# Lands Mew

Volume 5, Number 1

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Jan. 4, 2007

#### On-going

- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays. Bring your mat. \$7 per person per class or \$50 for a monthly
- Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free with HealthTracks Membership or \$8 per class for non-members. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.
- · Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is offering a total body and muscletoning workout exercise class at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Free with Health Track Membership or \$8 for non-members. An advanced class will also be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. 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-
- · 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. Weighin 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.

#### Saturday, Jan. 6

· The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike, on relatively flat terrain with a small elevation change, on historic Glade Road near Highlands to see several natural "rock houses." Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134 for reservations.

## Sunday, Jan. 7

· The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 3-mile hike with great views from Lookout Mt. in Black Rock Mt. State Park in Georgia. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations.

## Beginning Jan. 8

· Children's classes resume at Bascom-Louise Gallery - coast is \$5 per student. Mondays: For Homeschoolers, classes are from 1-3 p.m. For 2nd to 5th graders, classes are from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Tuesdays: classes for pre-school are 11-11:30 a.m.; for kindergarten-1st 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. 3;15-4:15, Middle School

## Town not pursuing initial RiverWalk fines

Emerging from a brief closed session at the Jan. 3 Town Board meeting, commissioners decided not to pursue the \$3,500 in fines leveled against RiverWalk, LLC the fall of 2006.

"Instead, we're going to reserve our resources and energy to pursue collection of the ing the \$5,000 settlement resolu-\$400,000," said Mayor Don tion discussed at the Nov. 8 meet-Mullen.

At the Dec. 6 Town Board meeting, commissioners moved to hold RiverWalk developers accountable for soil and erosion violations at its site instead of sign-

ing with RiverWalk attorney Billy Clarke.

The proposed settlement would have basically wiped clean

• See RIVERWALK page 16

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## Town says no antique show at **Rec Park**

The Highlands Playhouse will have to find another home for its antique show this year.

After much discussion among members of the board and input from citizens at the board meeting, the motion to allow the Playhouse to use the Civic Center September 2007 failed 3-2.

Commissioner Hank Ross made the motion to allow the Playhouse to use the center for a maximum of five days, specifically Monday, Sept. 24 through Sunday, Sept. 30, and only for this year while the Rec Park Committee continues to work on a policy.

But Commissioners Amy Patterson, Alan Marsh and Herb James voted against the motion.

"Why can't they have the show in August at the school gymnasium?" asked Commissioner

"I'll vote for it if vou amend your motion to three days," said Commissioner Marsh. Commissioner Ross didn't amend the motion saying he thought his motion was fair.

• See SHOW page 16

## Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
1	1	1
C°5	C*2	C°5
V. 1000		
50.42°F	53-40°F	47-34°F

## They're on fire!



The Highlands School boys basketball team just can't lose! It lead Swain in a typical first game after a 10-day break from the court. "This is the fastest start Highlands has had since anyone can remember," said Coach Butch Smart. "We have defeated everyone in Big Smokey Conference except Murphy whom we've not played. Now we're looking to up the record in the Little Smokey Conference and maintain a high seed in the state 1-A." Highlands' record is 14 wins 2 losses and 1 and 0 for the conference. The next game is at Hiwassee Dam, Friday, Jan. 5. The next home game is against Blue Ridge at home, Tuesday, Jan. 9. Pictured is Alec Schmitt at the Swain game Tuesday night. The score was 71-51.

Photo Noel Atherton

## **Openings** at fire dept. point to changing

The Highlands Fire and Rescue Department is looking for volunteers. Due to pending retirements, there will be four openings for membership this

"We've never been in this situation having vacancies with no applications," said department administrator Bob Houston who's been with the department 40 years. He equates the anomaly to changing times and "a changing Highlands."

Houston says the reasons are multifaceted. "It used to be people didn't leave Highlands to go to college, now they do. Plus there is a lot of mandatory training which wasn't required in years past.'

Houston and Captain Robbie Forrester say these are good things, but it also makes the work the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department does a lot harder. "Volunteering like this is going by the wayside," said Forrester. "Plus it's getting harder and harder for our volunteers to get off work for calls and training.'

Several volunteer fire departments in the county have at least one, sometimes two full-time paid fire and rescue officers. The Franklin Fire & Rescue Depart-

• See FIRE DEPT. page 13

## • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • FORUM •

## HAWK'S EYE VIEW

## State of the town



**Mayor Don Mullen** 

This past year in Highlands was both busy and productive, sometimes more busy than productive but somehow we all survived 2006. The holiday season being behind us, we can look forward optimistically to an easier New Year with more production than busy-ness. Let's now review some of the major issues of this past year and try to gain some sort of perspective as not only to how far we have come but how far we hope to go in 2007.

The main issue of the year, of course, was Extraterritorial Jurisdiction, which was passed by the Town Board in November of 2005 after a stormy public hearing, three weeks before I took office as mayor of Highlands. It was apparent that in 2006 the major job of the Town was to implement this big step in the history of Highlands which had become so controversial. We immediately appointed a committee of commissioners and interested citizens in the area to begin to work together discussing the process and have town meetings to try to explain the zoning process and the reasons for trying to control growth in both the town and the ETJ area along with continuing to answer questions and keep the dialogue open between the Planning Board and the affected citizens in the ETJ in the different geographic areas around our Town. Throughout this long process a system of zoning was worked out and I think people have become more accepting of the need for ETJ although there will continue to be some disagreement. All in all I think this system has worked and we look forward to the Public Hearing in January before we finalize most of the zoning process. I thank all those people who have put so much time and effort in assuring we have the best system available for the great majority of our people. Ten years



## 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 <u>500-word</u> limit without prior approval.

# Highlands' Newspaper

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Member N.C. Press Association

FREE every Thursday; circulation 5,000; 100 distribution points Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-0782

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Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com 265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

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from now we will all look back on 2006 as a watershed moment in Town planning.

I have commented on the hospital controversies throughout 2006 many times both here on the radio and in the newspapers. After a very difficult year in which several doctors and administrative personnel have resigned, the board of directors has taken important steps to solve the problems the hospital was having. There has been a major change in the governing structure of the hospital as recommended by a nationally recognized consultant after significant

•See MULLEN page 18

## • LETTERS •

## Gross Ads on T.V

Dear Editor.

I don't know about you but I am disgusted with the tasteless ubiquitous ads on T.V.

Eleven minutes out of every 30 are devoted to commercials on most channels! Do we really need to be ready when the moment is right? Be sure and call the doctor if your situation lasts longer than four hours. Do you have problems with frequent urination? Are you going and going or just growing?

We are reminded of every ailment we might possibly have so we can tell our doctor what to prescribe. Perhaps the cost of drugs would not be so high if the pharmaceutical companies would stop bombarding us with their products. Not only are these commercials gross and tasteless, there are so many commercials it is difficult to catch the thread of the story.

I called the Federal Communications Commission to find what was the outside limit of commercials to programming. The answer was that there is NO rule limiting commercial time except for children's programs. The various networks are in control. And it seems that they will give us all that the traffic will bear.

No wonder news on the internet and blogging have become so popular.

The FCC, charged with serving the public interest, is certainly derelict in its duty! It has done nothing to control the bloody violence either!

If you would like to change that please contact it at 1-888-225-5322 or FAX them at 1-866-4180232 or email fccinfo@fcc.gov I did!

Edna Foster Highlands

## • MILESTONES •

## Reese makes the list

Trent Reese, a 2004 graduate of Highlands School, made the dean's list for the fall semester at UNC-Chapel Hill.

He is a junior majoring in Information Science. He is the son of Joe and Karen Potts of Highlands, and Dennis Reese of Arden, NC. He will be studying abroad during the spring semester in Dijon, France.



Megan Lewicki

# Lewicki & Rawlins make the list

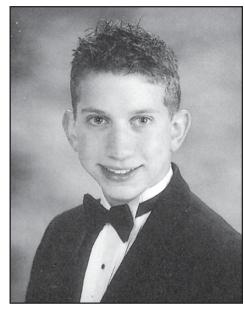
Megan Hyatt Lewicki, a 2006 graduate of Highlands School and a freshman at Appalachian State University, earned a 4.0 average for the fall 2006 semester.

She is a theatre arts major. She was listed on both the Chancellor's list and the Dean's list. She is the daughter of Jim and Kim Lewicki of Highlands.

Callie Marie Rawlins, a 2006 graduate of Highlands School and a freshman at Appalachian State University was listed on the Chancellor's List for the fall 2006 semester. She is a theatre arts major. She was listed on both the Chancellor's list and the Dean's list. She is the daughter of Rick Rawlins and Erin Bronk of Georgia.

To be eligible for the Chancellor's list, full-time students must receive a gradepoint average of 3.85 or higher.

To be eligible for the Dean's list, an undergraduate student who carries 12-14 hours of coursework on which grade points are computed must earn a gradepoint average of 3.45 or better. An undergraduate student who carries 15 hours or more of coursework on which grade points are computed must earn a gradepoint average of 3.25 or better.



**Trent Reese** 



Callie Rawlins

## 50 years!



Happy 50th anniveersary to Martha and Jayco Owens. Married on December 22, 1956 in Wallhalla, S.C.

 From your 8 children and maternal father Jess Munger, 93.

## • OBITUARY •

## **Thomas Hunter Hedlund**

Thomas Hunter Hedlund, age 53, of Runken Lane, Scaly Mountain, NC, died Sunday, December 31, 2006 at Highlands-Cashiers hospital. He was born in Orange County, Florida, the son of Paul Hedlund, Jr., and Roberta Sue Hunter Hedlund of Silver Springs, MD. He was a cook and purchasing agent for Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran, and was a member of the American Legion.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon Woodbury Hedlund; one daughter, Kernessa Woodbury of Franklin, N.C.; three sons, Eric Hedlund of Franklin, N.C., Paul Raymond Hedlund, II, of Glen Burnie, MD, and Jeremiah Woodbury of Tampa, FL; one brother, Steve Hedlund and his wife, Diane of Bowie, MD; five grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4 at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Bryant Funeral Home in Highlands, with Rev. Gary McCall officiating. Burial will be in Highlands Memorial Park Cemetery.

Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

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7,400 sq. ft. on 1.4 acres. The attention to detail is obvious from the entrance to the lower level living area. Complete with glass elevator, 2 kitchens, oversize 2-car garage, wood, Travertine & tile coloring, 3 fireplaces.

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## Old Highlands charm

Bright open spacious home with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, plus loft. Updated with slate patio, cypress floors, vaulted v-groove cypress ceilings, pine and cypress paneling, granite countertops, solid pine doors, 2 massive rock fireplaces, 2 master suites, on a large lot with plenty of parking. Lovely landscaping on the



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- 4+ acres at Norton Ridge. 5 bed septic, well in. Ready to go! \$425,000.
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## LAUGHING AT LIFE

## Bend, pay homage and ... **Happy New Year?**

h yes, the tax man cometh, hands outstretched, waiting to be filled with your hard earned money. Let's all bend and pay him homage. Not only does January 1 mark the start of another exciting year of blood letting, death and destruction around the world, it marks the continuing thirst of our government to relieve you of your money to pay for the carnage. Some believe a Democratic Congress will translate into even higher taxes. I think they're right but time will tell.

