voluntarily completed ongoing, rigorous testing and evaluation. Additionally it signifies the physician's commitment and expertise in consistently achieving superior clinical outcomes in a responsive, patient-focused setting.

Orthopedic surgeon Herbert Plauché is one such physician. With over 40 years of surgical experience, Dr. Plauché is quick to praise his colleagues and the facilities at HCH. "The staff at HCH is dedicated, professional and friendly, and the patient's welfare always comes first," said Plauché. "Add to that some of the finest and most up to date medical equipment available and you have a community hospital second to none."

For the patient, the benefit of the Certification program means that when choosing a HCH physician, they may be confident that they have chosen one with an established record of experience, knowledge and skill.



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## • HEALTH MATTERS •

### Signs you may have periodontal disease

By Dr. Joseph Wilbanks

Many patients that suffer from periodontal disease do not realize they have the condition. If you don't get a dental checkup twice a year you may be well on your way to losing your teeth and increasing the odds that you will suffer from heart disease, stroke or diabetes. Since gum disease is preventable and easily treatable in the early stages it is important to know the signs.



Dr. Joseph Wilbanks

The first noticeable symptom of periodontal disease is usually bad breath. This is not your typical "I had garlic for lunch" bad breath. This is a chronic, foul odor that won't go away even after brushing and flossing. If you have chronic bad breath you should also visit your physician to rule out diseases such as diabetes but since the majority of our population suffers from undiagnosed gum disease it is the most likely

cause of the problem.

Healthy gums are a nice shade of pink. If your gums are red or purple and they appear to be swollen around your teeth you probably have periodontal disease.

Gums that are tender or sore and bleed easily are another sign. It is not normal for gums to bleed when brushing or flossing. Bleeding, sore gums are a sure sign of infection and you should seek treatment as

soon as possible.

Pain when chewing can be another sign that periodontal disease is advancing. Pain that is felt only in one tooth can signal a cracked tooth or the need or a root canal. Pain that is spread throughout your mouth is more likely a sign of serious gum disease.

What happens if gum disease is not treated? Several things – first your teeth will become loose, this causes the bone in the

•See HEALTH MATTERS page 24

## • AREA HEALTH SPECIALISTS •

### Joseph H. Wilbanks, D.D.S

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1 20/200

2 20/100

3 20/70

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Hard to tell in a black & white ad, huh?

Actually, "Blue" refers to how clear my world is after having LASIK vision correction at the Blue Laser Group. If you have ever imagined a life without glasses or contacts, call their Highlands office and ask how you can earn a **\$1000 credit** toward the procedure!

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# • HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SOCCER AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS – 2010 •

## Boys Varsity Soccer Team



Robbie Vanderbilt — 17  
 Michael Shearl — 20  
 Justin Watson — 15  
 Cord Strawn — 12  
 Tucker Bates — 3  
 Samuel Wheeler — 21  
 Spencer Houston — 10  
 Ricky Reyes — 5  
 Isaac Beavers — 14  
 Cody St. Germain — 8  
 Andrew Renfro — 7  
 Clayton Creighton — 18  
 Tyler Converse — 4  
 Bryon Neumann — 2  
 Tim Fogle — 25  
 Clay Dunn — 6  
 Taylor Osteen — 19  
 Temba Lama — 13  
 Jake Shelton — 11  
 Tyler Munge — 9  
 Luiggi Pacheco — 23  
 Coach: Chris Green

## Girls JV Volley Ball & Girls Varsity Volley Ball w/ coaches Lindsey Gearhart and Kyle & Caroline McKim



Sept. 14	Tues.	Nantahala	Away	5pm***2:35 p.m.
Sept. 16	Thurs.	Cherokee	Away	5pm
Sept. 20	Mon.	Murphy Home	5pm	
Sept. 22	Wed.	Rabun Gap	Away	5pm
Sept. 23	Thurs.	Rosman Home	5pm	
Sept. 28	Tues.	Swain	Away	5:pm 2:45
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Hiwassee D</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>5pm</b>
<b>Oct. 4</b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Blue Ridge</b>	<b>Away</b>	<b>5pm***</b>
Oct. 5	Tues.	Victory	Away	5pm***
Oct. 7	Thurs.	Rabun Gap	Home	5pm
<b>Oct. 12</b>	<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Nantahala</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>6pm***</b>
Oct. 14	Thurs.	Cherokee	Home	5pm

