

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 5, Number 33

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Thursday, Aug. 16, 2007

Voters to decide on real estate transfer tax

Joining the five bond questions on the November 6 ballot, will be questions about levying a real estate property transfer tax.

At the Aug. 13 Macon County Commission meeting, commissioners agreed to ask the voters if the county can collect up to four-

tenths of a percent (0.4%) from each real estate transaction.

Based on recent real stats, the .4% would bring in \$2.3 million – money the county “can use for any lawful purpose,” said County Attorney Lesley Moxley – but money the board plans to use to

buy down the debt of the bond, should it pass.

Moxley also said if the real estate transfer tax passes this November, the board can still decide whether to enact it.

Even though the intent is to use the money to fund the \$64

million bond and to minimize the impact of raising property taxes 5.5 cents to pay for the bond, Commissioner Brian McClellan said voters need to understand that the money collected from the real estate transfer tax will lessen

• See TAX page 23

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On-going

• Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.

• Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.

• Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.

• Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs. \$5 per class.

• Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mon. and Wed. at 7:30 a.m. \$7 per person per class or \$50/month. Call 526-4340.

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

Every Thursday

• At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.

Every Saturday

• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.

Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 16-18

• “My Secret Weapon” by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thurs.-Sun. Aug. 16-19

• How the Other Half Loves, at the PAC. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Sat. and 2:30 p.m. on Sun.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 16-26

• “Talley's Folly” at Highlands Playhouse Tues.-Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sun. matinees are at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695.

Thursday, Aug. 16

• “Way Down South: Southern Photography” exhibit is held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery, showcasing the Arnell, Golden, and Gregory and others, including Highlands' own Reuben Cox. It's free.

• A Volunteer Kickoff Party at the Bascom-Louise Gallery at 10:30 a.m. for anyone interested in volunteering there. Free refreshments. To RSVP, call 526-0207.

Friday-Saturday, Aug. 17-18

• A printmaking class with Toby Penney will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery. Call the gallery at 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 17-19

• At Acorn's, Juliska Trunk Show. Juliska's rich European heritage spans six centuries and combines historic shapes with imaginative new interpretations of glass and ceramic for home decor and tableware.

Friday, Aug. 17

• The ADP1 Alumni luncheon is at 11:30 a.m. at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. Call Emily Buskirk at 526-2458.

Saturday, Aug. 18

• A free, drop-in “Interconnections” fiber art class will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery 1:30-3:30 p.m. Call 526-4949.

• Trunk Show at Peak Experience 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. featuring Michael Smith's capes, jackets, shirts and more in washable silk and Martha Goodman of Remnants Jewelry presenting one-of-a-kind pieces. 2820 Dillard Road. Call 526-0229.

Monday, Aug. 20

• Cub Scout Pack 207 of Highlands Pack to the Pack Meeting Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Highlands United Methodist Church.

Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 21-25

• “My Secret Weapon” by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Tuesday, Aug. 21

• The movie “The Whole Wide World” featuring Renee Zellweger and Vincent D'Onofrio at PAC on Chestnut Street at 7:30 p.m. with refreshments at 7 p.m. It's free.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 23-26

• “How the Other Half Loves,” at the PAC on Chestnut Street, Highlands. 7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Sat. and 2:30 p.m. on Sun.

Wednesday, Aug. 22

• Open House at Highlands School from 4-6 p.m.

• Mandatory meeting for the parents of all prospective middle school and high school athletes in the old gym, 6 p.m. at Highlands School.

• An Interlude Concert at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary, featuring Lillian Buss Pearson, piano and Corine Brouwer, violin. It's free and 45 min.

• “A White Cross Gathering” for Sigma Chi Brothers at noon at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. RSVP Lester Freeman at 828-743-9013.

Fine Art Center to break ground



On Tuesday, Aug. 14, members of the Fine Art Center team – Bob Fisher, Pat Taylor, Tom Clark and Hank Ross – and the town's Josh Ward, met with Tim Murphy, project manager and Max Couch, construction supervisor of Trehel Corporation of Clemson, S.C., who will be building the art center. Not pictured is Mike Bryson who has the grading contract on the project. Work is set to begin next week at the site on Oak Street. See related story on page 23.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

MC School expansion clarified at called meeting

Voting “yes” to the school question on the ballot November 6 will mean room to grow for Macon County school children.

With proceeds from the bond, two new schools will be built – a new PK-4 and a new 5-6 school and East Franklin Elementary will be expanded.

The result will mean both the elimination of 27 portable buildings at several schools in the district and an end to the schools' overcrowding issues.

Assuming growth will continue to be a reality in Macon County, Macon County Schools is preparing for the future.

In 2003 the overall school enrollment based on the first 20 days of the school year was 4,077. In 2006-2007 that figure rose seven percent to 4,330.

“At that rate it's possible that by the 2011-2012 school year, the student population will be anywhere from 4,633-4,752,” said

• See SCHOOLS page 33

County to build animal shelter

Finally, commissioners are ready to address the county's long pending animal control problem.

At the Aug. 13 Macon County Commission meeting, the board agreed to fund first the construction of an animal shelter for \$350,000 and possibly operations from the county's fund balance at a later date.

With a healthy fund balance, commissioners agreed at their bond work session not to include every single item on the county's “need to do list” in the bond.

“If we know we're going to do them no matter what, we don't

• See ANIMAL SHELTER page 32

Town extends ABC lease

The ABC (Alcohol Beverage Control) store can keep its home on the hill between the Highlands Playhouse and Town Hall for another three years.

At the Aug. 15 Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed to extend the lease with the store at \$1 a year with the understanding that in three years things may change on the site.

Over the past year, several scenarios have been discussed concerning the plight of the store including expanding the present store, leasing space elsewhere, buying a building, even building on town property.

• See ABC page 33

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
85-60°F	82-60°F	77-59°F

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

A bipartisan environment?

By Chuck Hall
Guest Columnist

As yet another record heat wave sweeps over the United States, I find myself flabbergasted at the fact that concern for the environment is looked upon as a partisan issue. If global warming continues unabated, it won't just be the Democrats, or the Republicans, who suffer the consequences.

I'm also frustrated at the actions of those who claim to be environmentalists, yet take puzzling actions. A recent example would be Senator Ted Kennedy's opposition of the Cape Cod wind energy farm. This wind farm would be constructed five miles offshore, yet Senator Kennedy seems to think it would damage his property values. This 'not in my backyard' attitude is not the way to solve environmental problems.

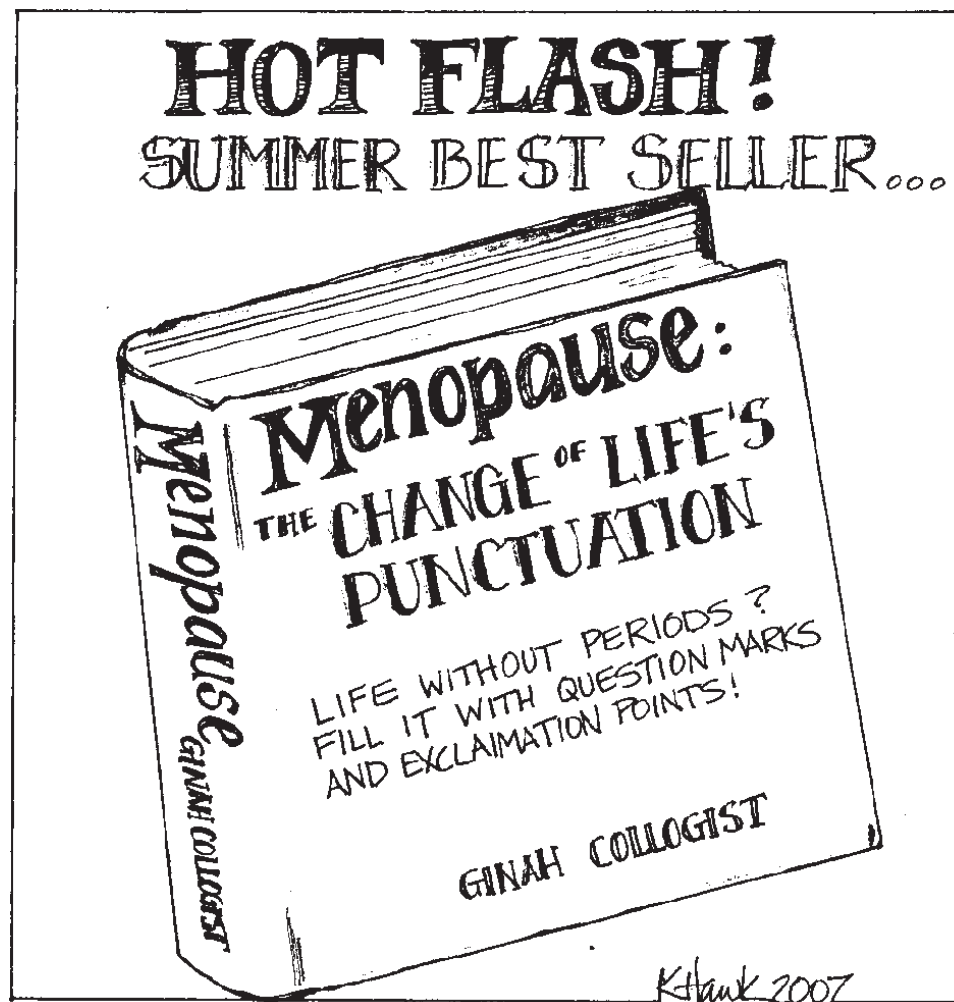
Another example would be former Vice President Al Gore. While he has done much to educate the world on the dangers of global warming, the only personal lifestyle change he has made seems to be the purchase of carbon offsets to fund his lavish lifestyle. Carbon offsets are simply a way of passing a hot potato. They do little or nothing towards eliminating the 'hot potato' of carbon emissions in the first place.

Consider also that although we possess the technology to convert to alternative fuels and other alternative energy sources, we have a sitting Republican president who has a heavily vested interest in Big Oil, and it becomes readily apparent that there are politicians on both sides of the aisle who could do a lot more to help the environment.

While many pundits in Washington excuse their inaction on environmental policies by claiming that switching to alternative fuel sources would be too expensive, the Union of Concerned Scientists (<http://www.ucsusa.org>) recently conducted a study to determine the true economic impact of alternative energy. This study used a figure of "20% by 2020," meaning that they assumed a goal of having 20% of the energy in the U.S. generated by alternative sources by the year 2020. Using a model from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) examined the long-term effects that a national 20 percent by 2020 standard would have on the economy

•See FORUM page 17

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to edit submissions. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper. Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

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• LETTERS •

A warning

Dear Editor,

This is a warning to the citizens of Highlands, who live adjacent to construction projects that involve blasting and rock hammering.

Take my advice! Take photos of your house and every wall (especially drywall), every piece of ceramic tile, every door frame and anything else that you think might crack due to the vibration of the explosives. I would also take pictures of the outside foundation or chimneys.

Usually within a few weeks of the first blast you will start to notice cracks inside your house. Once you notify the people in charge of the construction, they will call in vibration monitoring specialists who may, after an intensive inspection of your house, deliver an official notebook of pictures documenting the damages to your home and a nice letter stating that your house has simply settled. They will expect you to believe this.

Warning. Take your own "dated" photos from the start.

Sharon Bowen
Highlands

Relax, inconsiderate drivers are everywhere

Dear Editor,

It always amazes me that with all the problems in this world, the things that we complain about.

Having read the banter in the Aug. 2 issue of this newspaper about the flatlander driving education issues with great interest, I offer my observations. My wife and I have had the pleasure of staying in this area on vacation for over 20 years so I feel able to speak to this issue.

Being from the beach, we have the same type of problems with drivers. This is what has worked for me.... cut way back on the caffeine and give yourself more time to get there.

These things are not going to change and the "problem" is everywhere you go. There will always be someone or something ahead of you. It's not worth the rise in your blood pressure. Happy Driving.

Sean McCowen
Shalimar, FL

•See LETTERS page 35

• MILESTONES •



Dotson makes Dean's List

Miranda Dotson, Highlands School graduate class of 2004, is a rising senior at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

She has again been named to the university's Dean's List. She earned the distinction while studying in Vienna, Austria during the spring semester of 2007.

Miranda is Dining Editor of the "The Student," Wake Forest's student-run website. She is also a member of the Phi Mu Fraternity, Harbinger corps Student Tour Guide for the university, and Student Host for prospective students.

Miranda is the daughter of Mary and John Dotson of Highlands. She is a Communications major with a minor in political science.

• OBITUARY •

Mara Gilmer Schwab

Mara Gilmer Schwab, 71, of Glenville, NC, formerly of Tucker, GA died on August 13, 2007 at her home in Glenville. A memorial service will be held at the First Christian Church, 601 E. Ponce de Leon Ave., Decatur, GA on Saturday, August 18, 2007 at 2 p.m. with visitation following.

She and her husband David are members of Community Bible Church in Highlands, NC. Mara was the daughter of the late Floyd C. and Mary S. Gilmer. She was born in Crawfordville, GA on October 4, 1935. The family moved to Winder, GA then to Atlanta, Ga where she graduated from Southwest Dekalb High School. Upon graduation she moved to Maimi, FL where Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph employed her. In 1957 she returned to Atlanta and married David C. Schwab on August 21, 1959. She spent 17 years as a housewife and mother after which she returned to Southern Bell, retiring in 1995.

She is survived by her husband David Schwab, daughter Mary Schwab New and grandchildren Kathryn and Chandler New and daughter Elizabeth Schwab McGinnis and grandchildren Andrew, Jonathan, and Michael McGinnis, and brother Fred C. Gilmer. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Charles F. Schwab Scholarship Fund c/o The First Christian Church, 601 W. Ponce de Leon Ave., Decatur, Ga. 30030. Bryant Funeral Home, Franklin, NC is in charge of arrangements.

School board's position on sex education curriculum clarified

By Sally Hansen
Reporter

The Aug. 9 meeting of the League of Women Voters of Macon County focused on what the county needs to be doing to provide more comprehensive sex education instruction to its students while keeping the content at a level which reflects the values of the community.

Speaking to the issue was MC Schools Superintendent Dan Brigman, School Board member Roberta Swank, Anne Hyder with MC Health Department and Jess Martin, a Franklin High School graduate who chairs the student committee that proposed the Sense Enough to Expand Your

Awareness About Sex (Sexy Abs) program.

After the change to the program was first suggested to the Macon County School Board, Brigman said there were misconceptions about what had actually transpired.

"At no time were members of the Board of Education prevented from discussing this issue. I regret that the local media portrayed that there was a division and a controversy with this issue."

However, he said there are two positive things had came out of the situation, "a greater awareness of the curriculum and the realization that we need to train teachers."

•See SEX ED page 20

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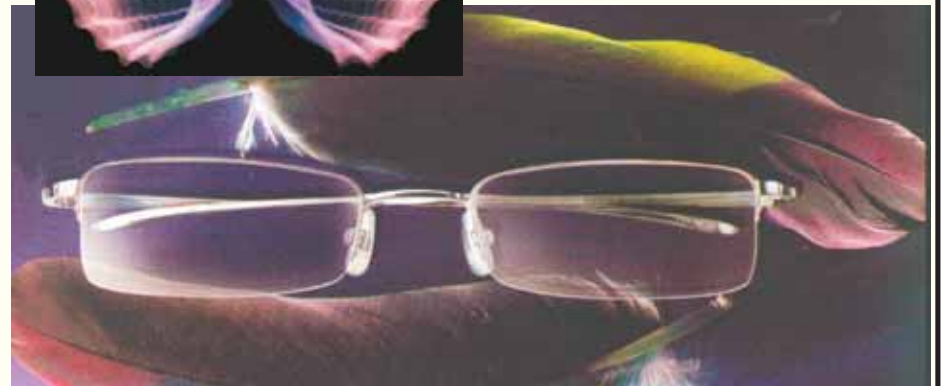


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It's pretty. It's light and it has great volume. It's obsessively clean. It has character. It's complete with desirable things - mountain views, stone fireplace, vaulted ceilings with beams, screened porch, plantation shutters, and a second lot. A surprise is a dedicated home theater with Dolby Digital sound and 102" screen. And, not unimportantly, this 3 BR, 2 1/2 bath home is offered under value for a quick sale at \$629,000. Furnishings negotiable.