We all cringed when we read Macon

County would be re-evaluating our land

money for them and less for us. Is there

no end to the increases of taxation? Oh,

your house hasn't changed much, maybe

and homes again. This means more

four years older and a little more

rundown, but other than that it's probably the same ole place, except

maybe the roof needs fixing. But now

because the county says its worth more.

When British rogues like George

being levied on them by the Crown, they

So they started a war to overthrow

extreme taxation and government forced

Tell the kids that when they have less

Washington and Thomas Jefferson

were told to knuckle under. They

the Crown and free America from

religion. If George and Thomas had

failed in their efforts, they would have

been hanged as traitors. They won and

return to life and see what a mess we

Independence and Bill of Rights, they

erase religion from government. To the

contrary and to the chagrin of non-

Christian faith that was entwined in

every thread of our government for the

first 150 years. The prevailing attitude

was the majority rules; minorities suck it

up. Read your history. In the last 50 years,

Christians, we were founded on a

have made of their Declaration of

But that was more than 200 years ago

If Washington and Jefferson could

For starters, they never intended to

started balking about the huge taxes

demanded representation and felt the

milk to drink.

whip instead.

the rest is history.

would be incensed.

and much has changed.

you have to pay more tax to keep it





email:

askfredanything@aol.com

control the majority. We are the most taxed nation in the world. It's hidden so we can't see it. You say 28 percent of your income is not too bad and I might agree if that was it. Except for food and this

dismantle that for the sake

of a tiny minority who now

we have managed to

newspaper, there's not much else that is not taxed. I know freedom is expensive, but this is ridiculous. Just take a quick look

at our taxes other than income tax. There is a tobacco tax, corporate

income tax, dog license tax, federal unemployment tax, fishing license tax, food license tax, fuel permit tax, electrical tax, gasoline tax, hunting license tax, inheritance tax, interest expense tax, inventory tax, IRS interest charges (a tax on a tax), liquor tax, luxury tax, marriage license tax, Medicare tax, property tax, real estate tax, service charge taxes, Social Security tax, road usage taxes, sales tax, recreation vehicle tax, school tax, state income tax, state unemployment tax, telephone federal excise tax, telephone federal universal service fee tax, telephone federal, state and local surcharge taxes, telephone minimum usage surcharge tax, telephone recurring and non-recurring charges tax, telephone state and local tax, telephone usage charge tax, utility tax, vehicle license registration tax, vehicle sales tax, watercraft sales and registration tax, well permit tax and finally workers compensation tax. I  $\check{\text{am}}$  sure I have left out something.

Here's a not so fun thing to do. Dig out your phone bill and add up all the taxes you are charged on the bill. Now multiply that by 12 months. It will bowl you over. Are you sitting down? Bell South just asked for another 50 cents per month to pay for hurricane damage. What hurricane damage?

Next, add up the stuff you must pay for on a weekly or monthly basis just to stay alive, like a mortgage or rent payments, utilities, increasing food costs, constantly inflated insurance rates on your home, life and vehicles, medications and doctor's bills, ya de, ya de, ya de.

For folks on a fixed income, the future is grim. Is this the United States of America, the land of the free and

•See WOOLDRIDGE page 14

## Another View

## His are big shoes to fill

didn't know Alex Redmountain well Lenough to write a fitting tribute, but I respected him so much that I had to try. Our efforts on behalf on the Highlands' Newspaper brought us together, sadly only once.

Alex called and suggested that we get together for breakfast. I enthusiastically accepted and we met in town the following Saturday morning. Each was aware of the other's column. We felt one another out, sparred for a while. The breakthrough came when

I mentioned that, in my youth I had loved the old Brooklyn Dodgers.

Alex not only shared that love but had spent a season in the Brooklyn organization as a catcher.

I found a wonderful man seated across the table in a wheel chair, both legs amputated because of diabetes, but his face was radiant and his smile infectious. We talked about baseball, the war in Iraq, poverty, injustice, religion, you know, typical first date

We didn't discuss a column which I had written, it which I had taken an uncompromising position on longevity. I had written, and still believe, that attempts to develop technology designed to extend human life to 150 years or longer were selfish, unjust, and unfair. Unjust in a world which accepts frightful levels of maternal and neonatal mortality, unjust in a world, and in a country, in which poverty and inequality abound. Unfair to an ever shrinking working population with its own bills to pay and its own kids to raise, unfair in a country which asks its young to fight and die for the national good, yet which cannot ask its aged to die gracefully for the welfare of that nation and those to follow.

I had also written that I would not personally be interested in living if I were no longer fit and healthy. My mother suffered a crippling stroke in her seventy-fifth year. Prior to that time she had lived fully and traveled extensively. She spent her final years in a nursing home, five dreadful lingering years of hating the half on her body that was paralyzed, instead of loving the half that remained.



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo** Feedback is encouraged. email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

I learned to hate infirmity, to detest the smell of hot lunch and the stench of urine. I despised the vacant shells propped up and strapped in wheel chairs, the demented moaning in the night. I was repulsed by Mom's inability to cut her food, by her feeble attempts to transfer herself from bed to chair.

Uncle Blackie had suffered a similar stroke, but on the opposite side of his brain, the side that permits speech. Blackie knew what he wanted to say, but he was unable to

go from thought to speech, expressive aphasia in medical lingo. He would start quietly, attempting to express a well developed thought. As his frustration grew, so did the volume of his unintelligible repetitive sounds, until finally he found a way to shout a vulgar expletive, much to the chagrin of those seated nearby.

Then I met Alex, his wheel chair. his incredible intellect, and his zest for life. I had declared that if I could no longer ski with Bull, I would be ready to pack it in. I have never felt so foolish, so selfish, so utterly narcissistic.

We talked some about each other's writing. Alex didn't mention my dwarfed opinion of what makes life worth living. I learned that day, at 65 years of age, to appreciate life to follow Alex rather than Mom.

Alex Redmountain, in his gentle way, perhaps even unintentionally, taught me a wonderful lesson, that the quality of one's life is measured not by what he can have or what he can do, but by what he can give. I don't think that I will ever be able to handle physical adversity with the dignity or acceptance that Alex displayed, but if that's the hand I'm dealt, I'll try.

I talked with Carole Light, Alex's wife shortly after his death. She asked that I continue writing my little column, carrying the liberal message which Alex had championed, for as she said, his voice is forever silenced.

I will try to match his clarity of expression, and with years of practice at this craft I may come close. I will try to reach his depth of thought, even while knowing that I could no more achieve that goal than Mom could have stood and walked, or that Uncle Blackie could

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have spoken his thoughts. With the possible exception of my son Bull, Alex was the best teacher I ever had.

So here's to you Alex; baseball player, teacher, psychologist,

philosopher, husband, father, humanitarian, writer, hero, friend, mensch. Echoing the thoughts and words of others who knew you better, I'll miss you.

# • 2006 IN REVIEW •

t's been a year of growth and development in Highlands and the county with proposals straining the norm and ordinances in both areas. It's been a year of flux for the hospital, the school board, and Highlands School, too – all signs of growth say some. The following are tidbits of the past year and by the looks of it we were all very busy.

## **January 2006**

#### COUNTY WON'T ENFORCE MORATORIUM

At the Nov. 18 "Citizens Against ETJ" meeting, members learned that the county might not have to honor the Town of Highlands' moratorium on commercial development in the ETJ area. So started a year-long battle between the town and the county and citizens for ETJ and those against it concerning development in the newly ETJ'd area outside of Highlands.

## CONDITIONAL ZONING ON THE BOOKS

The Town Board adopted conditional zoning as a way to have a say in the way developers develop and to ensure what is said a meetings between developers and boards comes to fruition. Each new conditional district (CD) is a "floating district" because no land can be situated in the district until the owner petitions to have it rezoned to a CD.

## COUNTY NAMES ETJ MEMBERS TO PLANNING BOARD

County commissioners appointed two representatives from the recently ETJ'd area to sit on the town's Planning Board. Appointed were Mitch Gurganus, a property owner in Horse Cove and Mike Bryson, a property owner in the eastern quadrant of the ETJ area.

#### LONG-TIME BIOLOGICAL STATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT DIES

Martina W. Haggard, 77, of Asheville, died on January 2, 2006 From 1959 to 1967 she was the Administrative Assistant at the Highlands Biological Station. She, together with eminent botanists from the then "19 member Universities" established the Botanical Garden now flourishing at the station.

## TOWN WORKING WITH CA-ETJ

As charged by Mayor Don Mullen at the Jan. 6 Town Board meeting, commissioners didn't waste any time sitting down to work with the Citizens Against ETJ (CA-ETJ). On Jan. 13, Commissioners Hank Ross and Amy Patterson met with the executive board of CA-ETJ to go over scenarios the group suggested at the Jan. 6 Town Board meeting and to design a plan to involve the community in potential decisions made in the ETJ areas.

#### HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL WELCOMES NEW, FULL-TIME CARDI-OLOGIST

Thanks to a joint partnership between Highlands- Cashiers Hospital and Northeast Georgia Heart Center of Gainesville, GA. Carl M. Curtiss, MD, FACC, will open the Mountain Heart Center on Jan. 30, with offices located in Suite 304 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus.

#### 'NO' TO SCHOOL/UCWA PROJECT

After months of debate it only took a paid consultant minutes to kill UCWA's stream remediation/wetlands/outdoor classroom proposal for Highlands School.

#### FIREMAN OF THE YEAR

Vince Petrone was honored as Fireman of the Year for 2005. Pictured are Asst. Fire Chief Ryan Gearhart, Fire Chief James Manley and Vince Petrone.

## **COUNTY TO EXAMINE ETJ LEGALITY**

Macon County Commissioners are considering suing the Town of Highlands or misrepresenting population figures in its ETJ representative calculations and the own is disappointed, to say the least.

## February 2006

## SEPTIC INSPECTIONS BEHIND IN COUNTY

Realtors, builders and engineers filled the board room at Monday night's Macon County Commission meeting demonstrating through their solidarity their concern over the county's septic system approval crisis.

#### **BOARD OKS OEI'S OLD CREEK PLANS**

It just squeaked through, but the Planning Board OK'd OEI's Old Creek Lodge plans. At a special meeting, Monday, Feb. 6, planning board members considered revamped plans for the subdivision – to be called Satulah Village West. The plans passed 5 to 4. On the 7.3-acre parcel zoned B3, OEI plans to replace the commercial motel complex with a clustered residential community of 35 homes situated around common green areas

#### HOSPITAL PURCHASES OAKMONT TRACT FOR NEW CASHIERS MEDICAL FACILITY

Plans to build a new medical office building in Cashiers took a major step forward last week, as Highlands- Cashiers Hospital finalized the purchase of just over eight acres on NC 107, near the crossroads.

#### **FEBRUARY SNOW**

Highlands School senior Tyler Shook snow boards down Main Street's "Terrain Park' Saturday afternoon. Friday night Father Winter reminded Highlands that spring isn't here yet when about six inches of snow fell.

