

# Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 5, Number 4

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Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007

## On-going

• Highlands Little League Baseball sign-ups are coming. Board members and volunteers are needed to help this season. For more information, call John Shearl at 526-2251 or Monica Vinson at 526-9107.

• It's Girl Scout Cookie Time. Order Now. Delivery in February. Highlands Brownie Scouts Troop #219. See your local Brownie Scout or email to [HighlandsBrownies@hughes.net](mailto:HighlandsBrownies@hughes.net). Booth sales start mid-February.

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

• The Macon County Art League exhibition 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. 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 per month.

• Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes; total body and muscle-toning workout exercise classes; and Pilates classes on Mondays and Wednesdays. Contact Health Tracks at 828-526-1FIT for details.

• A Grief Support Group is held every Friday from 10-12 at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Call Helen Moore 526-0727 or Martha Porter 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.

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

## Thursday, Jan. 25

• Aaron Russo's "America: Freedom to Fascism, 7 p.m. at the Rec Park. It's free and open to all.

## Friday, Jan. 26

• Senior Citizen Luncheon at the Rec Park, 11:30 a.m. It's free.

## Friday & Saturday, Jan. 26 & 27

• HCP presents the Carolina Murder Mysteries' dinner theater play, "Death by Chocolate," at the Performing Arts Center. The dinner, catered by Holly Roberts of "Let Holly Do the Cooking," starts at 6:30 p.m. with wine and appetizers. The comedy/mystery, during dinner, starts at 7. Tickets are \$60. Call 526-8084.

## Saturday, Jan. 27

• A Hot Dog & Blue Grass Benefit at the Satolah Fire Dept. for the Cleveland Owen family at 5 p.m. Music by Foxfire and Whetrock. Raffle for a 1994 Nissan Pathfinder and a new mini camcorder. Tickets are \$10 for one or \$50 for six at Bank of America, any Satolah Fire Dept. officer or by calling 828-200-0146.

## Monday, Jan. 29

• Paint-in at Highlands Rec Park. Bring a sandwich, subject matter and art supplies. Lunch is at noon; painting begins is at 1 p.m.

## Board rules on R1 parts of ETJ map

The ETJ zoning map was partially accepted; the rest is in flux.

After much discussion between board members and the audience, commissioners decided to accept just the R1 areas in the ETJ area for now.

The definition of R1-ETJ will stay the same as R1 in town until

the planning board comes up with verbiage to allow home-based businesses and incidental buildings on vacant land in R1 in the ETJ area.

Several letters and phone calls from homeowners in the R1 areas of ETJ dealt with continuing their home-based businesses and allowing barns or garages to be built on

vacant land.

Though currently not allowed in the R1 in town, Mayor Don Mullen said "allowing this will take care of a lot of these issues."

In addition to the R1-ETJ definition, commissioners charged the Planning Board to reconsider the

• See ETJ page 15



Highlands Fire & Rescue Chief James "Popcorn" Manley and Asst. Chief Ricky Bryson with "Firemen of the Year" Bob Zoellner and John McCall at Saturday night's award ceremony at the Conference Center. Both are retiring after 20 years of service.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

## Firemen recognized for year of service

Once a year, the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department honors its volunteers for serving and protecting Highlands with a banquet and award ceremony. Also included are spouses and retired volunteers.

Every year, one man is named Fireman of the Year, but this year and for the first time, the award went to two firemen who are also retiring after serving 20 years in the department.

"You can't say enough about these two," said Fire Chief James "Popcorn" Manley. He said they've done a lot for the community and a lot for the department.

John McCall is Firefighter Level I certified, is an EMT first-responder and was chaplain for the department for several years.

Bob Zoellner is an EMT first-responder, was treasurer from 1990-1994, was Rescue Lt. 1989 and 1995 and Rescue Captain 1996-2001.

Also retiring is Gary Ammons after 25 years of service. He was Rescue Lt. for five years; Rescue Captain for one year; is an EMT first-responder; was the first fireman to receive Firefighter Level 1 in Highlands and was named Fireman of the Year in 1991.

Drill Attendance certificates for perfect attendance went to Lenny Metrick, and Roger L. Wilson. Wilson gets that award every year. The department meets every Tuesday night at the fire station.

Jimmy Petrone, who only missed one Drill Attendance meeting was commended.

Chris Metrick and Vince Petrone only missed two drills. Wayne Henry and Matthew Wilson only missed three drills.

Service pins and certificates were given to Lenny Metrick and Jody Zachary for 10 years of service; to John McCall and Bob Zoellner for 20 years of service; and to Tim Alexander and Gary Ammons for 25 years of service.

Officers for 2007 were also recognized: Chief James "Popcorn" Manley; Assistant Chief Ricky Bryson; Captain Robbie Forrester; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Wayne Henry; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Roger L. Wilson; Rescue Captain Jimmy Tate; Treasurer Terry Watson; and Secretary Lenny Metrick.

The affair was held at the Highlands Conference Center and catered by Nick Moschouris.

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## Redefining of duties a possible at Town Hall

Suddenly, Highlands has outgrown its britches and town officials realize what fit in the past might not fit now.

"We need to analyze what we're doing in some areas," said Commissioner Herb James. "We're getting larger and larger but we don't staff. The county at least staffs their government."

With that in mind, the Town Board recently established a Town Organization Review Committee and charged it to take a hard look at the organization of Highlands' government.

The committee, manned by Commissioners Amy Patterson, Hank Ross and Herb James met for the first time Friday, June 19 and established five goals.

• To address immediate manpower needs – particularly in the zoning department;

• To review the organization by using the NC League of Municipalities Classification and Pay Study report from August 2006 and interviewing employees;

• To formulate a philosophy concerning the from of government.

• See Town Hall page 6

## Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
38-22°F	45-29°F	40-20°F



# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • FORUM •

### From my perspective

Last week we had a public hearing on the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) zoning map. We had already received several letters from people living in or owning property in the ETJ area, which includes the area within a mile of the Highlands town limits, and we listened to a dozen or so comments during the hearing. There were many good comments which have been seriously considered by both the Planning Board and the Town Board. So instead of making a decision that night, the board decided to study each one of these requests and allow the Planning board also to discuss them.

The Planning Board met on Monday night and we had a called special meeting of the Town Board on Wednesday to take up these issues and finalize the zoning map all at one time instead of voting on it piecemeal. That gave both boards time to consider each proposal in some detail and come up with the proper decision not only for the individuals involved but the community as a whole. We are making the appropriate changes and corrections and are very close to the end of the long ETJ saga.

The Organizational Review Committee of the Town Board of Commissioners, whose charge is to review the organizational structure of the town in view of recent developments, met last week to begin their study. We had two very knowledgeable outside consultants join us with advice, one who is an expert from the NC League of Municipalities in Raleigh and another who has experience in organizational consultation. During this meeting there was extremely frank and good discussion about where we are now in administering the town and the different possibilities as to where we are going as a town from here.

As we work through this process, we must also begin our search for a Zoning Administrator to replace Larry Gantenbein as soon as possible. This position is so critical that we cannot go long without a person in that post. Richard Betz, our town administrator, is doing double duty until we can find a replacement. Richard is one of those jack-of-all-trades who has had vast experience in both zoning and administration over the past 25 years with our town, but there is only so much that one man can do. Fortunately, he has been preparing three other very capable individuals at Town Hall to help with this work so that nothing will fall through the cracks.



Mayor Don Mullen

We are close to hiring an individual on a contract basis to carry out the duties of inspecting and enforcing building and stormwater regulations in the various developments which are ongoing along with evaluating new proposed developments regarding stormwater control and other issues.

Because of a change in North Carolina state law regarding landfills, the Rich Gap Road landfill must be closed and converted into a transfer station by 2008. We have been meeting with county representatives to help us work out this change because by next year all waste materials must be transported down the

mountain instead of being placed in this landfill. Under the new regulations the cost of our landfill would be prohibitive. Although the cost of this changeover is great, continuing the landfill would be even greater. The county will pay for the construction and debris transfer which will be \$700,000, but, if the Town also wants a garbage transfer station added to this facility, the county officials are asking the town to pay for that and this would be a \$400,000 cost to the town. Since almost half of the county income comes from our Highlands plateau, we think the county should bear most of this expense. We are currently working on scheduling another meeting with the county authorities to try and negotiate this cost with them.

Let me remind everyone that re-evaluation letters of property values are being sent out from the county this week. Be prepared for sticker shock, my friends. As our town continues to become a more and more popular destination, our property values have escalated rapidly, as rapidly as anywhere in the country. In some ways that is good but it certainly complicates having affordable housing in our area where there is a great need.

## • LETTERS •

### Innocent before proven guilty

Dear Editor,

You wrote a great editorial the week of Jan. 18 on Larry Gantenbein entitled "Consider the good, not just the bad," reminding people to remember his record of public service to Highlands and not just his present troubles.

Thanks for the balanced view.

Too often, the media frenzy today seems to drive us to jump to a guilty conclusion long before the full facts are known and individual has a fair trial. Your work is outstanding and thoughtful.

Bob Wright  
Highlands

### Fictional account of disaster poor choice

Dear Editor,

As a former citizen of New Orleans, I take issue with Don Swanson stigmatizing this city as "that cesspool" and dismissing the severity of the problems generated by Hurricane Katrina in his Jan. 18 "Conservative POV" column.

His editorial is prompted by a "fictional account" forwarded to him by a friend. In this "fictional account" the Northern Plains are subjected to an "historical blizzard" involving 44 inches of snow and winds up to 90 mph which knock down utility poles, strand motorists, close roads, isolate communities and cut power to tens of thousands.

The stalwart citizens of this area rise to the occasion – they melt snow to drink, they send out caravans of SUVs to rescue people trapped in cars, good Samaritans deliver free meals and families take in stranded strangers. They put on extra layers of clothes (Wow) because up there it's "Work or Die." (Or maybe what he meant to say was "Dress or Freeze.") Restaurants, fire departments and police continue to function. At no point do the citizens involved in this "fictional" disaster call for outside assistance, debit cards and FEMA trailers.

Personally, I don't see much in common with this "fictional blizzard" and the reality of Katrina. What is 44 inches of snow compared to 10-12 feet of water? What about 90 mph winds compared to 130? At least the "fictional" characters were able to get water to drink. (Having snow to melt would have been most welcome after Katrina).

•See LETTERS page 4

### 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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Retiring from the department from left are: Gary Ammons, 25 years; John McCall and Bob Zoellner each 20 years.

Photos by Kim Lewicki



Above, Roger Wilson and Lenny Metrick were noted for perfect drill attendance. Wilson receives this award every year.

## Volunteers awarded, annual report in

Changing times and retirements have the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department down to 26 of the needed 30 members. But if last year's statistics are any indication, the calls will keep coming and the volunteers will keep responding.

In 2005 the department responded to 396 calls – 35 more than in 2005 – with the increase coming in the fire and related category which had a total of 263 calls – 55 more than last year.

There were 82 fire alarms. "False fire alarms continue to be a problem," said department administrator Bobby Houston. "This amounts to almost one-third of our fire-related calls." As authorized by the town, the department charges \$250 per alarm after the first false alarm in a year. "This helps and seems to be the only solution," said Houston.

