

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 5, Number 51

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Dec. 20, 2007

On-going

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

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

- 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, 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

Every Monday

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

Every Wednesday

- "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. The study will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:15.

- Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

- CBC offering the AWANA program for kids — K-5th grade non-denominational Bible-based program for kids — from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Every Saturday

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

Saturdays through Dec. 22

- Santa will be at Town Square to hear Christmas wishes and for photos, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 22

- Zorki performing original music and classic covers at Cyprus International Restaurant starting at 9:30 p.m.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-hike, with a 500 foot elevation change, to the lower White-water Falls from the Bad Creek Reservoir parking area. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

- Highlands Annual Christmas Dinner will be at the Log Cabin Restaurant from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for \$29.95 per person for a buffet of traditional Christmas fare to follow for those interested.

Monday, Dec. 31

- Raffle drawing at McCulley's Cashmere on S. 4th Street on the hill for a cashmere sweatshirt with proceeds to benefit The Instant Theatre Studio on Main.

Case of missing Rec Park money closed

With Highlands growing, the business of running Highlands has become more complicated and time-consuming which spurred consultants to recommend some changes to the organizational make-up and some job descriptions at Town Hall.

As 2007 comes to an end and with the new Planning and Development Director Joseph Cooley now on staff, change may be in the air.

On Wednesday, Dec. 19, the Town Board met to "discuss personnel matters" in a closed ses-

sion.

"No decisions will be made," said Mayor Don Mullen prior to the meeting. "This is simply a work session for the commissioners to discuss personnel."

Though no one's talking,

• See CASE page 37

Soccer field proposed at H. school

Sally Hansen
Reporter

Members of the county recreation soccer league have devised a way to construct an extra soccer field in Highlands.

At the Monday, Dec. 17 Macon County School Board meeting, Jeff Weller, head of the county recreation soccer leagues in Highlands, presented a proposal for constructing a soccer field on Highlands School property that meets regulations and would take some of the pressure off usage at the Buck Creek facility.

"We have just under 400 students at Highlands School, and 117 of them play soccer in the fall," Weller said.

The middle and high school teams share the Buck Creek field with eight community recreation leagues, so there are 10 teams trying to use one field during the daylight hours.

The current field at Buck Creek is 52 yards by 92 yards, while regulation fields are required to be at least 55 yards by 100 yards.

The proposed field at Highlands School is where students currently practice soccer behind the elementary wing. "We propose a 110 yard by 55 yard regulation field, which includes a 10 foot safety buffer," Weller said.

The plan also includes an underground drainage system. "The current field has major drainage issues," said Weller.

• See SOCCER page 24

Santa delivers the 'first' present of Christmas



On Thursday, Dec. 13, Highlands School Kindergarten, Great Beginnings and 1st-grade students boarded the Polar Express Train to the North Pole, where they visited with Santa who gave them each a bell. In the story by the same name, when Santa offers a little boy any gift he wants, he asks for a bell from his sleigh. As the story goes, only those who believe in Santa can hear the bell ring. Pictured is Cyndi Coppage with Santa.

Photo by Ashley Coppage

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Septic tank permits, dental care subject of meeting

By Sally Hanson
Reporter

At the Dec. 11 Macon County Board of Public Health meeting some personnel changes were discussed, and several guests spoke about some pertinent issues that have been going on in the county.

Septic Permitting

Environmental Health Supervisor Barry Patterson presented the "Environmental Health Business Plan." It included hiring two environmental health specialists and one staff member to handle administration. In addition to current duties such as issuing septic permits, the department will soon be required to begin a state-mandated well inspection program.

Patterson said one of the department's biggest problems in the past has been staff retention. "The county must provide reasonable opportunities for advancement, job security and fair pay. Finding, attracting and keeping quality employees/managers is crucial," he said.

According to Health Director Jim Bruckner, salaries for Macon County employees are not competitive when compared to other counties in North Carolina, and then additional expenses are incurred by the county when staff

• See SEPTIC page 37

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

My N.C. heritage



Kim Lewicki
Publisher

I'm sitting here finishing up the last edition of Highlands' Newspaper for 2007 and realize how odd life's twists and turns are.

Spring of 2007 we began printing the paper at The Mountaineer in Waynesville – the “big city” across the highway from Hazelwood, N.C., — the homeplace of my North Carolina ancestors and now their descendants.

I grew up in New York but Hazelwood was my family's destination when it came to summer vacations.

My father, Herbert McClure was a self-employed artist who made his living in New York City. Since he was self-employed, he reluctantly agreed to vacations and only to Western North Carolina to visit family in the place where he grew up.

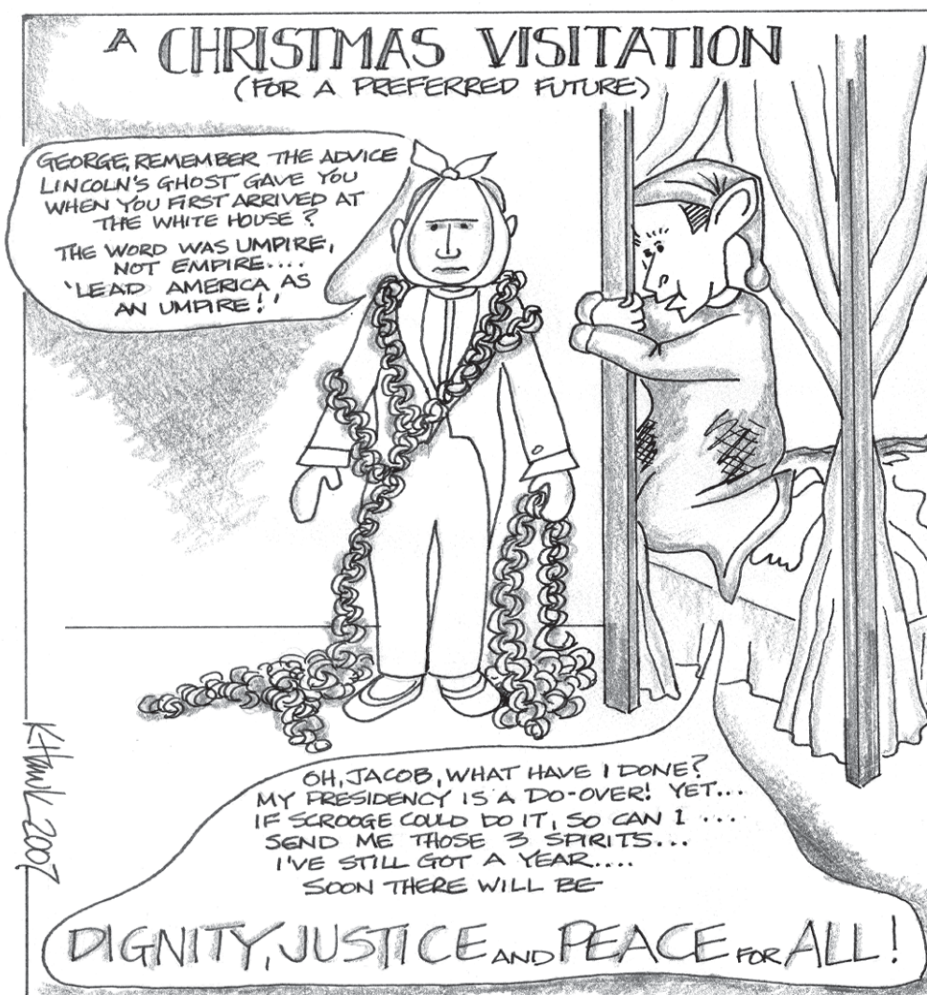
Besides various first- second- and third- cousins, uncles and aunts, Hazelwood was also home to my father's favorite aunt, his father's youngest sister, Wilsie McClure Winchester, who lived on original McClure land over the “hill” and around the bend from the McClure homeplace.

When Dad was growing up, Wilsie and her husband Lawrence lived in a log cabin on a parcel of the McClure land that her father Will McClure had given her. As was the custom, all the girls in the family who married got land as a wedding gift. The men – except for the eldest who got the homeplace – were expected to make good on their own.

My grandfather George, one of Will and Ida Oxner McClure's nine children, was a woodworker and cabinet maker. He did good work when he could get it but didn't own land or a house and rented instead. He worked at furniture factories across the Piedmont and in the mountains but when the Depression hit, work dried up and life got particularly hard for his family of five. Despite their trying youth, my father made a good living as an artist; one of his two sisters, Alwayne, graduated from Appalachian

• See FORUM page 27

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or 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

“Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper”

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• LETTERS •

Does the Bill of Rights give you rights?

Dear Editor,

In a recent issue of USA TODAY they had an online poll asking people if they agreed that the second amendment gave them the right to keep and bear arms. At the time I read it almost 15,000 people had taken part in it and an astounding 98% of them said yes. I say it was astounding because 98% of the people who took part in the poll were wrong. Neither the second amendment nor any other amendment confers any rights upon anyone. A Supreme Court ruling from 1884 is instructive in this issue Here is a short excerpt from the ruling and a link to the entire case for those who may want to read it:

As in our intercourse with our fellow men, certain principles of morality are assumed to exist without which society would be impossible, so certain inherent rights lie at the foundation of all action and upon a recognition of them alone can free institutions be maintained. These inherent rights have never been more happily expressed than in the declaration of independence, that new evangel of liberty to the people: “We hold these truths to be self-evident” — that is, so plain that their truth is recognized upon their mere statement — “that all men are endowed” — not by edicts of emperors, or decrees of Parliament, or acts of Congress, but “by their Creator with certain inalienable rights” — that is, rights which cannot be bartered away, or given away, or taken away, except in punishment of crime — “and that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and to secure these” — not grant them, but secure them — “governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

Among these inalienable rights, as proclaimed in that great document, is the right of men to pursue their happiness, by which is meant the right to pursue any lawful business or vocation, in any manner not inconsistent with the equal rights of others, which may increase their prosperity or develop their faculties, so as to give to them their highest enjoyment.

The common business and callings

• See LETTERS page 22

• MILESTONES •

Lewicki graduates

Rachel Price Lewicki, Highlands School Class of 2004, graduated from Appalachian State University on Dec. 16, 2007 with a B.S. in Psychology. She is seeking a job in the mental health field prior to pursuing her Masters degree.



Photo by Jim Lewicki

• OBITUARIES •

Robert Rice

Robert Rice, age 81, of Sapphire, NC died December 11, 2007 at home. He was born March 1, 1926, he was the second child of Lewis Carl Rice, Sr., and Alberta Carter Rice. Robert served in the Navy during WWII, worked 15 years for the US Forest Service, and was a real estate developer and residential builder in Cashiers, N.C.

He is survived by two sons, Robert Rice Jr., and wife Mary Beth of Braselton, GA., Alan Rice and wife Connie of Sylva, N.C. and one daughter, Catherine Rice Tanner and husband Dorse of Sapphire, NC. Ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean Keener Rice, two brothers, Dick and Lewis, a daughter, Mary Rice Hendren and one great-grandchild.

Graveside services were held Friday, December 14 at 2 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd Cemetery, Cashiers, NC with Rev. Jim Kinard officiating. Pallbearers were Thomas Rice, David Smith, Samuel Walk, Joseph Ward, Neil Lyday and Coleman McKinney. Honorary pallbearers were Dean Madden, Ed Madden, Tommy Madden, Bud Darden and Scott Dillard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Transylvania or Jackson County Hospice.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

John Milton Bullock

John Milton Bullock, age 70, of Highlands, NC, died Sunday, December 2, 2007 at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was a native of Dade County, FL, the son of the late John Ryan Bullock and Irene Milton Bullock.

He had worked in the pharmaceutical business for 30 years, with Mead Johnson/Bristol Myers in Evansville, IN and currently owned NTN Searchline and Internet Physician Advertising Firm. He was a member of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation Board.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Lynda Nead Bullock; three children, John B., Beth, and Jeff; four grandchildren, Johnny, Josh, Keaton, and Kinsey.

No services are planned.

Donations may be made to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, PO Box 190, Highlands, N.C., 28741.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

An advertisement for Jackson Madeleine classics for children. It features a central photograph of a young girl and a young boy standing in front of a white picket fence. The photo is framed by a decorative green vine border. Below the photo, there is a list of items: Mela Wilson, Petunia Pickle Bottom, CAKE by Petunia, Fawn by Petunia, Pears and Bears, Tea, Vineyard Vines, Tea Pee for Me, Little Raggio Chabre, The Bailey Boys, Lilly Ashley, Perry Ellis, and Widgeon. The brand name 'Jackson Madeleine' is written in a large, elegant script font, followed by 'classics for children'. At the bottom, the website 'www.jacksonmadeleine.com' and the address 'On the Hill | South Fourth Street | Highlands, NC | 828.526.1504' are listed.

An advertisement for Carolina Eyes. It features a large, decorated Christmas tree in the center, with several red and white wrapped gifts hanging from its branches. A large red bow is tied around the tree. To the left of the tree, there is a tag that says 'TO: You FROM: CAROLINA eyes'. Above the tree, a red banner reads 'ONCE-A-YEAR SALE'. Below the tree, there is text that says 'Come by Carolina Eyes in December and pick a package from the tree. Inside you'll find your gift. Free sunglasses? 25% off? 50% off? Come by and see what Santa has for you.' The Carolina Eyes logo is at the bottom left, and the address '141 Main Street • Wright Square Highlands • 787-2020' is at the bottom right.



This sweet cottage, nestled into the trees on almost 3/4 of an acre, is conveniently located in Mirror Lake. Featuring granite countertops in the kitchen, vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, and a generous back deck. 2 BR with private bath and a stone facing fireplace in the living room. With a one car carport that makes this home the perfect weekend getaway or year round home. \$396,000



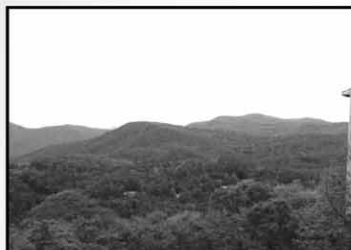
Best one of all the Highlands Cove Cottages! Sitting at the very top and offering huge views, great privacy, audio and video upgrades! Granite throughout kitchen and baths, European styled vessel sink in powder room, deck with fireplace. 3 BR/ 3.5 BA, a one car carport with a storage room. These quality cottages have been built by Schmitt Building Contractors. \$1,079,000



Stunning in town estate on 5 acres with lake access. The finest craftsmanship and a perfect floor plan. Gorgeous kitchen with dual dishwashers, 2 cooling drawers, warming drawer, industrial six burner range and vegetable sink. Private decks and balconies, fireplace with outdoor cooking center. 3 BR on the main, 1 suite upstairs and a bonus room with full bath over the 3 car Car-storage. \$3,688,021.



A rare find on Big Bear Pen Mountain in town. Wonderful farm-styled home features a large covered front porch with rocking chairs, just right for enjoying the mountain view. The master is on the main floor and guests can have their own privacy with two guest bedrooms upstairs. A nice yard in back is perfect for dogs and children to play. \$775,000



Upgraded VZ Top condo has been completely redone with fresh paint, updated lighting, and all new flooring. The kitchen features new appliances, granite counter tops, and new bead board ceiling with recessed lighting. Guest level has snack/ wet bar with granite counter tops, microwave. An most importantly the condo has MAGNIFICENT long mountain views. Only \$339,000



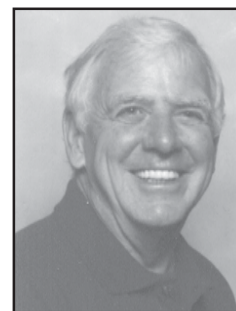
This wonderful upper level condo at HFCC offers 20 ft vaulted ceilings, beautiful built-in bookcases, stone-faced fireplace, decorator paint and custom wood trim work installed by owner. The spacious master suite opens onto the open deck as well. Great kitchen with breakfast area and lots of cabinets and counter space. Offered fully furnished at \$333,000. Membership NOT REQUIRED.



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

'These are a few of my favorite things'



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback
is encouraged!
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

Please sing along if you know the melody.

Tourists with money and bears with cold
noses

Winter is here and gone are my roses
Main Street is barren and waiting for Spring
These are a few of my favorite things

When the sand truck
Covers the street up
And I'm feeling mean
I simply remember my favorite thing
And think of something ob-scene

Highlands is frozen in quiet like
splendor
Waiting for money from a weekender
The leaves are all dead and that kinda
stinks
These are a few of my favorite things (har
har)

When the bear comes
When he scares me
And I'm feeling bluuuuu
I simply remember my favorite things
And bid that critter a-dieuuuuu
(Are you falling asleep?)

Realtors are leaving, it was all quite
raustere
Sale signs are rusty; they've been there all
year
Pray no return unless they sprout wings
These are a few of my favorite things

When the dog squats
In our new park
And I'm feeling duped
I simply remember my favorite things
And try to remember its only dog poop

Highlands has Santa he once was our
mayor
He's such a nice man and always takes
care
We are truly blessed and there's no denial

That he didn't turn out to be pedophile.

When the cold comes
And it's freezing out
When I'm feeling grim....sorta
I simply remember my favorite things
And remember I'm still in Flor-a-da
(Wow, that was a reach)

Immigrants are coming, arriving in
droves
Where will they stay, maybe Horse Cove
They're different from us, that we
distinguish
Pray on your knees they will soon learn
English
And-that-is-definitely-my- favorite- thing

When the town votes
In a stupid way
And I'm feeling "DUH"
I simply remember my favorite thing
And consider the source, ah-huh

Christmas is coming and I'm all excited
I'm having a party and you all are
invited
Remember our Jesus and the loyal three
kings
And that, my friends, is my favorite
things.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to all my readers, including my few enemies.

• The book, "I'm Moving Back to Mars,
is a great last minute Christmas Gift.

Going home? Read Fred's column all year
at:
[http://www.highlandsinfo.com/
newspaperdownload.htm](http://www.highlandsinfo.com/newspaperdownload.htm)

• ANOTHER VIEW •

Are 'receptors' responsible for the 'Christmas Spirit?'

I was thinking about addiction this morning, wondering why people get hooked on substances like drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and on less concrete things like sex and power. I think I have an answer. It is all about receptors.

My theory is that we are much like computers, which I am told, are binary. They are based on yes or no, one or two — nothing else, just one or two, repeated billions of times with remarkable rapidity to answer any question.

My theory is that we are also binary and that we are guided by the pursuit of pleasure and the avoidance of pain. Science has identified a number of receptors in our central nervous systems, and has found and formulated chemical compounds which activate or block those receptors, like putting a key or a wad of chewing gum into a lock.

There are receptors in the spinal cord where pain nerves from the leg meet pain nerves going to the brain. Morphine and Demerol occupy these receptors and prevent the pain from reaching

the brain. The body produces narcotic like substances called endorphins. They can be released during periods of high stress and relieve pain naturally. Runners are familiar with the feeling of well being which accompanies their release and call it the "runners high." It is the body's way to trick you into thinking that you enjoy exercise.

Most of my patients take Prozac because it either blocks the depression center or stimulates the feel good receptor. Same with Chocolate. Receptors and chemicals to activate them are well known. Guys who jump out of airplanes are addicted to the rush of dopamine that jumping out of airplanes releases. They aren't necessarily any braver than I — they are just slaves to chemicals. Binary. They jump because it gives pleasure. I sit because my receptors are rusty. These are pretty simple examples.



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

What about more complex examples of humanity; love and hate, greed and self sacrifice, good and evil. If you're keeping up, you guessed it. Binary! Our entire self funnels into one of two choices, pain or pleasure, chocolate or vanilla. Jeffery Dahmer wasn't necessarily better or worse than Mother Teresa. It's just that he enjoyed killing and eating children and she derived pleasure from nurturing and feeding the poor. It's the chemicals. She, exactly like he, followed a choice which made her feel good.

People who are addicted to sex, money, and power, people like Bill Clinton, just have less specific openings at the end of their pleasure funnels. My brother-in-law absolutely knew in sixth grade that he wanted to be an actor. He attended summer acting camp experienced maximal stimulation of his pleasure re-

ceptors and thereafter, steadfastly refused to consider law school.

People can be programmed pretty much like computers. It's a matter of manipulating receptors. If a kid talks in church, and the nun smacks him, pretty soon his receptors start to confuse the absence of pain that accompanies silence, with pleasure. Before long, you have a silent and devout congregation. If education is honing receptors, indoctrination is manipulating them.

Can good and, evil, love, lust, cowardice, courage, generosity, miserliness, anger, tranquility, the entire range of human emotions really be reduced to the effects of chemical mediators or brain receptors? We now know that chemical compounds have a role. It's just hard to believe that there isn't more to the story.

