

# Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 5, Number 7

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Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007

## On-going

• Every Tuesday, beginning Feb. 13, Women's Bible Study, Beth Moore's study of Daniel at Community Bible Church Fellowship Hall. All ladies invited. Call the church at 526-4685 to order your book.

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

• Beginner Classical Yoga Group meets On Mondays, 5:45-7 p.m. at Highlands Yoga and Wellness, 464 Carolina Way. Mats and blankets provided. Learn the basics and improve your health. Other classes available. Call 526-8880 Ashby or Chad.

• Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays. Bring your mat. \$7/class or \$50/month.

• Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes; total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class; and Pilates classes. Call 828-526-1FIT.

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

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

• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

## Friday, Feb. 16

• Chamber of Commerce wants feedback from businesses in the downtown area on whether to continue or eliminate two-hour parking. An informal meeting is at 9 a.m. at the Visitor Center. If you can't attend e-mail your thoughts to [visitor@highlandschamber.org](mailto:visitor@highlandschamber.org).

## Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16 & 17

• Instant Theatre Company presents The EMan. Al Ernst is the EMan, the big E, the King of Comedy guaranteeing to lighten your load. Straight from Las Vegas, comedy clubs and the Carnival Cruise lines, Only two shows, Complimentary wine and cocktails will be offered. Call 828-342-9197.

## Saturday, Feb. 17

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a seven-mile, moderate-to-strenuous hike on the Ellicott's Rock Trail through beautiful forest to the west bank of the Chattooga River. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. Drive 24 miles round trip. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134.

## Sunday, Feb. 18

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate hike on trails and backcountry roads near Coweeta Lab. Meet at 2 p.m. at the old Winn Dixie super market in Franklin Plaza on the 441 bypass. Drive 18 miles round trip. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820.

## Tuesday, Feb. 20

• February's Macon County Planning Board meeting will be held at the Highlands Recreation Park at 5 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and make brief statements about their concerns. Monthly county planning meetings will be held in different communities throughout the county from now on.

## County hears BOE's plans for future

It's been four years since the Macon County Commission and the Board of Education had a joint meeting and given the money the school system needs for facility repairs, renovations and expansion, Chairman Charlie Leatherman thought it was time for a sit-

down.

"It's to the benefit of the county, the students and the teachers for us to have open lines of communication," he said at the Feb. 12 joint meeting held at Shoney's in Franklin. "We need to meet at least twice a year so the issues be-

fore the board of education and the county can be discussed and we have a clear understanding of what needs to be done to serve to our best capacity."

Superintendent Dan Brigman outlined the repairs and renova-

• See FUTURE page 15

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## MS B-ball has first winning season in 4 years



Middle school boys and girls haven't won more than half their games since this year's senior class was in eighth grade! But this season both teams won more than half. The teams played in the Jackson County Conference during the season but since they were not approved to play in that tournament, they were placed in the Banks County Tournament. The Middle School Girls' Basketball team poses with its 3rd Place trophy and the MVP plaque, awarded to the team at the Banks County Middle School Leopards Tournament. Top from left: Coach Bill Landford, Manager Elizabeth Gordon, Emily Murphy, Danielle Potts, Katie Nix, Emily Munger, Sarah Power, Taylor Buras, Jenny Coram, Sayne Fera, Kimberly Machuca, and Manager Cory Capman Bottom from left: Stephanie Smart, Captain Marlee McCall, Captain Courtney Rogers, and Juliane Buras.

Photo by Marlee McCall

## Stormwater run-off big buck issue for town

With state stormwater regulations about to change and development on the rise in Highlands, the town is ready to con-

sider a master stormwater plan complete with an ordinance to back it up.

At the Feb. 7 Town Board meeting, commissioners heard a comprehensive report from J.P. Johns from McGill & Associates who outlined deficiencies and remediation to the town's stormwater collection and drainage system. Over the last several months, he's conducted an in depth study of the

system which was funded by a Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant.

To effectively manage the town's aging stormwater infrastructure and address stream impairments, he suggested the town implement a one-to-five year capital improvement plan followed by a five-to-ten year plan..

Johns said much contaminat-

• See STORMWATER page 7

## Affordable Housing committee hard at work

By Susanna Hearn  
Reporter

The Affordable Housing committee continued to fine tune its survey and cover letter at the Feb. 9 meeting at the Hudson Library.

Mayor Don Mullen formed the committee to determine if affordable housing is a viable option in Highlands, specifically for the employees who provide services in the area.

The committee is drafting a letter that employers of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, Highlands School, and the Highlands Police Department will send out to their employees one week prior to the survey to inform employees of the survey's purpose.

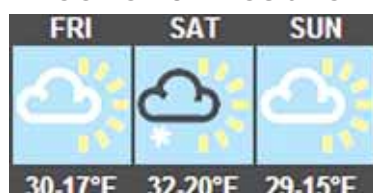
"In my opinion this is a whole lot bigger than just affordable housing," said committee member Bill Nellis at a previous meeting. "It gets into affordable community issues. If we look just at affordable housing we're doing it with blinders on."

With that in mind, the survey will be sent to employees at the hospital, Highlands School, and the police department – the largest employers – to gauge interest and opposition to affordable housing.

The five-question survey is made up of mostly yes or no answers with a few comment sections which committee members are hoping will generate some

• See AFFORDABLE page 3

## Weekend Weather:





# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • FORUM •

## • HAWK'S EYE VIEW •

## • LETTERS •

### From my perspective



Mayor Don Mullen

Several weeks ago at a banquet my wife and I sat next to a man we have all learned to love in Highlands and we got to know him and his wife a little bit better. They are very special people in our community. That man is Coach Butch Smart, the coach of the Highlands School varsity boys basketball team.

Coach Smart has become the all time winningest active high school coach in all of North Carolina by stressing hard work and the basics of good basketball. We all congratulate Coach Smart in going over 650 victories in his career as a basketball coach both here in North Carolina and in Louisiana where he began his coaching career. But even more important than winning has been showing our young people how to work together as a team, an effort which takes great sacrifice and hard practice. Life lessons are taught in that way and the coach has been instrumental in that with hundreds of youngsters over the years. We are proud of our school and we are proud of Coach Butch Smart. Thank you Coach.

The subject of the ability to sell alcohol has been in the news a great deal lately. I was somewhat surprised that, when Franklin passed their referendum on liquor-by-the-drink some months ago, no one requested we do the same thing in Highlands. It is an indication to me that it is not wanted here by the residents or the restaurants. But the Rib Shack restaurant on Spring Street, which is owned and operated by the Old Edwards Inn Hospitality Group, is opening a bar at the Rib Shack restaurant, a move which will change the culture of Highlands by making it something different from what it has been.

Now there is nothing wrong with being different and making changes for the good of the community. But OEI can do this because of a loophole in the NC

•See FORUM page 9



### LETTERS-TO-THE-EDITOR POLICY

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

## Highlands' Newspaper

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### Since reval is high, reduce millage rate

Dear Editor,

If property tax receipts the county takes in increase due to those revaluation processes say by 40%, then what is to keep the county from decreasing the millage rate to whatever their current budget + inflation + population increase to equalize the number of dollars property owners pay on their revalued property?

Robert Chambers  
Highlands, Atlanta, GA

### Protect the Chattooga River

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regard to the issue of opening the upper Chattooga River to boating. I am a biologist with a specialty in insect ecology and behavior.

I have been on the faculty at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, for nearly 10 years, and I am now H. F. and Katherine P. Robinson Professor of Biology there. I am also in my second year as Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Station in Highlands, NC. I have authored more than two dozen research papers and book chapters, as well as a recent book on insect social behavior published by Harvard University Press. My teaching experience includes genetics, entomology, biogeography, environmental biology, evolution, and conservation biology.

As a relative newcomer to Highlands last year I was unfamiliar with the upper Chattooga area, and with the issues and arguments surrounding the potential opening of that stretch of river to boating traffic. I have followed the discussion in the newspapers, and over the past several months I have sought to educate myself on the ecology of the upper Chattooga watershed environment to come to an informed position on the potential impact that boating may have on the river and surrounding forest. I would like to register my thoughts and conclusions with you regarding this important matter.

I will share my main point up front: I have come to the conclusion that the upper Chattooga watershed area is a unique biological and cultural resource that is likely to suffer irreparable degradation through the human impacts associated with boating. That the area in question

•See LETTERS page 13



## H.E.L.P. Committee supports school

Stephanie McCall, Help Committee Chairwomen, gives a check to the Highlands School principal, Brian Jetter. The check funds random drug testing of Highlands School athletes and the elementary schools Harlem Ambassador's Assembly where a speech is given to steer the students away from drugs and alcohol.

Photo by Marlee McCall



## Superintendent is 'up' on public education

By **Susanna Hearn**  
Reporter

Macon County School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Brigman spoke at the Feb. 8 League of Women Voters meeting.

Brigman outlined the county's goals for public schools and his priorities for the county's schools. "We want people who care about and love children in our schools," said Brigman. "I'm where I'm at today because of public education. I've taken it upon myself to have people who love kids and want to be there."

Brigman's five goals for the district are creating a safe, orderly caring environment in the schools, improving student performance, hiring and retaining highly qualified professionals, improving communication between student personnel, and ensuring efficient and effective operations.

During the 2005-06 school year the Macon County School System met 32 out of 38 areas for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). The district did not make AYP, but seven out of 10 schools within the district did make AYP. East Franklin Elementary, Macon Middle School, and South Macon Elementary are the three schools that failed to meet AYP.

Brigman said that four out of six areas in testing focused on reading. "Reading is basic for success in any academic area," said Brigman. "Fifty-two percent of students met growth level in reading. It is a wise investment for us to educate our children," said Brigman after describing a Southern state that uses its third grade reading level to de-

termine how many beds will be needed in its correctional institute in the future.

So far Macon County Schools have maintained a 94 percent graduation rate. To determine the graduation rate the state takes the number of students who enter ninth grade at the school and calculate how many of them graduate from the school. "If a child dies they're considered a drop-out," said Brigman. "We're working as diligently as possible to make sure all our students graduate."

"Small schools are beautiful," said Brigman. "I'm an advocate of small schools, but the definition of small schools depends on where you live. In the 1930s there were over 65 schools in Macon County. It's difficult to give students needed technology when schools are spread out."

Brigman outlined the way students study tools have changed over the past 15 years beginning in 90-91. Students relied mainly on books and reference material to do their work, but in 1991 the Internet was invented. "Think about the progress seen in media," said Brigman. "Kids have access to anything they want to see. They require new resources and new technology."

Brigman was positive about the state of public education in America. "Public education in the U.S. is probably the best it's ever been. Public education is very strong," he said. "What we're trying to do is serving more areas with the same resources. We're educating every child who comes through our doors."

## ... AFFORDABLE continued from page 1

feedback. One question will specifically ask why the employee would not be interested in moving to the Highlands area. Members acknowledge people may have a good support system in another area which they aren't willing to give up.

Committee members also hope to get a feel for the general location of commuters by using a map and color coded markers to record their locality by zip code. They would also like to know whether commut-

ers are homeowners or renters.

The committee also tinkered with terminology deciding on the term "working wage" instead of affordable when talking about the housing. The committee may also visit the town of Black Mountain to view modular duplexes created by a company in Dillsboro.

The next Affordable Housing meeting will be on Friday, Feb. 23 at 10 a.m. at the Hudson Library.

## SMOKE FREE DINING IN MACON COUNTY

Youth exposed to secondhand smoke breathe in 4,000 chemicals, at least 50 of which are associated with or known to cause cancer. The Franklin High School's Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) and the Macon County Public Health Center would like to say thank you to the following restaurants for providing a 100% smoke free indoor environment for our teens.

Angel Medical Center Cafeteria	Lucio's
Arby's	Madison's Restaurant
B & C Barbeque	Main Street Inn
Benita's Whistlestop Café	McDonalds
Big Mama's Pizza House	Monte Alban
Bi-Lo Deli	Motor Co. Grill
Blimpie	Mountain Feast
Boone Thai Restaurant	Ms. Lois'
Brick Oven Pizza	Oak Street Cafe
Buck's Coffee Café	Papa's Pizza of Franklin
Burger King	Peking Gourmet Chinese Restaurant
Café 460	Pescados Highland Burritos
Cajun Connection Café	Pizza Hut
Carabella's Tea House	Pizza Place of Highlands
Cedar's Café & Bakery	Restaurant at Mill Creek
Chef and His Wife	Rib Shack
Cowee Convenience and Deli	Ristorante Paoletti
Cyprus Restaurant	Seasons at Summit Inn
Dairy Queen	Shoney's of Franklin
Don Leon's Deli Café	Skyline Lodge Restaurant
Fat Buddies Ribs & BBQ	Snack Shack
Fireside Inn Restaurant	Sports Page Sandwich Shoppe
Fortune House	Stamey's Café
Franklin Flea Market Snack Bar	Stillwater Fish Camp
Franklin Skateway	Subway (Highlands Rd)
Fressers Eatery	Subway (Westgate Plaza)
Frog and Owl Mtn Bistro	Subway of Highlands
Gardenia's	Sunset Restaurant
Golden China	Sweettreats
Gringo's	Sweetwater Grill
Happy Garden Chinese Restaurant	Taco Bell
Hardee's	Tallent's Steak Barn
Havana Bistro	The Boiler Room
Highlands Back Room Deli	The Dessert Factory
Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop	The Gazebo Creekside Café
Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Cafeteria	The Pizzeria
Hill Top Grill	The Scaly Grill
Inn at Half-Mile Farm	The Spa Café
Joe's Country Café	Vito's Pizza and Indoor Patio
Junction Café	Vlass' Lunch Box
Kelsey House Restaurant	Wendy's
Kentucky Fried Chicken	Wild Thyme Gourmet
La Poblana	Willy's Ribs & BBQ
Lakeside Restaurant	Wilson's Restaurant
Lighthouse Restaurant	Wolfgang's on Main
Little Caesar's Pizza	Zaxby's
Log Cabin Steakhouse	

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Bright and open floor plan with a newly added dining room. The main level baths have been remodeled with travertine and walk-in showers, the master closet is extra large with dressing island and custom racks. Lower level has 2 bedroom, 1 bath, wet bar/kitchen, family room with built-ins and game area. There are two laundry areas, 1 up, 1 down. Drive under double garage and storage room/office area. And great mountain view too.