New Construction in the Mirror Lake area. Brand new 4 BR, 4.5 BA home. Each BR is like a master suite with private baths, granite tops and tiled showers. Great kitchen with double ovens and island. Breakfast room open to kitchen plus a separate dining area. Great wood work throughout. 2 car garage. For in-town, new construction this is a must have!! \$895,000



Nestled on the Cullasaja River in town of Highlands is this incredible Tom Chambers log home built in 2005. With a private dock, fire pit and canoe launch this home is the perfect Appalachian Mountain Home. 4 BR on the main level and 2 BR upstairs. Plus a den and magnificent covered deck. A charming two car carport, privately gated and impeccable landscaping. A real chef's kitchen with industrial grade appliances. Too many high end features to mention. \$1,995,000



Best Cottage in the bunch at Highlands Cove. Sitting at the very top offering huge views, great privacy, audio and video upgrades! Granite throughout kitchen and baths, European styled vessel sink in powder room, deck with fireplace. One car carport with a storage room. Great view!!



Wonderful home in Highlands Falls CC with soaring ceilings in the greatroom, kitchen and master bedroom. Large eat-in kitchen which opens onto an expansive covered and open deck. The fireplace is exceptional. This lot fronts the 13th fairway and with some trimming could have a great view of golfers making their 2nd shot. Already has a mountain view. \$759,000



Newly constructed 2 bedroom/2 bath log sided cabin convenient to town across from "On the Veranda". A view of Lake Sequoia can be seen from the front entry way of the home. Makes a great rental investment or weekend getaway. Only \$299,000.



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

'Am I speaking to the party to whom I am connected?' (Snort, snort.)

Oh, Ernestine, (Lilly Tomlin) where are you when we need you?

Ring, ring, ring....Skippy answers. "Hello, my name is Skippy and thank you for calling Reeves Hardware. How may I provide you with excellent service today?" Long pause, then the caller says, "Shucks, Skippy, that's some kinda' weird accent ya got there. I don't know where in tarnation y'all is from, but other than the word Skippy, I ain't heard one gall-dang thing you said. Is this Reeves Hardware and can I talk to

Bubba Owens?" "Oh certainly, sir, allow me to repeat myself. Hello, my name is Skippy and thank you for calling Reeves Hardware. How may I provide you with excellent service today?"

"OK, OK, I did hear the word Reeves that time so let me talk to ole Bubba." "Sir, we are so very pleased you called Reeves Hardware but Bubba is not here. How am I able to assist you with excellent service today? Just tell me what you desire."

"What I desire is to talk to Bubba and I know he's there....he's always there. Look for a big fat goofy lookin' guy in overalls. He'll be sniffin' round the prettiest girl in the store like an ole coon dog in heat."

"Hmmm, sir, I do not show an ole coon dog in heat listing, but please allow me to put you on hold while I am checking our employee list." (Pause.)

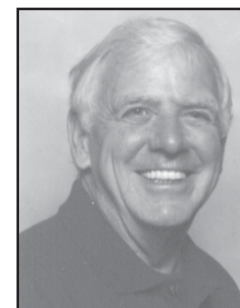
"Hello, thank you for being so very patient while I am checking the employee list. My records show that Mr. Owens is an employee of Reeves Hardware but he cannot come to the phone right now. Please, how may I provide you with excellent service today?"

"OK, Skippy, I give up. Check en see if my logs are in. They'll be under the name Anderson."

"Please, Mr. Anderson, may I put you on hold again while I am checking our inventory for your order?" (Long pause.)

"Hello, thank you again for being so very patient while I am checking your order. I do not show a listing for the Log Inn. Are you sure you have a reservation and can I have the date that reservation was made?"

"Skippy, I don't have a reservation at the Log Inn. I just want to know if my logs are in. Ya know, building logs for building a house."



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback
is encouraged!
email:**

askfredanything@aol.com

"Oh, excuse me, Mr. Anderson, you want to know how far is the Log Inn?"

"Logs, logs, logs, are you deaf? I want to know if my dang logs are in."

"Thank you, sir, for being so very patient and now I understand. Please allow me to put you on hold once again while I am checking." (Another pause)

"Hello sir, I have it. Do you have a pencil handy to write this down? To log in, our web site is www.reeveshardware.com."

"Skippy, I am not normally a man of violence,

but if you don't tell me if my log order is in, I'm comin' over there and choke you. Understand?" Skippy hangs up.

One hour later. Ring, ring, ring....Skippy answers.

"Hello, my name is Skippy and thank you for calling Reeves Hardware. How may I provide you with excellent service today?"

A female customer responds, "Skippy, you must be new. What is that weird accent? Anyway, this is Sarah Calhoun. You tell that worthless husband of mine if he doesn't get his good for nothin' butt home right now there will be no supper when he gets here."

"I'm sorry, what is the nature of your business?"

"The nature of my business is that my husband's been hangin' round your store all afternoon and I need him home right now."

"Excuse me for not fully understanding the nature of your order but does this have to do with logs?"

"Yes, it does. You tell him I'm gonna clobber him with one if he doesn't get his sorry butt home."

"There is no need to be sorry, Ma'am, as there is nothing to apologize for. Since your husband last called, I have checked with my supervisor and now fully understand your log order. Is your husband's last name Anderson or Calhoun?"

"Skippy, are you tryin' to be some kinda smartass? Where you from, anyway?"

"I am in Bangladesh, but I am able to provide you with excellent service today."

"Bangladesh, oh man, I really dialed wrong. Let me try again."

Ring, ring, ring....Skippy answers.

"Hello, my name is Skippy and thank you for"click.

• ANOTHER VIEW •

The ultimate letter

My dearest Dr. Salzarulo;

How dare you! You have set neighbor against neighbor, friend against friend, and civilized citizens of Florida and sometimes North Carolina against insufferable mountain rednecks. Those of us who form the back bone of the Highlands Cashiers community, who call Highlands home, except when it comes time to pay state income taxes, are outraged with your callous disregard for safety on the roads around Highlands. We drive sensibly, safely, and at a speed which prevents you from breaking the law and breaking your fool necks. You should be grateful. Instead you drive in a reckless, dangerous, and intimidating fashion.

There are a number of sound reasons why we drive as we do. We are unaccustomed to the twists and turns of your mountain roads. The prudent response to this discomfort is to drive twenty miles per hour between Dillard and Highlands. We are not here every day of the year. Unlike you jaded folk, we appreciate the beauty of the mountains and gaze across the valleys at the panoramic views. It is difficult to maintain a reasonable speed while taking in all that beauty. There are few places to pull over and let you pass, even if we inclined to do so.

Furthermore, you must remember that many of us are wealthy and have lived our lives in control. Now that we have retired, there is little that we can control, including our spouses. You have no idea how good it feels to have 10 or 15 cars lined up behind us. Simply delicious! Flashing your head lamps, threatening to drive up onto our trunk decks, sounding your horns, darting into the left lane, and making obscene gestures do little beyond confirming that we do, indeed, control the situation. I must say that there are those of us who would be happy to pull aside and let you pass, if only there were safe places to do so.

Unfortunately, there are very few such places. There is no signage to alert us to them, and you follow so closely that if we tried to slow abruptly and pull off the road, we would find you are sharing our rear seat, an altogether ghastly situation. Dirty denim and fine leather are simply incompatible.



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:
hsalzarulo@aol.com**

You must remember that we are not in a hurry. We have made our fortunes and are resolute in our determination to slow down and enjoy our retirement. Of course, our eyes, ears, and reflexes aren't what they once were. Despite what you may believe, you really don't want us whipping around sharp corners any where near the speed limit. Braking on an uphill turn provides a sense of security that you cannot begin to imagine.

There is another thing you should remember, Doctor, you and those in your camp, gang, posse, crew, or whatever you call yourselves. We have muscle, not the kind of muscle your are thinking about, of course, but economic muscle. Respect us and appreciate the contribution we make to your mountain community. If you make us feel unwelcome, we may very well pull up stakes and move to some other community, support its over priced boutiques and restaurants, drive up real estate prices there, fund their arts programs, jam their city streets and clutter their highways. Be careful what you wish for, because you might just get it.

I love your column and read it weekly. I have found your columns thoughtful and insightful except in the areas of politics, foreign policy, religion, education, immigration, family, travel, and the Middle East War. If you demonstrated the same sympathy for slow drivers that you do for aging dogs, Iraqi civilians, and illegal immigrants, Highlands would be a far more hospitable community.

**Malcolm Farnsworth
Oglethorpe Du Pont VI
(not my real name)
West Palm Beach, Aspen, and
Highlands
(not my real address)
hsalzarulo@aol.com**

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Forest Service requests public input on managing recreation uses on the Chattooga River

U.S. Forest Service officials are requesting public input on six preliminary alternatives for future management of recreational uses on the upper section of the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River. The alternatives, included in the agency's scoping package, cover a range of options from maintaining current management to introducing new boating use to managing encounters among existing users.

"These preliminary alternatives are based on data obtained during our visitor use capacity analysis and on information gathered during a series of public meetings and workshops over the last two years," said Sumter National Forest Supervisor Jerome Thomas. "Our proposals are intended to: protect and enhance the river's outstandingly remarkable values; offer a remote wilderness experience; preserve the scenery and setting of the river corridor; and protect the natural resources of the upper Chattooga."

The following is a summary of the key points of the six preliminary alternatives:

1. Maintain existing management: This is the current course of management and it allows boating below the Highway 28 bridge and places some limits on group sizes, trails and campsites;

2. This alternative's primary objective is to manage encounters. It introduces more stringent campsite restrictions, eliminates parking within the upper corridor and requires a permitting system if encounters reach three or more per day;

3. This alternative's primary objective is to manage biophysical impacts on natural resources by limiting trails, camp size, group size, parking and types of use (prohibition on boating would continue);

4. This alternative has two primary objectives: To manage biophysical impacts on natural

resources and numbers of encounters between users by limiting trails, campsites, group size and parking and by establishing zone, season and flow limits on new boating opportunities. Boating would be allowed from just below the private lands in North Carolina to Bull Pen Bridge with group number and group size restrictions and from Bull Pen Bridge to Burrell's Ford with seasonal, flow, group and group size restrictions. It also introduces a self-registration system for all users;

5. This alternative has two primary objectives: To manage biophysical im-

pacts on natural

resources and numbers of encounters between users by limiting trails, campsites, group size and parking and by establishing zone and flow limits on new boating opportunities from Grimshawes Bridge and Lick Log Creek. It also introduces a self-registration system for all users;

6. This alternative's primary objectives are to manage biophysical impacts on natural resources and numbers of encounters between users by limiting trails, campsites, group size and parking and to provide new boating opportunities from Grimshawes Bridge to the Highway 28 Bridge.

"The public will notice some common themes throughout the alternatives. Efforts to manage biophysical impacts in the corridor and the potential introduction of a self-registration system for all users both have been recommended during our public meetings," said Thomas. "If, after our environmental analysis and further input from the public, we determine that a self-registration system is needed, it would help us identify and monitor which types of users and how many are enjoying the river's offerings."

The Forest Service is seeking input on potential environmental effects of the alternatives and on the range of alternatives. Detailed and precise comments are more helpful as we complete our environmental analysis, Thomas said.

Today's release of the scoping package, which includes a more detailed description of the six preliminary alternatives, marks the beginning of the National Environmental Protection Act, or NEPA, process. The scoping package can be obtained by visiting the Sumter National Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms>. Hard copies of the package also are available upon request.

Comments on the preliminary alternatives may be e-mailed to comments-southern-francismarionsumter@fs.fed.us or mailed to John Cleaves, U.S. Forest Service, 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212. All comments must be received no later than 4 p.m. on September 13, 2007. All submitted comments will become part of the project record and available for public review.

The Forest Service also will be holding an alternatives workshop on September 29, 2007. Location and time information will be available soon on the Forest's web site.

• COACHES CORNER •

How cheaters sometimes prosper (and why we hate them for it)

Barry Lamar Bonds-Greatest Homerun Hitter of all time. These words are enough to make every baseball purist throw up in their mouth a little bit. Yet, as the reality sets in that Bonds is the new homerun king there is still a strange feeling about the entire situation that deserves attention.

See, I was thinking about cheating in sports the other night as I watched the old baseball movie *Major League*. In the movie, the characters from the lovable loser Cleveland Indians hired to tank the season away manage to put it all together in a miracle season. In the movie there are several plays that feature questionable ethics-including a junkballing pitcher who lubes up the ball and a catcher who uses his smarts to outwit opponents in a manner that could be seen as less than honest. While watching this movie I got to thinking that it seems that moviegoers love it when lovable underdogs beat the bigger, stronger bad guys-by hook or by crook. We love a story where even when the lovable underdogs bend the rules-it's cool because they are doing whatever it takes to compete with the big bad enemy. Isn't it amazing how we tend to condone cheating with a wink and a nod when it helps a lesser player stay with the big boys? We don't mind when the old guy at the Rec hooks an arm or takes a mulligan because it's what he has to do to keep up-we accept it as part of the game. At the same time we don't want the best player at the Rec grabbing jerseys-because he doesn't need any help.

Now, imagine what a sports movie would be like if the villain of the movie-the supremely talented and successful jerk was the one who was bending the rules-who wants to see that? No movie would be successful if it featured an unstoppable villain who always won and only got better by breaking the rules. We want our villains like Darth Vader- menacing and awe inspiring, yet ultimately human and with a smidge of good in them. In the majority of our sports movies we want the heartwarming story, and thus the good guys almost always win.

Unfortunately, Barry Bonds does



Ryan Potts

not fit that mold. He is everything the American public fears the most-he is a villain with no weaknesses and no soft spot. He is menacing at the plate and equally menacing off the field. He is a man who has been the most feared man in baseball the last five years when at the plate and a man who has been able to polarize

baseball with his assault, and ultimately his conquest of the most hallowed record in all of baseball. Now that Bonds is mission accomplished, and the pundits and the commentators and the fans begin to ponder his place in history, you have to wonder about where baseball goes from here. Does baseball simply endorse Bonds as the leader of the "steroid era", much in the same way that we had the "segregated era" and the "dead ball era"? Does baseball place an asterisk despite the fact that the Hall of Fame already contains known cheaters such as George Brett and Gaylord Perry? Will the public continue to recognize Henry Aaron as the all time Home Run leader? What happens if despite all the supposed evidence against him, Bonds is proven innocent of steroid use?

All of these questions will continue to be unanswered for as long as the cloud of steroids and performance enhancing drugs continues to hang over the head of baseball. However, Bonds remains undeterred-continuing to torment opposing pitchers despite creaky knees and little protection from his lineup. At the end of this year, he becomes a free agent, but is likely to continue his career-possibly in the American League as a designated hitter. Regardless of Bonds' future and the number that eventually becomes the benchmark for future stars to take aim at, I can't help but wonder- will it be exaggeration or fact when a future scout tells his boss a young player hits like "Barry Bonds on steroids."

• Ryan Potts returns as a weekly columnist to Highlands' Newspaper after a three-year hiatus. He's a high school history teacher and the new varsity basketball coach at Towns County High School in Hiawassee, Ga. Welcome back, Ryan!

And they're off

Several months ago, this column kicked off the presidential campaigns and we feel enough has happened to require an update. What makes this election unusual is that there is no sitting president or vice-president in contention. This tends to balloon the number of candidates in both parties.

To refresh – the Democrats are running Joe Biden, Hillary, Chris Dodd, John Edwards, Mike Gravel, Dennis Kucinich, Barack Obama and Bill Richardson. The Republicans are running Sam Brownback, Rudy, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, John McCain, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Tom Tancredo and Tommy Thompson. Fred Thompson has yet to announce but insists he will.

So, what do we know now we didn't know then? Hillary has managed to avoid serious gaffes and seems to be running a very controlled campaign. She has plenty of money. Meanwhile, Barack insists on exhibiting his lack of experience and knowledge of foreign policy and because of some recent serious misstatements, has fallen further behind in the polls. The only other serious candidate, pretty-boy Edwards can't seem to gain any traction at all.

With Gore running, which I consider a real possibility, Hillary still has a significant lead. Without Gore, she leads 2-1 over Obama, 4-1 over Edwards.

With or without Newt running, Rudy has a comfortable lead at this time.

One item of interest that may or not be meaningful this time around is that we don't often elect sitting Congresspersons. Without a great deal of research on the subject, I believe John Kennedy was the last to have been elected and there were only two in the 20th century. What does that mean to the Democrats, whose top two candidates currently serve in the Senate? Possibly nothing.

Instead of electing a member of Congress, we tend to elect Governors. The obvious reason for this is that while Congresspersons are completely involved in the political process, and little else, Governors actually run something. They have first-hand involvement with the budget process, they are employers, they are responsible for the quality of life of the people of their state.

What makes the next few months interesting is that, of the current candidates, 10 of them are members of Congress. They get the opportunity to go out on the campaign trail and tell voters how they stand on a particular subject.



Don Swanson
Feedback is encouraged. Email
swandonson@dnnet.net

Then, they get to go back to Washington and vote the way they said they would, or duck the issue and miss the vote.