I'm in the operating room. "O, Come All Ye Faithful" is playing on someone's I-Pod. There must be something beyond receptors to explain the unexplainable, the Christmas spirit.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy & Prosperous New Year from all of us at...

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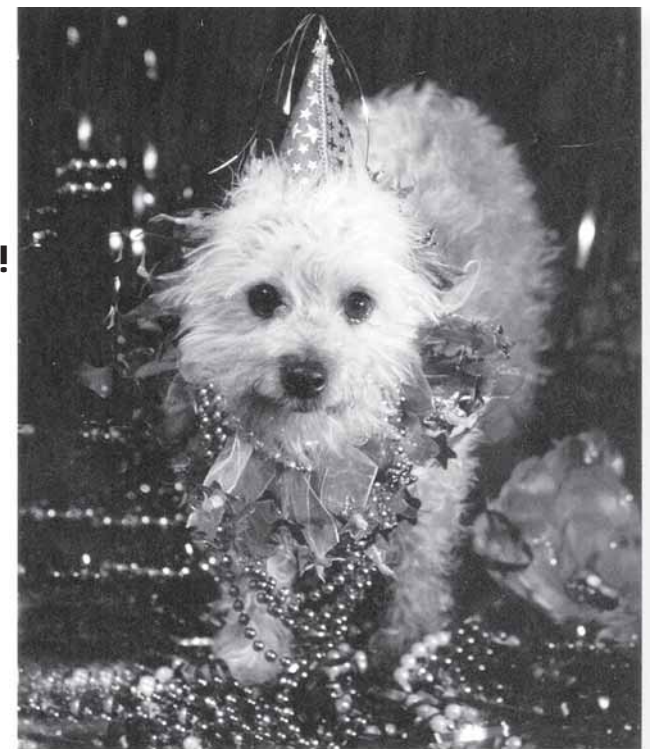
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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Grave matters

When I was young
I thought death
was a joke. I
loved Jessica Mitford's
book *The American Way of
Death* because it is a
hilarious romp through
modern burial customs.

But as I have gotten
older death has started
getting a little more real. I
need to get around to
writing a will to stipulate
what should be done with
my stuff — I don't have
any children so I have been pondering
what to do with whatever money I may
have at my death — and it seems a
responsible part of preparing for death
would also include stipulating what I
want to happen to my body.

This fall I read an interesting book
called *Grave Matters: A Journey Through
the Modern Funeral Industry to a Natural
Way of Burial*, by Mark Harris [338.4H].

The book describes a wide range of
possibilities. It starts with a standard
funeral home burial — embalming, the
expensive coffin, vaults — and nothing
much seems to have changed since Ms.
Mitford wrote her book in the early
1960s. Most of the book is devoted to
alternatives to this traditional burial:
cremation, burial at sea, memorial reefs,
home funeral, plain pine box, backyard
burial, and woodland cemeteries. Each
type is illustrated with the story of a
funeral. As the book progresses the stories
get more moving because the funerals
hold more personal meaning for the
survivors (and sometimes the person
who died), because they are more
involved in the planning and sometimes
the execution.

Each chapter ends with a resource
guide; for instance the chapter about
backyard burial gives some guidance on
how to find out what your local laws are
governing this issue. The chapter on
memorial reefs gives the address of the
company that produces them.

The most moving story for me was
about a young man who lived in South
Carolina and was dying. He was very
concerned about the environment and
his family wanted to find some form of
funeral that would honor him.

They heard about Ramsey Creek
Preserve, 'a woodland burial ground, an
actual forest where burials also take place,'
founded by Billy Campbell. A memorial
forest preserves land by making it a sacred
burial place. The site of Ramsey Creek
Preserve is a 40-acre former cotton farm.
Mr. Harris describes Mr. Campbell's



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

vision: "Billy envisioned
combining burial with
ecological restoration of
the land. Working with
biologists, he'd craft a
science-based plan to
return the cemetery
ground to its more natural
state, using bodies to
renew depleted soil,
planting native species at
grave sites, re-greening
areas prone to erosion."

The first woodland
burial grounds were set up
in Great Britain in the early 1990s. Today
more than 200 exist. Mr. Campbell didn't
hear of these until after he had conceived
the idea and begun to implement his
preserve, which opened in 1998.

This option appealed to me most of
all: it's natural (you don't even need a
coffin) and it helps preserve ecosystems.
To see some photos, visit
www.memorialecosystems.com. Ramsey
Creek is not far from Walhalla, S.C.

Mr. Harris also gives a little history of
funeral and burial customs. By the time
of Homer, cremation was widespread in
Greece, seen as a way of purifying the
soul and liberating it. The Romans later
adopted the practice. In Scandinavia the
elite were cremated; a warrior's funeral
sent his body sailing on a burning ship.
In England the dead were burned on
'bone-fires' (where we get the word
'bonfire').

Mr. Harris writes, "It took the
spread of a religion no less powerful than
Christianity to tamp the flames of
cremation. Early Christians adopted the
Hebrew tradition of burial and came to
view cremation as a pagan practice that
desecrated the physical creation of the
Maker. In 789, the Christian king
Charlemagne enforced that view by law,
declaring cremation a crime punishable
by death." An ironic punishment, don't
you think?

But one day when I was discussing
this book with a friend he told me of
another, called *Stiff: The Curious Lives of
Human Cadavers*, by Mary Roach (611 R).
I have not read this book, but all of the
descriptions I have read online say it is
morbidly hilarious.

There are many ways scientists use
cadavers: anatomy classes, doctors
learning new surgical techniques, vehicle
crash testing to develop safer cars, and
forensic studies, among others. I
remembered back to the anatomy class I
took as an undergraduate and the
opportunity we had to dissect a cadaver

• See BRUGGER page 15

• HIS & HERS •

Does Charles Gibson want you shot?

Recently, Charles Gibson featured as "Person of the Week" a young lady who stayed on the phone for half an hour, reporting to police what she saw in the mass shooting in an Omaha shopping mall. Did she display heroism, "grace under pressure" as Gibson said, quoting Hemingway?



Michelle Mead & John Armor
michiamead@aol.com
John_Armor@yale.edu

Yes, she did. But the deeper question from the reporting on this latest public killing is whether Charles Gibson wants you to get shot. Here's the evidence.

These shootings took place at Westroads Mall in Omaha, NE. Six of the eight people killed by an angry teenager who'd been fired by McDonalds earlier that day (I refuse to print his name), were employees of Von Maur's department store, as was the woman Gibson honored. Gibson reported, but did not elaborate on, the fact that police did not get inside the mall and attack the shooter. They did not reach the gunman until after the lady told them she saw him lying on the floor, next to his gun.

Fifty shots were fired. Eight people were killed, not counting the gunman. No one did anything to try to stop the gunman as he fired and reloaded four times. Contrary to early reports, he did not have an "assault rifle." He had an ordinary hunting rifle, apparently stolen from his step-father. It had a 10-shot clip.

Compare this event, and its reporting, with another mall shooting that took place in February of this year, in Salt Lake City. A teenaged male gunman went to the Trolley Square Mall with intent to kill people and make a statement. Five people were killed, four wounded. But the great difference between the Omaha mall shootings and the ones in Salt Lake City is this: the gunman in Salt Lake was stopped by someone on the scene who was armed and able to react immediately.

Ken Hammond, an off-duty police officer from Ogden, Utah, was in that mall when the gunman opened fire. He was carrying his police weapon, concealed. When the gunman began firing at people in the mall, Hammond fired back, and stopped the gunman.

By contrast, Westroads Mall in Omaha is one of those "gun-free zones." Signs at all its entrances make it clear that no one should enter that mall with a weapon. As a result, no one fired

back at this gunman. So, he killed people until he was almost out of bullets, then he killed himself.

There have been previous shootings in which the killer was stopped by an armed civilian, such as at the Appalachian Law School. But the press coverage was less for shootings where someone on scene had

a weapon and stopped the shooting, than those where the shooting continued until the killer was finished.

Charles Gibson gave more coverage, plus Person of the Week, to the Omaha shootings, where there was no defense, than to Salt Lake City shootings, where there was a defense. Does that mean that Charles Gibson wants more Americans to get shot, rather than less, because it makes a more interesting "news."

Oh, I don't mean that Gibson intends to get Americans killed. But the tendency of his reporting, based on his political biases, WILL result in more Americans getting killed. I'm not picking on Gibson, here. His prejudices on the use of legal and illegal weapons in society are the same as most members of the mainstream media (MSM), beginning with the New York Times, and seeping down from there.

I just know more about Charles Gibson than the other anchor men and news leaders. One of his first jobs was selling and delivering "za's" at Princeton. To the uninitiated, that meant he was hired by the owner of the on-campus pizza franchise by my cousin, C.L. Haslam. So, I know that Gibson began his business career by selling an honest product at an honest price to people who appreciated his work.

Shouldn't the same standards apply to the same man, late in his life? He's now tied for the top slot as a news anchor in the United States. I have no quarrel with whatever salary he's earning for that, certainly worth every penny. But isn't he still obligated to provide an honest product? And doesn't that require paying attention to the context of the current story – the other public shootings that turned out differently? And reporting on the differences that occurred?

Give it a shot, Charlie. You can do better than this.

• 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

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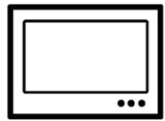
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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Be sensitive to others' plight

This past week was a terribly inconvenient week for those who frequently travel between Franklin and Highlands. Accidents on the Gorge Road, U.S. 64 west, between the two towns, have resulted in closure of that road for a large part of the week. Although there are signs on U.S. 64 before getting to the steep and curvy mountain climb to Highlands warning large trucks of the difficulty and dangers of making those sharp turns, many of the truckers do not heed this warning and come up the gorge road anyway. Those who make it have to do it very slowly and they slow traffic considerably. Many of the larger trucks simply cannot make the sharp turns. It is a very dangerous situation not only for the truckers but for others using that road and this past week was an example of the reasons changes must be made.

Large trucks are simply going to have to be barred by the Department of Transportation from coming up the Gorge Road. There are several other safer routes by which the large 18-wheelers can come to Highlands safely and more conveniently, actually saving them time in the long run, and it should be made mandatory that they do so guided by clearly marked signs. I will be requesting DOT and law enforcement agencies to make this a top priority. Trucks are getting bigger and bigger and drivers simply cannot be subject not only to the danger but the inconvenience the way they have been.

A grand Christmas party for our Spanish speaking residents and other internationals was held last Saturday night at the Civic Center. Noche Navidena included a visit from Santa Claus (known to most of them as Papa Noel), dinner, gifts for the children, live music by Don Long, dancing and penatas. This fifth annual party was put on by the International Friendship Center led by Jill Montana, the executive director of the center, and my wife, Patsy Mullen, organizational chairman this year, with the help of many volunteers who gave their time and effort to this wonderful event. A good time was had by all. It was a great way to bring together these folks in a time of joy and celebration and enjoy the food which was so wonderfully prepared by Debbie Grossman, the owner of Fressers Eatery, and many



Mayor Don Mullen

others. Kudos to all who contributed to this fine affair.

This brings up another matter which was discussed at the morning Rotary meeting Wednesday this past week. . . the giant immigration problem we have in this country which has been so controversial. As the speaker for the morning, Laura Reiff, said right from the beginning of her very good talk, the

system is broke and chaotic and every attempt recently to fix it by Congress has failed. She is an attorney and lobbyist in Washington who represents the business community but works closely with religious and labor groups to try to come to some solution for a problem which attempts to deal with 18 million undocumented immigrants in this country.

There were some intelligent and instructive comments from the audience, but there also was some harsh rhetoric along with accusing statements at that Rotary meeting. That will get us nowhere and is, indeed, part of the problem with people who "know" they have the right answer. I applaud those people like Laura Reiff, who are working so hard under very difficult and contentious circumstances trying to fix a broken system. Let's keep the unnecessary and unkind rhetoric to a minimum. It doesn't make any difference to me whether those people who came to our International Friendship dinner last Saturday night are undocumented or not. They are all God's children just like you and me who are trying to care for their families in the only way they know how.

It is my hope that you all are having a happy and joyous holiday season. As we enjoy our families and friends during this religious holiday, let us not forget those who are less fortunate than we are and go out of our way to help alleviate some of the pain and suffering which we see all around us every day even in our own community. And many of those suffering people in our community are immigrants who are simply looking for ways for survival both in their families here in this country and in their places of birth. It is a natural instinct which we all have and many of us, all from immigrant families originally, indeed, have forgotten.

• VIDEO GUY •

‘Music and Lyrics’

The 2007 romantic comedy, written and directed by Marc Lawrence (Two Weeks Notice). Starring Hugh Grant (American Dreamz, Love Actually, About a Boy, and nearly every other film put out in the last 20 years), Drew Barrymore (Fever Pitch, Donnie Darko), Brad Garrett (Night at the Museum), Kristen Johnston (Strangers with Candy) and first time on screen, as the air headed pop star, Haley Bennet). Rated PG 13.

The Storyline: Alex Fletcher (Grant, doing a great job of being medium annoying/moderately charming), former star of the 80's band, PoP! is a self admitted has-been star, with only a few prospects, all of them bad, state fair tours being postponed, Knots Berry Farm canceling, and unlikely to be called in for some of the better high

school reunions or Bar mitzvahs (former celebrity boxing, anyone?). He has one chance to make a little money and possibly get a little career boost, all he needs to do is write a song. In six days that must be a hit.

For what must be the dumbest pop star on the planet, which of course, is saying a lot (Haley Bennet is perfect in this part as the IQ deficient singer, sort of like Brittany Spears but without the charm and sophistication). Seems impossible, until Sophie Fisher (Barrymore, absolutely charming in this one), part time plant lady, soon to be song writer appears on the scene. It seems that she has an undiscovered knack for catchy



Stuart of
The Movie Stop

lyrics, and shows up at just the right moment. They struggle to hammer out a song, and, no surprise, they hit it off, but not without a struggle or two.

OK, no great big surprises here, this is a fairly standard Hollywood romantic comedy, but the events that unfold make for some neat twists and some hilarious moments (the first two minutes as they roll the

opening credits are a scream, with Grant featured in an '80s-type pop music video being worth the price of admission alone). Some fun jokes and bits involving aging pop/rock stars and their fans, some clever dialog, very good performance from Drew Barrymore as

the eccentric Sophie, and a flawless job by Bennet as the bubble headed bimbo singer.

Don't turn the film off too early, the ending credits include a VH1-style Pop-up Video that tells all about the future of some of the new and old career highlights (such as they are) of the principles involved. Interesting side note, Grant and Barrymore do all their own singing in the film, and do surprisingly well.

A few more in a similar line are Holiday, American Dreamz, 10 Items or Less, the brilliant mockumentary This Is Spinal Tap, and Last Holiday. These and about 5000 others are available for sale or rent at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give a look.

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Making holiday memories

Holiday entertaining is all about making memories for family and friends, creating new traditions and revisiting those you look forward to year after year. Even the busiest person can host a holiday gathering to remember — with a little help from life and style expert Sandra Lee. As a television host and best-selling author of 13 cooking and entertaining books, Lee offers a time-saving, “Semi-Homemade” approach. Lee’s formula of 70 percent readymade items and 30 percent custom touches makes holiday entertaining eminently doable, from elegant tablescapes to signature drinks, do-ahead main

dishes and celebratory desserts.

To keep the holidays spirited, festive champagne cocktails are as easy as pouring bubbly into cranberry juice — don’t forget that swizzle stick of fresh cranberries! Your holiday ham can look especially appetizing with an easy, stir-together marmalade glaze. A crown roast is perfectly adorned with a special savory sourdough and sweet Italian sausage stuffing. Store-bought angel food cakes can be customized for Hanukkah or a Nutcracker themed party with prepared frosting, food coloring, flavored extracts and seasonal decorations.

Crown Roast With Sourdough Dressing

Servings: 10 to 12

Prep Time: 30 minutes / Baking Time: 2
1/2 to 3 1/2 hours

Crown Roast

5 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce

1 packet (1.2-ounce) green pepper-
corn marinade mix

1 packet (1-ounce) zesty herb season-
ing mix

1 pork crown roast (7- to 8-pound)

Sourdough Dressing

1/2 pound Johnsonville Italian sau-
sage

1 packet (0.9-ounce) onion mush-
room soup mix

1 can (16-ounce) fat-free, low-sodi-
um chicken broth

1 can (10-ounce) condensed golden
mushroom soup

6 cups sourdough croutons

1/3 cup chopped, fresh Italian pars-
ley leaves

1 teaspoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon dried marjoram

Salt and pepper

1. Preheat oven to 325° F.

2. For crown roast, in shallow roasting pan, combine Worcestershire sauce, green peppercorn marinade mix and herb seasoning mix. Place crown roast, bone ends up, in pan. Wrap bone ends with aluminum foil to prevent browning too quickly. Using pastry brush or spoon, coat entire meat surface with sauce mixture. Transfer pan to oven and roast, uncovered, 20 to 25 minutes per pound of meat (2 1/2 to 3 1/2 hours).

3. For sourdough dressing, in large non-stick skillet over medium heat, brown sausages. Add soup mix, broth and soup. Stir in croutons, parsley, thyme and marjoram. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

4. Remove roast from oven about 45 minutes before it is done. Fill cavity with sourdough dressing. Return roast to oven and cook remaining 45 minutes. Transfer roast to platter and remove foil from bone ends.



Bourbon Honey-Glazed Ham

Servings: 10 to 12

Prep Time: 15 minutes / Cooking Time: 1
hour / Stand Time: 20 minutes

1 cup clover honey

2/3 cup bourbon or other whiskey

1/2 cup orange marmalade (100%
fruit)

1/3 cup molasses

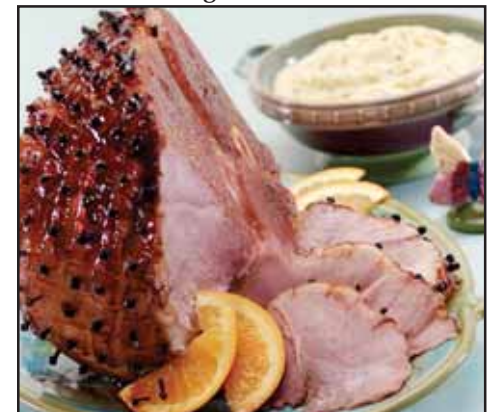
1 whole (5-pound) bone-in smoked
ham, fully cooked

1/8 cup whole cloves

1. Preheat oven to 350° F.

2. In medium saucepan over low heat, heat honey, bourbon, marmalade and molasses 15 minutes or until reduced by half, stirring occasionally. Set aside.

3. With sharp knife, cut diamond pattern into fatty part of ham. Stud whole cloves in center of each diamond. Spread half of bourbon glaze over ham. Roast, uncovered, 30 minutes. Baste occasionally with remaining glaze and continue to roast another 15 minutes. Let ham stand 20 minutes before slicing.



• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Merry Christmas



Rev. Brian Sullivan
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Christmas is a time filled with preparation, expectation, waiting, and hope. All these things can be summed up by the visitation of an angel who said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Many of us have been around long enough to experience for ourselves (or at least observe very closely) the preparation, expectation, waiting and hope that families go through when they are expecting a child. A woman prepares her body, as her eating habits change, sleep becomes precious, exercise is scheduled, and taking special vitamins become part of her daily routine. A man's priorities typically focus on the child's physical space with a fresh coat of paint, setting up a crib, putting up bookshelves, clearing closet space, and making the house safe. For both parents there are mental preparations, such as, being ready at a moments notice to get "the call," visualizing life with little or no sleep, imagining the child's growing up in today's world, and realizing someone else's life is our awesome responsibility. The community also prepares, as grandparents shift their schedules to make room to help out, friends throw baby showers, churches get ready for a baptism, and employers prepare for parental leave. Everyone wakes up to the reality that a child soon will be here.

Our preparation is the same yearly routine Christians across the world are going through right now as you read this article. We prepare our bodies with respect by observing what we eat and drink. We prepare a space for prayer by clearing out the corner, or adding a chair to the closet, or going to worship. We mentally become awake to every opportunity to spread Christ's love to the world.

As Christians, our story also begins with the words, "Do not be afraid." We know our story from beginning to end. From conception to birth we prepare for the reality of this love. From birth to resurrection, this love dwells among us and teaches us the way, the truth and the life. Through resurrection Christ's love abides in us. Christmas is when we celebrate the reality of this overwhelming love in the world.

"Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." The love that was wrapped in bands of cloth over 2,000 years ago, abides in you this day in the city of Highlands. This will be a sign to for you: your love will bring good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, let the oppressed go free, and proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Today the love of God shines into the world, because you continue to prepare, expect, wait, hope and CELEBRATE that Christ is here. Merry Christmas!!!

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

at First Baptist Church

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Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

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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)

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

Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

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Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175
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Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers
Choir – 7

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street
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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study
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HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Senior Pastor Todd Struble; Asst. Pastor Mike Harris
526-3376

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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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(through last Saturday of October)

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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

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Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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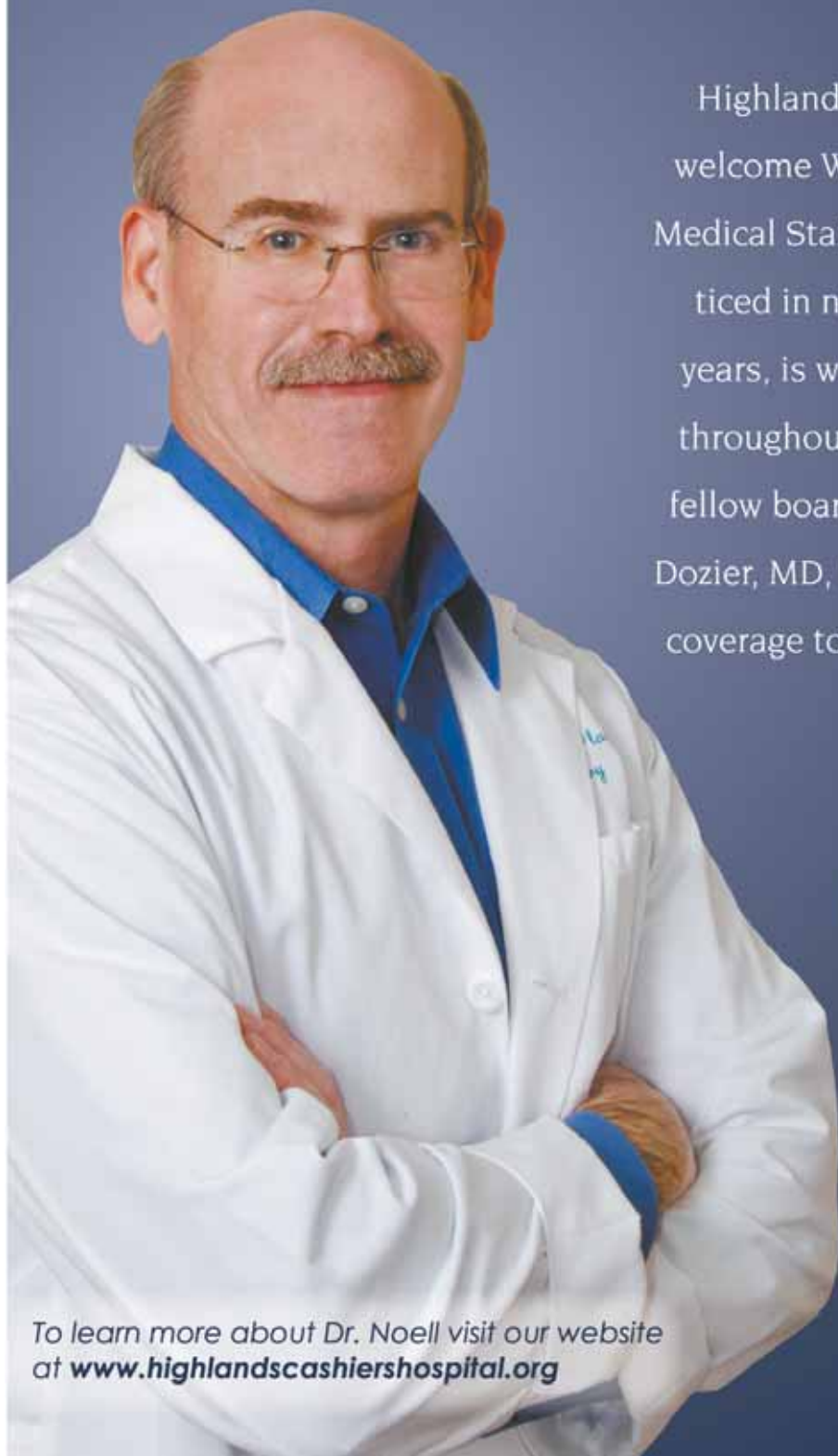
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Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is proud to welcome William J. Noell, MD, FACS to its Medical Staff. Dr. Billy Noell, who has practiced in nearby Sylva, NC, for the past 18 years, is well-known and highly respected throughout the region. On Jan. 7, he joins fellow board-certified surgeon F. Augustus Dozier, MD, FACS, to bring 24/7, year-round coverage to our area for the first time ever.

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To learn more about Dr. Noell visit our website
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• HOSPITAL NEWS •

Summary of combined November/December meeting of the Highlands-Cashiers Board of Directors

To keep the news media and the public better informed about Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we are providing you with a summary of the more significant actions and discussion items coming before the hospital's board of directors at its most recent meeting on Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007.

- The combined November/December meeting of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Trustees got under way with something to celebrate. President and CEO Ken Shull introduced the hospital's two new general surgeons, F. Augustus Dozier, MD, FACS, and William J. Noell, MD, FACS to the board. Dozier and Noell thanked the board for the opportunity to practice here and both said they are extremely pleased to be associated with the hospital. Dozier moved his surgery practice here from Atlanta on Nov. 5. Noell, who has practiced in Sylva for the past 18 years, will be joining Dozier in Mountain Medical & Surgical Group on Jan. 7, 2008.

- That moment of celebration was followed by a solemn occasion, however, as board members remembered the late John Bulloch, who was a member of both the Foundation Board and the hospital's Physician Recruiting Committee. The retired drug company executive, who also ran Bulloch and Associates, a physician's recruiting service with his son, died unexpectedly on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2007. Rev. Don Mullen, vice chairman of the board and Parish Associate at First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, led the board in a prayer and moment of silence.

- As matter of education, Shull provided board members with copies of leadership standards required by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The hospital is due to undergo a JACHO review within the next year as part of its accreditation renewal process. Partially in preparation for that review, the board also passed a revised mission and vision statement.

- Chairman of the board's Physician Recruiting Committee Dr. Jim Rothermel gave a brief report on visits of prospective new physicians, mentioning that the successful recruitment of Dr. Noell competes the hospital's efforts to bring general surgery services back to the area.

- During the Finance Committee report, CFO Mike Daiken presented informa-

• See HOSPITAL page 18



Zack, age 9, shopped at Wal-Mart with Santa and Detective Don Willis, Friday, Dec. 14, as part of the Sheriff Dept.'s "Shop With a Cop" program. Zack's younger brother and sister were shopping with two other officers also at the store. With Zack is Sheriff Robbie Holland and Santa "Buck Trott" Claus from Highlands. Photo by Kim Lewicki

Sheriff's 'Shop with a Cop' program brings Christmas joy to county's children

The "Shop with a Cop" program is eight years old. Eight law enforcement agencies including the Highlands Police Dept, the Franklin Police Dept., the N.C. Forest Service, the State Bureau of Investigation, the Macon County Sheriff's Dept., and others took part in the program raising \$17,400 which translated to giving Christmas cheer to 174 children in Macon County, ages 3-15.



Needy children were recommended by each school in the county, as well as officers who have dealt with children and their families throughout the year. Each child was given \$100 to spend on Christmas presents with the stipulation that at least one present be purchased for someone of their choosing.

After the shopping spree it was on to Burger King for "lunch with a cop" courtesy of Burger King. Each child then went to the the Franklin Police Dept. to wrap the present they purchased for someone special in their lives.

Jade age 4 wraps a gift she bought for her grandma with Macon Deputy Katie Laflam.



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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

'Tis the season to be jolly!

When I first sat down to write this column, I made a grave mistake. I picked the title first, and I thought a subject dealing with the season would be appropriate.

Looking up the definition of what I intended to write about, I found my first dilemma. The definition called jolly an adjective, and if I haven't forgotten grade school grammar, to "be jolly" makes it an adverb. Oh well, it says: "1. Full of good humor and high spirits; 2. Exhibiting happiness or mirth; 3. Greatly pleasing, enjoyable." Now that we sort of know what we're talking about, let's talk about it. The problem with writing a conservative column is that it's usually serious,

often cynical and frequently appears to be negative. For a person who is by nature upbeat, optimistic and fun-loving, this is hard work. Some other columnists write about goofyness and have a good time doing it. No research required, no Wikipedia, just funny stuff which I must admit, my wife enjoys immensely.

So, what's to be jolly about these days? Man, that is a challenge!

"All men are frauds. The only difference between them is that some admit it. I myself deny it." H. L. Mencken.

Here's some breaking news. A poll released at the time of this writing says that Hillary, who just a month ago held a substantial lead over Obama in Iowa, is now looking up his tailpipe. Now she has to traipse all over the countryside in snow up to her jodhpurs trying to make it a race. If that image doesn't put a smile on your face, take solace in the fact that she still leads (barely) in New Hampshire. By the time you read this, your smile may turn upside-down.

"Be thankful we don't get all the government we're paying for." Will Rogers.

Appalachian State 34, Michigan 32. Can you imagine how jolly I was watching this classic mismatch getting turned on its ear? For those of you who are not rabid college football fans, this was the setting. Big time football programs schedule lesser teams early in the season to assure wins and not get beat up before their conference schedule starts. Michigan, rated a pre-season #5, shamelessly opened their season against



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

Division 1-AA (a step below Michigan) Appalachian State. A true David and Goliath situation. Well, the rest, as they say, is history, and, not too surprising, the Michigan coach announced his "retirement" at season's-end.

"Ah, the patter of little feet around the house. There's nothing like having a midget for a butler." W. C. Fields

On the subject of college football, I'm jolly at the

prospect of dozens of college bowl games to be televised in the next two weeks. Halleluiah, there is a Santa Claus.

"Conscience is a mother-in-law whose visit never ends." HLM

Strictly personal, I get jolly every time we drive down our driveway after dark. The decorated house and landscape never fails to put a smile on my face. I hope you enjoy your display or those of others as much.

"Diplomacy is the art of saying 'nice doggie' until you can find a rock." WR

And with that, I close with the following holiday wishes.

To my liberal friend:

Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low-stress, non-addictive, gender neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice, or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasion and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all.

I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2008, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make America great. Not to imply that America is necessarily greater than any other country nor the only America in the Western Hemisphere. Also, this wish is made without regard to the race, creed, color, age, physical ability religious faith or sexual preference of the wishee.

To my Conservative friends:

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

• HOSPITAL NEWS •



Summit Charter students tour Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

About 24 third, fourth and fifth graders from Summit Charter School in Cashiers got the chance for a close-up look at inner workings of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital last Wednesday. Here, Jane Pressler, RN, shows off one of the hospital's new cardiac monitors to students eager to see their own heartbeat. In all, the students spent an hour and half touring the emergency room, laboratory, radiology, the hospital's surgical suite and acute care.

Always a popular spot for touring youngsters, the hospital's high-tech radi-

ology department offers students a glimpse inside the human body. Radiology Department Manager Laura Ammons, RT, explains some conventional x-ray films to some of the two dozen students from Summit Charter School last week. The children had the opportunity to see the hospital's new nuclear medicine camera, CT scanner, and other equipment, and also learn how conventional x-ray images are now made directly in digital formats for viewing on special computers.



... BRUGGER continued from page 6

and what a privilege that was.

I've done a little research on donating your body to science. A group called Biogift (www.biogift.org) exists to help people with the process. You can also contract with your favorite university through their "willed body program."

The Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (revised in 2006) has made making your wishes about donating your body simple; all you need to do is fill out a donor card. If you have a red heart on your NC driver's license, that is now a legal statement of your intention to donate organs and eyes; no one can thwart that intention after your death.

I've changed my mind; I'm donating my body to science. (Of course I am already an organ donor; they only get my body after any useful organs are taken.) What a wonderful thing: your body can be of service to humanity after your death.

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• COACH'S CORNER •

My fourth annual Christmas list

Ladies and Gentlemen: It is that time again—the time of year where I ask a grown jolly, fat, red faced man (not Chris Berman) for holiday gifts in hopes of fixing the sports world once and for all.

This Christmas, the number one item on my list is to ask Santa Claus for a BCS playoff. If you take a look at Division 1-AA, everyone in the country knew that Appalachian State was the best team in that division, yet if it was based on the BCS, the Mountaineers would have played in something akin to the Capital One Bowl rather than proving that they were the best team in the nation. Please Santa, make this happen -- and while you are at it, let Ron Zook beat USC in the Rose Bowl.

Another important item on my list is an announcer filtration device designed to filter out certain announcers whom I cannot stand. (Edited to note that apparently this device already exists and is known as the "mute button.")

I love Tony Kornheiser, but can Santa Claus please take away his tanning bed for Christmas? He looks like Hulk Hogan's wimpier, non-blond cousin.

We need more headbands in college sports -- there just are not enough of them at this point and time.

One more post about announcers -- can we please stop calling every set that runs a backdoor cut a "Princeton-style Offense?" This is almost as bad as every team that runs a zone-read being called a "Spread Option Team."

Please Santa, bring back Keith Olbermann and Dan Patrick and Craig Kilborn to Sportscenter...I simply cannot take any more "Who's Now" segments and I am darn sure tired of seeing Linda Cohn's botoxed face on my television. (Not that I am in any position to talk about anyone's looks, but seriously -- the Joker's smile looks more realistic than hers.)

There are also some ESPN personalities that deserve a LOT more screen time than they are getting at this point. (cough cough...Erin Andrews...cough...Stacey Dales) I would hope that Santa, being male, would certainly grant this request.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Santa Claus for fulfilling my request last year to make the Saints a good football team -- I would also like to curse him this year for returning me to the reality of mediocrity this year.

Please Santa, end the steroid mess in



Ryan Potts
tyanpotts@hotmail.com

baseball. Either give them all HGH or make it impossible to cheat, but just make it go away. Between the legal analysis, former player analysis (including those who cheated themselves but never got caught so they feel like they can pass judgment) and analysts analysis I feel it is impossible to analyze the situation any more than it has already been analyzed.

(That could be a new world record.)

Santa Claus must deliver me from the evils of Roy Williams' ties, Mark Mangino's velour tracksuit and Bruce Pearl's Orange Suspenders. At the same time, Santa must bring me the name of Dave Leitao's tailor—the guy is always wearing the swankiest suits on the sideline.

And finally Santa, after all that I have asked from you this year, I will provide you with something in return. This year, in honor of Christmas, the holiday season, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and all other holidays -- I bestow upon you the gift of NFL Sunday ticket -- which just so happens to be one of the top five inventions of all time. (We will get to that list at a later date, but I will go ahead and tell you that indoor plumbing is very high on that list.)

This way, as you and your elves are preparing for Christmas next year, you can do so while keeping track of your fantasy teams. Perhaps next year will be the year that you crush the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy, Dick Cheney and all other fictional characters in your fantasy football league. Merry Christmas!

McCully's Cashmere raffle set for Dec. 31

McCully's Cashmere has just announced a raffle of a Scottish cashmere sweatshirt of the highest quality. The winner will be able to choose either men's or women's style, any size, and a choice of 50 colors.

The raffle will benefit the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. Tickets are \$3 each, four for \$10 or 10 for \$25. Tickets are available at McCully's Cashmere on the hill and Brick Oven Pizza and Movie Stop and Highlands Fine Arts and Estate Jewelry next to Buck's on Main Street.

The drawing will be held at McCully's Cashmere Monday, Dec. 31. Take a chance while supporting year-round diverse quality entertainment in Highlands.



Annual 'Resolution Run' starts the new year

It's time for the annual ritual of New Year resolutions: that list of good intentions that many of us have for 2008. And that's the driving force behind the Highlands Roadrunners Club's annual Resolution Run, held every Jan. 1 at 9 a.m.

According to Club President Richard Betz, the run has attracted a couple of dozen hardy runners — "resolution-makers all" — each year since its inception several years ago.

"For those of us interested in a lifestyle that revolves around health and fitness, it's a wonderful opportunity to have fun, celebrate the New Year, and meet other like-minded folks."

The Resolution Run has no entry fee and offers no T-shirts or trophies. Those interested in participating simply gather in front of the Town Hall on Tuesday morning, Jan. 1, at 9 a.m. and run a three-mile loop at a relaxed pace around the downtown area of Highlands, returning to the Town Hall. The run is held "come rain or shine or ice or snow," but Betz claims that the weather has been flawless for several years, though a little on the chilly side on some occasions.

"Running is a great way to stay in shape, especially as we grow older," Betz says. "Our running club has been successful in attracting and encouraging a pretty broad demographic who want to stay fit and achieve measurable goals."

The Club welcomes both men and women, and all age groups, and includes some runners in their 70s who are still going strong. Many "novice" runners in the club have gone on to train and complete marathons within a year or two of beginning training. Glenda Bell has run several marathons, including the exclusive Boston Marathon. And Betz's wife Martha, who began running only three years ago, has now completed three marathons.

While the marathon distance — 26.2 miles — is not for everyone, even a modest program of running or other regular aerobic activity can produce remarkable results, from controlling weight to improving the condition of heart and circulation. There's even some suggestions that exercise might help prevent Alzheimer's and other age-related diseases.

"Both Glenda and Martha, as well as many other runners in our Club who run on a regular basis, are in the best physical condition of their lives," Betz said. "And many of us are in our 50s and 60s. That — and the sheer fun and camaraderie of being outdoors in Highlands with friends and family — is one of the things that keeps us coming out day after day."

So if you've been thinking about starting the new year as a healthier person, plan to join the Roadrunners Club on Jan. 1 in front of the Town Office for their first run of the year.

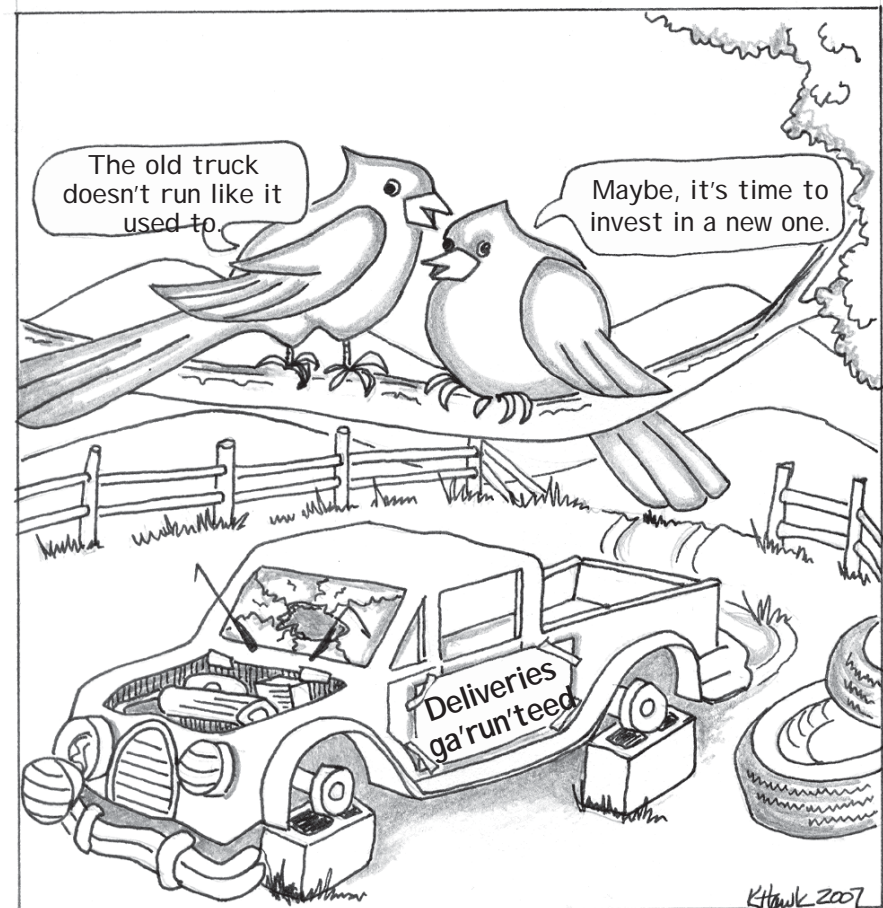
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K-mart pre-paid cards
for the children's
clothing needs and
for at least one
Christmas present for
each child.



