

Highlands Newspaper

FREE every Thursday

Volume 10, Number 31

Internet PDF Version at www.HighlandsNewspaperPDF.com

Thursday, Aug. 2, 2012

Nick's building to house Visitor Center

Thanks to an anonymous donor, the Highlands Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center is getting a permanent, new home.

The donor is buying the old Nick's Restaurant building and then gifting it to the town who will

then lease it to the Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center for \$1 per year.

At a Special Town Board meeting 5:30 p.m., Tuesday night, commissioners voted unanimously to accept the gift and to work on a

Triple Net Lease with the Chamber of Commerce. Obviously, the chamber board voted unanimously to accept the gift, as well.

"The chamber is over-

• See VISITOR CENTER page 11

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Fire & Rescue Open House, Sat., Aug. 4



Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House at the station on Oak Street, 11a-3p. Hotdog plates and rides on a fire truck are part of the festivities celebrating 59 years of service to the Highlands community.

Gorge Road open to through traffic

Paving to begin Monday, Aug. 6

The Gorge Road is open and work completed on the narrow, snake-like part right on schedule.

The portion of US 64 west

referred to by NC Dept. of Transportation (DOT) as "the narrows" has been patched, paved and the centerline striped, which means

no more detours to get in and out of Highlands.

According to Brian Burch,
• See GORGE ROAD page 10

Student ratios, new hires subject of BOE meeting

By Ryan Potts

In the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Macon County Board of Education, board members approved numerous personnel decisions, discussed a formal social networking policy and discussed a plan for the best use of allocating students within the county schools as to best use county funds.

As is usually the case during the summer meetings, the Macon County BOE spent the majority of open session approving personnel moves throughout the county. The county BOE approved 14 new hires in various instructional and support positions, and 11 status changes for current Macon County employees. Also on the agenda was the transfer of six teachers from one school to another, one of which was the transfer of Tyler Holmes from Macon Middle School to Highlands School. Mr. Holmes will teach science at Highlands School. There are still five coun-

• See BOE page 10

Through Sun. Aug. 18

• At the Playhouse, "Dames at Sea."

Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Thurs-Sun.

• Live music at Altitudes at Skyline Lodge. Call 526-2121 for details.

Thursday, Aug. 2

• Zahner Lecture at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Free.

• New Democratic Headquarters opening gala from 5 until 8 pm at the Peggy Crosby Center Porch. \$15 for High Country Boil.

Friday, August 3

• HCCMF: Program at PAC at 6p \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060.

• Nature by Night at the Nature Center at 9 p.m. Ages 6 to adultt. Call 526-2623.

Sat.-Sun., Aug. 4-5

• Open House at 35 Ravenel Lake Road. Sat., 10a-4p; Sun., 1-4p off US 64 east on right.

Sat., Aug. 4

• At the Hen House on Main Street, Stonewall Kitchen tasting 10:30a-4:30p

• Home Tour fundraiser for Highlands United Methodist Church. \$25. Call 200-0261.

• Highlands Fire & Rescue Open House at the station on Oak Street, 11a-3p. Hotdog plates and rides on a fire truck.

• Relay for Life bake sale at First Citizens Bank.

• At Cliffside Lake at 7 p.m. Hiking and Camping in Bear Country.

• Bark for Life 9am-Noon Highlands Dog Park. After party at Fressers Eatery.

• Giant Yard Sale. 9am-2pm First Citizens Bank.

Sunday, August 5

• HCCMF: Program at PAC at 5p \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060.

• At First Baptist, Randy Kington, a wounded Vietnam veteran speaking during the 10:45a worship service.

Tuesday, Aug. 7



• Survivor Dinner 6p at First Presbyterian Church, Coleman Hall.

Wed., Aug. 8

• A free Interlude concert at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m.

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• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Thanks for exposing the truth

Dear Editor,
I would think that the voting residents of Highlands have found all the bickering, egotism, and exposure to the goings-on of their elected officials to be disgusting – and will consider this at voting time.

Thanks for all you do to help in exposing the truth about Highlands' governance and its decisions. Those of us who are crafts-people fortunate enough to be invited to exhibit at the Village Art & Craft Festivals truly appreciate your support of these events.

Nancy Taylor
Greenville, SC

Keep it up!

Dear Editor,
Well, it sure was different for me to

open Highlands Newspaper and see my boss being given "what for" in a letter-to-the editor instead of me. Keep up the good work!

Fred Wooldridge
Highlands

Drakes 'character' not the issue

Dear Editor,
Thank you for doing what you are expected to do: delve into town issues. I encourage you to question secrecy and to encourage openness in the business of our town.

Thank you for all you do and for asking for more information about all meetings where town business is discussed.

All meetings should be open when they are about public issues. No one is questioning Gary Drake's character here – only the taxpayers right to know what goes on behind closed doors. Are minutes kept?

Glenda Bell
Highlands

Lewicki did her job

Dear Editor,
Re: last week's letter to the editor from Commissioner Gary Drake "Highlands Newspaper questions my integrity."

Boo Hoo, she hurt my feelings. What are you in high school? Kim Lewicki is doing her job asking questions of our politicians.

Whether at local, state or federal level there is too much cronyism going on in the country and a active press is desperately needed to shine some light on our government at all levels.

Council member Drake, to quote one of our former presidents "if you can't stand the heat get out of the kitchen."

Steve Connor
Highlands

Professional job

Dear Editor,
Your reporting on the commissioner meetings, "2-member meetings allowed by law" in the July 12 edition, was detached and professional.

Charlie Dasher
Highlands

Rec Park pool needs shade

Dear Editor,
I just returned from the Highlands pool. Finding a shady spot at the pool has become a rarity these days. As someone who brings their children to the pool at least five days a week, I am sorely aware that there are only a few places one can sit and effectively stay out of the sun -- squished against the wall.

Since I have had numerous pre-skin cancer spots removed, I do not wish to expose myself to the harmful rays. Yet, I do want my children to benefit from the joys of swimming. It is a conundrum. Last year, there were a few tents where those of us who wished to avoid the sun could sit. This year, I understand those tents were thrown out, with no plans to replace them.

I realize the budget may be small for upkeep and such. However, I am sure I am not alone when I wonder and wish that something could be done to provide shade for those of us who need it.

Stacey Clark
Highlands



Laura & Julie Albers Christopher Martin William Preucil Bertrand Giraud

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• OBITUARY •

Vicki Ann Rutter

Vicki Ann Rutter, age 56, of Highlands, NC died Monday, July 23, 2012. Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Mickey Ward and Hester Cowart and lived in Commerce, GA for most of her life.

Mrs. Rutter is survived by one son, Kip Rutter and wife Sarah of Highlands, NC; three sisters, Pam Morgan of Madison, GA and Judy and Jill Willis both of Commerce, GA; four brothers, Ronnie Cowart of Hull, GA, Mike and Robbie Willis and Butch Cowart all of Commerce, GA and four grandchildren, Triston Rutter, Nathan Keener, Cooper Hall and Lillian Rutter.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made the charity of one's choice.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

The wicked witch of the west



with **Fred Wooldridge**
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askfredanything@aol.com

way and pretend you're a rug rat. Maybe you're just a rat?

Warning: you'll need tissues for the sad parts during the story.

Once upon a time there was this wonderful, wonderful kingdom where everyone lived happily ever after and wanted for nothing....almost better than being on welfare, using food stamps and receiving government subsidies. By printing lots of money, everyone was rich and each citizen had a money printer in their basement. (You're likin' it better, aren't ya?) When they

ran low on money, they simply cranked out more. Life was awesome. (Have your rug rats cheer loudly.)

But one night, the wicked witch of the west, probably a friggin' Republican, rode in on her broom and poisoned the kingdom's Kool-Aid supply. Everyone who drank Kool-Aid, including the kingdom's Supreme Court Chief

Justice, became crazed and started doing unbelievably stupid nutsy things like balancing their household budget. They looked for work and then got jobs, cut up their cred-

it cards and opened savings accounts. They also threw away their food stamps and even curtailed their spending....stupid stuff like that. (Have your rug rats' boooo loudly.)