Next on the list were 71 mutual aid calls from neighboring fire and rescue departments in Cashiers, Scaly and Satolah, Ga., with the majority of those assisting Cashiers. When neighboring fire and rescue departments can depend on each other it helps keep insurance rates in check. Houston said the majority of mutual aid calls to Cashiers were cancelled en route, but the department still has to respond.

Wrecks with hazardous conditions amounted to 50 calls; 23 smoke or other investigation calls were made; 17 brush or

woods fires; 11 structure fires and 9 vehicle fires.

Of the fire and related calls, 91 or 35 percent were within the town limits with the estimated fire loss value at \$83,000; 172 or 65 percent were outside the town limits with an estimated fire loss value at \$500,000.

The number of rescue and first-responder calls fell to 133, down by 20 compared to 2005.

First-responder to assist EMS was 112; there were eight wrecks calls; five miscellaneous calls; four falls and injuries; and four calls to search for missing people.

Besides spending countless hours responding to fire and rescue calls, members of the department must undergo hours of training and continuing education.

In 2006, 24 firemen attended 11 area fire and rescue schools for a total of 377 hours of formal training.

Manhours attending local meetings and training amounted to 1,656 hours; a total of 2,689 manhours including fire, rescue and first-responder calls.

The department is still four people short of its 30-member roster. Anyone interested in membership at the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department is urged to stop by the station, Monday through Friday before 11 a.m. or to call for an appointment at 526-3645.

– Kim Lewicki



Above from left are fire & rescue officers presented with service pins and certificates: Gary Ammons for 25 years, Jody Zachary for 10 years, Lenny Metrick for 10 years, Bob Zoellner for 20 years, John McCall for 20 years and Tim Alexander for 25 years.

Left, officers for 2007 are bottom from left: Chief James "Popcorn" Manley, Asst. Chief Ricky Bryson, Captain Robbie Forrester, Secretary Lenny Metrick, Rescue Lt. Eric Pierson. Top row from left: Treasurer Terry Watson, 1st. Lt. Wayne Henry, Rescue Capt. Jimmy Tate and 2nd Lt. Roger Wilson.

## CP COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

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(cell) 342-6988, 526-9027, 526-2520



### On Apple Lake!

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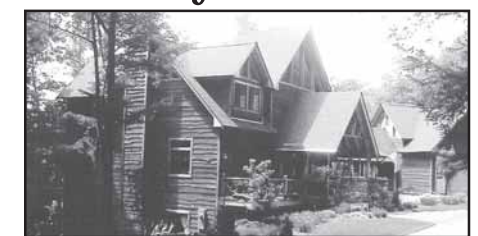
Bear's Den. Rustic lodge with Whiteside Mountain view. 8.68 acres Surrounded by National Forest. Includes tennis court, pool, sauna, Streams and trails. 7 bedrooms, 7 baths with spacious great room With stone fireplace, commercial kitchen, wet bar, large dining area and more. A rare offering at \$1.2 million.



In a lovely secluded area close to Glen Falls is this ready-to-move into 3-bed, 2 bath with cypress floors and ceilings in living area, vintage beams, stone-faced fireplace, wrap around deck, locust posts with rhodo rails, granite countertops in kitchen and full basement. Blue Valley winter view. Reduced to \$479,000.

### Laurel Branch at Skyline

This beautiful home in Laurel Falls at Skyline, is sophisticated yet charmingly rustic. Bright, open plan with top-line kitchen appliances, dining and great room with cathedral ceilings, open and covered decks, guest quarters, a master suite all on nearly 2 acres with 2-car garage with apartment. Offered at \$1,495,000.



### Three lots for sale:

- Lovely Lot in Webbmont. Close to Town. \$139,900.
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- Beautiful 3/4-acre cleared lot in Highland Hills. \$179,000.



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## ... LETTERS from page 2

The "fictional" roads were indisposed for only a short period of time; food and shelter were still available and within reach. And last but not least, I bet their cell phones were still working!

This so-called fictional Northern Plains "Weather Event of Biblical Proportions" was a poor choice for comparisons, especially since recovery from this fictional snowstorm occurred within 24 hours. I would have preferred an equitable fictional disaster in which San Francisco is visited by the worst possible scenario earthquake which destroys the entire infrastructure of the city including the Golden Gate Bridge. The distressing part of this editorial is that it expresses opinions held by a great many people in this country – opinions which have been molded largely by the media.

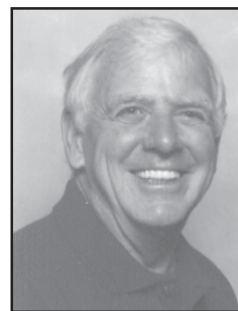
Right from the beginning, the media zoomed in on the most unfortunate inhabitants of the New Orleans area – people living in geographically risky areas

• See LETTERS page 9

## • LOOKING AT LIFE •

### Killing a war hero – part 2

Note: Fred Wooldridge spent 7 of his 28 years as the Miami Beach police department's SWAT Commander. The events, although dramatized, are true. The names are changed.



**Fred Wooldridge**

Feedback  
is encouraged!  
email:

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

Two days after decorated war hero John Clements kidnapped 15-year-old runaway, Larry Steinberg, John's threatening letter arrived at the VA hospital in Miami. The letter was opened and placed on a pile of mail in the hospital administration's in-box for distribution. The next day, a clerk made note of the seriousness of the letter, looked up John's record, and took it to his supervisor who called the police.

"Hey, Andre, you busy?" "Finishing a report, what's up?" "The VA hospital called and said they got a letter from a vet who is supposedly holding a hostage at the Billings Hotel. He thinks they're sending him back to 'Nam. Wanna come along?" "Sure, this is just another Nam nut call. That's two for me just this week. That damn war is screwing people up and that Billings is such a dump." The two detectives pulled on their sport jackets and headed for the hotel.

As the two plain-clothes officers approached John's door, one of them noticed a small piece of paper protruding from underneath the door. It said, "Help, he's got a gun." The two men backed away from the door and called for a SWAT team.

During their three days together, John Clements and Larry Steinberg had become friends, smoking marijuana and drinking beer together. Larry had been untied from his chair during the daytime hours with his promise he would not try to escape. They talked often about the horrors of war and how much John used to love to fight it.

John had convinced Larry he was actually being sent back to Viet Nam and he sympathized with him. Each day, John would tell Larry, "Even though we are friends, if they come to get me, I will have to kill you." They talked about the large kettle of boiling water on the stove. "After I shoot your ass, I'm gonna dump that kettle of water on the first MP that comes through that door. Cong women would attempt to do that to us during village raids. I shot the bitches. I am not going back to Nam; they can kill me if they want."

"Beta one, you gotta visual?" "Yes sir, two white males, bare chested, both wearing swim trunks, one possibly a teenager. Both have long, bleached-blond, shoulder-length hair, same height and weight. These guys might be brothers. I don't see a weapon and I don't see a hostage. There's a huge kettle of something cooking on the stove. Both windows to the room are open fully and there appears to be only one way out. I can't see the bathroom and that may be where our hostage is. You have a green light to smoke

both targets, copy?"

"Copy that, Beta one. CP to Beta team leader, what's your status?" "Team leader to CP. Myself, Beta two and three are at the door. No place for a listening device. Beta four and five are at the side windows. Patrol is almost finished evacuating the first-floor residents and we have the stairways blocked. We still have no on-scene negotiator but we will be good to go in two minutes. Copy?"

"Copy that, team leader. Be advised negotiator Pinon is en route and we will attempt to hold until his arrival." "Beta point one to team leader, I now have a visual on a weapon. Appears to be a lever action rifle with scope, possibly 30-caliber, leaning against the wall next to the door. The weapon is in reach of both targets so it appears our bad guy has an accomplice. Still no visual on the hostage. Copy?"

"Copy that, Beta one. CP, did you read?" "QSL, team leader. Be advised a VA shrink is also en route. According to the hospital, one of those guys, I'm guessing the older one, is a big deal war hero. I am not interested in taking out a war hero today."

At that same moment, John Clements walked to the window of his room and spotted Beta one's small telescope protruding from a large garbage dumpster in the side alley. Without emotion, John slowly cranked the jalousie windows shut and lowered the blinds. He turned to Larry and said, "I think they're here. Sit in the chair 'cause I got to tie you up." He walked to the range and turned the simmering water to high, then walked over to the rifle and picked it up.

"Beta one to team leader, Blinds pulled....I have lost visual; repeat.... I have lost visual."

"Don't worry, Larry, I'm not going to

• See WOOLDRIDGE page 17



## • ANOTHER VIEW •

### Sure seems like global warming to me!

I don't know if the nuthatch who was hanging around a bird house outside our kitchen door on January 7 or the flowering quince that bloomed in Westminster with the New Year or the lack of activity at the Scaly Mountain tubing hill have anything to do with global warming. On the other hand, I'm certain that rising temperatures and ocean levels, shrinking glaciers and warming seas do. Polar bears are clinging to smaller and smaller bits of ice.

My sister-in-law, Bunny, who is a self-styled meteorologist, dismisses the notion of global warming. She told me that while the Arctic ice cap, Africa's equatorial glaciers, and glaciers around the world are receding with startling speed, the Antarctic polar ice cap is actually growing thicker. "Put that in your pipe and smoke it," she hints.

She is correct, but that's not the whole story. Antarctica is the coldest place on earth, until recently too cold to snow. The air was so cold and dry that it couldn't produce snow. It has warmed enough to snow and the snow is falling, being compressed to ice and thickening the ice cap. So despite what my sister-in-law believes, the news is not good. Nearly every study on the subject of climate change, except those sponsored by the energy and automobile industries, confirms the unpleasant reality that our planet is warming and that human activity is at least partially responsible.

Our federal government believes that further study is needed, or so it says. The Bush administration refused to sign the Kyoto Protocol, citing harm to the U.S. economy. Frustrated state and local officials have taken the lead and introduced initiatives to reduce green house emissions. One hundred sixty-five cities have joined Seattle in this effort. Cities and states are attempting to fill the void, provide effective action, and tackle a global problem. It is a fine example of grass roots leadership, but



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo**

**Feedback is encouraged.  
email:**

**hsalzarulo@aol.com**

it is not where the leadership should be originating.

Perhaps our political system has come to this. Our federal officials will serve special interests unless they are pushed to action, and in danger of losing their position, by the folks back home. Several states, including power-house California, have seen the environmental and economic advantages of action. More than 160 nations have signed on, and only we and Australia, among developed nations, have refused to abide by to

the Kyoto Protocol. The treaty is imperfect. I don't doubt that exempting China and India from the requirement to reduce emissions can further decrease our ability to compete internationally, but our refusal to participate is indefensible and will cause irreparable damage to our common home. We must slow the production of green house gases to a level that the earth can digest. The earth can clean itself, but that ability is limited. Unrestrained use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions have exceeded the capacity of our planet to detoxify our waste. Carbon dioxide that is released into the atmosphere today will remain for 50 years, or so I'm told.

Keepers of the Doomsday clock have recently recognized global warming as a threat second only to global nuclear conflict. I think it is probably worse. The effects of a nuclear winter would subside in a year or two. The effects of global warming, while less dramatic and less sudden, are far more lasting. Our position as the world's dominant power, and most prolific producer of green house emissions, requires that we take the lead. I

can only hope that the new Democratic majority in Congress will recognize that there is no greater challenge than this. I'm not encouraged by their failure to include world climate change in the agenda for "the first 100 hours" nor by the hold that the oil industry has on our leadership.

