

FREE

Highlands' Newspaper

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Volume 3, Number 8

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Feb. 25, 2005

On-going

• At Highlands Wine & Cheese at the Falls on Main, free wine flights Friday & Saturday from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

• "Evenings of Entertainment" 8 p.m. Friday nights at Instant Theatre Company in Oak Square on Main Street. Tickets are \$15 at the door. No entry after show begins. Call 342-9197.

• The Instant Theatre Company's presents free Improvisation classes for adults Wednesday evenings February through May, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the ITC's Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square. Auditions for musicians and singers are held 7:30 - 8 p.m. also on Wednesdays. Call 526-1687.

• Pilates classes are Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. at the Rec Park. The cost is \$8 per class. Participants need to bring a mat if possible.

• At the Bascom-Louise Gallery - Open Studio with a Live Model 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the gallery. This class is for artists 18 yrs. and older or under 18 with written parent permission.

Feb. 25

• Senior Citizens Lunch at the Civic Center at noon. For those 50 years old and up! Donations accepted.

Feb. 26

• Old Edwards Inn & Spa Job Fair -- Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center. Looking for front desk, valet, all spa service and support positions, housekeeping, culinary, retail, restaurant, graphic design and systems management.

• Coffee Tasting & Discussion at Buck's Coffee Cafe, 3-4:30 p.m. Sample various coffees while experts from Cafe Campesino discuss fair trade practices and the art of coffee roasting.

Feb. 28

• The Literacy Council is sponsoring a creative writing class Monday nights, from 5 to 7:30, It's free and for 6th-12th grades. Call 526-9938 ext 240.

March 3-6

• HCP presents "Steppin' Out" at PAC. Call 526-8084 for tickets.

Town asks county to help fund WWTP

By Kim Lewicki

A couple times a year, Macon County Board of Commissioners and the Highlands Town Board get together for dinner and some light conversation.

"Light" conversation typically masquerades for "things Highlands would like from the county." This time, talk revolved around the county's

continued financial support of Highlands infrastructure.

At the Feb. 21 meeting, held at the Prime Steak House in Franklin, MC Commission Chair Allan Bryson asked for input from everyone. "Say whatever is on your mind," he said.

Talk went around the table from commissioner to board member. From Highlands the message was the same, "Help us fund the wastewater treatment

plant expansion that came in about \$1 million over budget," said Mayor Buck Trott.

Though the town is willing to pursue a bridge loan of about \$800,000 to cover the wastewater treatment plant expansion from .5 mgd to 1.5 mgd, it would prefer not to. Nor does the town want to raise taxes, said Trott. But it's important that the town extend its

▪See FUNDING page 9

Mirror Lake bridge closing for repairs

By Nancy Welch
Contributor

Residents in the Mirror Lake area will have farther to travel when the N.C. DOT closes five miles of Mirror Lake Road March 7 through April 4, maybe sooner, said officials, it all depends on the weather.

Jerry Shuler of the Macon County Bridge Maintenance Unit told the Town of Highlands last Friday the road will be closed to replace the beams on the bridge

▪See BRIDGE page 17

Money comes in for Rec Park

By Erin Brown
Staff Writer

Back in Aug. 4, a letter to the Town of Highlands from Macon County Manager Sam Greenwood promised \$200,000 for the Highlands Recreation Department.

At the Feb. 21 joint meeting between the town and county commissioners, \$150,000 came in the form a check.

"We didn't expect it to come Monday night, but we were glad to get it," said Town Administrator Richard Betz. "I'm not sure under what conditions we might get the other \$50,000."

▪See REC PARK page 8



Photo by Jim Lewicki

HIGHLANDERS PLAY LAST GAME OF 2005 IN NEW GYM - Seniors Matthew Keener, Jeremy Keener, Kelsey Schmitt, Andrew Kerhoulas, Brooke Fowler, Allen Shearl, Iyali Ruiz and Matt Rice readied for the first game in the new gym Wednesday night against Cherokee. By 6:30 p.m., the 1,000-seat gym was filled to capacity. The game was a heartbreak for Highlands but the most thrilling game of the season. The Highlanders fought hard during the hotly contested match - holding the lead through most of the game - but lost to Cherokee 70 to 74.

Seniors get their day in new gym

By Erin Brown
Staff Writer

The sound of bouncing basketballs and the roar of a huge home and away crowd were heard Wednesday night as the Highlanders took the floor of their new gymnasium.

With the opening date for the new gym postponed several times, the team was unsure if they were going to be able to play in the new facility

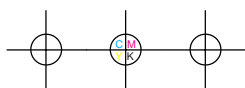
this season, but the wait is finally over.

"We've been waiting on pins and needles hoping everything falls into place," said Head Coach Butch Smart.

Since the gym isn't "connected" to the outside world yet, members of Highlands Fire & Rescue and Highlands Police were on hand to ensure safety in case of an emergency.

Smart wasn't surprised to see a

▪See NEW GYM page 6



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● LETTER TO THE EDITOR ●

Caregivers at 'Living Center' exemplary

Dear Editor,

As a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Fedelia Eckerd Center Hospice Volunteer for over two years, I would like to recognize a group of people who rarely get the public recognition and thanks that I believe they wholeheartedly deserve....I am talking about the nurses who work both in the hospital and in the Eckerd Center and the hospital/hospice Chaplain.

All hours of every day, these people serve and tend to all the sick, the suffering, the wounded and the dying, young and old, that we love and care for. I have witnessed this over and over again, night and day, watching them 'minister' with compassion, with kindness and tenderness, along with great skill and responsibility. I have seen them interacting with patients, going beyond their basic medical duties, to offer hope, encouragement and support not only to patients, but also to their families and friends. I salute and thank them.

Helen Moore
Highlands

Is the pawn shop good news?

Dear Editor,

People would rather make a buck than operate a business that helps preserve the delightful ambience of Highlands. The law may say "The making of pawn loans and requisition of tangible property by and through pawn shops vitally affects the general economy of this state and the public interest and welfare of its citizens," but the effect I fear is not a good one!

When poor people pawn something they value it will be very difficult to get it back. With the interest charge and the cost of the paperwork they will have to pay a large percentage on their loan every 30 days the item is in hock. Thankfully, the owners of the pawn shop have opted not to handle guns.

We have the Highlands Emergency Council, the Friendship Center and Fibber Magee's where cheap clothes may be purchased. People need to use these agencies rather than hock cherished items or items that may be necessary for their survival. Pawn shops are a sleazy business and have no place in Highlands.

Edna Foster
Highlands

Loss of Robert Wyatt

Dear Editor,

I am appalled that the withholding of financing for the programs of the Highlands Biological Station and the Highlands Nature Center has caused the resignation of Dr. Robert Wyatt. The programs he has put in place by raising grant money to support them have been truly outstanding.

The Nature Center program, under the direction of Patrick Brannon offering classes for young people; the three-day native plant conference in the fall drawing on naturalists from many states who are happy to lecture here due to Robert and the enthusiasm of the garden clubs; the Land Stewards organization developed by the garden clubs with Robert's assistance; the Carolina Environmental Program done in connection with UNC-Chapel Hill where college students majoring in environmental sciences get on-the-job training in Highlands.

At a time when our environment is being plundered, how could UNC President Dr. Molly Broad possibly feel the goal of preserving the earth is less worthy of funding than a host of technical programs she has chosen to underwrite?

Dr. Wyatt's budget has been cut every year and he is burned out in his efforts to obtain funding to do the necessary programs at the Biological

▪ See LETTERS page 3

"Lucky Encounter"

Highlands School 3rd grade student Cara Hedden had a very lucky encounter this past Friday night. She attended a UGA gymnastics meet and while getting autographs from the gymnasts after the competition, she came across



Olympic Silver Medalist Courtney Kupets sitting in the audience. Courtney was on the 2004 Olympic gymnastics team and helped bring home the silver medal in the overall team competition in Athens, Greece this past summer. Kupets was watching sister Ashley who is on the UGA gymnastics team and Courtney plans on joining her sister next year at Georgia. Cara had just recently received a picture of Kupets for Valentine's Day and now has a picture with Kupets to keep forever...This is a good reminder that heroes still exist....especially in the eyes of this budding gymnast.

• OBITUARIES •

Sadie Jane Bentley Bolick

Sadie Jane Bentley Bolick, age 80, of Franklin, died Saturday, February 19, 2005 at a local nursing facility.

A native of Jackson County, NC, she was a daughter of the late Joe and Gertrude Watson Bentley. She was a homemaker and a member of Buck Creek Baptist Church, where she was a choir member, Sunday School teacher and treasurer for several years.

She is survived by a daughter, Helen Gibson and her husband, J.D., of Franklin, NC; and three sons, Algie Bolick and his wife, Lois;; Daniel Bolick and his wife, Shirley and Larry Bolick and his wife, Arbutus, all of Highlands, NC. Ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren also survive.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Terry Hall Bolick; two sons, Terry Bolick, Jr. and Sammy Bolick; a brother, John Lee Bentley and a sister Abigail Bentley.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at Buck Creek Baptist Church with The Rev. Bobby Cloer, The Rev. William Wooten and The Rev. Junior Savage officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Pallbearers were Benny Speed, Larry A. Bolick, Tony Bolick, Eric Bolick, Kenny Bolick, Gabriel Bolick, Jeff Shomper, and Mitchel Kirkland.

Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

... LETTERS continued from page 2

Station. The facility needs \$1 million to bring these antiquated structures up to speed and ensure getting the services of a leader like Robert Wyatt.

We all mourn the loss of this excellent scientist, teacher, administrator. But how can we possibly find a top-notch replacement if UNC continues to treat this unique educational and research facility like an unwanted step-child? Would the board of the Highlands Biological Station do well to separate from UNC? We hope UNC alums will let Dr. Broad know of our concerns.

Robert McNairy
Highlands



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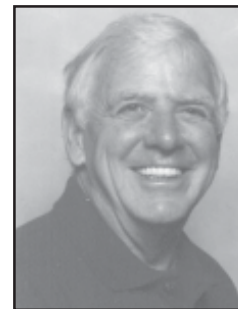



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Why God invented death

In the early '50s, my Grandpa told my Ma, "You'll never catch me in one of those airplanes. If God wanted us to fly, we would have been born with wings. Planes are long coffins looking for a place to get buried. Stay far away from th'em.... and doctors, too, cause they're both deadly." Grandpa always seemed to be grumpy about something and I just couldn't understand why. Then I began to age.



Fred Wooldridge

just like Grandpa, or what?

And while I'm on the holiday thing, I'll tell you I am incensed over the church vs. state issues currently being bantered about. Children can't sing "The Little Drummer Boy" on public property because someone might

get offended? Well, I'm offended that they can't do that. Are we getting wacky or what? But if I listen to myself rant over this, I sound just like my Grandpa, only the issues are different. I know it's late February, but these things still irk me because I'm getting grumpy, just like Grandpa.

I don't like people who ask me "Are you for or against the war?" I say anyone who says they are for war, have never been in one, like me. Asking that question puts me on the spot. If I say I'm against the war simply because I hate war of any kind, then I could be labeled unpatriotic, which I am not. My Grandpa was in the trenches during World War I and he also hated war. I am sure if I live another 10 years, I will be ranting and raving about the evils of war, just like my grandpa.

So if I'm lucky enough to get really old.....I mean old, old, I will probably be totally out of tune with this fast-paced world. I will be grumpy because I disagree with everything going on around me. No matter how hard I try, I am not keeping pace with the current thinking on a multitude of issues.

Enter God's gift of death, the great equalizer. The place we are all headed because none of us is going to get out of this alive. A place where the world that passed us by doesn't exist anymore. A place with no airplanes or wars or aggravation about current events. A place of peace. God knew what he was doing in creating death. Doesn't he always?

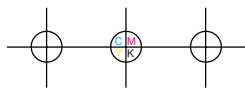
So the next time you meet a grumpy, old person, try to remember their world may have changed so fast he feels alienated from it. It must be terrible to feel like a foreigner on your own planet.

I am not sure when I realized that in order to avoid being like my now dead relatives, I would have to work hard at not letting the world run off and leave me. Oh, I fly all the time, but that's not the issue. Resistance to change is the enemy that will eventually make me just like my Grandpa. The same will probably happen to you. Here's why.

You're born knowing nothing. As you grow, you learn about the world and, at first, are required to accept it just as it is. But as you continue to grow, things creep into your world you don't like. You have choices. Resist and try to change it or learn to live with it. That's where the problem starts. Right there, with choices.

Since I learned a long time ago not to spend too much time on things I have no control over, I have been able to adjust quite nicely to world changes so far. But I feel I am slowly losing ground. Even though I have to accept things as they are, I don't have to like them. It is the "not liking" part that is making me just like Grandpa.

For instance, I spent the entire month of December resisting the term "Happy Holiday." I hate "Happy Holiday." This is something I can control, at least for myself. I want to keep saying "Merry Christmas" and, dad-rat-it, I'm going to say "Merry Christmas." And when I visit with my Jewish friends, I am going to say "Happy Hanukkah." On New Year's day, I'm going to greet everyone with "Happy New Year," not "Happy Holiday," and I don't care whose calendar it offends. Now, I ask you, is that stage one of getting



• MOVIE PIX •

Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind

The 2004 romantic comedy with a bit of angst, starring Jim Carrey (in a role quite different from his usual rubber faced, clown type character), Kate Winslet (in a role a good deal sillier than she usually does), Kirsten Dunst, Mark Ruffalo, and Elijah Wood. Directed by Michel Gondry and written by Charles Kaufman. Rated R, mostly for language.



Stuart Armor

The Brain Team (made up of Dunst, Ruffalo, and Wood) are alternately hilarious, geeky, and frightening, in an incompetent sort of way. Joel begins to have second thoughts about losing his first thoughts, and maybe realizes that it may be better to have loved and lost than to

have never loved at all.

The story, by Kaufman, is told in somewhat random segments, in the way he did *Adaptation* and the brilliantly weird *Being John Malkovich*, that is both comic and dark. There is a lot of metaphor, I think it was supposed to have more depth than I got out of it, but I like the filming technique. It is actually a romantic story, albeit a strange one. Carrey gives a good, touching, sometimes tragic performance, a bit like his work in *Truman Show*. Winslet, who did terrific work in *Hamlet* and *Titanic*, plays this cute and colorful.

If you like this film, give a look to *Box of Moonlight*, *Sliding Doors*, *Memento* (decidedly a much darker film) and *Twenty Bucks*.

The Storyline: Boy (Joel, played by Carrey) meets Girl (Clementine, portrayed by Winslet) and they have the vague sense they may have met before. And just possibly they have, and thanks to the newly developed memory erasing technique, they just don't get it. It seems that Clementine has had all of her memories of her past with Joel erased out of her mind, and Joel finds this rather distressing, so he decides to rid himself of some unneeded baggage as well. But the professional mind erasing team is, well, somewhat less than professional, that is if you call stopping for a beer break in the middle of brain surgery just a tad unprofessional.

'Evenings of Entertainments' absolute fun

By Kim Lewicki

Highlands' own live, late-night talk show "Evenings of Little Entertainments" opened with a bang Friday night, with theater-goers delighting in every aspect of the performance.

A collection of "snapshot" scenes, improvisational games and comedy, live music, monologues and other surprises took place in ITC's Studio on Main — a comfortable, warm and intimate venue reminiscent of a retro-fitted loft in Manhattan.

Amateur performers played off each other and veteran actors Scott Paxton and Adam Heffernan with polish and ease. With the "talk show" venue, the audience was pulled into the show by Artistic Director Heffernan as he asked for input from the crowd.

Guitar-playing minstrel John Roman delighted the audience with his

silly, but precisely orchestrated songs between acts.

And the versatile house band with David Muse on guitar, Valerie Muse on electric keyboard and Tom Mazolla on drums punctuated the show with original pieces and sound effects.

Original "little" scenes called "snapshots" written by ITC's Artistic Director Emeritus Collin Wilcox Paxton were thoroughly entertaining.

If you thought Ellie Mae Hogan just messes around in people's mouths, you haven't seen her on stage. She played opposite Sandy Trevathan (who clearly does more than Pilates) in a "garden club ladies" snapshot.

In a snap, emotions ran the gamut from light and airy, to cranky, sad, sympathetic and angry.

In another "snapshot" ethereal lover-of-shoes Rebecca Schilling wan-

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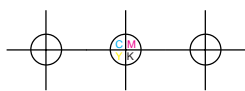
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... NEW GYM continued from page 1

big crowd and Senior Captain Matt Man Keener said the new gym really brought out the home crowd.

"Since I'm a senior, it is so awesome that we got to play in the new gym," Keener said.

Throughout Tuesday night and early into Wednesday morning Shenaut Construction Company worked on the new gym to ready the facility for the Smoky Mountain Conference game against Cherokee.

"We worked pretty much all night cleaning and patching up some tile," Foreman Keith Ball said. "The weather has been our biggest drawback."

Smart said the graveled parking lot prevented spectators from tracking mud and dirt into the gym. The parking lot won't be paved until the end of March, said Ball.

"We've got to wait until mid-March for the asphalt plant to open, but we're first on the list" Ball said. Asphalt has to be laid at a minimum of 50 degrees in order to ensure a proper foundation.

Concessions had to be made inside the gym, too. Initially, the wrong regulation goals were installed so the athletic department had to buy and pick up new goals from a Seneca sports equipment store Tuesday

afternoon.

"We sent pictures to the league and they said that they were illegal, and we couldn't use them," Smart said. "We really cut it close."

The Lady Highlanders played one conference game, and with the gym only recently completed they lost their home court advantage for the entire season.

"Bless their hearts the girls didn't get to play in here at all this season, and I know they are really disappointed," Smart said.

"We've waited the entire year to play in the new gym and now that the boys get to play it's even worse," said Senior Captain Angela Aspinwall.

The senior boys were a little "over the top" about playing in the new gym. Smart said he had to bring them down rather than pump them up for their inaugural game which started at 7 p.m.

•••

By 6:30 p.m., Wednesday night, the 1,000-seat gym was filled to capacity. The playoff game was a heartbreak for Highlands but the most thrilling game of the season.

The Highlanders fought hard during the hotly contested match - holding the lead through most of the game - but lost to Cherokee 70 to 74.