... HOSPITAL continued from page 12

tion to the board that showed hospital utilization (number of days of care) was up in October over last year for both acute patients and for swing bed patients requiring extended nursing care. The number of emergency room visits was up slightly as well. Income was also up over a year ago, and while the hospital showed a loss, which had been anticipated, it was less than a year ago and virtually on target with budget projections.

- Program and Facilities Committee Chairman Julian Franklin told the board that his committee will be reviewing the history and background surrounding the board's decision some time ago to build a new medical office facility in Cashiers. He said the committee will be preparing a financial pro forma on the project, as well as attempting to answer various questions raised in recent months by some of the board's newer members. The hospital's architects are still preparing plans for the building, which would be located on the old Oakmont Lodge property on NC 107 north of the crossroads in Cashiers.

- Shull informed the board of recent core performance measures that compared the hospital with several other critical access hospitals (of similar size), as well as North Carolina hospitals overall. The measures covered care and treatment for several common diseases, such as congestive heart failure. Overall the hospital compared favorably to other hospitals, and Shull reported that steps are being taken to further improve patient education in the one area that was below state averages.

- During his Medical Staff report, Chief of Staff Dr. Robert T. Buchanan said the staff had recommended reappointing two members up for renewal (himself and Dr. Mark Wagner), and also unanimously recommended credentialing new general surgeon Dr. William J. Noell, FACS. The board unan-

imously approved the Medical Staff's recommendations.

He also presented a number of new and revised policies regarding standards of care and efficient operation of the hospital. Many of those policies are required by oversight organizations, he said.

- In his administrator's report, Shull said that the hospital's new nuclear medicine camera is being well utilized by area physicians, and that he and others in administration have been working with nurses to improve relations and increase retention and recruiting.

He also thanked Executive Director Russell Harris and the Foundation for their efforts to obtain funds for many of the capital items needed by the hospital.

- During his report, Harris said the Foundation Board has four new members and two others that have returned or been a reappointed. John Schiffli, John Cleveland, John Bauknight and Earle Mauldin have joined the board. Jack Sawyer was reappointed to the board for another term and David Higgins returns to the board after a short absence.

HCP auditions for 'Last Ballyhoo' Jan. 6 & 7 at PAC

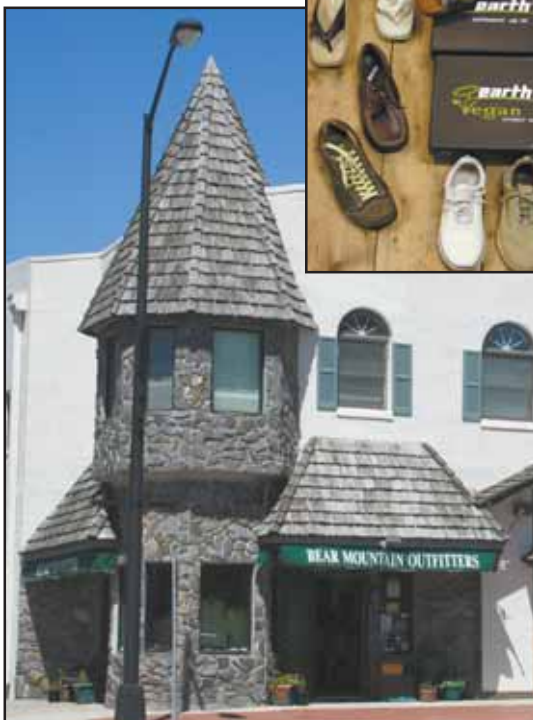
"The Last Night of Ballyhoo" is set in Atlanta in December 1939 during the time "Gone With the Wind" is premiering at the Fox Theater and Hitler is invading Poland. It will be directed by Mary Adair Leslie.

Copies of the script are available for reading at the libraries in Highlands and Cashiers. Needed is one mature man, two mature women, two younger men and two younger women.

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Exciting opportunities for Macon County high school students

Innovative high school programs are becoming more and more popular. Recently Macon County high school students have been afforded the opportunity to participate in distance learning through the Department of Instruction. It is called the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS). The purpose of the NCVPS is to provide courses that students are unable to take at the local public school. NCVPS will provide courses that augment a student's local school's program of study. All courses will be taught by a highly qualified teacher. Once the on-line course is completed the student receives credit on his or her school transcript. The authorizing legislation for NCVPS states:

"NCVPS shall be available at no cost to all students in North Carolina who are enrolled in North Carolina's public schools, Department of Defense schools, and schools operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

Franklin High School was chosen to also participate in a pilot program through the University of North Carolina - Greensboro called UNCG iSchool Virtual Early College program which allows high school juniors and seniors to take introductory-level UNCG courses and earn both university and high school credit. Students receive a UNC-G transcript and can transfer the credit-hours they earn to the college or university of their choice. The courses are online and offered at FHS as part of the regular school day. They are tuition free with textbooks as gratis so there is no charge to students to participate. Courses are taught by UNC-G professors who are readily accessible to students. These are the same UNC-G courses that are offered to degree-seeking students on the UNC-G campus.

In addition to the above programs,

high school students can participate in dual enrollment. Dual Enrollment offers high school students an opportunity to attend regularly scheduled college classes on the college campus. Participants must be at least 16 years old. College credit and high school credit may be earned at the same time.



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Senior Pastor, Chapel of Sky Valley

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And as Bethlehem sleeps
We shepherds on hillsides
Were tending our sheep.

Our staffs on tree branches
Were hung there with care
In hopes that in darkness
No wolves would be there.

Our sons were nestled
All snug in hay beds
While visions of festivals
Danced in their heads.

Saul in his tunic
And I in my wrap
Had just settled in
For a much needed nap.

When out of the heavens
There rose such a noise
We ran to the hilltop
Awaking the boys. The moon on the crest
Of wind-driven sand
Cast eerie, long shadows
on this sleepy band.

When what to our wondering
Eyes should appear
But a sky full of angels
All singing good cheer.

More rapid than eagles
The angels they came
With singing and praising
And I heard them by name:

There was Michael and Gabriel,
Thomas and Paul,
Peter and Philip,
Andrew and Saul.

To the top of the rock,
To the top of the wall,
We all heard their singing,
We all heard their call.

As dry leaves, that before
A wild sandstorm fly
When met with a fig tree
Would mount to the sky.

So up to the heavens
The angels they flew
Singing of Jesus,
How His birthday was due.

"Go into the town,
Seek a small manger stall."
They gave us this message
For men, one and all.

As I lowered my head
And was turning around,
Down to the stable,
Run, and a baby found.

He was dressed all in cloths
From His head to His toes,
And laid in a manger,
Where cattle feed goes.

A bundle of joy,
This most lovely thing.
He looked like a baby,
But one day a king.

His eyes, how they twinkled,
His smile, oh how merry.
The stable was cold.
His nose looked like a berry.

There were horses and cattle,
And a mule with big teeth.
They encircled the stable.
It looked like a wreath.

There stood tired Joseph,
To keep eyes open was hard,
But he stood beside Jesus.
He stood like a guard.

There also was Mary,
A crown of light round her head,
And with love in her eyes,
I had nothing to dread.

They spoke not a word
But went quick to their tasks.
Strangers were coming,
And questions they'd ask.

The angels stood round,
The Messiah they knew,
But on a beam of a star,
Back to Heaven they flew.

But we heard them exclaim,
As they went from our sight,
"Rejoice and be glad
For God's Son came this night."

Burning ban back in effect

The Macon County Fire Marshal's office has prohibited burning due to local conditions which make fires hazardous.

Open burning is prohibited until adequate rainfall lessens the hazards asso-

ciated with burning.

This is in conjunction with a state-wide burning ban due to severe drought conditions, lack of rainfall, low relative humidity and breezy conditions.

The true spirit of Christmas

By Sally Hansen
Reporter

With the holiday season in full swing people are buying gifts and arranging family gatherings that are common for this time of year. Some may even give a little extra to organizations such as the Salvation Army, Humane Society or other charitable groups. But there was a time not so long ago when the true spirit of Christmas required more than just digging deeper into our pockets.

During the 1950s and 1960s there was a woman who was married to a successful restaurateur. Like many women of her time she didn't have an official job, but she was always giving back to those in need. Many prospective employees at the upscale restaurant were aided in finding suitable work clothes at little to no cost by her and her husband just so they could have a good job.

She was a well-known figure to the locals, and she spent a lot of her time visiting those who had lost a loved one and attending funerals to show her support. At that time her town was relatively small, and although she was considered a member of high society she treated everyone she met with courtesy and respect.

Perhaps the act of kindness she is least known or remembered for is one that took place for many years right before both Thanksgiving and Christmas. The woman had relatives who owned low-income housing units, and each year she would borrow an



inconspicuous station wagon from a friend and pack it full of gift baskets containing a holiday meal for these needy families.

After dark she would enlist a family member or friend for help, and drive to the neighborhoods where

the families lived. She would park discretely at the curb and send her accomplice up to the door with the basket.

The baskets were large and usually were filled with a turkey and dressing, as well as other traditional foods like sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, bread and some type of dessert such as pumpkin pie. They were left on the doorstep, and the woman's helper would ring the doorbell or knock then step back into the shadows and make sure the food was taken inside so it wouldn't spoil on the doorstep overnight.

This process would continue until all the baskets were given away. As the years went by more families were considered for the anonymous benefaction, and the kind-hearted woman soon realized she couldn't single-handedly help them all. So, she began helping her husband and others operate a soup kitchen to bring essential meals to anyone who needed them all year long. This soup kitchen is still in existence today, and it is now run by a Catholic ministry.

It is impossible to know how many families the woman helped to have a happier Thanksgiving and Christmas. That was the beauty of her generosity — she didn't need or want the recognition that she was doing great things for those in need. The simple acts of kindness and the lives she touched were enough reward for her.

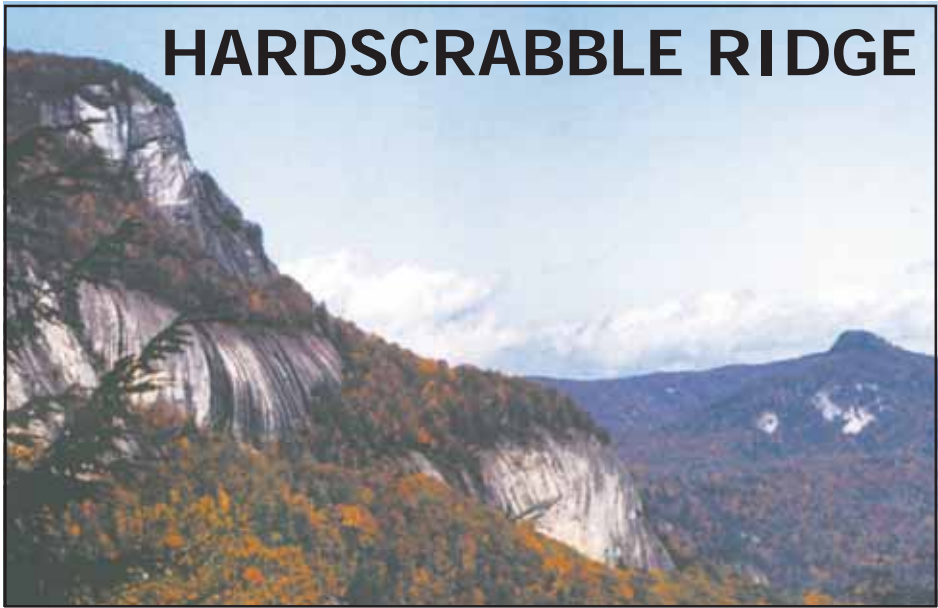
Perhaps you knew her...her name was Betty Williams.

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COLD SPRINGS. This lovely 3 bedroom, 3 bath home features a pleasant setting with a pastoral view and short stroll to the private lake at Cold Springs. Loads of glass to let in the outdoors for your enjoyment. The great room features a vaulted ceiling with stone fireplace with sliding doors that open onto a glass porch. 2 bed, 2 baths plus a carport on the main level. The lower level has a family room with a guest bed & bath with additional storage. Great area & value. \$465,000. mls #62569



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Great in town location on Oak Lane features a level lot on Mill Creek and great privacy, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace and small den. Some basic furnishings are available. Don't miss this charmer. Offered at \$484,000. mls #61293



GREAT VALUE ON A QUALITY HOME! In Cotswolds, brand new home features quality construction at a reasonable price. Three bedrooms, 4-1/2 baths plus family room with bar. All bedrooms feature a private deck with view. Backs up to USFS lands for privacy. Offered at \$1,295,000. mls #62425



Mirrormont Great location! Great Price on this cute mountain getaway, perfect size with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Cathedral ceilings in the living room. Large deck to enjoy outdoor living. Offered at \$375,000.00 mls #62065



THIS LOG CABIN is close to town and very wooded in a very private community of large homes. It has been completely renovated with new kitchen appliances and bathrooms and a view from the upper level. This is the least expensive home in Valentine Estates. Completely furnished. \$550,000. mls #62127



APPLE LAKE AREA. Adirondack covered deck & watch through the trees as sun sparkles off the lake from this 3 bed, 2 bath home. This house is move-in ready after an extensive remodel, including beautiful wood floors, granite countertops & more! 5 minutes from town, come & enjoy the quiet neighborhood with access to fish & canoe on the lake. \$439,000. mls #55673



3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH YEAR ROUND UNIT is located within the city limits at Highlands Mountain Club. Completely renovated in 2003. Highlands Mountain Club offers tennis, swimming, clubhouse and walking trail. Offered at \$350,000. mls #59196

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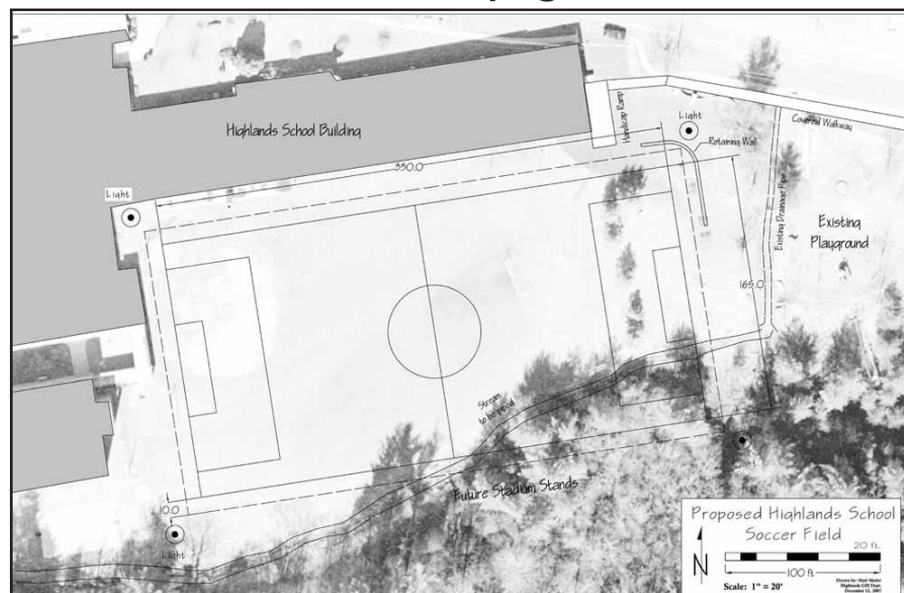


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... **SOCCER** continued from page 1



The above rendition is a preliminary plan designed by landscape architect Hank Ross.

BOE Chairman Donnie Edwards said right now, there's no where for the water to go.

Weller also said having the soccer field on the school campus will do away with the need for restrooms, locker rooms or a concession area because the school could be used. Parking is available on site, as well.

Due to overuse, the field at Zachary Park is in disrepair much of the season. "It's torn to shreds one month into the season," Weller said. The total budget for the entire project is \$268,500, which includes items such as culverts, underground drainage, rock removal, grassing, window protection, and new goals.

Weller said the goal of the presentation was to ask for the BOE's approval to both upgrade and renovate the field and to seek funding from the county for the project. He said some funding would have to come from private sources, too, but that he had already made county commissioners Jim Davis and Ronnie Beale aware of the project.

Several benefits were noted in the presentation: a needed regulation-size field for standard soccer rules; renovation of the area's drainage and turf to create a clean dry space for school PE and recess programs; improved student safety by eliminating travel to home games; much needed relief for Zachary Field overuse and scheduling difficulties; much needed relief for Zachary Field wear and tear; would provide a safer on-campus location to better supervise students activities during games and practice; the availability of abundant vehicle and bus parking; increased school pride for athletes and parents; access for players and coaches to use the existing locker room facilities; the potential to construct permanent stands and seating facilities in the future; and access to existing on-campus concession facilities

Edwards told Weller that the BOE would take the idea to the next Joint Facilities Committee Meeting with the county. "The money is there in the county, and I think it's a great idea," he said.

Greenwood says good-bye

County Manager Sam Greenwood's final county commission meeting was preceded with a drop-in good-bye party at the courthouse, Monday, Dec. 17. At the meeting that followed, the commissioners commended Greenwood on a job well done and leaving the county in sound financial standing, ready to face the future.

Greenwood served two stints at County Manager. Jack Horton, a previous Macon County Manager, takes the reins Jan. 1.

Photo by Kim Lewicki



– An umbrella of community-minded services –

Counseling, Dental, Medical

The Counseling Group of Highlands

By Sally Hanson
Reporter

The Counseling Group of Highlands is now open for business at the Peggy Crosby Center. Their services include counseling, education, consultation and coaching, and the office is located in Room 203 of the Peggy Crosby Center on South Fifth Street.

Vilda Brannen is one of the Licensed Professional Counselors who is part of the Group. She has previously worked as a counselor in Atlanta. "I am starting my own private practice in Highlands in addition to the group setting at Peggy Crosby," she said.

Brannen is also a National Certified Counselor and hopes to help people with the anxiety and stress that are related to the challenges of life today. "We are all busy professionals working most days," she said. She is currently seeing clients primarily on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings, and concentrates on individual and couples counseling.

Bonnie Gramlich is also a Licensed Professional Counselor and a National Certified Counselor. "I serve children, teens, families and adults with individual and group counseling," she said.

Gramlich received her undergraduate degree in Psychology and then went on to obtain her Masters in Professional Counseling in 2003 from Georgia State University. "I have been working for non-profit agencies in the Franklin area until now, and I have also done some work in Highlands," she said. "I work with children and adolescents and their families and also with individual adults on a myriad of lifespan issues/concerns as well as most forms of mental illness."

One other counselor who is serving the Group is Karen Faulk. She provides individual and couples counseling like Brannen and Gramlich, and she is available on Friday mornings. Faulk is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

The Counseling Group offers individual, couple, family and group counseling by appointment. The Group also provides marriage enrichment programs and premarital preparation.

A sliding fee scale is available upon review. Gramlich said that she does not bill insurance, but she can complete a form that clients can send in to insurance companies for reimbursement. "I want to help all who feel they can benefit from talking with someone, and I use a sliding scale for the uninsured," Gramlich said.

In addition, there are services available for non-English speakers as well. "I know some basic conversational Spanish but am

not fluent, and I have worked with Latino children in the past," Gramlich said.

"We are excited for Highlands to hear about the Counseling Group and the service it will provide in the community," Brannen said.

Additionally, educational programs are also offered for groups on several topics, including faith, enrichment and professional issues. For general information, call 526-9938 ext. 210.

New dentist means more services at 'Free Dental Clinic'

Dr. John A. Kirshingner, DDS, has begun volunteering his services to the Free Dental Clinic located in Laurel Plaza in Cashiers. Dr. Kirshingner attended Loma Linda Dental College in California and is presently practicing with the Water Oak Dental Group in Brevard, North Carolina. He volunteers one Friday each month, performing root canals on molars. Root canals clear infections found at the root of the tooth, enabling the patient to keep a tooth that would otherwise need to be pulled.

In Western NC, dental health is a continuing source of concern to health care professionals. Over 80% of North Carolina's tooth decay is found in approximately 25% of the state's children, primarily those in the rural mountain region of the state. "We see teenagers with numerous cavities, missing teeth, partials and dentures," says Robby Cahill, a volunteer at the clinic. "All of the clinics' dentists originally practiced out-of-state, and they state that they've never seen problems this bad in young people."

Contributors to poor dental health include lack of dental insurance (so patients do not visit the dentist until it is critical), lack of knowledge of proper dental care (use of floss, proper brushing technique), smoking, drinking soft drinks heavy with sugar (Mountain Dew in particular), chewing tobacco, and well water and no natural fluoride.

The Free Dental Clinic, sponsored by the Blue Ridge Mountain Health Project, Inc, offers 24 hours of dental service weekly to those residents of Western North Carolina who qualify for these services. In order to qualify, the family income cannot exceed two times the governmental established poverty level. At the present time, there are over 400 people on the waiting list, but every effort is made to find appointments for emergencies.

