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Highlands' Newspaper

Volume 1, Number 8

Locally Owned & Operated

Friday, Sept. 5, 2003

Sept. 5-11

Sept. 5

- The Fourth Annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants, Sept. 5-7 at PAC, on Chestnut Street. The registration fee is \$100 per person. For more info, call the Biological Station at 526-2602.

Sept. 6

- The Audubon Society will host a field trip to Horse Cove. Meet at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call Ed Poole at 526-2775.

- Clean up at the Buck Creek Fields. All parents of students who participate in soccer or softball are asked to help clean up the park starting at 9 a.m. Saturday. Bring rakes and shovels.

Sept. 7

- There will be a "Steak Luncheon" at noon at the HUMC with all proceeds benefitting the 2004 Bolivia Mission Trip. Call the church to make a reservation so they know how much steak to buy. 526-3376.

Sept. 8

- The Audubon Society will host a field trip to Horse Cove for local birds and early fall migrants. Meet at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call Edwin Poole at 526-2775.

Sept. 9

- The last Hudson Library cooking classes is today, Tuesday featuring chef Nick Figel owner of Cyprus Restaurant. He will teach how to cook International cuisine. Contact the library at 526-3031 for more information.

- Highlands Rotary Liberty Gala, at Highlands Country Club. Proceeds from this every-other-year event support the arts and youth of Highlands through donations and scholarships from Rotary. Dinner, prepared by Chef Mark Bennett and Silent and Live Auction tickets are \$125 per person. Sponsor levels are \$100, \$250 and \$500.

Sept 10

- Highlands School Senior Class members and parents are encouraged to come to the Senior Class planning meeting, 6 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Sept. 11

- Biologist Dr. John Morse of Clemson University will speak at UCWA's annual meeting, 7 p.m. at Highlands Conference Center. He will explain how insects tell us about pollutants in lakes and streams.

- The Buck Creek fields will be dedicated Friday, at 2 p.m.

Board votes to rezone Main Street Inn

By Kim Lewicki

It doesn't happen too often, but it happened Wednesday night – the Town Board voted to go against the planning board's recommendation and rezone the Main Street Inn to B-1.

Almost every person at the public hearing that took place prior to the Sept. 3 Town Board meeting told

commissioners they were for the Main Street Inn's rezoning.

"I would very much like to see the Main Street Inn rezoned so the inn can be operated the way it needs to be operated," said Edna Foster. "The inn has been serving meals since 1924."

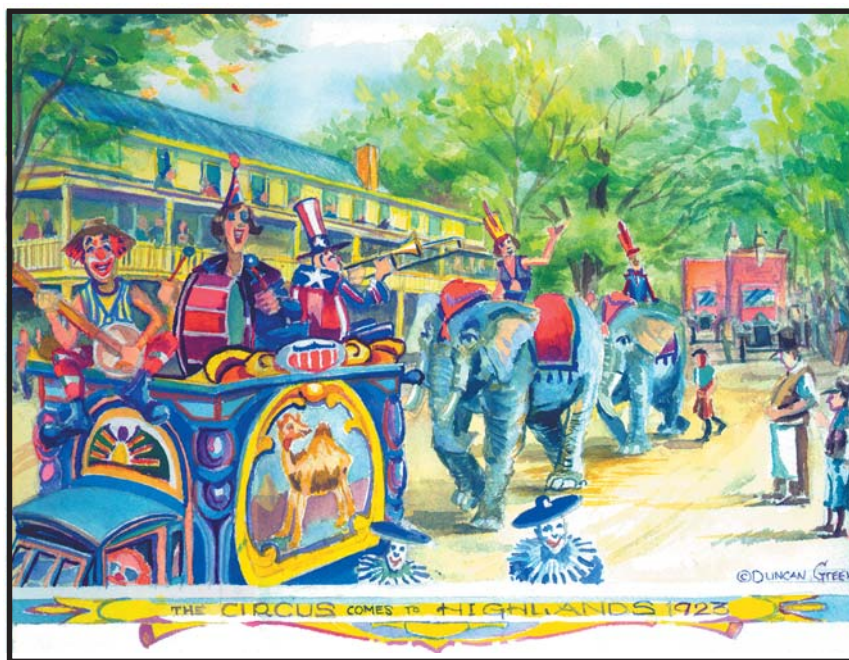
Doris Long said the inn serving meals is part of Highlands' heritage.

"We've had it all these years and hate to see it slip through our fingers," she said. Though the name has changed, meals and lodging have been provided on the site since Highlands' early days.

Planning board members Lewis Doggett and Allen Marsh were at the

▪See REZONING page 15

The day the circus came to town



Artist Duncan Greenlee drew this rendition of the day in 1923 when the circus came to Highlands for the September issue of the Mountain Laurel Magazine. Isabelle Robertson, age 92, was in Highlands that summer and she remembers the day. See story page 12.

High school of 2003-2004 biggest yet

By Kim Lewicki

With 150 students enrolled in the ninth through twelfth grades at Highlands School, it's the biggest high school class in years.

"In the past five years, it's up significantly," said Principal Jack Brooks. "Highlands School's reputation for strong academics and consistent discipline action has brought more students to the school. They feel they are part of something more organized."

About 20 students from Jackson County and the Franklin area attend Highlands High School, mostly because of its reputation, said Brooks.

▪See HIGH SCHOOL page 15

Theater company soon to be resurrected

By Kim Lewicki

Theater lovers, rejoice. Soon there will be another genre in town to stimulate and delight.

Adam Heffernan, Collin and Scott Paxton have joined forces to resurrect the Instant Theater Company which operated

throughout the 1980s in Highlands.

It's going to feature year-round theater and theater-education for all ages from first-graders to adults.

"This is a way for me to remain in Highlands and to contribute something back to the community," said Heffernan whose stint as

Artistic Director at Highlands Playhouse is up. "We are going to present more story telling and less spectacle, a newer and different type of theater that features obscure classic theater."

Heffernan said the Instant

▪See THEATER page 15

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More Hepatitis A cases reported in Macon County – but curable

As of Thursday, August 28 there are six confirmed cases and one additional probable case of Hepatitis A in Macon County. Hepatitis A is a contagious disease that affects a person's liver.

Hepatitis A virus (HAV) is spread through person-to-person contact or through water or food that has been handled by an infected individual, but it can also be spread through sexual activity or through infected blood. People who share needles are at risk of contracting the disease.

None of the six reported cases involves a food handler or restaurant employee.

"The Macon County Public Health Center is working very closely with the North Carolina Epidemiology Office on this outbreak," said Ken Ring, director of Macon County Health Dept., "We are seeing additional probable Hepatitis A cases in Macon County and we want to do all we can to prevent other people from becoming sick with this disease." The first four cases were reported on Aug. 21.

Ring said people who are experiencing possible hepatitis A symptoms should see their doctor immediately.

Symptoms of Hepatitis A may include tiredness, poor appetite, fever, diarrhea, abdominal discomfort, nausea or vomiting. Urine may become darker in color. An infected person may also experience jaundice, in which the skin and the whites of the eyes appear yellow.

However, not everyone infected with Hepatitis A becomes jaundiced and children often do not have any symptoms of infection.

The average time between infec-

tion and onset of symptoms is one month. The virus is most easily spread during the two weeks prior to, and for a few days after the onset of jaundice.

An injection of Immune Globulin is highly effective in preventing Hepatitis A if given within two weeks of exposure. Immune Globulin is provided at no charge at the Macon County Public Health Center for household, sexual, and needle-sharing contacts of confirmed cases.

Unlike Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, Hepatitis A is a self-limiting infection, which means recovery is complete and there is no long-term carrier state. 1 in 300 cases of Hepatitis A is fatal. These fatalities usually occur in the elderly or people with severe underlying disease.

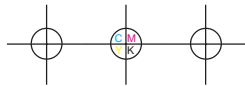
Since there may be additional cases of Hepatitis A in the community, the North Carolina Division of Public Health recommends that persons with possible symptoms of Hepatitis A be promptly evaluated by their health care provider.

Good handwashing remains one of the most important ways to prevent the spread of Hepatitis A. Hands should be washed thoroughly with soap and warm water after using the bathroom, before and after changing every diaper, before preparing food, before smoking, and before eating or feeding others.

Ring said Hepatitis A is preventable. "We also want to reinforce the advice that all household, sexual, and needle-sharing contacts of persons with Hepatitis A call the Macon County Public Health Center at (828) 349-2081 for information on preventive measures."