Highlands wants Jackson County to pay fair share for protection

By Erin Brown Staff Writer

There is still no permanent solution regarding payment for fire protection to Jackson County property owners living in the Highlands Township. So far Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. has depended on handouts from Jackson County and its property owners in area country clubs.

For a few years, Jackson County has been giving \$6,000 to the Highlands Fire & Rescue department but it doesn't represent the real cost of protection.

Several country clubs donate money for protection of their Jackson County residents - Highlands Falls Country Club paid \$3,194, in Cullasaja Club \$5,209 and in the Wildcat Ridge area \$1,800, which will provide protection until July 1 of this year.

Highlands Fire & Rescue Administrative Assistant Bobby Houston said Jackson County is

probably the only county in North Carolina that does not institute a fire tax on its residents.

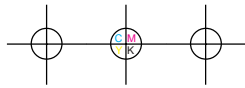
Letters were sent requesting fire tax funds to residents of the Wildcat Ridge area and as far as Houston knows they are receiving protection without having to pay a dime.

"We told them that we could turn them over to the Cashiers-Glenville Fire Department which would cause their insurance rates to go up," Houston said. Proximity to area fire departments drives down home insurance costs. It would take longer for Cashiers-Glenville to reach those homes, he said.

"This really affects us too because we serve them," Houston said. "We keep hoping Jackson County establishes a fire tax, but we haven't seen it yet."

Since the initiation of the Macon

▪See JACKSON page 7



• TOWN BOARD TIDBITS •

Since the Feb. 16 Town Board meeting was really two meetings in one, the agenda was extra long with lots of issues discussed, if not finalized.

Commissioners set the pawn shop business license fee at \$275, the highest possible fee.

"We've never had a pawn shop in Highlands so we don't have a category to assign a license fee," said Town Administrator Richard Betz. Since the police will be involved with the pawn shop operation, which translates to more manhours, commissioners decided to set the fee at \$275.

As required by state statute, at the end of each day, a Highlands Police officer will go by the pawn shop to collect records of all transactions.

•••

To have more control over what is "placed" on properties in town, commissioners voted to amend Section 501.1(A) of the zoning ordinance to require an application for a special use permit for changes made to any "property," not just a building. The change was instigated by the placement of a portable "Tuff Shed" on the Highlands Electronics property. Without some sort of control, board members said any type, size or color shed could be put on properties.

•••

Town Planner Larry Gantenbein asked the board to consider amending the town's nuisance ordinance to address abandoned and burned-down buildings in town. The Town Board asked Town

... JACKSON COUNTY continued from page 6

County fire tax three years ago, the rate has gone from .00010 to .00015 and then down to .00012 per \$100 property valuation.

"If the fire departments' budgets don't increase and the assessment value of the property does, then the fire tax rate goes down, which is the reason for the decrease of the rate this year," said Macon County Tax Administrator Richard Lightner.

He said Highlands probably has a lower fire tax rate than what Jackson County might initiate because of the large number of expensive homes here.

County Manager Sam Greenwood said he doesn't know why Jackson County doesn't have a fire tax, but the tax has been popular in Macon County.

"It's been extremely successful here

Attorney Bill Coward to glean what's needed from other towns' ordinances. He said since abandoned buildings are considered a "nuisance" no grandfathering would apply. Buildings currently considered abandoned would have to come into compliance either by being remodeled or torn down as soon as the new ordinance is accepted by the Town Board.

•••

The Town Board agreed to foot 25 percent of the Highlands Country Club Fairway No. 1 Sswer line but were annoyed when the estimate came in about \$20,000 higher than expected. About \$12,000 of the new \$101,741.95 bid was for construction observation but since Town Engineer Lamar Nix will be there anyway, commissioners agreed to accept the bid minus the \$12,000. As soon as money for the job is collected by Highlands Country Club, the town will make its payment. Board members also instructed Town Administrator Richard Betz to send a letter to Bronce Pesterfield, engineer on the job, voicing their dissatisfaction with the bid change. "We agreed to pay 25 percent of \$83,431.13 not \$101,741.95," they said.

•••

Greg Elliott, contractor for the Old Edwards Inn & Spa, requested permission to cordon off five parking spots in front of the old Hiker building with a portable chain link fence for construction purposes.

He said the fence won't block any portion of the one-way road, just the

and it gives everyone some freedom of latitude by making everyone in the district pay their fair share," Greenwood said. "These guys volunteer their time and even with hotdog fundraisers it's just not enough money to have a fire truck."

The county fire tax is the third method used to finance volunteer departments. The first was an honorary membership through a donation, and then a service fee based on home value, but neither provided enough money.

Houston said the fire department is still discussing hiring a full-time fireman but if it does, it shouldn't affect the fire tax rate for the next fiscal year.

Greenwood said he doesn't anticipate a change in the next year's rate.

parking spots in front of OEI's building and it will be removed every night. Commissioners asked that a temporary sidewalk be erected somewhere on Church Street. Elliott said workers vehicles will not be a problem this year because they will be shuttled to the job from elsewhere.

•••

Bob Carlton, who is expanding SweeTreats asked the board to rethink

its sewer connection policy concerning restaurants. Restaurants pay \$5,000 to hook on to the sewer and \$100 per seat. But Carlton said restaurants that serve pre-packaged food shouldn't have to pay the same sewer connection fees as full-service restaurants which have grease traps. Commissioners said they will inventory what each restaurant in town pays before making a decision.

- Kim Lewicki

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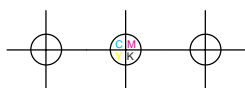
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Learning how to 'Fly Solo'

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation is sponsoring a seminar for area singles (divorced, widowed or never married) on Saturday, March 5.

Solo Flight founder, Dr. Kay Collier McLaughlin, a counseling psychologist with specialties in group development, issues of singleness and bereavement counseling will present a program in the parish hall of the Episcopal Church.

The morning program begins at 10 a.m. Lunch is from 12-1 and the afternoon program is from 1-3 p.m. Registration for the program is \$5 and that includes lunch.

Under the auspices of Solo Flight: Catch the Vision, an entity for research, development and consulting in the field of adult singularity, Dr. Collier McLaughlin presents workshops and programs across the United States and in several foreign countries.

Workshops provide personal and spiritual insights for single adults of all ages, whether they are always single, widowed or divorced.

"There are issues and developmental tasks for single people which cut across age groups and types of singleness," said McLaughlin. "Many are different from the adult developmental issues of the coupled and married. It is important for single adults to know that

they are almost a new majority in the United States, while often feeling like and relegated to minority status in a culture that views its norm as coupled and married. Singularity is a NEW norm in American life—one which has had no rules, guidelines or rituals.

Kay Collier McLaughlin is a pioneer in the field of single adult development and the author of an Alban Institute book (*Single in the Church*), to-be-published books on developing curriculum for spiritual formation of single adults and *The Spirituality of Singularity* and numerous articles on the subject. She holds a PhD in Counseling



Dr. Kay Collier

Psychology from The Union Institute with sub-specialties in single adult development, bereavement (with emphasis on the area of marginalized grief), leadership development and group dynamics. She has taught and lectured across the United States and in England, Australia, Japan, Germany, Russia and Canada. She is the Communications Officer and Director of Ministries with Single Adults for the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington, and maintains a private counseling and consulting practice.

To register for the March 5 program, call 526-2968.

... FUNDING continued from page 1

sewer system. "Only 677 people are on sewer," he said.

For 13 years, the county has been sending \$300,000 up the mountain allocated for infrastructure expansion and improvement. In 2004-2005 the money was discussed but not forthcoming.

Town Administrator Richard Betz said if the town could depend on the county for continued funding, the town could budget for the \$800,000 over the next several years.

Commissioners Hank Ross, Amy Patterson and Herb James all said they'd like to establish a long-term arrangement with the county so the town doesn't have to wonder year to year if it will get funding.

"We need a long-term relationship we can count on," said James.

MC Commissioners Charlie Leatherman and Jim Davis agreed.

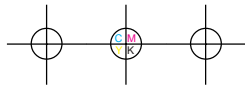
"I think it would be beneficial to

the county to take a look at doing something beyond a year," said Leatherman. "Reliability is needed for long-range planning."

Commissioner Patterson said Highlands wasn't looking for a particular number, but rather a long-term commitment.

MC Commissioner Davis said when he looked at the numbers, he was surprised at how much money comes down the mountain. "It's something like 45 percent," he said. "I think it's only right the county returns some of that to Highlands. The population up there doesn't use a lot of the services we supply here in Franklin."

Bryson said the commissioners were meeting with the Town of Franklin next and the subject of funding infrastructure was likely to come up at that meeting, too. But he said it's likely Highlands will get an answer in about a month.



Committee means to preserve Highlands' history and culture

By Kim Lewicki

At the last couple of Land Use Planning Committee meetings, discussion has focused on bringing back the past and preserving historical and cultural elements of Highlands.

Though members agree the loss of such venues as Helen's Barn, the Mountaineer Restaurant and the Galax Theatre have much to do with changing times and the economics of doing business in Highlands, nostalgia still reigns.

Members said it's difficult to define Highlands' historical appearance, but there is a "historic flavor" worth saving. Too much has gone the way of the bulldozer, they said.

"We all have emotional attachments to buildings, trees and times," said Ran Shaffner, local historian who attended the Feb. 21 meeting.

Committee Member Griffin Bell likened the loss of venues and structures to that of family memorabilia.