**Conference Matches Bolded**

GAME TIMES: JV 5pm VARSITY: 6pm

Little Smoky Tournament at Nantahala: Mon.-Wed., Oct. 18-20

1<sup>st</sup> Round of State Playoffs: Saturday, Oct. 23

### JV Team

Hayden Bates  
 Jackie Reyes  
 Cali Smolarsky  
 Cara Hedden  
 Ellie Cate Beavers  
 Sayne Feria  
 Kaitlyn Lewis

### Varsity Team

Courtney Rogers  
 Taylor Buras  
 Stephanie Puchacz  
 Marlee McCall  
 Sarah Power  
 Juliane Buras  
 Jenny Coram



## • BUSINESS NEWS •

### Mayor signs in 'National Assisted Living Week'



From left, Mary Bean, Chestnut Hill Activities Director, and Jan Edwards, Marketing Director, watch as Mayor David Wilkes signs a proclamation announcing Sept. 12-18 as National Assisted Living Week in Highlands. Chestnut Hill is the only assisted living community in the Highlands area. During the week, the community will celebrate the national theme — living life — with special events each day. The public is invited to an open house Wednesday, September 15, 2-4 pm, in the assisted living building, 24 Clubhouse Trail. Contact Jan Edwards, 787-2114, for additional information.

### The Literacy Council of Highlands hires a new Executive Director

Tonya Hensley is following in the footsteps of Bessie Goggins and is now the new Executive Director of the Highlands Literacy Council effective September 7.

"I feel that the Literacy Council provides a wonderful service to this community and I am proud to be a part of it," says Hensley. "I see expansion of the programs offered and the enrollment in our programs. We plan on starting a computer literacy program for adults and hope that will get off the ground in the next several months. I would also like to see folks from the community come to the council to take advantage of our computer lab and the language software — The Rosetta Stone software — which is very effective for learning a new language."

Hensley graduated from Western Caro-

lina University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. After completing her undergraduate degree, she continued to attend WCU and received her master's in Human Resource Management. Some of Hensley's past work experience includes managing the Old Creek Lodge in Highlands and being a teacher at Summit Charter School.

Most recently, she has taught college-level classes in Office Management, Microsoft Office, Quickbooks, and Effective Teacher Training at Southwestern Community College.

Hensley now resides in Cashiers with her family.

For more information, contact Tonya Hensley at 526-0925 or by email at [highlandsliteracy@live.com](mailto:highlandsliteracy@live.com).

### Nonprofits benefit from Rotary Bingo



The Rotary Club of Highlands partnered with the Highlands Historical Society to sponsor Bingo on Sept. 2. Dorothy Ackerman a visitor from Florida, won the final Super Bingo game. She is shown with Highlands Historical Society President Eric NeSmith (left) and Rotary Club of Highlands President Jodie Cook.

### Mountain Findings ends year giving to other nonprofits



Left: Mary Adair Lesley, Administrative Director of the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center and Donna Jacques of Mountain Findings.

Lower left: Edie Woods of Mountain Findings and Rick Siegel, Big Brother/Big Sisters of Highlands Advisory Board Chairman.



### Allen opens realty group



Pat Allen is pleased to announce the opening of her new Real Estate Firm, Pat Allen Realty Group. She has been a consistent leader in the Real Estate market in the Highlands area. She had won numerous awards as the top sales and listing agent for 6 consecutive years. Pat's success is attributed to her hard work and dedication to her clients. She is a certified luxury home marketing specialist and also earned her certification in short sales and foreclosures. You may contact Pat at 828-482-1264 or on her cell at 828-200-9179.