One more temporary move for MC Health Dept.'s Highlands' facility

Effective September 10 and until further notice, The Macon County Public Health Center's Highlands clinics are moving from Highlands Town Office to the Highlands Civic Center. Immunization and WIC clinics will be held at this location; however, clinics requiring lab work or exams cannot be offered at the civic center. Please call 349-2081 for more information or to schedule an appointment."



Fibbers re-opens with a new look



Fibber Magee's Closet – Highlands' ultimate thrift shop – has reopened at its new location in the cottages opposite Big Bear Pen Road on U.S. 64 east. There is plenty of parking and new hours of operation – Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fibber's is a project of the Highlands Woman's Club, which donates its profits to local non-profits and scholarships for deserving Highlands High School seniors. There are great buys on gently used and never worn clothing and accessories for men, women and children. Donations may be left in bins on the porch of the "workroom" building. There's a new feature at the shop - a boutique room featuring racks of especially wonderful clothing. Fibber's new phone number, 526-2591.

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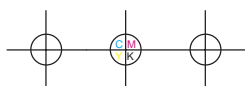
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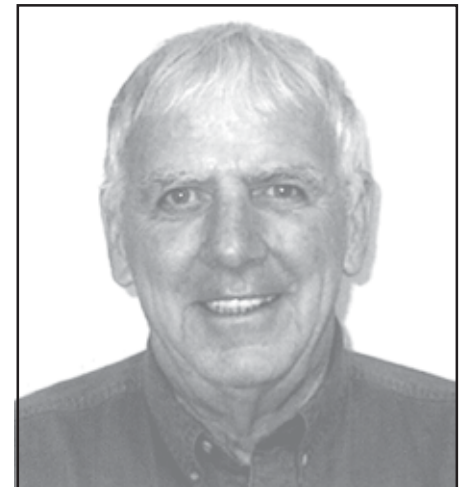
As summer rolls to an end, Highlands is still jumping with many gala, and not so gala, affairs. I have been flitting about as your social gadfly reporter and have jotted down just a few of the happenings.

We all went over to Billy Hawkins' place to see his new four hundred pound boar, "Precious." Billy also invited Town Board member Amy Paterson, who brought her bolt cutters to whack off Precious's front fangs. While this is not the usual behavior for a town board member, Amy is a very competent veterinarian and an expert at teeth chopping. (So watch yourself at town board meetings).

Apparently the boar had become so obstreperous, it was chewing up neighborhood license plates. Precious did not warm up to Amy right away, but after several ropes around his neck and feet, he smiled for her and it was over in a flash. Well, we all had a grand time and Billy served tea and scones after the event. Precious is currently gumming his corn cobs.

As fall approaches, summer folks are bundling up their long stemmed wine glasses and their thousand dollar bills and heading off to God knows where. We will truly miss them, especially their thousand dollar bills. Almost everyone thinks they head for Florida, or other warm climes, but I personally know of a lady who skedaddles to New Jersey for the winter. I will not mention her name until all the psychiatric reports are in.

There was a quiet little party of all the lawyers involved in the Town of Highlands vs. Edwards, et al fiasco. Seems like the only real winners in that event were the lawyers, who are also bundling up their thousand dollar bills and



heading out. Don't spread this around, but I actually have a friend who is a lawyer. I once asked him for some free advice and he gave it to me. "Never ask me for free advice."

And speaking of parties, there was a very rowdy, end of the season, survival shindig at the Highlands Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers who made it through the summer were not only celebrating their endurance techniques and continued tenure there, but had a splendid time competing in the "Which tourist asked the most stupid question this summer" contest. The winning question was, "Is the pool open all year?"

Nellie Lawrencevarger called to tell me that her nephew, Ivan, was visiting from out of town. Ivan is the child of Lana Hoe of Gulliver, Michigan and this was Lana's second surprise birth in only two years. (Congratulations to Lana) She wants everyone in Highlands to know that she came from very strict parents who would never let her "go steady." That is why it is very confusing on Father's day at the Hoe residence and I don't have a clue what any of this has to do with Highlands.

Next week is National Mildew week and I am proud to report that this year's conference will be

▪ See WOOLDRIDGE page 22

Seasonal resident Fred Wooldridge has made it his hobby to poke fun at just about everything from nature to politics. He means no one harm.

• Sports Pix •

ACL & NFL Season Picks

Part I

with Ryan Potts

Welcome to my world!
This week I promised NFL season picks and I am going to deliver, so get ready with all of your hate mail and catcalls. Trust me, your insults only make me stronger, mwahahaha!

We start with the AFC South, where I like Tennessee. Not only do they have the toughest player in the league in Steve McNair, but they also get Jevon Kearse back to cover for Kevin Carter's sorry butt. (Kevin Carter still makes his mom do his laundry)

Next I am going to with Indianapolis, even though I hate Peyton Manning. I don't hate the guy, just the football player. I even named my cat Peyton when I was in high school — you know, the dead one that you cut open. (I have a list of people that can confirm this-seriously)

He's just the most irritating QB on the planet. You want to talk about over thinking, this guy checks off from the McChicken to the McRib then down to the McGreasy with cheese before he calls timeout to discuss it over with his coaches. Plus, the defense is a sieve-even with Tony Dungy at the helm.

Next we have Jacksonville, who has three decent QBs and a great running back who will get hurt playing cards on the bus back from training camp. Jack Del Rio needs at least one year and another first-rounder to get that defense going.

Finally, Houston will sit at the bottom but will surprise some people because they have a great young group of WRs in Andre Johnson and Jabar Gaffney. The only problem in Texas is that David Carr will be dead by the end of the year because his offensive line is thinner than James Lipton's hair-line.

Moving on to the AFC North, I like Cleveland in this division



because they finally did the right thing by naming Kelly Holcolmb as the starter. Karma is a good thing, and when Butch Davis broke the party line by going with the better player rather than the high priced savior, he guaranteed that Cleveland is going to rock this year. William Green has adjusted nicely, and I really like the young Browns receivers.

Next up I am going to go with either Baltimore or Pittsburgh. I am very wishy-washy when it comes to Baltimore because of their sorry offense. Egghead Billick needs to go with Redman as the starter and unleash Ray Lewis (who is the scariest man on the planet in my opinion. Can you imagine being in training camp with him? That Madden commercial was probably toned down for the youngsters.

Pittsburgh is interesting because they have totally changed philosophies. Under Chuck Noll they were hard-nosed and tough. Now their defense is still tough, but that offense has more trickeration than a Siegfried and Roy slumber party, and a guy named Amos at running back. Every time I hear Amos I think about the novelty of what it would be like to be an Amish athlete. Like that movie with Woody Harrleson, only much less offensive. Randle-El and Plaxico are fantastic talents, but I am wondering if Tommy Maalox can do it again.

The defense in Steeltown is still solid, but they aren't spectacular. Cincinnati, well let's just say that I

▪See SPORTS page 22

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Artwalk entertainment



Seen here is a photo of Hurricane Creek, one of the many talented and popular groups that will be performing as part of the weekend long festivities of Art Walk 2003, scheduled for September 19 -21 in downtown Highlands. The members of Hurricane Creek will be singing your favorites from 5-7 p.m. at Wright Square. For more information on Art Walk 2003, contact this year's Co-Chairs, Mary Adair Leslie at 526-2673 or Thom Corrigan at 526-8348.

The movie guy presents:

• Movie Pix •

Brother From Another Planet

Director, John Sayles – 1984

The film is either a comedy, Sci Fi, or social commentary, or maybe all three. Also some debate as to its rating. My own copy says no rating, catalogs call it PG or R. There are some disturbing drug scenes, a little bit of non-specific gore, and some implied sex scenes, so it's not for the youngest of kids, but nothing too graphic.

The basic story line: An escaped slave from outer space lands in New York City and makes his way to Harlem. He has nearly human features and the ability to fix broken bones or machines by touch. Although he cannot speak, he gradually makes friends. This comes in handy when intergalactic



Stuart Armor

bounty hunters come looking.

Joe Morton plays the role of The Brother perfectly, his silent performance speaks volumes. Facial expressions and body language convey all that is needed, he is both funny and touching. The bounty hunters, played by John Sayles and David Strathairn,

are brilliantly creepy, geeky, funny and evil.

Alternately a comedy, commentary on race relations, a brief look at bureaucracy and a neat Sci Fi puzzler that doesn't require any flashy effects (which is good, because this is a major low budget production). It IS kind of weird.