Because the king and his staff drank Kool-Aid that was not poisoned, they remained sane. But in a short time, the people of the kingdom saw the king as more evil and crazy than Chris Matthews, if that's possible. They wanted to tar and feather him. It was only a matter of time before money printers would be removed from homes. (Rug Rats booooo!) When the king saw what was occurring, he called his staff together and said, "Because the commoners (me) are drinking poisoned Kool-Aid, the entire kingdom has gone mad and want to vote us out. (Me, again) To survive,

• See WOOLDRIDGE page 22

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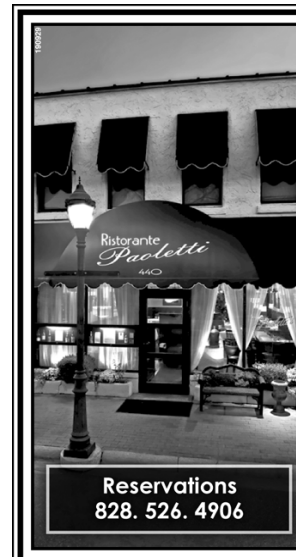
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• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Going the distance for 'principles'



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

ing a planned, on campus Chick Fil A. The mayors of Boston and Chicago jumped into the boiling pot and declared Chick Fil A's corporate values were out of tune and declared Chick Fil A restaurants unwelcome in their cities. They weren't referring to corporate values that include quality, cleanliness, value, and serving up a damned fine chicken sandwich. The chain closes its stores on Sunday in accordance with the founder's values. Clearly, profit isn't everything to the Cathy family. The mayor of San Francisco warned Chick Fil A to stay out of Dodge, er, San Francisco, and not attempt to build a store within 40 miles of the city. Maybe that allows southern transplants who get a real hankering for a chicken biscuit to make the drive without having to rent a motel room.

Mayor Bloomberg, perhaps the only voice of reason

heard this week, said, "Y'all come." It seems in New York, where everything is tolerated, the mayor believes the city's citizens are capable of making their own decisions about what and where to eat.

Absurd posturing was not limited to gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgenders, and their supporters. Mike Huckabee, from whom we are accustomed to hearing ridiculous statements, called for Wednesday to be celebrated as "Chick Fil A Appreciation Day" and urged supporters of opposite sex marriage to "eat more chikin" on Wednesday.

Rick Santorum, former Senator from Pennsylvania, a state not known for a taste for chicken biscuits, has joined the call for Christians, conservatives, and intolerant people of all persuasions to express their appreciation for the

• See SALZARULO page 22

Unless you've been hanging out at Bojangles all week, you've heard about the controversy Chick Fil A president, Dan Cathy has cooked up. In an interview with the "Baptist Press" he plead, "guilty as charged" when asked about his support of a "biblical" definition of marriage.

In a separate interview the chicken chef turned up the heat when he said America was inviting God's judgment when we shake our fist at him and declare we are more qualified than He to define marriage, which of course means, permit same sex marriages.

I love this stuff. It allows members of both ends of the spectrum to sound stupid, not to mention allowing opportunistic politicians to cash in.

Northeastern University struck the first blow, cancel-



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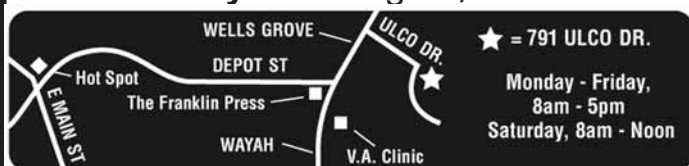
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• BACK DAYS •

The story of the family of Ethel Mae Potts Paul ... descendants of WT and Mattie Potts



Guy & Ethel Mae Potts Paul
– Courtesy of the Highlands
Historical Society

By Guy Warren Paul

..Mama was taken by ambulance to Angel Hospital in Franklin. It was a big trip in those days and we kids were not allowed to go along. I remember that blood was needed and that Ken McKinney volunteered his. Somehow at that moment I felt a close kinship to him, as I know my brothers and sisters did, too. It was our first experience with a blood transfusion.

The operation was completed and Mama was brought home in a state of unconsciousness. Dad was more somber than I had ever seen him. And the whole house took an air of gravity like none of us had ever experienced. Already the happiness and gaiety we had known was fading and fast.

The watch was not around the clock. Mama, still unconscious, twitched and turned her head from side to side unceasingly. The operation had revealed a large brain tumor and medical science in those days did not allow for remedy. Her days were numbered but we did not know the number. We ate and slept fitfully for days and night. Some of us were quartered in the little house that Dad had built across the yard for Mama to use during her convalescence. Now we knew there would be no convalescence.

Uncle Charlie, Uncle Gene and Uncle Roy sat in cars in the driveway well into the nights, wanting to do something to help but knowing they, like the rest of us, were helpless. I believe it was Uncle Charlie who said that if anybody deserved to go to heaven it was Ethel. Passersby on the road stopped to see how Mama was doing. Some of them, notably drummers who called at Potts Brothers store and another neighbor, Mrs. O.E.Young, thoughtfully left books and candy for the diversion of us kids.

•to be continued

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• COACH'S CORNER •

Ryan's great adventure



Ryan Potts

tryanpotts@hotmail.com

when I arrived in Philadelphia at noon, I had been awake for approximately 28 straight hours before getting my car and driving to Jersey to tackle the Kingda Ka. Thankfully, you can purchase a gadget at Six Flags that allows you to go to the front of the line and not have to wait (this trip is getting expensive) and so I took off to find the Kingda Ka, which wasn't hard because it

was this big green track sticking 400 feet in the air.

As I headed toward the special flash pass entrance, I noticed that the coaster wasn't moving and then realized... the ride was closed. I immediately began looking for a security guard that looked like John Candy (Griswold reference) so that I could go on a rampage. Fortunately, the ride opened shortly thereafter, and I was able to cross an item off of my bucket list. I also had the chance to eat a real Philly Cheesesteak (another bucket list item) and discovered a place called Chickie's and Pete's that had the best fries I have ever had in my life. (They were dusted with crab seasoning and came with liquid cheese... nom nom.)

I just realized that this column was not about sports at all... so, um... yeah, the trade deadline just ended and I hope that the Pittsburgh Pirates obtained someone good. That's all for this week!

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I love my wife for a lot of reasons, but one of the main ones is because she listens to me. (well, most of the time) An example of this practice came when I received my 32nd birthday gift from her, which was a ticket to Six Flags Great Adventure to ride a roller coaster that I have been wanting to ride since it was introduced... the infamous Kingda Ka (largest and fastest roller coaster in North America). The problem is that this particular Six Flags is in New Jersey, and so I would have to find a way to get up there to ride this bad boy. I had originally planned for Dooley and me to ride up there, but with his new schedule at the Baptist Church (y'all come visit!) and me starting school I ended up having to fly up there to fit this trip in before school starts.

Air travel has always been a funny thing for me, mostly because I am in awe of our technological capabilities and all of the things that have to go into running a busy airport. I hear people complain about traveling all the time, but I have never had a bad experience and usually love to travel. I thought that as I walked into the airport in Greensboro to fly out (cheapest option) and promptly jinxed myself. My flight was supposed to go from Greensboro to Philadelphia via JFK airport. However, my flight was cancelled because bad weather delayed the flight and while the weather in NY subsided, Delta said "screw the 12 people on this flight, it will be cheaper to fly them out in the morning... plus, we won't have to put them up in a hotel because it is weather related!"

I'm not sure that is exactly what Delta said, but I imagine that was part of the decision making process. I also saw a guy at the airport wearing a political t-shirt autographed by Mitt Romney, which I thought was funny, a) because while I am sure that Mitt's autograph will be valuable if he is elected President, I didn't know that we had reached the point of political fandom in which we wear autographed t-shirts for our respective "teams" (I'm sure if I was in NY or California I would have seen some Obama gear) and b) he was the most pissed off of the 12 or so people affected by Delta's business decision. Alas, I have digressed.