The BRMHP opened the clinic in April, 2005 and has increased the services as professionals have volunteered to help in their specialties. At the present time, the budget for operating the clinic for one year is in excess of \$140,000. The money comes from

grants, donations from local churches, and foundation and individual donations.

To volunteer, call the Clinic at 828-743-3393. Donations may be sent to BRMP. P

O Box 451, Cashiers, NC 28717. Donations are tax deductible.

• See SERVICES 26



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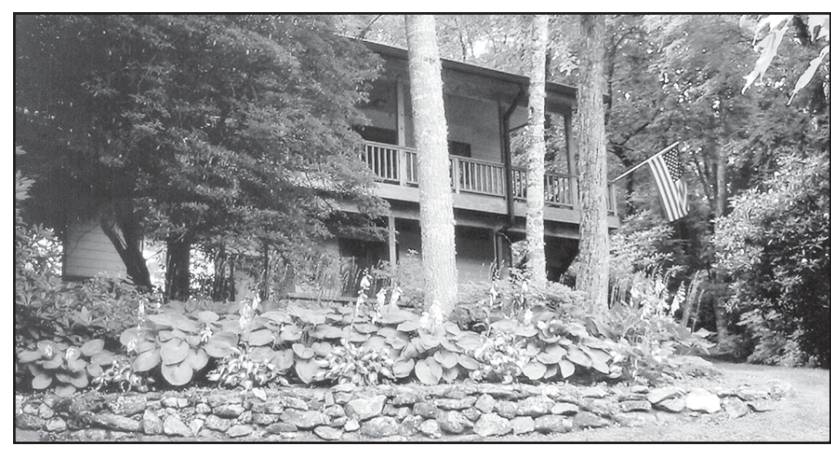

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... SERVICES continued from page 25

Community Care Clinic announces increase in patients

The all-volunteer Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers is serving far more patients than originally expected.

The clinic, which provides free health care to low income, uninsured adults and children, has treated 80% more patients during the first nine months of 2007 over the same period in 2006.

From January-September of 2007, the Clinic treated 1,063 patients, compared to 590 during the same period last year.

Originally designed to treat 16 patients per clinic session, the clinic is now reaching about 35 patients per clinic.

"The dramatic growth in the number of patients seen attests to the clear need in our community for the clinic's services," says Jean Whitby, board chair.

Prescription medication continues to be the largest expense item for the clinic, with costs that have increased 193% this year.

To help meet this need, the clinic works closely with two participating pharmacies, as well as obtaining medications directly from the pharmaceutical companies that manufacture them.

The cost is covered entirely through private donations and grants.

Due to growing demand, the clinic has hired a physicians' assistant, Richard Wayne, PAC, to support the volunteer physicians each Thursday evening.

In addition, the Leadership Highlands Class of 2006-2007 is outfitting a third treatment room for the clinic.

Through intensive fundraising efforts, they have been able to pay for cabinets, an exam table, a wall



Leadership Highlands Class of 2006-2007 has been instrumental in helping the Community Care Clinic grow. Through fundraising efforts, it has helped build-out and furnish a third examination room. This included a manual exam table, exam stool, exam light, otoscope/ophthalmoscope, beam scale, thermoscan ear thermometer, glove dispenser, auto digital BP monitor, cabinetry and sundry jars and racks.

mounted otoscope/ophthalmoscope, and other equipment needed to ready the new room for patients.

The Clinic is located on Aunt Dora Drive (at Zachary Park) in Highlands and is open from 5-9 p.m. every Thursday evening. For information, call Clinic Director, Jerry Hermanson, at 828-526-1991.

C of C 2007 Christmas Parade Awards

- Girl Scouts: "Yule Log Campfire Song" Award
- Cub Scouts: "Beat-down Scout Master" Award
- Edible Arrangements "Carmen Miranda" Award
- Mountain Garden Club: "Rock'in Babes" Award
- The Girls' Clubhouse: "Selflessness" Award
- Free Dental Clinic: Have a "Brite White Christmas" Award
- Jack Ralston and the Little Drummer Boy: "Keeping the Beat of Christmas" Award
- Old Edwards Inn & Spa "Winter Wonderland" Award
- Southern Hands "Crafty Christmas" Award
- Old Car with Antlers: "Rudolph the Red Ford" Award
- Humane Society "I'd Love to be Home for Christmas" Award
- Jackson-Madeleine: "Tee-Pee" Christmas Award
- Pop Kids in Red Truck: "Trunk Full of Christmas" Award
- Apple Mountain Porsche: "Red Delicious" Award
- Nantahala Tire & Manley's Auto: "Popcorn on a Tree" Award
- Roto Rooter: "Santa, That ain't a Chimney You're Going Down!" Award
- Highlands Country Club: "Having a Bountiful Christmas" Award
- Harry Norman Realtors: "Boxing Day" Award
- Male Chorus: "Christmas Carol" Award
- Community Players: "Put Your Best Face Forward" Award
- Literacy Council & Cyrano's "Best Read Christmas" Award
- Sunrise Sanitation "...Even at Christmas..." Award
- Episcopal Church: "Littlest One's" Award
- Preferred Properties: "Have a 'Sonny' Christmas" Award



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Left: Walk to downtown Highlands from this new log home with lots of charm. Three bedrooms, 3 baths, hand-hewn logs, two-story rock fireplace, Pine floors, professional landscaping, outdoor fire pit. Can have additional privacy or build additional homes on adjoining 3 acres. Offered for \$849,000 with additional land also available.

Right: Former home of Highlands premier contractor Deadeye Potts. Wormy chestnut in living room, some hardwood under carpet. Wonderful pond in backyard with deck overlooking it. Private location, yet very close in. Downstairs basement area could be finished into more bedrooms and living space. Extensively remodeled in recent years. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Pond, privacy, excellent construction, in-town. Unoccupied and easy to show. Reduced 50K from 998,000 to 948,000



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... FORUM continued from page 2

State University and became a professor of English at High Point College; and one of his brothers, Rufus, recently retired as the Chairman of the English Department of the Bolles School in Jacksonville, FL.

My father didn't speak much of his upbringing or his youth -- we knew what he lacked by what he showered us with like extravagant, magical Christmases, steadfast love and devotion, and an ear

that always listened.

From an early age, Wilsie's was a haven for my dad, the place he sought out when he needed to recharge.

Like my father, many of my fond memories center around Wilsie's functional family farm existence, where for two meals a day -- breakfast and supper -- the table creaked under platters piled high with good, old-fashioned,

southern dishes. Biscuits and white gravy, fried chicken, fried okra, ham, green beans, cornbread, applesauce, bacon, eggs, breads, and at supper, apple pies -- were all prepared by hand on cooked on a wood-burning stove.

Where pastures housing goats, chickens and sheep surrounded the modest brick home that had come to replace the log cabin under the oak tree. (Though the doorstep still remains!)

Where Aunt Wilsie was always at the kitchen sink surveying the barnyard, pastures, creek and the mountain as well as the children who hung out of the hay loft daring each other to jump.

Where we skipped across the creek between the last pasture and mountain trail that led to the old homeplace on the other side of the ridge.

When I was growing up, and

•See FORUM page 37

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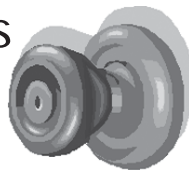
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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

McCully's raffle for year-round performing arts

McCully's Cashmere has just announced a raffle. Owner Mary Bynum is generously offering a Scottish cashmere sweatshirt of the highest quality. The winner will be able to choose either men's or women's style, any size, and a choice of 50 colors. The raffle will benefit the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. Raffle tickets are \$3 each, four for \$10 or 10 for \$25. Tickets are available at McCully's Cashmere on the hill and Brick Oven Pizza and Movie Stop and Highlands Fine Arts and Estate Jewelry next to Buck's on Main Street. The drawing will be held at McCully's Cashmere Monday, Dec. 31. Take a chance in getting an incredible sweatshirt sure to become



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On-going

- Yoga at the Rec Park, 7:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Call 526-4340 for information.
- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.

• 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.

• 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, 10 a.m. until noon. 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.

• 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.

Every Wednesday

• "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. The study will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:15.

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

• Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

• CBC will offer the AWANA program for kids — K-5th grade non-denominational Bible-based program for kids — from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Every Third Wednesday

• Study sessions at the Universal Unitarian 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

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

Every Friday

• The Girls' Clubhouse meets in the school cafeteria 3-4:30 p.m. All 6-8 grade girls are welcome. Come have fun while serving others. For more information, call Kim Lewicki 526-0782.

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.

Saturdays through Dec. 22

• Santa will be at Town Square to hear Christmas wishes and for photos, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 22

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-hike, with a 500 foot elevation change, to the lower Whitewater Falls from the Bad Creek Reservoir parking area. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

• Highlands Annual Christmas Dinner will be at the Log Cabin Restaurant from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for \$29.95 per person. It's a buffet of traditional Christmas fare.

Saturday-Tuesday, Dec. 28-Jan. 1

• At The Mountain Learning Center, Randy and Sandra Locke with their version of a New Year's celebration. Call 828-526-5838.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Sunday-Tuesday, Dec. 29-Jan. 1

• At The Mountain Learning Center, Randy and Sandra Locke with their version of a New Year's celebration. Call 828-526-5838.

Monday, Dec. 31

• Raffle drawing at McCulley's Cashmere on S. 4th Street on the hill for a cashmere sweatshirt with proceeds to benefit The Instant Theatre Studio on Main.

Saturday, Jan. 5

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 2.5 mile easy-to-moderate hike along a creek in Blue Valley to see three types of mines that formerly yielded amethysts and other semi-precious gem stones. Elevation change is 150 feet; there is one small creek crossing. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m.. Drive 20 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Sunday, Jan. 6

• Auditions for the Highlands Community Players production, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* by Alfred Uhry. Winner of the 1997 Tony Award for Best Play. 3-5 p.m. at PAC on Chestnut Street. Performing Arts Center, Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performance dates are May 8-11 and May 15-18. Rehearsals will begin mid March, 2008.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 2-mile hike on the Green Cove trails at Outward Bound Camp. Meet at the Smoky Mountain Visitor Center on US 441 at 2 p.m. Drive 8 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday, Jan. 7

• Auditions for the Highlands Community Players production, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* by Alfred Uhry. Winner of the 1997 Tony Award for Best Play. 5:30-7 p.m. at PAC on Chestnut Street. Performing Arts Center, Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performance dates are May 8-11 and May 15-18. Rehearsals will begin mid March, 2008.

Saturday, Jan. 12

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 10-mile strenuous hike, with several ups and downs, on the Georgia Bartram Trail, partly along the Chattooga River. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 8 a.m. Drive 30 miles round trip with car shuttle. If coming from Franklin, call leader for alternate meeting place. Bring water, a lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Doug Deane, 864-718-9265, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

• HIARPT morning discussions are 10-11:30 a.m. at the Civic Center with lunch to follow for those interested. All are welcome to attend, although we do ask that the material to be discussed be read prior to the discussions.

For more information, please contact Creighton Peden (cphi2@verizon.net) 526-4038. "Atheism and Evidence" by Fish, New York Times, June 17, 2007. To be circulated by email. Coordinator: Don McCormick.

Saturday, Jan. 19

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6-mile hike with one short steep climb from Warwoman Dell to the Pinnacle, passing two waterfalls en route. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9:30 a.m. or at Warwoman Dell parking lot at 10 a.m. Drive 50 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please

Sunday, Jan. 20

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 3-mile hike on the Bartram Trail from Wallace Branch, including a couple of side trails, with a elevation change of 300 feet. Drive 6 miles round trip. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday, Jan. 22

• HIARPT morning discussions are 10-11:30 a.m., at the Civic Center with lunch to follow for those interested. All are welcome to attend, although we do ask that the material to be discussed be read prior to the discussions. For more information, please contact Creighton Peden (cphi2@verizon.net) 526-4038. "Once a Soldier" by David Craig. Magazine of Columbia University, Fall 2007, pp. 25-29. Will be circulated at previous meetings. Coordinator: Carole Light.

Saturday, Jan. 26

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4.6 mile moderate hike on the Appalachian Trail in the Standing Indian area from Long Branch to Glassmine Gap, with an elevation change of 1000 feet. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 10 a.m. Drive 25 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Bill Van Horn, 369-1983, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Community Christmas Dinner for a good cause

Christmas is just a few days away. The tree is decorated, the presents are wrapped, and all the holiday celebrating has tipped the scales five pounds in the wrong direction.

What is left to do? Have you made your reservation for the Highlands Annual Christmas Dinner? No! Please, don't wait another day to join 301 of your friends and neighbors who have all ready made their reservations. In fact, the hours have been extended so that no one has to be turned away.

Day: December 25th

Place: The Log Cabin Restaurant

Time: 11 a.m. to 4:30ish

Cost: \$29.95 per person

Menu: A traditional holiday buffet of Turkey, Ham, Stuffing, Gravy, Sweet Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes, Warm Rolls, Green Beans, Corn, Apple/Walnut Delight, and Cranberry Relish lovingly prepared by Marty Rosenfeld; Donna

CALL TODAY FOR RESERVATIONS: FARREL ZEHR, (828) 342-7586

Woods; Debbie Grossman; Jim and Rene Ramsdell.

Desserts: Worthy of being highlighted on their own: An abundant array of mouthwatering delights prepared by Jan Zehr, Highlands own dessert queen.

Wines: Wolfgang & Mindy Green

Flowers: The Little Flower Shop

Benefiting: All funds benefit the Literacy Council of Highlands and Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of Highlands.

Special thanks go to Charlie Hyland and Sean Mason, owners of the Log Cabin Restaurant who have graciously offered their elegant dining establishment as a venue for the Highlands Annual Christmas Dinner. What better place to spend Christmas in the Mountains then a charming Joe Webb Cabin spectacularly decorated for this wonderful holiday of joy and giving? Come join us.

ations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• HIARPT morning discussions are 10-11:30 a.m. at the Civic Center with lunch to follow for those interested. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Creighton Peden (cphi2@verizon.net) 526-4038. Coordinator: Martha Porter. "My plan is to give some sort of summary or overview of the talks by Barbara Brown Taylor and Water Brueggeman at the conference in St. Simon the preceding week. It is described as a 'January Adventure in Emerging Christianity.'

Tuesday, Feb. 5

• HIARPT morning discussions are 10-11:30 a.m. at the Civic Center with lunch to follow for those interested. All are welcome to attend, although we do ask that the material to be discussed be read prior to the discussions. For more information, please contact Creight-

on Peden (cphi2@verizon.net) 526-4038. The Assault on Reason by Gore. Coordinator, John Gaston

Ruby Cinemas

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Dec. 21 – Jan. 3

**NATIONAL TREASURE:
BOOK OF SECRETS rated PG**

Mon - Fri: (4:30), 7:15, 9:30
Sat & Sun (2:15), (4:30), 7:15, 9:20

**I AM LEGEND
rated PG-13**

Mon - Fri: (4:20), 7:20, 9:20
Sat & Sun: (2:20), (4:20), 7:20, 9:20

**ALVIN AND THE
CHIPMUNKS rated PG**

Mon - Fri: (4), 7, 9
Sat & Sun: (2), (4), 7, 9

**ENCHANTED rated PG
Last Showing on Monday Dec. 24**

Mon - Fri: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

**THE WATER HORSE:
LEGEND OF THE DEEP
rated PG**

Starts Christmas Day
Mon - Fri: (4:15), 7:05, 9:15
Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

Auditions for HCP's 'Last Ballyhoo...' Jan. 6 & 7 at PAC

The *Last Night of Ballyhoo* is set in Atlanta in December 1939 during the time "Gone With the Wind" is premiering at the Fox Theater and Hitler is invading Poland. But Atlanta's elitist German Jews are much more concerned with who is going to Ballyhoo, the social event of the season. The New York Post wrote: "Alfred Uhry's charming Broadway comedy (sort of) *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, ... is funny... and like *Driving Miss Daisy* before it – it has a subtext and undertow of thought. It is a delightful comedy freighted with an uncomfortable message."

Directed by Mary Adair Leslie. Copies of the script are available for reading at the libraries in Highlands and Cashiers. Cast includes: One mature man, two mature women, two younger men and two younger women. If you have questions please call Mary Adair at 828.526.2673 or 706.782.9579 or email at summitonegallery@verizon.net

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HELP WANTED

THE LITERACY COUNCIL OF HIGHLANDS is seeking an Assistant Director to help with all Council activities including program direction, office management and grant writing. Applicant must have both written and oral Spanish knowledge and be available Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Please call Breta at 526-9938, ext 240, for more information. Job begins in January.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEEDED AT THE CASHIERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY a non-profit organization, focusing on preserving the heritage of Cashiers Valley, NC. It owns and operates a House Museum, the Zachary-Tolbert House (circa 1850) in a small mountain resort community in Cashiers, NC. It is an advocate for smart growth, in its role of preserving the past as a guidepost for the future. The ideal candidate will combine excellent communication (oral and written) and leadership skills with the ability to plan and implement programs. An interest in history is also paramount, as well as organizational and human relations skills, computer proficiency and accounting knowledge. A bachelor's degree is necessary and salary is commensurate with experience. This position is 30/hour week (negotiable) with duties including, but not limited to, the following: The Executive Director will oversee the Strategic Plan and programs of the Society. The Director will participate in Marketing the work of the Society and in Fundraising efforts, along with the Board of Trustees. The Director must be able to produce well-written correspondence and newsletters for the Society. The Director must be able to work well with others, as well as being a self-starter. Send cover letter, resume, and contact information for references to zacharytolbert@aol.com

CHESTNUT HILL OF HIGHLANDS seeking cook. Benefits, pre-employment drug screening and background check. EOE. Apply in person at 64 Clubhouse Trail. Highlands, NC 29741. (828) 526-5251.

COMPUTER VOLUNTEER NEEDED AT ART CENTER — Calling all techies: the Bascom-Louise Gallery is in need of a volunteer to

help the nonprofit art center with its computers. From networking to printer issues to backing up their computers, the art center could use an extra person to volunteer his or her time to help. The art center also needs a wide range of other volunteers to help with several different areas: 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 indoor and outdoor physical activities). For more information on volunteer opportunities, call (828) 526-0207..

RN OR LPN NEEDED AT A PHYSICIANS' OFFICE WITH HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, Monday-Friday position. Requires experience working in a clinic or physicians' office. Cardiology background preferred. Good communication, organizational, and computer skills a must. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN'S AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full, Part-time and PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time, Part-time, and 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. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employment. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

WORK WANTED

LOOKING FOR A HOUSEKEEPER? Call: Manuela at 526-9586 (Highlands) Raquel Dugan at 524-4052 (Franklin) also, Experienced Truck Driver Seeks Full Time Employment: Please call 828-524-4052, or call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290.

FOR RENT

IN-TOWN APARTMENT — 800 sq. ft. one bedroom, one bath. Full kitchen. \$600/month. Call 770-827-0450.

ON MIRROR LAKE — Charming 3 bed, 2 bath. Huge sunroom, stone fireplace, 3 decks, canoe, furnished. Available Nov-May. \$1500 a

month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.

COTTAGE FOR RENT — 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/AC, FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$800. monthly plus utilities. Call 526-1684.

VACATION RENTAL

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB — Sorry, golf and club privileges not available. \$2,495 a week. Call 912-230-7202.

CUTE 3 BED/2 BATH Mirror lake home \$1,350-\$1,550 + utilities a month, less than mile from Main Street. Call 770-977-5692

THE LODGE ON MIRROR LAKE — Fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 828-342-2302.

ON LAKE SEQUOYAH — Three master suites with jetted tubs and showers, sleeping nook with private bath, 4 fireplaces, 2 living areas, newly renovated. Private dock with canoe and firepit. Call 828-342-2302.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

SCALY MOUNTAIN Building lots, views, creeks, wooded. 2-5 acres, start at \$150,000 by owner, owner financing available. (404) 831-0222 or gonzobean@aol.com. 3/6/08

LOTS FOR SALE IN SHELBY PLACE. \$110,000 each. Call 828-526-2874.

MOUNT VERON, SOUTH GEORGIA -- 126.88 +/- acres. 4 BR/3/BA, home, creek, lake. \$460,000. Call: 478-552-6677 or 706-401-9035. Taylor Group Realty. www.landofgeorgia.com

TENNILLE, CENTRAL GEORGIA — 58.71 acres. 5 BR/3.5 BA, brick home, 7-board fencing, barn pecan orchard. 11-acre lake. \$799,000. Call: 478-552-6677 or 678-313-5090. www.landofgeorgia.com

UPPER CLEAR CREEK ROAD AT CORNET LANE 1.20+ acres less than 4 miles to Main Street. Paved Access. Some winter views 3 sided corner lot has old logging road as your driveway. \$62,500 Call 526-9021 or 787-2307.

