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Highlands Guide INSIDE **FREE** Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 2, Number 35

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Sept. 3, 2004

The week of Sept. 2-9

- At ...on the Verandah on Lake Sequoyah, piano bar entertainment from 7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. and Paul Scott on Wed. During Sunday Brunch, Chad Reed plays the piano from noon to 2 p.m.

- At Cafe of the Arts, the music of Regis at the piano until 9 p.m. nightly.

- At Highlands Wine and Cheese – Wine Flights Thurs, Fri, and Sat: 4:30 until 6:30. Thurs and Fri: Wines of the World Saturday: Special Guest Steve Pignatiello and Burgundies. Wines by the Glass and Cheese Plates Wed through Sun: 1:30 until 4:30. Complimentary tastings Sat and Sun: 1 until 4:30.

- At Wolfgang's on Main – Get Uncorked **THURS-SUN.** 4-6:30 p.m.: Wine and Appetizer Pairings, Flights of Wine, Wine by the glass or bottle/Appetizers; **SUNDAYS:** Dinner and Jazz 6:30-9:30 p.m. **MONDAYS:** Fine Art, Fine Wine and Fine Dining, 6 pm – Passed Appetizers. 6:30 pm – Dinner. Reservations needed. Call 526-3807.

- Zorki playing acoustical guitar at Paoletti's Late Night at 10:30 p.m.

Through Sept. 5

- The 7th annual Cashiers Designer Showhouse features small private enclave on beautiful Lake Glenville. 10 – 4 daily and noon – 4 on Sundays. Call 743-7710.

Sept. 2

- Documentary Film Festival featuring Fahrenheit 9/11, Outfoxed & Uncovered **MOVED TO REC PARK.** See ad on page 14 for NEW times.

Sept. 3 & 4

- Atlanta's Blue Notes Band at the Highlands Playhouse. 17 pieces, 2 vocalists. Tickets \$20 per person. For tickets, call 526-2695.

Sept. 3

- Susan Jaeger-Cornell at the Mill Creek Gallery from 6 to 8 p.m.

Sept. 4

- Art show by the Macon County Art Assoc. on the Catholic Church green on Fifth Street.

- Pancake breakfast at the HUMC from 8-11 a.m. to raise funds for the 2005 Bolivia Mission trip.

- Audubon bird walk at the Highlands Biological Station and Sunset Rock for early fall migrants. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Town Hall parking lot.

Sept 7

- The Literacy Council of Highlands is offering a free information session, Tuesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

4 1/2 Street ext. not a 'permanent road' yet

By Kim Lewicki

It may look like a road, but it's not a road, say town officials, just a temporary solution.

At the Sept. 1 Town Board meeting commissioners heard from Earl Jones, resident on Hickory and 4 1/2 Street who is angry with what appears to be a road at the 4 1/2 Street extension mark.

'Changes' in town prompt amendments

By Kim Lewicki

An increase in the number of transients setting up temporary housing on town property has town officials looking at amending a portion of the parking ordinance.

"I thought we had something in the ordinance to take care of something like this, but we don't," said Town Administrator Richard Betz.

Over the past few months visitors have "set up house" in the town parking lot behind the Visitor Center. "I've seen quite an increase in this sort of activity this year," said Police Chief Jerry Cook. "They're taking up parking places, using the restrooms and even doing they're laundry and draping it on their campers."

He said three campers were set up for a three-to-four night stay in the town parking lot recently.

"When they turn their campers sideways across several parking places and open up the side panels, they really take up space," he said.

The existing code says that town roadways can't be used for the

▪See **CHANGES** page 12

"I've never been against the town assuming ownership of the 4 1/2 Street extension, but if you spend \$182,000 fighting this in court, why are you putting in a \$4 road?"

A couple of weeks ago, the town graveled the dirt and grass extension of 4 1/2 Street as part of normal maintenance, said officials.

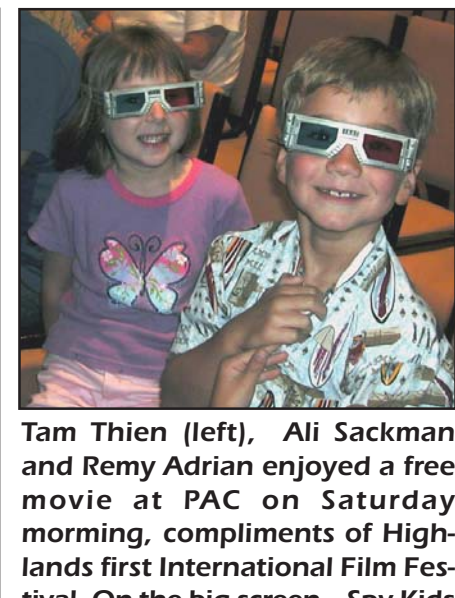
"We are maintaining a road that

was already there," said Richard Betz, town administrator. "We simply put gravel down where the road existed." They say people were complaining about getting stuck in the ruts.

But Jones contends that the 4 1/2 Street extension wasn't used as a road, "just as a means of access to one home," and a place for owners of

▪See **4 1/2 ST.** page 13

Holy Moly! Red & blue 3D technicolor!



Photos by Kim Lewicki

Tam Thien (left), Ali Sackman and Remy Adrian enjoyed a free movie at PAC on Saturday morning, compliments of Highlands first International Film Festival. On the big screen – Spy Kids 3D: The Game is Over.

Truckers to stay off SR 1107

By Kim Lewicki

Complaints from residents of Horse and Whiteside coves were finally heard at N.C. DOT.

"I got sick of having to detour over Rich Gap and up N.C. 28 to take my sons to school every time a semi got stuck on the Horse Cove curves," said Noel Atherton who lives in Whiteside Cove. "I decided to email the DOT about it."

Atherton suggested a sign be placed on the Cashiers side of S.R. 1107 to let truckers know they will have a problem negotiating the hair-

pin turns up Horse Cove Road to Highlands.

"When the tractor-trailers get stuck on one of the curves wreckers are used to haul them away or direct them back down the curvy road usually to Rich Gap Road where they can either turn around to go back to Cashiers via SR 1107 (Whiteside Cove Road) or cut over to N.C. 28 to Highlands," said Atherton.

She said all this could be avoided with a simple sign telling truckers to reroute. There's a sign on the High-

▪See **TRUCKERS** page 13

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Highlands Emergency Council needs supplies, money & help

By Nancy Welch
 Contributor

The Highlands Emergency Council is there for anyone in time of need, but their resources are running dangerously low, according to Teresa Calloway, director.

"We are here to help with everything you can imagine, from food to appliances, furniture to clothes," Calloway said. "And we are fully staffed by volunteers."

The council also administers the government T-FAP program, formerly known as the government commodities program.

She said the community has a tradition of being extremely generous, but for some reason, this summer has been "dry" as far as contributions. Not only that, but many of the volunteers have had health problems, leaving the staff short-handed.

"And we are staffed completely by volunteers," she added.

Calloway said the council needs not only material donations, but also monetary aid.

"I don't recall receiving a monetary donation this year," she said. "And we have to keep this building up. The Town of Highlands pays for the insurance, but we are financially responsible for everything else. We have to pay heat and electricity, as well as repairs. This is our worst year in quite a while and we are about to embark on the Christmas season."

Calloway said the council's food pantry serves between 70 and 75 families a month.

Eligibility is based on financial need.

The T-FAP program supplies staples such as canned vegetables, baking mix, meat, peanut butter, tuna fish and instant mashed potatoes.

"During the holiday season, we always add some festive items such as canned fruits and berries and pie

shells so the families can have special meals," she said. "We try to add some of these items to our food pantry, also."

Calloway said there are some very needy people in the area.

"For instance, we had one man whose wife walked out on him," she said. "He has five children and is trying to keep the family together. It's not easy to feed and clothe a family that large."

"We have people who are not on food stamps, are laid off work, have power bills and need fuel for heat," she said. "With all that comes an incredible amount of paperwork."

She said the council currently has a waiting list for such items as refrigerators, washing machines, dryers and double beds.

"We have two volunteers who can get a truck and pick items up if donors cannot get the items to us," Calloway said.

The holiday season brings incredible generosity, particularly from the churches, she said. But the

work begins now, and the ongoing help they offer must continue all year.

The emergency council, located on Poplar Street, is open throughout the year Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

You may bring food and household items to the council headquarters or you may call for pick up at 526-3924. Checks should be made out to the Highlands Emergency Council and mailed to PO Box 974, Highlands, NC, 28741. All donations are tax deductible.

Calloway said the council welcomes volunteers.

"We have at least one volunteer on duty during our open hours," she said. "And we certainly could use more help."



Linda James is Monday's volunteer.

• LETTER TO THE EDITOR •

Adult stem-cell research OK

Dear Editor,

In response to the letter written by Mr. Hartje about stem-cell research; there is indeed a positive side to this type of research — it's called adult stem-cell research. There is a lot of confusion surrounding this topic.

This first fallacy is that there is a ban on embryonic stem-cell research — in fact there is not. Whoever wishes to conduct this research with private funding may do so. So what are all the rich activists doing with their money, if this is so important?

Second, there *has* been some private research done with embryonic stem-cells and no one has been treated effectively in this way because these types of treatments have been known to create malignant tumors in lab rats. On the other hand adult stem-cell research has proven effective for treating many diseases.

And lastly, we all need to be careful about saying that a positive benefit could outweigh the fact that embryonic cells are available because of the death of pre-born babies. This kind of thinking gets dangerously close to the philosophy "the end justifies the means." After all this was the motto of Nazi Germany during their many gruesome and deplorable "scientific" experiments. And why is it that anytime someone stands for ethics, morals, or the sanctity of life, the term "religious right" is mentioned?

As for not accepting any of the benefits of embryonic stem-cell research (if there ever are any), that's fine with me. Especially since adult stem-cell research has already shown great promise in treating many conditions and diseases.

Darlene Melcher
Highlands

• OBITUARY •

Robert Johnston

Robert Johnston of Florida, an avid golfer and prior long time summer resident of Highlands died Saturday, August 28, 2004 while visiting Highlands.

He was born October 31, 1930 in Pittsburgh, Penn., attended the University of Maryland on a football scholarship and then for many years worked for Sauer Corporation of Pittsburgh, a large construction company. Sauer did major construction in the initial building of Disney World, sending Robert to Orlando to work on the Disney World project. Robert left Sauer in 1970 founding Keystone Mechanical, Inc., of Orlando, selling the business in 1989 to his two sons Chuck and Keith.

Robert is survived by his wife of 27 years, Lou Johnston; daughters Terri Gelbart of San Diego and Barbara Harris of Winter Springs; and sons Charles Johnston of Heathrow, Keith Johnston of Longwood, David Klinger of Clermont, Fla., and 12 grandchildren.

During the many years Robert spent in Highlands, he was a member of Wildcat Cliffs Country Club where he was a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer, a member of Cullasaja Country Club, attended the First Presbyterian Church and supported both the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital as a Master Key Club member and Highlands Playhouse. In addition to doing considerable residential building in Wildcat Cliffs Country Club, Cullasaja Country Club and Highlands Falls Country Club, Robert along with wife and parnters also owned the Days Inn in Franklin.

Services will be held Friday, September 3 at 11 a.m. at the St. Mark By The Sea Lutheran Church in Palm Coast, Fla. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Stuart F. Meyer Hospice House, 770 West Granada Blvd., #102, Ormond Beach, Fla., 32174

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• **LAUGHING AT LIFE** •

The rite of making my wrong right
(How I got to be a sick pup.)

Unbeknownst to anyone, I have been taking private writing lessons from a secret tutor who has been helping me be more better in my language construction when I write articles for this newspaper that is free and comes out once a week and can be found in all the little green cans that are scattered around Highlands in many places and other places not in the little green cans like the Highlands Rec. Park and Mountain Fresh Grocery and many other places not in the little green cans in over 100 places and I have been getting better in my writing but have had to recently fire my writing tutor for her continuous hounding me about my run-on sentences and I just couldn't take it anymore.



Fred Wooldridge

kinds of police reports fit, you would fill out an incident report. We even had a "no report" report you would fill out to explain why you didn't feel it was necessary to write a report. Could I make this up?

Each day, a large police department generates a ton of paperwork which is all turned into a dark, scary little place called "report review," where little cone headed people check your writing for accuracy. These editors of police never saw daylight and were pasty skinned grammar experts who would reject your report if needed. I always had good relations with these people because I would slide food under their door with my name on it.