## 2ND STREET SPUR COULD CLOSE

Owners of Highlands Plaza want to close Second Street at their property line as it comes into the plaza but citizens at Wednesday night's Town Board meeting urged commissioners to keep it open But, in 1974, several streets and alleys on or adjoining the plaza — including Second Street where it meets the plaza to N.C. 28 — were closed and abandoned by the town. Highlands

## GIRLS ADVANCE TO STATE PLAYOFFS

They did it! "Our girls' basketball players are the queens of their own destiny at this point," said Principal Monica Bomengen. "They have demonstrated tremendous

growth both individually and as a team. I am filled with pride for every one of them." On Feb. 16, the Lady Highlanders beat regular season co-champs Hiwassee Dam's Lady Eagles making them number one for the Little Smoky Mountain Conference in state playoffs. The score was tight – Highlands, 64, Hiwassee Dam, 60.

## WERDERS GET PROPERTY REZONED

In one last ditch effort, neighbors of the Werder property pleaded with the Town Board not to rezone the acreage on the corners of Chestnut, Hickory and U.S. 64 east R3 multi-family conditional use, but to no avail. But after almost a year of haggling, Chuck Simmerson can finally purchase the property from the Werders and build his four multi-family buildings, one single-family home and preserve the historic home currently on the property. With conditional use zoning in place, the Town Board feels confident that Simmerson will stick to the plans and agreements he made with the town's various boards concerning the property's development.

#### **March 2006**

#### HARLEM AMBASSADORS COME TO TOWN

The internationally-acclaimed Harlem Ambassadors 2005-2006 Tour, covering Europe, Asia, and North America, will be stopping in Highlands for a game at the Highlands School new gym. On March 14 at 7 p.m. it was the Harlem Ambassadors vs. the Highlands Hometown Heroes.

#### COUNTY AND TOWN GOING TO COURT

The county is going ahead with its suit against the town to legally settle ETJ representation issues between them. At the March 6 Macon County Commission meeting, County Attorney Rickey Moorefield said the town had come a long way in aligning its population figures in town and in the ETJ area from the original count.

#### HS PRINCIPAL NOT RETURNING '06-'07

At a press conference Tuesday night, Highlands School Principal Monica Bomengen announced she would be seeking employment elsewhere next year. "I will not return as principal of Highlands School this fall. I have decided to make this announcement now to initiate a smooth transition to a new administration for 2006-2007."

## HOSPITAL'S CEO'S RETURN PENDING

As the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital board battles instability and rumors at least one positive thing has transpired. "The board just heard that he is reconsidering his decision to resign," said Hospital Marketing Director Skip Taylor. Taylor said Shull's sudden departure last Thursday was "unexpected and unsolicited." "The board regretted Ken's decision and feels there was some misunderstanding," said Taylor

#### SHULL'S BACK WITH GOALS IN SIGHT

Back at his office at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, CEO and President Ken Shull is ready to dispel rumors. With Shull's sudden resignation on March 1 and reinstatement about a week later, the rumor mill began churning.

#### MIXED-USE ZONE PROPOSED FOR ETJ CORRIDORS

A special mixed-use zoning district will likely be designated for the corridors in the ETJ area to both accommodate existing uses and structures and to calm residents' fears of major changes. Mitch Gurganus said the property rights of the owners have to be protected.

#### **BLACK MOLD FOUND AT SCHOOL**

Macon County Schools' Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell said there is no validity to the rumor that the Highlands School elementary wing will be shut down due the presence of black mold. But the Macon County School system is currently taking steps to eradicate the black and brown mold found in that part – the old part of the school.

## **HS PRINCIPAL SUSPENDED**

A record-number of people turned out for the school board meeting held in Highlands on Tuesday to voice concerns about what was called a "lack of leadership" at Highlands school. "This was the largest turnout we've ever had at a school board meeting in Highlands," said school board chairman Kevin Corbin. "Folks were obviously there over concerns about the administration at Highlands School. We heard what they had to say, we share their concerns."

## NC Lottery began March 30

## <u>April 2006</u>

## LARRY BROOKS RETURNS TO HS

Ex-Highlands School Principal Larry Brooks has returned to Highlands School as interim principal until the end of June. "It's a bit strange, but good," said Brooks Wednesday morning. "Where there is instability, there will be stability, but I have no other agenda." At a mandatory faculty meeting at Highlands School Tuesday afternoon, Macon County Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell said Highlands School Principal Monica Bomengen has been reassigned to assist with the Early College High School.

## **MERCHANT TURNS 90**

Mr. Merchant, Highlands' Newspaper's proofreader turned 90 and celebrated his birthday with friends and family at Chestnut Hill.

#### KING AND QUEEN FOR THE NIGHT

King and Queen Seniors Ryan Bears and Ramsey Ashburn at the Junior-Senior Prom at the Highlands Conference Center, Saturday, April 8.

## **RASH OF BREAK-INS SIGNAL SEASON**

Seven breaking and enterings with burglaries this past week joins a list of such episodes tallying up in the area since Spring has sprung. Police Chief Bill Harrell said people

# 2006 IN REVIEW



returning to their second homes for the season are finding various items missing. Lately it's been folks living at Highlands Country Club, though other areas in town have been hit, too, he said. However the number of breaking and enterings with burglaries at Highlands Country Club has reached the double digits. Missing items have been listed as arts

#### HIGHLANDS SCHOOL STUDENTS WIN **BIG AT WRITING CONTEST**

Middle school winners of the 27th Annual Olive B. Eaton Creative Writing Contest were honored at a reception at the Public Library where the three winners who were present read their essays with the theme of Libraries Change Lives." Top award of \$175 went to Hannah Krumholt, 8th grade; winner of the second prize of \$100 was Will Mathiowdis, 8th grade; and the third prize of \$75 was awarded to Austin Reese, 6th grade. The top three students all attend the Highlands School.

#### ONE -OF-A-KIND HOUSE BURNS **DOWN**

A house completely and lovingly decorated with "gems" found at Mountain Findings burned mid-morning Wednesday during a brief but violent storm that included pelting rain, wind, a drop in temperature and lightning. In the four minutes it took Highlands firefighters to reach the Emerson home on at the corner of Chestnut and Fifth streets it was already gutted and nothing like it is bound to be built in Highlands again.

### IN THREE DAYS HIGHLANDS F&R HANDLES FOUR MAJOR INCIDENTS

Following a relatively inactive period, the Highlands Fire and Rescue Department has suddenly been very busy.

## **May 2006**

## **VOTERS CHOOSE AT PRIMARIES**

Provisional ballots must still be counted, so the official count won't be logged until May 9, but Macon County's votes are in and officials expect Tuesday's winners to stick. The polls saw 4,034 voters on Tuesday, May 2. One-stop voters amounted to 1,261 for a total of 5, 294 voters for the primary election.

### HIGHLANDS MAKES FORBES MOST **EXPENSIVE ZIP CODE LIST**

Mountain Garden Club hit on something big – the value of a Highlands zip code. Last week Highlands ranked 499 on the "Forbes 500 Most Expensive Zip Code List for 2006." Ranking was based on median home sale prices across the country. Data as of December 2005 was used to compile the

#### **INTERIM SUPER TAKES CHARGE**

The announcement of an interim Superintendent of Macon County Schools came on the heels of the announcement of Superintendent Dr. Rodney Shotwell accepting a job as Superintendent of Rockingham County Schools. Shotwell's last day with Macon County is May 31 but as of May 17 he took annual leave to prepare for his new job.

MACON COUNTY SCHOOLS BUDGET

## **IN AT \$33 MILLION**

#### **KAREN HAWK BEGAN AS HIGHLANDS' NEWSPAPER'S CARTOONIST.**

#### **HS STUDENTS CHOSEN FOR GOVER-**NOR'S SCHOOL

Herz and Chase Jenkins have been selected to attend the Governor's School of North Carolina 2006. Funded annually by the General Assembly of North Carolina, and administered by the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction through the Exceptional Children Division, the Governor's School of North Carolina is the oldest statewide summer residential program for the academically or intellectually gifted high school students in the na-

#### POLICE ARREST SUSPECT IN HCC **BURGLARIES**

The rash of burglaries that have plagued Highlands Country Club residents since March may be ending and the cases put to rest. On Friday, May 19, Highlands Police arrested Deborah Ann Cross, 49, from Alpharetta, Ga., for felonious larceny in connection with at least one residence.

## **June 2006**

#### HIGHLANDS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL LARRY BROOKS PRESENTED MRS. **BRENDA OWENS WITH THE HIGH-**LANDER SERVICE AWARD AT MON-DAY'S HIGH SCHOOL AWARD **CEREMONY.**

## **ZONING BOARD SAYS 'YES' TO NICK'S**

Nick Moschouris's next stop is the county courthouse where he plans to pick up his building permit. At the Zoning Board's June 14 meeting, Moschouris met no resistance to his plans to convert the old Patterson house on the corner of First and Main streets into a new version of the old Nick's Restaurant. With the Appearance Commission's recommendation as a starting point, the board voted unanimously to accept the

#### **COUNTY ACCEPTS BARE BONES VERSION OF SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE**

Macon County is clearly behind the times when it comes to land use regulations but commissioners took a big step at their June meeting and passed a bare bones subdivision ordinance. Charged with writing a subdivision ordinance in 90 days, the Macon County Planning Board began the painstaking process on Feb. 25.

### **HCC THIEF INDICTED**

Deborah Cross has been indicted in Macon County court on one count of felony larceny and one count of felony possession of stolen goods in connection with string of

thefts at Highlands Country Club recently. On May 19 she was arrested at a home on Hutchinson Court in HCC where she was in the act of stealing a table from the porch. With no previous marks on her record, prosecutors agreed to charge her with the one incident even though authorities thought she might be involved with the string of thefts at

## **HIGHLANDS SCHOOL CLASS OF 2006** GRADUATES SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Community members, family and friends of graduates gathered in the school's new gym to celebrate the graduation of the school's largest graduating class — the Class of 2006 with 48 students.

## ON JUNE 12. IRENE PICKLESIMER **JAMES TURNED 101.**

She celebrated with family and friends at her home. With her are four of her five children - Herb James, Wilma Gordon, Geri Crowe and Tom James

#### THE NICK'S SAGA IS OVER.

On Tuesday, June 27, at about 4:15 p.m., the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. burned the old Nick's Restaurant.

## <u>July 2006</u>

## MULTI-FAMILY REQUEST SENT TO PB

"If you're dead set against it, speak up. If you think it has merit, let's move ahead." That was developer Bill Nellis's plea to the Town Board concerning his request for conditional use R-3 multi-family zoning for a 4.4-acre R-2 tract on Harris Lake. Nellis has sat through countless Town Board and Planning Board meetings absorbing what it is the boards like and dislike.

#### RESTAURANT BITTEN BY ORDINANCE

In Highlands, the number of seats allowed a restaurant in the B2 and B3 commercial districts in town is determined by the number of parking spaces the restaurateur can provide customers on the property. This has long been a bone of contention among restaurant owners and now it's affecting a restaurant long in business with a grandfathered parking arrangement.