Walk to Main Street from this totally remodeled condo in Highlands Manor. Beautiful lower level unit was taken down to the studs and completely remodeled with all new cabinetry and counter tops in the kitchen, open living/dining area with great gas log fireplace, cozy sun porch accessed from both bedrooms and the living room, and spacious master bath. Ready for you to move in today. Best in-town value under \$500K. Offered at \$435,000



What a view! Amazing long range mountain views from this cute A-frame. Galley kitchen, freestanding round fire-place in the living room, stone fireplace, stone floors in the lower level, & spacious open living/dining area. New roof in 2003. Great deck to relax on to take in the breathtaking views of Whiteside, Fodderstack, Cashiers Valley and beyond! Remodel or rebuild your dream home!



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## • LAUGHING AT LIFE •

### Stick this in your popper!

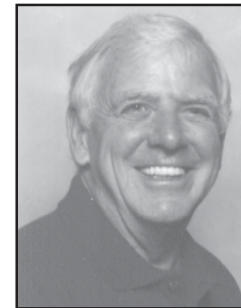
Let's put an end to this rumor once and for all. Highlands' Fire Chief "Popcorn" Manley did not get his nickname from finding popped microwave popcorn bags in the smoldering cinders of fires and decided to munch away. The truth is the guy can't sit still and is constantly "popping" up for this or that. He may also have ants in his pants but I'll leave that for others to check.

Considering we depend on a volunteer fire department, men with jobs that pay the bills, it's amazing that more structures haven't burned to the ground in Highlands.

As it is, dedicated and highly trained men drop what they're doing -- usually making a living to feed their families -- and drive in their own trucks at breakneck speed to your house fire. Someone has to pick up the fire truck and depending on where they are working and where you live, that can take a lot of valuable time, all the while you're losing everything you own. The firefighter sitting in a dentist chair in Franklin getting a root canal will not be at your fire. Not everyone can respond for a myriad of reasons. Is this anyway to run a resort town like Highlands, loaded with multi-million dollar homes? I think not!

My oldest son is a firefighter Captain paramedic who oversees several fire divisions in Palm Beach County, FL. We talk often about his job so I know a little bit about the subject. He says time is everything.

We expect too much from these dedicated men who work and train hard



**Fred Wooldridge**

**Feedback  
is encouraged!  
email:**

**[askfredanything@aol.com](mailto:askfredanything@aol.com)**

to save our homes and lives but don't get paid to do it. We take them for granted. An awards banquet once a year just doesn't cut it. My son is astonished that a community as prosperous and tony as Highlands doesn't have at least one fully staffed on-duty fire company.

It is way past time to put our firefighters on the town's payroll. We don't have a volunteer Police Department and why is that job more important than saving your home and possibly your life from a fire? Is saving injured victims at accidents or

breathing life back into a child who has drowned less important? Put a price tag on that! Firefighters do a lot more than just put the wet stuff on the hot stuff.

Way back, paid firefighters were seen as a bunch of guys who sat around the fire house all day doing nothing, playing cards, grooming their Dalmatians, cooking bar-b-que and putting another coat of wax on the fire truck, all the time waiting for the big fire that seemed to never come. They also scratched a lot.

Times have changed. Employed firefighters do little sitting around and little scratching. They train constantly, inspect businesses and homes for fire hazards, upgrade their fire systems and conduct seminars for citizens on how to make their homes safer. What are the things you can do to your home to save on insurance? What is the most important thing you can do to protect your home from fire? A firefighter could teach you this and a lot more.

Remember, when people are running out of a burning building with fear in their eyes, firefighters are running in with smiles on their faces. Like policemen, they march to a different drummer.

I am sad our town leaders will not change to a town manager form of government. I am sure it's because Richard Betz is a one-man governmental wizard, so why change? "Getting by" is what we do best. Maybe Richard could also put out fires? He would if we asked. For certain, Highlands will continue to grow to a point where "getting by" won't work anymore." We deserve better than a "make do" fire department. We are not Dogpatch.


It's time to find the money to hire full-time firefighters to protect our investments and our lives. Highlands is not growing up, it has grown up. Let's buy a full-time fire department before we buy a dad-gum liquor store. Where are our priorities? Find the money, find the grants and stop leaving our lives and investments to chance!

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## • ANOTHER VIEW •

### Beware of slippery slopes

**W**e writers try to get it right every time. Golfers, baseball players, and basketball players do the same. It has been said that one in every three at bat will get a guy into the Hall of Fame. A basketball player who hits nine out of 10 uncontested "free" throws from 15 feet is revered. Even Tiger misses a putt now and then. At least they know when they miss. I approach every article pretty much the way Michaelangelo approached a hunk of granite. I know the perfect story is in there somewhere — my job is to find it.

Sometimes I think I come pretty close. Most of the time I work and rework a column, fine tuning it, looking for the perfect phrase here and the just right word over there, and end up with something that seems stiff and artificial, not the thing that was free and flowing and maybe beautiful in an earlier form. I get tired of it as deadline looms, unwilling to tinker any more and strike "send now." Then it is gone, out of my hands. When I miss by a mile or more, you let me know. It gets hard to come up with something every week. I know you get tired of the war and so do I. I read a lot of interesting stories and consider giving them my own spin. I guess you heard the one about the female astronaut who drove from Houston to Orlando to either kill or confront a rival in what was apparently a love triangle. My favorite part was that she was armed with pepper spray and a BB gun. Defense and prosecution argued about whether the gun had a CO2 cylinder.

The story that really bothered me was the story of Ashley, a six-year-old girl who suffers from a condition called "static encephalopathy." She has the mental capacity of a three-month-old and will never get any smarter. Her parents decided to keep her and care for her, a heroic decision. I know two couples who had similar children. Bill and Anne decided to institutionalize their newborn and never looked back. Vince and Barb still dedicate their lives to caring for Sammy. More about them later.

Ashley, as I said is six. Her parents realized that caring for her would become harder and harder as she grew larger and they grew older. They met with doctors in Seattle and devised a plan to keep her from growing. So far so good. She was given estrogen in high doses which closed the growth plates in her bones, the ones that give us adult height. Then it got a little weird. They had her breasts and uterus removed. To top it off, they call her



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo**

**Feedback is encouraged.**

**email:**  
**hsalzarulo@aol.com**

"pillow angel" because she stays where ever they put her which is usually on a pillow. Pillow angel sounds like a stuffed animal in a college girl's dorm room. The parents say that their actions were intended to maximize Ashley's quality of life, which from what I can determine is zero. I don't care. They are still heroic figures. They have dedicated, perhaps sacrificed their lives, to raise little Ashley. That's love, even if there are a few kinky wrinkles.

Vince and Barb kept Sammy. When I met them, Sammy was two or three, a flaccid little bundle in Vince's arms. They took her everywhere. Now Sammy is 15, a 145 pounds, still in Vince's arms, still flaccid, still growing. Advocates for the disabled criticize Ashley's parents for depriving her of her right to reach maturity, interfering with nature. They are concerned about a slippery slope. They haven't met Vince and Barb and Sammy. They have no right to criticize these loving parents. They have not walked in their moccasins.

We worry a lot about slippery slopes. They are everywhere, and I recognize the need to erect fences to keep us away from sliding down them. I also see the need for gates for people like Ashley's parents. I think a lot of the pro-life people are so adamantly opposed to embryonic stem cell research because of a slippery slope. That may be why they hold the sanctity of a cell above the value of human life. So many of these same well intentioned citizens favor war and the death penalty. I don't pretend that the decision to interrupt developing human life is an easy choice. I abhor abortion. I know the arguments and support initiatives to reduce the practice, but I can't bring myself to join those who would outlaw abortion. It is hard to explain why it is all right to abort a four-week fetus, but not a six-month one. On the other hand, I have no trouble sacrificing an unwanted and unused egg to find cures for Alzheimer's diabetes, Parkinson's and perhaps quadriplegia. There is that pesky slippery slope again.

End of life decisions are frequently influenced by the slippery slope argument. If we remove life support from this terminally ill patient, despite the fact that those who love him have requested that we do so, we are on a slippery slope and it will be easier in the future to kill our troublesome neighbor. If we permit death, pretty soon we assist it and then cause it.

My Mom told me to refrain from judging another until I had walked a mile in

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his moccasins.

Zealous advocates should heed my mother's words. They should accept that a person or those who know and love him

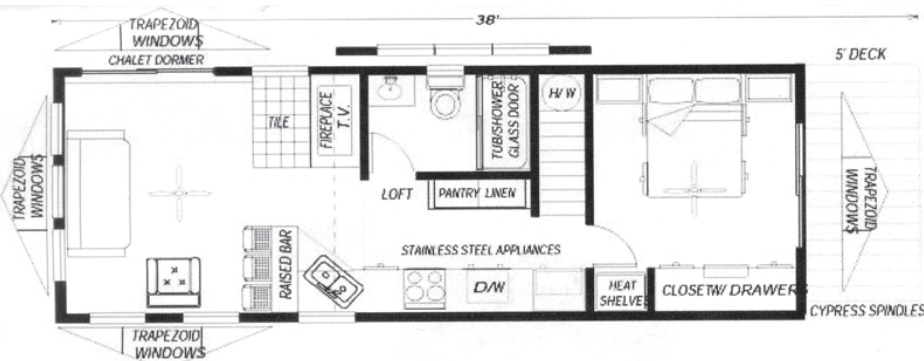
and are aware of his wishes, know what is best, no matter how steep or how slippery the slope.



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A-Valarie Billingsley  
A-Ann Marie Crowe  
A-April Moss  
AB-Alli Bolt  
AB-Grace Brassard  
AB-Veronica Garcia  
AB-Elizabeth Houston  
AB-Katie Ingram  
AB-Kenan Lewis  
AB-Philip Murphy  
AB-Jeremy Robinson  
AB-Kassie Vinson  
AB-Josh Wolfrey

A-Rebecca Johnson  
AB-Dax Lloyd  
AB-Lindsay Wagner

### 7<sup>th</sup> – E. Woods

A-Isaac Beavers  
AB-Tim Fogle  
AB-Cai Roman

### 7<sup>th</sup> – S. Smathers

A-Kaitlin Lewis  
A-Kim Machuca  
A-Emily Murphy  
A-Danielle Shomper  
AB-Julian Buras  
AB-Fabiola Diaz  
AB-Copeland Hardin

### 5<sup>th</sup> – T. Hedden

A-Ellie Cate Beavers  
A-Emily Gabbard  
A-Emily Shuler  
A-Ryan Vinson  
AB-Carli Calloway  
AB-Tatiana Schmitt

### 8<sup>th</sup> – S. Massey

A-Marlee McCall  
AB-Amy Fogle  
AB-Clayton Lassiter  
AB-Courtney Rogers  
AB-Samuel Wheeler

### 6<sup>th</sup> – S. Mayer & G. Borino

A-Will Araujo

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

A-Ashley Dickey

A-Brice Jenkins  
A-Shelby Johnson  
A-Beverly Nix  
A-Kate Marie Parks  
AB-Amanda Bruce  
AB-Eli Dryman  
AB-Amanda Fuller  
AB-Sarah Hedden

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

A-Will Edwards  
A-Casey Jenkins  
AB-Andrew Billingsley  
AB-Alex Hedden  
AB-Carolyn Hornsby  
AB-Luke McClellan  
AB-Matt McClellan  
AB-Taylor Parrish  
AB-Marisol Ruiz  
AB-Griselda Sanchez

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

A-Jessica Dryman  
A-Kyle Lassiter  
A-Taylor Stinson  
AB-Michael Grabe

AB-Katie Pierce  
AB-Greg Porter  
AB-Sally Wheeler

### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

A-Kelli Baer  
A-Sara Bates  
A-Eric Chen  
A-Brittany Dryman  
A-Chase Jenkins  
A-Pamela Potts  
A-Allison Winn  
AB-Becca Ashburn  
AB-Jason Aspinwall  
AB-Jacob Bowers  
AB-Amanda Chambers  
AB-Krystal Cutshaw  
AB-Darin Keener  
AB-Nick Kerhoulas  
AB-Craig McCall  
AB-Arthur Potts

## Episcopal church singers In Italy



Molly McKim, soprano, and Daniel Burns, baritone, who are soloists at Highlands Church of the Incarnation, were invited to be featured soloists in the High Mass at Venice Italy's famous St. Mark's Basilica by Maestro Roberto Micconi, organist and choirmaster at the Cathedral. Maestro Micconi and Episcopal Church Choir Director Fletcher Wolfe, who are old friends, have collaborated on several past musical events in St. Marks. The Wolfes, who are spending February in Venice, invited Molly and Daniel to be their guests and to increase their knowledge and experience of Venetian church music. Molly and Daniel are both voice students of Wolfe. "The opportunity to perform in this rare musical setting speaks well of their outstanding talent and musical ability," said Wolfe. They return in March to their regular solo positions in Highlands.