That is not the only reason that I fired her. She was also nagging me for using the "that" word too much and for that, I sent her packing so that I don't have to hear about that anymore. She is gone and that's that.

Once I left the department, I went into writer's withdrawal. I woke up on a Monday morning retired and found I suddenly had nothing to report on or write down. I panicked.

I have been doing this "writing thing" for a long time. Back in my other life as a police officer, report writing is what I did about half my life. Policemen are required to write about everything they do and see. After you have been writing police reports for awhile, you learn to become more creative so you can protect yourself from criticism. (cya)

Fortunately, I was going into the rappelling business and would have to deal with the United States Forest Service who kept me writing stuff down for the next thirteen years. There was no need to go cold turkey, thanks to them.

Although you were not allowed to begin arrest reports with "Once upon a time," the more creative your reports were, the better you looked. There are many ways to tell the same story, so why not tell it in a way that makes you look good? This was the beginning of my creative writing exercises known as W.E.L.P, the "Wooldridge Embellishment Language Process."

But time marches on and finally I got too old to dangle from cliffs all day, so I retired again. I was OK for a while because the Forest Service required me to write reports on why I didn't want to hang from their cliffs anymore.

Then there was this other little gizmo called the "incident" report. If you found yourself in a situation where none of the 321 different

Since God always looks out for drunks, small children and satire writers, I had just finished my last Forest Service report when I got picked up by a local newspaper to continue my embellishments of life in a weekly column.

Life was great. For the first time, I could write outrageous stuff, offend everyone and make people who I didn't offend that particular week, laugh at what I wrote. Then,

• NATURE ON THE PLATEAU •

Shrews: Nature's fascinating little predators

by Patrick Brannon

Highlands Nature Center

Due to their secretive nature, it is uncommon to see a live shrew in the wild. Most people who have encountered shrews have found individuals killed by their cats or dogs. Consequently, many folks know little about these interesting animals.

Shrews are small mammals with voracious appetites. They belong to the Order Insectivora, along with moles. As the name of the group indicates, they feed almost exclusively on insects and other forest-floor invertebrates. Unlike rodents such as mice and voles, they lack the large pair of upper incisors used for gnawing on items such as seeds. Instead, shrews have a long pointed snout full of rows of sharp teeth used to shred the exoskeletons of beetles and other insects. Also unlike rodents, the ears are greatly reduced in size and may appear to be absent.

Most shrews inhabit cool, moist hardwood forests with abundant invertebrate prey. Because of their small size, shrews have high metabolisms and water turnover rates. Consequently, they hunt for food in the deep forest-floor leaf litter and under rotten logs, and must feed almost constantly. In some cases they may consume over twice their body weight a day. A shrew

deprived of food for only a few hours will often die. They are important predators in controlling the population of many insect pests.

Shrews are common in the forests of the southern Appalachian mountains. The largest species is the northern short-tailed shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*). It is a relatively large, grey or black species that is frequently mistaken for a mouse.

Other species of shrews in this region belong to the genus *Sorex*, the long-tailed shrews. Members of this group are much smaller in size and are generally brown to reddish-brown in color. Common species are the smoky shrew (*Sorex fumeus*), the masked shrew (*Sorex cinereus*), and the southeastern shrew (*Sorex longirostris*). The pygmy shrew (*Sorex hoyi*) is the smallest mammal in North America. It is only 2-3 inches in length including the tail, and weighs about the same as a dime.

Scientists who study shrews frequently capture them using sunken cans, or "pitfall traps." Another way to gain information on these animals is to check discarded bottles. Shrews will frequently enter narrow-necked bottles in search of water and become trapped. If you find a bottle on the side of the road and near the forest edge, look inside and you may find the bones of these fascinating little creatures.



2004 Native Plant Conference

The Highlands Biological Foundation's fifth annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants is coming up soon, and space is filling up! The conference will take place September 10 - 12 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 607 Chestnut Street, Highlands. There is still space available for several of the guided tours to a number of local natural areas and prominent native plant gardens, and to hear lectures on topics ranging from designing a naturalistic landscape and conservation of rare plant species to the science and art of mountain landscaping with native plants.

The conference features six guest speakers, garden tours, a Friday evening patrons' reception with the conference speakers, a Saturday evening wine reception, and a native plant auction. Field trips and garden tours are scheduled for Friday and Sunday afternoons. On Friday evening plan to be entertained while learning about the French botanist André Michaux. New this year is an opportunity to register as a "patron," which includes a reception following Friday evening's lecture during which participants will have an opportunity to meet and

mingle with conference speakers and garden tour leaders. Saturday evening features a wine reception for all participants, followed by both a silent and a live auction of specimen native plants donated by local nurseries and native plant enthusiasts.

This year's corporate sponsor is Wachovia Bank, which has generously agreed to underwrite most of the expenses of the conference. This will ensure even more improvements to the Highlands Botanical Garden, as all proceeds are earmarked for that purpose. Support is also being provided by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce in the form of an advertising partnership.

The event always fills the Performing Arts Center to capacity with native plant gardeners who welcome the opportunity to learn new gardening methods and to exchange ideas with professional gardeners, landscapers, and horticulturists. The regular registration fee is \$100 and the patrons' registration fee is \$200. Registration forms are available from the Highlands Biological Station (828-526-2602). Register soon to secure your place at the conference!

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About 25 teams and scores of citizens turned out for the 4th annual Relay for Life in Cashiers last weekend. Victims were honored, survivors were applauded and presented with flowers and balloons as they walked, musicians entertained and stomachs were filled with an array of vittles to choose from. So far more than \$180,000 has been raised with more coming in.

See related story page 19



... **LAUGHING** from pg 4

fate had its way with me, because I dropped by the news office one morning and found that during the night, corporate leaders had swooped in and replaced everyone. I was toast.

This time I did panic. I called my police department to see if they had anything they wanted me to write. "Fred who?" was their reply. Even the Forest Service rejected me, calling me repelling.

Then, just as I was going into major withdrawal by sitting in the corner of my closet and rocking back and forth, I got a call from my current Editor, Kim, from the Highlands Newspaper. Even better, she is not a cone-head and does not have pasty skin. I am concerned though because she keeps rejecting the food I slide under her door.

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ANCHORMAN rated PG-13
Fri: (4:20), 7:20, 9:20
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Mon: (4:20), 7:20, 9:20
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OPEN WATER rated R
Fri: 9
Sat & Sun: (2), 9
Mon: 9
Tues-Thurs: 7

COLLATERAL rated R
Fri: 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:15), 9:10
Mon: 9:10
Tues-Thur: 7:10

THE NOTEBOOK rated PG-13
Fri: (4:05), 7:05
Sat & Sun: (4:05), 7:05
Mon: (4:05), 7:05
Tues-Thurs:(4:05)

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Pescado's Sample menu

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Burritos served with choice of the following wrapped inside a 12" steamed tortilla:

Black beans or Refried pinto beans, Brown rice, Cheddar-jack cheese mix, Fresh lettuce or spinach, Black olives, Housemade salsa fresca and Jalapenos.

HOUSE SPECIAL BURRITOS

- Chilean Fish
- Pescado's Deluxe
- Highlands Burrito
- Veggie Burrito
- Bean Burrito

PESCADO'S QUESADILLAS

Ingredients inside a 12: grilled tortilla topped with salsa fresca, sour cream and black olives.

- Chilean Fish
- Highlands
- Veggie
- Spinach
- Cheese

PESCADO'S TACOS

Served on hard corn or steamed flour tortilla with fresh lettuce, spinach, cheddar-jack cheese mix, black olives housemade salsa fresca and jalapenos.

- Chilean Fish
- Taco Deluxe
- Highland Taco
- Bean Taco

CHIPS & DIPS & SIDES

Tri-colored tortilla chips

- Cheese dip
- Spinach cheese dip
- Sophia's Guacamole
- Pescado's special salsa
- Cup of brown rice & beans

Pescado's 40

526-9313
Fourth Street "on the Hill"
Fresh Mexican
"The fastest food in town"
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Sports Page 42

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● LIFE UNDER CONSTRUCTION ●

Exquisite Reality

Life is good, really! It's not easy, it may not be simple, it's even frightening at times...but it is good. If you don't believe me, just read the hat I wear. Would a cap lie? There are times however, when life is frustrating and that is when a sense of humor is priceless.



Dr. Maryellen Lipinski

Estate. Well, on second thought, maybe not, but I will laugh at them.

Here are some of my favorite one liners. If they don't make you laugh, I hope you at least smile a little.

1. My mind not only wanders, it sometimes leaves completely.

2. The best way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

3. The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you're doing, someone else does.

4. Reasons to smile: every 7 minutes of every day, someone in an aerobics class pulls a hamstring.

5. "God Speaks" billboards. Don't make me come down there. -God

6. I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.

7. A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
8. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.

9. He who laughs last thinks slowest.

10. Humor is a powerful influence. It's contagious and can strengthen relationships. Why not take humor breaks during the day?

11. "You don't stop laughing because you grow old; you grow old because you stop laughing".
-Michael Pritchard

Need a cup of delicious coffee and one of Maryellen's books? STOP by Four Sisters Farm! Dr. Maryellen Lipinski is a psychologist by profession and an international professional speaker by design. If you are looking to buy a home/property or sell, call me at Village Realty of Sapphire Valley, 743-5122 www.ilovemountainrealestate.com. www.maryellenlipinski.com; melspeaks@aol.com.

PTO wrap-up

Susie deVile Schiffli
PTO vice president

The first PTO meeting for 2004-2005 school year was Aug. 24 at Highlands School.

New PTO officers were introduced — Pat Hedden, president; Susie deVile Schiffli, vice president; Diane Sackman, treasurer; and Denise West, secretary.

The annual Book Fair kick-offs the night of the next general PTO meeting – Sept. 23. The PTO begins at 7 p.m. The Book Fair is held in the Highlands School media center begins after the PTO meeting.

Diane Sackman presented the budget for the 2004-05 year and updated everyone on the PTO membership drive.

An information sheet was handed out to help parents find information on school activities and events as well as how to contact their teacher, school administration, and school board members.

Marjorie Crowe, volunteer coordinator, discussed the various opportunities for volunteering at the school.

Sherry Sims presented details on the Sally Foster fundraiser and the Art Run 5K.

Breta Stroud, executive director of the Literacy Council of Highlands, presented LCH programs and requested volunteers.

Principal Bomengen presented her focus on staff development for this year. Teachers have discussed their need to have further skills with reading, ESL, and technology instruction.

The annual Fall Festival and the Fun Run are scheduled for Oct. 30. New this year is the Art Run 5K which will coincide with the Art Walk on Sept. 18.

Females needed for 'Steel Magnolias'

Auditions for the Highland's Community Players 10th year revival of *Steel Magnolias* written by Robert Harling will be held on Sunday, Sept. 12 at 3 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Auditions will be held for other female parts: middle-aged women, two females in their late teens / early to middle 20's. One script is on reserve at the Hudson Library in Highlands. Performance dates are October 28-31 and November 6-7. Contact director Ronnie Spilton at 526-0306 or rspilton@earthlink.net for info.

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• **MOVIE PIX** •

The Point

The 1971 animated musical classic by Harry Nilson, narrated by Ringo Starr, directed by Fred Wolf. Featuring a wonderful, award winning soundtrack, written and performed mostly by Nilson.



Stuart Armor

This really is a great story, written and told as a children's tale, but it's intended audience was and still is much older. The music was probably better known than the movie (including "Me and My Arrow"), but it really is a treat for the whole family.

The Story line: All is well in the land of Point, where everything has a point, including the people, that is until Oblio is born. While Oblio is quite ordinary in many respects, he does have a rounded head, something that the people of Point don't really know how to deal with. Eventually debate gets, well, heated, and our young hero and his wonder dog, Arrow, are banished to the Pointless Forrest, where they meet a variety of colorful characters, including Rock Man, Singing Fat Ladies, a talking mercantile tree, and more. It seems that despite the name, most people in the Pointless Forrest have a point after all. Young Oblio eventually returns to the land of Point, a changed boy, with a lesson for his pointed neighbors.