### **CROWDS TURN OUT FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

"Keep your hands off my wife, don't kick my dog and don't mess with my land." That was a stance echoed by many t the public hearing on the county's proposed subdivision ordinance the evening of July 10. When it was obvious the boardroom of the courthouse wasn't going to hold the number of people who turned out to listen or speak their minds about the ordinance, commissioners moved the public hearing segment of the commission meeting to Courtroom A on the third floor. Still every seat was taken, people lined the walls and spilled into the hallway. The public hearing lasted two hours and 40 minutes

#### RIVERWALK DEVELOPERS FINED \$1,000

The Riverwalk subdivision is in the

town's sights. Following a routine inspection on June 20, Zoning Administrator Larry Gantenbein issued a Notice of Violation when he saw stormwater control violations taking place on the property.

#### SURGEON PEARLSTEIN RESIGNS FROM HOSPITAL

In what has been called a "blow to the hospital," surgeon Dr. Leslie Pearlstein has resigned effective Friday, July 28.

#### **RIVER WALK IN CITIZENS' SIGHTS**

At what might be the best attended Planning Board meeting in the history of Highlands, citizens angered by environmentally damaging practices at the River Walk development on U.S. 64 east had their say.

## August 2006

PEOPLE OF ALL AGES ENJOYED THE **HIGHLANDS FIRE & RESCUE FIRE** TRUCK RIDES DURING ITS ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, THIS YEAR SATURDAY, AUG. 5

#### HIGHLANDS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL BRIAN JETTER (CENTER) WITH ASST. PRINCIPAL TERRY BRADLEY (LEFT) AND GUIDANCE COUNSELOR THOMAS JESSUP (RIGHT) AT A "MEET THE PRINCIPAL" GET TOGETHER AT AUG. 15 AT THE SCHOOL

With board OK, team in place at school Highlands School Principal Brian Jetter with Assistant Principal Terry Bradley and Guidance Counselor Thomas Jessup met with the community Tuesday, Aug. 15 in the lobby of the school during the PTO's "Meet the Principal" reception. Jetter says he's got a "great team in place." In addition to new teachers in each "school," students will have new course offerings to look forward to this year. NOISE ORDINANCE CHANGED AGAIN

Changes made to the noise ordinance at the July 26 Town Board meeting have been changed again. At the Aug. 16 Town Board meeting, the board ruled 3-2 to change the start-up time to 7:30 a.m. instead of 8 a.m.

#### SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES SPEAK OUT

Eight people are vying for the two seats opening up on the Macon County School Board. Tony Esterwood is trying to unseat Tommy Cabe for the District II seat; everyone else is running for Kevin Corbin's at-large seat. Though they very in age, gender, and occupation, the one thing they all have in common is an interest in the school system and the education of the children of Macon County. Each candidate was asked to answer four questions.

#### **6TH MNT.TOP RELAY FOR LIFE TAKES PLACE IN CASHIERS**

#### **HOSPITAL TO REORGANIZES ITS BOARD**

James Orlikoff, of Orlikoff & Associates,

•See 2006 page 12

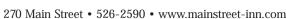
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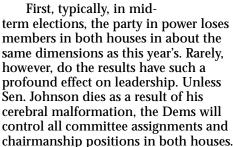
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## • THE CONSERVATIVE POV •

## **Happy New Year!**

he returns are in, the results are in, and pending the mortality of Sen. Tim Johnson, the Dems will control both Houses of Congress as it reconvenes. Not so curiously, there seems to be a total lack of information regarding his condition, and we should expect that lack to be perpetuated ad infinatum. So, in retrospect, what caused this shift in sentiment?



So, was it the economy, stupid? Ain't likely, since the goldilocks condition of employment, inflation, growth, profits and market levels all are all in wonderful shape.

Somehow, the anti-Bush, anti-Republican, anti-free-market media have convinced voters that, even though statistically all is well, they are suffering economic deprivation. IRA's, 401Ks and other investment accounts are prospering but we are told that only the ultrarich are benefiting. Baloney.

I like to gauge things by looking around and seeing things for myself. My wife and I did the South Florida thing again for Christmas and in our travels both this trip and over Thanksgiving, we stopped to eat in places like Valdosta, GA and Lake City, FL, pretty much mainstream America. If we didn't get to the Outback, Red Lobster, Olive Garden or whatever by 5:45, we were in line. Monday night, Tuesday night, the night after Christmas, it didn't matter, these places were full to overflowing every time. These were mostly not travelers, but homefolks.

So, was it the war? The war that Clinton insisted we needed but couldn't pull the trigger? The war that EVERY-BODY (well, almost everybody) said we needed for the preservation of mankind and now conveniently have memory lapses and now it's all Bush's fault.

Don't believe me? Ask the anti-Bush, anti-Republican media. Have some fun and Google-in "Pull Out of .....Washington DC." It's more danger-



Don Swanson Feedback is encouraged. Email dswanson@dnet.net

ous to live in Washington and according to some, Detroit, Baltimore, Atlanta and St. Louis than in Iraq. The mainstream media didn't tell you that did they?

So, was it corruption? Could be. Let's see. Texas Democrat District Attorney Ronnie Earle, long-time political enemy of Tom Delay, got a grand-jury to indict

Delay for allegedly conspiring to violate campaign laws. Republican

rules required him to step down from his position as majority leader. He later withdrew from the 2006 election. On the other hand, Rep. Wm. Jefferson (D-LA) was found to have \$90,000 of bribe money in his freezer, is being investigated, ran in 2006, won a runoff in December and continues to serve in Congress.

So, was it sexual misconduct? Give credit to the Dems; they played Foleygate like a violin. Foley allegedly sent sexy emails to *former* Congressional pages, was caught having done it, and resigned in shame. By contrast, in 1983, Gerry Studds (D-MA) who was censured by the House for having a sexual relationship with a 17-year old male Congressional page, retained his office and received standing ovations from his constituents in town meetings following his censure.

I don't know why, but I am reminded of an incident in 1956 when Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev said "We will bury you" to a meeting of Western ambassadors.

He later explained he meant "of course we will not bury you with a shovel. Your own working class will bury you" meaning socialism will replace capitalism.

I can't connect the dots, and I am aware that the USSR's great experiment imploded, thanks to Reagan, but I can't get it out of my mind that somehow all of the above is related to Khrushchev's pronouncement.

Someone much wiser than I said "control the media and the educational system and you will control the people" or something similar. I am confident that our media and our educational system are being controlled and the obvious decline of our society is the proof.

Happy New Year, y'all.

# Curtiss named medical director of Cardiac Rehab Program

**Dr. Carl Curtiss** 

Dr. Carl M. Curtiss, FACC, full-time cardiologist at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, has been named medical director of the hospital's nationally-certified cardiac rehabilitation program.

Curtiss replaces internist Dr. Mark S. Wagner, who has served as the program's medical director for the last two years. Wagner will take over other duties.

Dr. Curtiss has practiced cardiology for more than 27 years, much of that time in northeastern Ohio, but most recently in Durango, CO, before moving to the area and opening Mountain Heart Center in the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus this past February.

"We are very excited to have a cardiologist available on campus full time and are

looking forward to working with him to keep our cardiac rehabilitation program one of the best in the state," said HealthTracks Director Yvonne Smith, MHS,RD,LDN,CDE,

Curtiss is one of two cardiologists serving the area, both fellows of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. William W. Wharton III, FACC of Asheville Cardiology, sees patients on once or twice per month at the office of Mountain Medical Associates, also located in the Jane Woodruff Clinic.

Referrals and appointments with Dr. Curtiss can be made by calling Mountain Heart Center at 828-787-2450, Monday through Friday during regular business hours.

"Monitored cardiac rehabilitation is

indicated for many patients with heart disease at some point in the course of their illness," said Curtiss. "Fortunately we are able to provide quality cardiac rehab by well-trained personnel right here at the hospital, and I am happy to play an even more active role in that program."

A native of Ohio, Dr.Curtiss earned his medical degree from Ohio State

University's College of Medicine in Columbus in 1972, and performed his internship and residency in Internal Medicine at University of Minnesota Hospitals in Minneapolis and St. Paul. He completed his fellowship in cardiology at the University of Minnesota, and then underwent additional training in cardiac catheterization at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

## MountainTop Rotary inducts new member



Highlands MountainTop Rotary welcomes its newest member, Russell Hawkins. Russell is the Financial Specialist at Wachovia Bank in Highlands and recently graduated from Western Carolina University.

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## Hospital's gift shop is a gift itself

Twas the season to experience the joy of giving. And the volunteers at the gift shop at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital celebrate that experience year around.

Many of them, like Highlands' Jean Shields, have been helping people choose just the right gift for more than a decade – and helping raise money for the hospital as well.

"The gift shop gives me a sense of pride," says Jean, who has volunteered in the gift shop every Monday for the past 14 years. "I feel needed here at the hospital. The gift shop is my niche, but there are plenty of opportunities for volunteers in all the other departments of the hospital."

The gift shop at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, which has played a vital role in the helping to fund many of the hospital's needs, is managed and staffed by volunteers who share Jean's sense of pride — both in the hospital, and in knowing they are giving back to their communities. All proceeds from the gift shop are donated to the hospital and used to help fund equipment and other needs in various department such as lab and radiology to name just two.

Chairman and volunteer Joanna Baumrucker has been managing the gift shop since the spring of 1993, when the existing hospital first opened. Joanna is the wife of Dr. John Baumrucker, long-time family physician and now part-time emergency room physician at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. For the last 14 years, Joanna has traveled to Atlanta, attending the wholesale gift market selecting the stock and merchandise sold at the gift shop. She also sets up the displays of merchandise.

As a result of her hard work, the gift shop has become a favorite shopping destination in the area, especially at holidays.

"I've heard from friends that the gift shop is the best kept secret in Highlands," says Jean. Others from the community also give their time and efforts by volunteering at the hospital's gift shop. Elaine Reynolds of Highlands, like Joanna, has been volunteering since the beginning. Elaine works weekly at the gift shop and coordinates the volunteer scheduling. Gay Spencer of Sapphire also works weekly and handles the gift shop's deposits and Louise Clark of Highlands helps with the displays and works weekly at the shop.

Other volunteers from the Highlands area include Dorothee Garrett, Corrine Cooper, Mary Anne Ray, Polly Dean, Polly Touzalin, Ann Schneider, Melba Egan, Linda Curtiss, Judy Williams, Louise Clark, Nancy Couch, Barbara Cusachs, Priscilla Flowers, Gay Kattel, Sally Maloney, Kathie Marsh, Jean Sarjeant, Jackie Walters, and Barbara Newton. There are still others from the Cashiers, Glenville and Sapphire communities.

"Volunteering at the gift shop makes me feel a part of the community and allows me to get to know other people who volunteer at the hospital," says Roilynn Dutton, of Cashiers, who has volunteered in the gift shop for the last eight years. "Along with the other volunteers, I try to give our visitors and customers a good experience when they are at the hospital. Most of the time they need a little lift in their spirits. I am very people oriented, so volunteering at the gift shop is a perfect choice for me."

Open to the public Monday through Friday, the gift shop stocks a variety of merchandise that appeals to patients, family members, hospital staff, and visitors for a wide variety of occasions.

There is still a need for more gift shop volunteers, especially during the winter months. Anyone interested should call the hospital's volunteer coordinator, Erlene Rich, at 828-526-1345.