BUCK CREEK: 1600 sq.ft. finished basement, creek front. Handicapped accessible w/elevator: 3 BR 2 large BA \$329,000. 828-524-6038

WELCOME HOME TO MOUNTAIN GROVE & FRANKLIN, NC — Unprecedented opportunity to own 100 acres in picturesque and historic Mountain Grove, (1A5) Macon County, NC! Combine the pleasures and opportunities of a secluded high mountain valley (elevations from 3100 to 3400 feet) with unusually easy to access land. Live on your own farm with 30 acres of pastures, two barns, a remodeled main house, and a new log cabin for guests. Streams, creeks and hiking trails throughout. Perfect for a family and equestrian retreat. Tremendous investment/development potential! All within 20 minutes (via a soon to be paved State Road) of the historic downtowns of Sylva and Franklin. Nothing like it in the whole region! Contact Tim Ryan at (828) 349-4465 or ryan@sanctuarync.com for more information or visit our website at

www.sanctuarync.com/farm_for_sale6.ht

FREE '07 HUMMER 3 WITH PURCHASE OF THIS NEWLY REMODELED HOME — 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH HOME WITH BEAUTIFUL LONG RANGE VIEWS, 2 LIVINGROOMS, RECREATION ROOM, GRANITE KITCHEN, FIREPLACE, GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY, CAN BECOME A DUPLEX! \$369,000. CALL 305 458-0033

BEAUTIFUL RV/PARK MODEL LOT — Falls View Resort. Dillard, GA. \$72,000 706-746-0002

LOT — COWEE RIDGE ROAD, Highlands (off Hwy. 64). 4,500 ft. elevation. Great views, Two acres. Southern exposure. 4 bedroom septic installed, community water, paved road, gated community. \$300,000 Firm. Call 478-741-8818. FSBO.

RV LOT — North Carolina Mountains: At Lake Toxaway Lot and 1/2 Beautifully Landscaped with Stone Work and Plantings Yearly Fees \$350. \$120,000. 863-651-1411

COACH CLUB HIGHLANDS NC — Chestnut Street. Gated Motor Coach resort lot in town Very nice 200 sq. ft. Lindal Cedar Coach House. Fully Landscaped with Extensive patio area. Outdoor kitchen, gas fire pit, overlooking 85 ft of stream Rare find. 828-787-1014 or 352-258-4187

CREEK IS FREE! — With the purchase of one or both of these wooded parcels, just off Highway 28 in the NE Georgia mountains within 15 minutes of Highlands. 1.09 acres and/or 1.10 acres on a county-maintained road. Serious inquiries only. Please call 864-710-4577 for information.

IN TOWN — 3 bedroom, 2 bath, stream, large level yard. Easy walk to Main Street. \$450,000, by owner. Call 828-226-6123. 12/21

HOUSE FOR SALE (ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA) — Two bedroom, one and ½ bath conch house for sale at Mile Marker 86, near Founders Park on Oceanside. House sits on a 8,520 square foot lot in a great subdivision with a public boat ramp on the next street over. Founders Park, which is across the street, has a park with a boat ramp, marina, pool, beach, tennis courts, etc. Great deal — owner moving out of state. \$475,000. Call 305-852-4369 for more info.

OCEAN FRONT — Beautiful home in Surf City, N.C. zoned residential/commercial. Walk to pier and town. 7-bed, 4 full baths. Separate apartment. Good rental income. Call 919-340-2280.

LAKEFRONT ACRE IN SCALY — \$25,000 OBO. Details. P.O. Box 260789, Pembroke Pines, FL, 33026.

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE — Log cabin at crossroads in Cashiers for sale or lease. Call 526-4154.

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE — 3 acres. U.S. 64 frontage, cashiers Road. 2 acres, 3 warehouses, good income. Call 526-4154.

HOUSE FOR SALE — HFCC 2 story split, 3/2, large lot, lake, golf course, mountain views, membership available but optional. \$795,000. Call 526-4154.

LAND BY OWNER — 3/4 acre lot. Close to

• CLASSIFIEDS •

Toan. Very, very, level building lot. Community water available. \$79,000. Call Ginger at 828-526-4959.

OCEANFRONT LOT KEY LARGO, FLORIDA – Cleared, buildable with all services. Last unimproved lot in Silver Shores subdivision. \$599,900. For information and photos call Frank (954) 964-7649 or email ft442@bellsouth.net.

NC, OTTO, 38 ACRES 10 miles from Georgia State line, high elevation, big views, driveway and homesite cleared call owner, 770-952-9100

NEW HOME/CHALET – 10 minutes from town off Turtle Pond Road. 2/1 with loft, .897 acres, 1,177 sq. ft. \$189,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

IN TOWN — 3/2.5 log home. The cottages lakeside at Harris Lake. Less than 2 years old. \$329,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and ½ 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

LOTS – Exclusive RiverRock, Tuckasegee Village: 2.1 acre Lot 48, great building site, adjoins horse farm. \$364,900; and THE premier view Lot 34, best view lot development. \$799,900 Call HUTCH (706) 831-0892 owner/agent.

MOTOR COACH SITE – Private, luxury motor coach site available for purchase. Downtown Highlands. Corner of Fifth St. and Chestnut St. Gated, restricted. Call 828-526-5333.

BY BUILDER – 4/3, new construction. Executive home. 1.5 acres, bordered by 2 creeks and a pond in a new up-scale subdivision less than 5 minutes from downtown Franklin. \$485K. Call 371-3669.

ITEMS FOR SALE

2 BATHROOM LAVATORIES with brass faucets; 1 water closet - all almond finish \$25.00 each; 1 steno chair - black with mustard color back and seat \$15. 526-2671

MISC. ITEMS – Play Station 2 \$75; Old Walt Disney movies (never opened); Indoor plants; Girls' bicycle; Collectible Basketball Cards (never opened). Call 526-9123.

SNOW TIRES – Ford Expedition on factory rims. Complete set of 4 only \$500. Size 17 x 75 J. Call Wolfgang at 526-8396.

SOFA AND CHAIR SET. Neutral color. Excellent condition. \$300. Could be a great Christmas gift. Call 526-9107.

POOL TABLE – Peter Vitalie 8' x 50" pool table, burl wood rails, upgrades leather pockets, new upgraded felt – oak in color – \$3,400. Table located in Cashiers, Call 770-313-0899.

BARBOUR COAT Burghley Duster. \$350. Call 526-9027.

MASSEY FERGUSON DIESEL DELUXE 35 WITH POWER STEERING. Completely rebuilt, repainted, new tires. Includes scrape blade, and an 8,000 lbs. tandem axle trailer. Sharp Package! \$7,500. Call (828)526-1684 and leave message.

sage.

GENERATOR, portable Briggs & Stratton 10,000 Watt 18 HP 8 Gal Fuel Tank 3 years old. never used. New \$2,199. Now. \$1,000. Call 828-526-4784 or 404-255-4894.

SEII BUNK BED SET – Very Nice Desk; One 11X15 rug, Lt. in color, very good condition; Mountain Bike w/car carrier, helmet. Call 828-526-4064.

ANTIQUE ORNATE WALNUT Victorian gold velvet sofa and blue chair. Call 369-0498 and leave message.

BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTURES: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, \$8.00 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Wide barn siding, \$3/ft. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to reassemble. 215-529-7637. Delivery available.

DINING ROOM TABLE & 8 CHAIRS – (7 w/o leaves) Great for Mountain Home. Nearly New. Good Condition. Leather & Upholstered chairs. \$1,000. Call Linda at 526-1517.

KING-SIZE HEADBOARD \$40; new glass fireplace screen, (still in box,) polished brass finish, fits fireplace opening Height 24 3/4" - 29 3/4". Width 30" to 37 1/2", \$125. Call 828-371-2999

LATE KENMORE FLOOR MODEL VACUUM 5.0 power with 2-motor systems. \$149. Call 526-4077.

MEDICAL LIFT CHAIR – Used one week. Paid \$615, asking \$500. 526-5558.

ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE from Estate Sale. Double drop-leaf. Rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people Extends to 4x10 ft \$1,500 obo 828-787-1515

LARGE BIRDCAGE – 2 1/2 feet high by 1 foot 3 inches wide by 1 foot 2 inches deep. With feeders. \$25. Call 526-9245.

DOG KENNEL. 10' x 10' x 6', heavy gauge chainlink. Like New. \$175, was \$270. call 828.389.2722 Hayesville, NC

DELUXE VENTED GAS heater high btu, slightly used, \$100. 524-6038.

CUSTOM DECK SET – Painted aluminum Love seat & club chair with laminated waverly cushions. \$125. Call 526-1078.

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

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


VANITY TOP SINK – 22"x37" with 4" back splash cream color, \$59. Call 526-4077.

NEW SHOWER DOOR – Still in box. 27" wide, gold color. Call 526-4077. \$79.

CHINA CABINETS desk, rope-bed, trunk framed artwork, quilts, and more. Call 828-526-3836.

ANTIQUE BEAMS, FLOORING AND STRUCTURES: Hand hewn beams in oak and yellow pine. Beautiful material, large faces,


• See CLASSIFIEDS page 38




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• HIGHLANDS AREA RE TRANSACTIONS – 2007 •

PIN, Address, Grantee, Date, Sale, Grantor, Assessed Value

<p>TOWN OF HIGHLANDS & HIGHLANDS TOWNSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0548892, BILLY CABIN WELL LOT, BILLY CABIN CANOE CLUB PROPERTY OWNERS, 1/12/2007, \$0., BADCOCK WOGAN S III, \$3,800.• 0501602, 660 CENTER DR., MOBLEY HERBERT W JR., 1/8/2007, \$735,000., FRANKLIN JULIAN K., \$684,670.• 0504307, 323 FRANKLIN RD., BASCOM-LOUISE GALLERY CORPORATION, 1/24/2007, \$300,000., POTTS JOHN S & VEL-LAMAE, \$166,080.• 0532277, 3309 HORSE COVE RD., MORRIS WILLIAM T TRUSTEE, 2/20/2007, \$1250,000., HARLAN FOREST LLC, \$1,183,340.• 0515621, 114 CHEROKEE DR., EDWARDS FRANK D., 2/20/2007, \$175,000., US BANK NATIONAL ASSC. TRUSTEE, \$330,260.• 0500821, 19 DOGWOOD DR., CLYATT PEGGY A., 2/16/2007, \$242,500., COLLIER J CHRISTINE TR., \$258,290.• 1434941, 861 WILSON RD, GREEN FRED LIFE ESTATE, 6/27/2007, \$0., GREEN FRED LIFE ESTATE, \$236,510.• 0546641, VIEW POINT RD LOT 4 DASHER PROPERTY, LINES RAYFIELD, 8/16/2007, \$310,000., DASHER WILLIAM B III, \$145,410.• 0546642, 170 VIEW POINT RD LOT 3 DASHER PROPERTY, LINES RAYFIELD, 8/16/2007, \$310,000., DASHER WILLIAM B III, \$237,110.• 1441416 274, FOREMAN RD PARCEL A, WALSH THOMAS, 8/31/2007, \$0., WALSH THOMAS, \$697,480• 0503490, 10 OAK LN, BASCOM-LOUISE GALLERY CORP, 9/20/2007, \$250,000., BUTLER EVERLY C TRUSTEE, \$217,900.• 0500360, LOT 325 CHESTNUT ST, HELMS RAY DOUGLAS JR, 10/9/2007, \$225,000., HARRIS LUCIEN III TRUSTEE, \$226,630.• 0549850, 495 SPRUCE ST, HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY THEATRE INC., 9/25/2007, \$0., HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY THEATRE INC., \$1,155,650.• 0504346, 563 ARNOLD RD, GILLFILLAN SIEGLINDE KC/O SIEGLINDE & JOHN GILLFILLAN, 9/17/2007, \$835,000., SAWYER D JACK JR, \$508,730.• 0528411, 73 WOODLAND HILL DR., FLEMING KAREN L., 1/9/2007, \$615,000., FLEMING KAREN L., \$899,180.• 0548888, BUCK CR 1538, SENIOR LIVING PROPERTY LLC, 1/10/2007, \$2,200,000., HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HEALTH CARE CORP., \$9,374,510.• 0548923, MTN LAUREL DR 10 STRIP OF LOT 2, ENGLISH HUGH M., 1/17/2007, \$435,000., NEWMAN JOANNE K., \$3,460.• 0517058, 240 & 240A CULLASAJA CLUB, WOODS SCOTT EDWARD, 1/8/2007, \$0., WOODS SCOTT EDWARD, \$244,820.• 0517192, 1580 UPPER DV HFCC, FRANKLIN JULIAN K, 1/9/2007, \$1,379,500., ECHALES MAURICE N., \$1,160,570.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0500578, 1479 FLAT MOUNTAIN RD, CHASTAIN ANNE LIFE ESTATE, 1/9/2007, \$0., CHASTAIN ANNE LIFE ESTATE, \$521,500.• 0500788, 160 FLAT MOUNTAIN ESTATES RD, ROBERSON MARY E., 1/8/2007, 29000., ROBERSON MARY E., \$250,830.• 0501342, 250 SATULAH FALLS LN, CHANDLER-WYANT PROPERTIES, 1/16/2007, \$300,000. COOK R CONRAD, \$378,310.• 0502601, 2731 CASHIERS RD., HIGHLANDS STORAGE VILLAGE LLC, 1/12/2007, \$0., MEREDITH CAREY L JR, \$761,860.• 0537022, 594 HIGHGATE RD., ENGLISH HUGH M., 1/17/2007, \$435,000., NEWMAN JOANNE K., \$614,630.• 0520378, 120 LAURELWOOD RDG UNIT 10, BOKNECHT ROBERT K., 1/16/2007, \$0., ROBERT K. BOKNECHT TRUST, \$778,870.• 0517614 BEE, JOHN M, 11 CYPRESS LANE JACKSON, MS 39211 UNIT 2, 40 LAURELWOOD CT 03-07-07 \$535,000. THOMAS, GEORGE E• 0501298 BUILDING EXCHANGE CO, 915 WILSHIRE BLVD SUITE 2, LOS ANGELES, CA 90017 VILLA 6 HFCC 03-08-07 \$400,000. SMALL, ANN G & GRANT• 0502494 HIGHLAND VIEWS LLC, 44 NORTH PINE CIRCLE, BELLAIR, FL 33756 3702 CASHIERS RD 03-09-07 \$460,000. WAGNER, LLOYD W JR & DEBRA L• 0526443 HOUSTON, CHARLES BOBBY & SAMMI BOX 608 HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 FOREST TRAIL LOT 81 COLD SPRINGS 03-09-07 \$120,000. BRUKER, WILLIAM C JR & MERRITT B• 0501653 COPELAND, JOHN A, 1070 GREEN WAY, ATLANTA, GA 30350 54 SPRUCE LN, PARCEL 3 & PT OF 2 HFCC 03-15-07 \$305,000. DECKMAN, JOSEPH T & KAY C• 0512928 DECKMAN, JOE T, 1473 BAYTOWNE AVENUE E, DESTIN, FL 10 BONNEVISTA RD, LOT 29 BLK A SEC II HFCC 03-15-07 \$950,000. MAVAR, NICK JR & NANCY• 0549118 EDWARDS FARM INVESTMENTS LLC, PO BOX 1722, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 OFF S R 1608 03-15-07 \$7,500. SUZUKI, HOWARD K TRUSTEE SUZUKI, TETSUKO F TRUSTEE• 0502747 HIGHLAND VIEWS LLC, 44 NORTH PINE CIRCLE, BELLAIR, FL 33756 HWY. 64E 03-16-07 \$1,675,000. OLD HEMLOCK COVE DEVELOPMENT• 0516293 BALLARD, ANNE MCCARY, 2637 PEACHTREE ROAD NE ATLANTA, GA 30305 1277 HIGHGATE RD, LOT 19 BENCHMARK SUB 03-16-07 \$1,585,000. MERRY, FINLEY H & CHARLOTTE CARTER• 0517066 HATFIELD, ROBERT N, 6000 LAKE FORREST DR, ATLANTA, GA 30328 LOT 248 & 248A CULLASAJA CLUB 03-19-07 \$1,485,000. DOGWOOD HOMES LLC• 0505014 MERRY, FINLEY H, 2222 CUMMING RD, AUGUSTA, GA 30904 973 SKY LAKE DR, LOT A BLK B HLDS FALLS 03-22-07 \$400,000. STONE, SHIRLEY J	<p>TRUSTEE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0504996 TURNER, LUTHER S, 4188 HORSE COVE RD, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 LOT 38 RUSTIC FALLS 03-26-07 \$73,500. BLACK, JOE• 0512687 YAPOR, IRMA G, PO BOX 686, WINDERMERE, FL 34786 HARBISON ORCHARD RD, HWY. US 28 03-28-07 \$52,000. OUSLEY, CHRISTINE & VETTER, TERENCE K• 0503136 WELLS, H CHRISTY, 336 STRADLEIGH RD, WILMINGTON, NC 28403 1613 CLEAR CREEK RD 03-29-07 \$265,000. RICHARDSON, NORMAN H & JANET• 0502996 BUNNELL, BRUCE T, 313 CORNET LANE HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 CORNET LN, LOT 12 FRANK UDONN PROP 04-02-07 \$18,000. BUNNELL, BRIAN B & MARTHA• 0514650 WEBER, LAWRENCE R, 4867 OLDE VILLAGE COURT, ATLANTA, GA 30338 1630 UPPER DV, LOT 27 BL F SEC II HIGHLANDS FALLS 04-03-07 \$500,000. MAXWELL, GEORGE M & VIRGINIA T• 0517124 HOPKINS, GEORGE T, 156 HICKS RD, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741 LOT 286A CULLASAJA CLUB 04-04-07 \$150,000. JOHNSON, CHARLES TRUSTEE DIAL, JOHN TRUSTEE• 0503215, GLEIM, BARRY L, 5268 7TH GREEN DR, HOLLYWOOD, SC 29449 UNIT 7 SEC C HAWKS NEST VILLAGE 04-05-07 \$82,000. SBROCCO, THOMAS• 0503380 HIRSCHY, ROGER W, 1260 COUNTRY CLUB OAKS CIR, ORLANDO, FL 32804 2024 MAGNOLIA DR, LOT 116 SEC G WILDCAT CLIFFS 04-05-07 \$900,000. CORNELL, WILLIAM E & MELBA L• 0615626 THREE FORKS PROPERTIES OF MACON, 37 HIGH HOLLY RD SCALY MTN, NC 28775 ON HWY 106, TRACT 4 MARTHA MAGRUDER PROP 03-01-07 \$75,000. MAGRUDER, JOSEPH PALMER & MARION H• 0633567 BAILEY CREEK LLC, 820 NORTH BLVD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70802 BUCK KNOB RD, OFF SR 1622 03-02-07 \$575,000. MCEWEN, LOUISE R & BRIAN ALAN• 0611982 FISHER, KURT F, P O BOX 155, 76 LITTLE CREEK TRAI SCALY MTN, NC 28775 ON RD 1623 04-03-07 \$90,000. MOORE, JERE E & SINGER, ARTHUR G IV• 0600489 NILSSON, BO E, 268 RUMSON RD, ATLANTA, GA 30305 984 KING GAP RD, LOT 62 KING MTN 04-12-07 \$900,000. JAMES, AMELIA MANNING TRU & JAMES, CURTIS• 0545109 KEADLE, SANDRA M, 2511 BARNESVILLE HWY, THOMASTON, GA 30286 43 VILLAGE WALK, UNIT 1 03-16-07 \$925,000. ALLEN, PATRICIA A & RONALD G• 1443249 ASKEW, ANTHONY TATE, 6725 BEST FRIEND RD NORCROSS, GA 30071 144 PICKLESIMER RD, HWY 28 03-	<p>20-07 \$170,000. ASKEW, PETER M & SARA WHEELER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1435434 ROBERTSON, WILLIAM CRAIG JR, 800 GENTRY RD LEXINGTON, KY 40509 222 RAOUL RD, LOT 22B MIRROR LAKE 03-27-07 \$432,500. WEAVER, JULIE P & DEWEY M• 0500914 OSWALD, KATHERINE ANNE, 856 TUCKER RD, MACON, GA 31210 1601 HIGHLANDS MOUNTAIN CLB, UNIT 1602 COND III 03-30-07 \$305,000. BARNES, STUART MARSHALL & MARGARET ANN• 0504774 HOPKINS, JOHN DAVID TRUSTEE, 2660 PEACHTREE NW #25-C, ATLANTA, GA 30305 MOOREWOOD CIR, LOT 98A PH II SASSAFRAS KNOB 04-02-07 \$645,000. STAPLES, WILLIAM C• 0504971 STAPLES, WILLIAM C, 4024 KNOLLWOOD DRIVE, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35243 531 MOOREWOOD CIR, LOT 96A SASSAFRAS KNOB 04-02-07 \$1,950,000. MAFFETT, BEATY SMITH TRUS SMITH, MARTHA DALE TRUSTE• 0504118 LEEDS, RYAN G, 980 NORTH FEDERAL HWY, BOCA RATON, FL 33432 59 PERQUIN RD, LOT 18 H CULL HGTS 04-10-07 \$160,000. FOREHAND, SUSAN• 1448969 KLICH, PETER J, 10 DOGWOOD TRAIL SUITE A, DEBARY, FL 32713 A C HOLT SUBD 04-10-07 \$70,000. TRAGESSER, LARRY E & KATHLEEN D• 0511651, FONDREN, BETTY A, 2765 BRELAND RD, MATHISTON, MS, 39752, 14 UNIT 101 HIGHLANDS MANOR II, 04-20-07, \$720., \$25,000., \$318,790., AUTHIER, SARA• 0502197, WILSON, JAMES L, PO BOX 682, HIGHLANDS, NC, 28741, 14 LOT 1A SAGEE MTN, 04-20-07, \$2., \$49,760., \$0., HEFFINGTON, MARK W• 0502196, MERRY, FINLEY H, 2222 CUMMING RD, AUGUSTA, GA, 30904, 14 LOT 1 SAGEE MTN, 04-20-07, \$1260., \$768,300., \$559,040., HEFFINGTON, MARK W• 0502429, IDT PROPERTIES LLC, P O BOX 400, HIGHLANDS, NC, 28741, 14 RD 106, 04-20-07, \$0., \$496,000., \$839,680., TAYLOR, JAMES DEREK & TAYLOR, IRINA• 0531527, IDT PROPERTIES LLC, P O BOX 400, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741, 05 LOT 12 THE MEADOWS, 04-20-07, \$0., \$240,000, \$66,940, TAYLOR, JAMES DEREK & TAYLOR, IRINA• 0531534, IDT PROPERTIES LLC, P O BOX 400, HIGHLANDS, NC, 28741, 05 LOT #14 THE MEADOWS, 04-20-07, \$0., \$40,800., \$0.00, TAYLOR, JAMES DEREK & TAYLOR, IRINA• 0531530, IDT PROPERTIES LLC, P O BOX 400, HIGHLANDS, NC, 28741, 05 ON HWY 64 EAST, 04-20-07, \$0.00, \$105,980., \$0., TAYLOR, JAMES DEREK & TAYLOR, IRINA• 0531528, IDT PROPERTIES LLC, P O BOX 400, HIGHLANDS, NC, 28741, 05 LOT 13 THE MEADOWS, 04-20-07, \$0., \$40,800., \$436,530., TAYLOR, JAMES DEREK & TAYLOR, IRINA• 0500638, EAGER, CAROLYN H TRUST-
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• HIGHLANDS AREA RE TRANSACTIONS – 2007 •

