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Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 1, Number 12

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Oct., 3, 2003

Week of Oct. 3-9

Oct. 3

- Singer-Songwriter's, Thea & the GreenMan will be at Buck's Coffee Cafe on Main Street Friday night from 8 to 11 p.m. for their last performance of the season in Highlands.

Oct. 4

- Come to a benefit for Highlands School 9th-grader Kelly Bear's Dad who was injured in a motorcycle accident. It's from 3-8 p.m. at the Cashiers Village Green. Live music, BBQ, baked goods, & silent auction. Proceeds will help pay hospital expenses.

- A One-Man Show – Scenes From A Life: The Story of Albert Schweitzer at PAC. Tickets are \$100 and available in Highlands at The Antique Gallery at The Falls on Main, and in Cashiers at the Cashiers Printing.

- Rabies Clinic at the Highlands Conference Center from 1-2:30 p.m. and at the Scaly Mtn. Post Office from 3-4 p.m. It's \$5 per pet.

Oct. 5

- LifeChain, 2-3 p.m. at Cleaveland Realty – a peaceful, legal, community-wide hour of silent prayer to end abortions and to heal women suffering from post-abortion trauma.

Oct. 6

- Leadership Highlands' Candidate Forum is set for 7 p.m. at the Rec Park.

- Manual de Juan, general manager of the Old Edwards Inn will present a special program "The transition to the business environment and culture when English is not your native language," 6:30 p.m., at the Literacy Council, for ESL students, Hispanic parents, children and interested members of the public. De Juan is from Spain. Call 526-9938 ext. 24.

Oct. 7

- The Highlands Community Child Development Center on Church Street will hold its ground-breaking ceremony the afternoon of Tuesday, October 7 at 5 p.m.

Oct. 8

- "The Hudson Library with all in the Fontana Regional Library system, will be closed Wednesday, October 8, for its annual staff training.

Retail directory signs going up in town

By Kim Lewicki

Come Thanksgiving there will be eight, retail directional anodized aluminum signs placed strategically around town.

Though commissioners and the mayor were not wholeheartedly for the concept, at the Oct. 1 Town Board meeting, the board voted to allow the Chamber of Commerce to erect its

signs for one year subject to review.

"I don't think it's going to be functional or work the way you expect it too," said Commissioner Mike Cavender.

Mayor Buck Trott said he thought it was a big gamble. "It's a waste of \$10,000. I'd rather see them spend that money on public bathrooms."

He also said one of the comments

he hears regularly from visitors is how nice it is that Highlands has limited the number of signs in town.

Amy Patterson said she didn't have a problem with it. "It's not our job to determine if it is going to work, it's our job to decide if it's what we want for Highlands and if it's going

▪See RETAIL page 2

First ever SOAR Adventure Race scores big

By Kim Lewicki

They came from all over the southeastern United States, fit, firm and ready to win.

For some, adventure races were common place, for others Highlands' SOAR race was their first.

They paid \$85 to enter as a single, a little over \$100 to enter as teams of two, all to benefit the children of fallen soldiers. Through donations, sponsors, raffle ticket earnings and entrance fees the event brought in between \$25,000 and \$30,000 which will be used to fund college educations for children of service men and women who have died in the

line of duty.

Tracking the race was a trek in itself. Racers started jogging and running from the Rec Park up Chestnut Street to Upper Lake Road bound for Bowery Road

and Black Rock Mountain. Four lines draped the face of Black Mountain which they rappelled landing about two miles

▪See SOAR page 8



Photos by Jim Lewicki

The SOAR Adventure Race started at 9 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 27 as 43 entrants took off from the back entrance of the Highlands Rec Park bound for Bowery Road and Black Rock Mountain.

Pine Street pavilion plans still evolving

By Kim Lewicki

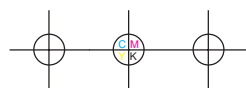
In one week's time, the Chamber of Commerce's design for the proposed pavilion over Pine Street has changed – evolved, actually into something some see as more "doable."

Instead of covering Pine Street midway from the Bank of America property line to Fifth Street with a pavilion in a parallel fashion, a plan incorporating the parking area behind the "old post office" with a pavilion stretching across Pine in a perpen-

dicular design is now being considered.

"It actually sounds better because you wouldn't have this large, somewhat imposing structure going down

▪See PAVILION page 11



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'Streetscape' on the fast-track

By Kim Lewicki

The planning board and appearance commission have decided to work together on a formal streetscape plan for Highlands - a plan to address sidewalks, benches, planters, and trash cans. They have lots of good ideas, but they're pretty sure they need help.

"It would be good to hire an consultant who could bring some "outside" creativity to the table," said planning board member, Ginger Slaughter.

The planning board is allowed to hire consultants, but it must get Town Board approval first. The board decided to approach commissioners after the November election.

After a walk around town last week, the group is anxious to get certain aspects of the streetscape finalized - particularly a master sidewalk plan.

"It would have been good if we had this decided before all this construction got started," said Larry Gantenbein, zoning administrator. "The central business district should be sidewalked as it develops."

Developers in the downtown district are responsible for putting in sidewalks in front of their buildings, but as of yet, they don't have to put down brick. But the brick is what visibly ties the downtown business district together.

... RETAIL from page 1

to look tacky." She said she didn't find the signs to be obtrusive.

Each 24-inch by 36-inch sign will be either attached to a building at the intersection of a block or erected on a 4-inch by 4-inch galvanized pole.

Businesses, shops and town sites will be listed in three columns on each sign with the potential of 90 listings - 30 per column. But Stan Cochran, Chamber representative, said its unlikely any of the signs will be filled.

"In the last 10 years we've seen a big change in Highlands and visitors

Jim Graham suggested they attack the sidewalk problem first. "We should probably start with a sidewalk plan to define the areas we want to get involved with," he said. "That's a piece of work that needs to be done quickly." After an area is defined, extras like benches and planters will be discussed for those particular areas.

Retaining green space in the central business district was also high on the group's list of at the special meeting, Monday, Sept. 29.

Members would like to acquire the Loafer's Bench area, part of the lot next to the police station, and the nook on Church Street across from the Old Edwards Inn so those areas could be "forever green."

"Perhaps we could approach this like the Land Trust," said Graham. "Property owners could donate areas for a tax write off."

Securing grants was also suggested as a way to acquire small parcels of green area in the business district.

"It would be great if we had little areas where people could just sit down and relax," said Slaughter. "We are a pedestrian town but there aren't enough places to sit."

The combo-group will be meeting once a week until a plan is formalized, but won't request funding for a consultant from the Town Board until after the election.

are disoriented and confused as to where things are located. Economically this will be good for business owners and it will generate sales tax revenue for the town," said Cochran.

Business plaques will cost \$20 and all businesses, not just Chamber of Commerce members are eligible to participate. The Chamber is paying 70 percent of the cost and business owners will pay the rest.

Each sign will list businesses ahead on the block and all but one will be erected on private property.

Decision on cable franchise set for Oct. 15

At the Oct. 15 Town Board meeting, an administrative hearing will be held to determine if the town's franchise agreement with Highlands Cable Group should be terminated or extended.

At the Sept. 19 Town Board meet-

ing, Highlands Cable was given one week to supply requested paperwork, acquire a permit, pay pole attachment fees and bring illegally strung cable into compliance.