No one can be



**A nuthatch returns**

• See ANOTHER VIEW  
page 17

## This weekend at PAC... Wine, dine and solve the crime

What more could you ask?

A delicious meal, plenty of wine, excellent dessert treats and the fun of a comedy/mystery with good friends. And to top it off, the proceeds are going to a good cause

That's what is in store when Carolina Murder Mysteries and the Highlands Community Players present "Death By Chocolate," Friday, Jan. 26 and Saturday, Jan. 27 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands. Gather at 6:30 p.m. for wine and appetizers. The dinner and show start at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the event are \$60 per person which includes the wine, dinner and the play. Proceeds from this benefit will go to the Performing Arts Center to help pay for a new addition to the building which will provide stage level dressing rooms, a freight lift to move pianos and set pieces between floors and an expand-

ed reception area on the lower floor.

The plot line centers around Angela Wudge, the high energy candy entrepreneur, her husband, Barney, the French chef Henri LaVonne, candy tycoon Tom Kenwood, an envious sister-in-law and brother-in-law. This mixture insures that there will be a crime and private eye Lansing Hughes will try to sort out who done it.

The audience will be asked to pick who they think committed the crime and solve it before Hughes does.

Among the players are HCP favorites Michele and Steve Hott, Jim Gordon, Ronnie Spilton, Virginia Talbot, Dean Zuch and Stuart Armor.

For reservations to this fun evening, drop by the PAC office Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or call the Players at 828-526-8084. You will be called back.

# Acorns

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### ... TOWN HALL continued from page 1

ment - either mayor/council or manager/council;

- To implement changes to the organization; and implement personnel employment and training.

"We don't necessarily need to implement everything in the study because not all of it fits, but we need to at least talk about

it," said Commissioner Patterson. "Before we can solve problems, we have to define problems and to do that we need input from the staff because this isn't just about what we want it's about what's best for the town."

Patterson said the board needs to know how town tasks are defined before it can know if what's going on is working or not.

## • CP: OFFICE LINEBACKER •

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### Officiating: What Were They Thinking? Part 2

Officiating itself has changed over the past few years. I remember growing up when the officials were there to protect players from being fouled, or to make sure carnage didn't occur on the court or on the sidelines. Unfortunately, what has really devastated the athletic landscape of our culture is how an official commands an incredible amount of power in a job where loyalties are always split and someone is going to be ticked off no matter what they do.

In the past few years, I have seen officials attempt to steal the spotlight from the real purpose of why everyone is gathered together in the first place: to watch the game. In a way, the people in power gain notoriety by swaying the game back and forth. I've seen officials hold a game hostage by creating a dramatic pause between their whistle and the call they make. One official in a basketball game I watched recently blew his whistle, waited 'til the gym fell silent, and then called a charge with the exasperated movements of a rumba dancer being electrocuted. It wasn't his only moment in the spotlight, as he gave a technical foul to one of the players for slapping the ball with his free hand. It's one thing to slam a ball against the ground, or throw it into the stands, or throw it at an official (with the intent to maim) but what the player did was harmless compared to others. I wonder if people really believe that the zebra watching the game is going to "maintain order" by making bad judgment calls to teach someone a lesson.

The majority of my resentment towards officiating comes from those officials who believe they are all powerful and are not held in check by their actions.



**Christopher Potts**  
Broker-in-Charge  
John Cleaveland Realty

I stopped officiating in games where I had even the most remote bit of bias just to keep from showing favoritism to any team on the court. It's why the model for officiating needs to change. We're no longer dealing with volunteers who give their time for a thankless job. Officials are paid fairly well for a few hours of service, and depending on the location of the game, it can be very lucrative.

I recently spoke with a friend of mine who regularly officiates games

all over Western North Carolina. It wasn't a particularly long conversation, but a few points came up that were incredibly interesting. He told me how larger crowds are easier to deal with compared to a few parents constantly screaming at him. It's also hard to stay neutral from time to time, as everyone tends to cheer for the underdog. His job as an official allows him to call the game as he sees it happening, but he can also hope that one team wins over another as long as it does not affect his judgment.

Anyway, the point I'm trying to make here is that officiating is creating a new breed of spotlight hogs on the field and court. Even good officials make mistakes from time to time, and as fans, it's our job to rag on them when they make a bad call. However, it does not give anyone the right to abuse any official because they are hired to do a job and they are paid to do it right. Officials do have a huge impact on a game, but not nearly as much as many fans believe. So next time an official makes a bad call, call him on it, but don't threaten him like the excessively large naked guy would from last week and don't blame the refs if the team we cheer for loses, unless you're an Oklahoma fan.

"We want to make sure things don't fall through the cracks. We want to do a better job within the current structure or maybe redefine and move things around," she said. "We want to fix it so the town operates more effectively and efficiently."

Commissioner Hank Ross said he's seen a lot of changes in the 10 years he's been in Highlands.

"It's a different place with different ideas and new people," he said. "The town government worked very well in the past but we have to plan for this kind of change. A

different breed of developer has come to town and we've experienced pains through our ordinances because of this."

Consulting the committee were Gary Nicholson with Legacy Consulting Associates and Rob Shephard with the NC League of Municipalities.

Consultants learned that Richard Betz serves as town administrator, town clerk, human resource director, and treasurer. Both men agreed that it might be time Highlands consider hiring additional personnel to wear

• See TOWN HALL page 7



# • THE CONSERVATIVE POV •

## What happened... (part 2)

In my column in the Jan. 11 issue entitled "What happened – part 1," I made the statement that the educational system, with help from the national media, has tanked our society, for one reason or another. I cited the relationship of the educational system and the secular humanism as being a primary cause. A reader responded and, in his almost 50 years as an educator, he had never seen any evidence of this and would like me to make a stronger case.

When I went to school in the 1940s and 1950s, rarely did anybody swear, one girl out of a class of 210 got pregnant (she was the only one I can remember that dropped out before graduation), I smoked cigarettes (I inhaled) but didn't even know "drugs" existed much less how/where to get them, Bible reading was common-place and prayer was a daily event. I assume the respondent had a similar experience.

In today's schools, language is vulgar, teen pregnancy is an idiom, the dropout rate is through the roof, drugs are rampant, students attack teachers, students shoot students, teachers sleep with students, SAT scores sink, a high school grad can't make change, it goes on and on.

What happened between then and now?

I believe every human has a real need to worship something, whether it is God, or something other than God. The popular choice for the other god is man, the basis for secular humanism. It's no coincidence that the very early stages of the decline in public education coincided with the rise in influence of John Dewey, a founding member of the American Humanist Association, and "the father of modern education."

"Education is thus a most powerful ally of humanism, and every American school is a school of humanism. What can a theistic Sunday School's meeting for an hour once a week and teaching only a fraction of the children do to stem the tide of the five-day program of humanistic teaching?" Charles F. Potter, Humanism: A New Religion.

"I am convinced that the battle for

... TOWN HALL continued from page 6

some of those hats and to delegate some of Betz's day-to-day duties to other people, perhaps even change its form of government.

"You might want to consider changing to the manager/council type of government



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

humankind's future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers who correctly view their role as proselytizers of a new faith... The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new; the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjunct evils and misery, and the new faith of Humanism..." John J Dunphy,

*A New Religion in a New Age, in The Humanist, 1983.*

Soon, Bible reading was out, prayer was out, creationism was out, evolution was taught as fact (it is marginally a theory), homosexuality is promoted, condoms are distributed, American history is replaced by tales of other cultures, Mother Earth has replaced Father God and shares with man as that to be worshiped.

These ills are no coincidence. For decades, humanists and atheists have influenced the courts through the ACLU in eliminating God from schools.

The NEA has cooperated in facilitating their decisions in the classroom through content of textbooks, through the promotion of cultural diversity (divisiveness and dilution), through the validation of homosexuality, encouraging the challenge of parental authority, and on and on.

The relationship between the NEA and the American Humanist Association used to travel beneath the radar. Now, they share a website proclaiming their joint effort to produce "great public schools" (MoveOn.org is a part of the combine as well).

I can't imagine anyone arguing that today's public education system is in dire straights. Not the case 50-60 years ago. What happened? You tell me.

Perhaps teacher performance accountability might help. Maybe school choice is the answer. Competition has been known to improve outcomes in all areas of endeavor. Why not in education? How about encouraging your elected officials to break the hold the NEA has on the educational system. It's for the children.

from the mayor/council type," said Nicholson. "But that's a big step and it would involve the council giving up control to the manager. That gives many boards a lot of heartburn."

Nicholson said after the town agrees on

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a philosophy of government it should determine what department level changes would be required including additional staffing and training.

Commissioner Ross said it's likely there are some employees who work very hard and others who don't have enough to do. "We need to evaluate what these people do in the administration area. If the work load

is too much, we need to decide if we need to expand or contract some work out," he said.

Mayor Don Mullen said Highlands has become a very complicated town.

"The people in the town office, particularly in the administration and zoning area, have been spread very thinly," he said. "The

• See TOWN HALL page 8

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### ... TOWN HALL continued from page 7

treasurer, clerk, administrator runs the office and the building and he has become more of a manager."

Mullen said the town has to decide if it wants to hire other people to do some of those jobs.

"We need to hire quality people in these two areas in particular and let them do their jobs. The board's job is to direct the administrator and the zoning administrator without being too picky. The board gets too involved with the nitty gritty of everyday things," he said.

Commissioner Patterson said she didn't think the town micromanages affairs. She said she has an obligation to the citizens to get involved and ask questions.

"Right now we have a bottleneck because everything goes through the town administrator. I think it's the administrator who is too involved, not the board," she said.

Commissioner Dennis DeWolf who was in the audience said the board needs to look to the future. "We are all pressured by the changes we are now facing but we need to move on and make it better rather than

place blame," he said.

Shepherd said the League's August report indicates the town administrator has been delegated too many responsibilities.

"You need to figure out a course of action," he said. "Perhaps re-allocate or reorganize some his duties because the administrator is delegated too many responsibilities which prevents him from doing things he needs to do. There are also things an administrator shouldn't have to do."

He said it's not normal for the town clerk to take minutes at meetings, for instance. "A deputy clerk could be hired to do that and even present the minutes," he said.

Experts agree that a manager should be responsible for five departments and five people. "Once you get more than five, the span of control is too great and things begin to fall through the cracks," said Shepherd. "The administrator has been delegated too many responsibilities which has diverted his attention from properly staffing and handling personnel activities, develop a workforce and prepare for turnover and natural attrition. An organization is only as

•See TOWN HALL page 9

## • REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

### The entrepreneurial society

One of the things I have come to appreciate about Highlands since my husband and I started our TV show is that this is a town of entrepreneurs. I have always been thankful for the lack of national chains, but I didn't realize until we began going around selling ads that almost every store, restaurant, bed and breakfast, etc. is operated by the owners. Go in any day of the week during the season and you are almost sure to bump into an owner.