## Cabe retires from hospital with fanfare after 34 years



Highlands-Cashiers Hospital CEO Ken Shull and Administrative Assistant Cindy Latina present outgoing VP for Operations Joan Cabe with a plaque honoring her for more than three decades of service to the hospital during



a special going-away party last Wednesday. Cabe was showered with gifts, flowers and other tributes by her fellow members of the administration, board members, and more than a 100 of her coworkers from throughout the hospital. She left the hospital on Dec. 29, after more than 34 years, and will move to Beaufort of the coast of S.C.

# League to hear about county's flood damage prevention ordinance

Proposed revisions to the Macon County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance will be discussed at the January 11 League of Women Voters meeting in Franklin.

Bob Wright of the Macon County Watershed Council will speak on the flood revision proposal given to the Macon County commissioners last August.

Since hurricanes Frances and Ivan in the fall of 2004 and the Peaks Creek disaster the Macon County Watershed Council has prepared revisions to the existing ordinance to increase public safety and to shift more of the cost burden for ensuring the public safety improvements from the taxpayer to the property owner that decides to build in an area of Special Flood Hazard - as defined by the FEMA maps for the county.

Now that the 2006 elections are behind us, the MCWC is hopeful that the revised ordinance will be brought back to the commissioners' agenda and passed early next year.

The program is sponsored by the League of Women Voters and will be held at Tartan Hall of the First Presbyterian Church, at noon on Thursday, January 11. Lunch is available by reservation—call 524-5192

## OLD CLAYTON INN

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# • 2006 IN REVIEW

which specializes in health care governance, leadership, strategy, quality, organizational development and risk management, says what Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has been going through is very common.

#### MISHANDLING OF FUNDS AT CIVIC-CENTER UNDER INVESTIGATION

The State Bureau of Investigation has been called in to investigate the possible misappropriation of funds at the Highlands Civic Center.

## EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL OPENS

Macon County's Early College High School starts up in Franklin.

## September 2006

PAT CONROY, WHO SUMMERED IN HIGHLANDS, SIGNED COPIES OF HIS LATEST BOOK CYRANO'S.

## CITIZENS TOUR NEWLY EXPANDED WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Last week, citizens were invited to tour the new Highlands wastewater treatment plant with Chief Operator Mike Houston. As a retired engineer, the state-of-the-art processing facilities and computer controlled equipment were very interesting; but the spotless, cleanliness of the site, the buildings, and all of the equipment will impress any visitor.

#### RIVERWALK ORDERED TO STOP WORK

River-Walk of Highlands, LLC in Atlan-

ta and its general grading contractor on site were both delivered a stop-work order by Highlands Watershed Administrator Larry Gantenbein. Monday's inspection of River-Walk by the state Division of Water Quality and the state Land Quality Division substantiated Gantenbein's misgivings about the project.

#### CONDO HIGH-RISE A MAYBE ON U.S. 64E

A rumor involving the development of a 12- to 14-floor condominium complex going up on 19 acres on U.S. 64 east across from the Community Bible Church has been confirmed. County Building Inspector Jack Morgan said permits haven't been issued, but developers have been in contact with him concerning building restrictions on the site.

#### MCINTYRE-ROSS NAMED HS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Macon County school system's Teacher of the Year banquet was held on Sept. 12 at the Mill Creek Country Club in Franklin. This year, Highlands has two reasons to be proud. Highlands School Teacher of the Year is high school English teacher Cathy McIntyre-Ross. Macon County's Teacher of the Year is Teacher of the Year for Franklin High, history and philosophy teacher John deVille. DeVille is a 1980 graduate of Highlands School.

## BOARD OK'S MULTIFAMILY AT HARRIS LAKE

The third time was the charm for Developer Bill Nellis. Despite getting a "no" from the Planning Board two times, the third time Nellis appeared before the Town Board for

approval to rezone the 4.4 acres on Harris Lake from R2 to conditional use multifamily, the board voted 3-2 in favor of the complex.

## PEARLSTEIN OUT; SURGEON SEARCH ON

Dr. Leslie Pearlstein's credentialing process is over but he won't be employed by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Tuesday afternoon hospital officials announced he didn't pass the final inspection – that of his peers at the hospital. The staff voted Thursday, Sept. 21 to recommend not granting staff privileges to Pearlstein.

## SCHOOL BOARD FIRES PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

## FORMER MACON COUNTY

School System Executive Director of Personnel Tamra Tisdale was officially terminated at Monday night's school board meeting.

#### **OCTOBER 2006**

## **RIVERWALK NOT PAYING CITATIONS**

In a closed session at the Wednesday, Oct. 11 Town Board meeting, commissioners voted not to pursue RiverWalk's appeal of citations issued by the town on the grounds that it would be too costly to contest. The citations for \$500 each were issued by Watershed Administrator Larry Gantenbein when silt from the development left the property. Though seven citations have been issued since the project started some months ago, to date, only the first three are being contested.

## GIRLS' VB TEAM CONFERENCE WINNERS

After another wonderful year of volley-ball, Highlands High School Lady Highlanders are once again the Little Smoky Conference Champions. Finishing with a 6-0 Conference record and a 13-6 season record the Lady Highlanders, and all of Highlands for that matter, can be very proud of their team. **HIGHLANDS BEATS HENDERSONVILLE** 

## IN FIRST ROUND OF SOCCER CONFERENCE.

An ecstatic Highlands soccer team leaves the field Wednesday night. Highlands won its first game in the state playoffs against Hendersonville, 7-2.

#### **NOVEMBER 2006**

SHERIFF HOLLAND RE-ELECTED; MC COMMISSIONER SIMPSON, RE-ELECTED; MC COMMISIONERS BEALE AND MCCLELLAN ELECTED; SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER TOMMY CABE IS RE-ELECTED AND GUY GOODER JOINS THE BOARD.

## 'BUG HILL' CABIN SAVED

A part of history is coming home to the Rec Park. At the Nov. 2 Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed to let the Highlands Historical Society move one of the original "Bug Hill" tuberculosis cottages to the part of the Highlands Historical Village that encroaches onto Rec Park property.

#### PLAYGROUND DEDICÂTEĎ, LOCAL HONORED

At 8 a.m. Monday, Nov. 20, it finally happened. Highlands School officially opened its new playground with a ribbon cutting and dedication.

## **December 2006**

#### 2007 REVALUATIONS TO GO OUT JAN. 15

Property revaluations are in the works for 2007 and commissioners are bracing for the traditional volatile backlash.

At the Dec. 4 Macon County Commission meeting, Tax Administrator Richard Lightner explained the regulations behind the county's every four-year revaluation process, how revaluations are determined and how the appeal process works.

## **BOARD FINES RIVERWALK \$400,000**

After breaking twice for closed meetings on the subject, hearing impassioned pleas from homeowners, lawyers, and evidence from town employees, the Town Board moved to hold RiverWalk developers accountable for soil and erosion violations at its site.

## **KING AND QUEEN**

Seniors Sara Bates and Nick Kerhoulas were crowned king and queen of the homecoming court Saturday, Dec. 2 at the dance held at the Highlands Country Club's Hudson House.

## HIGHLANDS CHRISTMAS PARADE 2007 -- YEAR OF THE CAMELS!

#### DEVELOPER NIXES HIGH-RISE PROJECT

As of Thursday, Dec. 14, the subject of the high-rise on 19 acres just outside Highlands ETJ area on U.S. 64 east ended. Developer Bill Shepherd backed out of the real estate deal and subsequent project and requested the funds in escrow be restored to him on the grounds that clear title cannot be established for the property. The acreage, owned by Sanders Dupree, is now back on the market for \$2.15 million.

### **HIGH-RISE MORATORIUM IN AFFECT**

Effective immediately, there is a moratorium on the issuance of building permits for the construction of any residential structure greater than four stories or 48-feet high in Macon County.

## REAL ESTATE SALES DRIVE ECONOMY

If the average six percent commission was paid to real estate agents and brokers for homes and 10 percent on lots, \$8-9 million in real estate commissions were paid out in 2006

#### NOTED PSYCHOLOGIST ALEX REDMOUNTAIN DIES AT 72



# The Instant Theatre – A year in review –

The Instant Theatre Company's 2006 season offered something for everyone – music, dance, classes, plays, and comedy.

Little Entertainments, the improv and variety show, brought many people to the Studio on Main in the early months of 2006 for the warmth of laughter and entertainment. The success of these 11 performances led ITC to expand to Cocktail Hour Theatre every Friday evening. Cocktail Hour Theatre ran 12 shows during the summer of 2006 and featured live, unrehearsed theatre at its best where audience members enjoyed cocktails and delicious hors d'oeuvres while watching the ITC's Improv Troupe.

The summer season kicked off with the Wild Hog Band (sponsored by Country Club Properties) performing at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Art Center and also brought the Appalachian High Concert Series (co-sponsored with Starpony Electronics) featuring nationally touring artists Jenny Bird, Jack Williams and Small Potatoes. Songwriters in the round featured 25 various songwriters during 7 performances and Spiritual Cinema (co-sponsored with Starpony Electronics) featured 3 premier film showings as well as the regularly scheduled Tuesday evening movies. William Wildcat Jude delighted audiences with his own local brand of wit and music. In July the ITC sponsored a 2week acting class for interested youth who then performed for the Rec Park campers. The Woopets were there for a special workshop and were so popular they returned for the holidays. Cowboy Envy, back for its third year, played for two nights at the Performing Arts Center (sponsored by Nellis Communities).

The Instant Theatre Company treated the public to several free offerings – the

reading of "Wit" sponsored by Cyrano's Bookshop, Tom Meyer's reading of his translation of The Dao de Jing and the Christmas reading of "Papa's Angels." In October, The ITC staged "Sylvia"

In October, The ITC staged "Sylvia" by A.R. Gurney which played to sold-out audiences and was a huge success. A portion of the proceeds benefited the Cashiers Area Humane Society. Also in October The Buckerettes, a cowgirl band from Asheville, entertained the house with their own special brand of comedy and music. November was the month when Jack Williams returned to the Studio on Main and treated a packed house to his original songs and aweinspiring guitar virtuosity.

Just in time for the holidays, Hurricane Creek played for the Tree Lighting Dance, something that may become an annual event. This was the first of three holiday shows at The Studio on Main. Collin Wilcox Paxton read from her book, co-authored with Gary Carden, "Papa's Angels." John Roman played his original music. And for the little ones, The Woopets performed with their own brand of magic and imagination in Peter and The Wolf and the Fairie Ring.

The ITC wishes to thank all its supporters during 2006 –The season could not have been possible without all you. Many people bought chairs, helped with productions, and brought new faces to The Studio on Main. The sheer variety of what The Instant Theatre Company can offer could not happen without you. In 2007 you can look forward to the same, professional theatre that you loved in 2006 with The ITC's own brand of eclectic, innovative and diverse entertainment. Come be part of the Instant Audience and visit The ITC on the web at www.InstantTheatre.org.

## ... FIRE DEPT. continued from page 1

ment has a full-time chief on salary. Houston is the only paid person at the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department but he only works half-a-day as a part-time administrator responsible for the paperwork involved with running the station.