Anyway, I ended up having to fly out at 6am, which meant that I had to be at the airport at 5am, which meant that I had to get up at 4:30am, which meant that I had insomnia and didn't sleep... at all. So

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Still think he's the Messiah?



Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged.
Email

swanson@dnet.net

"...a light will shine through that window, a beam of light will come down upon you, you will experience an epiphany...and you will suddenly realize that you must go to the polls and vote for Obama" (Barack Obama, Lebanon, New Hampshire, Jan 7, 2008).

"...generations from now, we will be able to look back and tell our children that this was the moment when we began to provide care for the sick and good jobs to the jobless; this was the moment when the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal; this was the moment when we ended a war and secured our nation and restored our image as the last, best hope on Earth." From Obama's nomination victory speech in St. Paul June 3, 2008.

If you are still worshipping at the feet of President Obama, I doubt that anything I say will change your mind. But that doesn't mean I'll stop trying.

Personally, that beam of light missed me, but I suppose he was campaigning against Hillary at the time so I wasn't in-

involved in that light show. Being a strong believer in our Creator and His sovereignty, my system doesn't allow for the self-aggrandizement of a shallow politician or anyone else.

Let's do a little analysis of the second quote, shall we? ...when we began to provide care for the sick... Barack, here's news flash for you. We (the gov./taxpayers) have been providing health care for the sick (Medicare) since you were a toddler. The churches did the job for a few hundred years before that.

We (the gov./taxpayers) added more medical assistance to the poor with the inception of Medicaid. Here we are, four years later, and I don't know what's going on because I haven't read the law.

...provide good jobs to the jobless...do I really have to elaborate on that one? Unemployment rate June 3, 2008 - 5.4%; unemployment rate today - 8.2%. Need I say more? OK, I will. Obama didn't give a rip about unemployment, then or doesn't now, except now it's an inconvenient truth on the road to a second term. While unemployment was skyrocketing, he was busy putting together the monstrosity known as Obamacare.

...when the rise in the oceans began to slow... Really? From usatoday.com posted June 24, 2012, "From Cape Hatteras, NC to just north of Boston, sea levels are rising much faster than they are around the globe, putting on of the world's most costly coasts in danger of flooding, government researchers report. Doesn't that put Washington, DC near the middle of the affected coastline? Ironic isn't it?"

... our planet began to heal... Well, now, let's see what Drudge has to say about our planet today. " 'Joker' (movie theater mass murderer) on \$26K federal grant."

"Argentina to snub UK over Olympics." "Severe typhoon hits Hong Kong." "REPORT: Honolulu, JFK, LAX to be 'early spreaders' of next pandemic." "Phone hacking charges rock London." "Pain in Spain brings more drain." "Moody's cuts outlook on Germany." "Cash-strapped Argentine town pays employees by raffle." "10 Italian cities at risk of bankruptcy." "Record heat kicks insects into high gear." Had enough? I know I have. Obama, stop with the healing...please!

...when we ended a war...I'm really not sure which war he ended, are you? I

• See SWANSON page 9

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FORUM continued from page



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... SWANSON continued from page 8

think he was probably referring to Iraq. True, he did order withdrawal of US troops at the end of 2011. What has happened since? From Wikipedia: "The Iraqi insurgency relates to continuing violent terror activities engaged by Iraqi, primarily radical Sunni, insurgent troops against the central government and the sectarian warfare between various factions within Iraq, in the aftermath of the U.S. withdrawal. These events directly succeeded the previous insurgency in Iraq but have showed increasingly violent patterns, raising concerns that the surging violence may lead to civil war." Withdrawal a good idea? Better Iraqis dying than American troops, I suppose. It doesn't sound like we ended a war to me.

...and secured our nation...sounds good - what does it mean? Did he mean secure our borders from intrusion by illegal immigrants? Ask the governor of Arizona how helpful he's been in that department. Secured from foreign attack? Does anyone with a brain think that the threat from nuclear attack by Iran has done anything but grow since his coronation. Imminent? Probably not. Closer than four years ago. Yup. Personally, I'm more concerned about the threat from within than without.

...and restored our image...WHAT! I'll let RedState.com give you their opinion. "One of Barack Obama's most obnoxious and arrogant campaign promises was his pledge to 'restore America's image around

the world." You don't have to go far from home to shoot that one down. "President Obama has totally turned back the clock on how America is viewed abroad. This is particularly true with respect to Mexico and Canada."

Referring to a time when we were not held in high regard, "America with Barack Obama as President is once again an evil, greedy conniving neighbor that dominates others and connives to work against the interests unfortunate enough to share the same hemisphere.

A little known fact about NAFTA involves the fact that the US gets a major price break on petroleum products from Canada under the deal. In return for their loyalty and consideration, Barack Obama has gotten on the phones and lobbied Democrat Party senators to block the Keystone XL Pipeline. Canadian Prime Minister Harper seems prepared to terminate the US 'Good Neighbor Discount.'

Barack Obama inherited a situation where the world's third largest petroleum producer was giving the American motorist the home town discount. All we had to do was to build them a decent pipeline to Texas in an expeditious manner. Our new image in the eyes of the world is that we couldn't be trusted to hold up our end on one of the best trade deals we've ever been given in our nation's history. Good God, I hope this error ends in January, 2013." So do I brother, so do I.



2012

Her Impressions through September 16

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Walter Peck
John Galtley Stone
Highlands Museum of American Art

Tim Curtis: Suspended

through August 26

Young Artists, Unite!

through September 1

A children's art exhibition at Highland's Hudson Library

A Bascom partnership: Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Western North Carolina; Franklin Girl Scout Troop 02315; Literacy Council of Highlands; the Hudson Library and Fontana Regional Library; and the International Friendship Center

Alex Matisse Ometto

through October 21

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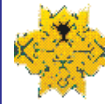
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... GORGE ROAD from page 1

NC-DOT division construction engineer the edge lines, which are painted white, will be painted at a later date "under traffic."

"That means the work will be done while traffic is flowing and not under a detour," he said.

Businesses and citizens of Highlands and those who use US 64 west to get to work and back everyday braced for a summer of frustration when DOT announced its plans to patch and pave the 14.4-mile stretch of road from Walnut Creek in Franklin to NC 106 in Highlands, as well as Horse Cove Road, June 4 through Oct. 19.

But the work has taken place relatively snag-free.

The timeframe allotted US 64 west through the Cullasaja Gorge was June 4-Aug. 3 and though rainy weather created a start-and-stop scenario in the beginning, the project has pretty much been on schedule.

Macon County school starts Thursday, Aug. 9 and since school buses travel the gorge road DOT wanted to make sure the part of the road that needed to be closed completely to traffic was done beforehand.

The first part of the job entailed patching from Walnut Creek to NC 106, but the 1.2 mile "narrows" portion was skipped until last week when it was patched and paved at the same time.

Now DOT will go back and begin paving the road from Walnut Creek to NC 106.

"But the work will be done under traffic and not under a detour," he said.

The paving of the final surface for the remaining sections is expected to start on Monday.

Meanwhile, citizens and tourists are waiting for the Dry Falls park on US 64 west to re-open.

The USFS closed the park to make significant improvements - specifically to improve the trail down to the falls.

Work began in April and is supposed to be completed by September.

- Kim Lewicki

ed down by the state of North Carolina for the 2013-14 school year but instead, about the issue of pupil assignment within Macon County.

One of the ways in which the state allots money for teachers is through the enrollment numbers of the schools within a system, and discretionary students (students that are allowed to attend schools outside their designated district) can affect the number of teachers allocated for each school.