## • Art Galleries •

### Corey James Gallery



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### John Collette Fine Art



381 Main St. • 526-0339  
email: [jcfa@verizon.net](mailto:jcfa@verizon.net)

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[www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org)

Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am-5 pm through December 18  
Sunday 12-5 pm through October 10  
Plus three holiday Mondays: May 31, July 5, September 6, 10 am-5 pm

Exhibitions | Classes | Nature Trail | Shop and Café



... JUST HERS continued from page 11

Now, John sits on the dining room table. I haven't picked a more appropriate spot for him. Will I make a shrine somewhere in the house? I don't know. The photo and candle thing seems a bit morbid and tacky. Where he is now, I pat the box every time I go from one part of the ground floor to another. I put my birthday balloons with him – he always liked balloons, but now they have deflated, and are looking a bit sad. I'll have to come to some sort of arrangement, before the day when I feel brave enough to scatter his ashes in

the yard, as he'd always wanted. I'm not ready to let go yet.

My mother had the same dilemma with Daddy. After his death, I knew his ashes were somewhere in the house, but I didn't want to upset Maman by asking her outright. I'd come down to visit from New York, and when she'd be in the bathroom, or walk down the driveway to get the paper, I'd snoop around, trying to find the box of ashes. I never found them. Finally, I had to break down, and ask. Maman smiled sadly, and took me into their bedroom. In the

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from page 17

ple have experienced profound and permanent life changes from this being birthed into discipleship for it to be mere hyperbole. So dramatic is true discipleship upon our lives, that in Christ, we are, in a sense, "born anew."

Becoming disciple of Christ pretty much puts you out of the world, even as you dwell upon it. If you read the stories of the saints and martyrs, and even of our own Martin Luther, their lives were often difficult, even dangerous. Their ideas and actions were so foreign to the workings of the world that life was often a struggle. This is the action of carrying the cross to which Jesus refers. *To become a disciple is not just a spiritual but is a physical reality.* On top of it all, there is no guarantee that we will ever see the tangible fruits of our labors in this world. I believe that this is a reason that we as Christians don't do as much as we could because we are caught up in the worldly notions of effort equals results which equals success.

The great Christian theologian Thomas Merton writes:

"Do not depend on the hope of results. When you are doing the sort of work

you have taken on, essentially an apostolic work, you may have to face the fact that your work will be apparently worthless and even achieve no result at all, if not perhaps results opposite to what you expect. As you get used to this idea, you start more and more to concentrate not on the results but on the value, the rightness, the truth of the work itself. And there, too, a great deal has to be gone through, as gradually you struggle less and less for an idea and more and more for specific people. The range tends to narrow down, but it gets much more real. In the end, *it is the reality of personal relationships that saves everything. All the good that you do will come not from you but from the fact that you have allowed yourself, in the obedience of faith, to be used for God's love.* Think of this more and gradually you will be free from the need to prove yourself, and you can be more open to the power that will work through you without your knowing it."

(Thomas Merton, in a February 21, 1966, letter to friend Jim Forest, in Thomas Merton: A Life in Letters, (Harper One, 2008).

back of her closet, underneath all of the Etienne Aigner and Salvatore Ferragamo (we kid my mother that she is the Imelda Marcos of Paris) was a plain cardboard box containing Daddy's ashes. I never looked closely at the box; it was enough to know where it was.

I returned to New York several days later, and was chatting over coffee with a colleague, whose strong Brooklyn accent I loved to imitate. She cornered me, and said: "You know, when you used to go to Virginia to see your parents, it was always "Mommy and Daddy this" and "Mommy and Daddy that. You never mention your father anymore. Where is he?" Without thinking, I blurted out: "He's in the closet."

"Oh, Michelle," she chuckled. "That's so New York!"

• 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 moved to Highlands several years ago to live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands with her precious husband, author and attorney, John C. Armor, and two very spoiled cats. At the request of her kind readers, she is continuing the column she and her husband shared – now under a new name "Just Hers."

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**5-YEAR-OLD TABBY CAT** with no collar but micro-chipped lost behind Freeman Gas on Dillard Rd August 19th. If found, please call 526-9129.

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**LOOKING FOR CARPENTRY WORK.** Have tools. Please call Alferdo: 524-9304 or 371-2976.