"But heirlooms are only valuable to the family," he said. To make such memorabilia important to the "Highlands Family" steps must be taken because without teeth behind historic designations, owners of properties can do as they like, said officials.

With that in mind, the committee would like to promote, protect and preserve the cultural and historical resources of Highlands.

"First someone must establish what is worthy of preservation under law, then the town has a right to protect it," said Ran Shaffner.

With a lack of a town-wide preservation program or the publicizing and marketing of historic venues for reuse for restoration, members worry what's worth keeping will be lost.

Culturally, the town has a lot to offer as well, venues worth promoting and protecting, said members.

Highlands culture is diverse, they said with its Scotch-Irish influence, turn-

of-the-century summer resort past and its great climate.

"Highlands is not your typical mountain town," said Bell and Pat Taylor. "There are opportunities for personal development, education and an appreciation of the arts."

The committee wants to encourage the town to embrace policies that promote cultural activities for residents who reside in and around the village center of Highlands, promote and publicize cosmopolitan nature and offerings of Highlands, and continue funding certain nonprofits that promote, preserve and protect the cultural interests of the town.

The next Land Use Planning Committee meeting is Feb. 28.

Facilitator Geoffrey Willett will explain annexation and extra-territorial jurisdiction.

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Needlepoint
of
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... REC PARK continued from page 1

The town's 2004-2005 original rec park funding request was for \$270,000 — more than usually requested. After years of asking and receiving \$150,000, the Town Board felt an increase was justified based on inflation.

"This time we asked for \$270,000 which is half of the recreation park budget," said Betz.

But to be safe, the town budgeted

for the usual \$150,000.

"We adopted the budget before we learned that \$200,000 had been allocated so only \$150,000 was anticipated in revenue for recreation," he said.

MC Commission Chair Allan Bryson said the extra \$50,000 will be discussed at the March rec park committee meeting, and he said it's likely the town will get the \$50,000.

'Jump Rope' & 'Hoops for Heart'

Highlands School students in grades K-8 are supporting the American Heart Association by collecting sponsorships for jumping rope and playing basketball on March 9 and 10. Jump Rope for Heart (K-5) and Hoops for Heart (6-8) will help the A.H.A. fund research and provide grants to find cures for heart diseases.

All students in grades K-8 are involved in the activities although not all of them will be raising money. PE teacher Brett Lamb, who is sponsoring

the activities, says volunteers will be welcome.

Students partaking in Jump Rope for Heart will be jumping rope in different ways and learning new tricks to do with their ropes.

Hoops for Heart participants will be playing different games of basketball, such as knock-out, HORSE and 3 on 3 to raise the money.

Highlands School has set \$5,000 as its fund-raising goal.

30

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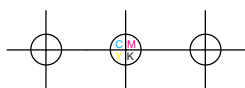


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Rotary celebrates 100

This month, Rotary International and the 2,800 members of 49 clubs all across Western North Carolina celebrate 100 years of service to folks at home and families and communities around the world.

Rotary is the oldest of the service clubs. Founded by Chicago attorney Paul Harris on February 23, 1905, Rotary grew from a small group of businessmen dedicated to community service and professional ethics to over 1.2 million Rotary members in more than 31,000 clubs in 166 countries. The name Rotary derives from the group's early practice of rotating meetings between members' offices and homes.

Rotary spread to Western North Carolina early in its development. In 1915, the third club in the state was formed in Asheville and soon followed by the establishment of clubs in other areas, including Hickory, Waynesville, Tryon and Hendersonville.

"Service Above Self," the Rotary motto, stems from Rotary's roots in downtown Chicago. Rotary's first project was the purchase of a horse to enable a local physician to make house calls.

Over the years, Rotary International has funded massive efforts and supplied volunteers to numerous third world countries to provide famine relief and medicines, offer literacy programs, build schools and provide safe drinking water to communities.

Rotary expanded rapidly over the 20th century and played a major role in such historic events as founding of the United Nations.

Through membership and countless hours of service in local programs, Rotarians near and far discovered a common purpose: identifying the needs of people and creating the service programs and support to provide assistance and effect positive change.

In Western North Carolina, that has translated into decades of remarkable local programs, ranging from scholarship opportunities, health care initiatives, literacy programs, support for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, blood drives, park projects, Habitat houses and an extensive Rotary Exchange Student Program.



Visit from new District Governor Jim Efland, Steve Perry assistant district governor and MtnTop president Curtis Mathews.

But for Rotarians, humanitarian efforts don't stop at home. They are also raising monies, among themselves to purchase and send wheelchairs to people in South and Central America whose lives have been affected by their own immobility.

Containers of wheelchairs left Western North Carolina last year, headed for Columbia, Guatemala and Mexico, providing a new way of life and creating smiles that local Rotarians can only imagine. In March 2006 a container of wheelchairs is headed for Montero, Boliva where mission work supported by the Highlands community has been going on for years.

In honor of Rotary's Centennial every club in our area – the Franklin clubs, Cashiers and the Highlands clubs have each pledged to send 100 wheelchairs.

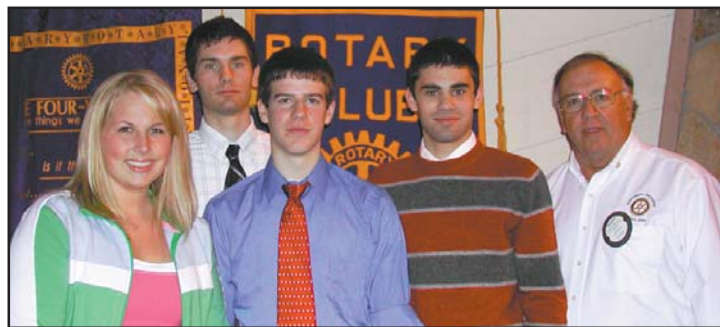
WNC Rotarians have been involved in a major Aids Education Program in Colombia, South America. They have sent all-terrain emergency vehicles to ailing communities worldwide. A variety of volunteer professionals, such as teachers and physicians, have traveled from the WNC district to remote areas of the world in order to improve living conditions, public health, and create opportunities and hope.

Rotarians worldwide are working together to eradicate Polio, long recognized as a globally crippling disease. At this reporting, Polio is nearly a thing of the past, as the quiet efforts of Rotarians are changing the future for countless countries around the world.

WNC Rotary District Governor Jim Efland of Asheville just smiles. A busy and noted contrac-



Highlands Rotary exchange student Maciej Golaszewski and Megan Lewicki at Rotary's youth leadership camp last summer.



From left: Highlands School Interact students Kathryn Coppage, Andrew Kerhoulas, Jason Aspinwall, Andrew Kerhoulas and Highlands Rotary president Selwyn Chalker at a recent meeting.



Highlands Rotary members Barbara Lawrence, Christy Kelly and Alan Marsh at the club's annual July 4 BBQ.

tor, Efland carves out time to lead District 7670 – the hundreds of Rotarians who are working quietly, but meaningfully all around the mountains.

"There's a bond that unites us," he says. "Our friendships are strong, our care and commitment to those at home and our fellowman lie deep in our hearts. Together, we are a strong force that touches lives, gives hope, and changes the community and the world."

In celebrating its anniversary, Rotary is reaching out to spread the word about its service and the opportunities for those who truly care about the world and their communities and want them to become a

part of their efforts.

"It's caring that makes the difference," says Efland. "We welcome and celebrate the time, efforts, leadership and resources of all our communities in extending goodwill, whether at home or around the world. We are making an important difference every single day."

The 4-Way Test

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Rotary Centennial P

MtnTop Rotary plants 'Fr



All over the world, Rotary clubs are organizing Projects to celebrate 100 years of Rotary. MountainTop Rotary celebrates the past while planting a Paul Harris Friendship Tree at Highlands. From left are Rotarians Duncan Greenlee, Gilliam, Monica Bomengen, Nick Bazan, G Earman and Bill Hogue. David & Lamar Billing

Rotary Club of Highlands

Chartered April 9, 2000

Meets 7:30 a.m. in fellowship hall of F
www.highlandsmountaintop

International

- Wheelchair Foundation
- SPELL Scholarship with the East Meets West Foundation in Vietnam. Paying for the education of one orphan for 10 years.

District

- Sending a "Grow Your Own Friendship Tree" kit to every club in the District of 7670, in honor of Rotary founder Paul Harris.

The Rotary Club of H

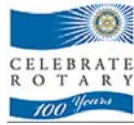
Chartered 1945

Meets at noon at the Highands Cor

- Co-sponsoring the medical van with the Rotary Club of Cashiers Valley
- Donated \$10,000 and 1,000 hours of labor to the Highlands Historical Society for work on the Prince House and the Rufus Morgan Building in the Highlands Historic Village.
- A plaque commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Rotary will be installed

100 years of service

Rotary Centennial Projects



Rotary clubs plants 'Friendship Tree'



Rotary clubs are organizing Centennial Community projects to celebrate 100 years of Rotary International. Highlands MountainTop Rotary celebrates the past while saluting the future by planting a Friendship Tree at Highlands School. In the early 1900s Paul Harris planted trees in each town he visited. Donors include Duncan Greenlee, Curtis Matthews, Steve Mendenhall, Nick Bazan, Ginger Slaughter, Bonnie Davidson & Lamar Billingsley donated the tree.