A few other equally weird, thematically rated films are "Watermelon Man," "Repo Man," "The Favor," "The Watch and the Very Big Fish," "City of Lost Children," "Box of Moonlight," and "Fantastic Plant."

All of these have some sort of message delivered in a strange way so fans of the weird will like these choices.

These and about 5,000 other titles are available at the Movie Stop. Come on by and give them a look.

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• Book Review •

Against The Machine: The Hidden Luddite Tradition in Literature, Art, and Individual Lives

by Nicols Fox

By Katie Brugger
Contributor

While I was reading this book I came across a flyer that perfectly expresses an "against the machine" sentiment: "Have you ever been so mad at your computer that you just wanted to smash it? Then don't miss the Tech Place computer drop. Join us as we get even and give a new meaning to the term computer crash. We will be dropping a computer from 30 feet up and letting it hit the ground!" Many of us have love-hate relationships with technology, and this new book traces many different voices raised in opposition to technology from the early 1800s to the present day.

In the beginning of the 19th Century the first factories began to be built in England, and by 1815 groups of men, known as Luddites, were smashing the machines in those factories. These men were weavers who perceived that the new spinning and weaving machines would completely disrupt a way of life that had existed for hundreds of years. They were being turned from independent skilled artisans into machinery-tending factory workers totally dependent upon the factory owner. Their revolt gave a name to anyone who resists new technology – luddite.

The author mines a copious amount of literature from (mostly) the 19th Century for "anti-machine" sentiments. The writers' attacks fall into four categories: 1. the machine's negative influence on human life, 2. the negative influence on nature, 3. utopian visions of an alternative future, and 4. economic theories.

Most of the writers covered the first two. The Romantic poets – William Wordsworth, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Lord Byron – protested the advance of industrial society by extolling what it means to be human: passion, emotion, love, and appreciation of beauty and nature. Shelley, in his poem Queen Mab, wrote:

- Power, like a desolation pestilence,
- Polluted whate'ever it touches; and obedience,
- Bane of all genius, virtue, freedom, truth,

- Makes slaves of men, and of the human frame
- A mechanized automaton.

The novels of Charles Dickens and D.H. Lawrence documented the effects of industrialism: the bleak life of the workers, the horrible effects of pollution, and the harshness of factory owners.

In America the transcendentalists, including Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau, "preferred and promoted what the factory was not: freedom, individuality, a closer link to nature and natural ways, the solitary effort as opposed to the corporate. They valued what the machine could never produce: creativity, originality, leaps of thought, the synthesis of divergent ideas, a sense of the divine."

One of the reasons we accept technology so readily is that humans seem to always go for what is easiest and don't question the consequences. But Thoreau did: "The promise of the railroad is easy transportation, but Thoreau points out that if he began walking when someone else began working to earn the money to take the train, he [Thoreau] would be likely to get there first." Just recently researchers linked America's obesity epidemic to the rise of urban sprawl and the complete dependence upon the car. Nobody walks anymore so we're all getting fat.

Other writers focused on the effect of the machine on nature, for example, John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club. Fox starts her chapter on Muir with this: "Not all signs of human presence are to be disparaged. There is such a thing as appropriate use. But the degree of domination of the land now seems all out of proportion, as if there were a human compulsion to scent-mark and conquer every last square inch of the countryside. This conquest is implemented with a crudeness and produces an ugliness that has become almost obscene." Muir "felt keenly that the spirit of the Creator resided in and was demonstrated by every living thing, and that man held no particular birthright to dominion but was merely one of many, equal in the sight of God."

•See REVIEW page 10

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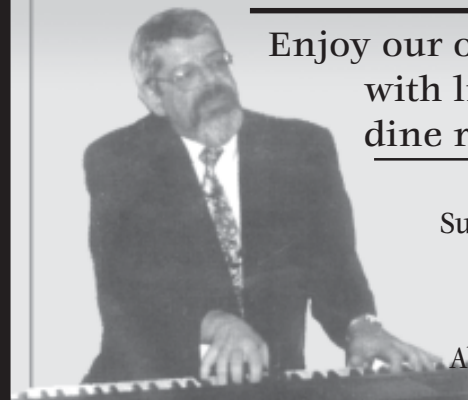
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Drake, SCC begin construction of WNC fiber-optic backbone

Southwestern Community College and Drake Enterprises have formed BalsamWest FiberNET, LLC a public/private partnership created to construct a high-capacity fiber-optic network ring through Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham, Clay and Cherokee counties.

"If we wait for the telecommunications giants to determine when our region merits the investment, it will be too late. With a public/private partnership such as BalsamWest FiberNet our community can do this now. Drake Enterprises is proud to be part of this effort," said David Hubbs, Director of Internet Services for Drake Enterprises and Manager of Dnet Internet Services.

Through BalsamWest FiberNET's infrastructure, the southwestern region can participate fully in a global economy by providing open and affordable access to state-of-the-art infrastructure. The BalsamWest FiberNET endeavor will give the region the tools it needs to educate and train the workforce of the future, support advances in health care, improve the ability of local businesses to succeed, and create opportunities to generate good jobs for the future.

"Our region must have adequate infrastructure in order to be part of the 21st century economy. By the end of this decade 9 out of 10 jobs will require the use of computing and communications technologies. Business, education, law enforcement, government, and the medical community will depend more and more on access to affordable and reliable high speed data transport. Without it, our region will not be able to compete. A fiber-optic ring will fulfill this need with virtually unlimited capacity and maximum reliability," said Hubbs.

BalsamWest FiberNET will bring virtually unlimited capacity to, from, and through the area. The network is to be deployed in five segments connecting the six westernmost counties of North Carolina. Construction of the first seg-

ment is underway, connecting the counties of Jackson and Macon with a fiber-optic backbone.

BalsamWest FiberNET has selected the Education and Research Consortium's Asheville MetaPoP as its upstream connection to the Internet. BalsamWest's network will connect the area west of the Balsams to the Asheville MetaPoP, a second tier Internet Network Access Point funded through the efforts of Congressman Charles Taylor.

In a new model of innovation and collaboration, BalsamWest FiberNET is creating an open infrastructure available to the public, private, and nonprofit sectors — a model other rural regions might want to consider. The availability of this network promises to help rural Internet service providers to better serve home and business customers through better access, lower prices, and higher quality. "Western North Carolina has much to offer high tech companies, but will be overlooked unless it has access to this type of high speed network at prices comparable to metropolitan areas and a highly trained labor force," said Hubbs.

Southwestern Community College's commitment to quality education and community development has driven its involvement in improving telecommunications infrastructure in the region — with their new Macon campus being connected in the initial deployment. "Infrastructure like this will allow the college to tap into advanced teaching tools, provide education virtually anytime/anywhere, and help our public partners (such as the schools and libraries) access resources anywhere in the World," said Cecil Groves, President of Southwestern Community College.

BalsamWest is also exploring ways it can support the work of AdvantageWest, which received funding from the Rural Internet Access Authority for middle mile infra-

■ See DRAKE page 11

• Life Under Construction •

Lunch Break

with Dr. Maryellen Lipinski

You might recall that my last column was about "letting go". I did just that and what I let go of came back and all worked out just fine. Unfortunately, I used up way too much energy fretting and regretting. So, I guess I did not "let go" both in mind and spirit.

I am writing about energy this week because I am tired. I have made three major life decisions in one month and I feel the weight of those decisions. I pushed through it but I did notice the stress of making decisions did take a bit of a toll on me. I find there is a fine line between keeping momentum going and overdoing it. Not knowing when to stop and "sit a spell".

Good energy flow is essential for a quality life. Energy is a life force. It's important to know when to use it and when you start abusing it.

Energy doesn't come just from getting rest physically; it also has to do with resting your mind. Being conscious of what you are thinking. Not carrying around thoughts, perceptions, or attitudes that drain your power. Not spending time worrying about what you cannot change. Moving forward. There is only one direction to go - forward and straight ahead.

It takes discipline to create energy. Self-control in exercising and eating correctly are also



pertinent. Enough said. Not taking care of your body depletes energy. It would be similar to not insulating your home properly.

Have you ever had those days when you feel like a flashlight with dead batteries? Or maybe the light is just dimming a bit. Watch out for energy drains. Check your batteries regularly.