But all of this is small potatoes compared to where the real action is. And where is that, you ask? Why, it's in the Primary SCHEDULE. What? No kidding. For years, the Iowa caucus and the New Hampshire primary led the parade and received a great deal of attention. Some say much more than their small state status deserved.

Traditionally, they were followed by so-called Super Tuesday, when several states held their primaries. In recent election cycles, so many delegates were involved in Super Tuesday, the candidates were pretty well decided by early March.

This time will be different, however. Breaking tradition, South Carolina Republicans pushed up their 2008 presidential primary to January 19, which triggered an acceleration of other states' schedules. Conceivably, it could mean that the first votes are cast in December, 2007.

This is being written as the strategy swirls, but at this point, New Hampshire is certain to protect its first-in-the-nation primary status and Iowa's Democrat Governor, Chet Culver, says "Iowa will go first, that is the bottom line."

Quoting from the Guardian Unlimited website, "the ever-changing contest schedule, and the earlier start to the balloting, has created an enormous level of discomfort for national parties trying to impose discipline on the states as well as presidential campaigns trying to figure out strategies when voting could begin in just four months."

As a deterrence, both national party committees insist they will penalize states that schedule nominating contests before Feb. 5 by withholding half their delegates to the conventions next summer. Florida proceeded to flout the warning and moved its primary for both parties to Jan. 29, prompting the South Carolina GOP to maneuver for a date earlier than its originally scheduled Feb. 2.

Given the circumstances, New Hampshire will be forced by state law to move its primary to at least Jan. 12. Should that occur, Iowa then would have to, according to its law, shift its leadoff caucuses, perhaps to as early as mid-December.

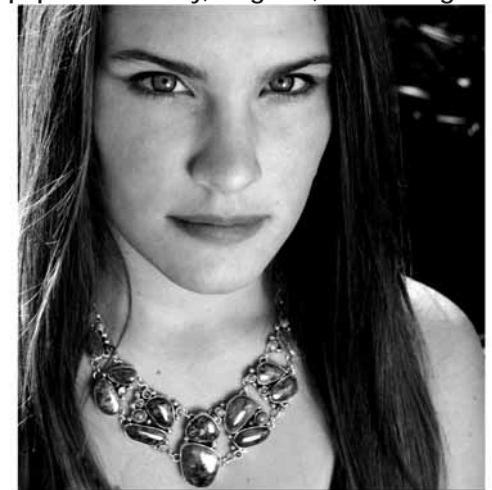
Who knows where all this one-upmanship will end up? Time will tell, but one thing is certain. Just when you are about to be bored to tears, the SCHEDULE saved the day. Stay tuned.

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• HIS & HERS •

Mark Twain says Congress is an idiot

Mark Twain has been dead for a number of years. He often voiced his opinion that Members of Congress were not the sharpest tools in the shed, but he hasn't actually made such a comment in more than a century. Still, an issue arose last week which allows me full permission to condemn Congress again in Mark Twain's name. This concerns the sailing of the Delta Queen.

Practically everyone, even in land-locked states, knows the Delta Queen. She is one of the last surviving original-style paddlewheel boat to sail on the Mississippi. She was built in 1926 for use on the West Coast. In the 40s she sailed to Cincinnati, later to New Orleans as home port. She has sailed the Mississippi for sixty years, all the way to Minnesota.

I understand she is one of only three items on the National Register of Historic Places, which move. One other is Andrew Hallidie's cable cars in San Francisco. Mark Twain would take a keen interest in the attempt by Congress to force the Delta Queen off the river. After all, Twain took his pen name from the call of the bow linesman measuring the depth of the river, "The markin' on the twine is two fathoms," shortened just to "Mark Twain, two." And Twain served ably as a river boat captain on the Mississippi, just prior to the outbreak of the Civil War.

So, what has Congress done to put the Queen out of service? For the first time in forty years, Congress has failed to vote through the exemption to allow the Queen to sail with overnight passengers, even though her superstructure is made of wood. All the modern boats on the river have steel superstructures and cabins. But the Delta Queen is an original, don't you see? Hellooo. That's part of the point.

It's not like there aren't wooden boats still carrying passengers on the water. There are skipjacks still sailing the Chesapeake Bay. There is a replica of a Baltimore Clipper, the Pride of Baltimore II, still sailing to ports around the nation and the world. And thousands of Americans regularly board and sail the Windjammer ships in the Caribbean.

Anyone who sails in a wooden ship must, of necessity, rely on better fire safety in the crew's training, and better ancillary equipment on board. But the Delta

Queen has all that. Her safety record is absolutely spotless in the forty years she has sailed under her congressionally-granted waivers.

So, why has Congress neglected to continue the career of this national treasure which has been enjoyed by millions in the past, and

should be enjoyed by millions more in the future?

I can think of two reasons. No one has a huge financial stake in the Delta Queen. Oh, there are hundreds of towns along the Mississippi, including Mark Twain's (Samuel Clemmons') home town, Hannibal, Missouri, which will be much the poorer in their quality of life, when the great steam whistle no longer announces the stately arrival of the Queen. But, there is no monied interest, willing and able to slip large sums into the pockets of Congressmen legally (or sometimes not so legally), to make sure that the Queen keeps sailing.

No, this particular dereliction by Congress can be traced to sheer ignorance, blind neglect of the nation's heritage. And it's interesting that it is paired, as a movable monument, with Hallidie's cable cars in San Francisco.

Back in the 40s the Board of Supervisors started the process of shutting down the cable cars, line by line. They reasoned, if reason is quite the correct word, that these were obsolete forms of transportation which got in the way of modern forms such as buses, and they should be ripped up from the streets of San Francisco.

There was a citizen uprising against the Board of Supervisors. The people wrote the surviving cable car routes into the City Charter, so the Supervisors could not abolish them, no matter how stupid they were, or how hard they tried. Now, those obsolete "little cable cars, climb halfway to the stars," and are the very symbol of the City which almost abandoned them.

I'm not suggesting that the Delta Queen should be written into the Constitution to protect it forever from the neglect of Congress. I AM suggesting that if you care about America's greatest river, the Mississippi, if you've ever seen or heard the Delta Queen plying the waters

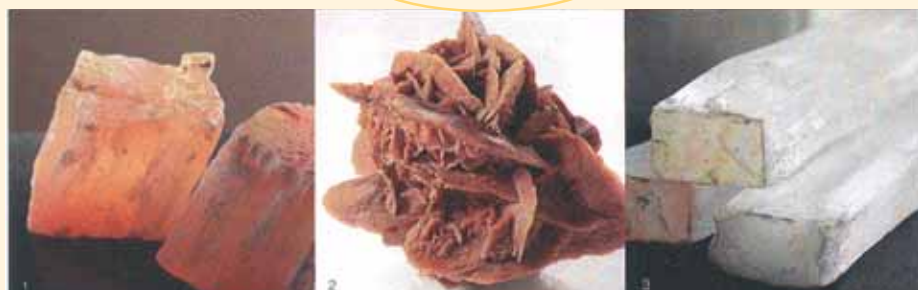
•See HIS & HERS page 12

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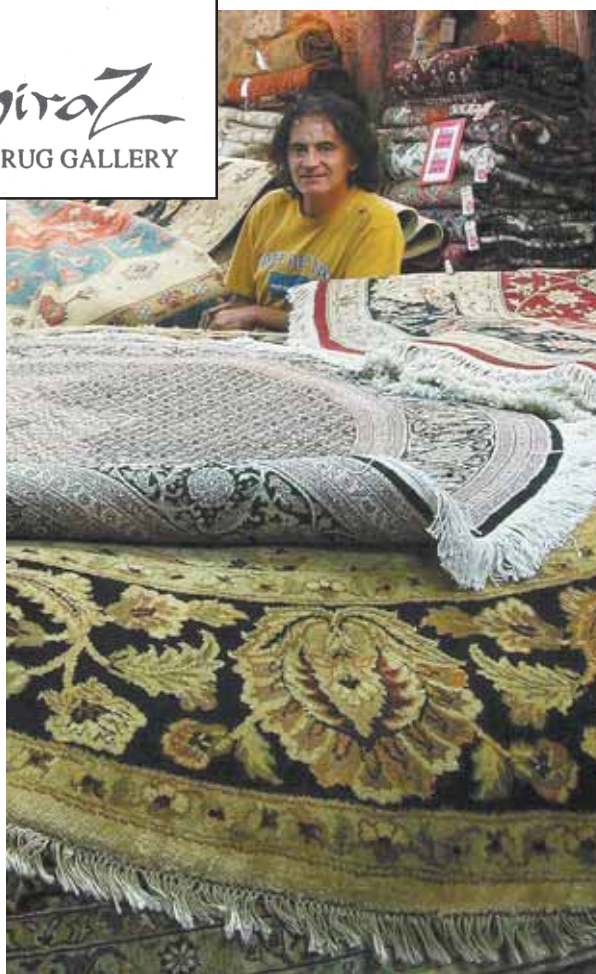


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Town Of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic

Aug. 29 at the Cullasaja Club



Town Of Highlands Scholarship Fund Golf Classic *Monday, August 27, 2007* *At the* *Cullasaja Club*

I/We _____ would like to make a donation and become a sponsor of this exciting event in the following manner:

- _____ \$5,000.00 Diamond Sponsor—(Tee Sign, Program Recognition and 8 Dinner Tickets)
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- _____ \$500.00 Gold Sponsor— (Program Recognition and 4 Dinner Tickets)
- _____ \$300.00 Patron Sponsor—(Program Recognition and 2 Dinner Tickets)
- _____ \$150.00 per Golf Contestant
- _____ Guest Tickets at \$50.00 per ticket for the Awards Party

There will be _____ Golfers in our group and their names are:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Due to an overwhelming response to last year's event, payment for golf must be made to guarantee your registration to play. The first 128 "PAID" contestants will participate in the event! Golf Contestant donations must be mailed or delivered to David Cull or Connie Smith at : Cullasaja Club, 1371 Cullasaja Club Drive, Highlands, NC 28741 or you may drop your entry and check to the Town Hall. Please make your checks payable to Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund.

Diamond, Platinum, Gold and Patron Sponsor Donations can be mailed or delivered to the Town of Highlands, P. O. Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741 or to David Cull or Connie Smith. For further details to become a sponsor or make a gracious donation of any kind you may contact Helen Simmons at 508-2542. Please make your checks payable to Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund.

All Donations are Tax Deductible

Golf Contestants may bring guests to the Awards Party by purchasing a ticket at the cost of \$50.00.

Event Agenda

11:00am – Registration & Lunch Buffet in Clubhouse, Practice Range Open, Tee Gift Distribution, Complimentary Beverages on Course
12:30pm – Shotgun Start – Scramble
5:00pm – 7:30pm – Cocktails, Dinner Buffet and Awards Party

Once again this year Cullasaja Club will host the Town of Highlands and Scholarship Fund Golf Classic. The event is scheduled for Monday, August 29.

The field will be limited to the first 128 golfers so call now and sign up to play in this exciting event. Registration forms for the event are available at town office or call Connie Smith at the Cullasaja Club at 526-3531. She can fax one to you. Sponsorship donations can be mailed to Town of Highlands, P.O. Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741

The Scholarship Fund Golf event is an all-volunteer event that helps raise money for the Scholarship Endowment Fund. The Fund was created in 1987 and now has an investment of nearly \$700,000. Each year the interest earned by the fund is used to give Highlands High School graduates an opportunity to attend colleges, universities and trade schools beyond the high school level. All graduates are eligible to receive a scholarship, regardless of their grade point average. Applications for the scholarships are reviewed by a committee appointed by the Town's Board of Commissioners. Any funds that are awarded are paid directly to the institution on the application. One of the unique features of the Endowment Fund is that students can reapply year after year for additional funds. Over \$50,000 has been awarded from the Endowment Fund over the last two years.

Last year the event grossed over \$40,000 in monetary donations, outpacing the previous year by more than \$15,000. This year our goal is \$50,000 said event chairman and general manager of the Cullasaja Club. As I have said in the past, "This is an excellent opportunity for to give something back to the community and at the same time say 'thank you' to the young and future leaders of our community."

Note: Town Scholarships are not a "one time" deal.

Students may reapply for scholarship funds each year – applications must be turned into the Town Hall by April 1 – so gifts from the scholarship fund can follow students through their college years.

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Bend like a Willow

Last week I wrote about two principles to live by: gratitude and humility. There is a third principle that I think is important: acceptance.

A definition of "accept" is "to consider or hold as true," and what I mean by acceptance is to hold as true the way it is right now, however that may be in any circumstance. Acceptance means "in this moment *this* is the way it is, and I have no quarrel with it." Since I have been living by this principle I have found a deep sense of peace and serenity.

A lot of people rebel at the idea of acceptance of any and every situation because it sounds completely passive. If you accept the way it is you must allow "bad" situations to occur or continue — after all if you accept something why would you want to change it?

Acceptance in the way I mean it is not passive at all. It does not preclude action to bring about change. In fact it makes action more effective.

When we don't accept a situation we reject the way it is. As a result we don't see clearly what is, we only see what we want to be true. How effective can any action on our part be if we are not starting from an understanding of what already is?

When instead we accept a situation the way it is, we see reality more truly and the path to changing it is much clearer.

Acceptance opens unseen doors and avoids problems. For example, years ago I lived in San Francisco. One day I was waiting for the bus in Chinatown. The bus stop was quite crowded. A man came up and stood uncomfortably close to me, so I moved. He moved too. I continued to move through the crowd for the 10 minutes or so until the bus arrived and he kept following me.

I deliberately sat down next to a woman so this man couldn't sit next to me; he stood in the aisle right next to me. When the person in the row ahead left, he sat there, turned around and stared at me. I realized that if I didn't do anything, this could easily turn into a very unpleasant situation when I got off the bus. I considered the option of talking to the bus driver, but that didn't seem right. Instead I summoned my courage and said in the loudest voice I was capable of, "I am tired of you staring at me and following me, leave me alone!" He of course, with the entire bus staring at him, denied everything and got off at the next stop. I was suffused with relief and victory. I feel like it was my acceptance of the situation



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

that allowed me to consider my options and take the action required to avoid any problems.

In learning how to accept reality from moment to moment, I have learned that there are always many possibilities for why something is the way it is. My mind usually jumps at one possibility, and in the past I would be certain that this was obviously the cause. But experience has taught me that there are always possibilities that I can't see, and might never see, but that doesn't mean that they don't exist. As a result I am no longer so sure in my opinions.

The current debate in this newspaper about slow drivers is a good example. In the past when I would come upon a slow driver I would just assume that he or she was a jerk, too selfish to think of anyone else — what other explanation for someone driving so slow and refusing to pull over?

But now I realize there are many other possible explanations. Maybe the driver is on the way home from the store and a watermelon has gotten loose and is rolling all over the van and she's trying to go gently around the curves to keep it from bursting (this has happened to me).

Maybe the driver is an older person who is reluctant to give up the independence that a driver's license gives, yet can barely see the next curve. (My husband once said, after watching his mother struggle to drive, that he would never get mad at a slow elderly driver again, because they were his mother and his father).

Or maybe the couple in the car is just going home from the hospital with their new-born baby and they are overwhelmed at the awesome responsibility for this new life.

And maybe they are a selfish, thoughtless person! And I can accept that too, and give my blood pressure a break.

Some years ago the phrase "bend like a willow" came to my mind. Acceptance means to bend like a willow before the wind.

Alan Watts puts it this way in his book *Wisdom of Insecurity*: "The principle of the thing is clearly something like judo, the gentle (*ju*) way (*do*) of mastering an opposing force by giving in to it...[Taoism] showed how the supple willow survives the tough pine in a snow-storm, for whereas the unyielding branches of the pine accumulate snow until they crack, the springy boughs of the willow bend under its weight, drop the snow, and jump back again."

MountainTop Relay for Life

Friday, August 24

Highlands Recreation Park at 6 p.m.

2007 Relay Teams

Cashiers Valley Rotary, Chestnut Hill, Chicks Dig a Cure, Cub Scouts, Dwight Morgan, Highlands Cashiers Hospital & Hospice, Highlands Country Club, Highlands Rotary, Highlands School, Just for You, Keller-Williams, RBC Centura, Tangles, Terminix, United Community Bank Banker Babes, Vicki's Victors – Grace Community Church, Warth Construction, Yellow Mountain Baptist Church

...