This work is a very 70s piece, it does carry a message, about what it means to have a point. Unlike a lot of films that claim to be family entertainment, this one actually is entertaining for the **WHOLE** family, not just the little ones. The animation

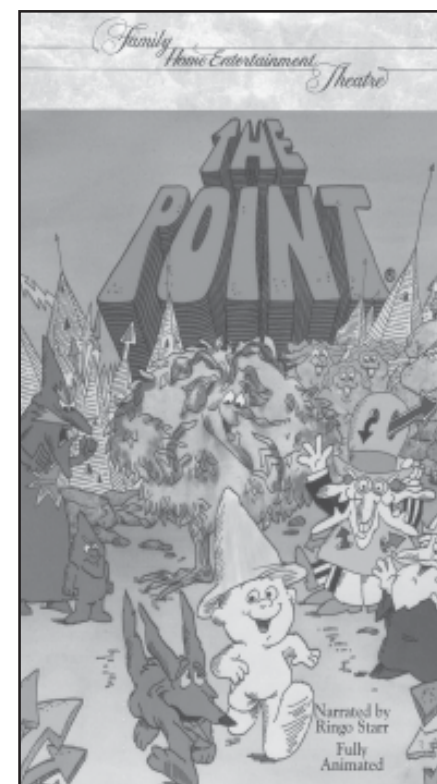
is quite simple, the music is quite simple, the music wonderful, and an integral part of the story, and while it does have its message, they don't beat you over the head with it. Ringo, as the

narrator, is absolutely hilarious, his purposely dry delivery makes up the humor of the story. Many of the younger set may not get all the jokes, but all of it is kid friendly, or kid suitable. Not only worth seeing, but worth seeing often, it also reminds me that I want to see if I can buy the soundtrack.

While this one does not categorize well, some other

animated works that have some of the same whole family appeal are The Hobbit, An American Tale, Kiki's Delivery Service, Shrek, and Monster's Inc. These could be just the ticket when Mom and Dad just can't bring themselves to watch Barney one more time, and want something they might actually like.

These and about 5,000 other titles are available on VHS and DVD at Movie Stop, give them a look.

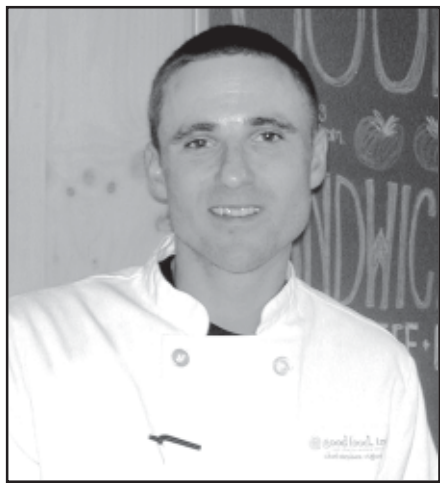


Fourth cooking class at Hudson Library set for 9/20

The fourth Hudson Library Cooking Class for 2004 will be held on Monday, September 20th. The class will be led by Kristin and Stephen Viguerie of Good Food, Inc. The class will be held in Cahiers at Good Food which is housed in an historic cottage in Cashier's Alexander Gardens.

While Good Food may seem at first glance to be a typical gourmet market, you'll also find full meals, simple sides and vegetables, and over-sized sandwiches made with house-roasted meats and breads baked daily. The Vigueries specialize in make dining and entertaining easier and more enjoyable and wish to share their

passion for perfect ingredients and the bounty of each new season with you.



Stephen Viguerie of Good Food

Working in the Good Food kitchens, Kristin and Stephen Viguerie should deliver the experience of celebrating life through the pleasures and principles of good food to the participants in the fourth cooking class.

The Library Cooking Classes have been a popular part of

the Highlands summer season for fifteen years. Cooking Class openings are limited and reservations are required. A few openings remain for some of the 2004 classes. Contact the library at 526-3031 for more information.

• MTN. TOP ROTARY •

Many thanks to all who participated in Rotary Mountaintop's PROJECT LOCK UP! A total of \$3,000 was raised.

It was great fun said Chairman, Bill Zoellner of A.G.Edwards. Those who participated were as follows: Nick Bazan of 1st Citizens Bank; Joe Simmons of Cabe Realty; Curtis Mathews of Mathews Consulting; Bill Basham of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce; Steve Chenoweth of the Wayah Insurance; Bill Hogue of Highlands Appraisal Co; Steve Gilliam of Macon Bank; Jim Mullen of Adept Mortgage Company; Melisa McKim of Meadows Mountain Properties; Monica Bomengen of the Highlands School.

- Carol Matthews

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• SHOPS 'ON 4TH ST. ...ON THE HILL' •

Look beyond the construction!

THE CHRISTMAS TREE, Highlands' original Christmas Shop located "On the Hill" has been serving customers nationwide since 1975. Owners Trisha and Bob Kieltyka and Ben McInnes seek out unusual items from regional artists as well as the finest in Christmas treasures from around the world. They and the staff bring it all together into a Christmas fantasy land that makes shopping fun for children of all ages. Open year round, **THE CHRISTMAS TREE**, is well known for the finest in holiday décor and collectibles. **THE CHRISTMAS TREE** is one of the original Department 56 "Gold Key Dealers" and displays many villages in a winter wonderland setting. The store also features: Patricia Breen Ornaments; Buyers' Choice Carolers; Christopher Radko Ornament; Nutcrackers by Christian Ulbricht and Steinbach; LGB trains; Possible Dreams Figures; Heartwood Creek by Jim Shore

Open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5p.m.



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Hwy 64 across from Little Bear Pen. Rd.

The Walker Bros. Circus is coming to town

By Kim Lewicki

On Sept. 27, the Walker Bros. Circus is coming to town complete with the "big tent."

At the Sept. 1 Town Board meeting, Recreation Director Selwyn Chalker said with the town's permission, the circus was on its way.

Walker Bros. Circus needs a "stop over" spot between North Georgia and Brevard so it will set up while

they're here and put on two shows, he said.

Since the early 1900s circuses have passed through Highlands on their way to somewhere else - it was the "Mighty Haag Show on Oct. 4, 1923.

"From a historical point of view, the circus coming to town has always been a part of Highlands history," said Lewis Doggett. "It think

Highlands should continue that."

The plan is to set up at the ballfield on U.S. 64 east and Hickory. If all goes as planned, the town stands to make a few bucks off the deal.

The town gets 35 percent of proceeds from the first 250 tickets half the proceeds from the next 250," said Chalker. Tickets are \$10 each.

... CHANGES from pg 1

purpose of displaying vehicles for sale; or washing, greasing or repairing vehicles.

The proposed amendment would add: no person shall park a recreational vehicle on public streets or public property between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Recreational vehicle means any trailer, camper trailer, boat and trailer, camper, mobile home, motor home or similar vehicle including vans or van conversions being used for habitation purposes. Any recreational vehicle in violation of this section may be removed and impounded.

Betz said they based the amendment on a similar ordinance in California.

With the standard use of pepper spray and taser guns as a means of restraint, the town board is also considering amending the police department policies and procedures manual.

Even though the police code is considered separate from town ordinances, changes to the procedure manual go to the Town Board because the board adopted the procedures manual years ago. Consequently, amendments must go before the board.

"It's a good idea for the town to approve such amendments in case of potential remediation," said Betz.

Bill Coward, town attorney said updating the procedures manual to accommodate new means of restraint commonly used is a good idea. "Everything complies with state statutes.

Commissioners will rule on the amendments at the Sept. 15 Town Board meeting.

• REMODELING & DESIGN •



There is more to cabinetry than just measuring.

Highlands Cabinet Company specializes in the design of residential kitchen and bath spaces.

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For counter tops, it's granite, Corian, Pyrolav and Cambria - a quartz-surface.

They also offer a large selection of cabinet hardware and plumbing fixtures. They make use of specialty finishes like distressed painting and crackling, but can entertain any idea you throw their way.

Stop by the Highlands Cabinet Company showroom in the new "Craig Building" on S. Fourth Street to see some of the lines and finishes they carry.

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... 4 1/2 Street from page 1

four-wheelers to romp.

He's mad because instead of going down the center of the 66-foot right-of-way owned by the town, the gravel road is set two feet onto his property.

"Why not put it where it should be?" he asked.

But commissioners said it isn't their aim to lay a road on the 4 1/2 Street extension at this time.

"We only established it for future use," said Commissioner Hank Ross. "As far as surveying and building a road goes, we haven't approved that. We have to discuss that first." He said they consider it a walking trail and an emergency access, only.

Commissioner Dennis DeWolf agreed. "We see this only as a repair at this point."

Commissioner Herb James agreed with Jones as to placement of the road, should the time come that a bon-a-fide road be constructed.

"When we put a road in it should be down the center of the right-of-way," he said. "We all understand how you feel."

Back in August 2003, the courts ruled in the town's favor regarding the legality of opening "never opened" portions of 4 1/2, Poplar, and Fifth streets.

... TRUCKERS cont. from pg 1

lands end before Horse Cove starts descending, she said.

N.C. DOT wrote Atherton back. "We have completed our engineering investigation regarding tractor trailer traffic along SR 1107, Whiteside Cove Road, wrote Scott Cook Division 14 Traffic Engineer. "A field review confirmed that Whiteside Cove Road is a two-lane paved and unpaved road approximately 16 to 18 feet wide, roadside development consists mainly of residential type property, and the existing speed limits are 25 and 35 mph from NC 107 to US 64 in Highlands. We agree that truck traffic to Highlands should use N.C. 107 to U.S. 64; therefore, we will install a warning sign along Whiteside Cove Road near the intersection with NC 107 in Cashiers advising truck traffic to Highlands use N.C. 107 North to U.S 64 West."

The sign should be installed within the next two weeks

• HOME DECOR & FIXTURES •



The Custom House on Carolina Way is often referred to as the "Lighting Center" or the "Lamp shade Shop." With one of the largest selections this side of Atlanta, customers often discover this shop as they search for a new shade. Once inside, they find much, much more - lamps, chandeliers, exterior lighting, vanity lighting, mirrors, hand-thrown pottery, hooked, braided, and woven rugs, furniture, distinctive gifts and accessories for the home.

For 24 years, Janet and King Young have strived to feature and support hand-made crafts and Americana. Seeking craftspeople who use natural fibers in their mediums, the Youngs look for home accessories that are appropriate to the area.

Now Meridith Watson has joined The Custom House as artist-in-residence. Using accessories from the shop, she hand-paints custom designs on lamp shades, mirrors, boxes, chargers and lamp bases.

Meridith enjoys collaborating with clients and sharing ideas that convey their personal style. These one-of-a-kind accessories make a truly unique statement in their home.

Come by and see Janet and Meridith and enjoy customizing your nest at The Custom House on Carolina Way.

The Custom House

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• ALL ABOUT WINES •

Prohibition - a weird time in our history, and we still haven't recovered...

In lots of ways. When I visit a California winery, for instance, why am I not able to join their wine club or have some wine shipped back to my house? Now that I'm in the business, I'm more and more aware of the peculiarities of the system that Prohibition has left us. For example, a number of customers ask us for some of the wines from the North Georgia vineyards, but we can't get them. By the time those small wineries pay the price they must pay to even be represented in this state, they're losing money. And if we drove down the mountain, bought some back to the shop and sold it, we'd be arrested. Odd, isn't it....



Bert Mobley
Highlands Wine & Cheese

And the whole "Can I buy wine on Sunday?" question is strange as well. And in this town, why we can't order a beer or a martini at dinner is, to state the obvious, mystifying. Dry counties, dry towns, "you can buy this here and that there but not that here and this there." How did we ever get in this mess?

I grew up not only in a dry county, but in a dry home too. My grandmother was a leader in the WCTU. (Trivia Question: how many of you know what those letters represent?) The Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Temperance: an interesting word which those well-intentioned ladies must not have looked up in the dictionary. A synonym in the first definition in my Webster's is "moderation." A middle ground. Of course, we all know the dangers of over consumption. But what about the dangers of not drinking at

all—the intemperate, immoderate position at the other extreme? The mentality which makes alcohol evil? That raises the drinking age to make alcohol inaccessible and thus all the more enticing as a literal forbidden fruit?

I grew up in a teetotal household. And for reasons not necessarily healthy in themselves, I didn't go through that rebellious stage of drinking myself into a stupor just because I wasn't supposed to drink at all. Many of my friends did. Many people today who struggle with abuse issues do so, perhaps, because of an unhealthy approach to alcohol presented to them when they were young.

In my 30s, I spent some time in Europe—the French part of Switzerland. While there, I experienced a different approach to alcohol; I learned about the given fact of wine as an everyday part of a healthy life. It was not taboo; I did not see nearly the level of abuse I was accustomed to in the States.