Writing this at 10 p.m. on a Sunday night seems like an oxymoron. Not taking my own advice, so I'm stopping for the night and will begin again early in the morning. Morning is my best energy time anyway. You do know when your energy is the greatest, don't you? Are you utilizing that time frame?

Don't wait to relax once everything is done. The *IN* box is never empty! Take time to restore.

Renew thyself completely each day; do it again, and again, and forever again.

Chinese inscription

Try this book on Energy by Sue Podany; *Energy 120 Easy Ways To Get it, Keep it, and Keep from Giving it Away*.

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 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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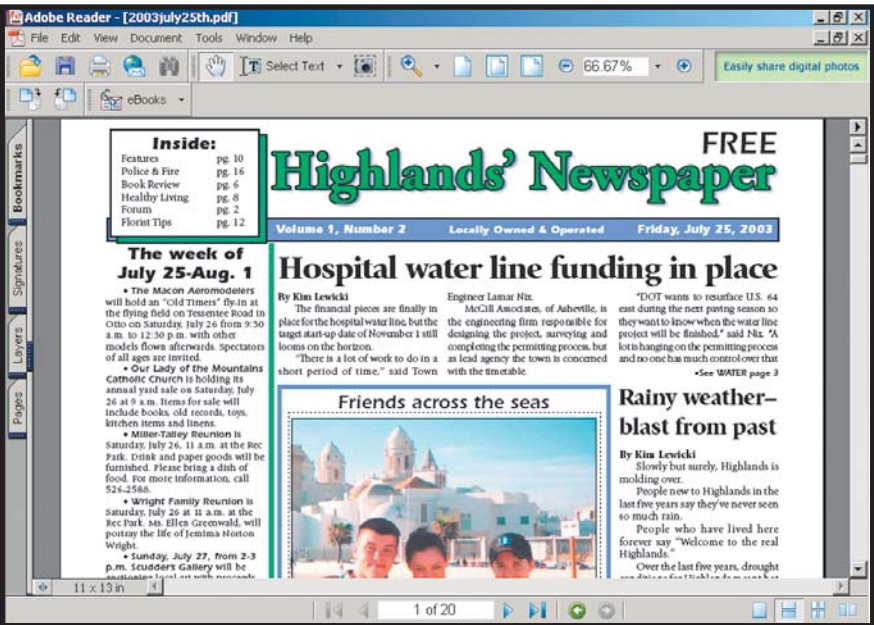
Farzad Motealleh with Shiraz Oriental Rug Gallery has donated a silk rug worth upwards of \$2,000 for the Highlands Rotary Liberty Gala. It will be one of the items auctioned off during the live auction. Proceeds from this every-other-year event support Rotary scholarships and donations for two years. Tickets are available for \$125 per person as are sponsor levels at \$100, 350 and \$500. Call a Rotarian for more information.

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... REVIEW from page 7

Other writers portrayed science as out of control and wreaking havoc. The first and classic piece in this genre is of course *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley, published in 1818. In 1999 Bill Joy, one of the founders of Sun Microsystems, warned of the dangers that could be unleashed with the latest scientific advances: genetics, nanotechnology, and robotics.

I thought this book would make a somewhat convincing anti-machine argument but, if that was the author's intent, in my opinion she failed. The book includes profiles of people who reject technology in different ways – many of them half-hearted or just plain weird. I'm not getting rid of my flush toilets and I bet you won't either even after reading this book.

But it did convince me that we need a new economic theory that will improve on capitalism. What becomes clear in the reading of this book is that the problem all of these authors are addressing is not "the machine" itself but industrial capitalism; that is, not technology but how technology is being used. This brings me to the discussion of the writers who addressed economic theory.

In the mid-1800s John Ruskin, while in his twenties, published a popular multi-volume historical study of architecture. He perceived that modern design features showed the influence of machines on human endeavor – there was no unpredictability or variation like in medieval churches; everything was standardized and repetitive. This vision of the depth of industrialization's effect on humanity so galvanized Ruskin that he turned his attention to economics and became an influential voice in opposition to the new capitalist system. Ruskin wrote: "The real economy consists simply in the production, preservation, and distribution, at the fittest time and place, of useful or pleasurable things. The farmer who cuts his hay at the right time, the shipwright who drives his bolts well home in sound wood, the housewife who guards against all waste in her kitchen, all are political economists in the true and final sense: adding continually to the riches and well-being of the nation to which they belong. But mercantile economy, signified the accumulation, in the hands of individuals, power over the labour of others; every such claim implying precisely as much poverty or debt on one side, as it implies riches or right on the other. It does not, therefore, necessarily involve an addition to the actual property, or well-being of the state."

The essays of Thomas Carlyle, a historian, showed "contempt for a

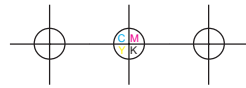
government that – controlled by industrial interests, the aristocracy, and rich merchants – was ignoring and failing its people." Carlyle questioned one of the basic assumptions of our culture's world-view, that the Earth exists for us to exploit: "The idea that everything has intrinsic value could compete with, if not challenge, the understanding of humans as the supreme beings in the theological and worldly hierarchy, and it could even undermine the view of nature that is essential to capitalism: that the earth's resources are there for humans to use as they wish. What might happen if everything – the earth, plants, animals – became sacred? How would that change the prevailing economic world view?"

Fox asserts that much of what is wrong with modern society is the effect of industrialization: "A balanced life would include art and religion as well as the now-neglected arts of conversation, manners, hospitality, sympathy, family life, and romantic love. Industrialism has encouraged the illusion that materialism and consumerism offer suitable substitutes for these lost or sacrificed qualities, but their ability to satisfy these basic human needs is superficial. The population has been duped and remains vaguely dissatisfied, exhausted by meaningless labor with stingily allotted free time spent in aimless, unproductive, and ultimately unfulfilling activity."

In her discussion of economics, Fox concludes that "the corporation is the perfect reflection of the efficient, cold-blooded, emotionless machine. A corporation will, in the end, sweep away anything of value unless it can find a way to transform that value into profit. Unless the corporate charter can be rewritten, unless some way can be found to incorporate values other than profit, we are in thrall to a system that will finish us off – or at least finish off the world that we know and love." There is something wrong with a system in which economic 'values' (that is, profit) trump every other consideration.

There are many more fascinating ideas in this book. I only wish she had expanded her source material to include movies, because I think she would have had a wider audience. The most common premise of science fiction films of the 50s and 60s was an out-of-control science, and the Terminator and Matrix series revolve around a future in which the machines take over. It is a shame that she neglected these perfect examples of her premise.

(Available at the Hudson Library, call letters 303.48F)



structure deployment in Jackson, Macon and Clay Counties.

The \$1 million grant was awarded to AdvantageWest based upon the strategies developed through the Appalachian Access initiative — a three-year effort led Southwestern Community College, the Western North Carolina Knowledge Coalition, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the NC Rural Eco-

nomie Development Center, and AdvantageWest.

Companies from anywhere in the world can tap directly into the ultra-high-speed capacity of its fiber backbone and its connectivity to the high performance supercomputing capacity of the Asheville MetaPoP.

"We can connect their employees in our area with others anywhere in the world, allowing them

to work together in real-time just as if they were in the same room," Groves said.

Drake Enterprises is a technology-driven company and one of the largest private employers in Western North Carolina — recently recognized by the North Carolina Employment Security Commission for making exceptional contributions to the North Carolina economy

through new business, expansion, innovation, community involvement, and partnership with the ESC.

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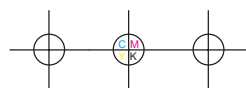
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Remember when the circus came to town?

– Isabelle Robertson remembers –

By Kim Lewicki

Isabelle Robertson who said she is “heading toward 92 come December” has been coming to Highlands since she was eight years old and she hasn’t missed a season once.

Her first trip was from Savannah, Ga., and it took almost three days to get here from there. “It took all night on the train from Savannah to Atlanta and then we got on a little train to Dillard which arrived about one in the morning the next day,” said Isabelle. “Then about one in the afternoon, we got a ride on up to Highlands in the postman’s old Ford automobile.”

Especially from a child’s perspective, Highlands was a long way off. “The first time we went to Highlands from Savannah, I wondered ‘where in the world my mother was taking me,’” said Isabelle. But what she soon found out was Highlands is a place she likes to be.

Once they got to Highlands, the family stayed at least three months and Isabelle said there wasn’t anything she didn’t like. “The weather was cool and comfortable. I loved everything about it and I thought, ‘How could they start

the fire going?’”