Town officials say not all those points haven't been accomplished.

Locals and visitors looking forward to Highlands Craft Show Oct. 11



Sue Potts, Nona Reese, Jane Lewis, and Mildred Wilson work on dried flower wreaths they will be selling at the 21st annual Highlands Arts & Crafts Show, Saturday, Oct. 11, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Featured are quality arts and crafts by area artisans, food and entertainment from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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• Laughing at Life •

Never trust a man who...

(A true story, I'll swear)

By Fred Wooldridge

My Pa used to say, "Never trust a man who looks you square in the eye and says, 'I'm just a poor old country boy looking to make a buck.' 'If that ever happens,' he continued, 'grab your wallet and run.' Not sure why he told me that, but he was an authority on the topic.

Pa was born in 1896 at a small place called Upton, in Hardin County, Kentucky, just a stone's throw from where the Hatfields and McCoys used to shoot it out regularly. My Pa was an authentic, bonafide, poor old country boy. 1896 was the same year Henry Ford invented his first gasoline motor car, the "Quadricycle," and drove it through the streets of Detroit.

Things were not as exciting at Pa's house. He lost both his parents to consumption (TB) before his second birthday and lived with his dirt farmer grandparents in a small, rundown farmhouse with no electricity or indoor plumbing. As soon as he could walk, he helped in the fields and by the time he reached the 8th grade, his grandparents decided he should stop wasting time in school and go to work in the coal mines.

Even though the railroad had come to Hardin County, bringing in electricity, indoor water, and other luxuries, my Pa, now sixteen, packed his stuff in a single suitcase and, with no money in his pocket, headed for Louisville.

General Foods Corporation was expanding rapidly and looking for traveling salesmen to sell their products. By this time, Henry Ford had perfected the Model T and was selling them to whoever could afford one. General Foods had just bought six coupes to assign to newly hired salesmen. At the job interview, the company asked my Pa about his background. He looked them square in the eye and told them he was just a poor old country boy looking to make a buck. They hired him instantly.

Pa couldn't have been happier. All the way from dirt farming to cruising around in a brand new Model T and getting paid for it. Each Monday morning, Pa would load up his coupe with catalogs and food supplies, mostly cereal, and head out across the state, returning with an empty car and a fist full of money. When skeptical purchasers would



give him a leery glance, he would look them square in the eye and tell them, "I'm just a poor old country boy looking to make a buck." During his evening stops, he would dazzle the young ladies with his music by playing the hand saw with his bow.

By the time I was born, Pa had given up his traveling salesman job and was delivering milk. He eventually saved enough to buy a restaurant, then two. I would question him about his traveling days, looking for juicy stories of a single man on the road. But my Pa was never my friend; he was my Pa. Telling me stories of the old days would bring us much too close for his comfort.

The only story I ever got from him was he claimed to have invented "Postum," a cereal substitute that Pa would deliver to the Kentucky State Prison on a weekly basis. Pa went to his grave complaining he had been cheated out of his invention. Since Postum was invented the same year Pa was born, it could be he had bumped his head on the field plow one too many times.

Although I'll never know for sure, I would like to think that Pa was a poor old country boy who could be trusted. He raised three kids, only married once, living with my Ma until he died. I never once saw him do a dishonest thing and never heard him say one single curse word, not even the "D" word after striking his thumb with a hammer. He thought all people who went to church were hypocrites, treated black people like chattel and worked sixteen hours a day right up until the end of his life. Not once did I ever see him pray.

But since Pa wasn't dealt very many good life cards, I'm hoping God took that into consideration and eventually let him into heaven.

If so, there has to be a special place, maybe over in the corner, for Hardin County poor old country boys who were just looking to make a buck.

• Life Under Construction •

Patience, anyone?

Dr. Maryellen Lipinski

This column will be a bit different. Today is the Thursday before the Monday that my column is due. I am going to talk about patience and the importance of having it and I thought I'd better get an early start.

Let's get one thing straight. Right now I don't have any. Where to get started? Why not open my dictionary and at least define it. Not just any dictionary, but the Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language with more than a quarter million entries, and only 1854 pages. It's heavy.

Patience – the bearing of provocation, annoyance, misfortune, pain, etc., without complaint, loss of temper, irritation, or the like. OK! Now I am sure I don't have any. The definition continues by stating that it is an ability or willingness to suppress restlessness or annoyance in waiting. That must be the part I need to work on this week. I have learned not to inflict my albatross on others, so at least that is good. Well, most of the time.

I'm working on patience because I have an event that I am not looking forward to but it has to happen and it is yet a week away. To be honest, I want it to be over, now. What is that saying? Give me patience and give it to me now. What to do? Just wait?

Maybe not. Could I somehow look at this as an opportunity? Yes, that is what I intend to do, starting today. I'll just make myself a construction project and sharp-



en my tools.

What to do with a restless mind? Back to the title of one of my favorite books; Wherever You Go - There You Are by Jon Kabat-Zinn. You either get what this means or you don't. I hope you do.

It is now Sunday and so far so good. I have a simple goal today. I'm going to spend today capturing the moments by paying attention.

Sunday night. I did it and it worked. It is now 10:00 pm and I am settling in for the evening.

The rest of the week, I am going to work on my faith a bit. Maybe then I won't have to work so hard on my patience. Maybe it would be a good thing to focus less on me and more on others!

A little reading always seems to help. There is a book about patience that might be helpful if you find yourself in a similar situation. *The Power of Patience: How to Slow the Rush and Enjoy More Happiness, Success, and Peace of Mind Every Day* by Mary Jane Ryan. An interesting side note. The thesaurus lists serenity as a synonym for patience. I wonder why?

Dr. Maryellen Lipinski is a psychologist by profession and an international professional speaker. She coaches individuals to obtain their goals in life and works as a Realtor at Village Realty of Sapphire Valley to help them find a home in these majestic mountains. Her first book, *Random Thoughts and Mine Always Are. Conscious Detours to Creative Power* will make you laugh, cry, and think! Her next book, *Life Under Construction...A Work In Progress* is at the printers! www.maryellenlipinski.com

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• Movie Pix •

The Video Guy Presents:

The Milagro Beanfield War

Based on John Nichols' 1974 novel, produced and directed by Robert Redford and Moctesuma Esparsa, this is a comedy with dramatic overtones, or maybe a drama with comic overtones.

It is the story of small towns and how people react to things becoming different from what they once were. So, despite the story taking place in southwestern New Mexico with an almost entirely Mexican American cast, it's not much of a stretch to see Highlands, Cashiers, or any one of a thousand small old towns that face change when developers and new money come in.

The story line: Unemployed Joe Mondragon (Chick Vennara) accidentally "borrows" some water owned by a wealthy land developer and decides to irrigate a bean field. The sleepy town of Milagro wakes up with a vengeance.

The terrific ensemble case, includes an aging 60s radical (John Heard), wise local sheriff (Ruben Blades), small town mayor (Freddie Fender), village elder (Carlos Riquelme, in his U.S. movie debut), and the beautiful Sonia Braga as Ruby, the auto mechanic. Together they get in fist fights in town meetings, gossip and pontificate, take sides, change sides, make sacrifices to Saint Jude, and engage in running gun battles. And grow beans. A ghost (played by Roberto Carricat), a pet pig Lupita (played by Lupita the pig), and someone's missing arm



Stuart Armor/Movie Stop

also play prominent roles.