While there, I was also reconsidering the strict conservatism of the culture I'd grown up in, the same mentality I'd immersed myself into as an adult: a mentality where moderation in many areas of life was not tolerated, where prudish extremes of morality were the norm. In my circles, I heard a lot about grace and freedom from legalistic behavior, but I experienced very little of it.

So there I sat, approaching middle age, on a hillside with friends overlooking the beautiful Swiss village of Gruyere, watching cows graze in sloping green

▪See ABOUT WINE page 18

Highlands is full of wine enthusiasts. Some places that feature an extensive wine selections can be found for sale at Highlands Wine & Cheese, Byrson's Food Store, Mountain Fresh Foods, Highlands Quick Mart Wine Cellar and the Farmers Market.

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL NEWS

Lady Highlanders lose to Franklin, come back with four spectacular wins

By Claire Frederick
HS Journalism Class

Lady Highlanders varsity and JV teams beat the Walhalla Razorbacks August 30 to begin a second week of wins. This followed a spectacular week of wins against three rival teams.

Winning for a week is not too bad for the volleyball team of Highlands School. From August 23-25 the girls played and were victorious over Rabun Gap, Nantahala, and Cherokee. Senior captains Angela Aspinwall, Kayla McCall and Iyali Ruiz led the team.

Junior varsity Highlanders also won all three of their games against the same opponents.

Coach Rick Rawlins said, "Wins have come as a result of great hustle and teamwork."

Kayla McCall, Angela Aspinwall, Anna Trine and Ramsey Ashburn led the varsity team in kills. Junior Callie Rawlins and sophomore Toni Schmitt exhibited fantastic setting throughout all three games. There was also great passing by defensive specialists Rebecca Wyatt, Leslie Wilson and Iyali Ruiz.

Maggie Dearth had some great defensive plays. Ramsey Ashburn led in aces for a Highlander team that shows overall strength in serves.

Junior varsity is guided by sophomores Rebecca Ashburn, Katie Bryson, Rachel Power, Sara Bates, Angela Sanchez and Allison Winn. Freshmen of JV team are Shannon Marsden, Danny Puchacz, Amanda Parnele, Taylor Stinson and Sayward Thompson, a new addition to the team.

Rawlins feels all the players of both JV and varsity teams contributed to the week of wins. He said teamwork is what led to these achievements.

Highlands' volleyball team found themselves in a difficult challenge against the Franklin Panthers in their first game of the season on August 16. The games against Franklin were a good learning experience for both JV and varsity Highlanders against non-conference opponents.



Photo by Claire Frederick
Varsity volleyball captain Kayla McCall—serves against the Lady Highlanders in the team's opening game of the season.

The varsity played three out of five matches to determine the ultimate winner. Varsity Lady Highlanders led in the first match and it stayed fairly close for the duration of the match. Franklin's varsity eventually dominated the match, and the Lady Highlanders lost 18-25.

Franklin stayed in the lead throughout the match, which ended 14-25. The third match was similar to the second with a final score of 17-25.

The JV had to play two out of three matches to see which team would end up on top. The first match was close, but Highlands eventually fell behind and lost 19-25. In the second match the Lady Highlanders were behind the entire game and could not manage to catch up with a final score of 11-25.

Highlands Varsity & JV Volleyball Schedule – 2004

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Thurs.	Sept. 2	Rosman	Away	4
Tues.	Sept. 7	Swain	Home	4
Thurs.	Sept. 9	Hiwassee D	Away	4
Mon.	Sept. 13	Taullahla F	Away	JV only 4:30
Tues.	Sept. 14	Blue Ridge	Home	5
Wed.	Sept. 15	Walhalla	Home	5
Thurs.	Sept. 16	Franklin	Home	5
Mon.	Sept. 20	West Oak	Away	5
Tues.	Sept. 21	Nantahala	Home	4
Thurs.	Sept. 23	Cherokee	Away	4
Wed.	Sept. 29	West Oak	Home	5
Thurs.	Sept. 30	Rosman	Home	4
Tues.	Oct. 5	Swain	Away	4
Thurs.	Oct. 7	Hiwassee D	Home	5
Tues.	Oct. 12	Rabun Gap	Home	5
Wed.	Oct. 13	Talluhla F	Home	JV only 5
Thurs.	Oct. 14	Blue Ridge	Away	5
Week of 10/18		Conf. Tourn.	TBA	

Coach Rick Rawlins Smoky Mtn. 'Coach of the Year' 2004

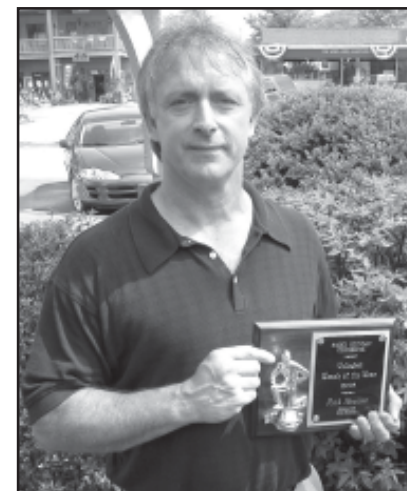
Rick Rawlins was selected Smoky Mountain Volleyball Coach of the Year for the 2003 volleyball season after coaching the Highlanders to the regular season and conference tournament championships.

Rawlins has completed two years as the head coach of both the Highlands varsity and junior varsity teams, and has had winning seasons with both teams for both years.

"Our girls have shown a great deal of improvement over the last two years, and I am very proud of what

they have been able to accomplish," he said.

He's hoping for a good third season at Highlands School this 2004-2005 school year.



Coach Rick Rawlins

Coach Rawlins has coached Rec. league soccer and softball since the family moved to Highlands in 1995, and was also the Rabun County High School girls and boys varsity soccer head coach during the 1995/96 season where he teaches math.

Sign up for Scholarship Fund Golf

The annual Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament is set for Monday, Sept. 27 at the Highlands Falls Country Club. Merchants, sponsors and community members are encouraged to make a direct contribution to the scholarship endowment fund through this tournament. Call Co-Chairs Louise Demetriou at 526-9529 or Kitty Byers at 526-9775 for more information.

Attitude delivered with smiles and lots of laughter

By Nancy Welch

Contributor

He has the only menu in town that bites back. "Tipping will be appreciated. It helps us take a nice vacation in the winter. If for any reason you choose to be particularly cheap or stingy, and think that tipping is a scam, then buy yourself a TV dinner, stay home and watch wrestling," reads one tidbit on the back of DonLeon's Deli Cafe menu. And this is mild.

DonLeon Hananel sits on the front porch of his popular eatery smoking a cigarette. A truck drives by and someone yells out the window.

"DonLeon!" the man cries.

"Hey!" he calls back loudly.

It is a warm summer day for Highlands, but a light breeze is blowing and DonLeon is a happy man.

"I love life," he says. "I find laughter everywhere and life is so beautiful."

Yes, he says, he is sarcastic, but so is life, he adds.

DonLeon took the long road to Highlands, from his original home in Israel, to a stint in an infamous state institution where he learned culinary arts.

"I asked to be assigned to kitchen detail because I loved to cook," he says. "I had no professional experience, but that's where I learned my craft. I wanted to be the best."

He gave classes in cooking to six or seven at a time, but they really didn't care, he explains.

"One day I made myself a filet mignon, then everyone started coming in the kitchen and the classes were over," he says.

His family background was in jewelry design and that's the profession he chose after his release.

"My family was in jewelry design, so I took it up. I did very high-end designs, very expensive. I started in New York in 1962 and went to Houston, Texas, in

1974," he says.

The 62-year-old speaks Spanish, English, Italian, Hebrew and French.

"I don't speak French as well anymore," he says. "I don't meet many people here who speak French."

In 1992, he went to visit a friend in Costa Rica who was building a house near the mountains. He went into the mountains where he found a community of mountain Indians. He asked if he could stay the night. He ended up staying with them for 27 months. It was, he says, a life-changing experience.

"It was tranquil. No radio or television. It was a restful time. I forgave myself for all the bad things I had done. I became a

good person," he says. "Believe me, I had been hell on wheels."

After leaving Costa Rica, DonLeon went to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he bought a house on an island 13 miles out into the Gulf of Mexico. He opened his own little jewelry store, but things went down hill and he lost everything.

He searched for a job and ended up in Asheville.

"I ended up working for someone else. I had never worked for anyone else in my life," he says.

He didn't like it and lasted only three months.

"But I loved the mountains," he says.

He went to Blowing Rock where he wanted to open a store,

but didn't have enough money. He was sitting in the corner of a restaurant one day talking about his problem when a lady called to him, "Leon, go to Highlands."

"Where is that?" he asked.

"Just find Highway 64 and you'll get there," she said.

So with a wardrobe full of T-shirts from his time at the coast, he came to Highlands.

"I had to go to Wal-Mart and buy hiking boots and warm clothes," he says, laughing.

He opened a jewelry shop at the front of Highlands Square on Fifth Street. He was poor. He slept on the floor in the back of the shop.

His friend Barbara Green remembers those days.

"I would bring bagels and coffee and we would make breakfast every morning," she says with a smile. "We became good friends."

"It was a strange time in my life," DonLeon says. "But I loved Highlands and the people here..."

After one year, he heard a local restaurant needed help. And so, after some time and effort, that restaurant became DonLeon's.

DonLeon is a strong believer in giving back to the community. He is active in both the Highlands Playhouse and the Highlands Community Theater. He not only acts, but he is generous in supplying gourmet buffets for the theater-goers.

"You must give back," he says.

People here are very gracious," he says, waving and loudly thanking an exiting customer.

"Are you happy now, Tom," he shouts. "I want you to leave happy."

His wife, Susan, who works along side him, is the love of his life.

"You know the one sentence that describes love?" he asks. "It is friendship that caught on fire."

"Oh, he's cantankerous," Susan says. "But he's always positive."



Photo by Nancy Welch

DonLeon took the long road to Highlands but now he calls it home.



Brian Starr will present a kids' rock and roll show at one with an appearance by Tinkerbell. The entertainment will conclude with a magic show at two.

Children's Art Walk features magic, drama, and musicians

The Children's Art Walk will be held on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. - p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center. It is part of Art Walk, a Festival of the Arts in Highlands which is sponsored annually by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

The young people attending the Children's Art Walk can take advantage of many craft projects in the Nature Center including painting their own bird houses or bird feeders, painting an Art Walk t-shirt, or making a refrigerator magnet. They can also experience glitter and face painting or create their own art project from paper, paint, and chalk.

There will be entertainment the entire time in the amphitheater behind the Nature Center. At 10 a.m. there will be drama classes for ages 5 to 7. At 11 a.m., Kevin Danzig will present a musical performance with a special appearance by Puff the

Magic Dragon. Another drama class will be held at noon for ages 8 to 10. Both drama classes will be introductory classes and deal with the rain forest as a subject.

Brian Starr will present a kids' rock and roll show at one with an appearance by Tinkerbell. The entertainment will conclude with a magic show at two.

The young people will be treated to popcorn, balloons, hot dogs and lemonade and baked goods in the amphitheater area.

Attendees are encouraged to park in the lot at the Recreation Park on the Cashiers Highway and ride the shuttle to the Nature Center.

The adult Art Walk will be held the same day from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. throughout the downtown area featuring renowned Southern artists. There will also be music by regional performers from throughout the southeast.

Learn how to help at Literacy Council

Discover the exciting possibilities for volunteer activities at the Peggy Crosby Center. The Literacy Council of Highlands is offering a free information session, Tuesday, Sept. 7 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

We have adults wanting to learn to read, improve reading skills or learn English as a second language. For more information, call Breta at 526-9938, ext. 240.

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Locals win Playhouse raffle



Locals Carol and Curtis Matthews were the lucky winners of Highlands Playhouse annual raffle for its Theater Lovers Tour. This year it's to London, Prague and Vienna. "We are looking forward to a wonderful trip," said Carol.

King Mountain Houses for Sale



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AUGUST 21-SEPTEMBER 5

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10 to 11:30 a.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd
Cost: \$50 Includes and entry to Showhouse

Benefiting The Cashier Historical Society &
Cashiers Vally Community Center

Expect drama and perfection at 12th annual Bel Canto - Sept 2

On Sunday at the Performing Arts Center, a sold-out audience will hear Joyce Guyer, Metropolitan Opera soprano, sing some of the most memorable numbers from operas she has performed throughout the United States and Europe.