Though chief of the department years ago, he's not an active firefighter anymore.

"Time was we had 26 calls a year," said Houston. "That's way up now." He said some of that is because almost every homeowner in the Highlands Township has an alarm system and the department spends much of its time responding to false alarm activations.

There were 82 alarms in 2006 and 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.

In 2006 the department responded to 396 calls – 35 more calls than in 2005.

"Our calls are going up and our force is going down," said Forrester.

The town has discussed the need for salaried officers at the fire and rescue department in the past, but so far the idea is only in the discussion stages.

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 call for an appointment at 526-3645.

## **Winning again**

The Dec. 21 win against Franklin was the first folks can remember in years. The score was Highlands 67, Franklin 58.

Highlands had 38 rebounds, 11 assists, 8 turnovers, 14 steals, 5 blocked shots, 14 fouls, 38 points in paint and 2 bench points.

Alec Schmitt, Nick Kerhoulas, Jason Aspinwall and Andrew Billingsley were each on court 24 minutes. Schmitt scored 29 points, had 12 rebounds, 5 assists and 7 steals. Kerhoulas scored 20 points, had 7 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 block and 3 steals. Aspinwall scored 9 points with 8 rebounds, 1 assist and 2 steals. Billingsley scored 3 points, had 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 block and 1 steal.

Gray Alexander was on court 16 minutes and scored 2 points with 2 rebounds 3 assists and 1 steal.

Darren Keener was on court 8 minutes and scored 4 points with 5 rebounds and 4 blocks.

Tuesday night's game against Swain marked up another win for Highlands 71 to Swain's 51.

Highlands had 39 rebounds, 19 assists, 12 turnovers, 11 steals, 5 blocked shots, 13 fouls, 32 points in paint and 30 bench points.

High scorer was Aspinwall with 18 points, 4 rebounds and 1 steal. He was on court 24 minutes.

Next up was Kerhoulas on court for 8 minutes with 13 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists and 2 steals.

Schmitt, on court the longest at 24 minutes, scored 7 points with 11 rebounds, 9 assists and 6 steals.

Alexander and Arthur Reynolds Potts were on court 16 minutes each. Alexander scored 6 points, had 6 rebounds and 3 assists.

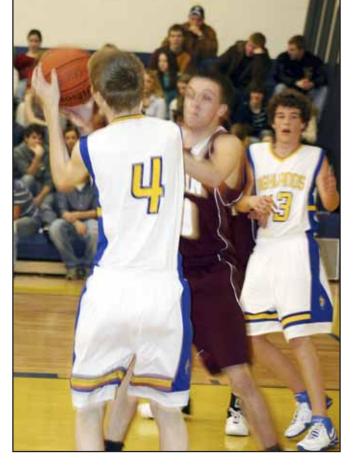
On court for 8 minutes each was Keener who scored 10 points with 8 rebounds, 1 assist and 5 blocks. Also on court for eight minutes were Ezra Herz, Billingsley, Luke McClellan, Adam Hedden, Kenny Robinson, Mike Lica, Chris St. Germain and Leffler Hunter. Herz scored 5 points, Billingsley, McClellan and Hedden each scored 4 points.

The next game is at Hiwassee Dam, Friday, Jan. 5. The next home game is against Blue Ridge at home, Tuesday, Jan. 9.

Right: Adam Hedden keeps control of the ball during the Swain game Tuesday night.



Alec Schmitt makes it look easy.
Photos by Noel Atherton



## ... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

plentiful? Congress builds \$50 million bridges to nowhere while people go to bed hungry in this country every night. We spend billions, yes billions, on political campaigns, yet there's no money for health care.

Please, Mr. Washington and Mr. Jefferson, could you please come back to earth and help? If you need assistance for a raiding party to dump some tea into the harbor, you can count on me as a member of your team.

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**Ann Austin** 

# **Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust** welcomes new board members

At their October 2006 meeting the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Board of Directors nominated and elected two new members. They welcomed Ann McKee Austin of Cashiers and James P. Tate of Highlands to three years of service with the HCLT Board of Directors. Ann will serve on the Education Committee while James will join the Stewardship Committee.

Ann's roots are in Western North Carolina, having grown up in Asheville, spending every summer in Cashiers working at the High Hampton Inn, that is, when she wasn't riding horses at the Inn. She is a resident of Cashiers and Vice President in McKee Properties. She was a partner with, brother, William McKee, in the development of Wade Hampton Golf Course. She received a BA degree in the History of Art from Hollins College, Virginia. She is a founding member of the Cashiers Historical Society, Village Conservancy, and Designer Showcase. Ann brings an important Cashiers perspective to the Board.

James is a fifth generation native of the Highlands Plateau and owns Tate Landscape Services, a landscape design, installation, and maintenance company located in Highlands. His respect for the Highlands area and the significance of its environment developed from strong family connections and stories as told by his grandparents and father. His experience in the nursery business began with working as a teenager at Tate's Nursery and was formalized with a BS degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia. James is a member of several Town of Highlands governmental boards and is a trained Emergency Medial Technician for the Macon County Urban Search and Rescue Team. James will provide the Board of Directors with an important historical outlook and a committed conservation land ethic.

According to Mercedes Heller, President of HCLT, "Ann Austin and Jimmy Tate will bring much needed historical knowledge and diverse experiences that will assist us in attaining our mission. We welcome them."

The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust currently protects more than 1,100 acres of land in the Highlands-Cashiers area.

The Land Trust protects land by purchase, by conservation easements, or by outright gift. Its work is supported by more than 350 members who are year-round or seasonal residents of Highlands-Cashiers and many others who have rallied to support threatened properties when called upon.

For information on how you can help the conservation work of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, call 828-526-9938, ext. 250, write to the land trust at PO Box 1703, Highlands, NC, 28741, or email hitrust@earthlink.net.

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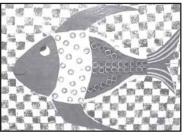
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## Upcoming Events

On-going

- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mondays and Wednesdays. Bring your mat. \$7 per person per class or \$50 for a monthly pass.
- Angie Jenkins on the piano at the Old Clayton Inn in Clayton on Fridays and Saturdays for dinner.
- Beginners Clogging class Tuesday, 6-7 p.m. at the Sapphire Valley Community Center. Come have lots of fun and exercise. Call 743-7663.
- Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will have Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free with HealthTracks Membership or \$8 per class for non-members. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.
- Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is offering a total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Free with Health Track Membership or \$8 for non-members. An advanced class will also be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. 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 Fri-
- day at 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 6

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike, on relatively flat terrain with a small elevation change, on historic Glade Road near Highlands to see several natural "rock houses." Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. Drive 18 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134 for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please. Sunday, Jan. 7

The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 3-mile hike with great views from Lookout Mt. in Black Rock Mt. State Park in Georgia. There is one 1/3 mile steep climb. Meet at the Smoky Mt. Welcome Center on Highway 441 South at 2:00 p.m. or at the Rabun Gap post office at 2:20 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Drive 36 miles round trip. . Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Beginning Jan. 8

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

middle school students from 3:15-4:15 p.m. **Every Tuesday Beginning Jan. 9** 

• 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.

### Saturday, Jan. 13

The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a strenuous 3-mile hike with a steep elevation change of 1,000 feet to Chimneytop in the Cashiers Valley. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9 a.m. Drive 8 miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Walker Taylor, 743-6977, for reservations.

#### Jan. 19, 20 & 21 - Fri., Sat., & Sun.

 "Watercolor, Pure and Direct," a class for all levels of expertise, Evening introductory lecture January 18th. Learn the heart and soul of watercolor, no gimmicks, no tricks. Enliven and enrich your own visual world with this informative and innovative class

#### Saturday, Jan. 20

The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 5-mile hike on the Long Branch and Appalachian trails to Rock Gap. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 10:00 a.m. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations...

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## **BLOOD DIAMOND rated R**

Fri: (4:30), 7:00, 9:30 Sat & Sun: (2:00), (4:30), 7:00, 9:30 Mon – Thurs: (4:30), 7:00

#### **NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM rated PG**

Fri: (4:15), 7:10, 9:15 Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:15), 7:10, 9:15 Mon – Thurs: (4:15), 7:10

#### **ROCKY BALBOA rated PG**

Fri: 7:15, 9:20 Sat & Sun: 7:15, 9:20 Mon – Thurs: 7:15

#### **CHARLOTTE'S WEB rated G**

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## ... SHOW continued from page 1

Commissioner Patterson said the town has always had a loose policy regarding use of the Civic Center. "The question is, should we change it."

Though no formal policy has ever been formulated, Town Administrator Richard Betz said minutes of a 1984 meeting say the building shouldn't be used for commercial purposes.

"The idea was not to allow commercial purposes because it's not fair to the merchants in town," said Patterson. "But we can't just say 'only nonprofits' because all nonprofits aren't equal. Some are just nonprofits so they don't have to pay taxes. We can't assume nonprofits are all 'Mom and apple pie and represent everything good in the world, either."

She suggested nonprofit use be reserved for Highlands-based nonprofits which are widely accepted as something good.

But Mayor Don Mullen said that is a very subjective task and hard to do.

Commissioner Dennis DeWolf questioned the legali-

ty of discriminating against certain nonprofits or commercial enterprises, but Town Attorney Bill Coward said the town can do whatever it wants.

"As long as you don't discriminate based on color or religion, that sort of thing, you can change your policy every week if you want and pick and chose whomever you want," he said. "This is more of a political matter than a legal one."

Recreation Director Selwyn Chalker said the Macon County Community Building regularly rents out its facility during certain times of the year. "Basically, the renter can do whatever they want to do," he said. "There are blocks of time when the facility can't be rented for any reason, but otherwise it's fist come, first served."

Jim Mullen, past Chamber of Commerce president, said he personally canvassed antique business owners in town to see if anyone objected or thought the Playhouse antique show would jeopardize their business.

"Out of the eight businesses I talked to, only one was against the idea. The show brought business to town. I think you should take a positive stance about this and move forward," he said.

Commissioner Marsh said no one on the board is against the antique show or said it wasn't a great show. "But we have to have a policy that is fair to everyone, " he said. Even though Coward said legally the town could do whatever it wants, Commissioner Marsh said "politically we'd be killed if we did that."

The board discussed allowing Civic Center use during the "off months" of March, April, September and October for one week, three, four or five days, but it couldn't come to a consensus.

# Planning Board to take one last stab at ETJ zoning

The first public hearing regarding zoning in the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction is 7 p.m. January 17 at the Civic Center.

The job of assigning zoning designations to areas in the ETJ has been a painstaking and grueling process for the Planning Board and has taken several months to accomplish.

While trying to accommodate everyone, the board has come up with new zones including B5-Mixed Use and a proposed R5 zone similar to the current R2 zone in town. The R5 zone would allow home-based businesses and home occupations in all the residential zones in the ETJ areas. The only other zone discussed for the ETJ areas is the familiar R1.

Also hammered out, was allowed uses in the various zones as well as setbacks and signage requirements.

Countless maps have been produced which has led to some confusion. At a called Planning Board meeting Jan. 8 at 5 p.m. in the Town Hall boardroom, the board hopes to finalize the ETJ zoning map and vote on verbiage for the proposed R5 zone to accommodate home-based businesses and home occupations in the ETJ area.