Clever, funny and well done, the bad guys are not really bad (except Christopher Walken, of course), the good guys are just ordinary folks, and though

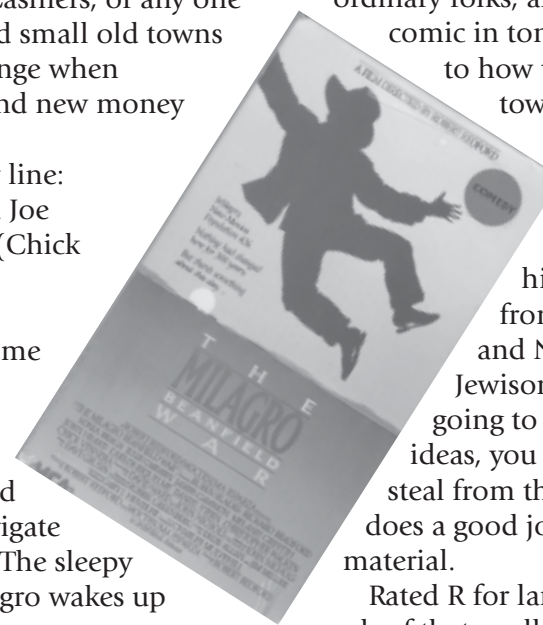
comic in tone, it does speak to how things in small towns can change in unexpected ways.

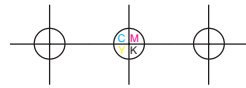
Redford seems to take his directing cues from Frank Capra and Norman Jewison (hey, if you're going to steal someone's ideas, you might as well steal from the best) and does a good job with this material.

Rated R for language, and not much of that, really, it's otherwise a whole family film. The violence is non-gory, the missing arm is never actually shown, the ghost is non-scary, and while I don't want to give away the ending, the pig is OK by the end of the movie.

Other thematically related films are "Tortilla Soup," "Perez Family," "Joy Luck Club," and more dramatic but really a similar story, "Foxfire," which is a must see for anyone in these mountains.

Come by and pick a movie from about 5,000 choices at the Movie Stop in the Mountain Brook Center.





• Police & Fire Report •

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of Sept. 24-Oct. 1. The only names are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

Sept. 24

- At 9:55 a.m., officers responded to an accident in the Furniture South parking lot. There were no injuries.

Sept. 25

- At 4:19 a.m., officers on patrol found an open door at ...on the Verandah. All was secure.

- At 9 a.m. officers received a call from a resident claiming mail they sent to the Macon County Courthouse never arrived.

Sept. 27

- At 11 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at a residence on Sequoyah Ridge Road. All was secure.

Sept. 28

- At 1:48 a.m. officers responded to an accident. There were no injuries.

- At 7:20 a.m., a motorist was cited for driving 55 mph in a 35 zone.

- At 8:57 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at Main Street Pharmacy. All was secure.

- At 1:55 p.m., officers responded to a call of illegal burning at the gym lot at Highlands School.

Sept. 29

- At 8 p.m., officers responded to a dispute at Buck's Coffee Cafe and the person was told not to return.

- At 8 p.m., officers responded to a resident on Fourth Street who couldn't turn off her smoke alarm.

- At 8:45 p.m., officers responded to a dispute between a landlord and renter who wanted a security check. All was worked out.

Sept. 30

- At 8:23 a.m., a motorist on Mirror Lake Road was cited for driving without registration and with a false license.

- At 8:53 a.m., a motorist on Fourth Street was cited for driving without proof of registration.

- At 9 p.m., Leonardo Damian Gonzales, 37, of Highlands, was arrested for driving while his license was suspended.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department log entries for Sept. 24-Oct. 1.

Sept. 24

- The dept. was first responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Spring Street. The victim was transported to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

- The dept. was asked to assist the Macon County Deputy Sheriff at Highland Point on N.C. 106 where an intoxicated man was stuck in a hole.

Sept. 25

- The dept. responded to a call from a resident on Dog Mountain who had fallen and suffered lacerations. He was transported to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

- The dept. responded to a call at Highlands Falls Country Club where a tractor had overturned.

Sept. 26

- The dept. responded to an accident on Blue Valley Road. There was one injury but no transport.

Sept. 27

- The dept. responded to a call of an explosion and fire on Clear Creek Road, but it was a controlled burn.

Sept. 29

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Flat Mountain Road but it was a false alarm.

- The dept. responded to a two-car accident on U.S. 64 west about 1 1/2 miles west of Turtle Pond road. Three people were injured and transported to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

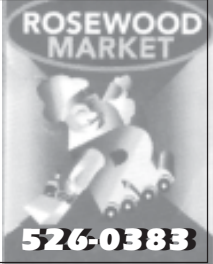
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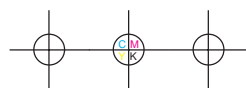
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... SOAR from page 1



from Luther Turner's home, the old "Hill House" in the Cove.

Early on, the race got tricky. The trail leading from the Turner's to the face of Black Rock was flagged every 50-100 feet or so and was easy to follow from Turner's to Black Rock. But somehow the same trail took on added dimensions on the return route (the only route the participants ever saw). It became obscured by rhododendron thickets, sticker bushes, and lots of surveyor flags also tied to trees and bushes.

Though all the racers made it back to the Hill House check point, not all of them made it in a timely manner, nor did they use the designated trail.

Race volunteers waited at the mouth of the trail, but few racers came their way. "I waited there hoping to get a picture of them splashing through the creek but they didn't come," said Edie Rosenthal, SOAR public relations director.

Some cut through the Hastings place next door to the Turners, others looped back another way until just 12 were missing. Officials rang a bell to "try to help them get their bearings," and Highlands Fire & Rescue took to the four-wheeler to help round them up.

That was the third leg of what be-

came an all-day adventure for some.

At the Hill House racers jumped on mountain bikes and headed across the street to Walkingstick Road where they biked a total of 18 miles – down Walkingstick and Rich Gap roads, across N.C. 28 to Sassafras Gap Road down into Blue Valley.

Then it was up the Glen Falls forest service road where some walked, some carried, and some rode their bikes up to N.C. 106 and on to Arnold Road and Lake Sequoyah to the Reed dock where they left their bikes for canoes.

Then it was a 3.2 mile trek around the lake with four checkpoints, then back on the bikes, and on to Cobb Road, U.S. 64 west, Cullasaja Road and finally back to where they started – the back entrance of the Rec Park on Foreman Road.

The winners – National Adventure Race Champions 2002 – two teams from Asheville and Chattanooga, Tenn., Lightspeed II in first place at three hours and 44 minutes and Lightspeed I in second place at three hours and 49 minutes.

This year's winners earned medals and the satisfaction of knowing they are tough enough to take on the wilds of Highlands. Next year, monetary awards are planned.



Winners from left, Kee Simril, 38, Jay Camera, 36, Brenda Simril, 36, and Dan Miller. The Lightspeed teams have won adventure races before.

• Sports Picks •

Do we love the game or the people who play the game?

All's fair in love and baseball, isn't it? Or is it, all's fair in love and war?

Since this column is all about asking questions, I have a few that I have been meaning to ask.