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\$0, MONROE LINDA LOGAN, \$2,035,320. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0549465, 1900 HICKORY KNUT GAP RD HIGHLANDS, ROCKWOOD LODGE LLC, 6/13/2007, \$0, CAROLINA TIMBER COMPANY LLC, \$16,152,470.• 0516282, VISTA CT LOT 8 BENCHMARK SUB HIGHLANDS, HIGHGATE LLC, 6/25/2007, \$400,000., WELLONS WILLIAM B JR, \$400,000.• 0516291, VISTA RD LOT 17 BENCHMARK SUB HIGHLANDS, HIGHGATE LLC, 6/1/2007, \$0, REDBIRD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, \$275,000.• 0516309, VISTA CT LOT 35 BENCHMARK SUB HIGHLANDS, HIGHGATE LLC, 6/1/2007, \$0, REDBIRD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, \$250,000.• 0500428, 771 COUNTRY CLUB DR WILDCAT CLIFFS HIGHLANDS, SANDERS BETTY FOY TRUSTEE, 5/25/2007, \$0, SANDERS BETTY FOY TRUSTEE, \$879,430.• 0517593, 414 WILDWOOD DR HIGHLANDS, BROUILLARD GEORGE A, 5/30/2007, \$425,000., LOOPER DOLORIS B, \$479,830.• 0518611, LOT 23 BLK F SEC II HFCC HIGHLANDS, PAINTER MARY S, 5/31/2007, \$0, SUNBELT MECHANICAL HEATING AND AIR COND, \$131,030.• 0520585, 463 WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN RD, HEARN ROBERT P, 6/12/2007, \$529,000., HEARN ROBERT P, \$879,770.• 0503678, 37 MOUNTAINASH LN, MILLS CHARLES W, 5/25/2007, \$277,000., STEWART JOHN A TRUSTEE, \$520,870.• 0503921, 154 HICKORY LN WILDCAT CLIFFS HIGHLANDS, LANZILLOTTI ROBERT F TRUSTEE, 6/12/2007, \$248,950., LANZILLOTTI ROBERT F TRUSTEE, \$1,021,380.• 0538218, SR 1547 LOT 5 THE COTSWOLDS SUBD HIGHLANDS GRAHAM CAREY E, 5/29/2007, \$0, BAND C MOUNTAIN INVESTMENTS LLC, \$437,350.• 0541768, 75 CAVE DR HIGHLANDS, KRIVANEK ROBIN C TRUSTEE, 6/6/2007, \$0, KRIVANEK ROBIN C TRUSTEE, \$276,610.• 0520608, LOT 49 WILDWOOD MTN, MARKS DAVID, 6/27/2007, \$85,000., SANCHEZ-COLON DOMINICK, \$90,900.• 0502075, 185 STONEY CREEK RD, ZOELLNER ROBERT ALAN, 7/2/2007, \$0., ZOELLNER ROBERT ALAN, \$722,030.• 0501334, WOODLAND DR LOT 86 BIG BEAR PEN, HOGAN ELLIE, 6/20/2007, \$79,000., MCDOWELL CHARLIE W, \$54,400.• 0500045, 605 SHORTOFF RD LOT 103 COLD SPRINGS, AUSTIN RANDOLPH, 6/28/2007, \$0., KING ROBIN JENNIFER, \$311,760.• 0532961, 297 FALLEN LEAF LN LOT 10 SHORTOFF BLUFFS DEV., KLACHKOU SIARHEI, 7/2/2007, \$199,000., SUNQUEST INC, \$286,160.• 0532321, 139 WALKINGSTICK RD, GURGANUE CLYDE MITCHELL TRUSTEE, 6/20/2007, \$0., GURGANUE CLYDE MITCHELL TRUSTEE, \$1,590,280.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0526753, LOT 6 APPLE MOUNTAIN ESTATES, CLARK HUGH A TRUSTEE, 7/6/2007, \$0., CLARK HUGH A JR, \$138,360.• 0543423, 15 E FOREST WAY LOT 7C WILDWOOD FOREST, DEFERRARI RONALD H TRUSTEE, 6/29/2007, \$511,000., CIMARON BUILDERS INC., \$118,480.• 0525847, 1052 SKY LAKE DR HLDS FALLS, MERRY FINLEY H, 6/25/2007, \$587,500., SMITH WILLIAM DILLARD TRUSTEE, \$648,010.• 0525848, SKY LAKE DRIVE PARCEL A HFCC, MERRY FINLEY H, 6/25/2007, \$587,500., SMITH WILLIAM DILLARD TRUSTEE, \$26,010.• 0542757, FLAT MTN RD LOTS 13 14 & 15 TR 4 PRIMEVAL EST, LUMSDEN DONNA KAY, \$235,000., LINES RAYFIELD E, \$176,260.• 0542760, 579 CHENEY LN LOTS 16 17 & 18 TR 3 PRIMEVAL ESTATES, LUMSDEN PROPERTIES, 6/29/2007, \$1,250,000., HELMS RAY DOUGLAS JR, \$815,560.• 0542009, 195 LAKE OSSEROGA DR, KURFIST WENDY TRUSTEE, 7/11/2007, \$1,000,000., PAVLOVICH LESLIE ROGER, \$1,007,950.• 0524610, 180 MCCALL RD RD, MCCALL JERRY, 7/19/2007, \$463,040., MCCALL ELSIE B LIFE ESTATE, \$480,280.• 0523309, 24 APPLE MOUNTAIN LN, CLARK HUGH A TRUSTEE, 7/6/2007, \$0., CLARK HUGH A JR, \$660,200.• 0504110, 451 MOON MOUNTAIN RD, FUNSCH RICHARD H TRUSTEE, 6/20/2007, \$0., FUNSCH RICHARD H TRUSTEE, \$401,930.• 0538136, 269 BLUE VALLEY FALLS DR, DEER KAREN T, 6/25/2007, \$0., DEER KAREN T, \$854,620.• 0503888, 690 HOLT RD, BUCKLEY L FERBER, 6/28/2007, \$0., BUCKLEY L FERBER, \$1,513,480.• 0502790, 659 SKY LAKE DR HLDS FALLS, PARKER L MCKAY, 7/5/2007, \$397,000., SUNQUEST INC., \$504,910.• 0502075, 185 STONEY CREEK RD, ZOELLNER ROBERT ALAN, 7/2/2007, \$0., \$462,850., ZOELLNER ROBERT ALAN, \$722,030.• 0501820, MOON MTN RD, FUNSCH RICHARD H TRUSTEE, 6/20/2007, \$0., FUNSCH RICHARD H TRUSTEE, \$61,200.• 0501612, 171 APPLE MOUNTAIN CIR, MCKEEL S DOUGLAS, \$7/2/2007, \$0., LAKE-LAND LAND COMPANY, \$545,850.• 0517043, LOT 225 CULLASAJA CLUB, TYDE STEPHEN J, 7/11/2007, \$290,000., RUSTHOVEN RICHARD C, \$248,400.• 0516989, 61 WEST VIEW WAY CULLASAJA CLUB, MAY ROBERT V, 7/9/2007, \$0., MAY ROBERT V, \$722,150.• 0516291, VISTARD, MEYERS WILLIAM M JR, 7/2/2007, \$265,000., HIGHGATE LLC, \$275,000.• 0516282, VISTA CT, HIGHGATE LLC, 6/25/2007, \$400,000., WELLONS WILLIAM B JR,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$400,000.• 0549441 HORSE COVE RD TRACT A PLAT CARD 5314, PLAYMORE HIGHLANDS TEN LLC C/O JOHN D WOGAN LISKOW & LEWIS, 7/6/2007, \$0., PLAYMORE HIGHLANDS A LLC, \$1,605,240.• 0549447, HORSE COVE RD PT TRACT G PLAT CARD 5319, PLAYMORE HIGHLANDS TEN LLC C/O JOHN D WOGAN LISKOW & LEWIS, 7/6/2007, \$0., PLAYMORE HIGHLANDS G LLC, \$2,035,320.• 0503745, CLEAR CREEK RD LOT 4A LAZY BEND, JENKINS ANGELA LEWIS, 8/31/2007, \$39,500., HARRIS JAMES THOMAS, \$44,000.• 0548806, STONEY CREEK RD RD, SCT FIFE LLC C/O KENT ANTLEY, 8/14/2007, \$0., SCT HOLDINGS LLC, \$734,400.• 0549761, 113 BILLY CABIN RD, WACHOVIA BANK N.A. TRUSTEE, 8/29/2007, \$1,200,000., TROPHY PROPERTIES LLC, \$931,170.• 0549820, EDWARDS CREEK RD OFF 1603, MCCORD MARK LANCE, 9/4/2007, \$0., MCCORD GUYTE P. JR, \$25,180.• 0549821, EDWARDS CREEK RD OFF 1603, MCCORD MARK LANCE, 9/4/2007, \$0., MCCORD GUYTE P. JR, \$38,340.• 0517071, LOT 254 CULLASAJA CLUB, LEABO J PHILIP, 8/27/2007, \$125,000., WILLIAMSON JOSEPH M, \$147,230.• 0500218, RD 1600 LOT 14 SEC B WILDCAT RIDGE EST, BALZEBRE ANTHONY F TRUSTEE, 8/28/2007, \$0., BALZEBRE ANTHONY F SR, \$98,480.• 0500637, 54 BROWNELL RD ON BILLY CABIN RD, EAGER JAMES B, 8/13/2007, \$0., EAGER JAMES B, \$457,650.• 0518601, 74 EYEBROW RDG LOT 13 BLK F HFCC, LAND S MOUNTAIN HIGH LLC, 8/13/2007, \$0., WEEKES LEON A, \$916,420.• 0501618, 70 STRAWBERRY LN LOT 9 SEC A FLAT TOP MTN, ARMSTRONG LULA MAE, 8/28/2007, \$0., ARMSTRONG WALTER E & LULA MAE, \$262,420.• 0501638, 595 BROADVIEW CIR LOT 30 BROADVIEW ACRES, DAMMON EMMETT, 8/31/2007, \$460,000., SCHENCK ANNE M, \$408,040.• 0503297, 270 AZALEALN LOT 217 SEC M WILDCAT CLIFFS, RIDDLE MICHAEL, 8/31/2007, \$322,500., MIDDLETON JOSEPH L., \$334,790.• 0503848, LOT 11 UNIT 2 BUCKBERRY FALL LOT 11 UNIT 2, VIERS RAYMOND L, 8/23/2007, \$260,000., T WALSH INC, \$97,780.• 0504377, 235 HEDDEN LN LOT 10, STONE JAMES D, 8/13/2007, \$285,000., KELLEY BEVERLY B., \$200,700.• 0521574, BROADVIEW CIR LOT 29 BROADVIEW ACRES, DAMMON EMMETT G, 8/31/2007, \$460,000., SCHENCK ANNE M, \$160,340.• 0504537, LOT 7 SEC A FLAT TOP MTN LOT 7, ARMSTRONG LULA MAE, 8/28/2007, \$0., ARMSTRONG WALTER E & LULA MAE,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$117,090.• 0504998, RD 1600 LOT 11 SEC A WILDCAT RIDGE, BALZEBRE ANTHONY F TRUSTEE, 8/28/2007, \$0., BALZEBRE ANTHONY F SR, \$69,910.• 0505010, 331 WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN RD LOT 225 SEC N WILDCAT CLIFFS CO CLUB, WARD F KEITH, 8/9/2007, \$687,500., REYNOLDS CHARLES H TRUSTEE, \$1,120,920.• 0540809, 105 PEACE MOUNTAIN RD, RING CARL D, 8/27/2007, \$2,050,000., JANES MARCIA S, \$1,658,440.• 0525664, 85 EAGLE RIDGE DR LOT 2, DIAMOND JOSHUA P TRUSTEE, 8/22/2007, \$760,000., KELLY ELEANOR ADDAMS, \$899,940• 0503887, 707 HOLT RD LOT 8 PONDEROSA, SCHENCK ANNE M, 9/10/2007, \$675,000., PLATEAU PROPERTIES LLC, \$470130.• 0503589, MT MOORING DR UNIT 4, SCHMID MARGARET ELAINE, 10/10/2007, \$250,000., SCHMID THOMAS W, \$180,930.• 0502602, 50 OLD FARM RD OFF SATULAH RD, FIFTY OLD FARM ROAD LLC, 10/4/2007, \$0., BRYSON JAMES P, \$305,080.• 0502440, 197 & 201 CROWE DR, CROWE JOHN STEPHEN, 9/5/2007, \$308,000., CROWE MERLIN M, \$635,510.• 0501046, 185 HAWKS NEST LN UNIT 7, BOWES FRANK T TRUSTEE, 9/26/2007, \$0., BOWES FRANK THOMAS TRUSTEE, \$55,360.• 0516924, LOT 25 CULLASAJA CLUB, MOORE M DAVID C/O DARREN WHATLEY 10/9/2007, \$195,000., GRIFFIN CLAUDIA P, \$198,100.• 0550052, HEDDEN LNOFF RD 1544, CHAMBERS THOMAS T, 10/1/2007, \$0., CHAMBERS OVERTON II & ISABEL, \$300,450.• 0549919, BUCK CREEK RD, BARBER CLIFFORD LYLE, 9/17/2007, \$0., BARBER CLIFFORD LYLE, \$61,800.• 0543579, SUMMIT TR LOT 7 GREY-ROCKS, BENNETT RICHARD A, 9/17/2007, \$0., HIGHGATE LLC, \$240,000.• 0543433, 22 WILD PINE WAY LOT 2A WILDWOOD FOREST, CARR TIFFANY A, 9/4/2007, \$440,000. MORRISON MICHAEL, \$434,930.• 0542758, 489 FLAT MOUNTAIN RD, KNOX FREDERICK W, 9/7/2007, \$1,080,000., GANS GILBERT J TRUSTEE, \$622,880.• 0542759, FLAT MTN RD LOTS 21 & 22 TR 2 PRIMEVAL EST, KNOX FREDERICK W, 9/7/2007, \$1,080,000., GANS GILBERT J TRUSTEE, \$115,800.• 0540861, 42 HOLT COTTAGE LN, BRANNEN JOHN J, 9/17/2007, \$385,000., LINCOLN TRUST CO TRUSTEE, \$375,360.• 0505105, 85 CLEARVIEW LN, SMITH MARION III, 9/28/2007, \$225,000., ROBERTS JOHN D, \$224,970.• 0505115, 148 WISTERIA LN, CASA SUENOS PROPERTIES LLC, 9/4/2007, \$0.,
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• HIGHLANDS AREA RE TRANSACTIONS – 2007 •