## ... RIVERWALK from page 1

10 violations through Oct. 26 – for a total of \$5,000 amounting to \$500 each. The settlement included the previous seven citations and three new ones which were issued just prior to the Nov. 8 meeting.

"After hearing evidence to the substantial harm done and due to the significant amount of money it will take to remedy and rectify the harm done, I move that we reject the settlement and impose a \$400,000 fine for the two distinct areas where we've had violations," said Commission Amy Patterson.

Patterson was referring to two violations issued on Oct. 24 when silt fences were allegedly opened up to release silt buildup and on Oct. 26 when silt ponds were allowed to fill with silt so that pipes meant to release clear water could only release silt-laden water.

As the municipality, Highlands is responsible for collecting the \$400,000 for the state.

More erosion following the rains of Dec. 22 and 31 has commissioners and members of Highlands' various boards concerned.

Commissioner Hank Ross and Planning Board member Pat Taylor took a canoe up the arm of the Cullasaja north of Mirror Lake to see the aftermath of the rains themselves.

"I just went as a concerned citizen," said Ross.

Town Attorney Bill Coward said the town can't issue a stop work order on RiverWalk, but DENR can. "They just don't have the personnel to do it," said Commissioner Alan Marsh.

Recently, RiverWalk developers have hired new erosion control engineers and a new grading company all working under the guidance of Project Manager Henry Lyngos who hopes to get and keep the erosion situation under control.

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## • Spiritually Speaking •

## **Methodists**

Note: This was submitted by Pastor Kim Ingram of Highlands United Methodist Church, adapted from an essay by Garrison Keillor.

Te make fun of Methodists for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese.

But nobody sings like them. If you ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Methodistless place, to sing along with the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Methodists, they will smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And down the road!

Many Methodists are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage.

It's natural for Methodists to sing in harmony. We are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all 200 of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this: People, these Methodists, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

Methodists believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.

Methodists like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

Methodists believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.

Methodists usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.

Methodists believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.

Methodists feel that applauding for their children's choirs would make the kids too proud and conceited.

Methodists think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.

Methodists drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.

Methodists feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Methodists are willing to pay up to \$1 for a meal at church.

Methodists still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season, and think that peas in a tuna noodle casserole add too much color.

Methodists believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know you are a Methodist when:

It's 100 degrees, with 90 percent humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.

You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.

Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee. You watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," and you respond, "And also with you." And lastly, it takes 10 minutes to say good-bye!

## PLACES OF WORSHIP

#### **BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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

#### **BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

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

## CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, Georgia

The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbelding, Pastor Church: 706-746-2999

> Pastors residence: 706-746-5770 Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy Communion each service

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

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

## CHRIST 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 throughtout the week, see our website or call for more info.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Brian Sullivan - 526-2968

Sunday: 8 a.m. - Holy Eucharist-Rite 1; 8:30 a.m. -Breakfast; 9 a.m.. - Sunday School; 9:45 a.m. - Choir Practice; 10:30 a.m. - Childrens Chapel; 10:30 a.m. -Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Monday: 4 p.m. - Womens cursillo Group; 5:30 p.m. - Womens Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. - Ment Cursillo Group; 9:30 a.m. -Staff Meeting

Wednesday: 2 p.m. - Interlude; 6:30 p.m - Choir Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - Mens 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. – Mens Bible Discussion & Breakfast Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers Wednesdays: Supper – 6 p.m.; Choir – 7

Sat: Adventistas del Septimo Dia – 10 a.m.& 5

## HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street

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

## HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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

## HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376 Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; 5 p.m. Youth Group

Wed: noon - Mens Emmaus Reunion Group; 4:45 -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 – Womens Bible Study (nursery)

### HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Rev. Delmer Chilton, Pastor, 2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

## MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130 Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11 Choir - 6 p.m.

## Wed: Bible Study and Youth Mtg. - 7 p.m. **MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE**

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871 Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m. For more information, call (706)-745-1842

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

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

#### SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School -10 a.m.; Worship -11 a.m. & 7 Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.; Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

Wed: Adult Bible Study & Youth - 7 p.m. For more information call 526-3212.

#### SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

#### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769 Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

## WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## Girls B-ball on losing streak

The Highlands girls basketball team has had a disappointing stretch of losses lately, but it's not for a lack of trying. The team continues to play hard and keep its spirit.

The Dec. 21 game against Franklin was tough with Franklin scoring 56 points and Highlands 37. Highlands beat Franklin by one point in the first quarter but just couldn't keep it up throughout the game.

Toni Schmitt was top scorer with 22 points and 7 rebounds. Brie Schmitt, Kaylie Buras and Kate-Marie Parks each scored 2 points. Buras also had 7 rebounds.

The Jan. 2 home game against Swain was a loss, too, but the team put there all into it. The final score was Swain 60, Highlands 50.

Again Highlands led in the first two quarters with 11 points to Swain's 10 and 12 points to Swain's 10, respectively, but Swain squeaked ahead thereafter.

High scorer was Allison Winn with 18 points; next up was Katie Bryson with 13 points and 9 rebounds.

Brie and Toni Schmitt each scored 8 points. Toni had 10 rebounds.

"It was a tough defeat," said Coach Brett Lamb. "We played hard throughout the game but we need to continue to work on the game and take this and use it as motivation for subsequent games."

The next game is at Hiwassee Dam, Friday, Jan. 5. The next home game is against Blue Ridge at home, Tuesday, Jan. 9.

Above: Katie Bryson fights for the ball during the Swain game, Tuesday, Jan. 2 at home. Below: Allison Winn shoots at the home game against Franklin, Dec.





## ... MULLEN continued from page 2

consultation with the Board. Also an outstanding Executive Director of the Hospital Foundation has been hired and is making positive steps forward. An intensive effort to find new doctors has been going on, two of the doctors who resigned have returned and a top cardiologist is now active at the hospital full time. Although the financial situation is still of some concern, a couple new doctors, including a surgeon, would go a long way to solving this problem quickly. I feel confident this will happen soon. I do not think I am being too optimistic in saying that our major problems are behind us and we look positively to the future of our hospital. In addition to that, new equipment has been added, including an MRI and state-of-the-art cardiac evaluation equipment. Good care will continue to be given in the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

The Riverwalk development on U.S 64 also was a major problem during 2006 because of the poor engineering involved in developing the plan and poorly advised construction work. Stormwater runoff has resulted and extensive silting in the Cullasaja River and Mirror Lake and the developers have been fined \$400,000 because of the lack of proper stormwater controls. I will guardedly say that it appears the developers now have a firm handle on this problem with a new construction and engineering firm and hopefully we will be out of trouble there soon. The Daugherty family who have a home in the middle of that mess are to be commended in how they have handled the situation with not only persistence in letting us know what is going on around their home but also their extreme patience and fortitude in a most difficult and almost devastating situation to their property. We all look for a better year in 2007 regarding this huge project.

Toward the end of 2006 we made important steps in handling the silt problem in our water supply lake, the Big Creek arm of Lake Sequoia. Mountain Engineering has completed their study of the problem and we will soon have a report as to the cost of dredging the lake so we can make plans very quickly to make this happen this winter before the summer people return. Unfortunately we failed to obtain funds from Washington but that was not a big surprise. There is money available to us through the Department of Agriculture which we will be able to obtain on a long term note if we elect to go that route. It is work that must be done soon to preserve and protect our water supply and we are hoping to move ahead quickly with this project. We are also working with the NC Dept. of Transportation to pave many of the roads around the lakes.

One other very important project looms in the New Year. . . that of affordable housing. I am very concerned about this in Highlands. Many have told me it is an impossible situation because of the incredible escalation in property values in Highlands, but I must say that it is a project that deserves much attention to those of us who live here year round. With the appointment of a task force which begins its work in January, we have begun a very important process which I am hoping will result in a solution to this growing problem in our community. People who work in Highlands need to live in Highlands and sacrifice may be necessary to make this happen. It is my hope that our wealthy citizens and other major landowners will recognize the importance of this project for the future of our community and begin to have input with the chairman of this task force, Mary Ann Sloan, as she begins to work through this activity.

As I have also talked about in recent days, energy preservation and global warming is a particular problem in our country and impacts us in Western N.C. I have joined with other mayors in North Carolina and many hundreds of mayors across the United States in signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement in urging the federal and state governments to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol target of reducing global warming pollution levels significantly over the next six years by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and accelerating the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies. Hopefully this coming year there will be a bipartisan action in the Congress supporting Senators McCain and Lieberman in their Climate Stewardship Act. When only 5 percent of the population of the world utilized 25 percent of the available energy resources, we have a major problem. In Highlands we must do our part to help alleviate this situation by making Highlands energy efficient. Much more will be said about this in coming months.

Although it has not been an easy year for many of us, it has been a good year. I hope everyone has a great new year and I continue to look forward to working with you during 2007.

Remember my office door is always open and I always answer my phone calls.

To see the proposed ETJ map prior to the Jan. 17 ETJ meeting, go to http://www.main.nc.us/ highlands/etjmap.htm.

## Book Review by Katie Brugger

## The Widow of the South, by Robert Hicks (F Hicks)

his book is a perfect example of why I rarely read novels, especially modern ones. The book is based on a true story, in fact an amazing story from the Civil War. A friend told me about it and I bought it thinking it was a nonfiction account, and only when I got it home did I realize it was a novel.

I began it with high hopes — it's a bestseller and all — but half way through I really began to wonder whether the author was ever going to make it to the crux of the story.

Mr. Hicks crammed the fascinating facts into the first and last quarters of the book, and filled the middle with a ridiculous story about a relationship between "The Widow" and one of the soldiers wounded in the battle. I imagine this was supposed to illuminate why this remarkable woman made the choices she did but in my opinion serves only to detract from what she did.

Here's the story in a nutshell: Carrie McGavock lived with her husband in a large plantation house, called Carnton, which was right on the edge of one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War: Franklin, Tennessee. Six thousand men were killed and three thousand wounded in less than five hours of battle in November 1864. The McGavock's home was one of the many houses in the area turned into hospitals after the battle, and not only their home but their yard was filled with wounded and dying.

Col. W. D. Gale, a member of General Stewart's staff (Confederate), wrote these comments http:// www.carnton.org/cemetary.htm:

"[Mrs. McGavock's] house [Carnton]. . . was the rear of our line. The house is one of the large oldfashioned houses of the better class in Tennessee, two stories high, with many rooms. . . . This was taken as a hospital, and the wounded, in hundreds, were brought to it during the battle, and all the night after. Every room was filled, every bed had two poor, bleeding fellows, every spare space, niche, and corner under the stairs, in the hall, everywhere — but one room for her own family. And when the noble old house could hold no more, the yard was appropriated until the wounded and the dead filled that, and all were not yet provided for.

"Our doctors were deficient in bandages, and she began by giving her old linen, then her towels and napkins, then her sheets and tablecloths, then her husband's shirts and her own undergarments. During all this time the surgeons plied their dreadful work amid the sighs and moans and death rattle. Yet, amid it all, the noble woman. . . was very active and constantly at work. During all the night neither she nor any of the household slept, but dispensed tea and coffee and such stimulants as she had, and that, too, with her own hands."