Not only that, but most of the owners (or their family) opened their business in the first place. An owner, and particularly a founding owner, is going to be a lot more passionate about their business than a manager. An entrepreneur brings a creative energy to his or her work that is lacking in most employees.

Philosopher Ayn Rand created heroes out of entrepreneurs in her novels. In *Atlas Shrugged* the entrepreneurs went on strike and brought the world to a standstill, thereby "proving" they were the true engine of the economy (Rand's answer to the Communist elevation of the worker). But the flaw in her thinking was that this heroic entrepreneurial ability was reserved for a few and the masses of people were doomed to a subservient status. This is just the sort of theory a CEO would love to justify his multi-million dollar salary but I think it is an incorrectly dark view of humanity.

In fact, the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize went to a man who believes that everyone has the potential to be an entrepreneur—even beggars in Bangladesh, surely among the poorest people in the world. Muhammad Yunus, a Bangladeshi economist, created a bank (Grameen Bank, www.grameen-info.org) to provide loans to people the regular banking system would never consider credit-worthy. Mr. Yunus believes that "microcredit" has the potential to lift the Third World out of poverty.

"Last year, more than 100 million people received small loans from more than 3,100 institutions in 130 countries, according to Microcredit Summit, a Washington-based nonprofit advocacy group that Mr. Yunus helped found. The average loan from Grameen Bank was \$130. Mr. Yunus told about how Grameen gave loans to beggars. 'All we are doing is telling beggars that, well, since you go house to house begging, would you like to take some merchandise with you, some cookies, some candy, something? A typical loan for a beggar is something like \$12. With \$12, she has a basket of merchandise she carries around and goes house to



Katie Brugger

house. Today, we have more than 80,000 beggars in the program. Many of them have already quit begging completely." *New York Times*, Oct. 14, 2006 "Peace Prize to Pioneer of Loans to Poor No Bank Would Touch."

I think this could be a good model for a society: the entrepreneurial society. Where everyone is an entrepreneur, even if they

work for someone else.

Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, a professor of psychology, has developed a theory of "flow." When an athlete is "in the zone," a musician is in the "groove," or an artist is absorbed in creation, they are experiencing "flow." In an interview Mr. Csikszentmihalyi described flow as "being completely involved in an activity for its own sake. The ego falls away. Time flies. Every action, movement, and thought follows inevitably from the previous one, like playing jazz. Your whole being is involved, and you're using your skills to the utmost."

The experience of flow is also not just for the lucky few. My favorite story from his book *Finding Flow* is of a man who worked in a factory. He loved his job, but all his co-workers were miserable. The difference was the experience of flow. This man had taken every machine in the factory apart and put it back together; he knew every detail of how the factory worked. He was passionate about his job. You could say he owned his job.

Two years ago, while selling the privatization of Social Security, President Bush put his plan in the context of an "ownership society." Some conservatives might think I'm describing the same thing, but I think my idea is (what a surprise) completely different than President Bush's. As I understand what the President was talking about, he was advocating individual "ownership" of such things as health insurance (health savings accounts) and pensions (privatized Social Security).

Being an entrepreneur is more personally risky than being an employee with a regular paycheck and dependable benefits. By privatizing social services, you individualize risk, which makes life more uncertain. This would make people less likely to take the chance of following their dream and starting a business.

How much of the ennui of modern life is the result of people working at jobs they hate just to pay the bills? If we could find a way to bring creativity and passion into even the most mundane of jobs the benefits would be enormous both for people individually and for society as a whole.



## • HIS & HERS •

### Bagel withdrawal

By Michelle A. Mead  
Columnist

**“Y**ou must be out of your mind,” my friends declared. That was the conclusion they drew, assuming that to leave my life in Midtown Manhattan for Highlands, North Carolina, I had to be two bagels short of a brunch order.

For weeks people tried to change my mind. How could I live without Broadway, the movie theaters, Carnegie Hall, Rockefeller Center, Bloomingdale’s? Didn’t I realize that I would have to take a car to go absolutely everywhere? No more living within five blocks of five supermarkets, not to mention the fishmonger, butcher, cheese shop, and bakery. And the restaurants! Just a quick tour of Turtle Bay restaurants read like a United Nations of cuisine – French, Chinese, Indian. Around the corner were three wonderful Irish pubs, which I always referred to as “The Begorah Triangle.” On top of everything else, I had the unheard of good luck of living only five blocks away from my job with BayernLB, the state bank of Bavaria. In a city where two-hour commutes were common, I had a ten-minute walk from door to door. It was a charmed life.

Ah, yes, a charmed life, for sure, but also a lonely one. How does a single woman in New York get rid of roaches in her apartment? She asks them for a commitment. In a town where 20 and 30-something women were tripping over their stilettos for dates, I had no illusions about my chances of finding true love in my mid-50s. And then? Well, a sassy New York writer, Susan Shapiro, came out with a book, *Five Men Who Broke My Heart*, in which she told of tracking down five old boyfriends to find out why things hadn’t worked out. That set me to musing about my own past, and wondering what happened to my old heartbreakers. At the top of the list was John, my former fiancé, whom I had loved and lost in 1972-1973, the period which included my senior year at Goucher College. What did I have to lose? I googled his name, and found out that he was running for Congress in the 11<sup>th</sup> District of North Carolina. I sent him a witty e-mail, and waited for a reply. A charming reply came back shortly, catching me up with his news. To make a long story short (you’ll get the longer version if you’d like), we met up again,



Michelle Mead & John Armor

and found out that our instincts had been right 34 years ago, but our timing had been off.

I arrived in Highlands last Thanksgiving, and fell in love with John, his cats, the house, and Highlands, in random order. There was never any question about

John moving to New York. He was already home. Now, I had to decide if it was going to be my home, too.

So, here I am, a new resident of this delightful place. I am gradually unpacking my 140 boxes which contain all of my worldly goods, and not a few memories. Do I miss New York? Much less than I thought. I miss people who were so much a part of the landscape of my daily life. And the bagels? Fuggetaboutit! Ever heard of Krispy Kremes?

#### About the His & Hers column:

John Armor and Michelle Mead will alternate columns weekly.

#### About the Author:

Michelle A. Mead is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She is currently recuperating on top of a mountain near Highlands, North Carolina.

### ... LETTERS from page 4

which suffered horrendous devastation leaving people unable to care for themselves – people without water, food, transportation, shelter, utilities and communication.

In fact, the media gave the impression that the entire city was under water and that all the victims were below the poverty level and living on welfare. Of course, those are the stories that sell papers.

There are a lot of unpublished stories of the citizens that were not on welfare waiting to be rescued. These unsung quiet heroes shared their homes, food, water, and labor. They did not loot, shoot or whine. And if most did not pull up by their bootstraps it was because it was hot and they were probably wearing sandals. Having some snow to melt would have been like manna from heaven.

Harriet Parham  
Highlands, NC

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### ... TOWN HALL from 8

good as the people it hires and retains.”

He suggested hiring a clerk, a finance officer, a human resource officer to name a few positions.

“These designations sound easy to accomplish but you have to make sure you have a capable staff to handle the responsibilities and you have to facilitate on-going training,” he said. “You also need to reward them with compensation and give them the opportunity to grow in their chosen profession.”

He and Nicholson reiterated that an administrator and a manager are two different things. “A manager is a statutory position in charge of hiring and firing for one thing. The administrator duties are delegated by the mayor and council and can be anything.”

They said the board needs to decide what form of government it wants. If it changes to the manager/council form, the town is locked in for two years.

Nicholson said it’s becoming more and more difficult for elected officials to manage the day-to-day activities and affairs of towns.

“Highlands isn’t a giant town population-wise, but due to its affluence, as well as the needs of the population, it’s outside any definition you’re going to find. For a board to handle technical decisions requires a knowledge you’ll never have due to the nature of the beast.”

• Following a closed session at the Jan. 24 special Town Board meeting, the board decided to advertise for two positions – a

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## School Board run-down

The Macon County Board of Education recognized Sarah Lowell at their Jan. 22 meeting for her selection as NC Elementary PE Teacher of the Year by the NC Alliance for Athletics, Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance.

Lowell, a teacher at Cartoogechaye Elementary School, was also honored for attaining National Board Certification. Five other teachers from area schools, including Highlands School teacher Simeon Hickman, were honored for National Board Certification as well.

"National Board Certification is a very rigorous process to go through," said Superintendent Dan Brigman, who expressed his pride in the accomplishments of all the teachers. "It's a grilling process that includes a portfolio and a video presentation."

Gary Shields, principal of Franklin High School, was honored as the selection for Principal of the Year by the NC High School Athletic Association. Students Chris Bell, of Franklin High School, and Josh Woodall, of East Franklin Elementary, were recognized for their artwork which was displayed on the 2006 Macon County Schools Christmas card.

The board also approved the release of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for 2007 which will be administered in the spring.

— Susanna Hearn

## • HS GIRLS BASKETBALL •

### Highlands women win 2 out of 3 game stretch

By Christopher Potts

The Highlands Lady Highlanders defeated the Nantahala Lady Hawks 53-31 on Jan. 16. The Highlander ladies controlled the pace the entire game as the Lady Hawks trailed from the outset.

The Lady Highlanders exploited a 30-15 halftime lead and coasted to victory on solid defense and excellent offensive teamwork. Toni Schmitt lit up the scoreboard with 20 points, 8 rebounds, and 6 steals.

Allison Winn scored 11 points and 9 assists, with one of her best assists coming from dribble penetration that led to a wide open lay-up for Kate-Marie Parks. Parks finished with 6 points along with Katie Bryson, who also had

6 points and 5 rebounds. Brie Schmitt and Danielle Reese scored 4 points apiece with 6 and 5 rebounds respectively. Kaylie Buras rounded out the scoring with 2 points.

"It was a great team win with Toni and Allison leading the way," said Coach Lamb. "We had a lot of other players step up to the plate and did the job too. It takes a team to win the game and we did that."

• • •

The Lady Highlanders continued their winning ways with an away game victory over Cherokee Friday, Jan. 19. The ladies used a strong second quarter score of 13 to 4 to create a 9 point lead at the half. In the third quarter, the Lady Braves outscored Highlands 14 to 8 to cut the lead to 3.

Highlands iced the win on excellent free throw shooting in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter by Katie Bryson, Allison Winn, and Toni Schmitt. Schmitt led all scorers with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Winn scored 14 points with 6 assists, and Bryson scored 12 points while Brie Schmitt and Kaylie Buras chipped in 2 points each. The heart and desire of the Lady Highlanders showed through a furious defensive effort, forcing 9 steals. Felicia Johnson led the Braves with 12 points followed by Amanda Cagle with 11.

• • •

The ladies played Robbinsville Monday night and lost a close game 42-39. The Lady Highlanders had the game knotted at 39 to 39 in the final minute of the game, but lost after Robbinsville guard Adrian Jordan sunk 3 of 4 free throws to deny Highlands a victory.

Toni Schmitt led all scorers with 14 points and 7 rebounds, followed by Katie Bryson with 10 points and 14 rebounds. Allison Winn scored 7 points, Brie Schmitt posted 6 points, and Kaylie Buras added 2. Robbinsville's Brandy Deddo dropped 11 points followed by Adrian Jordan with 7 points.