Survivor & Caregiver Laps to Open Relay

MountainTop Relay for Life invites you to a Cancer Survivor's Reception at the Highlands Recreation Center hosted by the MountainTop Rotary Club Friday, Aug. 24 at 5 p.m. just before the Relay For Life. Coach Butch Smart to provide survivor welcome. Hors d'oeuvres are being provided by Highlands Cashiers Hospital. The Relay for Life will begin at 6 p.m. Opening Lap Honoring Survivors and Caregivers For more information, please contact Jillian Ream at 866-227-7798 The survivor reception to replace survivor dinner

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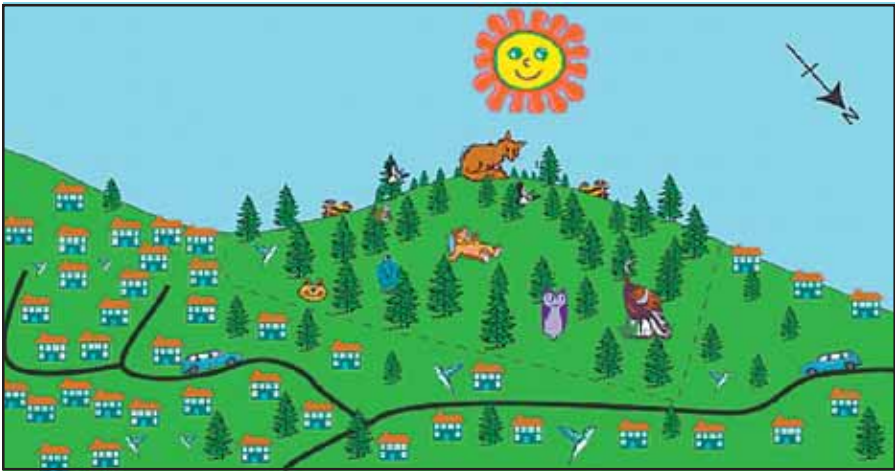
All New Relay Children's Play & Games Station

Hosted by the Highlands Ecumenical Council – Community Bible Church, Highlands United Methodist Church, Episcopal Church Of The Incarnation, and Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church starting at 6 p.m. at the Highlands Recreation Center. Activities to Include: Relay Games, Carnival Games, Bounce House, Gem Mining Sand Box, 3 Point Hoops Shoot, Line Dances, Cotton Candy and more. It's fun for the whole family!

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1st Annual Mountain Top Relay Medical Mile

As a current or retired medical provider in our area, you are INVITED to take part in the 1st Annual Mountain Top Relay Medical Mile Relay For Life on Friday, August 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Recreation Center. Walk a lap or two together with other medical providers as we honor you during the first annual Relay Medical Mile!




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... HIS & HERS continued from page 8

of that great River, live, on TV or in movies, you should act.

Ask your member of Congress, and your senators, why they have neglected a simple act, which will not cost a single penny of taxpayer money, and will take just a moment of their time, to keep the

Delta Queen afloat?

This week included National Underwear Day. I know some folks in Hollywood are protesting this national celebration. I, for one, think underwear is a pretty good idea. The point is, Congress declares stuff like National Underwear

Day, and National Pickle Week. It would take no more time than that to pass a one-line statute that says, "The Delta Queen is exempt until 2010 from the requirement that she be built of steel."

We could call that National Let the Queen Sail Day. Or perhaps, National

Congress Got the Message and Is Not Really as Dumb as They Seem Day. I like that one better. I want to see the Queen keep sailing on her mighty river.

• About the Author: John Armor practiced in the US Supreme Court for 33 years. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu He lives in the 11th District of North Carolina.

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Also: Loose Moose - Full Service Bar

Folks gather for Final 'Relay for Life Concert' at High Country Cafe



Owner of High Country Cafe, June Webb, kicks up her heels during the fundraiser.



Live music with the JW Band and good food brought the folks out in support of the Relay for Life fundraiser. More than \$2,800 was raised to benefit Relay for Life. This was the final concert for the Just For You team. June Webb and the High Country Cafe Staff donated every single cent from the meal and their time!

Online courses for teachers

The N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh will offer seven six-week online workshops for educators. Teachers can earn continuing education credit, boost their knowledge of various North Carolina topics and get ideas for classroom activities.

These self-paced workshops are available to public, private and home school educators. The courses provide up to four CEU credits (40 contact hours) but can be tailored to the number of contact hours, including regular, reading and technology credits, needed by the registrant. The workshops are \$35 per class.

Upcoming workshops are.

- Women in N.C History — Sept. 1, 2007
- Civil Rights in N.C — Nov. 1, 2007
- Stories From the Civil War — Jan. 1, 2008
- American Indians in N.C Past and Present — begins March 1, 2008
- Legends of N.C. — April 1, 2008
- N.C. at Home and in Battle — May 1, 2008
- N.C. Geography — July 1, 2008

For more information about each workshop, to review sample pages and to find a printable registration form, visit <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/edu/ProfDev.html>.

A registration form and a \$35 fee are required to register. For additional details about the online workshops, call 919-807-7971, or e-mail Jessica Humphries at jessica.humphries@ncmail.net.

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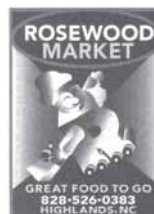
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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Jesus... Conservative or Liberal?



Mike Harris
Associate Pastor
Highlands United Methodist Church

In my years as a pastor I have avoided taking sides with the left or the right politically. I try to practice faith not my politics. However as you may realize they overlap. As a pastor leading a church that houses both vocally opposed groups within the leadership dynamics, I believe it is important to explore where Jesus would fall into our political structure of the day. Of course both sides claim Jesus is with them, I ask which side is correct?

We see it everyday in the news, one side bashing the other, name calling, and fighting for the attention of the American people. The idea is that you are either for us or you are against us. There is no longer room for compromise and working for the greater good. We choose our side, make our case and hold firm to our position. What's so unfortunate is that not only is it as American as apple pie to divide ourselves, but then we allow it to seep over into churches. In essence we are destroying what Jesus tried so hard to build, a body of people who could come together in fellowship, love and awe of our amazing God.

So then let us figure out whose side Jesus is on and then we can start building bridges and mending fences with all of our "neighbors". I have to say when Jesus was confronted with a challenge he always left those challenging him with more questions to answer. It was rare that a clear absolute would come from his mouth; it was normally a parable, a story that people could relate to and thus make a decision on what his answer really was. One such challenge was raised in Luke Chapter 10 when Jesus was asked what is the most important commandment. Jesus allowed the lawyer to answer the question for himself and Jesus agreed with his answer. "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself." (New Living Translation) The dialogue continues between Jesus and the lawyer to discuss then who is your neighbor. Jesus then gives a parable for the man and us today to figure who truly is our neighbor and who are we truly supposed to love. (We humans interpret that to our own liking and comfort level because loving neighbors is never easy.) And then Jesus sends us on our way by saying "Do this."

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 15

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

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Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
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Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

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Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

Tuesday: Women's weekly Bible study at 2 p.m.

Wednesday: Men's Bible study at 8 a.m.
at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

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Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday testimony meeting 7 p.m.

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CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

Prayer - 6:30 p.m.

Evening Service - 1st & 3rd Sunday - 7 p.m.

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Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. Students' Dinner

(free for kids in 8th grade and younger);

5:30 p.m. Supper; 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 pm Small Groups

for kids Pre-K through 8th; 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm Adult

Bible Study 6pm-7pm Choir Practice

• Small Groups are offered for all ages throughout the week, see our website or call for more info.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968

Sunday: 8 A.M. - Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Chapel

8:30 A.M. - Breakfast; 9 A.M. - Sunday School

10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Sunday Service on Channel 14 at 10:30 A.M.

Monday: 4 P.M. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 A.M. Men's Cursillo Group

4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

Thursday: 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

10:30 A.M. Daughters of the King

• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.

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Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens

Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

Sun.: Worship - 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.;

School - 9:30 a.m.; Youth - 6:30 p.m.; Choir - 7:15

Wednesdays: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids - 6 p.m.;

Prayer - 6:15 p.m., Choir - 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175

Sun.: Worship - 11 a.m.; Sun.School - 9:30 & 9:45.

Mondays: 8 a.m. - Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers

Choir - 7

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

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Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group

Wed: Supper; 6; 6:15 - children, youth, & adults

studies; 6:15 - Adult choir

(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)

Thurs:12:30 - Women's Bible Study (nursery)

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

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Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School -10 a.m.; Worship -11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

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

Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769

Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 14

In the correct response of loving God and loving neighbor, we have the answer to is Jesus a conservative or a liberal. (I may over simplify, but bear with me and you may agree.) I believe Billy Graham is a great man and a great example of a conservative Christian. He has lived his life preaching the word of God to save millions of souls one person at a time. I think Mother Theresa is a fantastic example of someone living the social gospel. She lived her life for other people. She shared what little she had and feed the hungry, clothed the naked, etc. She didn't preach salvation, she lived it and millions came into relationship with Jesus through her actions.

I doubt there are too many that would deny that Mother Theresa and Billy Graham are great examples of following the footsteps of Christ. Who would we argue is better. They both brought the love and mercy of Jesus the Christ, to millions of people through their lives and millions know Jesus that would not have without them, but they each had a different way to do it.

To love God brings to mind the conservative, law abiding citizen. A good Jew and Christian alike know how to love God and through regular worship and obedience are able to be made righteous in this way. Thus we are "saved". However loving neighbor, the liberal side of things means looking beyond self, into a life of action, selflessness, sacrifice and mercy. I truly believe Jesus wanted both. Jesus is either both or neither one, maybe something else. Jesus taught love and forgiveness as well as obedience and individual piety. So when we argue that Jesus is on our side, we have to also admit that Jesus is on the other side too.

In this world in which we are quick to war and so slow in peace, let us keep our churches a haven for the true Jesus. The same Jesus who ate with sinners,

fellowshipped with prostitutes and vile tax collectors is also same Jesus who is constantly reaching out to each of us. I see churches torn apart by differences of opinions in how we interpret scripture and what is more important. I challenge you, encourage you and beg you to remember the words of our redeemer, Love God, love neighbor, "Do This and you will inherit eternal life."

Saturday & Sunday Aug, 18-19

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Macon Bank contributes to new fine art center



Tony Potts, left, branch manager of Highlands' Macon Bank, stands with Bob Fisher, chairman of the Bascom-Louise Gallery at the site of the gallery's new fine art center. Macon Bank made a significant donation of \$5,000 to help build the art center, which begins construction this month and will be complete by next summer. "We very much appreciate Macon Bank's support," Fisher said. "They were one of the first businesses in town to make a significant donation to our Capital Campaign, and with their leadership, now many other businesses in town are joining us, as well." For more information on how to help the art center, call its business office at (828) 526-0207.

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Highlands Playhouse presents last show of the summer: Talley's Folly Aug. 16-26

The Highlands Playhouse presents Talley's Folly by Lanford Wilson. Aug. 16-26 and is sponsored by Drake's Diamond Gallery, LLC.

Opening night is Thursday the August 16 which includes a post-show reception with free wine and catered treats.

The Pulitzer-prize winning drama Talley's Folly closes The Playhouse's summer with a warm tale of a courtship between two social misfits: Sally Talley, played by Catherine Clayton, and her suitor Matt Friedman played by Gabriel Russo. This story takes place on July 4th 1944 with World

War II determining the social, economic, and political background, and is set in an old boathouse in Lebanon, Missouri.

Talley's Folly is the story of two people getting a chance at romance that neither thought would occur. This play shows how two people reveal themselves to one another and overcome apparent insurmountable odds.

Talley's Folly won the Pulitzer Prize in 1980, and was nominated for several Tony's and won the New York Critic Circle's Award for best play.

The New York Times called Mr. Wilson is one of our most gifted playwrights, a dramatist who deals perceptively with definably American themes. "He introduces us to two wonderful people, humanizing and warming them with the radiance of his abundant talent. Talley's Folly is a play to savor and cheer."

The New York Post says Talley's Folly is perhaps the simplest, the most lyrical play Wilson has written. "It's funny, sweet, touching and marvelously written contrived love poem for an apple and an orange."

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... FORUM continued from page 2

and the environment. Some of the findings of that study included:

Job Creation - 185,000 new jobs from renewable energy development

Economic Development - \$66.7 billion in new capital investment, \$25.6 billion in income to farmers, ranchers, and rural landowners, and \$2 billion in new local tax revenues

Consumer Savings - \$10.5 billion in lower electricity and natural gas bills by 2020 (growing to \$31.8 billion by 2030)

Climate Solutions - Reductions in global warming pollution equal to taking 36.4 million cars off the road

(To see a breakdown of this analysis, you can download the studies from: http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/clean_energy_policies/cashing-in.html).

Clearly, alternative energy sources are

a win-win situation. By switching to alternative sources, we can stimulate the economy while protecting the environment and reducing our dependence on foreign oil. All that remains is to develop the bipartisan political will to do so.

Either that, or we can continue to spend our fuel dollars in parts of the world that continue to sponsor terrorism. The choice is up to us...and our representatives.

• *Chuck Hall is a Sustainability Consultant and author. His latest book, Green Circles: A Sustainable Journey from the Cradle to the Grave, is now available at the Culture Artist Web site at www.cultureartist.org. You may contact Chuck by email at: chuck@cultureartist.org.*

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BEFORE
AFTER



Hospital CEO Ken Shull (standing) and Board Chairman Bud Smith (standing at right) went table by table recognizing hospital volunteers and thanking them for their service at last week's special recognition dinner. Nearly 100 of the hospital's large pool of volunteers turned out for the thank-you event, which the hospital holds each summer.

Hospital honors its volunteers at annual celebration

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital said thank you to nearly 100 of its volunteers at a special dinner party last week at Highlands Falls Country Club.

In all, nearly 140 volunteers, spouses and managers of the various hospital departments where volunteers serve attended the special Tuesday evening event. Addressing the group briefly, Chairman of the Board Bud Smith told the volunteers they had contributed more than 8,700 hours of service during the past year, an increase of 800 hours over the previous year. More than 150 people volunteer either at the hospital or with Highlands-Cashiers Hospice.

The party drew volunteers from across the many facets of hospital operations: including the Eckerd Living Center, HealthTracks, Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, the gift shop, hospital auxiliary, radiology, pharmacy, and a host of ancillary departments.

In addition to thanking them for the difference they make in the lives of patients, residents, and staff, Smith and Hospital CEO and President Ken Shull went table to table recognizing individual volunteers and asking them where they served.

Three of those present — Jolene Niblack, Elaine Reynolds, and Polly Dean — have been volunteering at the hospital for more than 20 years, dating back to the former facility that was located on the

corner of Fifth and South Streets in Highlands (now the Peggy Crosby Community Center).

Following the brief reception and official remarks, volunteers and other guests enjoyed a buffet of prime rib, chicken, and other items. Wine for the event was donated once again by Bryson's Food Store of Highlands.



Long-time volunteer Polly Dean was one of three present who have been helping the hospital fulfill its mission for more than 20 years. Following the formal remarks, volunteers enjoyed a buffet dinner, catered by the staff at Highlands Falls Country Club.

HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES

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Part of Bascom-Louise Gallery's permanent collection, these are two pieces purchased with Bel Canto proceeds.

Bel Canto funds help nonprofit gallery boast excellent art collection

For years, the words "Bel Canto" have evoked thoughts of beautiful opera music showcased within the peaceful confines of these mountains. But for the people behind the Bascom-Louise Gallery, this annual opera concert has meant so much more. For them, the concert has made possible its art collection.

Held every September and organized by Richard Joel, Bel Canto brings first-rate opera to Highlands – just one more example of how this small community attracts excellence and sophistication no matter the distance to get here. This year's event is set for Sept. 9.

For the last 15 years, the concert has primarily benefited the Bascom-Louise Gallery, among others including Highlands School, and funds are used to purchase artwork for the gallery's collection.

Kaye Gorecki, the gallery's artistic director, said the funds have been the sustaining factor for the collection. For most of the gallery's existence, Bel Canto funds were their primary contributions when it came to collections. Today, they mean the gallery is able to boast pieces by art greats such as Philip Moulthrop, Mark Pieser, Julian Davis, Chad Awalt or Evan Wilson. After 15 years and about \$130,000 in funding from the concert, the gallery now has a

healthy collection of what Gorecki considers to be fine pieces, most of which were purchased thanks to Bel Canto.

"We wouldn't have had the funds to purchase any artwork without this," Gorecki said. "Richard Joel made an enormous cultural impact on the region when he instituted Bel Canto. Monies raised from the event have made it possible to expand our art collection, featuring and supporting the finest artists and crafts persons in the Southeastern United States. One art supporting another – that's a beautiful model for art centers everywhere."

Bob Fisher, the gallery's board chairman, said the Bel Canto funds have meant they are able to showcase work by some of the finest artists this region has to offer.