Her program, which she will share with Issac Hurtado, young American tenor, will include highlights from The Marriage of Figaro and Cost fan tutte by her favorite composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Following Ms. Guyer's recent performance at Glimmerglass Opera as the Countess in "The Marriage of Figaro," a Syracuse (NY) critic praised her "Dove sono," an aria she will sing in Highlands: "Guyer delivered the show-stopping "Dove sono" with great warmth and controlled anguish, bringing the house down and reducing many to tears."

The New York Observer reported "This beautifully trained (and beautiful looking) American soprano is a completely thoroughbred Countess. Her "Dove sono," in which pride and pain were combined with gorgeous

equilibrium was devastating."

Ms. Guyer also will sing arias and duets from Massenet's "Mano," Verdi's "La Traviata," Charpentier's "Louise" and Donizetti's "Lucia." Her selections from musical theater will include numbers by Gershwin, Berstein and Kern.



Joyce Guyer

An eagerly anticipated duet on Bel Canto's audience-friendly program will be Lebar's "Merry

Widow Waltz" that the soprano will sing with Mr. Hurtado.

His selections will include arias from Gounod's "Romeo and Juliette" and Verdi's "La Traviata" and a cluster of melodious Neapolitan songs.

Accompanying the soloists will be Stephen Dubberly, eminent pianist and Bel Canto mainstay for 11 years, whose keyboard solo will be the "Andante from Sonata Op 5" by Johannes Brahms.

Following the recital that begins at 4 p.m., Bel Canto benefactors will greet the artists at a gala reception-buffet at the Highlands Country Club. This will be the 12th year that Bel Canto has been a benefit for the permanent art collection of the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

... ABOUT WINES continued from pg 14

pastures, eating the cheese that their milk produced. We ate fresh bread from the local bakery—and drank a bottle of wine. I don't remember what, and, as far as wine goes, it may not have been that great. But the day was fantastic, and I knew that God was at work in my life in a way that I'd not experienced before. Grace in a glass. The beauty of wine: the freedom to drink it as a means of celebrating life to the fullest.

When I came back to the States and moved to Athens, I used to give Hobbit birthday parties. I'd invite a houseful of people and open wine. In "The Hobbit," when it's your

birthday, you give the gifts. I hope I was able to give back some of the gift I'd been given.

I realize fully that some people, for reasons that I don't pretend to understand, have a pathological propensity to overindulge, that temperance is not an option. And I'm grateful that friends and family and organizations exist to aid these people as they learn to live their life to the fullest. Because that's what we all desire: a meaningful life of wholeness, health, and happiness.

For me, it's a life that includes grace in a glass.

Even with cancer, hope prevails

Editor's Note: The following story is the fourth installment in a series written by a man whose wife has been stricken with cancer.

We went back to Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta for Cynthia's third chemo treatment. We got Disappointment Number 25.

The first thing the staff does at Dr. Richard Lauer's office is check the patient's blood. After a few minutes' wait, the doctor lets you know how you're doing.

Dr. Lauer came to our little cubicle and announced that Cynthia would not be getting chemotherapy. Why? "That's just the way it works sometimes," Dr. Lauer said. "You're doing fine," he assured her. He instructed his nurse, Kim, to give Cynthia a shot to build up her white blood count.

Since she was looking forward to adding some more of "God's little warriors" to help fight the cancer cells, Cynthia was distraught. I tried to hide my disappointment, but I wasn't very good at it.

Cynthia told the doctor that she had not lost her hair yet. And, for the third time, Dr. Lauer responded, "You will...In the next few days."

We decided to go shopping for a wig. Someone had mentioned a shop in Gwinnett County, so we went there. Cynthia found two nice ones. Like everything else associated with cancer, they were expensive. The bill was almost \$1,000. But they were worth it; they made Cynthia feel better.

Two days later, Cynthia woke up to find a few balls of hair on her pillow. We knew it was time. She called her beautician and asked for an appointment, to "have it all cut off."

Denise Broom, the beautician, knew exactly how to handle the situation. She gave Cynthia an appointment for 6:30 p.m. - after everyone had left the shop.

I pretended to read a magazine while I watched Denise cut Cynthia's hair down to less than one inch. Denise was careful to keep Cynthia's back toward the mirror until she had placed one of the wigs in place. Cynthia then asked me to take a look.

She was beautiful! I loved the new hairdo, and I told her so.

But there was one problem: the real hair stopped falling out. It's been two weeks now, and she's still got it. Dr. Lauer couldn't be wrong, could he?

There have been other side effects

that have caused us some concern.

A week after the disappointing visit to Dr. Lauer, we returned. This time, Cynthia had another full day of chemotherapy. It began at 10 a.m. and continued until after 6 p.m.

Kim Standard, the nurse who administers the treatments, told us that Cynthia needed some more boosters for her blood counts. This time, there were two shots: one for the white blood and one for the red blood and the platelets.

We made it back to the mountains in time for the Relay for Life Survivors' Dinner at the Community Bible Church. Cynthia was overwhelmed. We walked into the hall and were greeted with dozens of hugs from well-wishers. We sat with a friend, Paula Jones, who survived breast cancer a couple of years ago. Paula was so sympathetic and so understanding. The entire evening was an inspirational experience. We left the dinner exhilarated and ready to take on the world.

The next day, Cynthia was sick. She had aches and pains and was depressed. She stayed in bed most of the day. I had been trying to get her out of the house every day, if only to go to the post office, so the next day I suggested that we go to Asheville for the day. Cynthia felt better, so we packed up and hit the road.

She was irritable the whole day. No matter what I suggested or what I said, it was wrong. She would suggest something, and I would agree to it, and then she would disagree with me. On at least three occasions, I turned my head away from her, closed my eyes, and said a short prayer for mental strength. Somehow, I was able to get through the day without losing it. It wasn't easy. The next day, she was fine and apologized for her behavior.

There have been other worries over the past week. She has had severe back pains. She awoke this morning with blood in one eye.

Despite all these setbacks, Cynthia is still keeping a positive attitude. She's looking forward to participating in the Survivors' Walk at the Relay for Life. That's the first lap around the quarter-mile track, when only cancer patients and survivors are on the course. It's always been a heart-warming event, as we watched those touched by the evil disease wind their way around the track. This time, we'll be on the other end of the emotional scale.

Even now, there is a positive note. Cynthia still hasn't lost her hair!

**Sneak
Preview**

Sat. & Sun
Sept. 4-5
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Jesus Loves the Little Children



Kim Ingram
Highlands United Methodist Church

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Matthew 19:14, NRSV

In mid-October every year, churches are encouraged to celebrate *Children's Sabbath*. The Children's Defense Fund prepares a manual for congregations of many faiths to use in planning. There are worship and educational resources for Christians, Jews, Muslims, Baha'i and Unitarian Universalist, as well as an interfaith service.

In a letter from Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund, that opens the book, we are reminded that over 12 million children - 1 in every 6 - in the United States of America live in poverty. She describes the bleak situation in which they live. These children wake up chilled in a house without adequate heat, brushing roaches off the blanket. They get dressed knowing that they will be teased about their clothes by other children. They have a meager meal or none at all, which leaves them hungry and lethargic as they head to school in a dilapidated building without enough books or supplies to go around. They fend for themselves after school while mom is at work. (Almost three out of four poor children live in working families.) These children fix their own dinner while mom heads to her second job, and then try to concentrate on homework. It is hard for these children to believe that they are a beloved child of God when the world treats them so carelessly.

Nine million children live without health insurance. They are left out of sports activities because parents can't take the risk of their child being injured without insurance. The pain of an untreated ear infection makes it hard to concentrate in school. A child's face is

▪ See SPIRITUALLY page 22

• PLACES OF WORSHIP ON THE PLATEAU •

Blue Valley Baptist Church

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11
Sunday night services every second and fourth
Sunday at 7 p.m.

Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.

Buck Creek Baptist Church

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

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
Sundays: Worship - 10 a.m.; school & primary
classes - 11 a.m.; Women's & Men's Org. - noon
Tues: Women's Org. - 6:30 p.m.; Library - 6-8 p.m.
Wednesdays: Boy Scouts of America mtg. - 6:30
p.m.; Young women's activities - 6:30 p.m.

Christ Anglican Church

743-3319

"A Bible-based liturgical church"
Services: Sundays at 4 p.m. at the
Community Bible Church in Highlands
Holy Communion at most services.

Christian Scientist Church

526-2830

Corner of Spring and Third Streets
Come hear the healing message of the Christ
Sunday morning at 11 a.m.

Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.

Study Room Open Tues. and Fri.: 2-4 p.m.

Clear Creek Baptist Church

Pastor Everett Wilson, (828) 743-3379
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Prayer - 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service - 7 p.m.

Community Bible Church

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Steven E. Kerhoulas, Pastor, 526-4685
3645 U.S. 64 east
Sundays: School - 9:30 a.m.; Worship - 10:45;
Youth "The Rock" meeting.

Tuesdays: Women's Bible Study - 9:45
Wed: Supper - 6 p.m.; Bible Study - 6:45 p.m.

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Interim Priest: Stephen Hines, 526-2968
Sundays: Choir - 9 a.m.; Bible Study & Book Study
classes - 9:15 a.m.; Holy Eucharist - 10:30 a.m.;
Children's Chapel - 10:30 a.m.
Women's Cursillo Group (Library) - 4
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall - 8
Thursdays: Holy Eucharist - 10 a.m.

The Sunday Service is telecast on cable channel 14

First Baptist Church

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sun.: Worship - 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.;
School - 9:30 a.m.; Youth - 6:30 p.m.; Choir -
7:15

Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6
p.m.; Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sun.: Worship - 11 a.m.; School - 9:30 & 9:45.
Wednesdays: Children's Devotions - 9:30 a.m.;

Supper - 6 p.m.; Choir - 7 p.m.

Thursdays: Bible Study - 10 a.m.

Sat: Adventistas del Septimo Dia - 10 a.m. & 5

Highlands Assembly of God

Rev. Scott Holland, 524-6026, Sixth Street
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

Highlands 7th-Day Adventist Church

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

Highlands United Methodist Church

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376
Sundays: School - 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship - 8:30
& 11 a.m.

Wednesdays: Supper - 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study &
activities - 6 p.m.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Family - ELCA

Rev. Pam Mitcham, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

Macedonia Baptist Church

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah
Pastor Rusty Wolfrey, (706) 782-8130
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Choir - 6 p.m.

Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. - 7 p.m.

Mountain Synagogue

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871
Friday: Sept. 12 Sabbath Eve Services at 7
For more information, call
(706)-745-1842.

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church

Rev. William M Evans, Priest
Parish office, 526-2418
Wednesdays & Fridays: Mass - 9 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 p.m.
Sundays: Mass - 11 a.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. Wayne Price
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

526-9769

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time)

Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

Westside Baptist Church

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon
Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby
Sundays: Fellowship & Worship - 11

Whiteside Presbyterian Church

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

● BOOK REVIEW WITH KATIE BRUGGER ●

...And to the republic for which it stands...

American Dynasty: Aristocracy, Fortune, and the Politics of Deceit in the House of Bush, by Kevin Phillips (Viking, NY: 2004) (973.928P)

How often do we consider what it is to be a republic? What it means to be self-governing? How rare republics have been in the human experience? Or how hard it is to keep a republic going? Benjamin Franklin, when asked what the members of the Constitutional Convention were envisioning, famously replied "a republic, if you can keep it."

A republic is synonymous with a democracy: "a form of government in which the supreme power is invested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system." (*Webster's New Universal Dictionary*)

People of Mr. Franklin's time were much more familiar with the other forms of government: monarchy and totalitarianism. Throughout history there have always been lots of people who are only interested in being left alone to live their own lives and a small group who are ambitious and greedy for money and power. So large groups of the first type band together and pay people of the second type to be their "king" so they can be left alone in peace. Because when they don't have a king, rival groups of the second type fight over the first type's money and possessions, often destroying and even killing them in the process. Kings are a version of the Mafia.

In monarchies, a particular family or clan rules in the midst of a larger aristocratic class that is powerful and wealthy. The family can change but the ruling class stays the same. In totalitarian states a strong charismatic leader builds a following that provides the basis for his rule. These don't usually live much longer than the original leader. Think of King George III and Genghis Khan. Queen Isabella and Hitler. What these two forms of government have in common is the few ruling the many. In a republic the citizens rule themselves. The government is literally of, by, and for the people.