“Nobody knows how wonderful it was up there when I was a little girl,” said Isabelle. “We climbed all the mountains, and I never missed a square dance,” she said. “I always climbed to Sunset Rock – you couldn’t drive up there years ago. I even climbed up the side of it!” she said. “And I always climbed Satulah where the boys had a little hut up there and they would spend the night. They used it for camping,” she said.

Isabelle spent most of her adult life in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., in a home on the Mt. Pleasant side of Charleston Harbor and the city of Charleston beyond. “Right now, while I’m talking to you, I’m looking at two photographs on my wall. One is of Sunset Rock. It’s Fall and you can see the town in the distance,” said Isabelle. “The other one is my husband and two of our grandchildren on a little bridge by the Nature Center. They’re leaning over to see if they can see a fish in the water. I have so many happy memories of that place,” she said.

The first time Isabelle came to Highlands she and her family stayed with her aunt and



It was Thursday, Oct. 4, 1923 when the “Mighty Haag Show” first came to town. Isabelle Robertson, in the left corner of the photo, was 12 years old.

uncle Bessie and James Hines who lived in the White Oak House between the present-day Baptist church and Tater Tots on Main Street. Among other things, James Hines was major of Highlands from 1931-1933 and postmaster from 1914-1917 and again from 1918-1923.

“My uncle James Hines, went to Highlands due to tuberculosis,” said Isabelle. “In those days everyone went to Highlands for tuberculosis. They had a nice hospital on the hill

there.” “Bug Hill” was located at the site of the present day Rec Park.

By the time she was 12, in 1923, Isabelle’s aunt and uncle had moved into what is now Nick’s Restaurant at Fourth and N.C. 28 so the family stayed there.

“A man from New Orleans built it,” said Isabelle. Dr. George W. Kibbee, built the house and called it Chestnut Burr Cottage. He returned to New Orleans to help

fight a yellow fever epidemic and died there.

Isabelle remembers fondly the day the circus first came to town Thursday, Oct. 4, 1923.

“It was such a wonderful time,” she said. “All that crew came up the mountain. They had to walk all those elephants up the mountain to be in a parade. They had little animals pulling wagons and little people who marched along with them.”

She remembers it was warm but she still wore a sweater over her dress. “They came up after lunch in the middle of the day and stayed

and had a show,” said Isabelle. “Someone said ‘go down there and you can see the parade.’ They gave out balloons – red and blue, I think.”

The next year the circus came again and then again in 1930 and 1938.

Isabelle was a teacher at Charleston’s Ashley Hall – a private school for girls. When she felt too much attention was being paid the older students and not the younger, she opened the Charleston’s Little School on lower Church Street.

As a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she has weaned her family on her Highlands tradition.

“After I got married, I made my husband come up to Highlands and he fell in love with it even worse than I did,” she said.

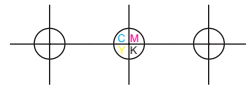
When he retired from the Charleston Naval Yard where he was a mechanical engineer, they came to Highlands and made a point of climbing “all those mountains, the two of us,” she said.

These days she shares her home on the Old Walhalla Road with every generation of her family. “My children and their children love it just like I do.”

Photos courtesy of Earl Young and The Hudson Library



Isabelle, in the right corner, and other children, Louis Edwards included, wait in front of Highlands Inn for the parade to start.



– Highlands' Trails –

Exploring the natural beauty of Highlands

By Leah Ferree
Contributor

A lot of people come to Highlands to enjoy the beauty and experience all of the natural wonders that it has to offer. There are endless acres of waterfalls, swimming holes, hiking trails, and mountain forests just waiting to be explored. Sure, you can find mountain activities in numerous other states in the country; but there are no other mountains quite like this. Highlands offers the type of scenery that reminds me of a fairy wonderland full of lush green foliage and calming riverbeds.

The rain that we receive up here in our temperate rain forest really helps to provide us with that uniqueness that you can't find in any other mountain chain in the United States.

If you are drawn to Highlands by the beauty and the peacefulness of it all, but you don't quite know where to go and experience it, I am here to help. Every week I will talk about a specific hiking trail, biking route, or anything that gets you outside to enjoy the nature all around us.

This week, I am going to start you out with an easy one — Sunset Rock. Sunset is the closest hike to Main Street in Highlands. As a matter of fact, it is only four-tenths of a mile from the stoplight by Mountain Fresh. Continue on Main Street past the Hudson Library. Once you see the Highlands Nature center on your left, the parking area for Sunset is directly across the street. There is even a sign that reads, 'Park Here for Hike to Sunset Rock.'

The trail starts at the end of the parking area and is actually an unimproved road where vehicles are discouraged because of the poor condition of the road. Otherwise park your car at the bottom and walk the 0.6 miles to the top. This way, you can feel like you did a little bit of work to deserve the stunning views of Highlands that you will find at the summit.

Once you get to the top, which should take you roughly 20 min-

utes, there will be four big boulders forming a line on your right-hand side. One of them is actually going to be in the middle of the path you need to take to get to the rock outcrop that is Sunset Rock.

A few more steps and you are awarded with a bird's-eye view of the town of Highlands. You can see the school, Main Street, and even the big brown roof of the Recreation Center peeking out over the trees. The rock underneath you allows ample room for sitting or even sun bathing on a clear day. There are no huge drop-offs to worry about or crevices to step over. The slope of the rock face is not that steep and unless you try and walk all the way down it, you should be fine.

As I was sitting on the rock face yesterday, enjoying the view of Highlands below and the mountains in the distance, two gentlemen came walking up the path. They have been coming to Highlands for the past four years during the summertime, residing in Florida for the rest of the year. I asked why they enjoyed the Sunset Rock hike. "It's an easy hike, 20 minutes up, 20 minutes down; and it's one of the drier ones."



There is a span of rock to sit upon – this outcrop is to the left and offers a great view of Satulah Mountain.

With the amount of rain that we have been getting recently that is definitely something to consider when planning a hike.

There's another side of Sunset Rock that many people are unaware of – Sunrise Rock. From the parking area, follow the path to your left out to Sunrise. Although the path is a little longer, (stay to your right, if you go to the left at the fork, you will have to turn around), it offers a secluded and private view of Horse

Cove. However, I was very disappointed to see that the trees are so overgrown now that even if you stand up on the highest point of the rock, all that you can see is mountain tops in the distance. But, it is still worth the extra five minutes to check out the view from the other side of the mountain.

The Sunset Rock hike is a quick, easy hike for all ages. It's also one of the safer hikes around.

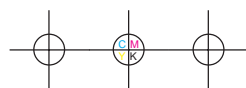


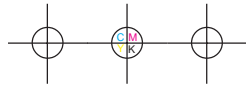
These boulders in the path mark the trail leading to Sunset Rock. At the top of the trail, it's to the right.

Photos by Leah Ferree



End of the trail to Sunset Rock. The view of Highlands waits beyond.





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Sports Page

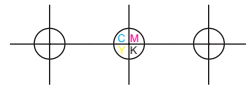
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... Rezoning continued from page 1

meeting and said as private citizens they weren't opposed to the rezoning but as planning board members they were.

"Personally I would love to see it in operation, but as a member of the planning board sometimes you have to make decisions you may not make as a private citizen," he said.

The planning board was concerned about parking issues. Restaurants in the B-1 district don't have to provide on-site parking like in the B-2 district. The planning board was also concerned about future owners of the property.

"A future use will have the same zoning rights and another use might come in that needs a lot more parking," said Doggett. There was also concern about future owners adding on to the inn and doing away with parking all together. Since spe-

cial use permits would be required and built-upon ratios upheld, Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein said not much expansion, if any, could take place.

Marsh considers rezoning just The Main Street Inn spot zoning. Commissioner Mike Cavender said he'd prefer the land use committee look at the entire commercial district and perhaps consider rezoning the entire block B-1.

Jim Jordan, attorney for inn owners Jan and Ferrell Zehr, said it's contiguous zoning because it's adjacent to the B-1 district and not spot zoning.

In the end commissioners voted 3 to 1 to rezone the inn B-1 which means the owners may now legally serve meals to patrons of the inn and the public.

...High School continued from page 1

"People who come from elsewhere tell me they feel safe with their children at Highlands School," said Brooks.

With more students the school can offer more diverse course offerings including more ITV classes from Southwestern Community College and more internships at area businesses.

"The numbers have been good

for high school soccer and volleyball, too," said Brooks.