Highlands – Mountaintop

Chartered April 9, 2002
 Fellowship hall of First Baptist Church
highlandsmountaintoprotary.org

Community

- Planted a "Friendship Tree" at the Highlands High School.
- Beginning a Literacy program with the Scaly Mtn. Women's Club in the spring of 2005.
- Tutoring English as a Second Language for Hispanic families in Scaly Mountain.
- Beautification of the old ball field located at Highlands School.

Rotary Club of Highlands

Chartered 1945
 at the Highlands Conference Center

- in the library of the Prince House.
- Set a goal of collecting 100 units of blood for our local blood bank.
- The Rotary Club of Highlands has 96 members and plans to induct the 100th member during this centennial year.
- Identified 100 community projects and organizations the club supports.



Left: Carol Matthews of Highlands Mountaintop Rotary at the Centennial Breakfast at Highlands Rec Park, Wednesday, Feb. 23. About 200 Rotarians from Highlands Rotary, Highlands MountainTop Rotary and Cashiers Rotary turned out for the event. Speaker Dennis Sanders, PDG 7670, said he hopes someday the world will live by Rotary standards

Far left: La Donna Keener of Highlands Rotary serves BBQ at annual Fourth of July celebration



Left: Exchange students: present Lucio Trazzi, past Keno Mennenback back for a visit with his girl friend from Germany.



Carol Matthews and Ginger Slaughter of MtnTop deliver Christmas stockings to the children of the Highlands Preschool Head Start program.



Mountaintop member Robin Austin with the orphans of the "East Meets West Foundation" in Vietnam.



Above: Steve Gilliam "in jail" as part of MountainTop Rotary's fundraising campaign to raise money for local charities.

Left: Highlands School Interact students pack medical and hygiene supplies purchased for migrant workers in the area harvesting Christmas trees. Interact is Rotary's youth group.

• ALL ABOUT WINES •

Understanding 'Winespeak'

It gets to be ridiculous, the "Winespeak" of the trade. Robert Parker, the "Spectator," the "Enthusiast:" they're all guilty.

"Warm it up and a myriad of fantastic aromas wafts out: red cherries, cola, anise, sautéed mushrooms and rosehip tea.

On the nose, nuts and caramel dominate, but in the mouth enough stone fruits emerge to bring to mind peaches and cherries drizzled with the liquid nuts from the ice cream parlor. A terrific beam of racy raspberry ganache and blackberry compote flavors at its core.

I'm just flipping pages of a few magazines here. I'm not searching hard for extravagant examples of 'Winespeak;' I'm just writing down the first selections I see.

A mélange of toast, graphite, citrus and ginger aromas and flavors.

Intense aromas of tobacco, cedar

and plum, with just the right amount of meat.

The chocolate fudge, blackberry tart and spicy gingerbread flavors are intense. "Chunky and ripe." The fruit is dark, brooding, and intense. The flavors range from sweet cherries to a baked blackberry tart dusted with cinnamon and cocoa. Finished with a bit of fig."

At what point does someone stand up and point: "The Emperor has no clothes!"

Instead of helping consumers determine which wines they'd like, the language convolutes everything. "Peaches and cherries drizzled with the liquid nuts from the ice cream parlor!" For crying out loud! Can anyone read this and not laugh? Can anyone read this and take it seriously? Yes.

Two quite complicated issues merge in 'Winespeak.' On one hand, we have the difficulty of language, of

finding words which best, most efficiently and appropriately communicate concepts. And when the concepts to be communicated involve our sense of "taste"—both the physiological aspect of what goes on in our nasal passage and on our tongue, and the more complicated issue of cultural "taste," of aesthetics and pleasure—the limitations and complications of language are pronounced.

I used to be an English teacher, so I know what a difficult process it is for a writer to pinpoint the precise word. As abused as language can be and as useless as those phrases I quoted may seem, they have a purpose.

At times in my previous career, students would accuse me of killing whatever we were reading, of taking all the pleasure out of a poem or novel because I'd tear it apart, examining all the literary techniques and themes. But with persistence, these students (or some of them anyway) would soon begin to see the point, would see how parts make up a whole. Their appreciation for the entire work would grow as they began to comprehend the intricacies of its composition.

I would often refer to a symphony as an example of how understanding the pieces contribute to an appreciation of the whole. Sure, you can sit in Symphony Hall and count the ceiling tiles while the music drones on and on. Once in a while, you may hear a few measures you like, but otherwise, it's time to go at intermission.

Or, you can learn to appreciate—watch the orchestra, hearing the sounds that come from each instrument. You can study a bit of the history of the instruments and perhaps attempt to play them yourself. You can talk with musicians and learn something of the life they've devoted to their art. You can study the composers and compositions. Once you've learned to value these pieces, listening to the whole of a symphony, from that point on, can never be the same.

Wine is the same way. 'Winespeak' is an attempt to put the pieces together in such a way that we who want to know more about the



Bert Mobley
Highlands Wine & Cheese

subject can learn and appreciate and value.

It's too easy to walk through life dumb, unaware, unobservant, clueless to the intricacies which surround us. Once in a while we might be dumbstruck by something spectacular, but what do we do on a normal Wednesday afternoon?

"Racy raspberry:" can you taste it? What about the "mélange of toast, graphite, citrus and ginger?" Can you smell it? Do these words evoke memories?

Can you swirl and sip a glass of wine and taste the pieces that make it unique? That establish character and quality?

Though they - no doubt - go overboard, the users of 'Winespeak' are attempting to express the intricacies of not only the wine they're describing: they're trying to express and evoke the intricacies of our lives and our memories. If we pay attention and accept the challenge, then the quality of our lives may be enhanced. If we don't know what graphite smells like, we should! Do we go through the motions of life eating pie as though we had no tastebuds? Are we not able to recall the aromas and flavors of a blackberry tart? These are the little pieces of our lives, too important to be missed. Right?

Maybe my students were right. Maybe I do tear things apart and look way too deeply. Maybe the emperor is walking around 'nekkid.' Maybe our capacity to comprehend 'Winespeak' is at its limit, and all the fruity, flowery descriptions in the world won't help us appreciate a thing. One wine writer expressed his dissatisfaction with Winespeak by saying that all that verbiage didn't help him at all anymore. The only way to determine a good wine, he said, "If it makes him and his wife want to have sex.

Fair enough.

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• HEALTHY LIVING •

Eat food with integrity

By Ashby Underwood

Sunlight is the only useable form of food on the planet. Everything that we eat can be traced to the plant, or to the animal that eats the plant. When we label food as fresh, what we actually mean is that the food is in its immediate and recognizable form.

An apple is a food that is once removed from the sun. The fruit is picked, washed, boxed, shipped, and delivered. It arrives with shape, integrity, and nutrition. Whole milk is also a product of the sun. The grass grows with sunlight. The cow eats the grass, transforms it into milk, and the milk is still sunlight as refigured by the cow. Cheese is a step further, and nacho cheese flavored crackers are a step or two further from that. All can be traced back to the sun.

The human body chews, digests, absorbs nutrients, and eliminates what's not used for building the structure we call our "body." The charge from the sun found in the nutrients provides sustainable energy for breathing, thinking, strengthening, cleansing, and working. With processed foods, the body must use extra effort and more energy to "undo" the processing and get back to the basic nutrition of the original proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins, minerals, electrolytes, and amino acids. The digestive system searches for these essential components underneath the "processing." In essence, the energy the body requires for growth and function is used up in filtering out the nutrition from the bleach, hydrogenated oils, and genetically modified ingredients.

Good health and longevity start with eating quality food. It is said that we completely rebuild the entire body each year. Cells in the blood, bones, brain and tissues are constantly regenerating as new cells replace old cells. If you were going to build a house, how long would you want to build it to last for? 50 years?

100 years? 200 years? To build a house to last for a few centuries you'd be smart to use excellent high quality materials. You'd make the foundation solid and consider variables such as the environment, seasonal factors and the neighbors. You'd put a lot of thought into how you craft, because this is your home.

What we eat everyday has a direct impact on our health, our attitude, and the earth. What we eat is a major portion of who we are and how we are shaped. Diet is a balance of chemistry for each person. It is best to try different things over a period of time. Eating processed food and taking drugs and medications because you don't feel well or because you're in pain is an equation for confusion and disease. There's a good chance that you're not tired but thirsty for a drink of water. A good guideline for beginning to eat healthy is to eat whole sprouted grains and naturally occurring foods. One rule of thumb is, "If mold won't grow on it, you'd better not eat it!"

Longer days require transition from the colder weather, dry indoor heat, and dark evenings. Spring is a natural time of cleansing for the body. Eating less food in the evening, for example, will allow for better night's rest. The body can awake feeling more refreshed and energized. The body responds exponentially to your intentions of well-being, especially using smaller introductions of new ways of doing things, rather than drastic change. Start with a fresh understanding of your body and the relationship to sunlight. Be more informed about your own health concerns. Pay attention to how your food makes you feel. There are many cookbooks available on preparing whole foods that will support changes with basic understanding.

At your next meal, honor the life-sustaining properties of the sun in your food.

Ashby Underwood and Chad Garner are practitioners of Structural Integration, the bodywork of Dr. Ida P. Rolf. Their office is located above Mountain Fitness at 460 Carolina Way.