"The ladies are beginning to play again as a team. We need to learn how to continue to keep a lead and not lose momentum in games," said Coach Lamb. "When we play our game, it is fast—up-beat — and fun. There are still many things that we need to do, but our number one goal is to win conference and go to state — and we can do that."

The three game march brings the Lady Highlanders' record to 12-10 on the year with a 2-1 conference record.

• • •

Coming up this week, the Lady Highlanders host the Blue Ridge Lady Bobcats on Thursday, Jan. 25 at 5:30 p.m. at a makeup home game for Highlands/Blue Ridge. The girls then host the Rosman Lady Tigers on Friday, Jan. 26 at 6:30 p.m. On Monday, Jan. 30, the girls travel to Swain for a non conference matchup against the Maroon Devils.



At the Jan. 16 game the girls did great beating Nantahala 53-31.

Photos by Noel Atherton



Coach Lamb gets serious with the team at the Nantahala game.

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Breta Stroud, a Sierra Club member, was instrumental in getting Mayor Mullen to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. With her is Mayor Mullen with Sierra Club representative Tom Jensen.



## Sierra Club names Highlands a 'Cool City' for efforts against global warming

Highlands is the smallest municipality in the southeast United States to be honored at a "Cool City" and the sixth in the state.

On Friday, Jan. 19, Tom Jensen traveled from Raleigh to present Mayor Don Mullen with a certificate honoring Highlands' commitment to the reduction of global warming.

"We wanted to come out to recognize Highlands so other cities know that a small city can be an environmental leader, too," said Jensen. "Highlands has set a tremendous example for other small towns across the state."

Jensen said after informing Canton's town fathers of Highlands' commitment, they are interested in joining the movement.

"Even though we're small town, we live in a pristine forest and everything that happens to the environment affects us," said Mayor Mullen. Mullen signed the agreement late in 2006.

"This year, the Sierra Club is making the point that small cities can be environmental leaders too," said conservation organizer Tom Jensen. "We are thrilled that Highlands sees the things it can do locally to ease the problem of global warming, and we hope that it will provide a strong model to other communities across the state."

The Cool Cities program is based on local mayors signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which asks cities to commit to three major things:

Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities, through actions ranging from anti-sprawl land-use policies to urban forest restoration projects to public information campaigns;

Urge their state governments, and the federal government, to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol — 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and

Urge the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system

Highlands is showing its commitment on this issue by working to implement curbside recycling and preserve green space through the rewriting of current zone ordinances.

In the future, Highlands hopes to encourage people to use their cars less through the creation of a new greenway trail system throughout town. It is also looking at using biodiesel in town vehicles fleets, and possibly creating a bus line between the town and Franklin.

## Funding requested to kick off Greenway Trail's next step

With the implementation of phase one of the Highlands Greenway strategic 10-year plan set for June 2007, committee members have set their sights on funding.

At the Jan. 17 Town Board meeting, committee member Hillrie Quinn presented a brief Power Point presentation outlining funding options for the trail.

Proposed funding would be used to acquire property or easements which would then be owned by the town or the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust; to provide the necessary 20% match by the town for state and federal grants; and to construct and maintain trail sections.

"I'm coming to you tonight because you are entering the budget cycle for the upcoming year and the trail committee wants to be up front of that curve," he said.

Funding suggestions ran the gamut of a bond referendum, a line item in the town budget, impact fees or a special tax for developers.

Quinn said it's too early to expect voters to support a bond referendum. "We need to wait until we have a section completed so the voters can see what we're talking about," said Quinn. "They also need to see what's been done elsewhere concerning trails and parks."

The committee would like the town to budget between \$200,000 and \$300,000 for the next budget cycle with funds available July 2007.

"We'd like to have a set amount that we can spend down and the town replenish each year as needed," said Quinn. He suggested the line item be part of the Rec Park budget. The Town Board would approve all spending prior to disbursement, he said.

Impact fees and a special tax could be shouldered by developers but will depend on recommendations of the Planning Board.

Proponents of the Highlands Greenway Trail see the trail as a way to alleviate demands on town roads and parking — not

just a place to hike but a trail to use as an artery to do business.

Some members of the Greenway Committee also met with the Planning Board Jan. 22 to discuss working together to amend ordinances and regulations concerning conditional zoning, historic sites, minimum lot sizes, sewer rights-of-way, sidewalk regulations, stormwater regulations, subdivision ordinances, tree ordinances and the watershed overlay district.

Quinn said once the Greenway district is finalized, participation concerning the trail's route on private property would be mandatory. Developers outside the district would be encouraged to allocate greenspace or trail space to the project but funds would be accepted in lieu of participation.

The trail would be set within the buffer areas already established along waterways and setback areas on parcels where structures aren't allowed to be built anyway. "Studies show that the only way a Greenway Trail works is if the municipality gets completely behind it," said Quinn.

The Planning Board agreed to work jointly with the Greenway Committee on the project after ETJ issues are completed and other loose ends tied.

On the Highlands Greenway Strategic Planning Committee is Allison Bullock, Patrick Brannon, Selwyn Chalker, Charlotte Gillis, Mercedes Heller, Dr. Dough Landwehr, Clem Patton, Hillrie Quinn, Dr. Ran Shaffner, Ginger Slaughter and Gary Wein.

Concerning funding, the Town Board took no action on the request. Commissioner Hank Ross suggested the Greenway Committee approach Macon County for funding, too, since the county helped fund Franklin's greenway trail.

Back in the spring of 2006, the Town Board unanimously approved the Highlands Greenway Trail concept s. That approval was one reason the Sierra Club has named Highlands one of its "cool cities." (See accompanying story on this page.)

— Kim Lewicki

## Highlands named for helping to improve county population's health

By Susanna Hearn  
Reporter

Two Highlands' features helped improve the state of the county's health in 2006 — the free clinic at Zachary Field on Buck Creek Road and the MRI unit at the hospital.

The Macon County Board of Health released the 2006 State of the County Health Report at their Jan. 11 meeting and

The report details improvements made in countywide health care, including access to health care, reduction of childhood obesity, tobacco use, and substance abuse; and community health.

The report also specifies new and

emerging health issues that plague Macon County. According to board members, the report "looks at what occurred in previous years and lists changes." The report will be posted on the county's website.

To meet the goal of reducing overweight students in Macon County School Health Fairs were conducted at all elementary and middle schools and schools continued to offer healthy snacks and low-fat milk in cafeterias.

The use of tobacco decreased from 2002 to 2005, and M.C. Public Health Center's Tobacco Educator position was extended for three more years through grants

from the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission. The M.C. Public Health Center also participated in the "Heart Healthy Restaurant" survey which found that over 80 percent of restaurants in the county were smoke-free.

Substance abuse was another major issue with methamphetamine use and manufacturing topping the list of new and emerging health issues. The substance abuse prevention program, Reality Check 101, was created by the Macon County Sheriff's office and has garnered support from schools, church groups, and civic clubs.

Macon and Haywood counties were

provided with funding to begin an intensive outpatient treatment for meth users. Macon County's program began serving clients in April 2006. In July 2006, the Oxford House for Women, a group recovery home for drug users, was opened in Franklin.

Other emerging health concerns listed in the report were Emergency Preparedness and Response which was one of the big issues of 2006 with a full-scale pandemic flu exercise being carried out.

Rabies monitoring was also listed with no reports of outbreaks within the county. A need for animal control in Macon County was stressed.



## • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

### One-ness



**Father Brian Sullivan**  
Church of the Incarnation

**I**t would be hard to imagine a world where the things we think are important mean nothing. Most of us are driven by the goals set forth for us at an early age. These goals are typically reinforced by the society in which we live. Most of these goals are met with success in the form of reward, whether it is praise or a raise. As a result we have no reason to question the path we are on, especially if the rewards continue. Unfortunately, this type of reward-based motivation does not translate into our relationship with God.

Certainly many of us think that if we do all the right things, such as, worship, conserve energy, tithe, compost, give alms, become eco-friendly, pray, meditate, study, etc., we will receive a reward. However, the gift God gives us has nothing to do with what we do, and everything to do with who we are. And who we are is very simply, God's creation. We are each put on this world with different gifts. If we were a body, not all of us could be an eye, or all an ear, for how would we hear *and* see? As a result, all of creation is part of the same body, and created by the same God. Therefore our differences are not created to draw us away from one another. On the contrary, our differences are created to bring us together. They are to be celebrated!

As Christians, God dwelt among us in the person of Christ, to draw our attention away from our difference and our reward-based system of belief, and into a new creation where the least is the greatest and the last is first. Thereby, our attention is focused on the One who created us to be one with all creation. To claim superiority over another being, whether it is their looks, what they do for a living, how smart they are, or even what they believe, means we have missed the very reason God dwells among us. We have missed the beauty of our religion, our creation, and most importantly a closer relationship with God.

Let us all live into the Spirit of the One who calls us to be one, loving our neighbor as our self, treating the least (wherever they may dwell) as if they are the embodiment of the very One we seek. This attitude of one-ness is not only the call of your religion, but of all religions and people who are created, because we have all been created by the One who calls us together in One-ness.

## • 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. Erbeling, Pastor  
Church: 706-746-2999  
Pastor's 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 CHURCH

(Anglican)  
The Rev. Thomas "Tommy" Allen • 526-2320  
Sunday: Holy Communion: 2 p.m.  
(Community Bible Church)  
Tuesday: Bible Study in Cashiers at noon  
Wednesday:  
Mens Bible Study at 8 a.m. at First Baptist Church  
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. - Children's 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 BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153  
Sun.: Worship – 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.;

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

Wednesdays: Dinner – 5:30 p.m.; Team Kids – 6 p.m.;  
Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. J. Hunter Coleman, Pastor, 526-3175  
Sun.: Worship – 11 a.m.; Sun.School – 9:30 & 9:45.  
Mondays: 8 a.m. – Men's Bible Discussion & Breakfast  
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers

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 – Men's Emmaus Reunion Group; 4:45 – Children's 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. Cyprians 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



## *To the Citizens of Highlands:*

Much has been written and said about the Riverwalk development since the beginning of the project. As the developer, the ultimate responsibility for the success of Riverwalk rests on our shoulders.

We care very much for Highlands, its reputation and quality of life. We have lived in Highlands and continue to have family in the area. Making Riverwalk something the community can be proud of is an absolute priority.

There is no denying that we have had problems with the site. The problems are directly attributed to an inadequate engineering and erosion control plan prepared by our engineer and approved for implementation by the Town of Highlands. These mistakes were not intentional by either party. We apologize for any inconvenience these mistakes have caused within the Highlands community.

Today, we are working tirelessly to move Riverwalk forward with focus, vision and diligence. We have hired the absolute best professionals to work on the project. McGill Engineering and Triton Industries are now in control of storm water management and grading. Erosion is being managed by Advanced Erosion Control, the top erosion control company in the Southeast.

Since the initial erosion problem/fine caused by the torrential rain on July 27, 2006, a complete redesign of the engineering and erosion control has been prepared by our new engineers. The revised erosion control plan was submitted to the Town and to the State on October 11, 2006, but it still has not been reviewed by the State. We have taken action to control the 1 million gallons of water running off of Highway 64 onto our property. More than a dozen sedimentation plunge ponds and over a quarter-mile of storm piping have been installed. Nearly a mile of wire-backed silt fence has been installed, and 2,000 tons of rock have been brought in for filtration purposes. These erosion control measures have controlled the unprecedented amount of water entering the property.