Brooks said one of the downsides is that classes sizes are larger than before. "But they are still far lower than the state average," he said. A couple other logistical problems involve student parking and cafeteria lines but he said those kinks are being worked out.

...Theater continued from page 1

Theater Company will collaborate with other theater groups in town so as not to overlap scheduling. "We plan on working in conjunction with them," he said.

A nominal fee will be charged for classes at the theater school and scholarships will also be offered. "In the beginning we plan on teaching acting but eventually we will work our way up to incorporating dance and stage craft - set and costume design. All aspects," said Heffernan. "There's really no end to it."

The first show is already in the works - "Love Letters with Rex Reed" Oct. 10-11, a benefit for the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center and the Instant Theater Company. Collin Paxton and Rex

Reed will star in the two-person show. Tickets are \$25 each.

Veteran actor, Collin Wilcox Paxton of "To Kill A Mockingbird" fame with her production manager husband Scott will partner with Heffernan.

Heffernan, who has been teaching drama classes at Highlands School the last few years said he plans on creating parts specifically for children. If all goes as planned a pared down version of "A Christmas Carol" is planned for the holiday season.

Right now the theater is looking for a home, specifically for rehearsing. For more information about the Instant Theater Company, contact Heffernan at 828-369-3652.

County's Buck Creek fields to be dedicated Sept. 12



It may not seem like much to outsiders, but to Highlands having county fields in Highlands is a big deal. The opening of the fields Sept. 12 marks the beginning of a new era. Parents and children participating in county sports won't have to drive down the mountain every time there is a game. On Sept. 6 parents and youth who participate in county and school sports are asked to come out to the fields to help with cleanup. Bring a rake and a picnic.

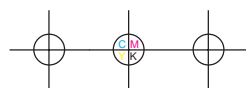
Fun & Funky Fashions at

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- Great Stuff For Kids -



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• Cooking on the Plateau •

Food & Friends Forever" is a compilation of tried and true recipes made by the ladies of the Eastern Star.

There are 500 pages of recipes ranging from a basic White Sauce to Cathy's Scrambles.

The book was published by the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, Eastern Star and they cost \$10. All proceeds go toward the Masonic and Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, a non-profit home for the elderly established in 1912.

On the back cover is a photo of the Chapel at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home, located in Greensboro, N.C. It is the central building in a complex of care facilities. In the complex are independent living condominiums, assisted living quarters and a care center which provides for the residents' well-being.

Shepherd's Pie

1 pound minced lamb or ground beef
1 large onion, skinned and chopped.
1 bay leaf
2 ounces mushrooms, sliced
2 carrots, sliced
1 ounce plain whole wheat flour
1 cup beef stock (lamb stock if using lamb)
1 tablespoon tomato puree
salt and pepper
1 1/2 pounds potatoes, peeled and chopped
1 ounce butter
4 Tbls. milk
2 ounces cheese, grated.

Fry lamb or ground beef with onion, bay leaf, mushrooms and carrots for 8-10 minutes. Add flour and cook, stirring for one minute. Gradually blend in stock and

tomato puree. Cook, stirring until the mixture thickens and boils. Cover and simmer gently for 25 minutes. Remove bay leaf and season to taste. Spoon into 3-quart ovenproof serving dish. Meanwhile, cook the potatoes in boiling salted water for 20 minutes until tender. Drain well. Mash with butter and milk; mix well. Spread potatoes on the meat mixture. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes.

May substitute instant potatoes.

Yield: 4 to 5 servings.

- Celia Ferguson & Winnie Thompson

Lemon Ice Box Pie

2 cups milk
2.5 ounces of lemonade mix
1 box vanilla instant pudding, dry
8 ounces frozen whipped



topping
6 graham cracker squares (3-inch)

Layer graham crackers in the bottom of an 8 - x 8-inch baking dish. In a mixing bowl, stir pudding and lemonade powder; add milk, and mix on low speed of hand mixer. Add 3/4 of the frozen whipped topping. Pour mixture over graham crackers and top with remaining whipped topping.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.
Yield: 8 servings

- Ruth McRae

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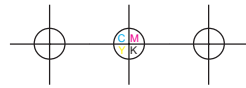
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• See DOCTORS page 23



... Spiritual message



Father Mike

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

A quiet week in Highlands (with apologies to Garrison Keillor)

It's been a quiet week in Highlands, my hometown (a mythical town up there in the mountains). It's been cool. Evenings are nice.

Just open up the windows and pull up the bedspread. It's beginning to remind us fall is just around the corner. Footballs are in the air. Some kids were throwing passes down at the field. The old state rivalries are beginning to heat up: Alabama-Auburn, Florida-Florida State, Georgia-Georgia Tech.

We love the fall in Highlands. It beckons of cozy nights by the fire, and catching up on your reading, and finishing those projects your wife has been after you for months to do — like fixing the drain and replacing the screen on the porch the dog tore down.

Fall also makes you remember you're mortal — one day you'll die. The leaves turn brown and gold and fall to remind you things don't last forever. "The grass withers, the flower fades..." The leaves fall.

Carl Bunsen (not his real name) has been considering his mortality. A tree limb almost fell on his head; just missed him by five feet. He was out in the backyard, and suddenly — like a bolt out of the blue — the limb broke off and fell close enough for him to jump back. Nearly brained him. Probably a vestige from "Opal" of a few years ago. Dead limbs still dangling over our heads — poised to take our lives. It got Carl's attention! He sat down on the tree limb and contemplated the shortness of life. He thought, "All of a sudden, a person could wake up dead."

He realized he was 45. Most of his life was behind him. He broke out in a sweat. Life was a big question mark! When a tree limb almost brains you, you begin to think like that. He wondered if life was supposed to make sense, or if the universe was only one seed in one apple on a tree in a whole orchard of all the orchards of the world, and science is telling us that the apple in which we are one seed has been falling for a million years and in one-half second it will be on the ground — split open — and a bear

■ See SPIRITUAL page 20

■ 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 — 11 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.; 9 a.m. & 11 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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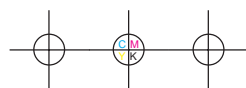
526-9769
Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time)
Sundays: Worship — 11 a.m.

Westside Baptist Church

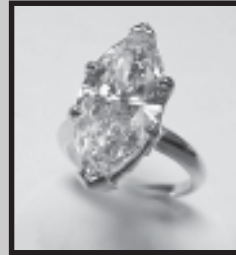
Interim Pastor, Terry Dixon
Services in the basement of the Peggy Crosby
Sundays: Fellowship — 11 a.m.; Worship — 11 a.m.

Whiteside Presbyterian Church in America

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



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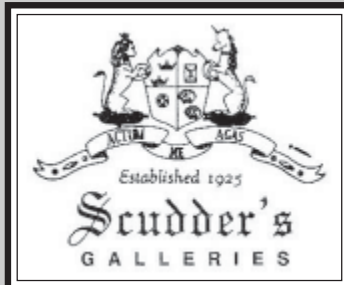
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• Police & Fire Log •

The following are the Highlands Police Department log entries for the week of Aug. 27-Sept. 3. The only names are of public officials and/or people who were arrested.

Aug. 27

- At 9:40 a.m., officers on patrol found an open door at La Tea Dah's on Main Street. All was secure.

- At 5 p.m., a motorist at Fourth and Poplar streets was cited for driving without an inspection sticker or registration.

- At 5:36 p.m., a motorist at Mirror Lake and Cullasaja roads was cited for driving without insurance and with an expired registration.

Aug. 28

- At 5 p.m., officers responded to an accident at the Peggy Crosby Center. There were no injuries..

- At 10 p.m., an employee at Mountain Fresh reported his vest, wallet and \$775 stolen. His vest and empty wallet were returned the next day with a note that said "Sorry."

Aug. 29

- At 2:05 a.m., a resident on Morewood Road reported a prowler at the front door ringing the bell and shaking the door.

- At 11 a.m., a merchant on Carolina Way reported parking signs missing.

- At 1:15 p.m., a motorist at First Street and N.C. 106 was cited for driving without a registration and an inspection sticker.

- At 3 p.m., a motorist at Main and N.C. 106 was cited for making an unsafe movement and causing an accident.

- At 3:45 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint on Satulah Road.

Aug. 30

- At 6:25 a.m., officers responded to a complaint of a barking dog on Pine Lane..