## Cub Scout Pinewood Derby winners



Winners of this year's Cub Scout from Pack 207 Pinewood Derby held at the Highlands United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. From left are: Second Place Winner, Craig Dalton, First Place Winner, Austin Forrester, and Third Place Winner, Taylor Schmitt.

## ... STORMWATER continued from page 1

ed runoff is coming from the Central Business District (CBD) and improvements should include modernization of the stormwater conveyance system to effectively route runoff to strategically located detention ponds before releasing into the environment.

"Analysis of the CBD indicates that much of the stormwater system can't convey the one-year storm event," he said. "Fortunately, many of the culvert crossings in the Mill Creek watershed can pass the 25-year storm event, but most are poorly configured leading to on-going maintenance issues and environmental impact."

Johns said those "impacts" have led to impaired biological integrity of Mill Creek which has placed the stream on the state's 'impaired stream list.'

With increased development, citizens have often come to Town Board meetings to complain of flooding due to insufficient stormwater drainage particularly around Harris Lake and at Trillium Place.

"As development converts the existing natural land into new residences and businesses, the town's already undersized stormwater system is further strained and evidence of degradation can be seen in the area's lakes and streams," wrote Johns in his report.

Outside the CBD, stream restoration and re-establishing the riparian corridor coupled with projects that maintain the water balance and reduce peak discharges to more natural levels should be implemented, he said.

"A long term plan should be developed to replace existing multi-barreled stream crossings with single-span culverts to improve hydraulic flow, minimize on-going maintenance and improve the health of area streams," he wrote.

Johns said a long-term funding source needs to be identified to finance these improvements and to provide continued operation and maintenance.

The master stormwater plan outlines 30 specific projects whose priorities can either be cost-based or area-based, said Johns. Projects costs range from \$20,000 to \$6 million.

Funding could come through the Clean Water Management Trust Fund or a stormwater utility.

"It's a huge step to take, but a stormwater utility is a great way to fund stormwater needs," said Johns.

A master stormwater plan must be backed by a comprehensive stormwater ordinance. He said the town's ordinance has a lot of good stormwater measures in place, but they are sprinkled throughout the general ordinance and it's hard to navigate.

Commissioner Hank Ross said a one-year storm event reflects "normal" rainfall for Highlands. "I want to make sure that this study reflects what's realistic for our area based on our topography and our normal rainfall," he said.

Commissioners made no decisions on the plan only acknowledged that they must prioritize projects.

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## Expansion ongoing at PAC



Sandy Cohn, left, and Ronnie Spilton, right, presidents of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and the Highlands Community Players, survey the progress on the expansion of the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. PAC has been used as a venue for local non-profits for six years. The expansion involves building backstage restrooms and dressing rooms for performers, as well as a mechanical lift to raise stage sets from the lower floor to stage level. Donations to the \$250,000 project will be greatly appreciated. Mail checks made payable to PAC, P. O. Box 269, Highlands, NC 28741."

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## • HIS & HERS •

### Nathan Hale died for a dumb nation

A Google News search for terrorist, rules and trials turned up 353 articles on the regulations just established for the trials of terrorists by military tribunals. The leading articles were by the New York Times and the BBC. Interestingly, none of them mentioned Nathan Hale.

The articles get in a high dudgeon because terrorists can be tried "based on hearsay," and might be "executed." Most importantly, all of these writers and editors act as if this were a brand-new phenomenon. Apparently both history education and books are in short supply in the mainstream media.

Let's review.

Nathan Hale was hanged by the British in 1776 as a spy. On his first assignment he revealed his mission to a lady who was a British spy. He made a memorable statement just before his execution, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Compare that with the execution of Major John Andre by the Americans in 1780. Andre was captured behind American lines in civilian clothes. Hidden in his boot was the plan for the betrayal of the garrison at West Point by General Benedict Arnold. Arnold got word of Andre's capture, and fled to the British lines. Andre was convicted as an "illegal combatant," and hanged.

What relevance do these two trials and execution have to do with the events of this week? They are foursquare examples of the conduct of such trials. They happened under the Law of War, centuries old at the time of the American Revolution and still applying today.

Under the Law of War, which has been carried forward under all four of the Geneva Conventions, and its predecessors, soldiers captured in uniform were held for the duration and then released when the war ended. However, spies and illegal combatants received different treatment. Illegal combatants were fighters who wore no uniforms, were not in units subject to military discipline, and hid among the civilian population.

Such individuals could be executed on the spot. However, at best they received "drum head" trials. These were the predecessors of the military tribunals which have been used on occasion in every major war the US has ever fought.

For instance, when General Washing-



Michelle Mead & John Armor  
michiemead@aol.com  
John\_Armor@aya.yale.edu

ton tried Major Andre, the hearing took place at Washington's headquarters, hearsay evidence was received, and after a short hearing, Andre was sentenced to death with no appeal.

Should anyone think this ancient history has no application today, consider what the US did, and the

Supreme Court ruled, in 1942. Eight German saboteurs entered the US from two submarines, with money and plans to plant bombs in various US locations. They were tried by a military tribunal. All were found guilty, and two were sentenced to death. (Two argued, unsuccessfully, that as US citizens they were not subject to such tribunals.)

In the Quirin case, the unanimous Court found this constitutional. Congress incorporated the Law of War into the military code of the US in 1789. And try as it might, the current Supreme Court could not abandon the Quirin case in its recent decisions.

Were US citizens, or at least its reporters who are the eyes and ears of the public, had sufficient education in our military history, this week's stories would have been quite different. It seems that Nathan Hale died for a nation that is (becoming) rather dumb.

• John Armor and Michelle Mead alternate columns.



The Harlem Ambassadors basketball team comes to the Highlands School Gym on Tuesday, Feb. 27. The show starts at 7 p.m. and advance tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Tickets will be \$15 at the door, and kids under four are free. The doors won't open until 6:30 p.m. Proceeds from the event go to the Mountain Top Rotary Club of Highlands, which uses the proceeds to fund community projects. Advance tickets are available from any club member, at the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, Drake's Diamond Gallery, and Fressers Eatery.



## Another kind of hero

The iconic image of the "western" film is the lone gunman riding out of town after having saved the townspeople. The hero is always an outsider. Maybe in the end he'll take a pretty young townswoman for a bride, but often he spurns romantic attachment. The townspeople are almost always portrayed as cowardly and weak.

This independent cowboy is the epitome of the American self-image. President Reagan understood that (being an actor) and played it to the hilt on his ranch holidays.

When I watch westerns I think about the hero in a different way. What about the heroism of the townspeople carving a functional society out of the wilderness, doing the difficult work of governing themselves?

Years ago I was talking with someone about Highlands. She mentioned that she had learned an interesting aspect of Highlands from Ran Shaffner's history, *The Heart of the Blue Ridge*: Highlands' self-sufficiency. Because of its isolation, Highlands had to solve its own problems; take care of its own needs.

This is not something that ended with the first paved roads. This tradition of self-reliance continues today.

Families faced with the loss of a job or a catastrophe such as a house fire? The Highlands Emergency Council was formed to help residents deal with such problems. Adults struggling with literacy and the lack of a high-school diploma? Residents (with the financial assistance of Rotary) created the Literacy Council to help. Immigrants flocking to the mountains? Instead of looking outside the community, a group of churches responded with the Free Dental Clinic, the Community Care Clinic, and the International Friendship Center. The rising cost of housing pushing workers out of Highlands? Instead of sitting back and watching the "Aspenization" of our community, the mayor formed a sustainable housing task force.

Development threatening our beloved mountains? In 1909, a group of Highlanders banded together to buy the summit of Satulah Mountain, forming one of the first land trusts in the nation. The Jackson-Macon Conservation Association started as the Highlands-Cashiers Conservation League to deal with a specific siltation problem in a development (not RiverWalk). The Land Stewards and the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association are other organizations that deal with issues specific to our area.

The Women's Club runs Fibber Maggee's as a dual service: providing low-cost clothing and then using the proceeds to help local organizations. Same with Mountain Findings.



Katie Brugger

The Highlands Scholarship Fund provides college scholarships to Highlands' students as do many other groups in the community.

The Girl's Clubhouse was founded 10 years ago by an individual, Kim Lewicki, when she found there wasn't a Girl Scout troop for sixth-graders. (Now a middle-school troupe does exist but the club continues).

Our firefighters are volunteers. This may not have been unusual in small towns in the past, but we are fortunate to live in a place where some people still have the dedication to the community to make the sacrifices required.

Highlands' government utilizes volunteers heavily. The planning board, zoning board, appearance commission, scholarship committee, and now affordable housing task force are all made up of people who care about Highlands and are willing to go in for meeting after meeting after a long day at work for no pay.

It has been said, beginning with Pericles (as recorded in Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War* from the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C.), that everyone in a democracy should be involved in governing, because what democracy means is to govern ourselves. That is relatively simple on a small scale, such as Athens in 500 B.C. or Highlands in 2007. But how do you expand that to a nation of 300 million people?

It is so easy for us in today's America to sit back and expect the government to solve problems, and think that our only participation is to vote every couple of years. When I read histories of the United States I am always struck by the fact that in the Revolutionary years political tracts were best-sellers, read eagerly by professionals and laborers alike. How many people today have any interest in politics beyond the brief stories on the nightly news? Who has the patience to investigate and understand the philosophical underpinnings of a politician's tax policy?

I'm guilty myself — I have attended exactly one town council meeting in the 18 years I have lived here, and that was only because I was speaking for the interests of my employer.

Every time I have voted in Highlands there is a wonderful atmosphere at the Civic Center — a quiet celebration of the fact that ours is a government of, by, and for the people. That's why we're standing in line. But I think if we are going to stop the continued slide of this nation into an oligarchy run for the interests of the well-connected few with just a veneer of democracy, we all need to get involved. The history of Highlands provides us with a good model.

## ... FORUM continued from page 2

Liquor law which says a sporting club can have liquor by the drink. OEI has a tennis court at their "Farm" Center just outside of town which qualifies them for what they do in their restaurants in town, Madison's and the Rib Shack. This indeed does appear unfair to the other restaurants who cannot build a tennis court or other sports facility on their property.

My position on this is that, if the town wants a referendum on this matter, I would be in favor of it so the people can make that choice. It is clearly up to the people of Highlands to decide this matter. A loophole in the law is not a reason for there not to be fairness to all. To me, although serving liquor by the drink at the table in restaurants may be an option, open bars, wherever they may be, are not in character with Highlands. But that is for the people to decide by referendum if that is what they want.

In the recent meeting of the Affordable Housing Task Force, significant factors were discussed. The task force is getting into the depths of the problem in Highlands and are facing major issues in bringing affordable

housing to Highlands. It is not an easy task but one this incredibly talented group of individuals has the ability to bring to the community in a way which will give us avenues in which to solve a serious problem. Everyone in the community is welcome to help us as we work through these issues. I applaud this committee on their commitment to work on this difficult problem. The committee meeting times are posted at town hall and the public is welcome to come and listen to the discussion.

Some of you have wondered why I am growing a beard like my predecessor, Buck Trott. I can assure you it is not so I can be Santa Claus next year! Hillrie Quin and Travis Goodloe, and I are out of the country in Antarctica enjoying the glorious scenery, the penguins, the birds, the whales and trekking across the frozen deep southern continent. I thought it was fitting to let my whiskers grow for this trip. It is the only continent to which I have not been, and we are all looking forward to it. I look forward to telling you all about the trip upon our return.

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## Get involved with county planning

February's Macon County Planning Board meeting will be held at the Highlands Recreation Park Feb. 20 at 5 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and make brief statements about their concerns. Monthly county planning meetings will be held in different communities throughout the county from now on.

The Macon County Planning Board is poised to move forward in a productive manner," said member Susan Ervin. "The new county commission is showing strong support for planning and has asked us to re-write the Subdivision Ordinance with more substance."

At the January Macon County Planning Board meeting, Lewis Penland was named chairman. He is a successful developer who recognizes the necessity and usefulness of clear guidelines for development, said Ervin. "We hope to move forward efficiently and professionally in developing an appropriate subdivision ordinance for our fast-growing county," she said.

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league pennants, and a World Series title. While Cox does have a world title to his name, his postseason accomplishments aren't nearly as great given the number of chances he had to win.