We now are working with the Town and the State to address the fines. The fines that were imposed by the Town were imposed in the central drainage channel, where both the State and the Town disallowed any activity until the restoration plan was approved by the State. Our conceptual plan to restore the central drainage channel was submitted to the Division of Water Quality in October 2006, and we expect to receive the permit for stream restoration in mid-February 2007. We have documented with the State that a tremendous amount of the silt in the central drainage channel is flowing onto Riverwalk from Highway 64.

From a time, resources and investment standpoint, we are committed to going the extra mile. Riverwalk will be a stunning community when completed this spring. We will continue do everything we can to make Highlands proud of the development. We appreciate your support, understanding and patience.

*The Developers of Riverwalk*

PAID ADVERTISEMENT BY THE DEVELOPERS OF RIVERWALK



# • CLASSIFIEDS •

## HELP WANTED

**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. 2/16

**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.

**HIGHLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT:** one (1) Police Officer and two (2) Auxiliary Police Officers. Salary for police officer \$25,305, DOQ, salary for auxiliary officers (2) \$10.50/hr. Successful candidate must be 21 years of age; BLET-certified; and submit to an extensive background investigation, drug screening, and psychological evaluation. Applicant must possess a valid North Carolina, South Carolina, or Georgia driver's license, for the state which they reside in as a permanent resident. Applicant must successfully complete the Highlands Police Department application process. Contact: Highlands Police Department, Capt. R.L. Forrester or Capt. T. Ensley, 310 Oak Street, Highlands, NC 28741, (828) 526-8734.

**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 COORDINATOR** — 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.

**HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Full-time and PRN positions available. Experience in hospital cleaning preferred. Other housekeeping experience helpful. 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.

**ADMINISTRATOR FOR FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Must be a licensed Nursing Home Administrator in North Carolina. Minimum of three years experience preferred. Must have knowledge of regulations established by DFS and JCAHO. Responsibility includes overall management of the center and ensuring compliance with all standards, applicable laws, and State/Federal regulations. Excellent salary and full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online through our website, www.hchospital.org.

**DIRECTOR OF NURSING AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** R.N. licensed in N.C. Masters Degree preferred, but not required. Responsible for patient care, management, resource management, and fiscal management of Acute Care, Emergency, Respiratory Therapy and Outpatient Procedure Clinic. Also responsible for ensuring compliance with all standard applicable laws governing nursing and clinical practice in N.C. and for the 24-hour management and operation of the departments. Excellent salary and full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online through our website, www.hchospital.org.

**CNA OR CNA II** Interested in working in an environment where you can truly make a difference to those

whom you care for? We have available Full, Part-time, and PRN positions at the Fidelity Eckerd Living Center for day and night shifts. Our NEW WAGE SCALE for CNA's is \$11 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

**RNS AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER.** Full, Part-time and PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Our current wage scale is \$19 to \$27.74 per hour, depending on experience, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits available after 60 days. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

**COOK AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Full-time, year-round employment; 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., various days of the week. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Competitive salary and full benefits available after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online through website, www.hchospital.org.

**DIETARY AIDES AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Full time, 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., various days. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Salary depends on experience. Full benefits available after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online through website, 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

**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 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.

**INDUSTRIAL/STORAGE/OFFICE** — New 1,600 sq. ft., 11-ft. automatic doors, heating and air, bathroom, close to town. \$950/month. No maintenance fees. Call (828) 526-8953 or (828) 421-3161.

**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

**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 ½ 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 BA COTTAGE** 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

**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

**SHE IS AKC FEMALE YORKIE REGISTERED.** She is very sweet and pre-spoiled. Given lots of attention. She will be an estimated 3.5-4 pounds at her adult weight. She has an excellent temperament. She is raised in the house. She has been well socialized with...and ready for her new home now. She comes with health guarantee and shipping is available. For more information contact me on my email. susan\_755007@yahoo.com 2/8

**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 at Carolina Court. 526-5939.

**JENNY LIND BABY BED** – light stain, excellent condition, mattress, all linens, originally \$375 asking \$225. Call 526-0498.

**NINE OLD DOORS** – original paint, 4 and 5 panel, 7 interior, 2 exterior, good condition. All for \$375. Call 526-0498.

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**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.

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**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.

**ALL WOOD LARGE (6' TALL X 7' LONG) ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**, – lighted with stained glass upper doors, wood doors on bottom, has open shelves too, very nice \$450 obo, King size bed frame with brass headboard \$75 obo, please call 828-369-2223 or after 5pm 828-331-8422.

**AKC REGISTERED SHELTIES**, Sable Merle & Blue Merle. \$300. Call 706-982-9325.

**RAINBOW E-SERIES VACUUM CLEANER**, excellent condition with all accessories, \$925 call Dee @ 828-369-8928.

**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.

## VEHICLES FOR SALE

**2001 JAGUAR S-TYPE 4.0** – Excellent condition. 98K miles. Still under warranty. \$15,000. Call 828-243-6447.

**ANTIQUE 1926 MODEL T FORD TOURING CAR** – Fully restored. Needs a new starter. Selling for health reasons. \$15,000 but will discount cost of starter and ignition work. Great car and lots of fun. Call Horace Duncan at 526-3760.

**2003 DODGE STRATUS** – red exterior, gray inte-



## ... ETJ continued from page 1

R2 and R4 designations – to perhaps change R2 and some R4 areas to R1 and to consider changing some R4 areas to B5.

Some property owners want their property whose use has been commercial for decades to be zoned B5 rather than the proposed R4. They say the fact that the use is grandfathered, doesn't protect them in case of destruction nor does it enable them to expand their businesses.

Merlin Crowe, on Crowe Drive in Rolling Acres and Larry Rogers on Hicks Road say they are being discriminated against when compared to the proposed B5 zone on the Chambers and Keener properties on Flat Mountain Road.

"Our businesses are surrounded by residential areas just like theirs," they said. Commissioner Herb James agreed saying they should be zoned B5, too.

## • CLASSIFIEDS •

rior, 30,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, A.C. PW, PS, PB, clean. \$8,000 OBO 828-526-3257.

**1991 SUBURBAN 3/4 TON.** 130K miles, 20K on Tranny, 350 V8, lift w/wheels & tires, good condition, never off-road, white/blue \$4350. Call 200-0013.

**GEM ELECTRIC CAR** – Excellent Condition. Has two motors and will cruise at 40 mph. Many extras including new tires. Great for gated communities, golf courses, and senior citizen communities. Asking \$6,500. email gem603@prodigy.net

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Crowe said he bought his property in 1939 and it has been used commercially since 1946. "Our business is growing and to step in after all these years and say I can't rebuild if it burns down or buy another tractor to expand, it's not right."

His daughter-in-law Marjorie Crowe said the town was tampering with the American Dream. "Businesses need to expand if you want someone to build these \$1 million houses for all the people coming here from Atlanta. My husband wants to take over the business someday and it's not right to tell a 35-year-old man he can't expand when it's his legitimate right."

Planning Board member Mitch Gurganus said early on previous Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein drew the map to make the strip along Crowe Drive B5, as well as current commercial properties connecting U.S. 64 east through to Hicks Road, but it was shot down by four of the seven planning board members.

Based on those points, the board charged the Planning Board to work on Section 110 of the zoning ordinance dealing with non-conforming buildings and uses pertaining to rebuilding and expansion and to change some designations.

The R1 areas of Skyline Lodge property

weren't voted on because the areas were flip-flopped on the original map and must be re-advertised, but also because owner Bob Nass wants the entire area zoned B5. Commissioners said they must identify all the lots first.

The Jones property on N.C. 106 was not included in the R1 category either because Barry and Paula Jones want at least some of it zoned B5. The board is waiting on a survey

of the property.

Gurganus suggested the board fix the map, rewrite the ordinances to address the issues discussed and solve all the problems before voting. "Bring all this back at one time and I think it will satisfy everyone," he said.

The board accepted most of the R1 designations. It hopes to discuss the rest of the map at the March 7 meeting after the Planning Board has acted.



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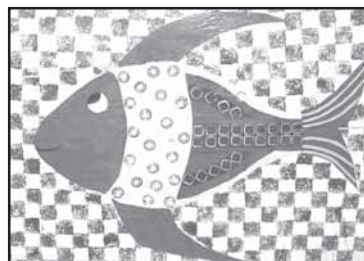
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## • UPCOMING EVENTS •

### 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.

- It's Girl Scout Cookie Time. Order Now. Delivery in February. Eat 'em, freeze 'em or donate 'em. Highlands Brownie Scouts Troop #219. See your local Brownie Scout or email to HighlandsBrownies@hughes.net. Booth sales start mid-February.

- 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 Health Tracks 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 Wed. through Sat., 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 Home-schoolers, 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

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

### Thursday, Jan. 25

- Aaron Russo's "American - Freedom to Fascism." 7 p.m. at the Rec Park. It's Free and open to all.

### Friday, Jan. 26

- Senior Citizen Luncheon at the Rec Park, 11:30 a.m. It's free.

### Friday & Saturday, Jan. 26 & 27

- Highlands Community Players presents the Carolina Murder Mysteries' dinner theater play, "Death by Chocolate," at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street in Highlands. The dinner, catered by Holly Roberts of "Let Holly Do the Cooking," starts at 6:30 p.m. with wine and appetizers. The comedy/mystery, presented during the dinner, starts at 7. Tickets for the benefit are \$60 per person and must be paid by cash or check. To buy tickets, stop by the Performing Arts Center, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call 526-8084 and a leave message.

### Saturday, Jan. 27

- A Hot Dog & Blue Grass Benefit at the Satolah Fire Dept. for the Cleveland Owen family at 5 p.m. Music by Foxfire and Whetrock. Raffle for a 1994 Nissan Pathfinder and a new mini camcorder. Tickets are \$10 for one or \$50 for six. Available at Bank of America, any Satolah Fire Dept. officer or by calling 828-200-0146.

### Monday, Jan. 29

- Paint-in Highlands Rec Park Bring a sandwich, subject matter and art supplies and join in the fun. Lunch is at noon and the painting begins about 1 p.m. For info call Bud Uffelman 828-586-4940.

### Wednesday, Jan. 31

- Plant Medicine for Winter Health, with Patricia K. Howell, author of Medicinal Plants of the Southern Appalachians, from 7-9 pm at Highlands Yoga and Wellness on Carolina Way. Call 526-8880 to pre-register.

### Thursday, Feb. 1

- Dr. Rick Spurling will present his "Bully-Free School Zone" workshop at 7 p.m. the Franklin High School Fine Arts Center. All parents, school faculty and staff, and community members are invited to attend.

### Saturday, Feb. 3

- Yoga and Juicing, One-Day Cleanse, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday night juice pick-up. All-levels. Call 526-8880 to pre-register.

### Saturday, Feb. 10

- Hurricane Creek at Instant Theatre on Main Street in Oak Square. \$20 per ticket includes complimentary beer, wine and mixed drinks. Call 828-342-9197. Only 75 tickets available.