- At 3:42 a.m. officers responded to an alarm at Scudder's Gallery. All was secure

- At 4:45 p.m., officers responded to Hampton Inn where management requested a party be removed from the premises.

- At 6 p.m., officers responded to a noise complaint at Highlands Inn.

Aug. 31

- At 7:35 a.m., officers responded to an alarm at Highlands ABC. All was secure.

- At 10:50 a.m., a resident found a purse on Fifth Street and turned it in to police.

- At 6:15 p.m., officers responded to an alarm at Highlands ABC. All was secure..

Sept. 1

- At 11:25 a.m., a resident on Brushy Face Road called police about mud in the road.

- At 9:30 p.m., Jaime Rodriguez Herndes, 29, was arrested for DWI and cited for driving without a license on Oak Street.

- At 1:30 p.m., 4:35 p.m., and 6:48 p.m., officers responded to several alarm activations at the Episcopal Church. All was secure.

Sept. 2

- At 8:30 p.m., officers responded to a gas drive-off at Farmer's Market..

Sept. 3

- At 8:05 a.m., a motorist on Third Street and U.S. 64 was cited for driving with an expired tag.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department log entries for the week of Aug. 28-Sept. 3.

Aug. 28

- The depart. responded to an alarm at a residence on Country Club Drive. It was false.

- The depart. responded to an accident at Flat Mountain and Hicks roads. There were no injuries.

- The depart. responded to a structure fire at a residence on Split Rail Road where lightning hit a water line and traveled under the house.

Aug. 29

- The department was first responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Morewood Road where a person fell. The victim was transported to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital..

Aug. 31

- The depart. responded to an alarm at VZ-Top. It was a false alarm.

- The depart. responded to a call of smoke near Lake Osseroga. It was a false alarm.

Sept. 1

- The depart. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 east. It was cancelled en route.

- The depart. assisted Jackson County with a missing person report at Iron Bridge. Hikers emerged as crews arrived.

Sept. 2

- The depart. responded to alarms at the Episcopal Church. They were false..



Pam Taylor

Office:

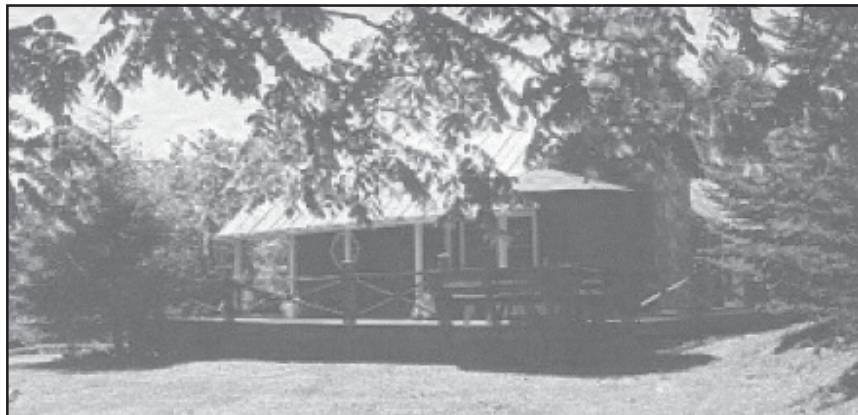
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126319-V31 DTR-130-0304

... SPIRITUAL continued from page 17

will come along and gobble it up and everything — the Judeo-Christian faith, western civilization, great art and music and literature, baseball, and silver queen corn all will disappear down the black hole of a bear. That was how Carl felt now. A big mood swing from moments ago when he believed in the meaning of life and a loving God, to atheistic despair in a town of 2,000 year-round residents where life for the most part makes sense. But an assault on your life by a tree limb can start you thinking like that.

Carl got up and started walking. If you're going to get "called home" unexpectedly, he thought, you might as well take your chances with a Florida driver as with a rotten tree limb. He walked. He walked in a fog. He might

have been mistaken for a tourist walking down the sidewalk, except most tourists have good tans. They look robust. That's how you tell a tourist from a native in Highlands. Tourists look healthy. They've seen the sun. Natives have an ashen, "indoor" look. Not enough Vitamin C.

As Carl went by the Catholic church, he saw that Fr. Fred's car was there.. He knew Fr. Fred, and liked him. Though Carl was Methodist, he sometimes went to Fr. Fred for a "second opinion."

"Ministers," he thought. "Curious people." Men — mostly in their 40s. A little thick around the middle. A little thin on top, but usually long on the sides to compensate. Double-knits. Hush Puppies. What set them apart was

their ministerial "intensity," their way of "relating." A little more eye contact than you really wanted. A firmer, longer hand-shake. Just a little more personal affirmation than necessary. "Yes. Good to see you. How have you been? Really!" Protestant. Catholic. They were all alike. But he liked Fr. Fred. He went in.

"Carl," said Fr. Fred.

"Come in. How have you been? Really!"

"Almost got killed by a tree limb," said Carl.

"Yes, I see," said Fr. Fred, as he put down his pen and pushed away from Sunday's sermon he had been working on. "Tell me about it."

"Maybe I should have done something important with my life. You know, instead of the hardware business. Something that would make a difference. Like you."

Fr Fred coughed. "How do you

know you haven't?" said Fr. Fred.

"Such things take time, and they are hard to judge right at the moment. Life is made up of lots of pieces. Lots of pieces, and they all add up." Fr. Fred felt satisfied with that answer, and thought about using it in his sermon. He thought briefly how real life really can have a part in many sermons.

"I don't know, Fr. Fred. Sometimes it seems like life is just one seed in one apple in..." He stopped. "I mean life seems to be one big question mark. What is the meaning of life?"

Fr. Fred swallowed hard, and started to say something, and then realized he had nothing to say. And they sat for a moment in an awkward silence....

Tune in next week for Part 2 to find out Fr. Fred's answer to the question: "What is the meaning of life?"

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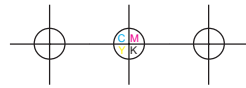
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• Upcoming Events & Activities on the Plateau •

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.

Sept. 5

- The Fourth Annual Conference on Landscaping and Gardening with Native Plants, Sept. 5-7 at PAC, on Chestnut Street. The registration fee is \$100 per person. For more information, call the Highlands Biological State at 526-2602.

Sept. 6

- The Audubon Society will host a field trip to Horse Cove. Meet at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m.. For more information, call Ed Poole at 526-2775.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 7-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike from Deep Gap to White Oak Stamp on the Appalachian Trail. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, across from Burger King at

9 a.m. Drive 40 miles round trip, returning 4-5 p.m. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations, more information, or in case weather looks doubtful on morning of hike. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Sept. 7

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike on the Pickens Nose Trail for a nice view from the top of "the nose." Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (across from Burger King) at 2 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, rain gear, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Car pool drivers will drive about 46 miles round trip, returning between 5-6 p.m. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. To make a reservation, get more information, or in case weather looks doubtful on day of hike, call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

- There will be a "Steak Luncheon at noon at the HUMC with all proceeds benefiting the 2004 Bolivia Mission Trip. Call the church to make a reservation so they know how much steak to buy. 526-3376.

Sept. 8

- The Audubon Society will host a field trip to Horse Cove for local birds and early fall migrants. Meet at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call Edwin Poole at 526-2775.

Sept. 9

- The last Hudson Library cooking classes is today, Tuesday featuring chef Nick Figel owner of Cyprus Restaurant. He will teach how to cook International cuisine. Contact the library at 526-3031 for more information.

- Highlands Rotary Liberty Gala, at Highlands Country Club. Proceeds from this every-other-year event support the arts and youth of Highlands through

• See EVENTS page 23

Steak for Lunch

Sunday, September 7 at 12 noon
Highlands United Methodist Church

Menu

Carved Beef Tenderloin
Roasted Red Potatoes
Medley of Vegetables
Crisp Caesar Salad
Fresh Baked Rolls
Dessert Selections

The cost is \$15 per person

Children's Menu

Chicken Fingers
Roasted Red Potatoes
Applesauce
Rolls
Dessert

The cost is \$5 per child
(ages 10 and under)

Buy tickets at the church office or call for a reservation 526-3376.
"To Go" orders will be available at noon.
Proceeds to benefit the
2004 Youth Mission Trip to Bolivia.