In the United States in 2004 we have come to take our republic for

granted. We think self-governance is easy and obvious. We think other nations should take to it instantly, no matter their history. We think we should be able to remove Saddam and set up elections and by magic Iraq will transform into a vibrant democracy.

Could it be possible that instead of exporting democracy our own republic is in danger? Could we actually be losing it?

Lately I am hearing this question broached by many people. Some worry that the concentration of media into fewer and fewer hands is endangering our republic. See my review of *The Chain Gang* Feb. 27 and the recently released movie "Outfoxed."

Author Kevin Phillips is greatly alarmed at the health of our republic for other reasons. He fears for its future, and his most recent books read like impassioned pleas to convince his fellow citizens to see the danger too.

In *American Dynasty* Mr. Phillips tells us that John Adams [our second President, 1797-1801], while serving as the U.S. minister to Britain from 1783 to 1787, wrote a history of republics which explored the mechanisms of their government as well as the forces that eventually destroyed them. "Prominent [destructive] factors were the rise of hereditary offices, aristocracies, and rulers. Luxury, great wealth, and corruption were other dangers, along with imperial ambitions and wars." These forces are exactly Phillips' reasons for alarm and the theme of his books.

American Dynasty naturally follows his last book, *Wealth and Democracy* [reviewed October 3, 2003]. Mr. Phillips' focus in *Wealth and Democracy* is the accumulation of wealth into a few hands. In *American Dynasty*, he adds the "dynastization" of American politics. The father and son Bush presidents are only the most obvious example of this trend. Some worry (myself included) that we are in for a duel between the Bush and

Clinton clans that could go on for years (anyone for Jenna vs Chelsea?). Other examples: the Kennedy family, and Lincoln Chafee who assumed his father's senate seat. Our obvious love for celebrities means we are destined for celebrity politics.

The book opens with a quote from President Eisenhower's famous Farewell Address of January 17, 1961, in which he warned of the consequences of a military-industrial complex. Here is the third element in John Adams' list of republic-destroying forces: the military-industrial complex inevitably leads to imperial ambitions and wars because wars are extremely profitable. Many great fortunes were built by providing the means of war—John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie in the Civil War, and Charles Schwab and Pierre du Pont in WWI. The Bush and Walker families (remember, W. stands for Walker) were and are as heavily involved in arms dealing as they are in oil.

Mr. Phillips believes that President Bush's family encapsulates all of these dangers. "If there are other families who have more fully epitomized and risen alongside the hundred-year emergence of the U. S. military-industrial complex, the post-1945 national security state, and the twentieth-century imperium, no one has identified them. Certainly no other has established a presidential dynasty."

The word "dynasty" seems a little extreme for the history of the Bushes so far—it grated on my ears for much of the book—but Mr. Phillips is using the Bushes to warn of a larger trend.

An ominous sign concerns the favorite writer of both Karl Rove, George W. Bush's political advisor, and Lee Atwater, Bush Sr.'s political advisor: Niccolo Machiavelli. Machiavelli was a political writer (1469-1527) who is best known for *The Prince*, a manual of techniques for autocratic rule. The book advises a ruler to lie, dissemble, and disguise his/her character and to use fraud and hypocrisy to achieve his/her ends.

"Machiavellian" has entered our vocabulary as a word that means deceitful, sneaking, underhanded, scheming. Mr. Phillips warns us that *The Prince* was a favorite of Stalin and Hitler too.

Phillips' books are extremely dense with information so they can be difficult to read but I believe he has very important things to say. This book was a slow starter, so if you feel bogged down, keep going because it builds until you don't want to put it down. It delivers one shocker after another. Some of the best ones:

- Ronald Reagan almost certainly negotiated with the Iranians to prevent the release of the hostages before the 1980 election, guaranteeing that Reagan would defeat Carter. Read the details in here and weep for your republic.

- President Bush Senior's 1992 "humanitarian" mission in Somalia was about oil! "According to a detailed analysis by the *Los Angeles Times*, even the mid-November 1992 intervention in Somalia was motivated less by local starvation than by restoring the promising oil exploration rights granted to four U.S. firms."

- We are now suffering from U.S. foreign policy "blowback" (the following examples will not be a surprise to anyone who read my last review.) For example, "the seemingly successful insurgency that chased the Soviets from Afghanistan ultimately produced the Taliban and Al Qaeda...the controversial US military presence in Islam's Saudi Arabian holy lands helped breed Osama bin Laden and the men who attacked the World Trade Center...In Iran, the CIA coup that stymied the Iranian political upheaval of 1953 and restored the shah may have strangled an early opportunity for some regional democratic evolution and eventually led to the ayatollahs..."

- Not only did the U.S. arm Saddam right up to the start of the first Gulf War, we gave him reason to



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... SPIRITUALLY continued from pg 20

marred by the scar from a gash that wasn't stitched when it needed it. "You are made in God's image, but it's hard to believe it when you can't count on health care," writes Edelman.*

I read these words and I wonder where do these children, these families, find hope. And yet for some, I'm sure the only hope they have comes from their faith in God. I continue to reflect on the role of the church to meet the needs of the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and those in prison (see Matthew chapter 25) – especially when those in need are children.

In Highlands, we may not have as drastic situations as described here, or we may and many of us not know it. When the youth of our church went on a ski

trip not long ago, we took a couple of students who didn't have health insurance. It was the first time I'd had that experience. It was a big risk for their families knowing that snow skiing is a dangerous sport. There are bigger problems in our community than we sometimes are willing to admit.

As people of faith, we are called by God to look after the children - not just the ones to whom we gave birth, or to whom our children gave birth, but all of the children God has placed in our midst.

I struggle to figure out the ways to bring about justice and care to all God's children, but I know that it is the responsibility of the church and of faithful Christians. And, I know that we can't limit our concern to the children that enter our church doors. We have to seek and knock and ask until we discover a way to make a difference. We are not called only to feed a meal or put a bandage on the problem (have mercy), we are called to make the problem go away (do justice). Look up Micah 6:8. We are not called to make a difference for a day, but for a lifetime.

I hope you will join me in prayer for the children. Let us pray that we can enable children to, "Say That I'm a Child of God: Assuring Justice and Care to Leave No Child Behind," as the theme for Children's Sabbath calls out to us. Let us remember that human nature is often that people can't accept or understand God until they can see God through us – loving and caring for their most basic needs. Let us remember that Jesus loves all the little children and because of that, so should we.

*Resource: Say That I'm a Child of God: *Assuring Justice and Care to Leave No Child Behind*; National Observance of Children's Sabbaths Manual, Vol. 13, Children's Defense Fund; by Shannon Daley-Harris

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• ARMCHAIR TRAVELER •

Romantic ambiance of Venice is hard to resist

By Phyllis Pickelsimer
Contributor

Venice is a fragile gem of a city in a setting of brooding waters. Buffeted by winds and these same waters for centuries, it manages to rise above its problems to intrigue and fascinate any visitor. It has continued to beckon me through the years and is one of my favorite cities in the world.

For any romantic, its narrow streets, multi-colored houses and palazzos, picturesque bridges, and mysterious canals produce an ambiance that is hard to equal elsewhere. The twisting streets snake through the city; here and there they open into secret piazzas often with an ancient well or sidewalk café. The canals flow between the ancient buildings often so close there is only room for two gondolas to pass.

A visit to Venice begins with a ride down the two and a half mile Grand Canal by vaporetto or gondola passing rows of palazzos stuccoed in cream, yellow, pink, ochre, terracotta, and many shadings in between. Their façades are enriched with loggias, bay windows, grilles, balconies, friezes, columns, pediments and any other imaginable architectural device to create what is the most enchanting "street" in the world.

Any visit must include an exploration of St. Mark's Square and its surrounding edifices. Walk about the square as you scatter the hundreds of pigeons into flight. This piazza has been the heart of Venice for hundreds of years. Napoleon called it "the drawing room of Europe."

At the end of the square rests the Basilica of St. Mark, next to it is the Doge's Palace, and the Campanile or bell tower. On the other three sides, are two- and three-storied buildings with deep arcades behind which stores and cafes are located.

To get an overview of the square and city climb the 315 feet high Campanile that was built in the 8th century. Its bells still toll out the hours today.

Visits to the basilica and Doge's Palace are musts. Building commenced on the basilica in 832 as a resting place for the remains of St. Mark. The last building was begun in 1063 and resulted in the Byzantine marvel seen

today. Its façade is composed of five arches each with its half-dome embellished with golden mosaics showing stories from the Bible. The Last Judgment is over the main entrance. The face of the basilica is adorned with marble pilasters, columns, bas-reliefs, and decorative capitals. The upper reaches are again arched with mosaics. There are dainty towers and spires that from a distance appear as if liquid stone is dripping down them to congeal into lacey patterns. On the second level above the entrance, stand copies of four metal, larger than life size, horses believed to be from the Hippodrome in Constantinople. Crowning this great oriental pile are five domes capped with Byzantine crosses.

On entering, one is struck by the richness and glow of the 10,764 square feet of golden mosaics that give one the feeling you have arrived

with the sunrise. At the time it was built many people could not read so the mosaics depict the stories of the Bible in a way they could understand. The five domes also contain glittering mosaics of gold. There are multi-colored marble mosaic floors, columns with decorated capitals and walls with inlaid marble designs. At the high altar above the tomb of St. Mark, the 14th century Pala d'Oro altarpiece glows. It is eleven feet and four inches long by four feet and nine inches high. Made entirely of gold, it contains more than 3000 precious stones and enameled icons donated by past citizens to the glory of God and themselves.

Next to the basilica is the Doge's Palace with its pink Gothic façade and delicate first floor arcades and second floor loggias. Again, there are pilasters and spires that give the appearance that it is overlaid with lace.

The Doge, the ruler of Venice, was elected for life by the Grand Council. His palace was more than his home. It also contained courtrooms, the Senate and Grand Council Chamber, and other rooms of governance. The artwork within the Palace is by some of Venice's 16th century masters: Tintoretto, Veronese, and Titian among others. The long history and military expertise of Venice is hung on its walls and painted on its ceilings.

Upon exiting the Palace, turn left toward the Grand Canal. There stand the pillars of Egyptian granite that are considered the gateway to Venice. St. Theodore with his foot on the neck of a dragon stands upon one of the pillars while the winged lion symbolic of Venice tops the other.

Continue walking along the side of the palazzo until you come to a bridge over a narrow canal. To the left, spanning the distance between the Doge's Palace and its ancient prison is the Baroque-design Bridge of Sighs. It is said that it received its name as prisoners, when taken from the courtrooms, sighed as they saw their last sunlight before being taken to their prison cells to begin their sentences.

One of my favorite sites in Venice is the Scuola di San Rocco built about 1489 in Renaissance style. Today it is its interior for which it is most famous. It contains 50 works by Tintoretto executed between 1564 and 1587 with magnificent scenes from the Old and New Testament, the life of the Virgin, the prophets, and, on the ceiling of the upper gallery, his painting of *San Rocco in Glory*. The overall effect is breathtaking.

Venice is full of beautiful churches, museums with their masterpieces of art and sculpture, beguiling bridges, even wandering through its charming streets is a delight. Once you have walked these enchanting byways, listened to its lapping waters, marveled in its museums and churches, fed the pigeons in St. Mark's Square, and sat in its small cafes in quiet contemplation of all you have experienced, you know its siren call will lure you to return. Venice is a sorceress, but her spell is one you'll never want to exorcise.

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• **POLICE & FIRE REPORT** •



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The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of Aug. 25-31. The only names are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

Aug. 25

- At 6:35 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 53 mph in a 35 mph at U.S. 64 and Webbmont.
- At 6:55 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 53 mph in a 35 zone at U.S. 64 and Webbmont.
- At 7:25 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 60 mph in a 35 zone at U.S. 64 and Webbmont.
- At 6:50 p.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 and Laurel Street was cited for driving without a muffler.
- At 11:50 p.m., Andres Diaz Gomez, 27, of Cashiers, was cited for driving with a license or registration, driving with an impaired substance and arrested for DWI. He was held on a \$500 secured bond.

Aug. 26

- At 9:45 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving without a license at Main and Second streets.
- At 10:40 p.m., a motorist at Cobb and U.S. 64 west was cited for speeding 54 mph in a 35 zone.
- At 5:45 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Split Rail Row. All was secure.