## • HS BOYS BASKETBALL •

### The Highlanders win 2 out of 3 game stretch

By Christopher Potts

Highlands Men dropped a heart breaker against the Nantahala Hawks on Jan. 16 by a score of 64-61. Despite a 1 point lead at the half of 33-32, the Highlanders could not survive a furious rain of three pointers from the Hawks. It was ultimately the success of the Hawks outside shooting that put them in the lead in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Highlands had a chance to tie the game and send it into overtime, but the last effort 3 point shot by Jason Aspinwall hit the side of the backboard as the buzzer sounded.

Aspinwall led all scorers with 20 points and 7 rebounds. Nick Kerhoulas scored 14 points with 4 assists and 2 rebounds. Alec Schmitt pulled a double-double with 13 points, 13 rebounds and 4 assists. Andrew Billingsley scored 5 points, Gray Alexander put in 4 points, Ezra Herz added 3 points, and Darin Keener added 2 points with 3 rebounds. Arthur Reynolds pulled down 3 rebounds and added 3 assists. Gavin Baldwin, BJ Taylor, and Eric Duong added 17, 12, and 11 points respectively for the Hawks.

Highlands reversed its fortunes against



Ezra Herz with the ball during the Robbinsville game, Monday night. Highlands won 55-46.

Cherokee, coming away with a 65-45 victory over the Braves. Highlands poured a huge scoring and defensive effort into the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, dropping 31 points against Cherokee while only allowing 5 for the Braves.

The Braves had a small spark in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, outscoring Highlands 15 to 7 but a solid effort on both ends of the floor kept the victory in Highlands' hands.

Alec Schmitt pumped in 18 points and both Jason Aspinwall and Nick Kerhoulas added 17 points apiece. Arthur Reynolds and Gray Alexander attributed 5 points each, Darin Keener chipped in 2 points and Luke McClellan added in 1 off of a free throw. High scorer statistics for the Braves were not available at time of press.

• • •

The Highlanders also defeated Robbinsville Monday night by a score of 55-46. The game remained tight throughout the first half with Highlands taking a 4 point lead at the half.

A charge by Robbinsville led to a 14 to 7 run in the 3<sup>rd</sup> that put the Knights up 39-36 at the end of the quarter. Highlands stormed back to take the lead in the 4<sup>th</sup> with 19 points in the final 8 minutes.

Jason Aspinwall led the Highlanders with 17 points followed by Alec Schmitt with 16. Darin Keener had a solid offensive night with 12 points, Nick Kerhoulas scored 8 points, and Arthur Reynolds added 2 points to round out the scoring for Highlands. Robbinsville's high scorers were Blake Anderson with 8 points and Josh Anderson with 7 points.

• • •

Coming up next week the Highlanders host a makeup game against Blue Ridge on Thursday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. Highlands also hosts Rosman the following night on Friday, January 26 at 8 p.m. The Highlanders then travel to Swain on Jan. 30 for a non-conference game at 8 p.m.



Andrew Billingsley keeps the ball at the Robbinsville game.

Photos by Noel Atherton

## Ruby Cinemas

Jan 26-Feb. 1

**THE QUEEN** rated PG-13

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

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

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

**EPIC MOVIE** rated PG-13

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

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

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

**WE ARE MARSHALL** rated PG

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

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

Mon - Thurs: (4:15), 7

**THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS**

rated PG-13

Fri: (4:05), 9:05

Sat & Sun: (4:05), 9:05

Mon - Thurs: (4:05)

**NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM** rated PG

Fri: 7:05

Sat & Sun: (2:05), 7:05

Mon - Thurs: 7:05



## ... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

shoot you, but I got to tie you up 'cause I don't need you in my way when they come." Larry didn't believe him but had no options. He slowly walked to the chair and sat. John then walked to the window and pulled the corner of the shade aside for another look outside. At that moment, Larry jumped from his chair, grabbed the boiling kettle of water and ran toward John. Just as John turned around, Larry lunged forward throwing the entire kettle of boiling water on John's face and chest. He screamed in agony, dropping the rifle. Larry picked it up and ran for the door.

"Team leader to CP. Something's going down; loud screaming; loud screaming. We're going in. Standby....someone's coming out." The three SWAT officers backed away from the door, aiming their M16's as Larry frantically fumbled with the security chain and

two dead bolt locks. John lay curled up on the floor, screaming with pain, and then passed out in shock.

The door flew open and out ran a bare chested man wearing swimming trunks and carrying a rifle. "Don't shoot, please don't shoot me," Larry cried as he ran toward the team leader. On instinct, Officer John Teague tightened the pressure against the trigger of his weapon. "Drop the weapon. Down, down on the floor, now!" Larry dropped the rifle but ran into the team leader, hugging him. Larry was knocked to the ground and handcuffed.

John Clements was rushed to Miami Jackson Hospital burn center. Three days later John died of infection, his life snuffed out by a panicked juvenile who thought he was about to die.

Note: The events surrounding this tragedy were gathered from the 15-year-

## ... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 5

certain that human activity is responsible for the changes that we see all around us. Maybe the oil industry shills who claim that we are witnessing climatic cycles independent of human activity are correct. I will forever remember Earth Day in Philadelphia in 1971. A mass of humanity had gathered in Fairmont Park. Latecomers, eager to join the celebration parked on the grass, leaving the sod deeply rutted and scarred. Trash cans filled quickly. Celebrants dumped additional refuse atop the already full containers. The waste peaked then cascaded onto the ground. I wondered at the time if participants were showing much respect for the earth that they claimed to celebrate. Those overflowing trash cans are a metaphor for our abuse today. We fill the atmosphere with pollutants and then dump some more.

The earth has existed in perfect

harmony, whipping around our little sun at just the right distance for some four billion years. It is neither too hot nor too cold, too close nor too distant. Life developed here and thrived in exquisite balance for perhaps three billion years. Flood followed drought. Predator stalked prey. Species appeared and species disappeared, replaced by superior specimens. Even man, for all but the last several decades of his presence here, lived in harmony with nature, part of the natural cycle.

We have reached such a level of dominance on this planet that stewardship of her welfare is now our responsibility, but we are ignoring that duty. Greed, population explosion, and industrialization have upset a balance crafted over billions of years. Too bad. Too bad for our kids, for our grand kids, for our common home.

old runaway, John's parents and records volunteered by the VA hospital. While Larry Steinberg had many opportunities to grab the rifle, he was afraid to do so. I mean no disrespect to the Veteran's Administration on their handling of this matter. During and after the war, they were overwhelmed with mentally wounded soldiers returning from battle. They

did the best they could. Finally, I would like to honor my SWAT officers for displaying professionalism in not killing the armed juvenile as he rushed the officers.

• Read Fred's column while you are away at: <http://www.highlandsinfo.com/newspaperdownload.htm>

## HS Interact students attend Rotary

Allison Winn and Kelli Baer, members of the Highlands School Interact Club, recently joined the Rotary Club of Highlands at its weekly noon meeting. Interact is a Rotary sponsored service club for young people age 14-18. The Interact Club is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highlands.



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## • POLICE & FIRE REPORT •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Jan. 19-23 Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

Jan. 19

- At 12:55 p.m., officers responded to a report of a dog biting a dog on Holt Circle Road.

Jan. 19

- At 5:29 p.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 53 mph in a 35 zone on U.S. 64 west.

Jan. 20

- At 7:22 p.m., vandalism with a fire extinguisher in the men's bathroom at Town Hall was reported.

Jan. 23

- At 11:15 a.m., embezzlement of \$13,000 in August 2006 was reported at D&J Express Mart. Officers are investigating the incident.

- At 7:19 a.m., a motorist was cited for driving with an expired registration in a vehicle which was not in good working order.

- At 10:45 a.m., a motorist was cited for running a red light at U.S. 64 east and Carolina Way.

- At 10:30 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at U.S. 64 and Carolina Way.

- At 5 p.m., officers responded to a call of vandalism by juveniles in the pool house at the Rec Park. Damage was estimated at \$200.

- At 5 p.m., Angel Ochoa, 25, of Glenville, N.C., was arrested at Mirror Lake and Hicks roads for driving without insurance, driving without a license and driving with a fictitious tag.

Over the week, officers responded to 2 alarms.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Jan. 17-24.

Jan. 17

- Twice the dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Lost Trail Road at Chestnut Hills. They were false.

Jan. 20

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Clubhouse Trail. It was false.

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Fire Dept. It was cancelled en route.

Jan. 22

- A brush fire was reported out of control on Old Orchard Road. It was a controlled burn and extinguished.

- The dept. responded to a two-vehicle accident at Carolina Way and U.S. 64 east. There were no injuries.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Church Street where someone had fallen. The victim was transported to the hospital.

## • REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS •

Highlands Township

- 0528411, 73 WOODLAND HILL DR LOTS 28 & 29, FLEMING KAREN L., 12/29/2006, \$615,000., CUMMINGS FRANK B., \$488,440.

- 0547566, STONEY CREEK RD OFF HWY 106, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD, 12/29/2006, \$0., WBT PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT LC, \$123,890.

- 0548796, WALHALLARD, HUIE W STELL, 12/28/2006, \$0., HUIE W STELL, \$284,680.

- 0548805, 511 STONEY CREEK RD TRACT C AND D, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD, 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, \$1,322,350.

- 0548806, STONEY CREEK RD, SCT HOLDINGS LLC, 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, \$770,860.

- 0548808, HORSE COVE RD TRACT 6, HILLMAN KATHLEEN, 12/29/2006, \$300,000., HORSE COVE ESTATES LLC, \$224,980.

- 0548816, HORSE COVE RD TRACT 2 HORSE COVE ESTATES, ABRANYI AUREL STEPHEN III, 12/29/2006, \$192,000., HORSE COVE ESTATES LLC, \$124,740.

- 0533159, OFF 106 DILLARD RD BOATDOCK—MOSTLY UNDER WATERS OF LAKE SEQUOYAH, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO., 12/29/2006, \$0., WBT PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT LC, \$6,000.

- 0516295, VISTA RD LOT 21, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO., 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO., \$85,000.

- 0516296, VISTA RD LOT 22 BENCHMARK, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO., 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO., \$85,000.

- 0516297, VISTA RD LOT 23 BENCHMARK SUB, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, \$85,000.

- 0516298 VISTA RD LOT 24 BENCHMARK SUB, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, \$85,000.

- 0516299 VISTA RD LOT 25 BENCHMARK SUB, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, 12/29/2006, \$0., CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO, \$85,000.

- 0500708, 141 BIG VIEW DR LOT 45 QUEENS MTN EST, HUIE MADALINE, 12/28/2006, \$0., HUIE MADALINE, \$592,650.

- 0500711, 141 BIG VIEW DR LOT 14 QUEEN MTN, HUIE MADALINE, 12/28/2006, \$0., HUIE MADALINE, \$122,570.

- 0501728, DILLARD RD, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD CO., 12/29/2006, \$0., WBT PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT LC, \$95,210.