So is winning enough anymore? The regular season to any sport loses importance once a division title is clinched. Every athlete dreams of going to the big time, whether it's the World Series, the Superbowl, the NCAA tournament, a BCS bowl game, or the Stanley Cup finals. As the

Yankees have found out numerous times, the best payroll doesn't always equal a championship. Braves fans want another title of World Champions but still understand that what Cox has done is a feat in itself. State fans pushed Sendek to Arizona State after another disappointing finish in the NCAA tournament.

The elephant in the room that everyone ignores is that becoming a champion is a difficult combination of skill, personnel, a lot of luck, and most importantly, HEART. All four have to be present in order to win a championship. The Colts this year were good and they clicked at the right time, and were lucky that the injuries they had did not take them out of the game. Florida had a great team that was overlooked a lot last year, but they also got lucky that Connecticut fell to George Mason, as did a lot of other good teams. Luck plays a major part in a single elimination format, and the best team doesn't always win. The Chargers were a bit unlucky, but they will realize just how good Schott was when they don't match their record from this past season.

You know how you start one project and something happens that changes the entire direction of said project? I just finished a piece on the Duke/Carolina rivalry and as I'm watching ESPN, breaking news says that Marty Schottenheimer has been fired by the Chargers.

Marty has always been known as a great regular season coach, he just can't get it done in the postseason. His overall record is 200-126-1 in 21 years in coaching, but with only 5 wins in 13 postseason trips he still has a bit of a dark cloud over his head. The Chargers had the best regular season record in the NFL this season at 14-2, a future Hall of Fame running back in LaDainian Tomlinson, a smart quarterback in Philip Rivers, a freak of an athlete on defense in Shawn Merriman, and a huge target for Rivers in Antonio Gates as a safety valve on offense.

So why did the Chargers bow out early? Not having Rivers at 100% with an injured foot definitely made things tougher. Facing the Patriots in the playoffs at any point in the past 5 years is proven to be incredibly difficult as Bill Belichick's playoff record stands at 13-3. Mental errors leading to 4 turnovers, including one that would have ended the game against the Patriots thanks to Marlon McCree's fumble after an interception undeniably caused the loss.

I don't blame the Chargers for firing him. The Schott is a good coach, but he reminds me of two organizations: the Wolfpack of NC State and the Atlanta Braves. State held onto head coach Herb Sendek for years, and Bobby Cox has been the manager of the Braves since 1990. The similarity between all three coaches is their ability to win in the regular season, but come crunch time in the playoffs they faltered more often than not. Sendek only had one losing season in his time at NC State in 2000-2001, but compared to his predecessor in Les Robinson he brought State back into the upper tier of the ACC with 5 straight trips to the NCAA tournament. Cox is considered to be a great manager, as the Braves won 15 straight division titles, 5 national

## • UPCOMING SCC CLASSES •

• **Basics of Grape Production**, a course on growing grapes to sell, to start a small vineyard or for personal use, will be offered at the Southwestern Community College Macon Annex on Tuesday evenings from February 20 through April 10.

Scheduled from 6:30 to 8 p.m., course classes will be taught by John Cantrell, owner of Mashburn Branch Vineyards, and local agriculture extension agents.

Basics of Grape Production will cover the art and science of growing grapes. Topics presented will include: grape varieties, site selection, soil samples, pruning and training grape vines, canopy management, pest management, vine nutrition, irrigation, crop yield, costs to grow grapes, plus much more. In addition to classroom work, a tour of a local vineyard will be scheduled.

The class is sponsored by SCC and the NC Cooperative Extension Service in Macon County. Cost for the class is \$55, which covers the registration fee, books and materials.

To pre-register for the class, phone

SCC at 828-586-4091 ext. 426 or 828-369-0591 or 828-488-6413.

• **Introduction to Intellectual Property Issues**, a workshop on the foundations of intellectual property, will be offered through Southwestern Community College on Tuesday, Feb. 27, in the conference room on the first floor of Bradford Hall on the Jackson campus.

Scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m., the workshop will focus on issues facing life science and other technology-based businesses. Participants will be introduced to the four main areas of intellectual property law, including trade secrets, patents, copyrights and trademarks. Participants will also learn the process required to protect intellectual property in each of those areas.

This free workshop is cosponsored by Southwestern and the NC BioNetwork BioBusiness Center. Seating is limited and the deadline for registration is Friday, Feb. 23. For more information, contact Russ Seagle at the SCC Small Business Center at 828-488-641



# • THE CONSERVATIVE POV •

## Wake up, America!

The other day, I was driving around doing errands, and tuned in to Rush's show on the radio. As it happens, Roger Hedgecock, ex-mayor of San Diego and current talk-show host, was subbing for Rush, and told a story that alarmed me mightily.

According to Roger, the Democratic National Committee's winter meeting was opened with prayer, which is admirable.

However, the prayer was given by Imam Husham Al-Husainy. He is the Imam of the Karbalaa Islamic Education Center in Dearborn, MI.

I heard nothing more for a couple of days and feared the story had been scuttled. However, that night, Hannity and Combes, which I rarely watch because I cannot handle Combes, had the Imam on their show and Hannity exposed him as the anti-Israel, anti-American radical Islamist he is.

Frankly, I think Hannity missed the point. Instead of pounding the Imam, it seems to me that it was the leadership of the DNC that should have taken the heat. After all, the prayer was just what one would expect from a man in his position. I'd be interested to know the thought process involved that gave him the opportunity to condemn the U.S. for anything much less in prayer at a major political party function.

France is gone; it just doesn't know it quite yet. The riots and burning neighborhoods recently weren't spontaneous. They were orchestrated by



**Don Swanson**  
**Feedback is encouraged. Email**  
**swandonson@dnet.net**

young Islamic men flexing their political muscles and making themselves heard. The Islamists are reproducing at a rate much higher than their non-Islam countrymen and will soon exert controlling political influence on the government of France.

While their progress is behind that of France, Islamists have the United Kingdom in their crosshairs. The UK is a giant piece of the Islam mosaic leading in

their minds to world domination and suppression. They will take their time but they will press on until they either get what they want or are stopped by force.

How about the home front? Madrasahs (Islamic schools) are proliferating. As I understand it, peace and love are not part of the curriculum. Prisons are perfect recruiting venues for radical Islam. The inmates are likely to be disenchanted with the current system. They are a "captive" audience with plenty of time to be indoctrinated. While I can't prove it, I have a strong suspicion that the increase in gang activity is somewhat related to the prison experience.

Newly elected Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN) demanded to be sworn into office with his hand on the Quran and was. As a Muslim, somehow he felt entitled to trash hundreds of years of American tradition. Rep. Virgil Goode (R-VA) expressed his concern that if immigration laws weren't overhauled, there will be many more Muslims

making similar demands. He was immediately labeled an Islamophobe by the national media.

I watched, with some discomfort, Barack Obama's televised announcement of his candidacy. I don't know what his true religious convictions are these days, but with his Islamic heritage and schooling, I don't

know how far I'd trust him as a president who would be the commander-in-chief at the time when the greatest threat to our sovereignty would be radical Islam.

Can't profile, can't eavesdrop, can't fight the enemy on foreign soil. I think the country needs to be taken in a new direction.

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## • H-C HOSPITAL BOARD NEWS •

To keep the news media and the public better informed about Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we submit a summary of the more significant actions and discussion items discussed at the hospital's board of directors Jan. 25).

The board unanimously approved the recommendations of the Governance Committee, which is responsible for nominating new board members, appointing three new members. The three, retired attorney Griffin Bell, former chief of staff Dr. S. David Register and former General Electric executive Charlie Sheehan, all of Highlands, will take office immediately. Under the reorganization transition plan, which provides for staggered terms, Bell will serve one year, Register will serve two years, and Sheehan will serve a three-year term.

To start the meeting off board members heard a short educational presentation on using the hospital's website at ([www.highlandscashiershospital.org](http://www.highlandscashiershospital.org))

Skip Taylor, director of community relations, gave a live demonstration of how the site looks and functions, adding that the number of visitors to the site continues to increase exponentially.

The site attracted nearly 6,300 viewers in December, and averaged between 4,500 and 5,000 visits per month during 2006. Most of that traffic involves pages listing physicians and staff employment opportunities, he said. The hospital posts job openings on its website and nearly 45 people applied for positions using the site's on-line application form last month.

The board also heard a report from Russell Harris, executive director of the hospital's Foundation, on the successful annual fund drive conducted this past fall. Harris said both the total number of area residents making contributions and the total amount raised was strong compared to the fall 2005 drive.

Yet, the hospital continues to need that support. The finance committee reported that the hospital lost money again in December, but that the losses were less than during the same month last year and less than projected in the current year's budget.

The committee also reported that the hospital has finalized the sale of the Chestnut Hill property to the organization's current owners, Canyon Creek, Inc. The terms of the sale had already been set under a lease/purchase clause in the pre-existing lease. Proceeds from the sale will be kept separate from the hospital's operating funds and used only for long-term capital needs, as they arise.

Board members also signed agreements dealing with avoiding any conflict of interest in their fiduciary roles. Board members who agree to serve must pledge to abide by certain ethical standards set by the hospital's bylaws and reflecting federal and state regulations and also standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare organizations.

President and CEO Ken Shull reported that physician recruitment continues to move forward. The hospital is currently talking with several general surgeons interested in possibly serving the area full-time. He said one candidate has been eliminated from consideration, but several others remain strong possibilities.

In the area of primary care, Shull reported that Dr. Toby Lindsay, who has been working full-time in the hospital emergency room, has reopened his practice in family medicine in Cashiers. Talks continue with several internal medicine physicians and a urologist. The hospital is close to hiring a new administrator for the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center, and interviews with candidates for the director of nursing for the acute care department of the hospital are under way. He also said the temporary shortage of certified nursing assistants and nurses is improving.

## • BIZ NEWS •



## Theater Weekends at Main St. Inn

The Main Street Inn, Highlands is offering four "Theater Weekends" in February and March. The first two weekends are Saturday, February 24 and Saturday March 3; featuring the Highlands Community Players production of "Caught in the Villain's Web," an old fashioned melodrama. (Then all of your info) The third and fourth weekends are Saturday, March 10 and Saturday, March 31 featuring a co-production of the Highlands Community Players and the Instant Theater Company for the critically acclaimed play, "Parallel Lives."

All of the performances are available as a Stay and Play all inclusive package with accommodations being offered at The Main Street Inn in Highlands. The weekend packages include Saturday night lodging at the Inn, Cocktail party with wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres, tickets to the play and after the play the Main Street Inn will be preparing several selections of desserts for your tasting pleasure while relaxing over a glass of wine or cup of coffee and enjoying the soft piano music and candlelight. Unwind and enjoy an extended check out time on Sunday and indulge in the huge gourmet breakfast served to Main Street Inn guests.

All inclusive packages start at \$175 for two people, standard room and \$245 for two people, deluxe king room.



## ... LETTERS continued from page 2

is a valuable biological resource is beyond question, as a rare example of a wild high-gradient river coursing through a sizable tract of intact eastern deciduous forest.

Its wilderness designation also makes the upper Chattooga a valuable cultural resource, an equally rare example of a vast and relatively unimpacted forest that now represents an island in a landscape in various stages of impact and degradation. As cultural resource, such wilderness areas give people the opportunity to realize profound solitude and contemplation.

Biologically speaking, the landscape of the upper Chattooga provides an astoundingly diverse mosaic of habitat types, from cove and upland forest to rock outcrop and spray cliff communities. The rugged and wet conditions such as those that prevail in this area provide a haven for an assemblage of plant and animal species, including rarities like tropical-affinity ferns.

Our area in general, but especially large intact tracts such as the Chattooga watershed area, boasts peak or near-peak world biodiversity for many taxonomic groups. Most notably, the area is world-renowned for its salamander diversity, and that of its flowering plants.

Opening this area to boat traffic and, more importantly, the attendant human activity in shuttling boaters, portaging, and picnicking, will have the inevitable consequence of introducing significant biological threats to the integrity of the forest. This will occur through both direct degradation by establishing high-use trails (and the elevated incidence of litter and refuse associated with such trails), and the unintentional introduction of pest species that will secure a foot-hold in the forest. Aggressive exotic pest plants like Japanese knotweed, plantain, privet and others tend to be dispersed along disturbance areas (e.g., trails) by human vehicular and foot traffic. Elevated human traffic in the upper Chattooga will almost certainly introduce such pests, ultimately creating "edge effects" via degradation that eats into the adjacent forest. At present the upper Chattooga watershed area can be seen as an ecological core area that acts as a refuge and source population. The fragmentation and edge effects stemming from intensive visitation and use will erode this core area.

A parallel degradation occurs with respect to the cultural value of the upper Chattooga watershed. This Wild and Scenic River area holds immense value for what it symbolizes and what it can offer low-impact visitors. The Wilderness Act of 1964 gained wide support because citizens and government leaders recognized that "wildness" and solitude were becoming scarce commodities. The spiritual and aesthetic benefits to be gained from such restricted-access areas like the upper Chattooga are incalculable; opening this stretch of river to intensive

boating use immediately undermines its value as place of solitude and contemplation. I have boated on other rivers in our area, and while the outfitters I boated with were conscientious about such matters as litter, the noise and well-worn portage trails made it clear this was no wilderness experience. Must we leave our footprint absolutely everywhere? I believe that the intent of the Wilderness Act and the Wild and Scenic River program is to save us from ourselves as much as to preserve the biological integrity of our environment.