**LOOKING FOR LANDSCAPING,** yardwork. Call 828-200-1038 or 526-1025.

**LOOKING FOR HOUSECLEANING WORK.** Call 828-200-1038 or 526-1025.

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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**DESIRABLE 3BR/2BA HOME** in town. Beautiful level lot. Must See 352-494-1531 (9/30)

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**ROOMS AVAILABLE FOR RENT** - furnished, sm. frig/microwave, NO smoking/pet, Whiteside Cove, \$50/wk call 787-1515

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**SMALL PRIVATE ONE BR FURNISHED COTTAGE ON CHESTNUT STREET** with screen porch. Additional sleeping loft. Three blocks to Main Street. Available immediately. \$650. monthly plus utilities for six months lease. e-mail: [chestnutcottages@yahoo.com](mailto:chestnutcottages@yahoo.com) or, contact Charlie @ (828)526-8645 (st. 4/22)

**SPACIOUS MAIN ST. APT,** full kitchen, fully furnished, covered balcony, small pets OK. \$675/mo. 526-0560. (St. 3/25)

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**FOR SALE/RENT – BEST 'COMMERCIAL' BUY IN HIGHLANDS** – 535 4th Street. Zoned mixed-use, commercial and residential. Recent Remodel. Great retail/office and separate one-bedroom basement apartment. \$389,000. Call 770-827-0450. (St. 11/5)

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## • CLASSIFIEDS •

(St. 9/9)

**BLACK METAL DOUBLE CANOPY BED**, \$50. GE washer and dryer, 4 months old, \$400. 704-681-0331

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**BALDWIN ORGAN** \$100, Gulbransen Spinnet piano \$250. 828 526 4818 (st. 8/26)

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... WATER continued from page 1

Next meters were pulled and it was determined that 7,500 gallons of water was going through one meter, for instance, but only 900 gallons was registering. So treated water was being used but not paid for.

Finally, crews discovered a breakdown at the cross-connectors and valves between two lines that are responsible for filling up two tanks – each on opposite sides of town.

“The tanks are supposed to fill up at the same time and go down at

the same time, but we discovered that the level in the tanks was inconsistent which meant the water was not flowing to both tanks,” said Nix.

In fact, it was leaving the system entirely.

Once the cross-connectors were repaired, the system was operating properly and under state guidelines, said Nix. The state’s allowable 20% loss equals 40 million gallons.

Meanwhile at the Sept. 1 Town Board meeting, commissioners ap-

proved the state required Water Shortage Response Plan.

In February 2009, the state asked the town to update its plan which outlines the step-by-step procedure in case of a severe drought event in Highlands.

There are three levels of response outlined in the plan: Stage 1 – voluntary water conservation; Stage 2 – mandatory reductions I and II; and Stage 3 – emergency reductions and water rationing.

It takes 200,000 gallons of water to run the town of Highlands from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on a July day.

– Kim Lewicki

... HEALTH MATTERS continued from page 18

jaw to begin to deteriorate leading to eventual tooth and bone loss. Beyond your mouth, the chronic inflammation and infection spreads bacteria to other organs including the heart. If you are a woman of child-bearing age you should be aware that bacteria from infected gums have been

found in amniotic fluid and linked to premature births.

Now that you know the signs of periodontal disease and how important healthy gums are for your smile and for the rest of your body it is time to contact my Toccoa, Georgia office at 706-886-

9439 to schedule your appointment. If the reason that you have been putting off treatment is due to fear or anxiety – don’t worry. My team and I specialize in helping patients with dental anxiety – sedation dentistry may be the answer for you. Ask about your options when you call.

Highlands Police & Fire Reports

Highlands PD log entries from Sept. 1. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 1  
• At 3:40 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident in the vicinity of Raoul and U.S. 64 west. There were no injuries.

• At 9:15 p.m., Gloria Rodriguez Ordaz, 41, of Franklin, was arrested for driving without a license and with no tail lights.

Sept. 2  
• At 2:20 a.m, officers responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle on US 64 east but weren’t able to locate the vehicle.