"We are very grateful to Richard Joel and Bel Canto for their substantial generous support," Fisher said. "In recognition of this, we have designated an important part of our new facility, the Loft Gallery, as the Richard and Edith Joel Gallery to exhibit works of our permanent collection."

Tickets are on sale now for this year's Bel Canto. To purchase tickets, call (828) 526-5252.



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... SEX ED continued from page 3

Several problems have existed in the past, including lack of funding to bring in health professionals to teach classes and field questions from students, as well as P.E. teachers feeling uncomfortable with the material and perhaps putting their jobs in jeopardy if parents complain about the content being taught in health classes.

In addition, according to Superintendent Dr. Dan Brigman, the state-mandated Healthful Living Education Standard Course of Study is not being entirely followed.

There seems to be a lot of confusion regarding what the Course of Study contains. A copy can be found online on the Department of Public Instruction's website (<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us>), or obtained at the Macon County Public Library. According to Brigman, "the Course of Study is non-negotiable: we have to cover these objectives."

The current Course of Study includes guidelines for 7th graders to be able to "define abstinence as voluntarily refraining from intimate sexual contact that could result in unintended pregnancy or disease."

Seventh graders are also supposed to be able to "analyze the effectiveness and failure rates of condoms as a means of preventing sexually transmitted diseases (STDs); analyze the risks of premarital sexual activity; demonstrate techniques and strategies for becoming or remaining abstinent by dealing with peer pressure; and analyze the effects of culture, media and family values on decisions related to becoming or remaining abstinent."

By the eighth grade it is mandated that students can "compare and contrast methods of contraception, their effectiveness and failure rates, and the risks associated with different methods of contraception as means of preventing STDs."

School board member Roberta Swank said this Course of Study is not being taught in today's schools. She said while the state's position is abstinence-based, telling every person who goes through the school system that he or she should abstain from sex until marriage "has never worked and will never work today," she said.

However, the current Course of Study provides good information to help students make wise decisions where risky behavior is concerned. "There are so many STDs today that it's hard for parents to know everything they could potentially be asked by their children," she said. For that reason, she feels that teaching the state's required curriculum is asking too much of P.E. teachers as well.

"This is why we feel it would be better to contract with individuals with medical backgrounds to come in on these sessions," she said. In the past, employees from the Health Department came into the classrooms and taught abstinence-based programs, but Hyder said that the bottom line is funding.

"The Course of Study was followed

when the Health Department was involved, but once the grants that made this kind of instruction possible ceased, so did the program," said Hyder. She extended an invitation to anyone who wanted to donate money to help fund a future program.

Jess Martin, a Franklin High School graduate who was the head chair of the student committee that proposed the Sexy Abs program to the Board of Education, said that many of her peers are misinformed about the many myths that exist about sex. "We live in a society where this kind of information is on TV and in their music, and we wanted to create a center where they could get the right kind of information," she said.

Martin also emphasized that they weren't looking to deviate from the current Course of Study, and that parent involvement was important as well. "One of our major components was to have a Parent's Night to preview what we were going to talk about," she said. Permission forms would have been distributed in case some parents didn't want their children to attend the program.

Additionally, the state's Course of Study also says, particularly for high school students, instructors should "provide accurate statistical information on their effectiveness and failure rates for preventing pregnancy and sexually-transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, in actual use among adolescent populations for any instruction concerning contraceptives or prophylactics."

Educators and parents also need to know that instruction in the use of and/or demonstration of condoms is a part of a comprehensive sex education program.

The state also mandates that if a local Board of Education wants to institute a comprehensive sex education program, it has to have a public hearing where the materials to be used in instruction will be available for parents to review for both 30 days before the public hearing and 30 days after it.

Currently, the state only requires that the abstinence-based program be followed. However, Swank expressed an interest in moving beyond the current program to a more informative version in a few years.

"The state-mandated course would help and decrease the amount of pregnancies we have at this time. We will never have a 100% cure, but as a school system we have no other recourse than to teach this." She said that if it seemed like a majority wanted to go toward a more comprehensive program, there is time in the next few years to get everything together that is required.

Swank said that at the very least, young people need to fully understand the consequences of risky behavior. "We're not advocating sex, we're not teaching how to have sex, but if we teach what we are supposed to at the present time then that would be adequate."

It was also suggested that the Sex Ab-
•See SEX ED page 31



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Upcoming lecture to explain G.I.S.

G.I.S. It's one of those terms. You've heard it used time and again. You sort of have a grip on what it means but if someone asked you to explain it, well, could you? If you are like most of us, the answer is "not really." What is it exactly? You may be savvy enough to recognize that it has something to do with mapping. And you might even know that it stands for Geographic Information Systems. But what's all the buzz about? Never fear, Highlands' own Dr. Gary Wein will give you the scoop.

On Wednesday, Aug. 22, Dr. Wein will introduce us to the world of G.I.S. as he presents "Geographic Information Systems for Dummies" as part of the Village Nature Series.

Wein is best known locally as the Executive Director of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust but he is also widely respected for his accomplishment throughout the scientific community. After earning his Ph.D. in Botany and Plant Physiology from Rutgers University, Wein served as Program Coordinator for research programs at Savannah River Ecology Lab with the University of Georgia, has worked on environmental cleanup for Bechtel and has done remote sensing for endangered

species at Ft. Benning and Ft. Gordon. Wein's G.I.S. know-how has proven very useful in mapping the properties HCLT protects. In the short time that he has been with the land trust, Wein has facilitated placing 6 properties under the protection of HCLT through donation and conservation

easement in Highlands and Cashiers. Currently he is guiding HCLT as they actively move toward protecting approximately 20 additional area properties.

Come join the fun as Dr. Wein clears the fog about GIS; an invitation is extended to all for this free event. The lecture begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. Catered refreshments will follow.

The Village Nature Series has been made possible by a partnership between The Village Green and Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. The final lecture of this pioneer series will be presented by Dr. James Costa, Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Station who will talk about "Insects of the Night" followed by an excursion for identifying the insects on September 26. For information call HCLT at 526.1111.



Dr. Gary Wein



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... TAX continued from page 1

the load on taxpayers, but not eliminate it.

"If this passes, it will mean 2.5 cents less – about half of what property taxes would increase if the bond passes – but it won't in itself pay for the bond," he said.

Commissioners Ronnie Beale, Jim Davis and McClellan asked that the board agree that the real estate transfer tax proceeds only be used to satisfy the bond debt, but Moxley said that stipulation can't be put on the ballot, nor is it binding for this or future boards.

"You can express what you want it used for, but it really isn't binding. The money can be used for any lawful purpose," she said.

The board also considered putting a question on the ballot to raise the sales tax to ¼ of a cent so if the real estate transfer tax doesn't pass, the county could use funds from the sales tax increase to pay down the bond debt.

Moxley said the board could put both questions on the ballot but could only enact one. In the end the board only passed a resolution calling for a special advisory referendum concerning the levy of a land transfer tax.

The real estate transfer tax will be collected from the seller of the property, who would presumably build the tax into the sales price. Moxley said gifts of land or property and land sold by court order aren't subject to the transfer tax.

Commissioners said it's important the public understand how it will benefit from

the levying of the real estate transfer tax – mainly that property taxes won't increase as much as they would have to increase if the \$64 million bond passes.

County Manager Sam Greenwood said the real estate transfer tax enables counties like Macon that won't benefit from the state's Medicaid swap-out plan to raise money for capital expenditures for future growth.

He predicted that within three years, the state will have completely washed its hands of helping counties pay for capital expenditures.

"They are giving counties the choice of either raising the sales tax one-quarter of a cent or putting into place a real estate transfer tax at four-tenths of a percent of each sale," he said.

Greenwood said based on current statistics, a quarter of a cent hike in the sales tax would bring in about \$1.2 million a year; the real estate transfer tax of .4% would bring in \$2.3 million a year.

"We are the first in the state to attempt this and the choice is up to the people, but the land transfer tax is a way of paying for debt and not affecting property taxes as much," he said.

If the bond doesn't pass, but the real estate transfer tax does, the county could use the money to fund the capital expenditures it must pay for without the benefit of bond proceeds.

A public hearing on the bond is set for Sept. 10 at 6 p.m. at the court house.

Work beginning on Fine Art Center

Construction at The Fine Art Center site is about to begin at the old Crane Barn site on Oak Street.

Tuesday's meeting involved working with grader Mike Bryson and landscape architecture Hank Ross and town Code Enforcement Officer Josh Ward concerning erosion control and stormwater controls.

"This is a top priority and we want to make sure revisions are in place before unearthing begins," said Ross.

Pat Taylor, art center representative, said the art center board has been preparing for this day fertilizing critical trees. Rather than going into shock over nearby construction and land disturbance, they expect the trees to be strong. Particularly, they've been treating and pruning Arkansas Black Apple Trees on the property, and have also treated the Hemlocks. "We're seeing new growth on them, so that's exiting," said Taylor.

Letters are going out to all area property owners, informing them of the proceedings, so as not to alarm them.

Bob Fisher, on the Art Center board, said all construction traffic will enter the area via U.S. 64 and Oak Street not via First Street. He also has utmost confidence in the craftsmanship and integrity of Trehle Construction.

"We've been working with them for 1

½ years on the plans and have developed the best ways to employ value engineering," he said. "We are impressed with the references of Tim and his company and have every confidence that his firm will build a first class facility that the town and the center's supporters expect and deserve."

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ITC's 'My Secret Weapon' opens Aug. 16



Madeleine Davis, as Lady in Red, in My Secret Weapon. Photo by Jai Beasley

The North Carolina premiere of My Secret Weapon by Carol Caldwell opens Thursday, Aug. 16 at 8 p.m. in the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. Actresses portraying first ladies in this new play are Madeleine Davis, Jenny King, Gina Pauratore, and Jennifer Royce. There is little doubt that the first lady holds a special place among the American Commonwealth, and Nashville playwright Carol Caldwell explores this unique role with a sharp blend of wit and wisdom, giving us an intriguing spin on what really makes the Oval Office go round. The playwright's extrapolation leads us into areas where cold-hearted dragon ladies, doting grandmothers, ambitious eggheads and demur Southern beauties aren't always what they seem.

Rex Reed, film and theatre critic for The New York Observer says this about the play: "Carol Caldwell is a terrific writer with a fresh new voice, and My Secret Weapon is a mesmerizing new play about White House first ladies that makes you laugh while it teaches you something ... New York, get ready, it's on its way!"

No one knows how much of the script is based on facts and how much stems from the fertile imagination of the playwright. But that is of little concern to the audiences, who are treated to delicious evenings of "what if". Whatever your political leanings, My Secret Weapon is sure to satisfy that all American obsession with celebrity.

My Secret Weapon plays the Aug. 16-18 and Aug. 21-25 at 8 p.m. For reservations call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197. Tickets are selling fast for the opening nights and early reservations are strongly suggested. Seating is limited in the Studio. The ITC's Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street. www.instanttheatre.org

• Nantahala Tennis Association: Meets Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon for Round Robin at Highlands Recreation Park. All levels of play welcome.

• Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.

• Hal Philips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.

• Register for summer's nature day camps at the Nature Center. Please call 526-2623 or visit the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

• Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.

• Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. Bring your mat. \$7 per person per class or \$50 for a monthly pass. Call 526-4340.

• Beginners Clogging class Tuesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

• "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodward room 201. It is designed for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. The group meets 10 a.m. until noon. For more information, call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

First Mondays

• Participate in your hospital by joining the Auxiliary of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Auxiliary meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. at the hospital.

Every Monday

• Recreational Bridge 1 p.m. at the Rec Park. \$3 per person.

Every Tuesday

• Highlands Rotary Club meets at noon at the Highlands Conference Center.

• Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

• Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. at Community Bible Church. Summer series on 1 & 2 Peter. All women are invited

• Open Studio Night Figure Drawing: Informal instruction available for beginners. Bring your sketch pad or paint box for a leisurely session of figure drawing/painting. Cost is \$12, \$10 for "Friends" of the Gallery.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

• Classical Yoga Beginner Level Class 8:15-9:30 a.m., 464 Carolina Way. Other classes available. Mats and blankets provided. \$14 per single/\$12 package rate.

Every Wednesday

• Highlands MountainTop Rotary Club meets at the Highlands Conference Center at 7:30 a.m.

Every Third Wednesday

• As part of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin's "Life-Span Learning Curriculum," there are "Wednesday Night Chautauquas" which are media enhanced study sessions at the UU Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

Every Thursday

• At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.

• Al-Anon Meetings, noon in the First Presbyterian Church basement at Fifth & Main Street.

Every Saturday

• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.

• Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery - cost is \$5 per student.

Through Tuesday, Aug. 23

• At Summit One Gallery on South Second Street and Helen's Barn Ave, "Go Figure" featuring Joe Adams, Betty Foy Botts, Shari Erickson, Mase Lucas, Diane McPhail, Jane Smathers, Wesley Wofford, Tom Bluemlien, Lonnie Busch, Libby Mathews, Toby Penney, Rosemary Stiefel.

Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 16-18

• The North Carolina Premier of "My Secret Weapon" by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thurs.-Sun. Aug. 16-19

• How the Other Half Loves, will be held at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC), Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 16-26

• The Highlands Playhouse, "Talley's Folly." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695.

Thursday, Aug. 16

• Way Down South: Southern Photography exhibit is held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library), showcasing the Arnell, Golden, and Gregory and a consortium of outstanding photographers, including Highlands' own Reuben Cox. Admission is free. For more information, call (828) 526-4949.

• A Volunteer Kickoff Party will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery on Aug. 16 at 10:30 a.m. for anyone interested in volunteering there. Free refreshments. To RSVP, call 526-0207.

• "Meet-the-Artists/Movie Night at the Cashiers Library. The

HCP's 'How the Other Half Loves' opens Aug. 16



"What shall I tell him?" "You were out with a friend." HCP favorites Stuart Armor and Ronnie Spilton take to the stage and to the telephones as the Highlands Community Players bring the production, "How the Other Half Loves," to the Performing Arts Center, Chestnut Street, on Aug. 16-19, 23-26. Evening performances are at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinees begin at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available at 828-526-8084.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

movie is "Miss Potter" starring Renee Zellweger as Beatrix Potter. The reception with light refreshments begins at 5:45 with the movie starting promptly at 7 p.m.. Seven Fontana Regional artists whose work is on display will be at the event.

Friday-Saturday, Aug. 17-18

• A printmaking class with Toby Penney will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library) from Aug. 17-18. For more information, call the gallery at 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 17-19

• At Acom's, Juliska Trunk Show. Juliska's rich European heritage spans six centuries and combines historic shapes with imaginative new interpretations of glass and ceramic for home decor and tableware.

Friday, Aug. 17

• The ADP1 Alumni luncheon will be at 11:30 a.m. at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. For more information, call Emily Buskirk at 526-2458.

• Enjoy an easy hike in the beautiful Cove Forest and learn about the native wildflowers of Rabun County. Meet at Hambidge at 8:30 a.m. The hike will take approximately 2 hours. Cost is \$5 per person. Free for Hambidge members. Off Betty Creek Road in Rabun Gap, GA, 3.5 miles west of Hwy 441 and Dillard GA. Call Debra Sanders 706.746.7324 to register for the hike or for more information.

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 18-Sept. 2

• 2007 Cashiers Designer Showhouse, two-week event at The Lodges at Millstone, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except Sunday, when the House is open noon to 4 p.m. There will be a shuttle from the Cashiers Community Center to the Lodges. Tickets can be purchased before you board a van or at the showhouse for \$25.

Saturday, Aug. 18

• A free, drop-in "Interconnections" fiber art class will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery (inside the Hudson Library) on Aug. 18 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call the gallery at 526-4949.

• Trunk Show at Peak Experience 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. featuring Michael Smith Silk Clothing Artist Capes, Jackets, Shirts and more in Washable Silk Martha Goodman of Remnants Jewelry. Presenting



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Sunday, Aug. 19

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy two mile hike on the Albert Mountain Trail. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 44 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-2860, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, Aug. 20

• Cub Scout Pack 207 of Highlands will be holding its Pack to the Pack Meeting Monday at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Highlands United Methodist Church. Any new boys wanting to join Pack 207 are encouraged to attend.

Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 21-25

• The North Carolina Premier of "My Secret Weapon" by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Tuesday, Aug. 21

• The Franklin Camera Club presents Gil Stose with "Photographing Space and Light" at 7 p.m. It focuses on architectural photography. The meeting at the Spiritual Light Center in Heritage Hollow, Franklin. Call 526-9227 for more info.