We are fortunate to have an abundance of rugged and exciting river stretches in our area, nearly all of which are open to boating. It is far from unreasonable to ask that this now-pristine and biologically significant area remain closed to boating traffic and the attendant impacts associated with boating. At a time when the natural landscape of the southern Appalachians is experiencing accelerated fragmentation through development and recreational pursuits, it is only sensible to safeguard the integrity of the few genuinely large and intact tracts of land remaining; the biological and cultural value of such tracts as the upper Chattooga watershed demands that we act responsibly for ourselves and future generations – once degraded, the recovery of the forest and the river is an exceedingly slow process.

Dr. James T. Costa  
Highlands Biological Station

## USFS fees to go up

The National Forests in North Carolina are proposing to increase fees at several recreation sites in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests. Following are the proposed fee increases:

**Tellico OHV Area** (Tusquitee Ranger District, Nantahala National Forest, Cherokee County) Fees are proposed to increase from \$5 per day per person and \$30 per season pass per person to \$10 per day and \$60 per season pass per person.

**Cheoah Point Campground** (Cheoah Ranger District, Nantahala National Forest, Graham County) The current fee of \$8 per site per night would increase to \$15 per site per night. Cheoah Point CG has been completely reconstructed during the past two years with showers and two new camping cabins added. The proposed fee for the camping cabins is \$35 per night per cabin.

**Jackrabbit Campground** (Tusquitee Ranger District, Nantahala National Forest, Clay County) The current fee of \$15 per site per night for all sites is proposed to increase to \$20 per site per night for lakefront sites. The fee for all remaining sites would remain at \$15 at Jackrabbit. There is a \$5 surcharge for all sites with electricity throughout the forest.

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## Three new members named to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital board

Three area residents have been named to the board of directors of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Atlanta attorney Griffin B. Bell, Jr., former General Electric executive Charles V. Sheehan and Highlands anesthesiolo-

gist Dr. S. David Register were elected at last week's regular board of directors meeting for January.

Bell will serve for one year, Sheehan for three years and Register for two. The different lengths of terms were the result

of last summer's board restructuring. That restructuring reduced the overall number of board members slightly and eliminated several positions that traditionally represented various groups associated with the hospital (such as the Hospital Auxiliary). Varying the terms of those appointed will restore the board's normal system of staggered terms, explained board Chairman Bud Smith.

Bell, who has had a home in Highlands since 1978, has practiced law in Georgia for 37 years, most of it with the firm of Fisher and Phillips, the largest labor law firm in the country. In addition to his career as a trial lawyer, he was very active in Boy Scouts in the Atlanta area.

Since moving to Highlands full-time in 2000, he has been active in church and civic affairs, currently serving as the chairman of the Town of Highlands Planning Board, and as a member of the board of the Community Care Clinic. In the past he has served as president of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and as a board member of the Highlands Historical Society. He is active in the Highlands United Methodist Church, serving as an usher, as a Sunday School teacher and on the board of the Bolivian Mission project.

He majored in Latin at the University of Georgia, served two years in the U.S. Army, and then went on to earn his law degree from Emory University in Atlanta.

He and his wife of 41 years, Glenda, have two grown children and four grandchildren.

Charlie Sheehan spent 32 years with General Electric, rising to become the Corporate Executive Office Vice President, working directly with Chairman Jack Welch and Vice Chairman Ed Hood. In that position he oversaw approximately half of the company's many diversified businesses. He left that post in 1987 to become CEO of Kidder Peabody and Co. investments — at the urging of Welch — and guided the company through a major reorganization and the stock market crash of 1987. He then became managing director of Kidder & Peabody's brokerage business, which had more than

1,700 brokers and money managers.

After retiring in 1991, Sheehan was named to the board of Indian River Medical Center in Vero Beach, FL., later becoming chairman of the board at the 335-bed hospital from 2004-2006. He became a member of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation Board last year and serves as a Lector at both Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Highlands and Holy Cross Catholic Church in Vero Beach. He is also a past president of Wildcat Cliffs Country Club.

Sheehan graduated from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, in 1952, before serving two years in the US Navy.

Dr. Dave Register returns to the board after several months' absence. Register served previously as a non-voting member by virtue of being chief of the hospital's medical staff last year — a post he rotated out of in October. This time he will be a full voting community member, independent of his role as a hospital physician.

A Georgia native, he received his undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia, in Athens, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He went on to complete his medical education at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta in 1981. After receiving his medical degree, Dr. Register completed an internship in general surgery at the Keesler USAF Medical Center in Biloxi, MS, in 1982, and then completed

the anesthesiology residency at Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center in San Antonio, TX. He went on to complete a Fellowship in Critical Care Medicine the following year, also at the Wilford Hall Medical Center.

Register joined the hospital's medical staff in 2002, coming to Highlands from Valdosta, GA, where he practiced with Valdosta Anesthesia Associates, PC, at South Georgia Medical Center. He is board certified in anesthesiology and holds special credentials in Critical Care Medicine.

He and his wife Ann have two grown children.



Griffin Bell, Jr.



Charlie Sheehan



Dr. David Register



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## • UPCOMING EVENTS •

### On-going

• 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](http://www.ncmana.org).

• Every Tuesday, beginning Feb. 13, Women's Bible Study, Beth Moore's study of Daniel at Community Bible Church Fellowship Hall. All ladies invited. Call the church at 526-4685 to order your book.

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

• The Macon County Art League exhibits work at the Bascom Louise Gallery in the Hudson Library through Feb. 15.

• Beginner Classical Yoga Group meets on Mondays, 5:45-7 p.m. at Highlands Yoga and Wellness, 464 Carolina Way. Mats and blankets provided. Learn the basics and improve your health. Other classes available. Call 526-8880 Ashby or Chad.

• Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays. Bring your mat. \$7 per person per class or \$50 for a monthly pass.

• Angie Jenkins on the piano at the Old Clayton Inn in Clayton on Fridays and Saturdays for dinner.

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

• Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free with HealthTracks Membership or \$8 per class for non-members. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

• Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is offering a total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Free with Health Track Membership or \$8 for non-members. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT.

• Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is holding Pilates classes on Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Cost of the class is \$10 per session or \$8 (each) for 10 sessions. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT.

• A Grief Support Group is held every Friday from 10-12 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or is dealing with a progressive illness with a loved one. If interested in attending, please contact Helen Moore (Hospice) 526-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplain at HCH) at 787-1463.

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

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

• Live music at Cyprus Restaurant every Friday at 9:30 p.m.

• Children's classes resume at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is \$5 per student. Mondays: For Homeschoolers, classes are from 1-3 p.m. For 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders, classes are from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Tuesdays: classes for pre-school are 11-11:30 a.m.; for kindergarten-1<sup>st</sup> grade, classes are 3:15-4:15 p.m. and for young adult independent study, classes are from 1-2:30 p.m.; Wednesdays classes are for middle school students from 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Every Tuesday

### ... FUTURE continued from page 1

tions needed immediately throughout the district – particularly at East Franklin and Franklin High School which will both alleviate overcrowding and upgrade. Based on projected SIMS data at the 20th day of school, the district expects to have 4,752 students in the system by 2011-12; a seven percent increase from the current 4,330. Brigman said, repairs are needed at almost every school in the system.

Some repairs and renovations will be phased in or not done at all if the county agrees to fund a consolidated school with a shared-campus for K-5 and 6-8 in the northern end of the county. "Of course we're not going to make our students sit in a school with a leaking roof," said BOE chairman Donnie Edwards. But he said major infrastructure upgrades suggested for Cullasaja School might not happen if consolidation becomes a reality.

Instead of spending millions upgrading and repairing Iotla, Cowee and Cullasaja elementary schools and to alleviate crowding while preparing for growth, Brigman proposed combining Iotla, Cowee and Cullasaja into a K-5/6-8 "school within a school." "By using the school-within-a-school concept we can save \$850,000 to \$900,000 a year in operating expenses," he said.

Brigman supported his theory with statistics showing that the per student cost of

running Cowee, Cullasaja and Iotla is substantially higher than schools with more students.

For instance, with 371 students at Cartoogechaye, expenditure per student is \$6,607.54. However, the cost at Cowee with 139 students is \$8,401.97; at Cullasaja with 176 students it's \$7,856.69 and the cost at Iotla with 145 students it's \$8,702.63.

He said the annual operational impact on the district to operate those three schools is about \$800,000 when compared to Cartoogechaye.

Architect Mike Watson with Ellis & Watson Architects said the county would save millions installing infrastructure for one water and sewer system, and one kitchen, to name a few obvious savings. "Kitchens are one of the most expensive areas to build and typically cost \$850,000-\$900,000."

The two schools would be separate so school populations wouldn't mingle, but the same administration area, kitchen, cafeteria and media center and staff in each of those areas would be used. "The long-term impact will represent a substantial financial savings," said Brigman.

Funding for all repairs, renovations and expansions would come from proceeds of the Otto School sale of \$525,400; use of the unallocated balance of the public school building fund of \$335,305.34 with a 75-

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• As part of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin's "Life-Span Learning Curriculum," there are "Wednesday Night Chautauquas" which are media enhanced study sessions at the UU Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or (706-746-9964. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 85 Sierra Drive, Franklin. Follow the street that runs next to Hardees (Lakeside Drive), for 1.2 miles.

• See EVENTS page 19

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25 match from local government of \$111,667; \$77,099 from the NC Lottery and \$2 million in QZAB to partially fund East Franklin renovations and expansion. Another \$6 million would be needed to build the new consolidated school which would take two years to complete.

Commissioner Leatherman said he understood how delaying decisions adds to the cost of construction but the board must prioritize countywide needs including recreation, the library, schools and other county facilities. "We need to decide how we're going to pay for all this," he said. "Paying for it is the reality."

County Manager Sam Greenwood said the General Assembly is in session and is discussing allowing county commissions to levy a half-cent sales tax earmarked for school construction. "Instead of relying on property taxes, this could generate \$1 million to \$2.5 million a year," he said.

Greenwood said the county's general fund can no longer fund what's needed and a bond referendum was another option for raising money.

In July, commissioners will meet for another planning session to prioritize converging needs of all factions and decide how to pay for them.



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Highlands, NC 28741  
828-526-0782

### HELP WANTED

**LOOKING FOR PART-TIME CLEANING HELP** - for banks in the Highlands-Cashiers area. Call 828-691-6353.

**FURNITURE DELIVERY** - Mostly in Highlands & Cashiers area. Professional appearing individual experienced in dealing with the public. Non-smoker. Good driving record. Attention to detail. Monday through Friday, some Saturdays. Call the Summer House at 526-5577. 2/15

**FIRST-CLASS CARPENTER NEEDED** - Mature self-starter with some skills in multiple trades. Work with a company that has a five-star reputation. Compensation commensurate with experience and ability. Friendly, substance-free workplace. Leave a message at 828-421-3002. We will get back to you. 2/15

**NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER EMPLOYMENT AT THE REC PARK** - Needed, lifeguard and rec counselors. Call the Rec Dept. at 526-3556 for an application or pick one up at the front desk at the Rec Park.

**VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER MEALS** - Needed on Fridays. Must pick up meals at the hospital and deliver to individuals at their homes. Call the Rec Park Office at 526-3556 or Teresa Curtis at the Macon County Dept. of Aging at 349-2058 or 349-2235.

**OFFICE MANAGER/DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR** - Duties for this full-time position include membership development, book keeping, and office management. Candidate should have excellent computer, interpersonal, communication, and writing skills. Experience with non-profit organization a plus. Interested parties should mail resume and names of three references by December 31, 2006 to Highlands Cashiers Land Trust, PO Box 1703, Highlands, NC 29741 or email to [hitrust@earthlink.net](mailto:hitrust@earthlink.net).

**MEDICAL RECORDS CODER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD Living Center.** Responsibilities include coding and abstracting diagnoses and procedures using both ICD-9-CM and CPT-4 systems. Knowledge of LMRP's for medical necessity. Qualified candidates should have 2+ years experience and be RHIT or CCS certified. Experience with Quantin encoder and CPSI a plus. New graduates welcome as long as training was through an accredited coding program. Full benefits available after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply

online through our website, [www.hchospital.org](http://www.hchospital.org).

**RN'S AND LPN'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 available after 60 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](http://www.hchospital.org).

**HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** PRN position available. Experience in hospital cleaning preferred. Other housekeeping experience helpful. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online through our website, [www.hchospital.org](http://www.hchospital.org).

**CNA or CNA II** We have available Full, Part-time, and PRN positions at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center for day and night shifts. Our NEW WAGE SCALE for CNAs is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits after 60 days to full-time employees. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at [www.hchospital.org](http://www.hchospital.org).

### OPPORTUNITY

**WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA UNIVERSITY'S PROGRAMS** in elementary education, special education, birth-kindergarten, psychology and educational leadership are developing adjunct professor pools for teaching in the region. Masters degree in the discipline area is required, doctorate preferred. Send vita to Amelia Schlott, 220 Killian, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723.