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36

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Highlands Conference Center

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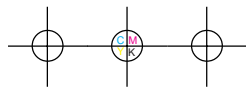
Old Edwards Inn and Spa, Highland's only destination spa resort, is hiring for the 2005 season. The resort includes the Inn, Madison's Restaurant and Wine Garden, The Spa, The Farm and Acorns/Miss Priss.

Candidates can interview for the following positions: Front desk, valet, all spa service and support positions, housekeeping, culinary, retail, restaurant, graphic design, and systems management.

You will be able to interview with a department manager and get information regarding the employee housing village that includes multiple amenities. We offer competitive wages and great benefits including health, dental, long term disability, short term disability, life insurance, 401K, meal vouchers, uniforms provided and cleaned, select employee discounts, and more for year round full time staff.

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Hospital's annual free health screenings set for March 12

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital kicks off its season of offering free community health screenings March 12, with a screening for residents of Highlands and Scaly Mountain at the new Jane Woodruff Clinic at the hospital.

Unlike in past years, however, Highlands residents who miss the first screening on Saturday, March 12, will get a second chance Saturday, April 2.

As a service to improve the health of the communities it serves, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has held a series of free screenings for each of the past seven years. Other screenings this

season are planned for the Cashiers/Glenville area, and for the Dillard/Sky Valley area on Saturdays March through May.

Participants will be checked for important health indicators such as blood pressure, blood sugar levels, cholesterol levels, height, weight, bone density, hearing, and body composition. They will also have the opportunity to talk with experts on a variety of health topics, including the opportunity to talk directly with a physician at many of the screenings. It's free but pre-registration is required.

Appointment times will be assigned as part of the registration process to help reduce lines and waiting times.

To pre-register participants can use the hospital's website at www.hchospital.org, by clicking on the screening menu, and completing the registration form. Registrants will receive a confirmation email. Participants can also call the hospital's Foundation office at 526-1435 to register. The registration period for each screening ends at 5 p.m. the Wednesday before the screening date.

Participants are asked not to eat or drink anything but water after midnight

the night before. They should also wear short sleeved garments, and women who wish to have their bone density checked should wear socks instead of hose, and shoes that can be easily removed.

Following the screening, a light, healthy continental breakfast, provided free by the hospital's dietary department.

Confidential results of screening tests will be reviewed by the participant's own family physician (or another local physician if no family doctor is specified) before being mailed out.

Highlands-Cashiers GYNECOLOGY



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A Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Dr. Sherrer is the former head of GYN services at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta.

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Northland Cable TV launches Voiceline

With plans starting at \$18.99, Northland Voiceline is designed to offer consumers a new feature-rich low-cost local and long distance choice in voice service. Its all-inclusive monthly package for \$37.99 delivers unlimited calls within the United States and Canada.

Included in all Northland Voiceline packages are features such as:

- Local number portability plus phone number selection, enabling customers to transfer their current local phone number to their Voiceline service, or to choose new local phone numbers.
- Access to Emergency Services and local directory assistance (411)
- Enhanced features come standard, such as voicemail, caller ID, call waiting, call blocking, call forwarding and three-way calling.
- Home Custom Installation – A professional Northland technician will come to the customer's home in order to install the Northland Voiceline service.

Added enhanced features include:

- Online Account Management – Customers can manage calling features online (including call waiting, caller ID display, or change features), and view account balances and call detail records in real time.
- Email Notification of Voicemail – Customers can receive an email notification of new voicemail messages and then listen to the voicemail on the

Internet.

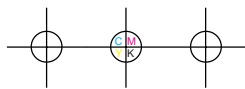
• Virtual Phone Number - Customers may add an out-of-area phone number as a second phone number to their account. Out-of-area numbers save friends and family from having to pay for long distance call charges by allowing them to place a 'local' call to reach a Voiceline customer. When dialed, the second phone number will ring the same phone as the primary Voiceline number.

Northland, a top-25 US cable operator, has contracted with Net2Phone (NASDAQ: NTOP) to roll out telephony throughout its footprint. By outsourcing its telephony implementation to Net2Phone, Northland's customers benefit from cost-efficient full-featured competitive phone service in addition to receiving one bill for all of Northland's services.

Northland maintains ownership of its telephony subscribers, and provides customer service and technical support. Net2Phone provides, among other things, auto-provisioning and a real-time billing feed to enable Northland to deliver a unified invoice, full featured network switching platform, advanced network capabilities, access to the public switched telephone network, operator services/directory assistance, and service level commitments.

Customers interested in learning more about Northland Voiceline can visit www.northlandcabletv.com.





• **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** •

Their eyes are watching us

**The Rev.
Kim Tyree
Ingram
Highlands
United
Methodist
Church**



We were riding in the car on the way to Asheville the other day, when Katie, my 7-year-old daughter began talking about her conscience. She was comparing her "bad conscience" with her "good conscience" and which of her "consciences" she uses the most.

I have to admit that I didn't know Katie knew the word "conscience" much less know what it is. I think that God often speaks through our "good consciences" (as Katie says) and we have to be trained to hear God's voice speaking to us. As parents and other adults present in the lives of children and teenagers, we have the responsibility to train young people to hear God's voice in their lives, thereby also developing their consciences and helping them make good decisions.

The scriptures teach us to love like God loves and to, "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus," who emptied himself, was humble, obedient, and sacrificed even to the point of death as an example to us of God's overwhelming love. (Philippians 2:1-11)

We are called to set an example to the children of how to live faithful, honest, responsible, sacrificial, loving lives. Proverbs 22:6 is a familiar reminder, "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." (New Revised Standard Version) This is a responsibility not only for parents, but also for all adults present in the "village."

Some days I am overwhelmed by the task of setting an example for my children and others whom I am around. Just today I was helping a child take an Accelerated Reader test at school and the book included something about "bad guys." The child indicated that he would like the opportunity to harm the bad guys. I suggested that you can't do that. Bewildered, he asked, "why, if they are bad?" I told him that it is up to the law to take care of people who do bad things and we would get in trouble for harming someone else - even if they are "bad." Even my four-year-old son seems to have gotten the idea that it is OK to hurt others if they are bad. To him, we are all called to be like Spiderman! Lots of opportunities for teaching moments!

Recently the North Carolina legislature changed the state seat belt law. As of January 1, children have to stay in a car seat up to 8 years old or 80 pounds. If you have a child who is 7 or 7 1/2 like I do, this presented a dilemma. Katie has been out of a car seat for almost 2 years and now the law says she has to get back in one. Fortunately, we're only one week away from her 8th birthday.

As the law took effect at the beginning of the year, I heard many families of children in the older range

■ See **SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING** page 16

• **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 or 460-7260

The Rev. Thomas Allen

"Traditional Episcopal Worship"

Worship and communion: Sundays at 4 p.m. at the
Community Bible Church in Highlands.

Monday Bible Study: 6 p.m. Parish House

Tuesday Noon Bible Study: noon Parish House

Pot Luck Dinner: Last Sunday of the Month.

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

Rev. Brian Sullivan - 526-2968

Sundays: Choir - 9 a.m.; Adult Sunday School
classes - 9:15 a.m.; Holy Eucharist - 10:30 a.m.;
Children's Chapel - 10:30 a.m.;

Mondays: Women's Cursillo Group (Library) - 4

Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo in Jones Hall - 8

Wednesdays: Liturgy Mtg - 4 p.m.; Christian
Education - 5 p.m.; Supper & Program - 6 p.m.

Thursdays: Holy Eucharist - 10 a.m.

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
Sun: School - 9:30 & 9:45 a.m.; Worship - 8:30 & 11
Wed: Supper - 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study & activities - 6

Holy Family Lutheran Church - ELCA

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor,
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741

Wednesdays: Lenten Services at noon followed by a
simple meal.

Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

Macedonia Baptist Church

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Jamie Passmore, (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: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

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

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time)

526-9769

Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

Westside Baptist Church

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon

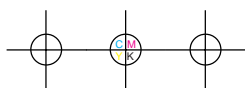
Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby

Sundays: Fellowship & Worship - 11

Whiteside Presbyterian Church

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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



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PT SECURITY GUARD POSITION – Sat. & Sun. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 828-526-

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING cont. from page 15

talking about it. On at least two occasions I heard parents say, in front of their child, that if stopped by the police, their child would just say that they are eight years old – even though they were only seven.

As I thought about these conversations, I wondered if the parents realized that they were giving their children permission to lie. And if it is OK to lie this time, when else will it be OK to lie about their age? When they are not yet old enough to see an R rated movie alone? When they are not yet old enough to drink a beer? When they are not yet old enough to smoke a cigarette?

As a pastor, people seem to think we are called to a higher standard. I would argue that as *adults*, we are called

4161.

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to a higher standard - to set an example for the young people around us. How often do children in your congregation see you put money in the offering plate as it is passed? Even if you mail a check to the church monthly, consider putting in a quarter on Sundays so the child next to you learns about giving to the church, by the example that you set. Children are watching us when we throw trash out the car window and thus contribute toward harming God's creation. They hear us when we tell an off-color joke that stereotypes a group of people.