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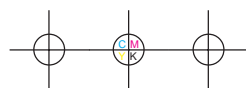
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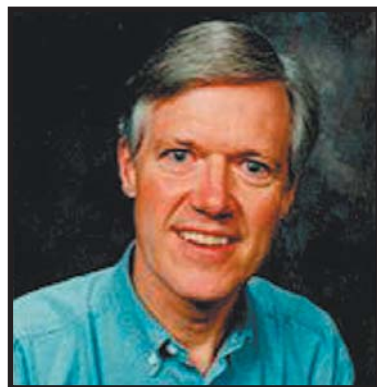
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... SPORTS continued from page 5

have 2-1 odds on at least one sideline shot of Carson Palmer weeping. The Bengals are improved personnel wise, but as long as Mike Brown runs the show they will be stinking up the league. (The NFL, not the Ivy League)

The AFC East is very interesting because I really like Miami this year, but only if they forget about Brian Griese and go with Fiedler. Fiedler is perfect for that offense because they love to run the ball and then run play-action, and Fiedler is a smart, gutsy QB who can move. Griese is fools gold and will make too many mistakes.

If Miami sticks with Fiedler look for Ricky to gain 1,800 yards and the defense to dominate this division. Two words, Jason Taylor. Not enough, how about two more words, Zach Thomas. Oh yeah, they have a future HOF in Seau as well. Then I am going to go with the J-E-T-S JETS JETS, mainly because I love that cheer, but also because I think Herm Edwards is great. His guys are always ready to play. (Was that cliché? Let's all eat some hay. The rhyme game is fun to play)

Chad Pennington and Curtis Martin give them a good combination on offense, but losing Lav Coles and 30 other guys to the Redskins hurts.

Third, let's go with the Bills. They lose Peerless Price but keep Eric Moulds and Josh Reed. Travis Henry was a nice surprise last year. Plus the defense should be im-

proved (it has to be). I still am not a huge Bledsoe fan, but he is solid. I know, who picks the Patriots last? Well, I do, only because I don't like their off-season moves and their running back by committee approach is disturbing. Belichick has done it with smoke and mirrors, but all that's left in that clubhouse is the mirrors for pretty boy Brady.

Finally, the AFC West should be the most exciting division in the conference. I'm going with the Chiefs, not only because Dooley tells me every year that the Chiefs will win, but also because of a healthy Priest Holmes. The defense will improve just enough to where they don't have to score 40 points every outing. But they probably will score 40 anyway.

Tony Gonzalez still makes Jeremy Shockey look like crap because he is professional and a superstar.

Second, I am taking Denver. I have always liked Jake Plummer, and I think that he is a good fit for this team. They always have a great running game, and they can get Plummer out of the pocket with play-action and get it to Rod Smith and Ashley Lelie. I'm not sold on the defense in Denver, both scheme and talent-wise. Marty ball has been good to San Diego, and they have some nice talent on both ends, but I think that the defense is going to be a little overmatched against the

■ See SPORTS page 23

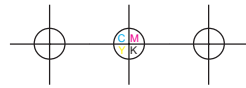
... WOOLDRIDGE cont. from page 4

held right here in Highlands, where everything has green, fuzzy stuff on it. Participants will bring mold samples from all over the world for display and Highlands' participants will be right up there with the best of the spore bearers. I am submitting my roof and a downstairs closet as entries.

Rumors are flying all over Highlands that next year we will have our very own tattoo parlor right here in our little town. Harley Davidson bike riders Butch Hardboil and his main squeeze, Trinket, are currently shopping for available property. With all the bikers finding Highlands, Mr. Hardboil just feels there's a place for him here. He plans to offer special discounts to all Chamber Music season ticket holders, who

will also get a "boy toy" T shirt with every tattoo. The golden harp on the forearm is expected to be his big seller. Some Main Street merchants are not excited about this idea and are suggesting a fast food restaurant might be a better choice for him. Stay tuned.

And finally, this scandalous little piece of trash came in from an anonymous tipster who swore me to secrecy (ha). My secret source reports that her brother, Lester McIntyre, was seen in Buck's Coffee Café holding hands with Sara McDermott. Everyone in town knows that Lester is a Baptist and Sara is a Catholic. What is Highlands coming to? More on this later as sparks are sure to fly. I personally, am appalled.



... SPORTS cont. from page 22

offensive firepower in the west, and that is going to hurt SD. LaDainian is the real deal though, he could be better than Marshall Faulk depending on his health. San Diego lacks the overall talent that the west features, but its style of play will keep them in a lot of ball games.

Finally, the Raiders. I really don't understand why everyone loves this team. Rich Gannon doesn't have the zip on his fastball that he had last year, and Jerry Rice and Tim Brown are (instead of some lame AARP joke or something, I am just going to say that

they are really old – seriously like Pat Sajak old, or Pat Benetar – OK, I couldn't resist).

AFC

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Tennessee
Cleveland
Denver
Pittsburgh

AFC Champion Miami

Next week, NFL picks.

Ryan Potts is a graduate of Davidson College and is pursuing his Master's at Appalachian State. Email him at goofoti32@aol.com

UCWA's 2003 Intern

Highlands School senior, Katy Betz, is working with the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association this school year as an intern. Katy will assist UCWA in a wide variety of watershed activities while she learns how the nonprofit organization approaches its work for improving water quality, cooperates with local, state and federal agencies, works with other local nonprofits like The Highlands Land Trust, applies for grants, and helps residents in dealing with



erosion and sedimentation, algae growth, and other water-related problems on their property. Katy Betz works with Carolyn Patton and Bob Wright in the UCWA office.

• Upcoming Events & Activities on the Plateau •

donations and scholarships from Highlands Rotary. Dinner, prepared by Chef Mark Bennett and Silent and Live Auction tickets are \$125 per person. Sponsor levels are \$100, \$250 and \$500.

Sept 10

- Highlands School Senior Class members and parents are encouraged to come to the Senior Class planning meeting, 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Sept. 11

- Biologist Dr. John Morse of Clemson University will speak at UCWA's annual meeting, 7 p.m. at Highlands Conference Center. He will explain how insects tell us about pollutants in lakes and streams. The public is welcomed.

Sept. 13 & 14

- Telling TTouch Training for companion animals at Carpe Diem Farms. Dogs, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Sunday, 9 a.m.-noon; Cats, Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The cost is \$75 per person for Dog sessions and \$25 per person for Cat sessions. Dog class limited to 15 dogs, no limit on humans. For more information, call 526-2854.

Sept. 13

- The Nantahala Hiking

Club will take an easy 4 mile hike to Secret Falls, a lovely two-level cascade and drop, in the Horsecove area. Meet at Highlands Bank of America at 10 p.m. Drive about 10 miles round trip, returning 2-3 p.m. Bring a drink, lunch raingear, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Bill Crosby, 526-3849, for reservations, more information, or in case weather looks doubtful. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please

Sept. 14

- The organist at Highlands United Methodist Church, Lorie Meserve will present an organ recital, at 3:30 p.m.

Sept. 18

- The Audubon Society will host a field trip to Caesar's Head State Park. Date may change due to weather. Meet at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m.. For more information, call Edwin Poole at 526-2775.

Sept. 19-22

- Art Walk 2003 Festivities begin. Children's Art-

Walk takes place at the Highlands Nature Center 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more info, call Mary Adair Leslie at 526-2673 or Thom Corrigan at 526-8348.

Sept. 22

- Healthy Carolinians is hosting a benefit golf tournament at Highlands Cove. Proceeds will go toward organization to help assess and develop health and safety resources for Macon County. \$100 per player or \$400 per team. For more information, call 349-2426.

Sept. 27

- Special Operations Adventure Race at 9 a.m. at the Rec Park. It's a triathlon with all proceeds benefiting children of fallen warriors.

Sept. 29

- The Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic at Highlands Falls Country Club. Entry fee is \$125 and includes the cart, box lunch Awards Party and Hole-in-One Prizes. Support Highlands School graduates by playing in this tournament. Every penny helps.

Oct. 4

Weekly Happenings

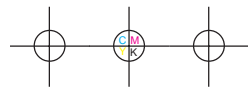
every Mon., Wed., and Thurs, 4--5 p.m. Cost is \$5. Tina Rogers at the Rec Park

Support our Special Ops



Jolies' of Highlands has donated three leather jackets sporting the American flag, for a raffle, Sept. 27 which will benefit the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. Also being raffled off is an Oriental rug from Shiraz Rugs. The foundation provides a college education for children of Special Ops personnel who were killed in the line of duty. Tickets will be on sale outside area food stores Saturdays prior to the SOAR triathlon set for Sept. 27.





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