Aug. 27

- At 10:15 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving without a license at N.C. 106 and U.S. 64.

Aug. 28

- At 10:55 a.m., a state tag was reported stolen from a vehicle
- At 12:07 p.m., Santoz Paul Bruzon, 31, of Decatur, Ga., was arrested for possession of a stolen firearm, carrying a concealed weapon, resisting arrest and possession of stolen property.

- At 11 p.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and U.S. 64 was cited for driving without a license.
- At 11:40 p.m., damage was reported to fencing at ...on the Verandah.

- At 1:26 a.m., a motorist on Poplar Street was issued a warning citation for driving without tail lights.

Aug. 29

- A little past midnight officers responded to a disturbance at Hampton Inn. Guests were told to quiet down.

- At 9:35 a.m. officers responded to an accident at Oak and Second streets. There were no injuries.

Aug. 30

- At 6:30 a.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and Cobb was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

- At 6 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Ravenel Ridge Road. All was secure.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue log entries for the week of Aug. 28-31:

• See POLICE & FIRE page 28

• **SHOPS AT VILLAGE SQUARE** •

Needlepoint of Highlands' owner Barbara Cusachs thinks needlepoint is pretty wonderful. She bought the shop in June of 1993 and has enlarged the selections of hand-painted canvases and fibers every year since.

The shop originated in Cashiers in the early 70s. Many of the customers have followed the shop's many moves. Each piece of canvas is not only the creation of a talented artist, but takes on the artistic creation of the stitcher. It takes at least an hour to make fiber and color choices. Then it takes many hours to stitch.

Besides the large selection of hand-painted canvases the shop is known for, there are some pre-stitched canvases, cross-stitched kits and crewel kits.

Needlepoint can be used for pillows, chair seats, rugs, belts, ornaments, Christmas stockings, luggage rack straps, leather purse inserts, pictures, etc.

The shop is open year round, Monday through Saturday. Call ahead in the winter for exact hours.

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Village Square at 5th & Oak

● UPCOMING EVENTS ●

On-Going

- At ...on the Verandah on Lake Sequoyah, piano bar entertainment from 7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. and Paul Scott on Wed. During Sunday Brunch, Chad Reed plays the piano from noon to 2 p.m.

- Highlands School students are now selling Sally Foster giftwrap and related accessories, candles, cards, stationery, picture frames, ornaments, kid's gifts, and premium Harry London chocolates. Sale runs through September 7th. Highlands School will receive 50% of the proceeds of every purchase made. Online purchases may be made at www.SallyFoster.com (enter Highlands School account number 605265).

- New Pool Schedule: – weekends only Sat & Sun 1-5 p.m. Lap Swim daily until Labor Day, Sept. 6.

- Heart Healthy Exercise Group Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8-9 a.m. at the Civic Center. Each session is divided into two parts – a brief warmup for 30 minutes of walking and cooldown exercises and mat exercise for 25 minutes. Cost is \$15 per month. Call Nancy Freese at 743-0135 or sign up at the Civic Center.

- At Cafe of the Arts, the music of Regis at the piano until 9 p.m. nightly.

- The Mountain View group of Alcoholics Anonymous now meets in the remodeled basement room of the Presbyterian Church sanctuary, in Highlands. Meeting times are Mondays at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wednesdays and Fridays at noon. Call 524-7395.

- At Highlands Wine and Cheese – Wine Flights Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: 4:30 until 6:30. Thursday and Friday: Wines of the World Saturday: Special Guest Steve Pignatiello and Burgundies. Wines by the Glass and Cheese Plates available Wednesday through Sunday: 1:30 until 4:30. Complimentary Tastings Saturday and Sunday: 1 until 4:30.

- At Wolfgang's on Main – Get Uncorked **THURS-SUN**. 4-6:30 p.m.: Wine and Appetizer Pairings, Flights of Wine, Wine by the glass or bottle/Appetizers; **SUNDAYS**: Dinner and Jazz 6:30-9:30 p.m. Call 526-3807 for reservations. **MONDAYS**: Fine Art, Fine Wine and Fine Dining, 6 pm – Passed Appetizers. 6:30 pm – Dinner. Reservations needed. Call 526-3807.

- Zorki playing acoustical guitar at Paoletti's Late Night at 10:30 p.m.

Through Sept. 5

- The 7th annual Cashiers Designer Showhouse features a small private enclave overlooking wildflower meadows, long mountain views and beautiful Lake Glenville. Open 10 – 4 daily and noon –

4 on Sundays. For tickets call 743-7710.

Sept. 3 – Sept. 25

- Interact / React Featuring artwork by artist Diane McPhail and reaction art by local artists, writers, poets & dancers..

Sept. 3 & 4

- Atlanta's Blue Notes Band for your listening and dancing pleasure at the Highlands Playhouse. 17 pieces, 2 vocalists. Tickets \$20 per person. For tickets, call 526-2695 or visit the box office on Oak Street.

Sept. 3

- The Mill Creek Gallery will host an exhibit of landscape paintings by Susan Jaeger-Cornell, from 6 to 8 p.m. The gallery is in Village Square behind Wolfgang's Restaurant.

Sept. 4

- Audubon bird walk at the Highlands Biological Station and Sunset Rock for early fall migrants. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Town Hall parking lot. For information call Brock Hutchins (787-1387) or Edwin Poole (526-2775).

Sept 5

- Bel Canto at PAC. Call 526-5252 for ticket information.

Sept 7

- The Literacy Council of Highlands is offering a free information session, Tuesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

- Movie "October Sky" at PAC. 7:30 p.m. Contributions benefit the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

Sept. 10

- Highlands 2004 Model A Hill Climb at Monkey Hill. Classes for all Model A Fords – bone stock, modified and speedsters. Race begins at 1 p.m.

Sept 10-11

- Nature as Inspiration Workshop at Bascom-Louise Gallery A stylistic analysis of several visual artists whose paintings range from very realistic to abstract renderings of nature Field Study for gathering information, sketches, material, etc. Exercises in planning and execution of painting. Sept. 9, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.; Sept. 10 & 11, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cost: \$150

Sept. 10-12

- Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants – The Highlands Biological Station presents the Fifth Annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants at the PAC, 607 Chestnut Street. Enjoy field trips, garden tours, and speaker presentations Friday through Sunday. Registration required, \$100 fee. For more information call 828/526-2602.

Sept 14

- A series of presentations addressing elder care issues: Financial & Legal issues – wills, legal, estate planning; DSS, medicare, medicaid, SNFs; Burial planning from 3-5 p.m. at Tartan Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Franklin.

Sept 15

- American Red Cross Adult CPR with AED and Infant/Child CPR course, 8:30 to 4:30 at the Macon County Public Health Center on Lakeside Drive in Franklin. Participants must pre-register and pre-pay before Sept. 13. Call Jennifer at 349-2439.

Sept. 16

- Eugene Shuler, professional guide and owner of Smoky Mountain Fly Fishing will be the guest speaker at the Plateau Fly Fishing Club on Thursday. The

meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Albert-Carlton-Cashiers Library. A raffle featuring an Orvis 4 wt. rod and reel will follow the speaker. Everyone is welcome. Call 828-743-2078 for information.

Sept. 15-19

- Macon County Fair with the theme "Rural America – Important for your economy," at the Macon County fairgrounds in Franklin.

Sept 18

- BBQ, hamburger & hotdog dinner, bake sale, auction and entertainment at the Conference Center at 5 p.m. All proceeds to benefit the Yogi McCall Family who is having medical problems.

- This year, the PTO 5K Run will be held in conjunction with the annual Highlands Art Walk Saturday. The race, starts at 8:30 a.m. near the gazebo on Pine Street. The entry fee is \$15 if received by Sept. 14; the fee increases to \$20 after the Sept. 14. For more info, contact Rick Rawlins at 526-0454.

- Children's ArtWalk at the Nature Center 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Activities include arts & crafts, face painting, birdhouse painting, and magnet painting and there will be baked goods, lemonade, popcorn, & hot dogs.

Sept 21

- ...on the Verandah will feature the wines of the Domaine Serene Winery and piano entertainment by Chad Reed at 6:30 p.m. For reservations and information please call 828 526 2338 or email otv1@ontheverandah.com

- Movie "Songcatcher" at PAC at 7:30 p.m. All contributions benefit the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

- A series of presentations addressing elder care issues: Protection & Support Issues – Elder abuse; Scams; ID theft; Caregiver; POA; Hospice; Bereavement from 3-5 p.m. at Tartan Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Franklin.

Sept. 23-26

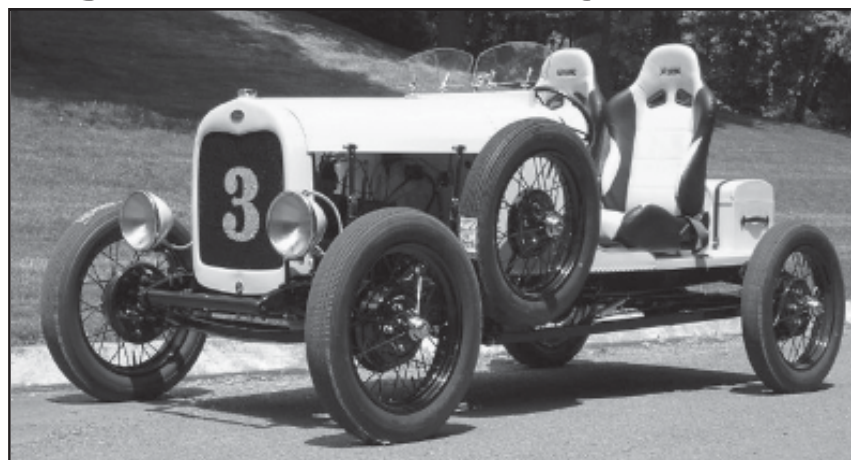
- Highlands Civic Center closed for cleaning.

Sept. 25

- The Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center and the US Forest Service will be sponsoring the semi-annual Cullasaja Gorge Road Clean-Up on Saturday. All individuals and groups are asked to meet at the Cliffside Lake front parking area at 9:30 a.m. Most groups finish in about 1 1/2 to 2 hours. For more information, please call the Highlands Visitor Center at 526-2112.

- Highlands School Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament at Highlands Falls Country Club. To sign up to play call Allen Chandler at 526-2189.

Highlands 2004 Monkey Hill Climb



This speedster, built by Ken Miller, is an example of the vehicles which will race Monkey Hill on Sept. 10. The race is for Model A Fords, bone stock, modified and speedsters. Monkey Hill is 1/10 mile long with a 12-15 percent grade. Trial practice begins at 9 a.m. but end at noon. Official run begins at 1 p.m. All cars will make two runs and the best time will count.

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Landscape artist at Mill Creek Gallery



The work of Susan Jaeger-Cornell will be on exhibit at the Mill Creek Gallery through the month of September, with an opening on Friday Sept. 3 from 6 -8 p.m.

Susan, who lives in Franklin, is known for her sensitive, intimate portraits of the earth painted in oils and pastels. Hers is a type of creative art that can be accomplished only by spending time with her subject matter—Mother Nature. Susan shares her gifts through teaching classes as well as through her painting.

Susan's work will be on exhibit through the end of September. The public is invited to attend the Friday opening which will feature wine and hors d'oeuvres.

The Mill Creek Gallery only carries works by local artisans and is located on Oak Street in Highlands Village Square behind Wolfgang's. Hours are noon to 5 Monday through Saturday. 787-2021 for more info.

Painting by Susan Jaeger-Cornell

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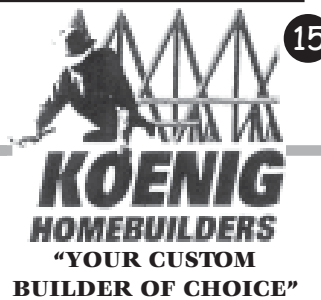
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Sales team in place at Chestnut Hill

Banyan Senior Living, a quality provider of senior adult housing and management services, has hired Dan Keller and Renee Winch to complete its sales team for Chestnut Hill of Highlands, a premier residential retirement community in Highlands,

A native of Charleston, W.Va, Keller has been involved in resort property sales from Vermont to Florida for more than 26 years. For the past 14 years, has resided with his family in Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Winch comes from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where she served as assistant to the director of Graduate Placement at BYU's Marriott School of Management. She and her husband recently moved to Dillard, Ga., from Fernandina Beach, Cal., via the San Diego area.