• The movie "The Whole Wide World" featuring Renee Zellweger and Vincent D'Onofrio at PAC on Chestnut Street at 7:30 p.m. with refreshments at 2 p.m. It's free, but donations are accepted.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 23-26

• How the Other Half Loves, at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Wednesday, Aug. 22

• See EVENTS page 26

• ART GALLERIES •

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

- Open House at Highlands School from 4-6 p.m. Parents and students can meet teachers and find rooms, meet administrators, HS students can purchase parking places (\$25) and rent locks for lockers for \$10 – only school issued locks are allowed on lockers — and get locker assignments. Middle School students can also get locker assignments and rent locks.

- The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village Nature Series presents Gary Wein and "Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Dummies." Presentation at the library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow. It's free but donations are graciously accepted. Call 526-9938 x254.

- There will be a MANDATORY meeting for the parents of all prospective middle school and

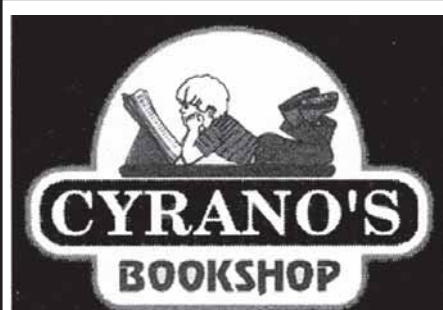
high school athletes in the old gym at 6 p.m. This meeting is for getting all forms in and making concession stand duty assignments. For the athletes to continue participation, their parent must attend this meeting or make arrangements with the individual sport coach to take care of these obligations."

- An Interlude Concert at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary, featuring Lillian Buss Pearson, piano and Corine Brouwer, violin. It's free and 45 minutes long. This culminates the Presbyterian Interlude series for the season.

- "A White Cross Gathering" for Sigma Chi Brothers at noon at Wildcat Cliffs Country Club. RSVP Lester Freeman at lester1421@verizon.net or call 828-743-9013.

Thursday, Aug. 23

- Caymus Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Reception begins at 6 p.m. and guests will be seated for dinner at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited, and advance reservations are required.



390 Main Street • 526-5488

Upcoming Book Signings

Saturday, Aug. 25

Author Jerry Soud signing

"Life As I Slice It" 1-3 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 7 - 8

Authors George Eilison and

Thomas Rain Crowe

Monday, Sept. 10

Author Ron Rash signing

"Chemestry and Other

Stories Stories" 1-3 p.m.

Call 828-787-2604.

- Artist Diane McPhail and Mary Adair Leslie of Summit One Gallery, where her work is represented, have a New Zealand theme planned for the Studio Dinner Series dinner at Diane's studio. The dinner, catered by Holly Roberts of "The Kitchen" will feature a menu of typical New Zealand dishes, including lamb and kiwi, and fine wines from the area, furnished by the Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop. And, of course, Diane's paintings. For more information about the Studio Dinner Series call Summit One Gallery: 828.526.2673.

- Pipe Organ Concert at First Presbyterian Church at 8 p.m., featuring Timothy Albrecht, internationally acclaimed organist. The concert is free and open to the public. The church is located at 471 Main Street.

- The meeting will be held at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers library at 7 p.m. and everyone is welcome. Roger Lowe has fished Western North Carolina all his life having learned the secrets of local streams from his father and other top local fishermen of the past generation. His book and video on local fly patterns describe a lifetime of fly fishing knowledge and experience. He will discuss techniques and strategies for late summer fishing when water levels and hatches are low. A raffle for Orvis waders and boots will follow the speaker. Call 743-2078 for information.

Friday, Aug. 24

- Cancer Survivor's Reception at the Highlands Recreation Center. Hosted by the Mountain Top Rotary Club at 5 p.m. just before the Relay For Life. Coach Butch Smart to provide survivor welcome. Hors d'oeuvres are provided by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

- MountainTop Relay for Life begins at 6 p.m. at the Highlands Rec Park.

Saturday, Aug. 25

- The Mirror Lake Association will have a litter pick up Saturday at Thorn Park at 9 a.m.

- "Art to Wear" exhibit opens at Bascom-Louise Gallery from 5-7 p.m. Free. For more information, call 526-4949.

- Hospital's free health screenings in Cashiers. Pre-registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Jerry Soud signing "Life As I Slice It" 1-3 p.m.

- At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, "Creating A Life: Stories From One Artist's Journey" – Wayland Moore. Free and open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambridge.org for more details.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 4-mile hike to Whiteside Mt. and the Devil's Courthouse. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Exxon station on the Highlands Road in Franklin or at 10:15 a.m. at the Highlands Bank of America. Drive 34 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader David Sapin, 369-2628, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Aug. 26-Sept. 13

- "Art to Wear," the latest exhibit at Bascom-Louise Gallery, will feature an array of marvelous clothing, jewelry, and other wearables and adornments. Fiber and jewelry artists from all over the

southeast will be participating. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am. to 4 p.m. Free. For more information, call 526-4949.

Monday, Aug. 27

- Town of Highlands Highlands School Schol-

Paper cutting class at B-L Gallery Sept. 15



Cut papers from around the world. A class on Scherenschnitte, Wycinanki and Chinese paper cuts, like in the photo above, will be offered at the Bascom Louise Gallery on Sept. 15. The class is a series of paper workshops that art teacher Robin Miltner is offering throughout the season. Learn a new skill, amaze your friends and experience an international craft all in one day! To register, call the gallery at (828) 526-4949.

Be watching the skies!



One of these birds will be performing at the Macon Aeromodelerss Annual Fun Fly and Show held on Saturday, Aug. 18. The public is invited. The event will be held at the clubs flying field on Tessentee Road in beautiful suburban Otto. A special noon - time flying demonstration will be featured as well as model airplane flying lessons. A gourmet BBQ luncheon will be served at modest cost. For more information call Gerry Doubleday at 526-8414 or Gonzo Wilson at 524-1281.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

arship Golf Tournament at the Cullasja Country Club. To sign up call 828-526-3531.

• Art League of Highlands meeting at 5:30 at the Recreation Park in Highlands. Artist Carol Rollick will present a program on how she accomplishes the eye-catching "layering" in her digital photography. Light refreshments will be served at 5 p.m. For information, call 828-524-6070.

Wednesday, Aug. 29

• Wine Dinner at ...on the Verandah featuring chef de cuisine Julie Miller bring a South African fusion experience. Cost is \$95 per person plus tax and gratuity. For reservations, call 526-2338.

Saturday, Sept. 1

• Breakfast and Bake Sale for the Bolivia Mission at Highlands United Methodist Church at 9 a.m. For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

• The Macon County Art Association is holding an Outdoor Show and Sale on the Catholic Church grounds 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Artists will show their paintings and photographs. The rain date will be the next Saturday. The church is located at 5th and Oak streets in Highlands. If you can't make this sale visit us at the Uptown Gallery in downtown Franklin.

Thursday, Sept. 6

• 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: Caribbean Lively-Up at Artists Shari Erickson's & Doug Gifford's at 6 p.m. Caribbean cuisine and wines by Tim Lundy of Rosewood Market, part of art sales to benefit Cashiers Fire & Rescue Department. Call 526-2673.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 7-10

• At Acorn's Coralia Leets Trunk Show. Distinctive jewelry with precious and semi-precious stones, gems and pearls set in 14k and 18k gold.

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, authors George Ellison and Thomas Rain Crowe.

Sunday, Sept. 9

• Bel Canto Recital's 15th Anniversary Celebration, 4 p.m. at the Martin-Lipscomb-Performing Art Center with festive buffet following at the Highlands Falls Country Club. Proceeds benefit the Bascom-Louise Fine Art Center and the Highlands School music program. for tickets call 828-526-5252.

Saturday, Sept. 8

• The Macon County Art Association is holding an Outdoor Show and Sale on the Catholic Church grounds 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Artists will show their paintings and photographs. The rain date will be the next Saturday. The church is located at 5th and Oak streets in Highlands. If you can't make this sale visit us at the Uptown Gallery in downtown Franklin.

town Franklin.

Monday, Sept. 10

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Ron Rash signing "Chemistry and Other Stories" 1-3 p.m.

• "Missed Highlands, 2007" All Male Beauty Pageant at the Highlands Playhouse at 8 p.m. General Admission tickets are \$50 and reserved seats on the first two rows are \$100. For information about the fundraisers, please call 526-3605.

Wed.-Sat., Sept. 12-15

• This year's Macon County Fair's theme is

• See EVENTS page 29

Artist McPhail hosts Summit One's Studio Dinner Series

Summit One's Studio Dinner Series continues Thursday, Aug. 23 at the Studio of Diane McPhail. The dinner originally scheduled for June was postponed because Diane's paintings from New Zealand had been stolen. Last winter (summer "down under") area artist Diane McPhail visited her good friend Shawna Butler, who has moved to New Zealand. The two friends, along with Shawna's three children, began their adventures with a cruise of the coasts of Australia and the south island of New Zealand. They landed on the north island and proceeded to Hawke's Bay, where Shawna lives with her family.

The trip for Diane was not only an opportunity to reconnect with her friend, but to have an extended time for painting in the dramatic and unique landscape of eastern New Zealand. Hawke's Bay is a veritable paradise of vineyards and roadside farmers' markets, offering the bounty of local producers — from world renowned wines to pick-your-own strawberries. After foraging the local markets for picnic goodies, Diane, Shawna and the children, would ride up each evening to the crests of the mountains surrounding Te Mata peak, overlooking the sea, to feast on the days gatherings at twilight, and for Diane to paint in the magnificent light and terrain.

The paintings, all in oil, were far too wet to travel home with Diane, so Shawna agreed to ship them at a later date. Diane and Mary Adair Leslie of Summit One Gallery, where her work is represented, have been very excited about the New Zealand theme planned for the Studio Dinner Series dinner at Diane's studio, Thursday, Aug. 23. The dinner, catered by Holly Roberts of "The Kitchen" will feature a menu of typical New Zealand dishes, including lamb and kiwi, and fine wines from the area, furnished by the Highlands Wine and Cheese Shop. And, of course, Diane's paintings.



Artist Diane McPhail in her studio.

Diane was very excited when she heard from Shawna that the paintings had been shipped and waited with great anticipation for their arrival. She was elated when the post office notified her that the carton was here. She could hardly wait to open it once she got it back to her studio. But when she did, she found it empty!

Tracers have been registered both here and in New Zealand, but to date, there is no news about the paintings. When asked about the work being "stolen," Diane replied, "I don't know. Does this make me famous?"

Diane is hard at work on completing the remainder of paintings she had already begun, inspired by her trip, and feels assured she will have a number ready in time for the Studio Dinner. It remains to be seen whether the missing paintings will ever be found. But even if the mysterious disappearance of the artwork is never solved, new paintings in Diane's prolific body of ongoing work will be available, both at the Studio Dinner and at Summit One Gallery.

For more information about the Studio Dinner Series call Summit One Gallery: 828-526-2673.

Volunteer Kickoff Party set for Aug. 16



Get ready to party – for a good cause. The Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands is hosting a Volunteer Kickoff Party this Thursday, Aug. 16, to re-energize its Volunteer Guild. The party will be at 10:30 a.m. at the gallery (inside the Hudson Library) and will feature refreshments, information about the many ways to volunteer and lots of fun with like-minded people, like Pat Boyd and Margo Franklin, above. There is a Volunteer Guild specialty for nearly every interest: gallery docents, hospitality workers, gallery shop workers, clerical assistants, visitor services, library assistants, teaching assistants and Movers and Shakers (those who help with prop building, landscaping and other physical activities). To attend the Volunteer Kickoff Party, RSVP by calling (828) 526-0207. Bring a friend (or five!).

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Local experts start new business

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July



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Elizabeth Matej



Gary Garren

Sharon Dalton, provisional broker, with the Cashiers Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles office was named Top Listing Agent for the month of July.

Elizabeth Matej, broker associate, also of the Cashiers office, was named Top Sales Agent. She was awarded the Bronze Producer award for her production in 2006.

Gary Garren, managing broker of the Highlands office, was named both Top Listing Agent and Top Sales Agent for the month of July.

CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles is located in seven offices in Buncombe, Henderson, Jackson, Macon and Transylvania counties. It is the number one CENTURY 21® firm in North Carolina and is ranked in the top 50 CENTURY 21® firms nationwide.

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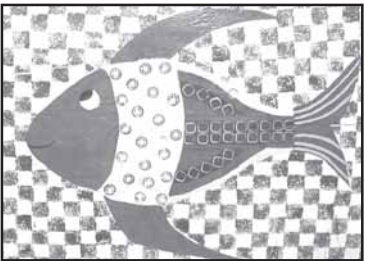
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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

"The Barn Door is Open at the Macon County Fair." The Fair Association extends to the public the opportunity to construct an educational booth using this theme. This is an excellent time to better acquaint the public with your organization. To obtain an application please call the Extension Office at 349-2046 or come by our office at 193 Thomas Heights Rd. and pick up an application.

Saturday, Sept. 15

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Anne Sharpsteen with Vivian Cash signing "I Walk the Line" 1-3 p.m.

- At noon at the Hambridge Center Rabun Gap, GA, "Memories of Betty's Creek: Stories of the Early Days of Hambridge" – Gena Latimer Smith and Dorothy Dickerson. Free and open to the public. Call Debra on 706.746.7324 or visit our website www.hambridge.org for more details.

- A class on Scherenschnitte, Wycinanki and Chinese paper cuts, like in the photo above, will be offered at the Bascom-Louise Gallery. The class is a series of paper workshops that art teacher Robin Miltner is offering throughout the season. Learn a new skill, amaze your friends and experience an international craft all in one day! To register, call the gallery at (828) 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 21-23

- At Acorn's, Earthborn Pottery Trunk Show. Handcrafted pottery from Leeds, Alabama that is dishwasher and microwave safe.

Saturday, Sept. 21

- Highlands-Cashiers Hospital FREE Health Screenings. Registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434.

Wednesday, Sept. 26

- The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village

On Thursday, Aug. 23, First Presbyterian Church of Highlands will host a recital on its Wicks Pipe Organ which was dedicated in 2004. The event, which begins at 8 p.m., will feature Timothy Albrecht, internationally acclaimed organist. Albrecht's recent and upcoming recital and master class schedule includes appearances in Highlands, Tacoma, Vienna, Baltimore, Laredo, The Juilliard School, Chicago, Columbus, Bratislava, Atlanta, the Ukraine, Raleigh and New York. The Wicks Pipe Organ at Highlands First Presbyterian Church was recently featured in the "American Organist" magazine, an international publication. The organ has about 1,000 pipes featuring stenciling, a design element popular many years ago. The concert is free and open to the public. The church is located at 471 Main Street.



Timothy Albrecht, internationally acclaimed organist.

DAY TRIPS & EXCURSIONS

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CLE presents 'Emptiness in Buddhism and Christianity'

Schopenhauer wrote that the problem of suffering was the reason for the existence of religion. Buddhism and Christianity approach the solution to this problem in radically different ways.

One advocates complete detachment, the other attachment to God. In this lecture McLachlan will set these two forms of self-emptying in dialogue with each other. He will use Russian writer Fyodor Dostoevsky's version of kenosis (emptiness) as a mediating position between classical Buddhism and Christianity.



McLachlan is Professor and Chair of Philosophy and Religion at WCU

McLachlan is Professor and Chair of Philosophy and Religion at WCU. He holds the Ph.D in Religious Studies from the University of Toronto and studied philosophy at the University of Paris. He is vice-president of the Society for Mormon Philosophy and Theology and co-chair of the Mormon Studies Consultation at the American Academy of Religion.

The lecture will be held Thursday, Aug. 16 at the Performing Arts Center, on Chestnut Street from 10 - 12. The cost is \$20 for CLE members, \$30 for non-members. Please

call the CLE office to register at 526-8811.

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HELP WANTED

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY'S programs in elementary education, special education, birth-kindergarten, psychology and educational leadership are developing adjunct professor pools for teaching in the region. Master's degree in the discipline area is required, doctorate preferred. Send vita to Amelia Schlott, 220 Killian, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723. Western Carolina University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

POLICE OFFICER — Successful candidate must be 21 years of age; BLET-certified; and submit to an extensive background investigation, drug screening, and psychological evaluation. Applicant must possess a valid North Carolina, South Carolina, or Georgia driver's license, for the state which they reside in as a permanent resident. Salary:\$26,847, DOQ Applicant must successfully complete the Highlands Police Department application process. Highlands Police Department, Capt. R.L. Forrester or Capt. T. Ensley, 310 Oak Street, Highlands, NC 28741, (828) 526-8734.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT — needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT — needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

EVENT PLANNER — needed for Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands. Email resumes to: jconnor_bascomlouise@verizon.net.