Currently, the county has allowed students to stay at the school they previously attended before redistricting, but there was discussion at the meeting about forcing students to attend the school they are assigned to in order to most effectively use funds allotted for teachers. As of the July meeting, no official decision has been made, but with more budget issues on the horizon this will be something that the BOE will keep a close eye on in the months ahead.

The next school board meeting is Monday, Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Administration office in Franklin.

The first day of school for students is Thursday, Aug. 9.

•Take the superintendent search survey at www.macon.k12.nc.us

School has already filled five vacant positions with the departures of Butch and Judy Smart, Adrian Holt, Kaycee Cashion and John Gorecki.

The policy portion of the Macon County BOE meeting consisted of fundraiser approvals, contract approvals and one interesting policy that could affect the majority of Macon County. New policies must be read twice at BOE meetings before being put up for approval, and there is sure to be much discussion after the first reading of the newly proposed Social Networking Policy.

The policy contains guidelines for teachers who use social networking such as Facebook and Twitter. The new policy forbids teachers from "friending" students or their parents, which could pose a problem in a community as small as Highlands. Additionally, Macon County employees would be required to only post age-appropriate material on their sites, and would be forbidden from commenting on school related matters. The policy also states that Macon County employees could be disciplined or even terminated for non-compliance with the guidelines outlined.

The main discussion at the July BOE meeting was surprisingly not centered around the latest school calendar legislation hand-

... BOE continued from page 1

ty positions that have yet to be filled for the upcoming 2012-13 school year, one of which is an interim position at Highlands School within the exceptional children's department. Highlands

New Democratic Headquarters

Opening Gala

on the porch of the Peggy Crosby Center

Thurs., Aug. 2, 5-8p

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... VISITOR CENTER continued from page 1

whelmed with the possibility of being housed in perpetuity," said Bob Kieltyka, president of the chamber.

A Triple Net Lease means absolutely no cost to the town. The only downside is the town and the county will lose tax revenue. Taxes aren't levied on town buildings.

The Chamber would be responsible for all upkeep – the cost of interior and exterior maintenance, upgrades and renovations.

The town is considering a long-term lease – 10 to 20 years with the same term renewal.

The Lards, who own the building on the corner of 1st and Main streets that previously housed Nick's Restaurant, have accepted the buyer's offer so the process of having a permanent Visitor Center in Highlands has begun.

Since much of the Chamber's and Visitor Center's budget goes to overhead like rent, the move will be a huge plus for the organization.

The Chamber still has three years left on its lease but Kieltyka said the Tate family has said it is willing to work with the chamber.

The Nick's building was brought up to code in 2006; it is ADA compliant and has two sets of bathrooms – one upstairs and one downstairs.

Kieltyka said some renovations are required to make it pedestrian-friendly but those will mostly be cosmetic as all the walls are load-bearing. He expects work could begin this winter for possible occupation late spring of next year.

The town is in the process of assessing physical needs of all its buildings and commissioners want to do the same for the old Nick's building.

"We don't want to get into a problem like the Playhouse where upkeep wasn't done and now it has to be done," said



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PULL OUT

Highlands Area Upcoming Events

Through Sun., Aug. 18

• At The Highlands Playhouse, Dames at Sea. Call 828-526-2695 for ticket information.

Thursday, Aug. 2

• Taize service at Incarnation Episcopal Church at 5:30 p.m.
• Zahner Lecture at the Nature Center at 7 p.m. Natural history of the southern Appalachians. Free.
• New Democratic Headquarters opening gala from 5 until 8 p.m. Featuring a High

Country Boil. Enjoy low country classic food fare in the mountains: shrimp, sausage, corn and potatoes accompanied by hush puppies with watermelon for desert all for \$15 and beer or wine extra. Meet some of the local candidates, tour our new office, shop the Democratic Store and enjoy music from area musicians. Look for the Party's Opening Party on the Screened Porch of the Peggy Crosby Center-Lower parking lot.

• **BALLROOM DANCEING** at the Franklin (NC) Community Building, HWY 441 South - across from "Whistle Stop Mall" Thursday 6:30 to 9 p.m. Music by "SWINGTIME BAND" For more information call 828-369-9155.

day 6:30 to 9 p.m. Music by "SWINGTIME BAND" For more information call 828-369-9155.

Friday, August 3

March for Babies Kick Off 7:30 a.m. at Angel Medical Center. For more information call 349-6869.

• The High Mountain Squares will dance this Friday night, August 3rd at the Macon County Community Building on Route 441 South, from 6:30 to 9 PM. Jim Duncan from Otto, NC will be the caller. We dance Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and

plus levels. There will be a Plus Workshop from 6:30-7p. Everyone is welcome. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-525-4930, 828-524-2280, or www.highmountainsquares.com.

• HCCMF: Bertrand Giraud, piano; Linden String Quartet. Program: "The French Connection" - Francaix, Debussy, Franck Performing Arts Center, Highlands. 6 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060.

• Nature by Night at the Nature Center. Search for creatures like fireflies, snails, bats, owls, frogs and salamanders. Meet at the Na-

ture Center at 9 p.m. Ages are 6 to adult, and advanced registration is requested due to limited space. To sign up call the Nature Center at 526-2623.

Sat., Aug. 4

• At The Hen House on Main Street, Stonewall Kitchen - Sampling/Demo Saturday, 10:30a-4:30p.

• Tour of Homes fundraiser for Highlands United Methodist Church. \$25. For more information call Wiley Sloan at 200-0261.

• Highlands Fire & Rescue Open

Eroica Trio returns for the H-CCMF 2012 season



The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival continues its 2012 Season in August with a series of concerts that bear all of the festival's hallmarks - a sly sense of playfulness, deeply passionate compositions and world-class performances by internationally-recognized virtuosos.

On Friday, August 3rd, and Saturday, August 4th, patrons will be treated to "The French Connection" - Francaix's "La Promenade d'un Musicologue Electrique," performed by pianist Bertrand Giraud; Debussy's "Sonata for Cello and Piano," with Mr. Giraud and cellist Felix Umansky; and Franck's "Piano Quintet in F Minor," featuring Mr. Giraud and The Linden String Quartet.

On Sunday, August 5th, and Monday, August 6th, guitarist Edoardo Catemario and The Linden Quartet will perform Boccherini's "Quintet in D Major, G. 488 'Del Fandango.'" Mr. Catemario and Mr. Giraud will team up for Castlenuovo-Tedesco's "Fantasia for Guitar and Piano." After an intermission, The Linden String Quartet will perform Dvorak's rich "String Quartet in G Major, Op. 106."

On Friday, August 10th, and Saturday, August 11th, The Highlands Chamber Music Festival offers up a traditional favorite - The Battle of the Bands. The Linden String Quartet will perform Beethoven's stirring "String Quartet in C Minor, Op. 18, #4." They'll be followed by The Attaca String Quartet's presentation of Mendelssohn's "String Quartet in A Minor, Op. 13." Both quartets will then perform Thompson's "Alleluia" (an arrangement by Festival co-founder Lucas Drew) and Gade's Octet for Strings, Op. 17 in F Major.

The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival's 2012 Season culminates with its Final Gala Concert and Dinner, Sunday, August 12th, at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands. This breathtaking performance will draw upon the supreme talents of trumpeter Christopher Martin, oboist Eugene Izotov, flutist Lea Kibler, Sara McElravy, violist Amy Schroeder, harpist Valerie Von Pechy Whitcup, and The Festival Chamber Orchestra - The Attaca and Linden Quartets; violinist Eun Sun Lee, Christopher Pulgram, and Margeaux Maloney; harpsichordist Timothy Albrecht; and bassist Joseph McFadden. The concert will be immediately followed by dinner at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

Throughout the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival season, concerts will be held at 6:00 p.m. Fridays at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands and repeated at 5 p.m. Saturdays at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library in Cashiers. Sunday concerts will be staged at 5 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands and repeated at 5 p.m. Mondays at the Cashiers Community Library.