### BUSINESS FOR SALE

**ESTABLISHED ELECTRONICS STORE** with excellent growth history for sale in Highlands. Rare business opportunity. Call 526-8534.

### FOR RENT

**HOME-HOME OFFICE** - Main Street Highlands, next to the Chamber of Commerce. 2/2 with additional 1-bed or office. \$1,300 per month. Partially furnished. Call 828-526-0388.

**1,600 SQ. FT STORAGE/OFFICE SPACE.** Two units left. Each unit has; 11 ft. doors, Heat/AC systems, bathrooms. Close to downtown Highlands. \$950 per month. Call Jim Tate 828-371-0773 or Chris Gilbert owner/broker 828-421-3161. ALL RETAIL UNITS ARE GONE

**VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL PRIME OFFICE SPACE** - 900 sq. ft of renovated space with new central heat and air, hardwood floors, kitchen/full bath, separate entrance through courtyard garden, some office furniture available. There phone lines/DSL ports for office. Very roomy with lots of natural light, great walkout balcony with bistro table off office space. Great for non-smoking entrepreneur who is seeking good downtown Highlands location. Available immediately, for rent & terms contact (828) 526-9990.

**AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY**, spacious, fully



## • CLASSIFIEDS •

furnished, 1/1 apt right on Main St. Balcony, walk in closet, new carpet, and small pets are allowed. This won't last long so call 526-3363.

**2 BED, 2 BATH** – in Mirror Lake area. Newly remodeled. Wood Floors, wood-burning fireplace. Annual Lease. \$900 a month. Call 828-342-2302.

**FARM HOUSE** - 3/Bed 2/Bath renovated farm house in Scaly on Buck Knob Rd. \$1,100 + utilities monthly. Call 526-4646.

**NEW SPACES FOR LEASE IN HIGH TRAFFIC LOCATION** – Lease now for the 2007 season in Highlands Plaza. 600 sq ft – 8,000 sq ft available in new lower level or 1,200 sq ft on main level near Bryson's. Call 864-630-0808 today to lease your space in "The Most Visited Location In Highlands."

**2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH DREAM CABIN!** 5 minutes from Highlands in Scaly Mtn. New appliances, new carpet, with amazing view! Stone/Wood Cabin with carport and separate workshop and wonderful landscaped property! \$825 per month. Annual Lease. Call 423-894-9566

**COTTAGE OFF NORTON ROAD** – (seasonal or yearly) – 1 bed, 1 bath cottage – great view – quiet location – only 1 mile off of U.S. 64. Close to Highlands and Cashiers. \$700/month. Call Kelsey 404-788-1304.

**VACATION RENTAL** – The Lodge on Mirror Lake, fish or canoe from deck. Available weekly, monthly, 3-day min. Call 828-342-2302.

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR LEASE

**BEAUTIFUL CHALET** for you in downtown Highlands. Two blocks off downtown Main St. Wonderful wide porch for entertaining on Highlands Creek. Beautiful new tongue-n-grove in kitchen and bath. 2 bd/1full bath. 1500 sq ft with additional 900 sq ft basement for your office or storage needs. Beautiful brand new furniture, new carpet, new wood floors in kitchen. Fireplace. Awesome location. 1 year lease, negotiable. \$1395. (772) 631-2602 or (772) 919-2384.

**RENT OR RENT TO OWN THIS 3BED/2BATH HOME IN TOWN.** Rental rate is \$995 a month/with a portion going towards purchase. For details call (828) 421-3161.

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**1,600 SQ. FT STORAGE/OFFICE SPACE.** Two units left. Each unit has; 11 ft. doors, Heat/AC systems, bathrooms. Close to downtown Highlands. Priced at \$225,000. Call Jim Tate 828-371-0773 or Chris Gilbert owner/broker 828-421-3161. ALL RETAIL UNITS ARE GONE.

**UNUSUAL RIVERFRONT PROPERTY.** Two bedroom, 2 baths, 3-car garage, workshop, carport, concrete driveway, covered porch over looking Cullasaja River, gazebo, spiral stairway up to foyer entrance, washer and dryer, 2-door refrigerator with ice and water dispensers, smooth top range, dishwasher, plus efficiency apartment, much more. On almost level 1/2-acre on scenic Highlands Road only 5 miles from Franklin. Phone owner 828-369-2278 for appointment. \$395,000.

**ON MIRROR LAKE** – 3 bedrooms, 3 bath, plus cottage. Call 828-342-2302.

**ON LAKE SEQUOYAH** – Fabulous lake views. All newly remodeled executive home. 3 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 4 fireplaces. Call 828-342-2302.

**BY OWNER ON MIRROR LAKE** – Cute 2/2

on Wyanoak. All Newly remodeled. \$399,000. Call 828-342-2302.

**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.

**PRIVATE, WOODED LOT ON HIGH RIDGE** – Cashiers area; Sapphire Valley Resort amenities (golf, boating/fishing, swim & tennis, skiing, horseback riding). \$45,900. By owner. Call Eva (404) 819-8300.

**QUAINT** – Newly remodeled farm-style home. 1 acre, 2 stories, 3 bed, 1 bath, hardwood & carpet floors. Close to Cashiers area golf courses and Lake Glenville. Quiet neighborhood. Asking \$180,000. Call Linda. Day: 828-743-2948. Evenings: 828-743-2654.

**ADORABLE 3 BR/2 BACOTTAGE** with wonderful mountain view. One mile from Main Street. Highlands. \$275,000. By Owner. For Appt. 828-526-1085.

**THREE BEDROOM** – 2 bath ranch home on approx. 3/4 acre. 2 miles from Highlands-Cashiers

hospital. \$240,000. Will consider offer. Ask for Anna. Country Club Properties 828-526-2520

### ITEMS FOR SALE

**LARGE WHITE FRENCH PROVINCIAL CHEST-OF-DRAWERS** - \$175; Queen mattress and box springs - \$150; sofa, excellent condition - \$175; Belgian wood trunk - \$200; four painted wood chairs - \$100; four wood pub chairs - \$80. Call 526-0299.

**DINING ROOM FURNITURE.** Very nice. Rectangular with two leaves 6 chairs, 2 with arms. Maple with upholstered seats. \$326 all inclusive. 864-972-8525 or cell 864-723-4101

**SPA (FLORES 6-3 SERIES)** – From Rec Warehouse, 6-8 seats with 38 jets including a waterface and 4 shoulder jets. The size is 93" x 93" x 41.25". Brand new, still in container. Original price \$6,500, will sell for \$5,000. Can be seen at Long Transfer Company. Call Mariette at 770-503-4433.

**HILTI TE 805 DEMOLITION HAMMER.** New. Case & 4 bits. \$500. 828-526-2700 or 828-421-7886

**1958 ALBATROSE TRAILER WITH COVER AND PORCH.** Maple interior. Good condition. \$1,000. Can be seen a Carolina Court. 526-5939.

**JENNY LIND BABY BED** – light stain, excellent condition, mattress, all linens, originally \$375

asking \$225. Call 526-0498.

**IKEA STORAGE LOFT QUEEN BED WITH DESK, BOOKSHELVES & DRAWERS** – Solid Pine/Hardware & Instructions Included 63"w x 84"h x 86"l \$400, OBO. 828-524-1172.

**SLEEPER SOFA** – Neutral Plaid. Like New. \$145. Call 864-972-8525.

**MICROWAVE** – GE spacesaver, 19"x12"x12", black. \$50. 526-5834

**ENGLISH & AMERICAN ANTIQUES** – 18th & 20th Century. Private Estate Sale by Appointment only. Call 828-452-4888.

**1 LADIES 26" BICYCLE** . 6-speed, very good condition. \$25.00 828-349-3320

**HEAVY BRASS ELECTRIC HANGING FIXTURE** – Six green, glass panels, 4 feet of matching chain. 22-inch diameter. \$975. Call 526-1773.

**SOLID DARK OAK DINETTE CABINET.** 19"x64"x84". 3 glass windows on top. 3 drawers on bottom. 2 bottom doors with keys. Imported from Belgium. Excellent condition. \$1,500. Call 369-3250.

### PETS FOR SALE

**AKC BLACK LAB PUPPIES** – Very healthy, home-raised, loveable. 2 female, 1 male. Call 828-389-9737.

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 21

## • HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

### High Country Cafe



Down home favorites everyday!

Breakfast & Lunch  
6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Sunday through Friday;  
Saturday, 7 am.-1 p.m.

**526-0572**

Cashiers Road next to the  
Community Bible Church

Stop in for slow-cooked BBQ, Ribs,  
Fried Chicken, Hot Wings and other  
Southern favorites that'll have you  
coming back for more.



461 Spring Street • 526-2626

### DUSTY's RHODES SUPERETTE

**Now Available!**

Tuesday – Saturday:  
Homebaked Sweetbread,  
Danish & more.

Baked Fresh Daily by...

**Season's Sampler**

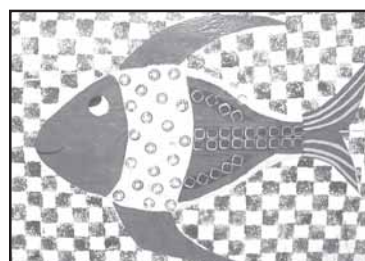
Christina Picklesimer  
Owner/Baker

**New! Chili Cheesebread &  
Rosemary Bread**

Come in a sample these delicious  
pasteries!

**We'll be closed March 4-11**

Mon-Sat • 493 Dillard Rd. • **526-2762**



### Pescado's Burritos

In the middle of 4th St.  
Open for lunch  
Mon-Sat. • 526-9313



"Quick Service Not Fast Food!"

Hamburgers & Fries  
Sandwiches & Salads  
Ice Cream & More!

**Open for lunch Mon.-Fri.  
Now Trans Fat FREE**

At 4th & Spring streets...on the hill

**526-5916**

\$10 minimum with credit card

### Buck's Coffee Cafe

Open 7 days a week  
7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Coffee, tea, wine,  
pastries, sandwiches  
384 Main Street



# COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

Wright Sq. 828-526-2520 • Main St. 526-5010 • Mtn. Fresh 787-2002

Fax 828-526-2470 | [www.ccphighlandsnc.com](http://www.ccphighlandsnc.com) | [ccp4info@verizon.net](mailto:ccp4info@verizon.net)



VILLAGE WALK – in town, 3 bed, 3 bath, screened porch, gas fireplace, cathedral ceiling. Offered at \$795,000. MLS #60558



HORSE COVE – 4 bed, 4 bath, 2.0+/- acres, 6,000 sq/ft.+/-, granite countertops, wine room, billiard area, generator, \$1,395,000. MLS #60672



MIRROR LAKE ROAD – 3 Bed, 3 Bath, Garage, Cathedral Ceiling, Walk to Lake, Offered at \$520,000. MLS #59746



KING MTN. forever view, 3 bed, 3 bath, 2 car garage, fireplace, fully furnished. Offered at \$995,000. MLS #56113



WILDCAT CLIFFS – Mtn. View, Massive great room w/coverd porch, 2 stone fireplaces, Offered at \$750,000. MLS #58596



COWEE RIDGE – 3.2+/- acres, featuring a pond & mountain vista. 4 bed, 4.5 bath, 2 bonus rooms & 2-car garage. \$1,995,000. MLS #60794



HIGHLANDS VIEW – 3 bed, 2 bath, w/bonus room. Vaulted w/ fireplace, Offered at \$299,000. MLS #60760



BIG PINE ACRES – 4 bed, 3 bath, 3 stone fireplaces. Vaulted ceiling, t & g pine, Offered at \$825,000. MLS #57259



LAUREL FALLS AT SKYLINE, 2 bed w/loft stone fireplace furnished, Offered at \$449,000. MLS #59313



HIGHLANDS CHARMER – w/waterfall & stream, 1.5+/- acres, 2 bed, 2 bath, loft w/ 1/2 bath, garage, generator, \$795,000. MLS #60821



MIRROR LAKE AREA – 3 bed, 2 bath, granite countertops, stone fireplace, garage, Offered at \$479,000. MLS #55673



WHITESIDE COVE – 7 bed, 7 bath, stone fireplace, tennis court & stream, 9 acres+/-, Offered at \$1,200,000. MLS #60752



Spectacular View! New Home, 4 bed, 4 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, covered porch, Offered at \$1,850,000. MLS #60668



PANTHER MOUNTAIN – Rushing stream, spacious deck, 3 bed, 3 bath, 2 car garage. Offered at \$350,000. MLS #56218



CLEAR CREEK ROAD – 2 bed, 1 bath, .60+/- acres, full basement. Offered at \$199,500. MLS #57524



COLD SPRINGS – 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 car garage, vaulted living w/fireplace, Offered at \$465,000. MLS #57679



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ON BUCK CREEK RD – .67+/- acre, small stream, offered "as is" for \$169,000.