Who is the real Barry Bonds? I mean, honestly, who is the real Barry Bonds? Does anybody know? Can anyone reveal this to me? The media in 1998 said that Bonds was an arrogant choker who thought he was bigger than the team. Now the media says that Bonds has a softer side, and that he is a true asset to the Giants, and could possibly be the greatest player ever. So which is it?

Bonds is surly with the fans and media, yet he truly adores his children and family. This evidenced clearly by his choice of being at his father's deathbed over a playoff race. Bonds has never won a World Series, yet last October he was the most feared man on the planet, getting clutch hits at every opportunity presented to him.

Knowing people that both love Barry and hate Barry, I have heard every argument about this subject, and they all have merit. Yet, I can't help but ask questions about this enigma named Bonds.

Would I even be writing this column if Barry hadn't shattered the single season home run record and become the unchallenged king of baseball at an age when most men are wearing combovers and buying sports cars?

Would I be writing this column if Barry had not alienated fans, writers and teammates with his aloof behavior?

Would I be writing this column if America cared only for greatness, and less about personality?

See, today's society wants to reward greatness, but only at a certain price. Our heroes today must be flashy and charismatic, not bland and ordinary.

This year's NBA finals ratings were at an all-time low, and it was

due to a battle between Tim Duncan and Jason Kidd rather than a love-fest for Shaq and Kobe.

Tim Duncan is bar-none the top player in the NBA, but because he scores with soft bank shots and mechanically perfected post moves, fans shun his performances for flashier dunk artists and trash-

talking streetballers. (How else do you explain the popularity of Vince Carter, who once sat out three games due to a hangnail?)

Pete Sampras has won more grand slams than any other tennis player in history, yet he is a mere afterthought in men's tennis due to the colorful nature of players named Agassi and Roddick.

Players like Terrell Owens, Warren Sapp and Jeremy Shockey are the face of the NFL, while players who shut up and do their jobs like Brad Johnson (Super Bowl Champion QB-for those who don't know), Rich Gannon and Steve McNair are ignored everywhere but their hometowns.

Which brings us to love — who do we love? Do we love athletes who are human-who sin just like we do, who laugh and cry and show raw emotion? Do we love athletes that seize the moment like no other? Do we love people that are described as gritty or gutty or undersized? Do we love athletes who talk about their own greatness, and then back it up? Do we love

■ See SPORTS PICKS page 9



Ryan Potts

... SPORTS PICKS from page 8

the dramatic, the spectacular, the ordinary and the sublime?

But the most important question of all is, what do we love the most? Do we love the game, or do we love the person who plays the game?

When you are playing catch with your kid in the driveway — is it important who they are pretending to be, or what they are pretending to be?

Baseball players, basketball players, football players, hockey players — they are really just players. People playing a game cannot be bigger than the game, because without it, they are just like you and me.

So I ask myself, is it really necessary to love Barry Bonds to love Barry Bonds? (no, that is not a misprint)

Americans love movies with superheroes, happy endings and dramatics. So what is not to love about a man who walks to the plate with bravado and captivates an entire nation in one swing? We love the characters of Superman and Spiderman because they are flawed — but we love their flaws because of their deeds and actions. Because Superman can do things no other human can do, yet he still has human qualities such as humility and anger.

Because when the chips are down, you can always count on Spiderman to come through and save Mary Jane, all while making it fun and exciting. Because when the good guy is in trouble, the 54-year-old Hulkster shows up and single-handedly vanquishes the bad guys with nothing more than creaky punches and a legdrop.

Yet-we love every second of it, no matter how surreal it may be. When a 39-year-old man does the improbable night after night and swells the emotions of an entire nation — is that not legendary stuff?

So what do we love? Do we love baseball? Do we love Barry Bonds? Is anything fair in love and baseball? Hey, I just ask the questions — history will provide the answers.

The art of cake baking



Highlands School Food II class baked all of the desserts sold at the Relay for Life, School Bar-B-Que dinner booth. Some of the items sold, to support Relay, were vanilla pound cake, chocolate pound cake, brownies, key lime squares, and chocolate chip cookies. The class raised about \$350.00 to help go towards the fight to find a cure for cancer!

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HS volleyball home game against Swain



Alana Wilson with Highlands School Varsity Volleyball team serves up a mean one to opposing team Swain County. They played well, but Swain won all three games – Middle, JV and Varsity, 2-0, 2-0, 3-0 , respectively.

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• Hiking on the Plateau •

Hike the Glen Falls Scenic area

By Leah Ferree
Contributor

The air is getting cooler and although the leaves have not quite started changing, the feel of fall is upon us. Not only does that mean rich fall colors and dropping temperatures, it also means the hiking season is almost over. So, I invite you to take the next few weeks, before it gets too cold, to enjoy yourself outside. Crisp breeze cools the sweat and the trees change to form amazing scenery all around you.

The Glen Falls Scenic Area offers you two options for getting outside and exploring the mountain scenery. Most people know and have experienced the Glen Falls side of the trail, but many of you may not know that there is a very nice trail leading to several mountain top vistas called Chiquapin Mountain on the other side.

To get to the Glen Falls parking area, follow Highway 106 south from Highlands for two miles. Turn left at the sign for Glen Falls Scenic Area. The road will dip down a little bit and turn to gravel. Follow this road for about a mile to the end, where you will find the parking area.

You will see a National Forest Information sign by the trailhead. This is where you will begin for either hike. If you would like to experience the awesomeness of a multiple cascading waterfall, take the trail to your left, and if you would like to experience the peacefulness of a mountain top vista, take the trail to your right.

If you choose to take the left hand trail down to the falls, you will have the option of viewing the cascading waterfall from three different spurs off the main trail. The trail descends pretty quickly and actually starts at the top of the falls, allowing you to see one of the cascades or all three if you like. However, keep in mind that all of the descending that you are doing on the way down is going to become very steep on the way up. If you choose to go all the way down to the last cascade, it will be about two miles round trip.

If you opt for the mountain top views instead, this trail is going to be one and 1/2 miles one-way, but not nearly as

steep as the trail to the falls. You will be gaining about 680 feet in elevation, occurring a little more gradually. Plus, if you go uphill on the way up, that means downhill on the way back.

For the first portion of this trail, you will have to cross over the stream several times as you wind over and around it. Some of the crossings have logs laid for the path as others will just be stones or even stumps. Be careful and keep your balance. There will also be some larger sized roots in the trail; be sure to watch your footing. Once you cross over the stream approximately seven times, you will come to a point where you can take a hard right back over the stream and up through the woods, or you can continue on the same side of the stream and up. Do not cross the stream, stay straight.

There may be a small sign there that points to Glen Falls one way and Chiquapin Mountain the other, but it was torn down when I was there, so don't count on it. The other trail back over the stream is another way to reach Chiquapin Mountain that starts at a trailhead directly off of Highway 106.

Once you pass this point, you will lose the stream that you have been following and encounter some switchbacks. This is where you will begin to feel a slight elevation gain. You will come to another sign pointing out Little Scaly to the right and Chiquapin to the left. At this point, the two ways form a loop that is about a mile all the way around. On this loop, there is a series of about five vantage points where you are awarded with stunning views of Blue Valley (the area between Highlands and Dillard).