The Linden String Quartet will stage a free concert at Buck's Café in Cashiers (at the Crossroads) at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 1st. For more information about the festival and its full lineup of performances and events, visit www.h-cmusicfestival.org or call (828) 526-9060. Tickets are available at the performance venue just prior to the concerts, with the exception of the Gala on August 12th.

Golf tournament on stage at PAC



In our mountain area, from Highlands to Cashiers, from Clayton to Franklin, there are more than 16 golf courses! Many host tournaments--such as the Highlands Country Club's Bobby Jones Invitational. This summer the Highlands Cashiers Players get in the swing with a golf tournament on stage at the Performing Arts Center between Quail Valley Golf and Country Club and the Crouching Squirrel Golf and Racquet Club.

It's all part of the fun in Ken Ludwig's joyously ridiculous comedy, THE FOX ON THE FAIRWAY. It seems that Quail Valley has lost the annual tournament for several years and manager Bingham is determined to win the trophy even if he has to bend the rules a bit. With a sizable wager at stake between the two managers, the contest plays out amidst several love affairs, including man's eternal love affair with golf, and ends with a surprising twist.

On stage at PAC, August 23-26 and August 30-September 2nd, FOX is the first play of HCP's 18th season. In October "Jake," a new play by Matt Eberz, tells the story of an older dog who teaches a puppy how to behave in his new home. The February-March play is the ever-popular comedy, "Social Security," about adult children coping with their wonderfully eccentric elderly mother. In May, the fourth and final play of the 2012-2013 season is the runaway Off-Broadway hit by the Ephron sisters, "Love, Loss, and What I Wore."

Season subscriptions for the Highlands Cashiers Players' new season and/or more information are available by leaving a message at 526-8084.

Highlands Area Upcoming Events



PULL OUT

House at the station on Oak Street, 11a-3p. Hotdog plates and rides on a fire truck are part of the festivities celebrating 59 years of service to the Highlands community

- The ladies of Highlands Chapter #284 Order of the Eastern Star Relay for Life bake sale at First Citizens Bank. 100% of money will go to help find the cure.

- At Cliffside Lake/Van Hook Glade Campground at 7 p.m. Hiking and Camping in Bear Country.

- BARK FOR LIFE. 9am-Noon Highlands Dog Park (behind the Rec Park). A fun event for dogs and their owners. After party for adults and dogs - Noon - Fressers Eatery at Helen's Barn - outside deck.

- GIANT YARD SALE. 9am-2pm First Citizens Bank (across the street from the Highlands Rec Park). For more information, please contact Betty Fisher with the Just for You team at donandbetty9126@frontier.com.

- HCCMF: Bertrand Giraud, piano; Linden String Quartet Program: "The French Connection" – Francaix, Debussy, Franck Albert Carlton Library, Cashiers. 5 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060.

- Relay for Life, Safe at Second" Kick-ball Tournament." 10Team/10 Player Single Elimination Tournament, \$150 Per Team. Lunch & T-shirt will be provided to all players. Lunch provided by Highlands Smokehouse. For information contact: Dave Linn, dlinn@oldwardsinn.com or 828-787-2541

Sunday, August 5

- HCCMF: Bertrand Giraud, piano; Edoardo Catemario, guitar; Linden String Quartet Program: Boccherini, Castlenuovo-Tedesco, Dvorak Performing Arts Center, Highlands. 5 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org

- At First Baptist, Randy Kington, a wounded Vietnam veteran will be sharing how Christ came into his life and how he has been able to live a successful and fulfilling life while in a wheelchair. The community, especially Veterans, are invited to hear Kington speak during the 10:45a worship service.

Monday, August 6

- HCCMF: Bertrand Giraud, piano; Edoardo Catemario, guitar; Linden String Quartet Program: Boccherini, Castlenuovo-Tedesco, Dvorak. Albert Carlton Library, Cashiers. 5 PM \$30, students \$15. 828-526-9060 or www.h-cmusicfestival.org

Tuesday, Aug. 7

- American Red Cross, Blood Drive. SCC Macon Campus Blood Drive at Macon County Public Library, 149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin. 9a-7p. Please call 306-7017 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors are automatically entered into a drawing for \$3,000 gift card!

- SURVIVOR DINNER. 6pm High-

lands First Presbyterian Church, Coleman Hall. Please join us for a great meal, entertainment, and inspirational speaker. All survivors will receive a goody bag. For more information, please contact Karen Dunn at karenccp@aol.com.

- The Plateau Fly Fishing Coub meets at 7 p.m. at the Cashiers library. Presentation by Bobby Kilby, co-author of WNC Fly Fishing.

- The Mountain High Republican Women's Club August luncheon meeting is on Tuesday at 11:30 AM at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. The featured speaker is K Carl Smith well known as the "Conservative Messenger." The cost of the lunch is \$25 when reserved in advance or \$30 at the door. To reserve space, please call 828 526-4146.

- Summer Luncheon for all members of the Chi Omega sorority residing or visiting in the mountain area. The luncheon will be held Tuesday, at 11:30 a.m. at the Country Club of Sapphire Valley. For reservations, send a \$25.00 check made payable to "Pam Kerr" to the following address: P.O. Box 3350, Cashiers, NC 28717. For more information, call Kerr at 828-743-7158.

Wed., Aug. 8

- A free Interlude concert presented by First Presbyterian Church and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, and are held at 2 pm. Dress is casual. Georgia State University Concert: Maria Valdes, soprano, Serafina Furgieuele, mezzo soprano, Yoo Seb Cho,

violin and Rolando Salazar, piano at the Presbyterian Church.

Thursday, Aug. 9

- Candidate Forum with NC State Senator Jim Davis (rep) and contender John Snow (dem) sponsored by the League of Women voters. The forum will take place at Tartan Hall in Franklin. The program will begin at 12:15. Lunch is available by reservation. Email lwvmacon@wild-dog-mountain.info

- American Red Cross, Blood Drive. Macon Bank Blood Drive. One Center Court, Franklin. Noon to 4:30 pm. Please call 524-7000 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors are automatically entered into a drawing for \$3,000 gift card!

- The August meeting of The Western North Carolina Woodturners Club will meet on Thursday at 6p at the Blue Ridge School, in Glenville. Drive to the back of the school to the woodworking shop. Visitors are always welcomed. The club meets every second Thursday at 6p, March through November.

Friday, Aug. 10

- SOFTBALL FOR A CURE TOURNAMENT. CO-ED teams at Buck Creek Little League field. Team registration fee - \$100. Saturday, August 11th Mens teams at Highlands Town Field. Team registration fee - \$150. Double Elimination Tournaments. \$1 Homeruns. Concessions will be served, including \$5 hamburger plates. For more information contact Justyne Reese at towlite@gmail.com.

Interlude concert at First Presbyterian Wed., Aug. 8



At 2pm on Wednesday, August 8, the Interlude Concert Series sponsored by First Presbyterian Church and the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation will feature vocalists from the Georgia State University School of Music in Atlanta. The concert will take place at First Presbyterian Church. Featured will be Maria Valdes, soprano, Serafina Furgieuele, mezzo-soprano; and Rolando Salazaar, piano. There is no admission charge for the Interlude concerts, which constitute a ministry in music to the community. Dress is casual – come as you are. Handicap entrances are located on Church Street and on 5th Street.

- HCCMF: Linden String Quartet: At-tacca String Quartet Program: "Battle of the Bands Returns" – Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Thompson, Gade Performing Arts Center, Highlands. 6 PM. \$30, students \$15. 526-9060.

Saturday, Aug. 11

- Relay for Life. "Bean Bag Toss Tournament" (Corn Hole) Three Game Guarantee.

Cedar Creek Baptist Church Team Highlands Rec Park Gym. Practice starts @ 10am, Tournament starts @ 12pm. \$10/team entry fee. \$5/single entry fee. Hot Dog Plates \$5. (includes hot dog, drink & chips) Please call Emily Chastain to register at 828-526-9716.