PANTHERTOWN COORDINATOR — Resumes are being received for part-time Panther-town Coordinator. Duties include recruiting and training volunteers for projects in Panthertown Valley, outdoor physical activities, fundraising and grant writing. Communication skills, commitment to environmental preservation and personal transportation are required. Send resume to Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance, 348 S. 5th St. Highlands, NC 28741. 828-526-9938 x 256, jmca@dnnet.net.

FURNITURE DELIVERY — mostly in Highlands-Cashiers areas. Professional appearing individual experienced in dealing with the public.

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SALES AND MARKETING PROFESSIONAL NEEDED FOR CHESTNUT HILL OF HIGHLANDS — a premier retirement community of cottages, apartments and assisted-living. Must be positive, dependable and organized. Mail resume to Administrator, Chestnut Hill, 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC 28741 or FAX to 828-526-5240.

CHESTNUT HILL — is currently hiring for a medication assistant/resident assistant in a 26-bed assistant living area. Please apply in person at 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC, or call for an appointment at (828) 526-5251.

SALES — FULL OR PART TIME — Seasonal, weekends required. Previous sales or customer service experienced preferred. Must be professional. Non-smoking environment. Call the Summer House at 828-526-5577.

WE ARE CURRENTLY HIRING FOR A PART TIME TELLER AT OUR HIGHLANDS OFFICE! A high school diploma or GED is required, in addition to a minimum of 6 months of experience in a Teller or other cash handling, sales position. Candidates must have effective written and verbal communication skills, good computer skills, and a friendly, courteous and professional demeanor. First Citizens Bank offers excellent salaries and a comprehensive benefits program. Apply online at: www.firstcitizens.com/careers. Refer to the Job ID # when applying. EOE/AA

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CNA OR CNA II AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. PRN positions for day and night shifts. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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IN TOWN — 3/2.5 log home. The cottages lakeside at Harris Lake. Less than 2 years old. \$349,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and 1/2 bath. Walking distance to crossroads, restaurants and shopping. Large deck overlooking green lawn \$229,000. Call Manuel de Juan 828-743-1021. Owner broker. Visual tour at www.pixelitvdeos.com/townhome

LOT FOR SALE: Lot #8 Osage. This is almost 1 acre (.94+-acres). Lot has complete road system, 10 gallon well and Macon County septic permit. Don't miss chance! Rocky Knob fees of ONLY \$100 a YEAR! Call Chris Gilbert Broker/Owner (828)421 3161. Reduced \$109,000. Ready to build. No restrictions.

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SMALL, DIGITAL CAMERA on Satulah Mountain trail, Wednesday, July 25. Call with description to claim it. Call, 404-840-3020.

ITEMS FOR SALE

MAHOUGHANY CHINA CLOSET, 6-ft plus, mirror back, 4 glass shelves. Must see. Call 787-2307.

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CERAMIC KILN. 230V, 20A, dual control up to 2300°F. Interior 20" high, 18" diameter. Almost new. \$500. 828/787-2177.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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ANTIQUE SLOT MACHINES – 25c 1933 mills "war eagle" \$2,800; 10c mills 777 "special award" \$2,400. Mint condition. 828-862-3363.

ARMOIRE & DRESSOR W/ 3 WAY MIRROR. Light Maple color. Excellent condition. \$600 for both or will sell separately. 526-9107.

BATH VANITY OAK FINISH – Simulated marble top Delta faucets \$89. Call 526-2713.

BATH TUB SLIDING DOORS WITH FRAME – one mirror door other opaque. \$11. Call 526-2713.

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ANTIQUE SMALL (44"x72") ARMOIRE - May be chestnut. Shelves and hanging space. One drawer on bottom. \$450. Call 526-0545.

ETHAN ALLEN HUTCH – \$975. Call 526-4077.

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ELECTROLUX VACUUM CLEANER – Late model. \$125. Call 526-4077.

FARM HOUSE STYLE PINE TOP COUNTRY TABLE with white-washed legs, 6 chairs with white-washed legs. Best offer over \$700. Call 526-1597.

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ANTIQUE 1926 MODEL T FORD TOURING CAR – Fully restored. Needs a new starter. Selling for health reasons. \$15,000

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 34

• SERVICE DIRECTORY •

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• RE TRANSACTIONS •

PIN, ADDRESS, GRANTEE, DATE, SALE, GRANTOR, ASSESSED VALUE

TOWN OF HIGHLANDS

- 0533825, 2275 N 4TH ST, HEINEMANN DARLENE L, 8/7/2007, \$0, HEINEMANN DARLENE, \$897,080.
- 0501177, 593 HICKORY ST, DAVIDSON WILLIAM HARPER JR TRUSTEE, 7/13/2007, \$0, PARRISH ALICE D, \$384,590.
- 0501212, 330 S 2ND ST OFF SPRING ST, WARTH HOLDINGS LLC, 7/17/2007, \$0, WARTH DAVID W, \$449,910.
- 0505123, 95 SHELBY DR, BREWER VIVIAN DIANNE, 8/2/2007, \$475,000., DUNSON MARTHA S, \$338,920.

HIGHLANDS TOWNSHIP

- 0549007, 137 HICKORY LANE WILDCAT RECREATION SUBD, WOODLAND COTTAGES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN C/O TED KRAMER, 8/1/2007, \$0, WOODLAND COTTAGES INC, \$100.
- 0516644, 69 HOMER POTTS RD, ADCOCK KENNETH D LIFE ESTATE, 7/27/2007, \$0, ADCOCK KENNETH D LIFE ESTATE, \$386,890.
- 0516645, OFF 64 & BUCK CREEK LOT 7 SPARKLING LAKES SUB, ADCOCK KENNETH D LIFE ESTATE, 7/27/2007, \$0, ADCOCK KENNETH D LIFE ESTATE, \$84,310.
- 0400443, 1434 DENDY ORCHARD RD GOLD MINE, KEENER WILLIAM LEE LIFE ESTATE, 7/17/2007, \$0, KEENER WILLIAM LEE LIFE ESTATE, \$408,130.
- 0541488, 368 LAUREL BR, HARRINGTON JUDITH A, 7/17/2007, \$895,000., ACRES AWAY INC, \$989,130.
- 0546242, 24 HIDDEN SPRINGS RD, LIFE INSURANCE TRUST C/O GEORGE W HILLEGASS, 7/20/2007, \$95,000., MCKEON J PATRICK, \$131,050.
- 0514690, 65 EAGLE RIDGE DR, JAN III INC., 7/19/2007, \$600,000., WHEELER MARY S, \$675,830.
- 0549595, 246 PHEASANT RUN, LETSON JAMES FRANK, 7/20/2007, \$1,400,000., NICHOLSON DAVID R, \$1,148,100.
- 0517596, 516 WILDWOOD DR, CAMPBELL W DONALD TRUST, 7/18/2007, \$360,000., STELLJES JIM, \$447,190.
- 0534670, HWY 64 EAST LOT 19 THE MEADOWS, COTHRAN JAMES R, 7/17/2007, \$80,000., COTHRAN JAMES R, \$79,960.
- 0501288, 454 SPRUCE LN HLDS FALLS C.C., HOGAN BEVERLY J, 8/3/2007, \$0, HOGAN BEVERLY J, \$973,360.
- 0535629, 711 GARNET ROCK TRL CULLASAJA CLUB, SMITH DERWIN B II TRUSTEE, 7/19/2007, \$0, SMITH DERWIN B II

TRUSTEE, \$764,230.

- 0502933, 352 AZALEA LN WILDCAT CLIFFS, LOWRY LIONEL L III, 8/1/2007, \$386,000., RIDDLE MICHAEL, \$331,390.
- 0504391, 350 AZALEA LN WILDCAT CLIFFS, LOWRY LIONEL L III, 7/17/2007, \$365,000., CAMPBELL W DONALD TRUST, \$336,290.
- 0523706, 542 BONNIE DR MIRRORMONT SUBD, CBL FAMILY LLLP, 7/23/2007, \$535,000., ECKERLE JAMES M, \$442,990.
- 0541488, 368 LAUREL BR LAUREL FALLS AT SYKLINE, HARRINGTON JUDITH A, 7/17/2007, \$895,000., ACRES AWAY INC, \$989,130.
- 0524610, 180 MCCALL RD, MCCALL JERRY, 7/19/2007, \$463,040., MCCALL ELSIE B LIFE ESTATE, \$480,280.
- 0525610, EDWARDS CREEK RD OFF 1603, MCCORD GUYTE P. JR, 7/19/2007, \$0., MCCORD GUYTE P. JR, \$96,170.
- 0525611, OFF 1603, MCCORD GUYTE P. JR, 7/19/2007, \$0., MCCORD GUYTE P. JR, \$49,730.
- 0542958, 100 LAKE OSSEROGA DR, ECKERLE JAMES M, 7/20/2007, \$775,000., TREADWAY GLORIA SINGLETARY, \$756,380.

FLATS TOWNSHIP SCALY MTN

- 0613623, 130 HICKORY RIDGE RD, WARTH DAVID W, 7/17/2007, \$0., WARTH DAVID WARREN, \$145,660.
- 0649380, OFF S R 1622, HARTWEGER PETER, 7/30/2007, \$70,000., CORAM JENNINGS B, \$74,260.
- 0600113, 970 KING GAP RD KING MTN, BROOKS CHARLES CLIFFORD SR TRUSTEE, 7/27/2007, \$0., BROOKS OLGA S., \$602,260.
- 0600172, 64 OSAGE LN, BEAR MOUNTAIN LLC, 8/7/2007, \$0., BARVEST LLC, \$195,100.
- 0600405, 38 ROCK HILL RD KING MTN, HOSFORD JOSEPH E, 7/27/2007, \$345,000., FULLER LOUIS S TRUSTEE, \$420,380.
- 0600516, 105 HICKORY RIDGE RD, WARTH DAVID W, 7/17/2007, \$0., WARTH DAVID WARREN, \$516,250.
- 0600615, 41 WAKE ROBIN LN, BARLOGA FRED R, 8/7/2007, \$0., BARLOGA FRED R, \$235,510.
- 0623925, 32 HUCKLEBERRY HILL RD, B AND B PROPERTY MANAGEMENT I LLC, 7/17/2007, \$0., BAUGHMAN JOSEPH ERNEST, \$125,360.
- 0610535, OFF HWY 106 PARCEL B, WARTH DAVID W, 7/17/2007, \$0., WARTH DAVID WARREN, \$24,380.

... ANIMAL SHELTER continued from page 1

really need the referendum to do them," said Commissioner Brian McClellan. "Some of these items we can absorb and handle so we might as well take care of them."

One of those "must do items" involved animal control.

Unable to enter into an agreement with the Macon County Humane Society concerning the harboring of animals, the county is ready to go into the animal control business.

"First we were paying them \$35,000 a year, then they wanted \$70,000 a year and now it's up to \$300,000 a year, and there still isn't an agreement," said Commissioner Bob Simpson who has been serving as liaison.

"Even though running an animal shelter is a net cost to the county, it's just something we need to do," said County Manager Sam Greenwood. "It's just lingered too long."

• See ANIMAL CONTROL page 33

– A place of refuge for area youth in crisis –

A new Hawthorn Heights Emergency Youth Shelter

There are times when a child or teenager just can't live at home. Maybe one or both parents are struggling with addiction, perhaps there is sexual or emotional abuse, or even neglect. Sometimes the child's behavior causes him to be removed from the home. It is during times like these in a young person's life that Hawthorn Heights Emergency Youth Shelter can be a life changing, and often, life saving place of safety, hope, and support.

Mountain Youth Resources (MYR) opened the original Hawthorn Heights shelter for runaway and homeless girls in 1976. The shelter became a reality because of a group of people motivated by a runaway girl, who, in 1973, chose a jail cell over going back to an abusive home. Originally serving girls in crisis, Hawthorn Heights soon became a 90-day, emergency shelter for up to nine boys and girls between the ages of 10-17. In 1980, Hawthorn Heights was relocated to the Woody House in Bryson City (Swain County), its present location.

The first federally funded Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter west of Asheville, Hawthorn Heights is licensed by the NC Department of Health and Human Services, is nationally accredited and continues to be a beacon of hope for area children. To date, over 2,000 girls and boys and their families from Clay, Graham, Cherokee, Macon, Swain, Jackson, Haywood, and the Qualla Boundary have been provided shelter and supportive services.

MYR's board and staff are determined to meet their goal of moving Hawthorn Heights, currently operating in a 70-year-old home in Bryson City, to a newly constructed home on the same property as the organization's area office. Housing up to nine children at any one time, the new shelter will measure approximately 5,600 square feet and have six bedrooms and a finished basement, including office space, conference areas, study area, and storage. MYR expects to break ground on the new shelter in the fall of 2007 and open to children in 2008. The new shelter is estimated to cost approximately \$850,000.

Parents Against Teen Suicide, a sister non-profit with a 20-year-history, is partnering with MYR and will be moving its 24/7 Crisis Hotline (TEACH), along with assessment and evaluation services to the

lower level of the new facility. This partnership will greatly enhance the continuum of services offered by both agencies.

"Hawthorn Heights has been an indispensable resource and haven of hope for so many families in western North Carolina over the years", says Margie Allison, MYR fund developer, "Now we are reaching out to the communities it has served, to help build a new home that will continue the legacy of hope and support for youth in crisis. Although we are applying for grants to help fund the construction, we are asking the people of western North Carolina to help us fund the project as well."

The primary goal of MYR is to maintain a youth in his/her home. If it becomes necessary to remove a child from the home due to abuse, neglect, or delinquent behavior, Hawthorn Heights Emergency Shelter is there to provide a safe, supportive environment.

The only shelter of its kind in the region, Hawthorn Heights provides an opportunity for youth to remain in their own or comparable community. Youth must be in need of short-term, out-of-home care for protection, planning, crisis intervention, family conflict resolution, and/or behavior stabilization which hopefully will result in their return home to family or relatives, or their placement in an appropriate, permanent living situation. Hawthorn Heights provides a safe refuge for recovery, reflection and regaining a positive identity. Family counseling is available in an after-care program as desired and appropriate.

Hawthorn Heights is a vital link in addressing the needs of youth in our region. Without the services of Hawthorn Heights, children would have to leave the region and be housed in institutions away from their communities or stay in home situations that are detrimental to their physical, emotional, and mental health. Having Hawthorn Heights as a resource enables MYR to intervene early when a family is in crisis, often averting future dysfunction, distress and many times, more costly interventions.

To find out how you can make a donation towards the new shelter, to join MYR as a board, or to schedule a presentation about the children's shelter for your club or organization, email Margie Allison at Margie@mountainyouthresources.org.

... ABC STORE continued from page 1

Commissioner Dennis DeWolf suggested extending the lease even after explaining that he thought the ABC store, the Police Department and the Town Hall "made strange bedfellows" within the proposed "new" Town Hall complex. He also questioned plans for the store.

"The importance of exposure of the ABC store as a retail business to promote

sales is something I find difficult to absorb," he said. "Especially in a non-competitive situation, and considering how well you have produced in the space you have now."

Though future plans for the ABC store are on hold for now, plans included higher exposure and expansion from its current 3,600 sq. ft. to 5,000-6,000 sq. ft.

Last year, the town allowed the ABC to

... ANIMAL SHELTER continued from page 32

With no place to take stray animals, the Sheriff's Department stopped responding to nuisance animal calls. Subsequently, the stray population has increased and citizens have reported being threatened by wandering dogs.

The new animal shelter will be on two acres of county property near water and sewer lines; the board wasn't ready to disclose the location.

Greenwood said the structure could be built for \$30 per sq. ft. and it would take \$100,000 to \$150,000 to equip including vehicles, fencing and everything else.

Now an animal control ordinance must be solidified.

A committee of 12 has been working on the ordinance for five years but isn't that far along, said Sheriff Robbie Holland.

Simpson said state law mandates a facility is in place before an animal control ordinance can go into affect. "Now we can proceed," he said.

... SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Macon County Schools Superintendent Dan Brigman at a called meeting Aug. 13.

Those figures include the Early College High School and the first 20 days of enrollment across the 10-school district.

QZAB funds of \$335,305 with a 25% match of \$111,000 from the county are paying for repairs and renovations currently in progress at Franklin High School and East Franklin School. QZAB funds are interest free can only be used for renovations within an existing footprint.

Expansion of East Franklin and the construction of the two new schools will be funded with the \$42.1 million bond allocation.

Though the original school expansion plan involved building a combination elementary-middle school near the airport and the current Iolta school, those plans changed.

"Cost and the inability to secure land, changed our plans," said Brigman. "What we're doing now can be done on property the county already owns."