Lookout #5 (it will be marked) seems to be the clearest, but from some of the others you do not get such a direct view of V-Z Top (the huge condominiums poking off the mountain). Either trail, Glen Falls or Chiquapin Mountain is beautiful and frequently used, so you don't have to worry

about getting lost. The Chiquapin Mountain trail may be a little less used, if you are looking for serenity.

Both trails are merely minutes from downtown.



At the top of the trail there are five view points, all featuring Blue Valley

• Book Review •

Wealth and Democracy: A Political History of the American Rich

by Kevin Phillips

By Katie Brugger

Contributor

Are you suffering from this recession? I am. I know that technically we aren't in a recession but it sure feels like one. My brother was laid off from his corporate job last spring, and interestingly enough, the last time he was laid off was during the other Bush presidency.

Someone I know has long claimed that there is always a recession during Republican presidencies, but I thought this had to be imaginary. But *Wealth and Democracy* asserts that my friend is right: "Republican presidents since the eighties — Reagan, Bush Senior, and Bush the Younger — have seen federal economic policy largely as a chessboard on which to win investment, profit, tax, and trade incentives for their corporate, financial, big-donor, and upper-income constituencies.

"These biases have given the GOP a much, much higher ratio of US recessions than Democratic administrations — Carter had one, but Kennedy, Johnson and Clinton had none — although the pivotal party economic interests have thrived."

Conservative fiscal policy also concentrates wealth in the hands of a few individuals. Kevin Phillips has produced a detailed history of the wealthy in America, and in the process he documents the negative impact that concentrated wealth has on democracy.

Phillips sees American history cycling back and forth between liberal and conservative eras. He was the chief political analyst for the 1968 Republican presidential

campaign and wrote *The Emerging Republican Majority* in 1969, at a time when most people believed the Democrats had a lock on power.

He wrote a book at the end of the 1980s documenting the Reagan years entitled *The Politics of Rich and Poor*, in which he sketched out his theory that the presidency moves back and forth between the left and right every 32 years or so.

In the same way, he asserts that our country has swung between periods of great wealth formation and populist reform. In fact, he says that this is the genius of American politics: the alternating cycles enable the nation to have both, wealth *and* democracy.

Phillips writes, "Republican presidential periods launched each of the big three eras of greatest wealth formation — the Gilded Age, the Roaring Twenties, and the 18-year Bull Market of the 1980s and 1990s."

He goes on to list the shared characteristics of these periods, some of which are: conservative politics and ideology; skepticism of government — from laissez-faire to program cuts and deregulation; emphasis on markets and the private sector; exaltation of business, entrepreneurialism, and the achievements of free enterprise; replacements of public interest politics by private interest politics with high levels of corruption; reduction or elimination of taxes, especially on corporations, personal incomes, or inheritance; concentration of wealth, economic polarization, and rising levels of inequality.

The first period of great wealth began after the Civil War and resulted in the first billionaire — John D. Rockefeller in the early 1900s — and plenty of multimillionaires.

Mark Twain named this era the Gilded Age. Huge oil, steel, and railroad monopolies were built and political systems were corrupted to perpetuate these great fortunes, but the people who worked for these multimillionaires had no protection at all — in fact, US factories of this time were similar to Third World sweatshops of today.

Demand for reform grew and in the early 1900s the Progressive reforms were passed: the graduated income tax, election of Senators directly by popular vote, worker's compensation laws, safety inspections of factories, regulation of railroads, establishment of the Federal Trade Commission, replacement of the patronage system with the civil service (government jobs), and much more.

The next period of wealth growth was the 1920s, which ended spectacularly in the 1929

stock market crash and the Great Depression. This brought about the next reform period of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, which brought us, most famously, Social Security, but also the 40-hour workweek and minimum wage laws.

Because of these reforms the middle-class prospered between WWII and the late 1970s. But then the pendulum swung again and the third period of wealth formation began in the 1980s. As the wealth shifted back to the few, Phillips writes, "measurements of the social health of US society all showed a dramatic decline starting in the mid 1970s and continuing through the 90s." And he postulates that the reason for the decline is "the effect of a triumphant conservatism loosely committed to markets, globalization, Darwinism, and distrust of noneconomic criteria."

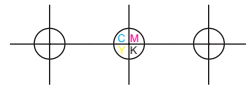
As the following table makes clear, the income of those at the top has grown astronomically in this current period of wealth concentration, while at the bottom income has grown very little.

▪ See BOOK REVIEW page 13

Growing Income Disparity

Household group	Average after-tax income (in 2000 dollars)		
	1979	1999	% Change
Lowest 20%	\$12,600	\$13,700	8.7
Next lowest 20%	\$25,600	\$29,000	13.3
Middle 20%	\$36,400	\$41,900	15.1
Next highest 20%	\$47,700	\$59,200	24.1
Highest 20%	\$84,000	\$141,400	68.3
Highest 1%	\$234,700	\$515,600	201.3

• Source: Congressional Budget Office data analyzed by Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (www.cbpp.org; see their report 9/23/03 "Definitive CBO Data on Income and Tax Trends" which supports the premise of this book)



... BOOK REVIEW from page 12

Highlands' Newspaper - Friday, Oct. 3, 2003 - Page 13

The IRS just released a report (9/26/03) documenting the concentration of wealth: the top one-tenth of one percent (0.001%) of American households earn nearly 10% of all income, while the top 20% earn *half* of all of the income in the United States. Looking at the income disparity table I find myself wondering what the next reform movement will look like.

Phillips also looks at a larger cycle: the rise and fall of Great Powers. He compares the US to the Netherlands, Spain, and Great Britain, and shows how we are actually in the later stage of great power development, just prior to the fall. Ominously, he writes: "Over four centuries, leading economic power decline has been catalyzed by an unexpectedly long war entered into with unwarranted hubris." Spain had the 30 year war (1618-1648), The Netherlands the Nine Years War (1688-97) and War of the Spanish Succession (1702-1713), and England had WWI & WWII. I couldn't help but think of the "war on terror" and the invasion of Iraq when reading this passage.

One of the problems with concentrations of wealth is the political corruption that inevitably ensues. Phillips writes, "What made the corruption of the 1980s and 1990s rank with the Gilded Age was the vast, relentless takeover of US politics and policymaking by large donors to federal campaigns and propaganda organs. The S&L scandals showed the corruption in both parties...The S&L rescue was financed by floating hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of US bonds, to be paid for by the public over *forty years*. [My emphasis—we're still paying off this bailout!] Not all of the rescue was necessary. Big depositors were completely paid off in disregard of

the \$100,000 ceiling of federal depositor insurance, and many of the assets were sold in attractive packages to the politically well connected, sometimes with agreed-upon federal subsidies to sweeten the pie."

The right would like to have us believe that free markets are really free, but the political corruption resulting from concentrated wealth leads to corporate welfare. Phillips states, "corporate growth and momentum after the Civil War occurred not because of laissez-faire, but in considerable measure because railroads and other behemoths were big enough to methodically take over and dominate state legislatures, thereby taking control of the US Senate (state legislatures elected Senators before 1913) and much of the federal and state judiciary. The early 21st century should see another struggle because corporate aggrandizement in the 1980s and 1990s went beyond that of the Gilded Age—the parallels of political corruption and concentrated wealth—to frame issues of abandoning American workers, communities and loyalties. It is not hard to imagine a 21st century debate over a more sophisticated economic version of the old East German offense of *republikflugt*—flight from the nation."