MC native Heidi Spoon in 'Dames at Sea'



The current Highlands Playhouse production of Dames at Sea opened on Thursday, July 26th to a packed house and standing ovation. The show, a comedic take on the classic musicals of the 1920s and 1930s, is the third show of the Playhouse season and audiences have been enjoying themselves each and every night. The Playhouse is notorious for bringing in top of the line talent from across the country – with stars from Broadway and Television often gracing their stage. The star of Dames at Sea, however, is Otto resident Heidi Spoon (formerly Heidi Karol Johnson).

A New York native, Spoon has lived in Otto for 12 years. She moved to Macon County when she married fellow entertainment veteran Bill Spoon, a nationally renowned theater rigger and production manager. Before moving to North Carolina Spoon performed at professional theaters all over the world including a Madison Square Garden production of The Wizard of Oz with Eartha Kitt and Mickey Rooney. She has toured nationally with Jesus Christ Superstar, Chorus Line, and Big River among many others and has even performed at a Presidential Inauguration alongside such greats as BB King and Loretta Lynn.

Despite her great theatrical resume, Spoon's greatest achievement is her two beautiful children, Liam, 11, and Gracie, 8. Since their birth Spoon has been excited to work professional in the area. "It is such a great feeling to be able to perform so close to my home. Having a high quality professional theater in Macon County is such a gift, and I love the talented cast I am working with – they are all future stars!" Spoon said. Spoon and her husband also run Show Rigging, Inc. – a professional rigging company that works with such music greats as Eric Clapton and Sting. In her spare time, she is one of the most loved teachers at Betsy's School of Dance in Franklin, NC.

"Having Heidi work at the Highlands Playhouse is a great honor for us," Dames at Sea Director Bill Patti said, "To have such a talented and experienced performer living in Macon County is incredible – and we hope this is just the beginning of this incredible connection!" Dames at Sea runs through August 18th at the Highlands Playhouse. Tickets can be purchased by call the Box Office at 828-526-2695. Visit www.highlandisplayhouse.org for more details.



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... VISITOR CENTER

from page 11

Commissioner Amy Patterson. "We don't want to be negligent and find out 25 years from now we have to make repairs."

Town Manager Bob Frye said the town could have the building inspected so there would be a record of what's needed for future budgeting.

Patterson said it's important for the town to be proactive rather than reactive when it comes to its buildings.

Commissioners have been discussing making all the leases on their buildings at least similar, so no decision was made concerning the specifics of the Chamber/Visitor Center lease.

Tuesday night an interim Playhouse lease was also finalized. Commissioners had previously considered an 18-month lease but since it's taken so long to formulate the lease it will now be in effect through March of 2014, regardless of when it is officially signed by both parties.

Since the Playhouse wants control of the venue year-long, and since it is being renovated to accommodate a year-long season, commissioners want to give the Playhouse board a chance to prove it can schedule events and see what works.

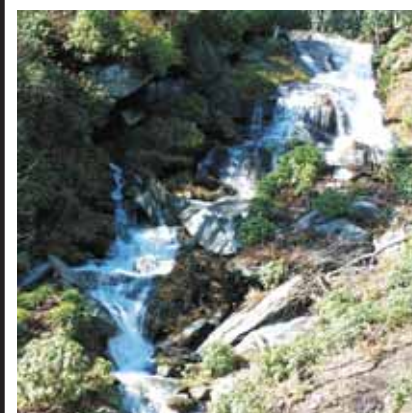
If things go as planned for the Playhouse, it will end up with a long-term lease and its board will be in charge of what goes on in the building year long.

Town Attorney Bill Coward said a survey of the property is needed which Frye said could be done.

Tuesday night's Special Town Board meeting was the second one in July. The first meeting was the scheduled July 19 meeting (the third Thursday) because the board voted to have one meeting a month beginning in July instead of meeting the first and third Thursdays of each month.

Only one citizen was in attendance. The meeting was called Friday after the Thursday newspapers were already on the street.

-- **Kim Lewicki**



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Is a 52-acre community just 2.5 miles from Main Street, Highlands. Secluded but not remote, no road noise, no thru traffic. Peaceful, quiet & private.

The property is forested with mature hardwoods, Rhododendron, Mountain Laurel & a plethora of wild flowers that bloom through the seasons. There are two waterfalls and several creeks adding charm and interest.

The land is gentle...making for easy building sites, lower building cost, more parking, easier ingress and egress, fewer erosion problems, child friendly and a great place to take a walk.

FALLING WATERS is protected by the North Carolina Planned Community Act and is well thought out, with reasonable covenants.

Offered in parcels of .75 acres to 10 acres plus.. Carve out your creekfront, waterfall view or multi-acre estate. Owner financing. Call 828-526-9622 or 828-508-9952.
www.highlandsnchomesites.com

Come Visit!

From Main St., take Hwy. 106 (The Dillard Road) 1.8 miles just past the Glen Falls sign, turn right on Mt. Laurel Dr., go 3 tenths of a mile turn left on Moonlight. The entrance is on the right.



SUPER DEAL



Was \$389,000 NOW \$349,000. Make Offer! 5 bed, 4 bath on about 2 acres with creek, pond, gazebo. R.V. barn. 4,000 sq.ft. finished, 2,000 sq.ft. basement/garage.

• REAL ESTATE SNAP-SHOTS • Properties for Sale



This is a perfect home for anyone needing live in help or a mother-in-law suite. 4/4 Highlands Falls. Just reduced \$397K. MLS#72929. Call 526-1717.



Wonderful mountain cottage on a mostly level lot with a great view of Whiteside Mountain. 2/2 \$400,000. MLS#73448. Call 526-1717.



Great remodeled one level home close to the Highlands Falls clubhouse. \$597,000. 3/3. MLS#69375. Call 526-1717.



Remodeled and expanded. Great lakefront setting. 3/3 Highlands Falls \$657,000. MLS#71974. Call 526-1717.



Inside King Mountain gate. Mountain view cottage on 11.29 acres of unrestricted land with meadow and waterfall. \$350,000. MLS #73213. 526-4101.



Satulah Ridge. Walk to town from this 3br, 2ba home. Updated and includes family room and two car garage. \$274,000. MLS #74837. Call 526-4101



Highlands Falls Country Club. Custom designer accents, lovely 3 br, 2.5 ba home located on the 11th fairway, awesome landscaping. \$697,000. MLS #74801. Call 526-4101



VZ Top Condo. Million \$\$\$ views, immaculate 3 br, 2 ba, single level and maintenance free living, pristine condition. \$239,900. MLS #75317. Call 526-4101



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Terrific home on 1.97 +/- gentle acres in the Cashiers/Glenville area with 2 BR, 1 BA cabin & 1BR, 1 BA guest house. Single-story main cottage w/stone fireplace, large den & full kitchen, guest house with kitchenette & large lower level workshop. Easy access off of North Norton Rd. Offered at \$165,000. MLS #75704.

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Queen Mountain, 8 minutes to town on 2.28 +/- acres. Adjoins National Forest with beautiful views of Blue Valley & Satulah Mountain. Spacious 3BDR, 3BA with wood floors, cathedral ceiling, and brick fireplace. Rock garden with water feature and 2-car garage. Offered at \$475,000. MLS #75732.

Please contact Susie deVille at (828) 371-2079 or Sheryl Wilson at (828) 337-0706 for more information.



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End-of-road privacy and spectacular views from this 3.63 +/- view lot! Hardscrabble Ridge overlooks the magnificent granite cliffs of Whiteside Mtn. Large lot features mixed hardwoods and evergreens, picturesque rocky outcroppings on gentle slopes and extraordinary views. Town water and power. 4 BR septic system installed. Offered at \$1.4M. MLS #75750.

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(828)526-2475



AN ARTIST'S RETREAT - 100 Dog Mountain Road. \$447,000. 3 bedrooms; 3 baths; master suites on each level, single-car garage, workshop and more. Call Barbara Newton with Keller Williams to see the NEW LOOK of this Artist Retreat. Cell: 828-421-2552 MLS #75008.