The new PK-4 school will be built around the current Iolta school so education won't be disrupted. Once the new larger school is up, the old one will come down.

The new 5-6 school will be built in the vicinity of Macon Middle School and will alleviate overcrowding there.

Once East Franklin Elementary School is expanded and the two schools built, some students will be redistricted, said Brigman.

Since Cullasaja School infrastructure upgrades aren't possible, that school will

put the \$150,000 it normally disburses to the town into a capital reserve fund in preparation of its future housing needs.

Though the board didn't say if it intended to extend that policy over the next three years, David Wilkes, chairman of the ABC Board, said the town can request the funds or not.

Included in the ordinance will be stipulations concerning hold time and euthanization. "I suggest a minimum holding pattern, maybe 3-5 days," he said. "Within that timeframe the animal can be adopted out to citizens or another adoptive facility but the county can't afford to keep animals indefinitely."

The ordinance will also outline collar or chip ID regulations. "Much of this stray problem will be taken care of once animals are collared and chipped because we'll know who they belong to," said Simpson.

Greenwood suggested staffing the facility with three people – two animal control officers separate from the Sheriff's Department and an administrator.

Greenwood estimated the shelter will take five months to complete. In the meantime, the animal control committee will work on solidifying the county's animal control ordinance.

be closed and some of that population will attend South Macon, East Franklin and Cartoogechaye.

Cowee School, like Cullasaja and Iolta, will also be closed because the schools are inefficient to physically operate.

For instance, there are 371 students at the Cartoogechaye School where it costs \$6,607.54 per student per year to operate;

There are 145 students at Iolta where it costs \$8,702.63 per student per year to operate;

At Cowee there are 139 students and it costs of \$8,401.97 per student to operate;

At Cullasaja there are 176 students and it costs \$7,856.69 per student to operate.

"Annually that's an operational impact of \$787,929.40 to the Macon County School District," said Brigman.

The current Iolta and Cowee populations will be merged into the new PK-4 school on the Iolta site. It is being built to handle 650+ students.

In addition, some students from East Franklin will attend the new PK-4 school.

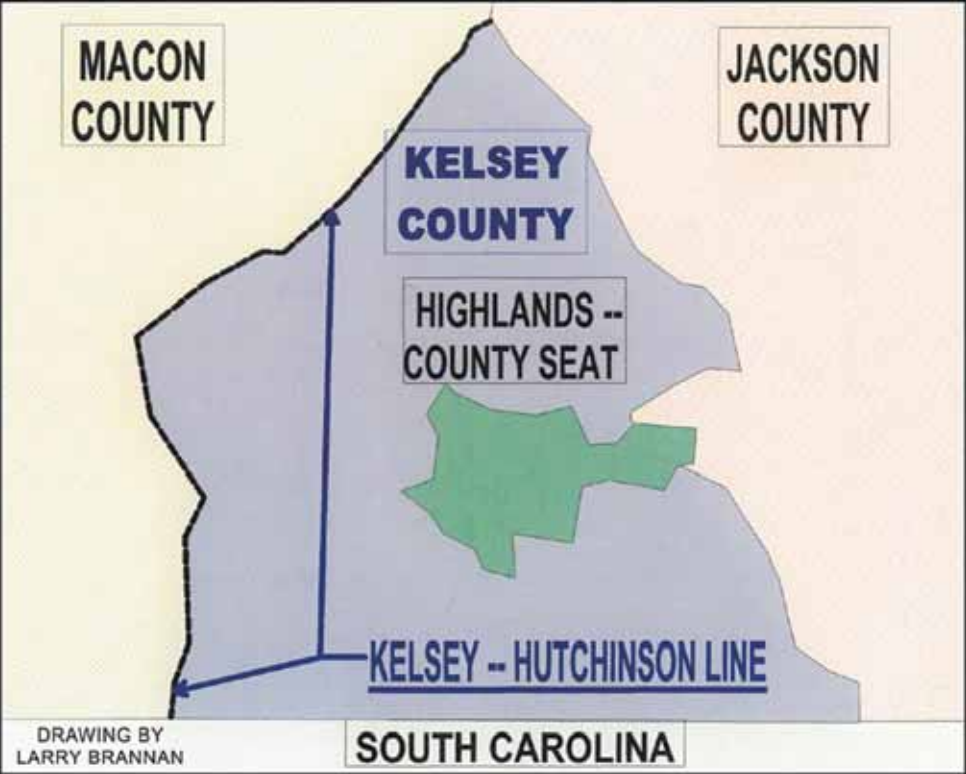
Brigman said there will likely be other redistricting throughout the county to balance out school populations. "We will redistrict some of Cartoogechaye, the new elementary school near Macon Middle School and South Macon," he said.

Beginning in September there will be 10 community forums held throughout the county to explain the plan and answer questions in hopes that the result at the polls in November will be positive for Macon County Schools, said Brigman.

"The ABC store is a nonprofit whose profits are disbursed to the town," he said. "By law we can only keep what we need to operate, the town disburses the rest."

Some of the money goes into the general fund, some toward the town's scholarship fund and some is used in the community to fight alcohol and drug addiction.

... LETTERS continued from page 2



Consider Kelsey County

Dear Editor,

To the north of Highlands is the seat of Macon County. Lately, it seems that Macon County has not been very kind to Highlands. Is this another case of northern aggression against the south (south end of Macon County)?

First they (Macon County politicians) used our tax money to sue us in Highlands! Of course, Highlands had to use more of our tax money to defend us against us. To quote Pogo, "We have met the enemy and they are us". Maybe when we get the next tax bill from the county we should deduct the money wasted by Macon County and Highlands for this lawsuit. Plus the few hundred dollars we have to pay to an accountant and a lawyer to figure out just what Macon County did or tried to do to us Macon Countyites who happen to live in Highlands.

I recently read in the newspapers that there apparently was a misunderstanding about a Memo of Understanding. It seems that Macon County agreed in this Memo of Understanding to pay Highlands a bunch of money. Possibly, Macon County politicians or bureaucrats mislaid or misread or just misunderstood the Memo of Understanding. Reportedly, Highlands did not get all the money promised. I guess the go-by date for the memo has gone by and we are not going to get the money.

So, what should we do? A few years back, when the people at the southern end were getting harassed by the people at the northern end, they drew a line and called it the Mason-Dixon Line. Macon County already has a lot of defining lines, such as fire districts and school districts. Perhaps we should draw a new line along one of these – the Highlands Fire District. It could be titled the Kelsey-Hutchinson Line. South of this new line and north of the South Carolina state line would be an area that we could call Kelsey County. If Highlands were the county seat, chances are that Kelsey County would not sue Highlands and would pay money to Highlands as promised.

If nothing else, an attempt to secede from Macon County might get the attention of the county decision makers. They might be a bit more considerate of the people in a part of the county that contributes a lot of tax money.

Larry Brannan, Highlands

About toilet humor...

Dear Editor,

I wrote this letter to Fred Wooldrige.

I saw a piece on TV or in the Asheville Citizen-Times last spring about a Japanese invention of a toilet with a remote control to make it do all kinds of unusual things. Since to me the funniest column you have ever written was about the trip to the specialty potty store, I have hoped that this had come to your attention. Keep up the great satire. I try not to ever miss a column.

A cheer for good humor.

Judson (Jud) Hair, Highlands

Battling depression isn't as simple as author suggests

Dear Editor,

Seldom have I read an article in any publication which is as short-sighted as Ms. Brugger's article on depression published on August 9, 2007.

With all due respect to Ms. Brugger, I can only say that seeing a movie or reading a book does not qualify one to even begin to judge someone with depression. Her statement "it is hard for me to understand how someone can be severely depressed for an extended period of time" says it all. One cannot understand if one has not experienced this horrible affliction.

Perhaps she cannot not understand how a person can have heart disease or cancer — there is no difference what-so-ever.

I would invite Ms. Brugger to spend sometime with me and let me enlighten her about my experience. She speaks of "spirit" but contrary to her article, it is the "spirit" that keeps me going. I am surely among the luckiest humans around (wonderful family, job., etc) and I appreciate that. Very few people have known of my problem and I'm sure this is true of many others who have experienced depression.

My "spirit" is not broken but is at the heart of my determination to go on and accomplish as much in my life as is possible — and someday the tasks are overwhelming. I challenged Ms. Brugger to go through what I have gone through for over 60 years of my life.

A reader in Otto, N.C.

Health department observes 'World Breastfeeding Week'

Highlighting the importance of breastfeeding, especially in the first hour after birth, was the theme for 2007 World Breastfeeding Week, August 1-7. Desiree Trudeau, WIC Director at the Macon County Public Health Center says the Macon County Public Health Center supported World Breastfeeding Week by recently adding two breastfeeding rooms for patients and staff at the Macon County Public Health Center and by providing Certificates of Appreciation to

area physicians who have supported breastfeeding for their patients.

She encourages other community agencies and businesses to establish a breastfeeding-friendly atmosphere through such things as providing places for women to breastfeed or express their milk if they desire privacy, encouraging mothers to breastfeed, and making appropriate referrals

for assistance when needed. According to Trudeau, it is clear that breastfeeding in the first hour or so after birth has been linked to positive health outcomes, including immediate protection from bacteria and viruses the baby is exposed to, less risk of jaundice, and improved milk production and less blood loss in the mother. One study published in *Pediatrics* in 2006 found that these health outcomes are so impor-

tant that 41% of infants worldwide who die between 2-28 days of life could be saved by this simple intervention of breastfeeding in the first hour.

Research has shown that breastfeeding is optimal nutrition and the perfect, life-sustaining food for babies. Breastfeeding provides nutritional and health advantages that last far beyond infancy, and offers health benefits for mothers, as well. Nearly all women are able to breastfeed when they

receive consistent and accurate information, and are supported by the health-care team, family, and community in an environment that is breastfeeding-friendly.

WIC and the Macon County Public Health Center are equal opportunity providers and employers. They

offer support for breastfeeding mothers by offering counseling and low cost breast pump rentals. Call the Macon County WIC office at 349-2081 for more information. WIC Staff at the Macon County Public Health Center recently observed World Breastfeeding Week by recognizing area physicians who have supported breastfeeding patients with Certificates of Appreciation.



WIC Staff at the Macon County Public Health Center recently observed World Breastfeeding Week by recognizing area physicians who have supported breastfeeding patients with Certificates of Appreciation. Pictured (L-R) are Desiree Trudeau, WIC Supervisor; Sarah Gabris, WIC Nutritionist; Merci Tito-Avila, WIC Processing Assistant/Interpreter. Not pictured is WIC Processing Assistant Amy Douglas.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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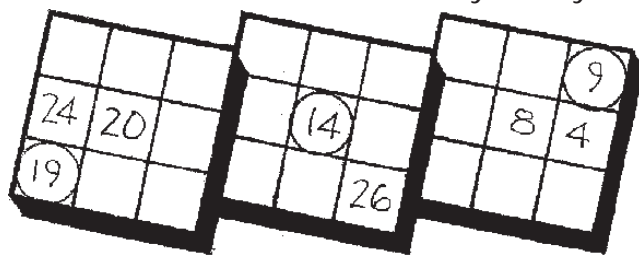
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The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through the center number of the middle layer. Each diagonal contains 3 numbers equaling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

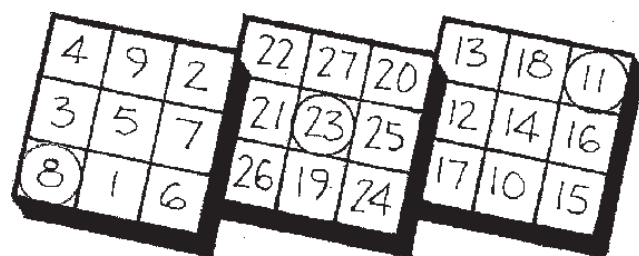
THE CHALLENGE:

Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

The first correct solution emailed earns a coupon for a FREE cup of coffee from Buck's Coffee Cafe on Main Street.

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com

Solution to #BN1D in the Aug. 9 paper



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... SEX ED continued from page 20

stinence program might be more appropriate for high-schoolers, but Martin said there's a reason why middle-schoolers were targeted. "They are much more knowledgeable than I was at that age, but since they are younger hopefully they haven't been corrupted yet like high-schoolers."

Both Swank and Brigman encouraged the input and involvement of the local community.

"The school system can't approach this alone," said Brigman. "It is not a school system challenge; it is a community challenge, a family challenge, a spiritual challenge." He said that the schools need to address risky behavior and its consequences.

Swank said the school board, administration, faculty, community, and parents need to speak together as one. "You will never get 100% of people thinking the same," she said. "I'm talking about the majority."

Swank summed up the consensus of the meeting best. "If we go no further than the Course of Study, this needs to be taught and most wouldn't be opposed to it."

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Aug 8-14. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

Aug 8

- At 1:48 p.m., officers were called to Mitchell's Lodge concerning a disruptive guest.

Aug. 9

- At 4:30 p.m. officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at N.C. 106 south and Stoney Creek. One driver was cited delaying a public officer while trying to discharge his duty.

- At 6:11 a.m., a motorist on N.C. 106 was cited for driving with an evoked license.

Aug. 11

- At 4 p.m., officers were called to investigate the larceny of jewelry valued at \$1,520 from a room at the Hampton Inn. The case is under investigation.

Aug. 14

- At 10:14 p.m., Holly Leanne Newman, 24, of Sapphire, N.C., was arrested on two counts of embezzlement, two counts of forgery, and two counts of utterance for incidents that occurred while she was employed at RBC Centura Bank, February of 2006. She appeared before District Court of Macon County, Wednesday, Aug. 15.

Note:

- Michael Baty, 17, of Walkingstick Road, Clayton, GA, was arrested in connection with the burglarizing and injury to homes in the Chowan and Wyanoak area of Mirror Lake last February. He has been charged with aiding and abetting, breaking and enterings and larceny.

- During the week officers issued one warning ticket and responded to one alarm.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the weeks of Aug. 9-15

Aug. 9

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Cullasaja Drive. The victim was taken to the hospital.

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at the hospital. It was cancelled en route.

Aug. 10

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Cobb Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

Aug. 11

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Ravenel Ridge Road. It was a false alarm.

Aug. 12

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Old Orchard Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Clear Creek Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

Aug. 14

- The dept. investigated a report of smoke in the area of Biscuit Rock Road. No fire was found. The entire area appeared to be smoky and may have drifted from out-of-state.

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**Paoletti's
Wine Spectator**



**Wolfgang's
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**Madison's
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Highlands Lodging

Old Edwards Inn
Main Street Inn
Skyline Lodge
The Lodge

DINING

1	Cyprus
2	Golden China
3	Lakeside
4	Madison's
5	Main St. Inn
6	On Verandah
7	Paoletti
8	Pescado's
9	Rib Shack
10	Skyline Lodge
11	Wolfgang's

Shopping

1	Acorns
2	AnnaWear
3	Bear Mt. Outfit.
4	Bungalow
5	Dry Sink
6	Elephant's Foot
7	Raspberry Fizz
8	Silver Eagle
9	Stone Lantern
10	Village Kids
11	Wholesale Down

Real Estate

1	Buyer's
2	Century 21
3	Chambers
4	Cleveland
5	Country Club
6	Meadows Mtn.

Galleries

1	Bryant Art Glass
2	Tino Gallery
3	Twigs
4	Summit One

Other Businesses

- ATM Bank
- Bank
- Bank ATM
- Brick Oven
- MovieStop
- Rainy Day Golf
- Wayah Insurance
- Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals
- Highlands' Newspaper #1 In Local Readership 7,500 Wk.- 30,000 Mo.
- Hudson Library
- Bascom-Louise Gallery
- Episcopal
- Presbyterian
- Acorns
- Mt Fresh Foods
- Falls On Main Cabin Casuals
- Century 21 Creative Concepts
- Lakeside Wine Spectator
- Cabin Casuals "Life is Good" and Casual Resortwear for all ages The Falls on Main 828-526-3320
- Highlands School K-12
- Peggy Crosby Center
- Child Care
- Cleaners
- Rib Shack
- HillTop
- Jackson Madeleine & Basketcase
- Chintz Antiques
- Mirror Lake Antiques
- Images
- Warth
- Summit One Art Gallery
- Shiraz Rugs
- Methodist
- ABC
- Police
- PlayHouse
| 1 | Cyprus |
| 2 | Golden China |
| 3 | Lakeside |
| 4 | Madison's |
| 5 | Main St. Inn |
| 6 | On Verandah |
| 7 | Paoletti |
| 8 | Pescado's |
| 9 | Rib Shack |
| 10 | Skyline Lodge |
| 11 | Wolfgang's |

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- ABC
- Police
- PlayHouse