"Both are very excited about the opportunity to get to know the residents at Chestnut Hill and to be a part of the community's renewal and re-growth." said Mac MacDonald, sales and marketing director of Chestnut Hill of Highlands. For more information, call 888-473-5093.

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Plus, The Suites, our new state-of-the-art, 26-bed assisted living center, is scheduled to open Spring 2005. This complex—coupled with the availability of quality healthcare at our neighboring hospital—provides added peace of mind for residents and their families.

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... POLICE & FIRE from page 24

Aug. 28

- The dept. was first responders
to assist EMS with a medical call at
a residence on Azalea Lane. The
victim was transported to the hospi-
tal.

- The dept. responded to an ac-
cident between two vehicles on U.S.
64 west by Bust Your Butt Falls . Two
victims were transported to the hos-
pital.

- The dept. responded to a mo-
torcycle accident on N.C. 28 south.
The victim was airlifted to an
Asheville hospital.

Aug. 29

- The dept. responded to a one
vehicle accident on N.C. 28. There
were no injuries.

- The dept. was first-responders
to assist EMS with a medical call at
a residence on Whetstone Drive.
There was no transport.

Aug. 30

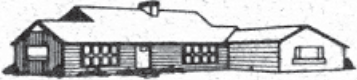
- The dept. was first-responders
to assist EMS with a medical call at
a residence on Wildwood Drive. The
victim was transported to the hospi-
tal.

Aug. 31

- The dept. responded to a struc-
ture fire on Stoney Creek Road. The
home was completely destroyed. No
one was in it at the time.

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... BOOK REVIEW continued from pg 21

believe we would wink at his invasion of Kuwait in 1990. Phillips documents the extremely ambivalent behavior on the part of the U.S. (that is, Bush Sr. administration) towards Iraq's territorial claims to Kuwaiti land. These charges are more fully addressed in *With Friends Like These: Reagan, Bush, and Saddam, 1982-1990*, by Bruce Jentleson. Both Mr. Jentleson and Mr. Phillips state that on July 25, 1990 the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, April Glaspie, told Saddam Hussein, "We have no opinion on the Arab-Arab conflicts, like your border disagreements with Kuwait." Eight days later, Iraq invaded Kuwait.

• Today's mythology holds that World War II was the good war; that it was always crystal clear who was evil and who was good. But the truth isn't so simple. Before and during the early years of American involvement there were many businessmen (and military) who believed that the US had aligned with the wrong side. These people contemptuously called it Mr. Roosevelt's war. Many of these same people had spent the 1930's investing in German industry and selling armaments to

Hitler. Two of these people were George W. Bush's grandfather and great-grandfather.

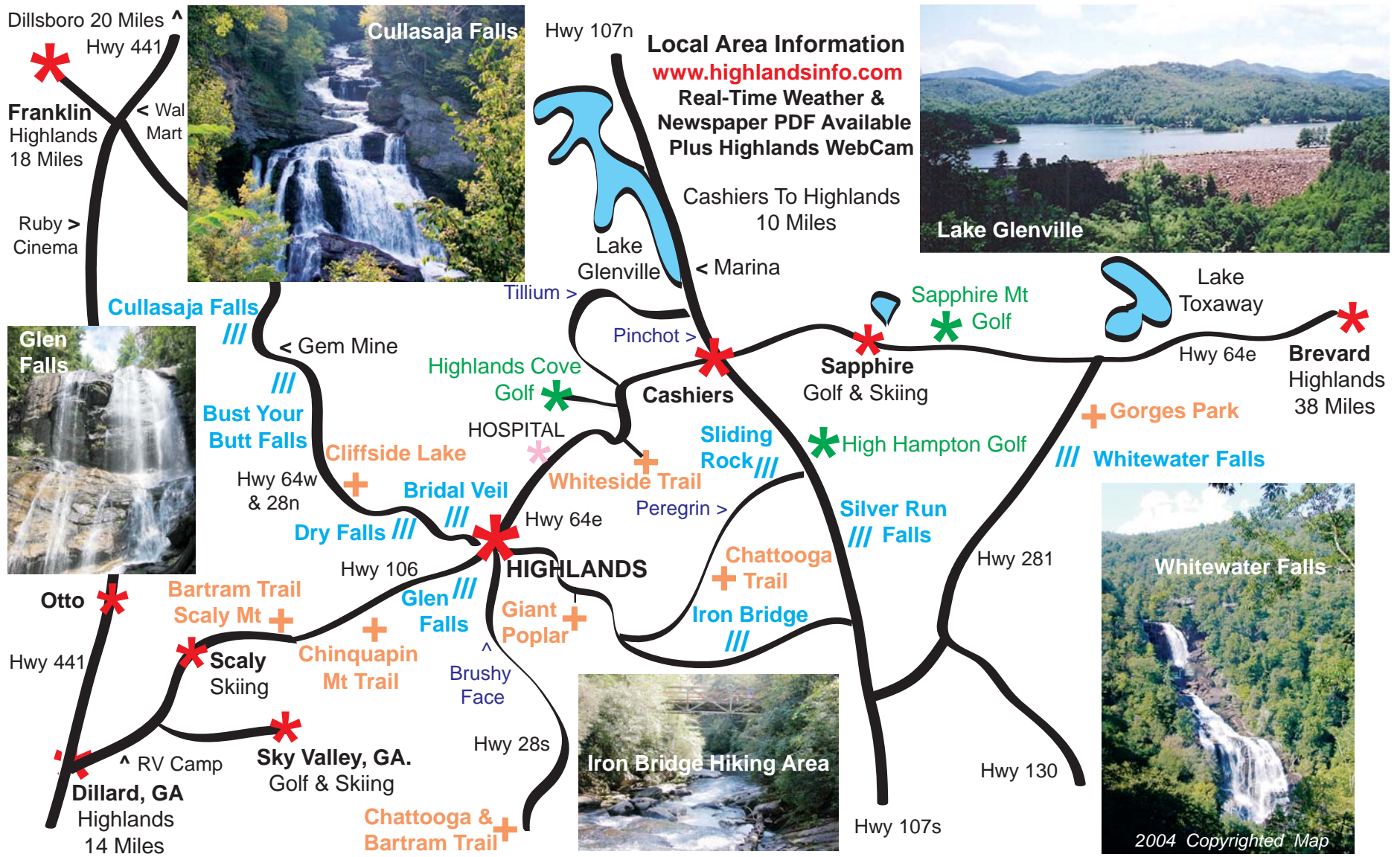
American Dynasty gave me the idea for a new bumper sticker: "Anyone but a Texan." Mr. Phillips asserts: "From the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution in 1964 to the 2003 [Iraq] attack, all three of the nation's major overseas combats—the first in Indochina, the second and third with Iraq—were begun or critically escalated by chief executives from the Lone Star State." In the last year Iraq has shown "signs of becoming the third less-than-successful Texas-launched U.S. war—one more confrontation fought with rhetorical six-guns, political deceit, and frontier determination to 'nail that coonskin to the wall' [Lyndon Johnson], 'kick ass' [George H. W. Bush], or 'smoke 'em out' [George W.], but failing in terms of larger conceptualization and strategic planning."

One tidbit I can't end without mentioning: George W. called foreign ministers on behalf of business pals, like Ken Lay of Enron, while his dad was in the White House. "Just weeks after the 1988

election, it was George W. Bush who called Rodolfo Terragno, Argentina's minister of public works, the official overseeing the bidding for a major gas pipeline...Terragno later recalled to reporter Lou Dubose [that] Bush reportedly said awarding the pipeline deal to Enron 'would be very favorable for Argentina and its relations with the United States.'" When George W. was first running for president in 2000 and lots of people were concerned about his lack of foreign policy experience, why didn't anyone mention these phone calls?

I think the greatest danger to our republic is that most people seem totally oblivious to the fact that our system of government is a republic: that each one of us *is*, in a fundamental sense, the government. That's what it means to be self-governing. But people hate the government or think it has no relevance to their lives. Many people think it is so unimportant they don't even vote.

Nature abhors a vacuum, and if we won't govern ourselves there are people who are eager to step in and do it for us, for their benefit and at our expense.



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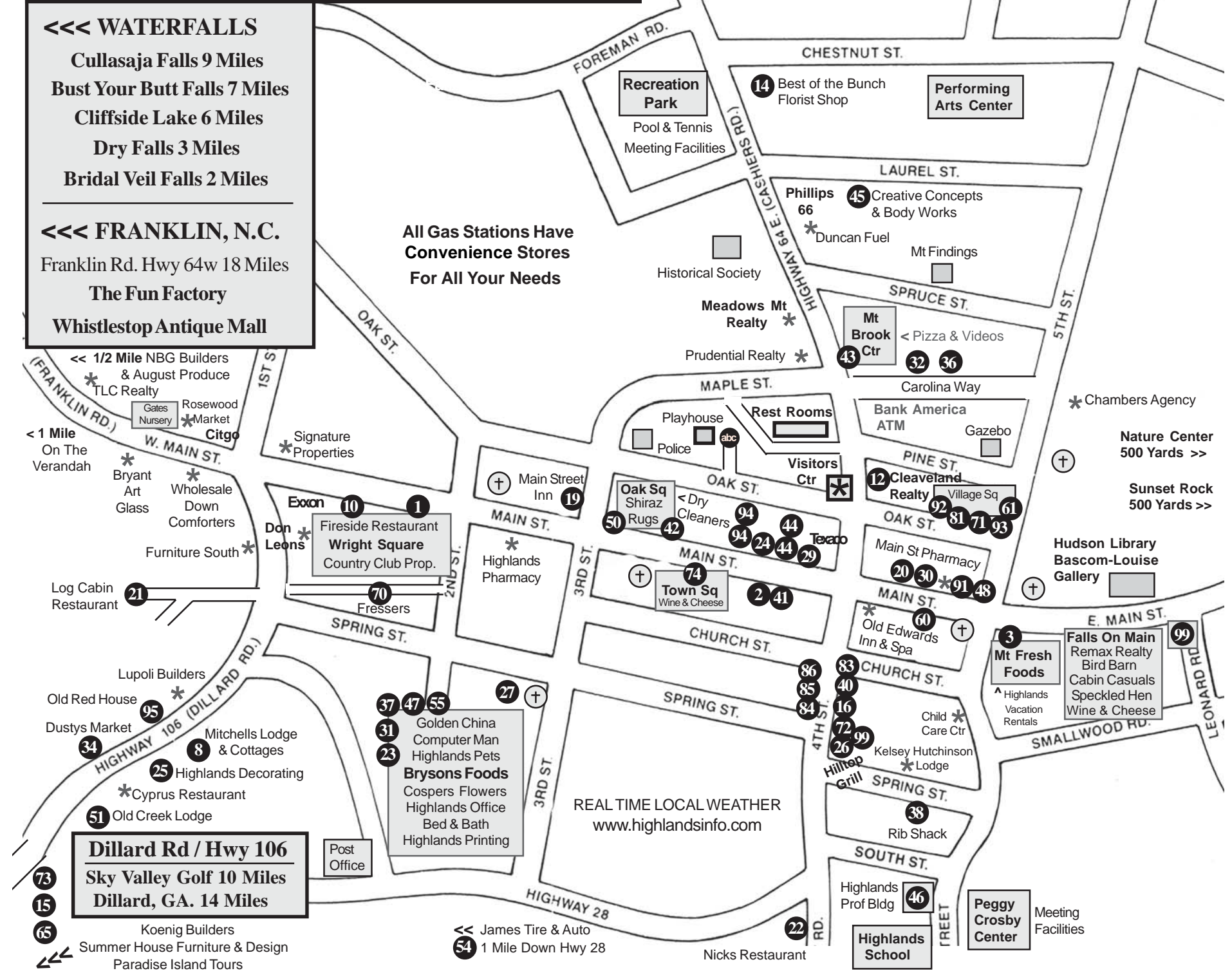
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LODGE WITH 3 LIVING ROOMS – 10 bedrooms, 7 baths, 3 kitchens, office massive stacked stone fireplaces with Sassafras mantles, tile & wood floors, sold Maple doors, textured plastered walls, custom trim, built-in bookcases, porches & decks, Pella & Windsor windows, awesome views of Blue Ridge Mountains. Offered at **\$1,650,000.**



GREAT VIEWS – two story great room with wood paneling and a wall of glass on the back of the house to enjoy the pleasant view. Gentle, almost flat yard. Two car garage with guest apartment above. Offered fully furnished at **\$1,200,000.**