THE AUSTIN ESTATE - 715 Dog Mountain Road. Main and Guest Houses. \$695,000. 5 Bedrooms; 3 1/2 baths close to Main Street. Lovely wooded setting on 1.87 acres. Call Barbara Newton with Keller Williams for a tour of both houses. Cell: 828-421-2552. MLS

John 3:16

PLACES TO WORSHIP

Proverbs 3:5

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

Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer w/Holy Communion

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rector: Jim Murphy, 252-671-4011

Worshipping at the facilities of Whiteside Presbyterian Church, Cashiers

Sun.: Holy Communion - 9 a.m.; Adult Forum - 10:45 at Buck's Coffee

Cafe, Cashiers

Mon.: Bible Study & Supper at homes - 6 p.m.

Wed.: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church

Thurs.: 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.

Testimony Meeting: 5 p.m. on the 3rd Wed.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Jim Kinard

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

Wednesdays - 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 Cashiers Rd, Highlands, NC

Senior Pastor Gary Hewins

Sun.: 9:30 am: Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Middle School; 10:45 am: Children's Program., Worship

Service. 12:30 pm Student Arts Group, 5 p.m. HS

Wed.: 6pm: CBC University Program

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

526-2968 • Reverend Bruce Walker

Sunday: Education for children & adults and choir rehearsal beginning at 9am. Holy Eucharist Rite I-8a; Holy Eucharist Rite II-10:30am in the Main Nave of the Church.

Monday: 4 p.m. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Reverend Howard L'Enfant

Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Charles Harris, Pastor • 526-4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m.; School - 9:30 a.m.

Wed.: Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m., Prayer Meeting - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 5 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Lee Bowman, Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

Sun.: Worship - 11 a.m.; Sun. 8:30a communion service June-Labor Day; School - 9:30

Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast

Wednesdays - Choir - 7

GOLDMINE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Off Franklin/Highlands Rd)

Rev. Carson Gibson

Sunday School - 10 am, Worship Service - 11 am

Bible Study - 6 pm

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Randy Reed, Pastor

828-421-9172 • 165 S. Sixth Street

Sundays: Worship - 11

HIGHLANDS CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Dan Robinson

670 N. Fourth Street (next to the Highlands Civic Center)

Sunday: School 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship 10:45 a.m., Evening Worship, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy 526-3376

Sun: School 9:45a.; Worship 8:30 & 10:50.; Youth Group 5:30 p.

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

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Pastor Roy Lowe, (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 Big Ridge Baptist Church, 4224 Big Ridge Road (4.5 miles from NC 107)

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: - Sun: 11 a.m.; Thurs & Fri.: 9 a.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dwight Loggins

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 • 526-3212

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 10:45 a.m.; Worship - 6 p.m.

Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth - 7 p.m.

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 8th - 12th grades meet the 2nd Sundays 5 - 7:30 p.m

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

'As lovely as a tree'

By Chaplain Margaret Howell

Holy Family Lutheran Church

The homeless in America are invisible. They're not physically transparent, like one of the X-Men, but they are the dirty little secret of the richest country on earth.

On any one day in Atlanta, there are approximately 7,000 people on the streets. The majority of them work, mostly at minimum wage jobs. Atlanta is the poorest city in the U.S. for children - more children in Atlanta live in poverty than in any other city. Can you imagine being homeless in Atlanta, GA during this blisteringly hot summer? Well, let me tell you about someone you may know who is doing something to help.

Mary Wetzel, an Episcopal priest, served as a chaplain for the Highlands Cashiers Hospital for several years. Last year, she left here comfortable life in Highlands and moved to Atlanta to take over a day ministry for the homeless started by the Rev Bob Book. She is vicar of the Church of the Common Ground.

The church has no building - it is a street ministry, designated as an Episcopal worshipping community. Mary walks the streets 365 days a year, handing out bottles of water, and sandwiches, washing feet, giving out clean socks and offering comfort and assistance to those in the area around her mission. She often gathered with her flock under a large tree - a rarity in the urban landscape - and one of the few places the homeless could find relief from the relentless heat of a Georgia summer.

Several days ago, when Mary went to meet her flock, the tree was gone. Overnight, it had been cut down and carried away. Now the people have no place to meet out of the blistering sun.

We who have trees all around us may sometimes take all this beauty for granted.

During the Exodus, the Israelites didn't appreciate what they had from God when poor old Moses was trying to lead them to a better life. They didn't appreciate what they had. Moses was exhausted trying to keep them happy and he realized he needed to delegate. He consulted the LORD who advised him how to do this. In our Gospels, Jesus is doing the same thing, sending out disciples to preach, teach and heal.

Our friend Mary finds herself in the position similar to that of Moses and Jesus. There is much work to be done and she can't do it all by herself. One doesn't need to be a priest of pastor to carry on the work she is doing. Despite the sometimes ridged structure of the modern church, the work gets done, largely by people who aren't "official" clergy or leaders. It gets done by those Jesus calls "These little ones." That's us, folks. Why are these folks often "invisible" to us?

Perhaps we feel that the homeless are so broken that it is futile to assist them.

Let us gather as a community of love and hope and arrange for a shade canopy or tent to be donated to Mary's Ministry, the "Church of the Common Ground." Please contact Chaplain Margaret Howell of Holy Family Lutheran Church if you would like to help. Call 704-516-7893 or mail contributions to:

Holy Family Lutheran Church, PO Box 1564 Highlands, NC 28741., memo: Church of the Common Ground Project.

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Shuttles will run each half hour beginning at 10 a.m. from the church. Final shuttle 3:30 p.m.

Golf and Vacation getaway raffle

Win a golf-foursome at Wildcat Country Club or a 5 night vacation at Amelia Island or at Lake Keowee.

Get your tickets for these events at the Shuttle pickup point or at the Church. \$10 per ticket. 526-3376.

For more information call Wiley Sloan at 828-200-0361 or email him at wileyandsarah@nctv.com.



Wounded Vietnam veteran speaking in Highlands Aug. 5

Randy Kington will be speaking at First Baptist Church, Highlands, Sunday, August 5th at the 10:45 am worship service. Kington, from Morristown, TN, was a marine rifleman and platoon radio operator in Vietnam when a bullet struck him in the neck and paralyzed him permanently from his chest down. Kington describes those few minutes following his injury as a defining moment in his life. Kington will be sharing how Christ came into his life and how he has been able to live a successful and fulfilling life while in a wheelchair. The community, especially Veterans, are invited to hear Kington speak.



Welcome to Our Community

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is pleased to welcome Dr. Julie A. Farrow, Board Certified Gynecologist and Danielle R. Koman, Family Nurse Practitioner to our community of physicians and providers. **Now accepting new patients.**



Julie A. Farrow, MD

Gynecology

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital
Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 203
209 Hospital Drive
Highlands, NC 28741

Dr. Farrow is Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and a fellow of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She is a graduate of Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon, GA and completed her residency at St. Paul University Hospital at UT Southwestern, Dallas, Texas.