CLOSE TO TOWN – overlooking a small branch, 2 bed, 1 bath, Offered at \$239,000. MLS #60212



TRILLIUM PLACE – In Town, 3 bed, 2 baths. Excellent condition. Offered at \$319,000. MLS #60822



GREAT MTN VIEW – 43+/- acres, 2 Masters, 4 bed, 3 1/2 bath, \$3,295,000 or House & 4+/- acres \$1,495,000. MLS #56558



# • UPCOMING EVENTS •

## Friday, Feb. 16

• Southwestern Community College's Small Business Center and the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce will host a seminar to help business owners and managers better understand Hispanic employees and customers from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The seminar will be led by Liliana Parker of Amiga Communications, Marketing & Consulting, LLC in Fayetteville and will also focus on marketing to the Hispanic workforce. Registration is required. Breakfast is included with the \$5 seminar fee. Call 828-586-2155 by noon Feb. 15.

• Chamber of Commerce wants feedback from businesses in the downtown area on whether to continue or eliminate two-hour parking. An informal meeting is at 9 a.m. at the Visitor Center. If you can't attend e-mail your thoughts to [visitor@highlandschamber.org](mailto:visitor@highlandschamber.org).

## Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16 & 17

• Instant Theatre Company presents a Highlands first at 8 p.m. The EMan is coming to town. Al Ernst is the EMan, the big E, the King of Comedy guaranteeing to lighten your load. Straight from Las Vegas, comedy clubs and the Carnival Cruise lines, Al brings you an "All You Can Eat Comedy Buffet." Only 2 shows, 65 seats a night will be available. Complimentary wine and cocktails will be offered as well as EMTs will be standing by with oxygen. Make the call and reserve your space at the Laugh Buffet.

## Saturday, Feb. 17

• Singer-Songwriters, Thea & the GreenMan will present an intimate unplugged concert of "Love Songs," Saturday, at 7 p.m. at the Community Center on Warwoman Road in Clayton

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a seven-mile, moderate-to-strenuous hike on the Ellicott's Rock Trail through beautiful forest to the west bank of the Chattooga River. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. Drive 24 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

## Sunday, Feb. 18

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate hike on trails and backcountry roads near Coweeta Lab. Meet at 2 p.m. at the old Winn Dixie super market in Franklin Plaza on the 441 bypass. Drive 18 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes

are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations

## Tuesday, Feb. 20

• February's Macon County Planning Board meeting will be held at the Highlands Recreation Park at 5 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and make brief statements about their concerns. Monthly county planning meetings will be held in different communities throughout the county from now on.

## Thurs., Fri., Sat. & Sun, Feb. 22-25

• "Caught in the Villian's Web," an old-fashioned melo-drama by the Highlands Community Players, evenings 7:30 p.m., Sunday matinee 2:30 p.m. Call 526-8084 for tickets and reservations.

## Wednesday, Feb. 21

• Wednesday Night Chautauquas at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Franklin. "Life-Span Learning Curriculum." A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. (optional). Study Sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. Call (828) 524-6777 or (706) 746-9984 with inquiries 85 Sierra Drive, Franklin. Follow the street that runs next to Hardee's (Lakeside Drive), for 1.2 miles

## Saturday, Feb. 24

• Mirror Lake Litter Pick-up - Saturday. Meet at Thorn Park by the bridge at 9 a.m. All are welcome!

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4.3-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike on the Appalachian Trail from Wayah Crest to Wine Spring, with an elevation change of 1,000 feet, and then on the Bartram Trail to Sawmill Gap. Great views along the way. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, across from Burger King, at 10 a.m. Drive 25 miles round trip with car shuttle. Bring a drink, lunch and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Bill Van Horn, 369-1983, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• Highlands Annual Chili Cook-off, Salsa, and Cornbread Competition will be held at the Conference Center from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Hurricane Creek.

• The Holly Springs Community is sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The blood drive will be held at Holly Springs Baptist Church, located at 366 Holly Springs Church Road in Franklin, NC. Please call 524-5200 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

## Tuesday, Feb. 27

• The Harlem Ambassadors return to play local basketball stars 7 p.m. in the Highlands School

## 'Caught in the Villains Web' coming to PAC



Trying on her costume is Ronnie Spilton who plays the part of Fleurette, the French maid, in Highlands Community Players old-fashioned melodrama, "Caught in the Villains Web," Feb 22 - 25 and March 2 - 4 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands. Tickets are \$15 each and can be reserved by calling 526-8084. New to the troupe is Carla Gates as Nella Hargrave, who flirts with the man she hopes to marry.

gym. Advance tickets are: adults \$10, students and seniors \$5, available at Fressers, Drakes Diamond Gallery, the chamber of commerce. \$15 at the door.

• HIARPT's readings from Matthew Fox's CREATIVITY. Material to be handed out at prior meetings. Coordinator: Diane McPhail. 10 a.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Lunch will follow at 11:30 for those wishing to attend. All are welcome to attend the discussions, provided only that the material to be discussed has been seen or read. For information, contact Creighton Peden at [cphi2@verizon.net](mailto:cphi2@verizon.net) or Dave Scheyer at [scheyer@peoplepc.com](mailto:scheyer@peoplepc.com).

## Fri., Sat., & Sun., March 2-4

• "Caught in the Villian's Web," an old-fashioned melodrama by the Highlands Community Players, evenings 7:30 p.m., Sunday matinee 2:30 p.m. Call 526-8084 for tickets and reservations.

## Thursday, March 5

• Win a \$4,500 scholarship to Southwestern Community College in the college's Academic Challenge which will be held Thursday, March 15, on the Jackson campus. First-place winners will receive five semesters free at SCC, along with a \$1,000 book budget, for a total value package of \$4,500. Participation in the Academic Challenge is for anyone residing in Jackson, Macon or Swain counties, or the Qualla Boundary. Information is on the SCC website at [www.southwesterncc.edu/academicchallenge](http://www.southwesterncc.edu/academicchallenge). For more information, contact Elizabeth Guertin at 586-4091, ext. 377.

## Tuesday, March 6

• HIARPT's Richard Florida's, The Flight of the Creative Class. A portion of the book will be copied and handed the previous week for discussion. Coordinator: Virginia Wilson 10 AM at the Highlands Civic Center. Lunch will follow at 11:30 for those wishing to attend. All are welcome to attend the discussions, provided only that the material to be discussed has been seen or read. For information,

contact Creighton Peden at [cphi2@verizon.net](mailto:cphi2@verizon.net).

## Tuesday, March 20

• HIARPT's Faith and Politics: How the Moral Values Debate Divides America and How to Move Forward Together by Senator John Danforth. Coordinator: Don Mullen 10 a.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Lunch will follow at 11:30 for those wishing to attend. All are welcome to attend the discussions, provided only that the material to be discussed has been seen or read. For information, contact Creighton Peden at [cphi2@verizon.net](mailto:cphi2@verizon.net).

## Ruby Cinemas Playing

### Feb. 16-22

**GHOST RIDER** rated PG-13

Fri: (4:20), 7, 9:20

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:20), 7

**BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA** rated PG

Fri: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:10), 7:05

**MUSIC AND LYRICS** rated PG-13

Fri: (4:15), 7:10, 9:15

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:15), 7:10, 9:15

Mon - Thurs: (4:15), 7:10

**NORBIT** rated PG-13

Fri: (4:20), 7:10

Sat & Sun: (4:20), 7:10

Mon - Thurs: (4:20), 7:10

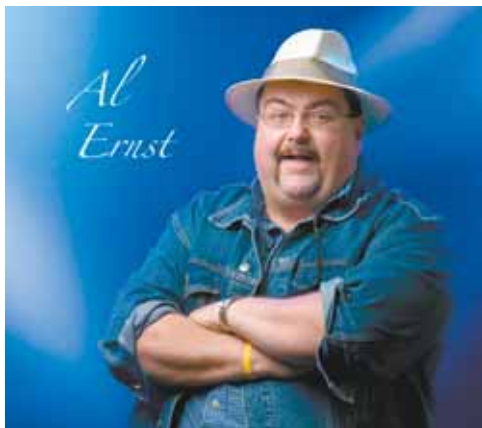
**BECAUSE I SAID SO** rated PG-13

Fri: 9:20

Sat & Sun: (2), 9:20

## The EMan coming Feb. 16-17 to ITC

**Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16 & 17 the EMan at The Instant Theater at 8 p.m. Al Ernst is the EMan, the big E, the King of Comedy guaranteeing to lighten your load. Straight from Las Vegas, comedy clubs and the Carnival Cruise lines, Al brings you an "All You Can Eat Comedy Buffet." Only 2 shows, 65 seats a night will be available. Complimentary wine and cocktails will be offered. Call 828-342-9197 for tickets.**





## • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

### Enter the house and live



**Pastor Kim Ingram**  
**Highlands United Methodist Church**

I am one of the fortunate ones who get my street plowed when it snows in Highlands. (I think the church may have planned it that way so that we never have an excuse for not coming to work!) Just a couple of weeks ago when we got that nice snow, I was listening for the snow plow to come. I love the sound of it coming down and getting to the end of the road and heading back. It is my savior!

Let me explain. If I choose to stay home all day long, it's a treat. If I'm forced to stay home all day long because of weather, I begin to feel trapped and confined. When I hear the sound of the snow plow, I know that I'm no longer trapped – I've been saved. While I may not go out the rest of the day, I know I can and it's a relief.

As I got to thinking about that, I pondered my use of the word "saved." That's a word that we use often in our relationship with God, in our "church" language. Is it heretical to talk about it in terms of the town employees? Saving is God's work, yet it is something that happens on a daily, if not moment by moment basis.

Belton Joyner (Being Methodist in the Bible Belt, Westminster John Knox Press, 2004) writes, "Salvation is really a story about what God has done more than it is a story about what we have done." A good answer to the question, "When were you saved?" might be "In AD 29 when Jesus Christ rose from the dead." God has been about saving the world ever since the beginning.

We are born and called to live into that saving action. John Wesley likens salvation to a house. To get into the house, you have to first get on the porch (repentance) and then you have to go through the door (faith). But the house itself – one's relationship with God – is holiness, holy living. God's prevenient grace calls us to repentance. God's justifying grace enables our faith. It is through God's sanctifying grace that we are empowered to live in the house. This is the grace that makes us holy – not "holier than thou" – but holy in a way that means loving God and loving others to the greatest extent that we are able.

Salvation is more than getting to heaven. Salvation is all that God has done, beginning with planting "salt on our souls so we would thirst for Thee," applying the work of Jesus Christ to us, accepting our repentance and granting us the gift of faith, pardoning our sin, working in us to move toward perfect love, and keeping us in eternal fellowship. (Joyner)

So I guess in a **metaphorical** way, the snow plow could be a means of grace and therefore an act on the journey of salvation. The town workers (God's prevenient grace) are the means by which the snow (sin) is scraped away and the cleared road (justification/new birth) gives me the freedom (including a choice to follow God) to go about my business (holy living). OK, it's a bit of a stretch, but I am grateful for salvation – by God's grace and through the town workers' efforts!

## • PLACES OF WORSHIP •

### **BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

Rev. Oliver Rice, Pastor (706) 782-3965  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m., Worship – 11  
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7  
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.

### **BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
First Saturday: Singing at 7:30 p.m.

### **CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY**

Sky Valley, Georgia  
The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbelding, Pastor  
Church: 706-746-2999  
Pastors residence: 706-746-5770  
Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month  
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

### **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329  
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

### **CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Office – 526-2320  
Sunday: Holy Communion – 2 p.m.  
(Community Bible Church on U.S. 64 between Highlands and Cashiers)

Visiting Rectors Series: Feb. 18: Steve Kerhoulas; Feb. 21: Rev. Paul Blankinship; Feb. 25: Rev. Gene Mallard.

Tuesday: Women's weekly Bible study at 2 p.m.  
Wednesday: Mens Bible study at 8 a.m.

at First Baptist Church  
Pot Luck Supper last Sunday of each month.  
All are Welcome!

### **CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor Everett Brewer  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Prayer – 6:30 p.m.  
Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday – 7 p.m.

### **COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church)  
www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685  
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands  
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;  
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study  
Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. Students' Dinner (free for kids in 8th grade and younger);  
5:30 p.m. Supper; 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 pm Small Groups for kids Pre-K through 8th; 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm Adult Bible Study 6pm-7pm Choir Practice

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

### **EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**

Rev. Brian Sullivan – 526-2968  
Sunday: 8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist-Rite 1; 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast; 9 a.m. - Sunday School; 9:45 a.m. - Choir Practice; 10:30 a.m. - Childrens Chapel; 10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II  
Monday: 4 p.m. - Women's cursillo Group; 5:30 p.m. - Women's Cursillo Group  
Tuesday: 8 a.m. - Men's Cursillo Group; 9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting  
Wednesday: 2 p.m. – Interlude; 6:30 p.m – Choir  
Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - Men's Cursillo Group Meeting; 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with healing; 10:30 a.m. - Daughters of the King Meeting; 10:30 a.m. – Bible Study  
• Sunday Service on Channel 14 Sun. at 10:30 a.m.

### **FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN**

Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977  
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m. (nursery provided)  
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.  
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens  
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.  
Small groups available throughout the week.