Children are also watching us when we take a meal to a friend who was sick. They are watching when we picked up a piece of trash on the ground as we walked into the store. Teenagers are

● POLICE & FIRE REPORTS ●

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of Feb. 16-23. The only names printed are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

Feb. 16

- At 1:40 p.m., Christopher Miglino, 32, and Marjorie Marey, 34, both of Norcross, Ga., Franklin and Cullowhee, N.C., were arrested on one county of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud.

- At 5 p.m., officers responded to a domestic disturbance at a residence on Mirror Lake Road.

Feb. 18

- At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles on U.S. 64 and Poplar Street. One driver was cited for driving without a license and failure to reduce speed.

- At 12:10 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Laurel Heights Road. All was secure.

Feb. 19

- At 4:45 p.m., officers responded to a call at Old Creek Lodge where motorists had pulled in to get away from some motorcycle drivers who were verbally assaulting them.

Feb. 20

- At 4:50 p.m., officers responded to a call of vandalism at Highlands Electronics on Oak Street where several windows were broken out.

Feb. 22

- At 9:45 a.m., officers were called to a construction site on Brushy Face where men were fighting and then one man was cited for simple possession of marijuana.

- At 2:05 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a home on Memorial Park Drive. All was secure.

- At 9 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a home on Hickory Hill Road. All was secure.

- At 10:45 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at a home on Sagee Woods Drive. All was secure.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department log entries for the week of Feb. 17-23

Feb. 17

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Fire & Rescue while they battled a structure fire.

Feb. 18

- The dept. responded to an accident between two vehicles on N.Fourth Street. There were no injuries.

Feb. 20

- The dept. first-responder call to a home on Lyman Zachary Road where a man was found dead on arrival.

Feb. 21

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on N.4th St. The victim was transported to the hospital.

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers Fire Department to battle a structure fire.

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a home on Cottage Lane. It was false.

- The dept. responded to an accident on Horse Cove Road. There were no injuries.

watching when we speak words of kindness to the person who gets on everyone's nerves. They see us when we shed a tear or make a phone call because someone was treated unfairly. Young people see us give our time and money to help someone who has nothing to offer in return. They see us make God and family a priority when we say "no" to Sunday soccer so that we can go to worship regularly or to that Friday night party and stay home as a family instead. They know

that reading is important when we turn off the TV and read a book. They also learn that we love them and care about their safety when we make them sit in the back seat, use a car seat, and buckle up. They look and they learn.

We like to say, "Do as I say, not as I do." But the most powerful witness we give to others is by our actions. May God bless us as we make decisions daily that influence the lives of others around us, especially the children.

Christ Anglican Church

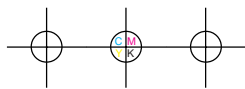
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Anglican Province of America



... BRIDGE continued from page 1

on Mirror Lake Road for approximately four weeks.

The repairs will be made by the NC DOT Bridge Maintenance Unit so those who use the road regularly will have to take another route. Residents of Mirror Lake leaving the area will need to take Hicks Road to Flat Mountain Road to U.S 64 to Highlands

Officials say about 200 vehicles use the 45-year-old bridge everyday.

Ben Williams, division 14 bridge engineer, said the bridge is safe, but the

eight 14-inch lateral steel "eye" beams are old and rusty. He said when the project is complete, there will be 11 beams and the weight allowance, now 12 tons for vehicles and 17 tons for tractor trailer trucks, will go up. The floor will also be replaced.

"We're not sure exactly how much yet," Williams said. "But we needed to take immediate action. The TIP (Transportation Improvement Program), which is partially federally funded, has scheduled the bridge to be replaced in

2007, but we needed to go ahead and do immediate preventive maintenance." Replacement money is in the 2007 budget.

"We expect this to take three to four weeks, depending on the weather," said Williams, who will oversee the repairs for the NC DOT. "The cost will be \$25,000. When the bridge is actually replaced, the cost will be \$660,000."

Clem Patton, a resident of the Mirror Lake area, said the detour will be inconvenient.

"I suppose it's something we'll just have to live with," he said, "but I wish the DOT had given us more notice to plan ahead."

He hoped higher weight limits wouldn't encourage trucks to use the bridge as a "bypass" of Highlands.

"I know we have a lot of concrete trucks and trucks full of rocks using it now, and I'm sure they're over the weight limit. I'd hate to see the limits go up," Patton said. "I know there's been discussion of that for a time now."

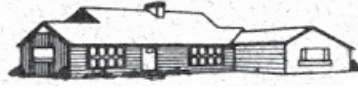
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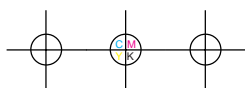
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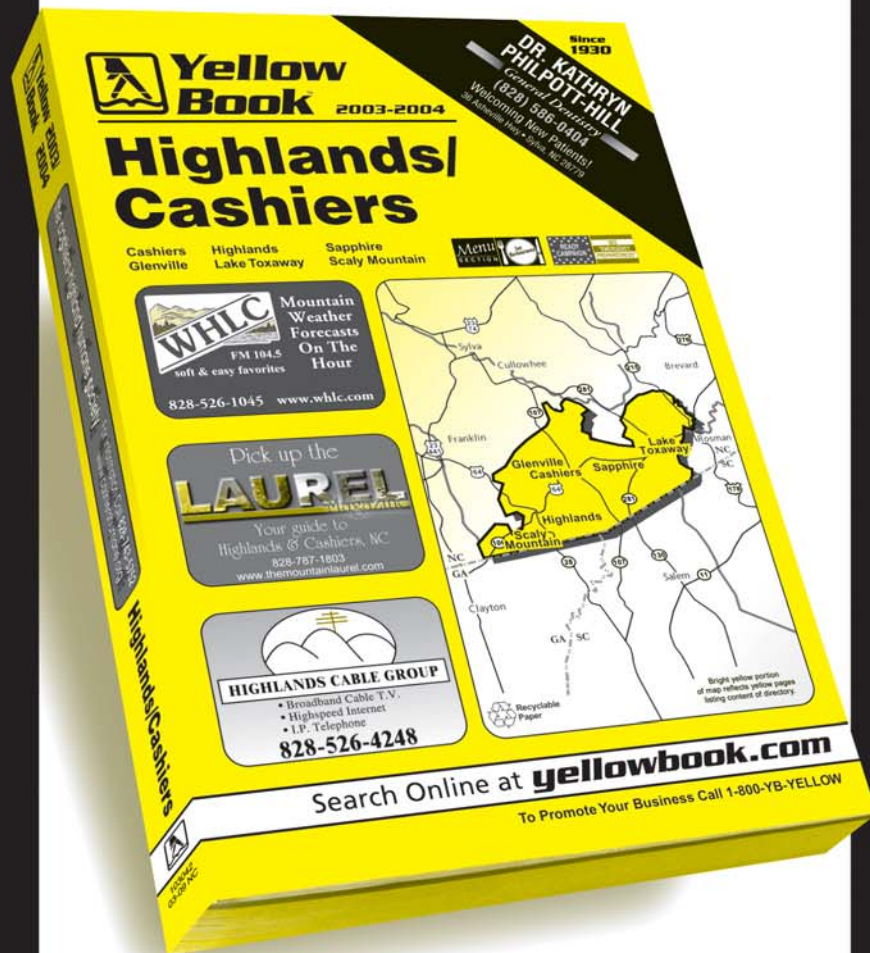

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Albert Carlton – Cashiers Community Library
located opposite the post office in Cashiers.

Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce,
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Highlands Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center,
located above town hall, Oak St. and 4th St., Highlands



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New family physician comes to Cashiers

The Highlands-Cashiers area will soon have the services of another family physician. Dr. Toby Lindsay, who has been in practice in Brevard for the past 14 years, will open a private medical practice in Cashiers on April 4.

His office will be located in the Cashiers Medical Center, on NC 107 South, in space formerly utilized by the Cashiers Physical Therapy Clinic.

“Dr. Lindsay’s decision to relocate to our area is very welcome news here

at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital,” said Jim Graham, administrator at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. “We have recognized for some months now that our area is under-served when it comes to the number of primary care physicians, and we have been working very hard to address that need. Not only is Dr. Lindsay an experienced physician with excellent credentials, he is already licensed in North Carolina. That means he will be able to begin serving patients here much sooner than someone who has to go through the licensing process.”

His new office staff will begin accepting appointments on March 21.

A native of High Point, NC, Dr. Lindsay earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 1988 and completed both his internship and residency in family practice at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, finishing in 1991.



Dr. Toby Lindsay

He joined Brevard Family Practice in Brevard later that same year, and practiced as part of that group until 2004, when he opened an independent practice, Davidson River Family

Medicine. In addition to his private practice, Dr. Lindsay has also worked as a part-time emergency room physician throughout his career; first at Swain County Hospital in Bryson City and later at Angel Medical Center in Franklin, as well as at Transylvania Community Hospital in Brevard.

As part of the primary care staff at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, he will regularly be working in the hospital’s emergency room.

He is also an adjunct instructor with the Department of Family Medicine at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine.

Tickets on sale for ‘Steppin’ Out’

Tickets are now on sale for “Steppin’ Out”, the second play of the Highlands Community Players Tenth Anniversary Season.

The box office, located at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street in Highlands, is open Monday through Saturday from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. and Sundays from Noon to 2 p.m.