Phillips ends with a discussion of the difference between democracy and capitalism: "*Democracy and market economics are not the same thing*. The attempts to confuse and conflate them in pretended equivalence stood out at the millennium as a destructive aspect of US politics."

This book is timely because it explains many of our current administration's policies. The tax cuts that President Bush has pushed through are aimed at

nothing less than the return to the Gilded Age of unregulated capitalism. (Bush's model is McKinley, who was president at the height of the Gilded Age.) The Republican Party would like to dismantle what they contemptuously refer to as the welfare state, beginning with Social Security and Medicare. These programs are too popular for them to attack frontally so they are waging a stealth campaign. By bankrupting the government through tax cuts, there will be no choice but to eliminate programs. In an interview, Princeton economist and New York Times columnist Paul Krugman said, "If you looked at what the [conservative] Heritage Foundation says, they use the terms 'New Deal' and 'Great Society' as essentially curse words. Everything Franklin Roosevelt or Lyndon Johnson did to provide a little bit of a cushion for Americans having bad luck is a bad thing, from their point of view...if you ask what do the people who keep pushing for one tax cut after another want to accomplish, the answer is they are aiming to create a fiscal crisis which will provide the environment in which they can basically eliminate the welfare state."

Speaking at a press conference arranged by the Economic Policy Institute in August, Robert Solow,

an economist and professor emeritus at M.I.T. who is also a Nobel laureate, assailed the Bush tax cuts as "redistributive in intent and redistributive in effect." The 2001 winner of the Nobel Prize for Economics, George Akerlof, went even further: "This is the worst government the US has ever had in its more than 200 years of history." In describing the impact of the Bush policies on America's future, Akerlof added, "What we have here is a form of looting."

Unless a miracle occurs, George W. Bush will be the first president since Herbert Hoover to have a net loss of jobs during his administration. Hoover, you may remember, was president during the Crash of 1929 and the onset of the great Depression.

If you are interested in the future of our country, this book is a must.

"Wealth and Democracy" can be obtained by special request at the Hudson Library (305.5P)



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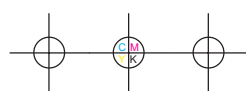
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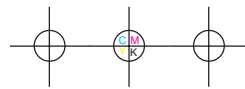
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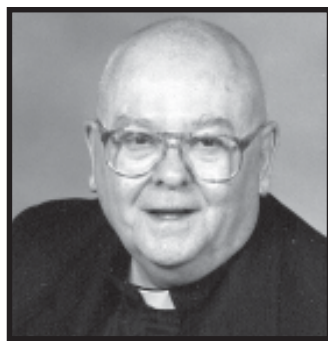
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■ Spiritually Speaking ■



Rev. Bill Evans, priest

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church
& Saint Jude Catholic Church

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 21-23

The readings we have for this weekend contain an invitation to new life, to a new way of being that can only come from hearing the Word of God and truly allowing that Word to take root in us. As Christians, the Word of God is Jesus, just like the beginning of John's Gospel reminds us – "In the beginning was the Word and the Word became flesh." It is the Word as spoken by Jesus on which we are called to model our own lives.

All of life, and especially our personal lives, is a gift from God who wants to endow us – who "will to bring us to birth with a word spoken in truth." For our part, the Letter of James reminds us that we need only to humbly welcome that word, believing that the word has the power to do in us all that it invites us to. So – it is not simply enough to hear the Word of God – we must be ready to act on the Word of God we hear.

As we listen to God's word, as we allow it to shape us and our relationships with others, we become our truest selves, and little by little we take possession of that land that is ours – the human heart – the human heart that God gave to each one of us. We gradually discover that the land in which we dwell is God's heart. We realize ever so gradually that we all live in God's heart.

And we see in God's heart space for all of our brothers and sisters. We find genuine love for our individual selves and greater compassion for others. Violence, oppression, exploitation, all those forms of absence of love are uprooted.

We become the people, as the psalmist describes them, who think truth in the heart, who take up no reproach against the neighbor, who accept no bribe against the innocent. We are those who do justice, who live in the presence of the Lord. We can only do these things if we are alive and well in God's heart.

In this special place where God dwells with us, we come to recognize what is really important to us. Values appear in their proper perspective, and trivial concerns begin to disappear. With the great saint, Julian of

■ See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 15

■ Places of Worship on the Plateau ■

Blue Valley Baptist Church

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.
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 a.m.
First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

Christian Science Services

On the corner of Spring and Third streets
526-2830

Sunday: Morning Service – 11 a.m.
Wednesday: Evening Service – 7 p.m.
Tuesday & Friday: Study room open 2-4 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
Tuesdays: Women's Org. – 6:30 p.m.; Library – 6-8
Wednesdays: Boy Scouts of America mtg. – 6:30 p.m.;
Young women's activities – 6:30 p.m.

Clear Creek Baptist Church

Pastor Everett Wilson, (828) 743-3379
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.; 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 a.m.
Tuesdays: Women's Bible Study – 9:45 a.m.
Wednesdays: Supper – 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study – 6:30
Thursdays: Guys Sr. High Discipleship – 6 p.m.

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Rev. R. Michael Jones, D. Min., Rector: 526-2968
Sundays: Holy Eucharist – 8 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; Adult
Class – 10 a.m.; Children's – 11 a.m.
Tuesdays: Men's Cursillo @ Hampton Inn – 8 a.m.
Wednesdays: Supper and Program @ First Presbyterian
Church – 6 p.m.
Thursdays: Women's Cursillo Group @ Library – 9:30
a.m.; Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.

First Baptist Church

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153
Sundays: 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
p.m.
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.;
Student & Adult Prayer – 6:15 p.m.; Choir – 7:30

First Presbyterian Church

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175
Sundays: Worship – 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. (child care at
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 p.m.

Highlands Assembly of God

Rev. Scott Holland, 524-6026, Sixth Street
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7 p.m.

Highlands Seventh-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 – 10:30a.m.

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 a.m.; Choir
– 6 p.m.
Wednesdays: 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 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
Fridays: Mass – 9 a.m.
Saturdays: 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

Pastor Allen Melton
Sundays: Radio Program 1340 AM – 8:30 a.m.; School
– 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.; Evening – 6
Aug. 31: Rev. Melvin Shuler, a pentecostal preacher
will preach. For more information call 526-3212.

Shortoff Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Baker Crane
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7 p.m.

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin

526-9769
Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time)
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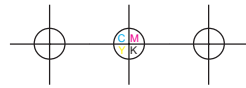
Westside Baptist Church

Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon
Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby
Sundays: Fellowship – 11 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m.

Whiteside Presbyterian Church in America

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





... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING from pg. 14

Highlands' Newspaper - Friday, Oct. 3, 2003 - Page 15

Norwich, we come to trust that "All will be well! All will be well!" – all will be well for us in God's heart.

As I have grown older and reflected more on my own life, I have come to realize that in order for this to happen, I need to slow down a bit, to try to listen to God in all of life. I cannot do this effectively if there is so much clamor in my daily living that, even when I do take a little time, all I hear is my own static.