### **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153  
Sun.: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School – 9:30 a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.;  
Choir – 7:15  
Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.;  
Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175  
Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sun.School – 9:30 & 9:45.  
Mondays: 8 a.m. – Mens Bible Discussion & Breakfast  
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers  
Wednesdays: Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7  
Sat: Adventistas del Septimo Dia – 10 a.m. & 5

### **HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

Sixth Street  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

### **HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study  
Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

### **HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376  
Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.;  
5 p.m. Youth Group  
Wed: noon – Mens Emmaus Reunion Group; 4:45 – Childrens choir and handbells; 5:30 – Supper; 6 – Adult Handbells; 6:15 – children, youth, & adults studies;  
7:15 – Adult choir

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

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

### **HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA**

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor,  
2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741  
Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30  
**MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah  
Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Choir – 6 p.m.

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

### **MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE**

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871  
Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

For more information, call (706)-745-1842.

### **OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Rev. Tien, Priest  
Parish office, 526-2418  
Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

### **SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Rev. Clifford Willis  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11 a.m. & 7  
Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.  
**SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD**  
290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.; Evening  
Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

### **SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price  
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11  
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7  
**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**  
Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769  
Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

### **WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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



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**UNWANTED ITEMS** in good condition for a family of five. please call Tony @ 828-779-1765.

### GARAGE SALE

**MULTI-FAMILY SALE** Feb. 17, 9:a.m.-2:p.m. Furniture, antiques, rugs, dishes, linens, "collectibles", TV, dishes, glassware, etc. Pinebrook Condo #12, corner 5th and Spruce. 526-3671

### SERVICES

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**HIGHLANDS SHUTTLE SERVICE** – Atlanta Airport Shuttle. Drive - Away • Auto Delivery. All Out-of-Town Trips Driving Services. Call 526-8078.

## ... BASKETBALL continued from page 22

the shift in momentum. Highlands would charge through the break and create a 14-4 run to knot the game at 30 a piece. The two teams would continue to steal the lead from each other throughout the quarter, and an old fashioned 3 point play for the Bobcats would tie the score once again at 42-42 going into the final quarter.

The Highlanders found the perfect time to strike early in the fourth. A three pointer from the corner by Ezra Herz allowed Highlands to take a 2 point lead. Blue Ridge missed an open lay up, and Schmitt put the game on his back from there. Schmitt nailed a three point shot to push the lead to 5 points, only to see it taken back to 2 on the next possession. Schmitt proceeded to score 12 straight points off 2 NBA range three pointers, two lay ups off of steals, and the ensuing free throws called on Blue Ridge for each of those shots. The offensive onslaught would prove to be too much for the Bobcats as Highlands would ice the game with

ball control and free throw shooting.

Schmitt led all scorers with 30 points, 7 assists, 4 rebounds, and 4 steals. Nick Kerhoulas added 12 points, 10 rebounds and 5 assists; Jason Aspinwall scored 11 points and 6 rebounds, Darin Keener had 9 points, 4 rebounds and 2 blocks, and Andrew Billingsley scored 5 points with 2 rebounds. Ezra Herz chipped in 3 points and Arthur Reynolds added 2 points, 3 steals, and 2 rebounds to round out the scoring for the Highlanders. Nathan Bumgarner led the Bobcats with 18 points, followed by Kalin Haskett with 16 points and Nick Miles with 10 points.

The Highlanders will have a rematch with the Bobcats in the Little Smoky Mountain Conference tournament on Tuesday, February 13 at 9 pm. As of press time, the tournament will be in progress and results will be posted in our next issue. The winner will face the winner of the Hiwassee Dam vs. Nantahala on Thursday, February 15 at 8 pm.

## • SERVICE DIRECTORY •

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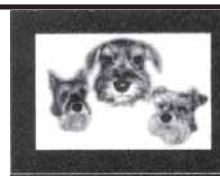
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• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL BASKETBALL •

# Lady Highlanders triumph over Bobcats

By Christopher Potts

The Lady Highlanders faced a very loud crowd celebrating Senior Night against the Bobcats and came away with a 76-46 victory. Highlands charged out of the gate, opening with a 10-2 run and never looked back. The ladies moved the ball exceptionally well on the offense, and some beautiful passing led to easy baskets. A hail-Mary pass around the 3 minute mark led to a 3 point play the hard way, and another mini run by the Highlanders forced a Blue Ridge timeout to regroup. The Lady Highlanders closed out the first quarter with the score 21-6.

Blue Ridge would put up a fight through the second quarter to attempt to keep the game from getting out of hand early. The Bobcats' Stephanie Nichols attacked Toni Schmitt on the dribble drive, forcing Schmitt to play tougher defense. Schmitt picked up 3 fouls early, and Blue Ridge capitalized by closing the gap to 36-24 at the half.

Coach Brett Lamb took his girls into the locker room at the half quietly, but the Lady Highlanders started the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter with a bang. The ladies extended their lead slowly while Blue Ridge shot themselves in the foot with sloppy play and mental mistakes. Lamb turned up the heat on the Bobcats midway through the quarter, allowing Allison Winn to force turnovers in the back court with her speed. Blue Ridge mounted one final comeback with a small 5 point run, but Highlands upped the ante with 13 straight points to put the game out of reach at 56-33 through 3 quarters.

Coach Lamb pulled his starters in the middle of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, allowing his freshman girls to get some playing time. The girls allowed the time to wind down while shooting free throws to keep a very sizable lead against the Bobcats. The final quarter took a very long time to play as play stopped for two technical fouls called on an assistant to the Blue Ridge staff. After the Bobcats were called for a charge, the assistant blew up at the referee, who promptly assessed the technical fouls and ejected him from the game. Two other technical fouls were called, one on Highlands for illegally touching the ball after passing through the cylinder on offense after a warning, and another on Blue Ridge for fan interference with the game.

Schmitt and Winn combined to score 48 points (25, 23 respectively); Schmitt also had 7 rebounds, 6 steals, and 5 assists while Winn had 6 assists. Katie Bryson followed with a double-double, scoring 15 points and 13 rebounds, while Danielle Reese had 7 points and 13 rebounds. Kate-Marie Parks and Jessica Gagne finished off the scoring for Highlands with 4 and 2 points respectively. Stephanie Nichols and fellow Bobcat Mary Cole led with 18 points apiece followed by Tori Ferguson with 16 points.

"We played great as a team. Great things happen when you play together and believe in each other. Very proud of our 3 seniors and the leadership they showed tonight and all year," commented Coach Lamb after the game. The Lady Highlanders will take on Nantahala in conference tournament action at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 13. The winner will face the winner of Hiwassee Dam vs. Blue Ridge on Thursday, February 15 at 6:30 pm. All games will be at Highlands High School.

# Schmitt surges Highlanders to conquest of Blue Ridge

Highlands (23-4, 5-1) survived a scare against Blue Ridge (1-16, 0-6) defeating the Bobcats 72-60 in a hotly contested game. The Highlanders came out sluggish in the first half, allowing the Bobcats to take a small 11-10 lead in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Blue Ridge attacked a Highlands defense that allowed easy shots and offensive rebounds, but numerous turnovers by both teams kept the score low. The Bobcats capitalized on Highlands' foul trouble when Jason Aspinwall picked up a third foul early in the second quarter. With Aspinwall on the bench along with Darin Keener, the Bobcats posted a 10 point advantage with a 15 to 6 run to close out the second quarter. A halftime score of 26-16 created a roar among the standing room only crowd

of Bobcat boosters. Blue Ridge held a ceremony for the crowning of a new Homecoming king and queen while Highlands disappeared into their locker room. Amidst the pageantry, the Bobcats had little time to huddle up and plan their attack for the second half.

It would prove to be the difference.

Highlands emerged from the extended break period with a renewed fire, led by a very vocal Alec Schmitt. Coach Butch Smart employed a furious full court press at the beginning of the third quarter, flustering the Bobcats. Two quick baskets by the Highlanders prompted a timeout by Blue Ridge in an effort to stop

• See BASKETBALL page 21

## • POLICE & FIRE REPORT •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Feb. 7-14. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

Feb. 7

- At 10:30 p.m., officers assisted with a mental patient.
- At 5 p.m., Frankie Rodriguez, 18, was arrested for tampering with a vehicle on town property.

Feb. 8

- At 7:30 p.m., vandalism of a town building was reported.

Feb. 9

- At 2:55 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Main and Third streets.
- At 12:08 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Oak Lane and Oak Street.

Feb. 10

- At 4:30 p.m., Frank Wayne Pope, 39, of Macon, GA, was arrested on a fugitive warrant

Feb. 12

- At 8:45 a.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 west and Webbmont was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

Feb. 13

- At 10:55 a.m., a motorist at Maple and Oak streets was cited for driving without a seat belt.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Feb. 7-14

Feb. 7

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

Feb. 9

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Main Street where someone fell on the sidewalk. There was no transport.

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Hill Road in Highlands Country Club. It was a false alarm.

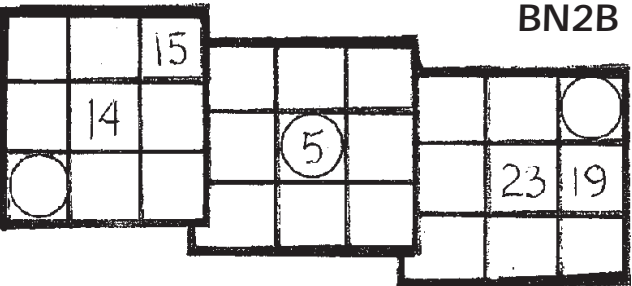
- The dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident at Flat Mountain Road and U.S. 64 east. One victim was transported to the hospital, the other was flown out by MAMA.

Feb. 10

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers to help with a structure fire at a residence on Whiteside Cove Road. The home was destroyed.

## PseudoCube®

BN2B



### THE SETUP:

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

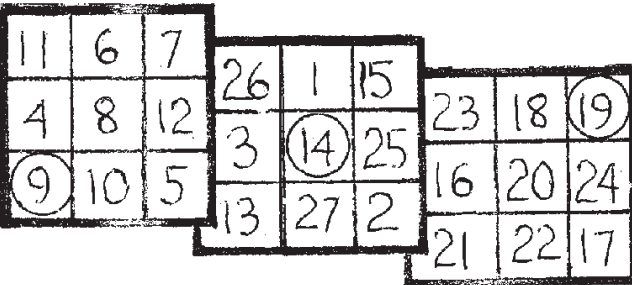
### THE CHALLENGE:

Start with the three center numbers for each layer and two other numbers. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other 22 numbers belong. Good Luck!

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

Email: [pseudocube8@aol.com](mailto:pseudocube8@aol.com)

## Solution for Feb. 8 puzzle #CN4A





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- 01) Main Street Inn
- 02) Mitchell's Lodge
- 03) Mtn High Lodge
- 04) Old Edwards Inn
- 05) The Lodge

## DINING

- 07) Brick Oven
- 08) Bucks Cafe
- 09) Cafe 460
- 10) Cyprus
- 11) Don Leon's
- 12) Fressers
- 14) Highlands Deli
- 15) Hill-Top Grill
- 17) Madison's
- 18) Main Street Inn
- 19) Nick's Restaurant
- 21) Pescado's
- 22) Pizza Place
- 23) Rib Shack
- 24) SweetTreats Cafe

## REAL ESTATE

- 31) Buyer's Realty
- 32) Century 21
- 33) Chambers Agency
- 34) Country Club Prop.
- 35) John Cleaveland
- 36) John Schiffl
- 37) Keller Williams
- 38) Meadows Mt Realty
- 41) Acorns
- 42) Black Bear Furn.
- 43) Custom Coverings
- 44) Dry Sink
- 45) Highlands Cabinet
- 46) Highlands Decorat.
- 47) Old Rangoon
- 48) Out on a Limb
- 49) Summer House
- 51) Wholesale Down
- 52) Bird Barn
- 53) Christmas Cottage
- 54) Grinning Frog Toys
- 55) Needle Point
- 56) Why Not Knit

## GIFTS

## BOUTIQUES

- 60) AnnaWear
- 61) Bungalow Boutique
- 62) Cabin Casuals
- 64) Coolcats Hotdogs
- 65) Jolies
- 69) Nancy's Fancys
- 70) Shops of O.E.I.
- 71) The Exchange
- 72) Village Kids
- 73) Vivace
- 74) Wits End
- 76) Highlands Gem
- 77) Highlands Fine Art
- 78) Kent Ltd
- 79) Silver Eagle
- 80) #1 Nails
- 81) All Seasons Salon
- 82) Creative Concepts
- 83) Images Salon/Spa
- 84) Mountain Magic
- 85) Pro Nails
- 86) Taylor Barns Salon
- 87) The Very Thing

## BEAUTY & SPA

## ANTIQUES

- 90) Elephants Foot
- 91) Mirror Lake Antiques
- 93) Shiraz Oriental Rugs
- 97) Mill Creek Gallery
- 98) Robert Tino
- 99) The Very Thing

## ART GALLERIES

- 100) ComputerMan
- 112) Drug Stores
- 115) Highlands Office
- 116) Jack Mayer
- 117) Nantahala Tire
- 118) Schmitt Builders
- 119) Woodworks

## SERVICES

- 120) Bear Mountain

## JEWELRY

- 120) Bear Mountain

## OUTFITTERS

- 120) Bear Mountain

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