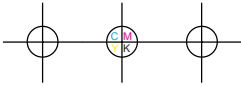
Performances run March 3 through 6 and March 12 and 13. Evening curtain times are 8:00 P.M. and Sunday matinees are at 2:30 P.M.

Reservations can also be made by calling the box office number 828-526-8084 at any time and leaving a message. Box office volunteers will return calls during the next business day.

“Steppin’ Out” is a charming comedy about a diverse group of eight women and one man who come together to learn to tap dance from Mavis, their instructor. Each has a different reason for being there and each must learn to deal with dancing and their own problems.

Cast members are Nancy Reeder, Bonnie Earman, Catlin Huitt, Caroline Wilder, Justin Taylor, Ginny Harris, Ronnie Spilton, Sue Feldkamp, Mary Adair Leslie and Misty Thomas.

The production is directed by Tanji Armor. Jenny King is stage manager and Donna Cochran is the production coordinator. Lighting is by Jim Gordon.



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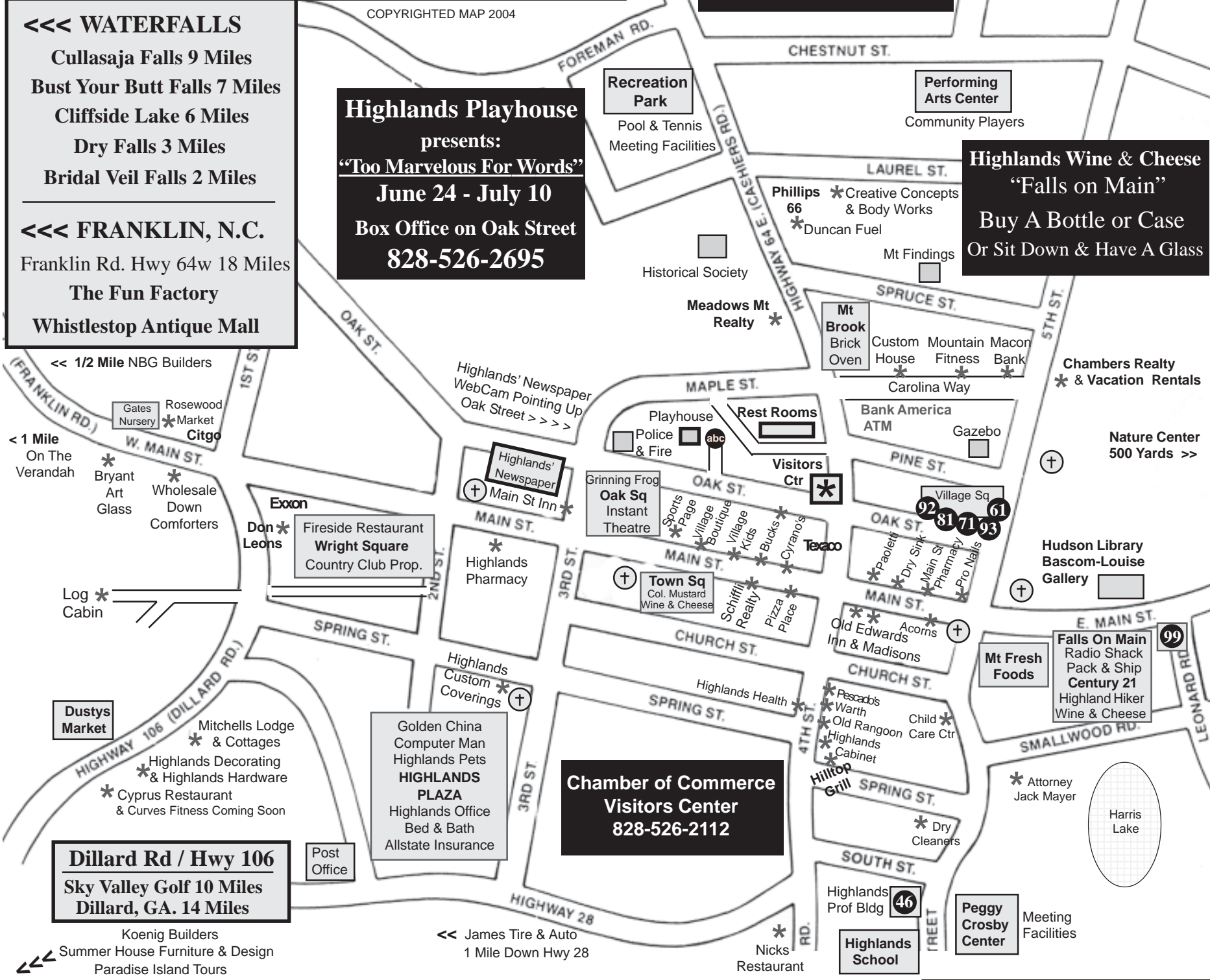
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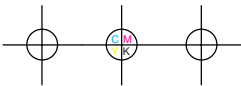
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March 3-6, 12, 13
Performing Arts Center
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828-526-8084



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

- At Highlands Wine & Cheese at the Falls on Main, free wine flights Friday & Saturday from 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- "Evenings of Entertainment" Friday nights at Instant Theatre Company in Oak Square on Main Street. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Show starts promptly at 8 p.m. No entry after show begins. Doors open at 7:45 p.m. Call for reservations. 526-1687.
- The Instant Theatre Company's presents free Improvisation classes for adults Wednesday evenings February through May, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the ITC's Studio on Main at 310 Oak Square. Auditions for musicians and singers are held 7:30-8 p.m. also on Wednesdays. Call 526-1687.
- Pilates classes are Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. at the Rec Park. The cost is \$8 per class, but the first class is FREE. Participants need to bring a mat if possible.
- At the Bascom-Louise Gallery - Open Studio with a Live Model 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the gallery. This class is for artists 18 yrs. and older or under 18 with written parent permission.
- Al-Anon Group meets at noon on Thursdays in the Community Room at First Presbyterian Church.

- Mountainview Alcoholics Anonymous meets in the remodeled basement room of the Presbyterian Church sanctuary, Mondays in Highlands at 8 p.m.; Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. (women only); Wed. and Fri. at noon.

Feb. 25

- Senior Citizens Lunch at the Civic Center at noon. For those 50 years old and up! Donations accepted.
- Deadline to register and pay for the American Red Cross Adult CPR with AED and Infant/Child CPR course set for Tues. March 1, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Health Dept. Call 349-2439.

Feb. 26

- Old Edwards Inn & Spa Job Fair -- Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center. Looking for front desk, valet, all spa service and support positions, housekeeping, culinary, retail, restaurant, graphic design and systems management.
- Coffee Tasting & Discussion at Buck's Coffee Cafe, 3-4:30 p.m. Sample various coffees while experts from Cafe Campesino discuss fair trade practices and the art of coffee roasting.

Feb. 28

- The Literacy Council is sponsoring a creative writing class Monday nights, from 5 to 7:30, It's free and for 6th-12th grades. Call 526-9938 ext 240.

March 3-6 & 12-13

- HCP presents "Stepping Out" at PAC. Call 526-8084 for tickets and info.

March 5

- The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation is sponsoring a Flying Solo, a seminar for area singles Sat., March 5, from 10-3. Flying Solo founder, Dr. Kay Collier McLaughlin, a psychologist with specialties in group development, issues of singleness and bereavement counseling. It costs \$5 and includes lunch. Call 526-2968.

- Chili CookOff and Salsa Contest at the Highlands Conference Center from 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$20 per person for chili, salsa and beer. Tickets available at the Visitor Center. For more info, call 526-5841.

March 6

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike to Black Mountain in the Jones Creek area. Meet at Westage Plaza in Franklin, near Burger

King, at 2 p.m. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors welcome, but no pets please.

- Taco Dinner at Highlands United Methodist Church to raise funds for Bolivia mission trip at noon. \$7 adults, \$3 children.

March 10 & 12

• Beekeeping School for Beginners will be held two days - Thursday from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the N.C. Extension Office in Franklin. To register, call at 526-2385.

March 12

- Macon County Republican convention at Franklin high school.
- Auditions for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, 2-4 p.m. at Highlands Playhouse. Call 526-2695 or 507-2270.

March 13 - 18

• Roots of the Appalachians - The People and the Culture - at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Centers and Elderhostel International at in Highlands. To register call 877-426-8056.

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Map labels include: Dillsboro 20 Miles, Franklin Highlands 18 Miles, Whistle Stop, Ruby Cinema, Fun Factory, Cullasaja Falls, Cashiers To Highlands 10 Miles, Gem Mine, Bust Your Butt Falls, Cliffside Lake, Bridal Veil, Dry Falls, Bartram Trail, Chinquapin Mt Trail, Scaly Snow Tubing, Sky Valley, GA. Golf & Skiing, Chattooga & Bartram Trail, Highlands Cove, HOSPITAL, Whiteside Trail, Sliding Rock, BP Gas & Stores Maps & Information, Sapphire Mt Golf, Skiing & Tubing, Silver Run Falls, Iron Bridge, Chattooga Trail, Lake Glenville, Marina Gas & Store, Gorges Park, Whitewater Falls, Lake Toxaway, Brevard Highlands 38 Miles, Hwy 441, Hwy 107, Hwy 64w & 28n, Hwy 106, Hwy 64e, Hwy 281, Hwy 130, Hwy 107s, Hwy 28s.