All of us need to examine the activity in our lives – the patterns of work and leisure, the balance of time spent with friends, family, self, the times of special attentiveness to God. Why is it that we have to fill up every free space in life? Are we afraid to come to a halt for fear of what we will meet when we slow down? Are we afraid of our own company? What about our work? What is that for us? Why

are we spending so much time doing what we are doing. Do we see our work as art, as good use of talent, as creating something beautiful, or do we see it as pure drudgery?

For the Pharisees, their law with its many prescriptions, originally meant to serve them as a means to an end, became instead, their master and the end of all things. Perhaps for us, today, work has become a false idol, an end in itself, our master just as the law was for the Pharisee. Many of us may not have all that much choice in what we are doing. However, we can discover a different way of approaching what we are doing. We can bring forth again those values we have lost sight of and bring them to bear on our working world.

In his encyclical on human work, Pope John Paul II reminded us that "it is

through (our) labors that not only the "fruits of our activity" but also "human dignity, brotherhood, and freedom" must increase on this earth." Whatever is our task – our work – for this time in life we must find within it the means to promote these values of human dignity, brotherhood and freedom. Otherwise, we become like the Scribes and Pharisees described in the gospel. We give lip services to our Christianity, to our relationship with God.

Some years back Mahatma Gandhi drew attention to seven deadly sins that are prevalent in our world today. These sins emerge from that same cold, calculating place in the heart (whether it be the heart of an individual, an institution or a nation) of which Jesus spoke in the Gospel. It may be fruitful to consider Gandhi's words about where evil can take hold of us in situations such as these: "Wealth without work, pleasure

without conscience, commerce without morality, science with humility, worship without sacrifice, knowledge without character, politics without principle." All of these will lead directly to self destruction – in other words, destroy our place in God's hart where we want to live.

We struggle with our sinfulness. Yet the good news is that our God constantly cares for us and never breaks faith with us. He calls us again to justice and love, that we too might continue to live in the land of the living.

Our lives as individuals and as a nation must so respect our relationship with God that others will see in all our endeavors evidence of a loving relationship with the one who is all important to us. It should be said of us what was once said of Israel: "See how close God is to these people."

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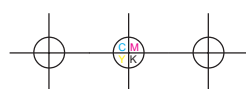


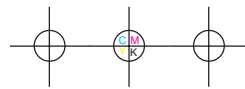
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• Upcoming Events & Activities on the Plateau •

On-going

- Support Highlands School with a banner about your business to be displayed in the gymnasium all year long. Call 526-2147 for details.

- Turn in your used printer ink cartridges to Highlands School. It means money to the school.

- There is a "Teacher Wish List" at the school. Call the office at 526-2147 to see how you can help. Teachers need everything from paper to pens.

- Karate lessons are being taught at the Highlands Civic Center Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:15-4 p.m. Call 526-4318 for more information.

- Step Aerobics at the Highlands Civic Center Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at 4 & 5 p.m. and also on Saturday mornings. Cost is \$5 per class.

- Women's Bible Study at HUMC every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. A nursery is provided.

- Community Christmas Choral rehearsals are Mondays at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

- The Instant Theatre Company Education Program is for children grades first through 12 and adults over 18. Children's Beginning Acting & Theatre Games Grades 1 - 4 Mondays 4-5 p.m. Beginning Acting & Theatre Games Grades 5 - 8 Wednesdays 4-5 p.m.

Teens Acting & Improvisation Grades 9 - 12 Mondays 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Adults - all ages Scene Study & Improv - Wednesdays 6-7 p.m. To sign up call 828-526-1687, or stop by the ITC office at the Peggy Crosby Center, room 218, 5th Street in Highlands. All classes are held at the Peggy Crosby Center. Email at instanttheatre@earthlink.net

- The Chamber of Commerce is having a Christmas Art Contest for the T-shirts that will be sold at the tree lighting and also for the drawing that will be used on the posters for this event. The categories are adult...this picture will be used on the shirt and children to age 16. This picture will be used on the poster. The adult category will win \$100 and the children's will win \$50. This event is sponsored by the Highlands Chamber of Commerce. Any questions please call me at 743-2052 Marianne Vines

Oct. 4

- A benefit for Highlands School ninth-grader Kelly Bear's Dad who was injured in a motorcycle accident. It's from 3-8 p.m. at the Cashiers Village Green. Live music, BBQ, baked goods, & silent auction. Proceeds will help pay hospital expenses.

- A One-Man Show - Scenes From A Life: The Story of Albert Schweitzer at Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. Friends of

the Highlands Community Child Development Center (HCCDC) are sponsoring this benefit. Tickets are \$100 and available in Highlands at The Antique Gallery, at The Falls on Main, and in Cashiers at the Cashiers Printing.

- Rabies Clinic at the Highlands Conference Center from 1-2:30 p.m. and at the Scaly Mtn. Post Office from 3-4 p.m. The cost is \$5 per pet. NC law requires pets over four months old to be vaccinated against rabies. Sponsored by the Macon County Public Health Center. Highlands' Dr. Amy Patterson will administer the shots.

Oct. 5

- LifeChain, 2-3 p.m. at Cleveland Realty - a peaceful, legal, community-wide hour of silent prayer to end abortions and to heal women suffering from post-abortion trauma.

Oct. 7

- There is a PTO Board Meeting in the HS library at 4 p.m.

Oct. 11

- The 21st annual Highlands Arts and Crafts Festival featuring quality arts and crafts by area artisans, food and entertainment from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center.

- The Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society will hold its second annual Paws in the Park dog show in Highlands, Saturday, Oct 11, 9-

12:30 a.m., at the Macon Bank Gazebo Park between Pine and Carolina Way. New this year are the Paws Walk - a pet parade for children and dogs - registration is at 8:30 and Poster Contest for Highlands School students grades K-8.

Oct. 10-11

- "Love Letters" with Rex Reed and Collin Wilcox, a benefit for the Performing Arts Center and the resurrected Instant Theater Company, at PAC. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call Adam Heffernan at 369-3652.

Oct. 14 & 15

- Highlands 2003 Autumn Spectacular Photography Workshop led by photographer Mark W. Hutchinson. Cost is \$300 not including lodging and meals. For more info, call 770-974-3816.

Oct. 18

- The Highlands United Methodist Church is having its annual Octoberfest. Breakfast & lunch will be served and there will be lots of things for sale - used items, new furniture, games & jellies, and Fall decorations.

- The Hudson Library is sponsoring Inman who will speak at 7 p.m. at the PAC

- The Literacy Council is kicking off its tenth year of service with a Football Challenge at the Gazebo on

• See EVENTS page 19

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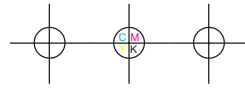
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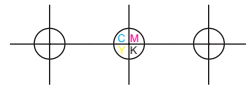
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... EVENTS from page 16

Pine Street from 2-6 p.m. Folks will be asked to donate to the Literacy Council in the name of their alma mater. The challenge – which alma mater is most devoted to literacy.

Oct. 19

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber

Music Festival Fall Concert at PAC at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 or \$5 for students. Call 526-9060.

- It's Fiesta Grande time from 5-8 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center. Tickets are \$30 and include dinner, music and items for

TLC brings Maize back to life



Vince Brestle, Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society manager with Maizie, who was found in Scaly several weeks ago, starving and frightened. After much TLC from staff and volunteers, she is recovering from her ordeal. She loves attention and being held. She has been spayed, has all her vaccinations, and would be a loving companion and house dog for the right person. Call 743-5752 for information.