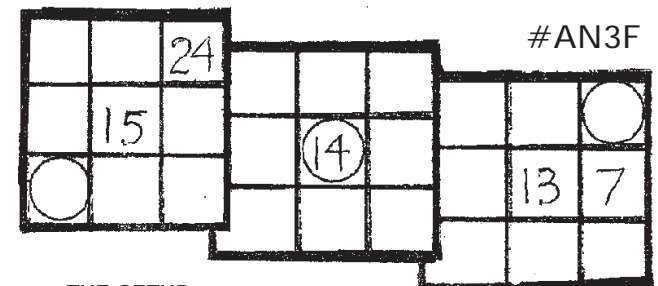
- 0542649 OFF 106 DILLARD RD, CHESTNUT RIDGE LTD, 12/29/2006, \$0., WBT PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT LC, \$457,090.

Flats Township

- 0633424, 1622 BUCKS KNOB RD, BALO DENES, 12/29/2006, \$250,000., SMITH WILLIAM MATT II, \$120,930.

## PseudoCube®

A New Numbers Game



### 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.

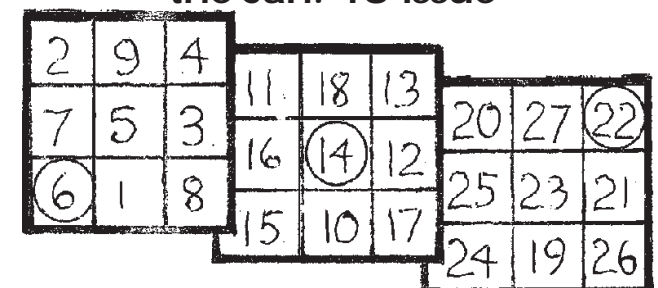
### THE CHALLENGE:

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

## Solution for puzzle # BZ2A in the Jan. 18 issue





**Dillsboro 20 Miles** ^  
Rafting & Train

**Franklin**

\* Lowe's


Whistle Stop >

Ruby >

Cinema

BP Gas

< Fun Factory




**Whiteside Mtn**

Hwy 107n

**Visitors' Information**  
#1 Internet Directory For 3 Years!  
[www.HighlandsInfo.com](http://www.HighlandsInfo.com)

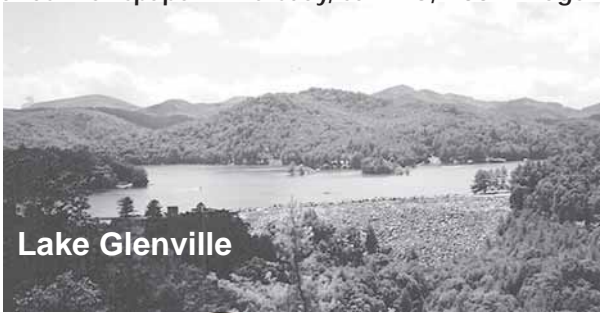
**Highlands' Newspaper**  
Ad Info. 828-526-0782

< Marina Gas & Store



**Cullasaja Falls**

**Lake Glenville**



**Lake Glenville**

**Cullasaja Falls**

< Jackson Hole Gem Mine

**Bust Your Butt Falls**

Hwy 64w & 28n

**Glen Falls**

**Otto**

BP Gas NC Lotto

Highlands 6 Miles

Scaly Mtn

Mtn. Junction

Old Clayton Inn 7 Miles

**Dillard, GA**

Highlands 14 Miles

**Highlands Cove Golf & Peregrine**

**Cliffside Lake**

**Bridal Veil**

**Dry Falls**

The Farm

**Bartram Trail**

Hwy 106

**Glen Falls**

Peak Experience

**Chinquapin Mt Trail**

Hwy 28s

**Chattooga & Bartram Trail**

**Highlands**

Hwy 64

**Cashiers**

**Sliding Rock**

**Whiteside Trail**

**Chattooga Trail**

**Iron Bridge**

**Silver Run Falls**

Hwy 281

Hwy 130

Hwy 107s

**Lake Toxaway**

< Highlands 20 Miles

**Sapphire Valley**

BP Gas

**Gorges Park**

**Whitewater Falls**

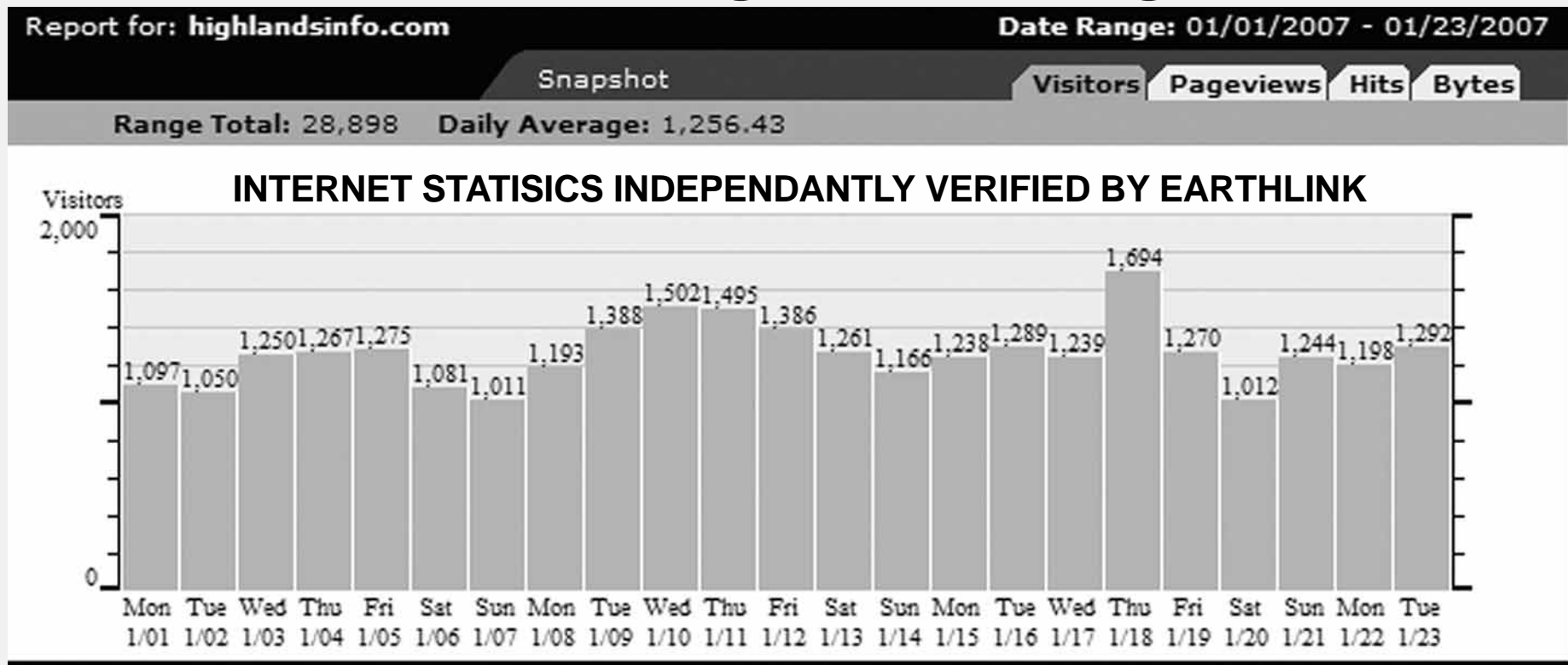
2006 Copyrighted Map

**Catatoga Country Club**

To Biltmore >

<b>CALL NOW</b>	1 Summer House	4 Outdoor Tool	7 Century 21	10 Macon Bank	13 Grinning Frog	16 SMC Realty	19
<b>Area Code 828</b>	2 Tin Roof Gallery	5	8 Mtn Golf Properties	11 Fairfield Realty	14 Rand Soellner Arch.	17 Hampton Inn	20
	3 On The Verandah	6 Skyline Lodge	9 Buyers' Real Estate	12 TUBBY Tubing	15 HomePlace Blinds	18 Brew Bird Cafe	21

## Jan. 2007 - Record Breaking Levels For HighlandsInfo.com



Highlands' Newspaper continues to be our areas most read publication - Hardcopy and/or PDFs. Everyday people download back editions of Highlands' Newspaper - Your advertising goes a long way.



# Four Seasons Of Fun

The businesses on this map are open in winter.  
Live Music @ Cyprus Restaurant Friday Nights

- LODGING**

  - 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) Hill-Top Grill
  - 15)
  - 16)
  - 17) Madison's
  - 18) Main Street Inn
  - 19) Nick's Restaurant
  - 20)
  - 21) Pescado's
  - 22) Pizza Place
  - 23) Rib Shack
  - 24)
  - 25)
  - 26)
  - 27)
  - 28) SweetTreats Cafe
  - 29)
  - 30) Wolfgang's
- REAL ESTATE**

  - 31) Buyer's Realty
  - 32) Century 21
  - 33) Chambers Agency
  - 34) Country Club Prop.
  - 35) Houston Realty
  - 36) John Cleaveland
  - 37) John Schiffli
  - 38) Keller Williams
- HOME DECOR**

  - 41) Acorns
  - 42) Black Bear Furn.
  - 43) Custom Coverings
  - 44) Dry Sink
  - 45) Highlands Cabinet
  - 46) Highlands Decorat.
  - 47) Old Rangoon
  - 48)
  - 49) Summer House
  - 50) Twigs
  - 51) Wholesale Down
- GIFTS**

  - 52) Bird Barn
  - 53) Christmas Tree
  - 54) Grinning Frog
  - 55) Needle Point
  - 56) Shakespears
  - 57) Speckled Hen
  - 58) The Hen House
- BOUTIQUES**

  - 60) AnnaWear
  - 61) Bungalow Boutique
  - 62) Cabin Casuals
  - 63)
  - 64) Coolcats Hotdogs
  - 65) Jolies
  - 66)
  - 67)
  - 68)
  - 69) Nancy's Fancys
  - 70) Shops of O.E.I.
  - 71) The Exchange
  - 72) Village Kids
  - 73) Vivace
  - 74) Wits End
  - 75) Drakes Diamonds
  - 76) Highlands Gem
  - 77) Highlands Fine Art
  - 78) Kent Ltd
  - 79) Silver Eagle
- JEWELRY**

  - 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**

  - 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
- ANTIQUES**

  - 90) Elephants Foot
  - 91) Mirror Lake Antiques
  - 92)
  - 93) Shiraz Oriental Rugs
  - 95)
  - 96) John Collette
  - 97) Mill Creek Gallery
  - 98) Robert Tino
  - 99) The Very Thing
- ART GALLERIES**

  - 96) John Collette
  - 97) Mill Creek Gallery
  - 98) Robert Tino
  - 99) The Very Thing
- SERVICES**

  - 100) ComputerMan
  - 111) Curves Fitness
  - 112) Drug Stores
  - 114) Dry Cleaners
  - 115) Highlands Office
  - 116) Jack Mayer
  - 117) Nantahala Tire
  - 118) Schmitt Builders
  - 119) Woodworks
- OUTFITTERS**

  - 120) Bear Mountain

# Highlands Map

[www.HighlandsInfo.com](http://www.HighlandsInfo.com)

Main Street Inn  
Open All Year



Breakfast & Wine Bar  
Open To The Public

MILL CREEK GALLERY  
Village Square

Performing Arts Center

Community Players  
Chamber Music Festival

Madison's

Wine Spectator

Mountain Fresh Foods



HighlandsInfo.com - #1 Directory For 4 Years