PIN, Address, Grantee, Date, Sale, Grantor, Assessed Value

COVE, MACK EDWARD REED III TRUSTEE, 11/20/2007, \$30,000., MACK EDWARD REED III, \$290,510. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0504018, HEMLOCK FARMS RD HORSE COVE ROAD, HIGHLANDS CONSULTING LLC, 11/13/2007, \$19500., WILEY GARY N, \$123,680.• 0503716, 59 HEDDEN LN LOT 2 GREENBRIAR EST, HENDERSON ALAN SCOTT, 10/19/2007, \$255,000., HOLLOWAY RICK, \$269,630.• 0503575, WHETSTONE DR LOT 21 BROADVIEWACRES, LK PARTNERS INC, 11/1/2007, \$162500., ASKEW ANTHONY TATE, \$199,410.• 0503597, 2741 MAGNOLIA DR LOT 1 SEC A & PT OF 2 WILDCAT RIDGE, RAHN HAROLD, 11/2/2007, \$425,000., NEWTON DAVID G., \$638,580.• 0503327, 598 COUNTRY CLUB DR LOT 39 SEC C WILDCAT CLIFFS, CABLER JAMES A JR, 11/29/2007, \$480,000., JOHNSON WENDY B, \$558,720.• 0537145, DILLARD RD GREEN AREA, MURRELL ROBERT G, 12/6/2007, \$0., MURRELL ROBERT G, \$46,620.• 0502814, 246 SHADOW CREEK LN OFF RD 1620, UNDERWOOD MARVIN LIST JR, 11/9/2007, \$357500., PARNELL LUCIUS HAYES III, \$388,820.• 0502301, 90 SENNING DR LOT 9 BIG PINE, 10/11/2007, \$400,000., MULLARKEY DONALD H, \$576,610.• 0502232, 3566 CASHIERS RD ON 64E, STEIMLE ROGER LINN, 11/5/2007, \$285,000., NORMAN WILLIAM WALKER, \$473,920.• 0502193, 61 WINDY TOP RD LOT 24 & PTS OF 25 & 27 COWEE MOUNTAIN SUBD, ANGELIDES-COHEN ENTERPRISES, 11/19/2007, \$825,000., MCPHERSON JOHN R & DOROTHY K, \$773,290.• 0501982, 120 WINDY TOP RD LOTS 27 & 29 COWEE MTN, STRIBLING JAMIE, 12/10/2007, \$780,000., MCPHERSON JOHN R & DOROTHY K, \$904,360.• 0501998, 274 MYRTLE SPEED RD OFF 1544, 10/12/2007, \$0., WILLIAMS JULIE HUNT, \$728,080.• 0518611, LOT 23 BLK F SEC II HFCC LOT 23 BLK F SEC II HFCC, STEED MARY T, 11/13/2007, \$235,000., PAINTER MARY S, \$131,030.• 0535552, VISTA RD LOT 4 HEMLOCKS AT HIGHGATE, GREENE THOMAS H, 10/15/2007, \$170,000., BENNETT RICHARD A, \$150,000.• 0501065, 3567 HORSE COVE RD HORSE COVE, 11/7/2006, DUMAS SUSAN C, 12/7/2007, \$0., DUMAS J SIDNEY, \$378,710.• 0500782, 2764 DILLARD RD OFF 106, INGATE JEROME T TRUSTEE, 10/18/2007, \$0., INGATE JEROME T, \$1,776,770.• 0500633, 3117 CLEAR CREEK RD, CHASTAIN FRANCES ELISE LIFE ESTATE, 11/1/2007, \$0., NIX STEPHEN L 77820.00• 0500637, 54 BROWNELL RD ON BILLY CABIN RD, EAGER JAMES B, 12/4/2007, \$0.,	EAGER JAMES B, \$457,650. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0517109, 485 CULLASAJA CLUB DR LOT 298, CHADWELL LARRY E SR, 11/14/2007, \$815000., CHADWELL LARRY E SR, \$825,980.• 0517029, 171 KELSEY CT LOT 209 CULLASAJA CLUB, 11/1/2007, \$1975000., MOORE M DAVID, \$152,470.• 0517033, 116 FALLS CT W LOT 215 CULLASAJA CLUB, FIRETHORN REAL ESTATE PARTNERS LTD, 11/6/2007, \$3,600,000., LOVELL T WOOD, \$1,787,600.• 0517034, LOT 216 CULLASAJA CLUB LOT 216 CULLASAJA CLUB, FIRETHORN REAL ESTATE PARTNERS LTD, 11/6/2007, \$3,600,000., LOVELL T WOOD, \$233,280.• 0516989, 61 WEST VIEW WAY LOT 99 CULLASAJA CLUB, MAY ROBERT V TRUSTEE, 12/6/2007, \$0., MAY ROBERT V TRUSTEE, \$722,150.• 0516936, 11 BEE TREE LN LOT 38 CULLASAJA CLUB, WALLIN DALE E, 11/5/2007, \$0., WALLIN DALE E, \$800,180.• 0516960, 50 GARNET ROCK TRL LOT 69 CULLASAJA CLUB, BAILEY ROBERT, 11/9/2007, \$595,000., CALAHAN SCOTT C TRUSTEE, \$791,220.• 0516912, 38 CHERRY TREE LN LOT 6 CULLASAJA CLUB, ROBINSON DIANE KEEN TRUSTEE, 10/17/2007, \$0., ROBINSON DIANE KEEN TRUSTEE, \$1,855,380.• 0516914, LOT 9 CULLASAJA CLUB LOT 9 CULLASAJA CLUB, BURGE FRANK BLAINE, 12/10/2007, \$1,198,000., CHATHAM CLAYTON D., \$591,470.• 0516758, CLEAR CREEK RD CLEAR CREEK, NIX LUCILLE C, 11/1/2007, \$1,000., CRAIN A J & CARRIE, \$243,220.• 0516307, VISTA CT LOT 33 BENCHMARK SUB, DICKINSON DOUGLAS S, 10/15/2007, \$0., DICKINSON DOUGLAS S 2007 REV TR, \$250,000.• 0550269, OWL GAP RD, GILBERT CHRISTOPHER, \$0., DUPREE AND ASSOCIATES INC, \$219,910.• 0515833, 313 BUCKBERRY RD LOT 12 UNIT II BUCKBERRY FALLS, 11/8/2007, \$910,000., T WALSH INC, \$100,800.• 0548620, 245 WOODLAND RIDGE DR. LOT 5 SHORTOFF, AYERS HERSCHEL L, 11/29/2007, \$1090000., BUCKLAND BRUCE, \$159,380.• 0547396, DILLARD RD DILLARD RD, 11/28/2007, \$0., GILBERT CHRISTOPHER, \$81,080.• 0529741, OFF RD 106 LOT 3 (REVISED) BENCHMARK SUBD, CHAMPION DOROTHY, 10/22/2007, \$325000., BELITZ ANTOINETTE L, \$350,000.	VELOIS J., \$184,920. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0610329, 164 LAKESIDE RD, VROON BRADLEY, 1/16/2007, \$0., VROON BRADLEY, \$759,670.• 0600555, 48 HAPPY HILL RD., MOSELEY CHARLES J., 2/20/2007, \$35000., MOSELEY CHARLES J., \$129,920.• 0649449, 120 LOVE RD, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, 6/8/2007, \$0, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, \$75,830.• 0649450, BILLINGSLEY RD TRACT 4, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, 6/8/2007, \$0, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, \$41,500.• 0649451, LOVE RD TRACT 1, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, 6/8/2007, \$0, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, \$69,570.• 0649452, BILLINGSLEY RD TRACT 5 BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, 6/8/2007, \$0, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, \$48,730.• 0649453, 120 LOVE RD TRACT 3, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, 6/8/2007, \$0, BILLINGSLEY VIRGINIA LIFE EST, \$114,880.• 0618834, LOT 69 ROCKY KNOB, RAUSCH STEFFI C G, 6/11/2007, \$0, RAUSCH FELIX ANDREW ANTHONY, \$47,630.• 0645721, EVANS CREEK RD, BRYSON RYAN MICHAEL, 6/4/2007, \$57,000., SCOFIELD TIMBER COMPANY INC, \$38,320.• 0618366, RIDGEVIEW LOT 26 RIDGEVIEW, FUTRAL WILLIAM J, 7/10/2007, \$75,000., BARTRAM INVESTMENTS LLC, \$41,280.• 0600299, 77 FOX FALLS LN LOT 31 KINGS MTN, BULLOCK E POPE, 6/18/2007, \$275,000., KINARD JERRY H & OLGA J, \$257,880.• 0600130, LOT 14 KINGS MTN, DAVISON RICHARD, 6/19/2007, \$30,500., KING MTN CLUB INC., \$5,000.• 0615656, 16 RITCHIE RD, BUTTS BETTY HUNTER, 7/2/2007, \$0., CRAIN JANIE ROBERTA, \$169,910.• 0649529, SR 1622 OFF S R 1622, WELLS DAVID R, 6/27/2007, \$202,500., WILKES ALVIN L, \$85,080.• 0649534, 870 BUCK KNOB RD, BURTON BIDD EARNEST, 6/28/2007, \$252,500., CORAM JENNINGS B, \$206,430.• 0649669, THOMAS RD OFF HWY 106, BEZDEK JAMES LEWIS, 8/8/2007, \$0., MILLARD WARNE R JR, \$39,020.• 0649746, BUCK KNOB RD ON RD 1622, BEAVERS STUART, 8/22/2007, \$104,000., CORAM JENNINGS B, \$129,110.• 0600073, 705 CHASTAIN RD, WELDEN KATHRYN F, 8/23/2007, \$117,000., BROWN CAMELLA, \$119,780.• 0600080, 58 OSAGE LN LOT 1, BOOS EDWARD G, 8/31/2007, \$0., BOOS EDWARD G, \$270,090.• 0600524, 655 CHASTAIN RD, WELDEN KATHRYN F, 8/23/2007, \$0., WELDEN KATHRYN F, \$109,490.• 0600602, OFF 106 LOT 60 KING MTN, KING MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT LLC, 8/29/	2007, \$125,000., FORTSON JACK O, \$100,000. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0635802, ON HWY 106 ON HWY 106, BATES ALAN M, 8/10/2007, \$600,000., KNECHT HAROLD C JR, \$76,500.• 0642807, HWY 106 TRACT 2, FREEMAN PROPERTIES LLC, 8/17/2007, DAIGRE-PONT PATSY ANN, \$ 94,500.• 0847799, EVANS CREEK RD S R 1639, HEMBREE MARTHA P, 8/17/2007, \$0., HEMBREE MARTHA P, \$133,330.• 0619270, OFF HWY 106 LOT 9 RIDGEVIEW EST, FAIRCLOTH FAMILY LTD, 9/19/2007, \$38,000., STEINER JEANNINE TR, \$6,910.• 0600634, 584 BOOGER HOLLOW TRL, ZANGERLE KELLY ELIZABETH, 10/1/2007, \$190,610., BROWN JOHN M JR, \$541,220.• 0600078, OFF RD 1625 LOT 6 OSAGE MT, BOOS EDWARD G, 9/20/2007, \$0., DELEURAN FAMILY TRUST, \$8,700.• 0600065, OFF RD 1625 LOT 8 OSAGE MTN SUBD, PHILLIPS JO ANN W, 9/5/2007, \$97,500., GILBERT HAROLD, \$42,920.• 0650055, EAST SIDE DUCK MTN RD, GWALTNEY THOMAS M JR, 10/2/2007, \$96,000., HILL JERRY P, \$66,770.• 0649745, BUCK KNOB RD, KUEHN MICHAEL, 9/7/2007, \$78,000., CORAM JENNINGS B, \$86,060.• 0615626, ON HWY 106TRACT 4 MARTHA MAGRUDER PROP, HAPPY HILL VINEYARD LLC, 10/4/2007, \$0., THREE FORKS PROPERTIES OF MACON CO LLC, \$91,800.• 0649379, OFF S R 1622, HARTWEGER PETER, 9/5/2007, \$0., HARTWEGER PETER, \$80,490.• 0649380, OFF S R 1622, HARTWEGER PETER, 9/5/2007, \$0., HARTWEGER PETER, \$74,260.• 0649056, 484 OSAGE DR, SHAW DANNY G, 10/5/2007, \$850,000., SCHWARTZ S. WILLIAM, \$902,130.• 0610522, 7193 DILLARD RD ON HWY 106, FUTRAL EILEENE, 11/20/2007, \$143,500., FELD HARRIET L, \$81,810.• 0622330, 355 THOMAS KNOB TRL LOT 32, JOHNSTON DARRYL, 10/31/2007, \$309500., SCHOTT THOMAS, \$577,820.• 0618830, LOT 63 ROCKY KNOB LOT 63, BARKER CHRISTOPHER, 10/19/2007, \$68,000., BROWNE JEFFRY, \$27,310.• 0600619, 808 LAKESIDE RD LOT 17 ROCKY KNOB OFF SR 1625 HALE RIDGE RD, HARVEY LILIA, 10/19/2007, \$490,000., WORKMAN JAMES KEVIN, \$636,420.• 0600065, 221 MOUNTAINVIEW DR LOT 8 OSAGE MTN SUBD, BAILEY CREEK LLC, 12/7/2007, \$143,500., PHILLIPS JO ANN W, \$42,920.• 0650285, SHOAL CREEK RD LOT 10B & 11 SILLY RIDGE, BRUSICH JON M, 12/11/2007, \$0., BRUSICH JON M, \$230,420.• 0650207, HWY 106 LOT1 CREEKSIDE CV @WOOD VALLEY, HEPARD STEVE, 11/8/2007, \$125,000., CORAM JENNINGS B, \$13,500.
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... SEPTIC continued from page 1

members require additional training

Patterson agreed. "We have to invest six months and \$16,000 before they can issue a permit if they aren't authorized at the time of hire," he said. In addition, seven employees have left over the past 18 months, so not only is the office understaffed but they are also out the money invested in getting previous employees the proper authorization and training.

A delay in septic permitting has plagued the county for several years. As development continues, the backlog problem grows par-

... CASE continued from page 1

some re-organization may be due to the August 2006 investigation of funds missing from the Highlands Recreation Department.

Almost a year later, District Attorney Michael Bonfoey issued a statement concerning the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) findings in the matter.

In a letter to Mayor Mullen dated June 6, 2007, Bonfoey said during a four-month investigation of the Highlands Recreation Department which was requested by Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell on August 17, 2006, the SBI interviewed more than 24 people concerning "lost money" at the recreation department and requested an audit from the town.

"No detailed audit has been completed and no one admitted to taking the money and no witness can testify that he or she observed anyone taking money for an unlawful purpose," said Bonfoey. "Unless additional evidence appears, I recommended to the SBI that no criminal action be commenced."

Bonfoey said the SBI investigation determined that "the Town of Highlands has lost money over a period of some undetermined years."

"But the amount of money that is missing, the manner of any misplacing or misappropriation of money and the person or persons responsible for the missing monies is virtually impossible to establish with any certainty," he said. "A criminal trial of any person or persons for any violations of law, in this case embezzlement, requires proof beyond a reasonable doubt. In the matter there are simply too many deficiencies in the facts to pursue a successful prosecution."

... FORUM continued from page 27

certainly when my father was growing up, Hazelwood was a different place than it is today. Now it's a bedroom community of Waynesville with homes peppering the hills where cattle used to graze. And that's kind of sad.

Few family homeplaces survive in the coves which bear the names of the families who staked their claim there.

In Hazelwood there were Plotts, Winchesters, Hyatts, McClures and others, all of which intermarried and have continued to call Hazelwood home. Happily, the McClure homeplace and the

ticularly when the department can't retain personnel.

The issue was also raised that the current Environmental Health office staff isn't adequately trained to field questions from the public. Paul Higdon said he wasn't in favor of hiring any more staff members until this problem is investigated and solved.

Adult Dental Clinic

Next, dentist David Oliver and Bruckner proposed a change to the Adult Dental Clinic that has been operational for a few months in Macon County. "This program

ecution."

Bonfoey said some, but not all the deficiencies include: no audit conducted identifying the exact amount of money missing or the dates the money went missing; money received by the Highlands Recreation Department was never properly documented by receipts; few paper records were maintained accounting for the trail of money from the receipt of funds to the deposit of funds at Town Hall; numerous people were allowed to receive money without a standard system of receiving the funds or delivering the funds to the cash drawer; numerous people possessed keys and had access to the cash drawer which held the funds at the recreation department; it is unclear as to how many people had keys to the cash drawer; it is unclear as to how many keys existed to the cash drawer; and there was no formal policy or protocol regarding the receiving, handling or managing of funds." Bonfoey said solid evidence is required to initiate and proceed with a criminal trial.

"Based on the reasons listed above and considering the SBI's report, no successful criminal prosecution can be maintained at this time," he said.

Initially Bonnie Bryson, recreation department employee, was put on temporary leave pending an investigation. She was never charged with any crime but resigned and was compensated for her time earned and retirement benefits.

In the 2006 Town audit, auditors noted a lacking of fiscal accountability but at the recent 2007 audit presentation, auditors said steps had been taken to correct the situation.

— Kim Lewicki

Hyatt homeplace on Hyatt Creek still stand and at least the McClure home is occupied by McClures.

Though the past is missed by retirees and second-home owners who have staked their claim relatively recently, and by the natives who do miss the "old days," those who have lived with the geology and geography that is Western North Carolina generation upon generation, know that with change has come prosperity and an ease of life that came far later to the mountains than to

• See FORUM page 39

is not paying for itself, and if we don't make immediate changes to the fee schedule we will be asking the county commissioners for money," Bruckner said.

"The target population needs to be the uninsured, not the Medicaid population," Bruckner said. The clinic is currently operating on a sliding-fee scale, but Bruckner proposed a rate based only on the going Medicaid rate for procedures and also wanted to ask for contingency funds from the county.

Bruckner pointed out that it is often more cost-effective to extract a tooth instead

of to crown it or fill it. "When members of the workforce don't have teeth it has an impact on the economy. If we can save the tooth and help them it also helps the economy," he said.

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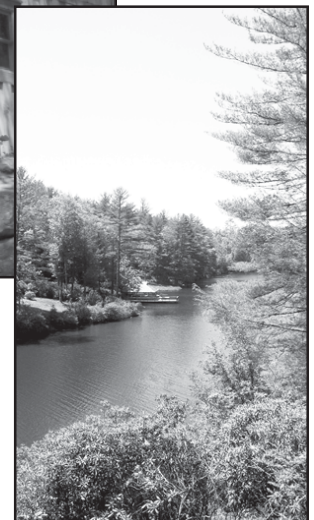
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POLICE & FIRE

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 12-19. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Dec. 12

- At 10:59 a.m., a motorist on N.C. 106 was cited for driving with an expired registration.

Dec. 13

- At 7:04 p.m., a motorist was cited for failing to stop at a stop sign at Oak and Maple streets.

Dec. 14

- At 11:25 p.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and Dog Mountain was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 13-19.

Dec. 13

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

Dec. 18

- The dept. responded to a vehicle fire on N.C. 28. There was minimal damage to the vehicle.

Dec. 19

- The dept. provided traffic control in several areas due to icy roads.

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the flatlands.

Nowadays, in the early hours of the morning, Jim drives down Main Street in Waynesville past the Greenhill Cemetery, the resting place of the McClure and Hyatt clans of Hazelwood going back to the late 1700s, to The Mountaineer newspaper -- the newspaper that has recorded the births, the deaths, the weddings and the graduations of my ancestors -- and I marvel at the twists and turns of life.

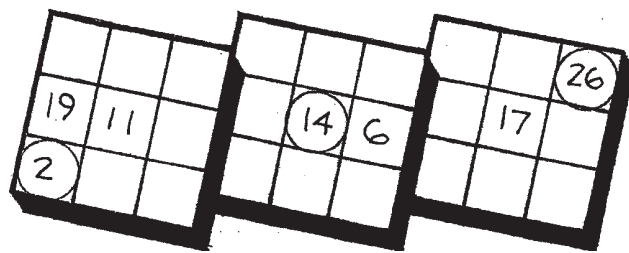
Circles identify my great grandfather and great grandmother Will and Ida Oxner McClure with their family of nine children and their families at the McClure homeplace in Hazelwood, N.C. My grandfather George McClure and my great aunt Wilsie McClure, were unmarried when this photograph was taken. The boxwoods in front grew from cuttings brought over from Scotland pre-Revolutionary War.



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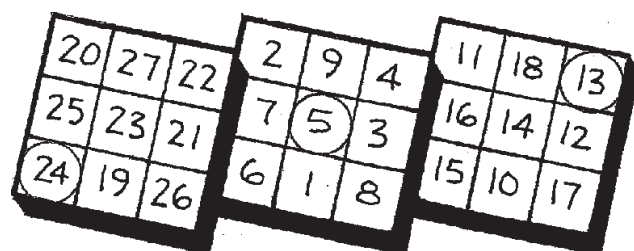
THE CHALLENGE:

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Solution to #BZ2C in Dec. 13 issue



N-Cryptoku®

Object: Assign 9 different letters to each cell of 9 columns and 9 rows. In addition, nine 3 x 3 cells in the layout have the same nine different letters (this is similar to Sudoku but uses nine letters instead of nine numbers). A 'mystery word or phrase' using all nine different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different 'mystery word or phrase' (no spaces).

How to Solve: Determine the nine different letters among those given. Try to solve the mystery word using the clue given and write it in. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these ACROSS/ DOWN words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up your solution to the puzzle. Using your powers of induction, inference and insight, place missing letters in all blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or 3 x 3 cell.

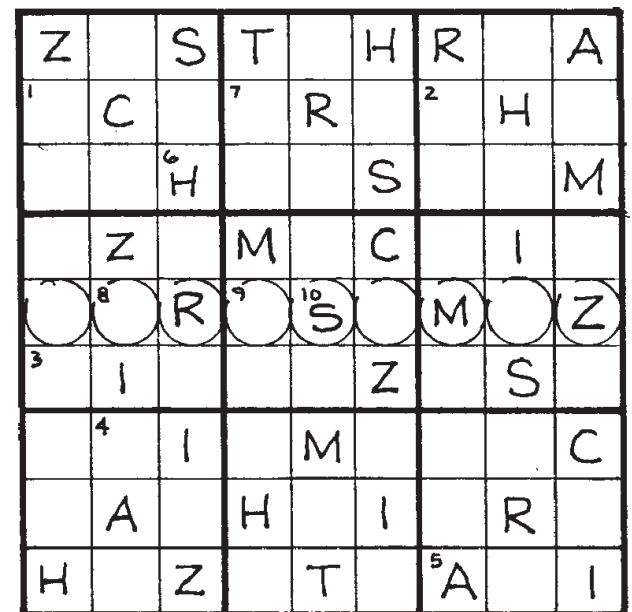
Mystery Word: 'Yule Tide Holiday'

ACROSS

1. Perform (3)
2. In His Service (abb.) (3)
3. Tiny (3)
4. It is (poetic) (3)
5. Friend (Fr.) (3)

DOWN

6. Injury (4)
7. Allaka (3)
8. Strike (3)
9. Internal Revenue Service (abb.) (3)
10. Sad (3)



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