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday:

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Services

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- Total laparoscopic hysterectomy
- Laparoscopic assisted vaginal hysterectomy
- Abdominal hysterectomy
- Comprehensive patient education
- Osteoporosis screening prevention and treatment
- Management of hormonal and menstrual problems
- Adolescent care, counseling, and education
- Adolescent gynecology
- Contraception and sterilization
- Infertility evaluation and treatment
- Evaluation and treatment of urinary disorders including urinary incontinence
- Hysteroscopy and endometrial ablation
- Non-surgical and surgical treatment of pelvic floor prolapse



Danielle R. Koman, FNP

Primary Care

Internal Medicine Associates
Highlands-Cashiers Hospital
Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 303
209 Hospital Drive
Highlands, NC 28741

Danielle Koman is a graduate of Husson University in Bangor, ME, where she completed a Family Nurse Practitioner Master's program. Danielle graduated Sigma Theta Tau and is a licensed Family Nurse Practitioner.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday:

9am to 5pm

(828) 526-4942

Services

- Comprehensive physical assessment
- Diagnosis and treatment of acute illness and chronic disease
- Management of chronic disease



**Highlands-Cashiers
HOSPITAL**
www.highlandscashiershospital.org

Center for Life Enrichment weekly lineup

The Center for Life Enrichment continues its comprehensive series during its 20th year to show "the curious mind knows no bounds." This coming week's offerings include:

The U.S. space program has intrigued our country since its inception. Dr. Rick Chappell, a retired Vanderbilt professor with an

extensive background in the space program, will explain the many ways America has benefited from its participation in space exploration and discuss the future of the program. His presentation will be on Friday, Aug. 3 at the Hudson Library from 10:30 a.m. -

12:30 p.m. (enter through the back door) Cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-

members. Walk-ins welcome.

Dr. Akram Khater, professor of history at North Carolina State University, will explore the subject of "Christians in the Middle East" in the auditorium of the Performing Arts Center on Tues., Aug. 7 from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Cost to members is \$25 and \$35 for non-members. Among the topics to be covered will be the arrival of Western missionaries and their interaction with local Middle Eastern Christians and the role and status of Christians as minorities in predominantly Muslim states as well as a discussion about the rise of secular nationalism and modern political ideas. Walk-ins welcome.

Attendees at the talk on "Monument, Piazza and Street" will learn about the Roman designs developed by Pope Sixtus V that

have influenced the designs of cities throughout the Western world well into the Twentieth Century. The presenter is Douglas Allen, professor and senior associate dean of the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech. The talk will be held on Thurs., Aug 9 from 10 a.m. until noon at the Performing Arts Center. Cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. Walk-ins welcome.

Upcoming computer classes include Taking Better Digital Pictures on Thursday, August 16 from 10am-12, Computer 101 on Thursday, August 16 from 1-3 p.m., Using Picasa to organize and edit your photos on Tuesday, Aug 21 and Thursday, Aug 23. Call or visit our website for more information, (828) 526-8811 or www.clehighlands.com.

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Calling all dog lovers!

Do you have a dog? Or maybe a better question would be, "have you been adopted by a dog?" Do you sometimes feel you would prefer to be in the company of dogs rather than other people? Then bring yourself, your dogs and your dog-loving friends to the dog park (located behind the Rec Park) Saturday, August 4th at 9am for a barking good time!

Bark for Life is hosting an event to raise money for Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society. We have a morning of fun planned for you and your canine companion. Registration is at 9am followed by a dog blessing by Father Bruce Walker and a ceremonial Bark Walk. Bid on the numerous silent auction items featuring a non-traditional sculpture and a one-of-a-kind Dog-Inspired American Flag donated by East-side64 Gallery, unique dog collars donated by Charismatic Collars, a beautiful birdfeeder donated by The BirdBarn, golf packages from three of the private, very prestigious golf clubs on the Highlands Plateau, and much, much more.

View a demonstration by Ruby, Highlands Law Enforcement K-9, pick up tips from local Dog Trainer, Vicki Keller, Animal Wellness, will be on hand to provide general information and drawings to win a number of items, and be sure to stop by the booth of Dog Groomer, Jolee Lewison, owner of Fancy Paws in Cashiers for some puppy pampering. Brush up on your dog's best tricks and enter your companion in BARK'S Intelligence Contest. And don't leave home without dressing for the event! A Look-Alike and Best-Dressed Contest will be held at the event as well. Pupsicles, people treats, and an AFTER party on the deck at Fressers beginning at noon. Free dogs and all the fixin's and the first ice cold beer is free for all registered participants. Non-participants are asked to give a \$5 donation for food. Non-alcoholic beverages will be available as well.

Registration is just \$10 per dog. Each registered dog will receive a goody bag, and BARK bandana to wear at the event.

Benefit Softball Tournament

Second Annual Lady Highlander Middle School Basketball Team, Saturday, August 25.

Saturday Men's Softball Tournament in Highlands, North Carolina.

- All proceeds benefit the Lady Highlander Middle School Basketball Team.
- \$150 Team Entry Fee
- \$1 Home Runs - purchase up to 10 before each scheduled game
- Double elimination format
- Following ISA Rules
- 44 Core/375 Compression Yellow Balls Only
- No Illegal Bats
- Great food and prizes for winning team.
- Lots of Fun for a GREAT CAUSE!

Please contact Justyne Reese for more information at 828-342-2740. more information are available by leaving a message at 526-8084.

• BIZ/ORG NEWS •

Rotary bingo pays off



On Thursday, July 12, the Rotary Club of Highlands partnered with the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society to sponsor Cats & Dogs Bingo. All proceeds went to support the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society. Cynthia Strain won the Super Bingo game and is shown collecting her \$100.

Also pictured from left are Rotary member Tay Bronaugh, Anna Stiehler, daughter of Rotary President Brian Stiehler and David Stroud, Executive Director of the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society.

7-year-old All Star Team is Division Champ



The Franklin All Star team won the Area Western Division for 7u baseball which was played in Bryson City, North Carolina. The team was coached by Billy Vanhook, assisted by Eddie Sutton, Tim Anders, and Tim Hayes. (Coach Eddie Sutton was not in this picture)

'Games for Life' at Highlands Falls



A group of Highlands Falls Country Club members has formed the Highlands Falls Relay for Life Team which will sponsor various fundraising events for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Program. The fundraising efforts, the "HFCC Games for Life," will be held on Sunday, Aug. 19 at 1:30p. They will include golf, tennis, croquet, bridge and mahjongg. Each participant will make a donation to help fund cancer research and support for those afflicted. Luminaries and torches are available for purchase to honor those fighting cancer and to remember those who have lost their battle to this terrible disease.

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... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

we'll have to drink their Kool-Aid."

Once this occurred, everyone lived happily ever after even though the good life was gone forever. (Now break out the tissues, give your rug rats a big hug and tell them the give away party is over.)

The moral of my story is, children, in order to prevent this ugliness from happening to you, always vote Democratic or you might wind up like Chris Matthews and have to eat public school chicken nuggets for the rest of your life. What?

By the way, if you read my essay on this same topic, you'll see that the wicked witch of the west looks exactly like Sarah Palin. Ha, only kidding. Please don't write in. I like the Tea Party, even though I don't see much tea drinkin' goin' on.

* Fred is in hiding at the Farmer's Market at the high school each Saturday morning peddling his books, I'm Moving Back to Mars and Deceived. Like Waldo, he's hard to spot but stop by anyway and maybe he'll insult you.

... SALZARULO continued from page 5

owner's stand on principle. I suspect homilies at some conservative churches this week sounded more like chicken commercials than biblically based sermons.

I've long been disappointed that Chick Fil A closes its stores every Sunday, not because I object to the demonstration of traditional Christian belief, but because I might want a chicken mini on Sunday morning or a chicken sandwich for lunch. I admire the company's decision to put principle above profit, even if I don't agree with it. I suspect I'd disagree with the owner of a wonderful Moroccan restaurant in Washington, DC on a good many points, but I wouldn't boycott him because of it.

My sister-in-law plans to participate in the boycott. Something of an activist, she has boycotted Chick Fil A before, but can't quite remember why. She freely admits that she has no idea how long she'll last this time, but seems less resolute than she might.

I've chosen my path. I won't go to Chick Fil A next Wednesday. Stores in Clayton and Seneca will probably run out of chicken anyway, and I hate long lines, whether at the counter or drive through. But that is as much as I am willing to do. More importantly, it is as much as I believe I should do, in a country where everyone is entitled to express his opinion, unless it is Christian and conservative.

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 • Relay for Life bake sale at First Citizens Bank.
 • Giant Yard Sale. 9am-2pm First Citizens Bank.
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 • At First Baptist, Randy Kington, a wounded Vietnam veteran speaking during the 10:45a worship service.

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