Paws in the park set for Oct. 11

The Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society will hold its second annual Paws in the Park dog show in Highlands, Saturday, Oct 11, 9-12:30 a.m., at the Macon Bank Gazebo Park between Pine and Carolina Way.

New this year are the Paws Walk – a pet parade for children and dogs – registration is at 8:30 and Poster Contest for Highlands School students grades K-8.

Dr. Amy Patterson will be on hand to answer your pet care questions. Also scheduled are a professional pet photographer and a portraitist. The Macon County Sheriff's Department will bring the K-9 Corps for a demonstration at 10 a.m., plus the trainers for Canine Companions who train dogs to assist the disabled will make a presentation. Other tail wagers include fun contests starting at 11 a.m. for Best Halloween Costume (owner and pet), Biggest Dog, Shortest Dog, Most Obedient, Wet tee-shirt Race, and more. Pet-related items will be for sale along with home-baked goods. Wonderful CHHS animals will be available for adoption under the Stop'n Adopt tent. Registration for the parade is 8:30 a.m.; registration for other events will start at 9:30 a.m..

sale. For more information, call 526-9938, ext. 24.

Oct. 25

- Highlands School's 5K Fun Run and Annual Fall Festival at the Highlands Civic Center from 5-9 p.m. There will be BBQ, baked goods, lots of booths and prizes to

win. Be sure to buy a raffle ticket for \$1 or 6 tickets for \$5 for groceries gas, a savings bond from Wachovia and a gift certificate from Reeves Hardware. All proceeds benefit Highlands School. To register for the 5K Run, call 526-0454.

Free Acting Classes for Children in Western NC & Northeastern GA

The newly resurrected Instant Theatre Company in Highlands is offering free theatre education classes for children from grades first through 12. Classes for adults cost a nominal fee.

The Instant Theatre Company will finance this program through individual donations and box office income from performances. The first ITC show is Love Letters by A.R. Gurney, starring Rex Reed and Collin Wilcox, on October 10 & 11 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands. The production will be directed by ITC artistic director, Adam Heffernan and is sponsored by Gates Nursery of Highlands.

Heffernan, who was the artistic director at Highlands Playhouse this past season, will be teaching the classes which will meet at the Peggy Crosby Center on Firth Street in Highlands. The first set of classes is Beginning Acting & Theatre Games for grades first through fourth, Mondays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., and for grades fifth through eighth, Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to

5 p.m.; Acting & Improvisation for grades ninth through twelfth, Mondays from 6-7 p.m.; Scene Study & Improvisation for adults over the age of 18 on Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m.

Teachers assisting Heffernan in the adult classes will be local stage and screen actress Collin Wilcox (Paxton), and the company's leading improv actor, Scott R. Paxton. Guest teachers will include acclaimed regional theatre director Joseph Megel, playwright & actress Elizabeth Lewis Corley, Janet Coleman who is co-founder of the Loft Theatre in New York and a well known improv teacher, and Max Vogler, stage and screen actor who would be known to local audiences for his performances at the Playhouse in "Hay Fever" and "The Real Thing" last summer.

To sign up for a class, purchase tickets for "Love Letters" or make a donation please call 828-526-1687 or 828-342-9197, visit the office in Room 218 at the Peggy Crosby Center or e-mail at instanttheatre@earthlink.net.

Bookworm winter hours set

The Bookworm has resumed its normal winter hours and will not be open on Tuesday evenings any more this season.

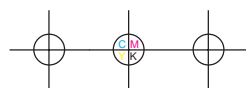
The Bookworm's regular hours are: 10 to 4, Wednesday-Saturday. Located at the Peggy Crosby Center, lower level, the Hudson Library Bookworm sells used books, selected periodicals, videos, CDs, tapes, etc., from donations gratefully accepted at the store.

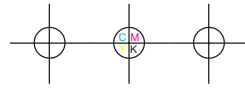
Visitors to The Bookworm should also note a new 12-inch square book drop that can

accommodate small bags of book donations is now available for use (just follow the signs).

The staff requests that large donations be brought inside during the hours the Bookworm is open or that you call Leila Chapman at 526-1608 or Muriel Kolb at 526-3882 to arrange a time to drop them off.

The staff also requests that no boxes of books be left outside at the door as we do not check daily for donations and we would hate to see the donated books get ruined.





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Located on a Waterfall and Stream. This home is high above the 5th green, a 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath features a huge great room with oak hardwood floors and a stone-accented fireplace. A wall of glass and large deck overlooks the waterfall, golf course, and mountain view and make the living areas bright and cheerful. Custom kitchen features a huge island with granite countertops and loads of cabinet space. Master bedroom is spacious and has double walk-in closets. Master bath has tile floors and shower; whirlpool tub, 2 vanities, and opens onto a private deck with hot tub. Upper level has large loft with additional bedroom; fitness or recreation room. Lower level has additional living room and 2 guest suites that open out to a huge deck, 2-car garage. Golf membership is available. (Membership requirements) to Cullasaja Club at current rate. Offered at \$1.6 million and listed exclusively with Country Club Properties.



Yellow Mountain Road. Three-bedroom, two-bath log home is perfect for year-round or weekend retreat. Two-car garage, nice mountain view. Great porches and decks. Offered at \$395,000.



Private Yet Civilized. This 5-bedroom, 3-bath home located on 1.9 acres is located in Rolling Acres. The living room features a large stone fireplace and vaulted ceiling. Large sliding doors open onto a covered porch to enjoy a ridgeline view, the top of Whiteside Mountain and a pond on the grounds with a re-circulating stream. Offered in excellent condition at \$495,000.



Sherwood Forest. New log home features 3 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths. Stone fireplace, custom kitchen with Corian tops, 2-car garage. Lovely setting. One of the best new homes available. Offered at \$565,000.



Shadow Creek Lane. Sitting on a gentle lot at the end of a lane, this lovely 3-bedroom, 2-bath has great features including fireplace and vaulted ceiling in the great room, wood floors, propane and kerosene heat, tile floors in lower level; garage. Back yard features a patio with a hot tub and lovely landscaping. Offered at \$325,000 and shown by appointment only.

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Close In. This old home has a great creek and is ready to be restored to provide enjoyment for many more years to come. Three bedrooms, 2 baths, full basement. Porch with ridgeline view. Wonderful location and setting. Offered at \$425,000.



Flat Mountain Estates. Spectacular mountain vistas are brought in the living area of this wonderfully renovated home located in Flat Mountain Estates. Custom kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, wood floors. Large great room features beam ceiling, stone fireplace with gas starter, and large bar for entertaining. Family room has antique brick fireplace with French doors that open onto large, covered porch. Three bedrooms, three baths. Two-car garage. Beautiful gentle lot. Offered at \$949,000.



The Log Cabin You've Been Searching For. Three bedrooms plus a loft, two baths, large wrap-around porch are just a start. Hybrid construction for the rustic look but fully insulated for year-round comfort. Massive stone fireplace complete with vertical climbing wall and vaulted ceilings. Ridgeline view. Adjoins USFS with many hiking trails to enjoy. Possible pond site. Offered at \$595,000.