• At 4:09 p.m., officers responded to a call of a stranded motorist near the ballfield but were unable to locate the car.

• At 4:16 p.m., a harassing phone call was reported from a business on Main Street involving lewd and sexual references.

Sept. 3  
• At 6:03 a.m., a noise complaint was reported about school buses started up in the morning at Highlands School.

Sept. 5  
• Officers assisted a motorist who due to a traffic check, was left on the side NC 28 with no vehicle. Officers drove her to her home on Satulah Ridge Road.

Sept. 6  
• At 2:30 a.m., officers were called by OEI security to help with a young man who was passed out on the steps of one of OEI’s rental homes. He was at the wrong house. His stepfather was called to take him home.

• At 1:30 p.m., the theft of a canoe was reported on Ramsey Lane.

• At 5 p.m., a visitor from Jackson, TN, reported losing her wallet containing money, credit cards and ID.

Sept. 7  
• At 8:08 p.m., officers assisted a vacation home owner who was locked in her home.

• At 2:07 a.m., officers responded to a call from a resident on Upper Lake Road who claimed her child was stuck in some sort of appliance. Upon arrival, officers were unable to locate a child. They called the magistrate about involuntary commitment possibilities.

• At 4 a.m., officers assisted a motorist who wasn’t able to pay for gas at the Citgo station so she could get home to Atlanta, GA.

• During the week, police officers responded to 7 alarms and issued 26 citations.

Highlands F& R Dept. log entries from Sept 1:

Sept. 1  
• At 1:10 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Cole Mountain Circle. The victim was taken to the hospital.

• At 3:40 p.m., the dept. responded to roll-over at US 64 west and Highlands Smokehouse. There were no injuries.

Sept. 2  
• At 1:02 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Persimmon Lodge Road. The victim was taken to the hospital.

• At 4:37 p.m., the dept. was first-responders to a residence on Buck Creek Road. The victim was taken to the hospital.

Sept. 3  
• At 3:06 a.m., the dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers Fire Department and stood by at their station while they fought a structure fire.

Sept. 4  
• At 8:12 a.m., the dept. was first-responded to a call at a residence on N. 5th Street. The victim was taken to the hospital.

... LETTERS continued from page 8

they want to. It took me all of 18 hours after Elizabeth’s death to find out the what, who, and where of it all.

The very smallness of our community makes it doable to find, target, and systematically eliminate the drug dealers from our small town. Business wise it will soon make sense to the pushers to go to larger more friendly communities, where they can be more anonymous, where people don’t care what they do. Right now today, you can buy any drug you want within 5 minutes of the Highlands stoplights.

One last note: Prior to beginning this journey, I have had multiple sessions with personal security experts and technicians. If anyone who finds they are in conflict with me, should be so foolish and unwise as to consider visiting my home in the dark of the night, well, your chances of having a successful outcome will be infinitely higher at the Macon County Courthouse rather than in the dark at the back door of this old Marine’s home.

JB Coram  
Highlands

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# • HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL NEWS •

## Hospital honors its volunteers

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital said thank you to its many volunteers for more than 12,000 hours of service during the past year. Over 150 volunteers, spouses and hospital managers attended the annual volunteer fete celebration, held again this year at Wildcat Cliff's Country Club.

Addressing the group briefly, Hospital CEO and President, Craig James expressed how volunteers play an important role in helping the hospital serve its communities. James said the hours donated were equivalent of six and a half full-time employees. "You provide the things that go beyond what we as a hospital could normally provide. You make a significant difference," he added.

The party drew volunteers from across the many facets of hospital operations: from the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center, HealthTracks, Hospice, the Gift Shop, Hospital Auxiliary, Mailroom, and a host of various ancillary departments. In all, the hospital has nearly 140 active volunteers.

Following the brief reception and official remarks, volunteers and other guests enjoyed a buffet of prime rib, chicken, and the chef's special tilapia. Wine for the event was donated once again by Bryson's Food Store of Highlands. Certificates were presented to 15 volunteers whose years of service range from 10 years to 31 years.



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