In the battle the Confederates massed for an insane and futile charge at the base of a hill. Thousands died on that hill and were buried in the field below. Two years after the battle the family who owned the field was going to plow it and put it into cultivation. Mrs. McGavock arranged to have all the dead dug up and moved to her plantation where they were reburied. The soldiers had originally been buried in shallow mass graves with a piece of wood laid on each man's chest with an inscription of his name and hometown, and Mrs. McGavock carefully noted these details so that markers could be erected over every grave. In the end, the Carnton cemetery held 1,481 Confederate soldiers who died in the

Franklin battle, 15 veterans of the battle, and one civilian who died while helping to rebury (you can see photos of the graveyard taken in the 1860s on the website).

She also wrote to every family and told them where their son or husband was buried. She spent the rest of her life tending the graves, and over time the wooden markers were changed to stone.

In addition, she took in orphans and raised them as her own.

Three of her five children died in childhood before this battle took place, one as an infant, one at 7, the third at 12, and yet she rose above her personal sorrow to serve a greater need.

Doesn't this sound like everything you need to write a book? Why would anyone need to invent anything? In an interview Mr. Hicks claims that he couldn't find out enough facts to fill out more than a pamphlet and that's why he had to invent the love story, but that sounds like just a lack of imagination to me.

For example, the first day that the wounded arrive at the house, the scene is vividly described, but as he develops the love story between the two characters, the rest of the wounded disappear from sight until one day,

when the soldier wakes up he sees that all the other soldiers are gone and he wonders how they all disappeared. The reader wonders too, as this is what was of interest to me, not some sappy love story.

Mrs. McGavock must have received thousands of letters from people all around the country, from the author's telling. He quotes a tiny few and they are a window into another age — did he make these up or do these letters still exist? He gives you no clue in his epilogue, and I would have loved to hear much more from these if they do in fact exist.

I have looked and can find very little information about Carrie McGavock online except for this book. In Mr. Hicks' defense, he is not a professional writer; this is his first book. He is "in the music business," lives in the Nashville area, and became a member of the board that oversaw the restoration of Carnton. He tried to interest some writers in telling Carrie McGavock's story and when that failed decided to write it himself. Hopefully with the interest this novel has raised about her, a biographer will write a more complete and true version of this remarkable woman's life.

## Santa, staff, and community brighten holiday for Eckerd residents



Once again this holiday, Santa Claus teamed up with nearly 75 staff members at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Fidelia Eckerd Living Center, as well as volunteers and other outside groups, to make sure center residents enjoyed a bright Christmas. Santa was on hand at a special Christmas dinner Dec. 21 for residents and their families, handing out a slew of presents and spreading holiday cheer. The majority of the presents were contributed by hospital and living center staff members and volunteers, who picked a resident's name from a



special Christmas Tree located in the hospital cafeteria in the weeks leading up to the celebration. They then purchased presents for their "adopted" residents. Other presents were contributed by members of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation Board. The Highlands-Emergency Council also joined in the effort again this year, donating slippers and slipper socks, and Highlands Pharmacy once again donated toothpaste, bottles of lotion and many other "stocking stuffer" personal hygiene items. In all, 92 people received special gifts this season, thanks to the program organized by the Eden Alternative program at the center.

## • CLASSIFIEDS •

## HELP WANTED

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.

<u>VOLUNTEER TO DELIVER MEALS</u> – 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 349-235

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

hitrust@earthlink.net.

<u>LOOKING FOR LABORERS</u> to clear land and landscape for December, January and February. Must speak some English. \$10 per hour. Call Charlie @ 526-5939

FLOOR TECH AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, year-round employment; Monday-Friday, 7am to 3:30pm. Experience in commercial floor care is preferred. Other floor care experience is 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.

HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASH-IERS 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.

STAFF PHYSICAL THERAPIST AT HIGH-LANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. – Full-time, year-round employment; Monday-Friday, flexible hours. Responsibilities include evaluation and treatment for outpatient services, and supervising support staff in satellite clinic. Must have B.S. degree and NC licensure. Competitive salary and 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.

<u>EARN WHILE YOU LEARN!</u> – Are you interested in a new career? Become a Certified Nursing

Assistant for Fidelia Eckerd Living Center at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. We are now accepting applications for the next class beginning January 23, 2007. Students will be paid while in class Mondays through Fridays for 6 hours a day. Upon graduation, students will become a Certified Nursing Assistant and will receive a substantial increase in pay. Excellent benefit package after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. If interested in joining a dynamic healthcare team, call Judy Miller at 828-526-1317, 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. Preemployment 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 Fidelia 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 <a href="https://www.hchospital.org">www.hchospital.org</a>.

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.

<u>DIETARY AIDES AT HIGHLANDS-CASH-IERS HOSPITAL</u>. 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 UNIVERSI-TY'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 disciplilne area is required, doctorate preferred. Send vita to Amelia Schlott, 220 Killian, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723.

## FOR RENT

NEW RETAIL/STORAGE SPACE AVAIL-ABLE. BEST PRICES IN TOWN. — All units individually climate controlled with bathrooms. 1,600sqft secure storage \$950 monthly, no maintenance fees. OR, 2,300 sq. ft. new retail \$1,750 monthly, no maintenance fees. Call (828) 526-5296 or (828) 421-3161. Limited space.

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

<u>FARM HOUSE</u> - 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 TRAF-FIC 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."

HOLIDAY RENTAL – Lake Glenville, 4 bedrooms, 3 bath, stone fireplace, dock, weekly rates.

<u>CHARMING CABIN</u> — Your own little taste of heaven in a home! 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath cabin for rent in Scaly Mtn. New carpet, appliances, this stone/wood cabin has an awesome view! \$825 per month with a 1 year lease. Chapin Lane location. Call for details today! Won't last long. 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

<u>CUTE 3/BED 2/BATH COTTAGE</u> in Mirror lake for rent. Walk to town. \$1,200 + ultilities monthly. Available mid October. Call 770-977-5692

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

## WANTED TO RENT

<u>3/2 HOME</u> – Responsible, mature couple with no pets, non-smokers, looking for 3/2 house to rent for one year or longer beginning Jan. 1, 2007. Please call 828-713-9789 or 864-242-5819.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR LEASE

HighlandsInfo.com
#1 Directory 4 Years In A Row
2,500 PDF Newspaper Reads Weekly
Over 1,000 Visitors Per Day
Highlands' Newspaper
Internet Directory
Find The Best Realtors
The Finest Restaurants
The Most Unique Shops
Upscale Lodges & Spas

## • CLASSIFIEDS •

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.

<u>IN TOWN</u> – 535 N. 4th Street. 2,000 sq. ft. building on 1/4-acre lot. Call David Brown at 770-827-0450.

RENT TO OWN THIS 3BED/2BATH HOME IN TOWN. Rental rate is \$1,150 a month/with a portion going towards purchase. For details call (828)526-8422 or (828)421-3161. Ask for Jimmy.

#### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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.

<u>BY OWNER ON MIRROR LAKE</u> – 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.

HOME FOR SALE – Classic Country Home between Cashiers and Franklin, near Lake Glenville; 3,800 ft. elevation; 4 bed, 3 bath with 2,900 sq. ft. living area, plus garage and shed; 1,500 sq. ft. deck on 4.2 acres with perenniel landscaping. Many extras. \$399,000. Brokers Welcome. Call 828-743-5788.

LOTS 21 & 23. A total of 3.65 acres in heart of Pilot Mountain in Cashiers. Mountain views, beautiful hardwoods, sounds of stream echo below. Call for price. (828) 693-9918 or (828) 243-1503.

HIGHLANDS IN-TOWN – Creekside, 3 bed, 2 bath, owner relocating. Completely renovated. For sale by owner. \$550,000 OBO Call 828-226-6123.

1- AND 1 1/2-ACRE HOME SITES CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN HIGHLANDS — Only 2.8 miles from Main Street. Lots of large rhodies, hardwood trees and mountain laurel. Some with creek front, some back up to National Forest. All are gentle, easy building sites with community well, telephone, electric and septic in place. Dramatic waterfall at entrance. Community will be gated. Price range from \$169,000 to \$329,000. Call 828-526-9622.

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 downtownFranklin. \$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

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

<u>FURNITURE</u> - Reception desk \$300, solid wood round dining table w/leaf and 6 chairs \$200, triple dresser w/mirror and night stand \$100, 2 early American end tables \$30 ea., secretariat \$40. Or OBO. Call 787-2383.

<u>SPA (FLORES 6-3 SERIES)</u> – 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 containter. Original price \$6,500, will sell for \$5,000. Can be seen at Long Transfer Company. Call Mariette at 770-503-4433.

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

<u>1958 ALBATROSETRAILER WITH COVER</u> <u>AND PORCH.</u> Maple interior. Good condition. \$1,000. Can be seen a Carolina Court. 526-5939.

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

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

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

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.

<u>4 WINTER COATS</u> – 3 Ladies (size 12) Woolrich (\$15), 2 John Weitz (100% Camel Hair \$30 each), 1 Men's Coat L.L. Bean (lined) \$30. Call 526-5367

GUITAR AMP CRATE GLX212 w/ 16 built in effects, 3 channels, Free footswitch \$300. dcd1982@aol.com or 526-1536

GUITAR DISTORTION PEDALS Digitech - Metal Master (distortion pedal) Death Metal - DOD (distortion pedal) AC Adapters Free \$30 or \$50 for both. dcd1982@aol.com or 526-1536

<u>LINE 6 SPIDER II HD HEAD</u> 150W, AC Adapter and free guitar cable Price \$100 or make me an offer. dcd1982@aol.com or 526-1536

<u>KING SIZE WATERBED FRAME</u> – Wood, Lighted pannels and shelves in headboard, underbed storage, mattress possibly available, too. \$300. Call 828-371-8677.

<u>SLEEPER SOFA</u> – Neutral Plaid. Like New. \$145. Call 864-972-8525.

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

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

<u>1LADIES 26" BICYCLE</u> . 6-speed, very good condition. \$25.00 828-349-3320

<u>HEAVY BRASS ELECTRIC HANGING FIX-</u> <u>TURE</u> – Six green, glass panels, 4 feet of matching chain. 22-inch diameter. \$975. Call 526-1773.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE, beds, love seats, chairs, tables, lamps, curio cabinets and collectible paperweights, Royal Daltons, Hummels, etc. By appointment only. 828-526-3258.

<u>11-INCH METAL PLATE</u> – handcrafted, dramascene by Reid & Barton 1975. Title: "Indians Discovery Lewis & Clark" by Charles Russell Limited Edition of 2500 – #1623. Good Condition. \$100. 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.

OAK ROCKER, over 100 years old. From E.B. (Ted) Mell Estate in Athens, Ga. All original includ-

ing leather seat. Call 828-349-4581.

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.

<u>2000 PONTIAC MONTANA EXTENDED</u> <u>VAN</u> – Well maintained. Cruise. Electric. \$6,100. Call 342-9475 days, 526-4876 Evenings.

<u>1992 FORD 150 PICK-UP TRUCK</u> – Extended cab, with covered top, 100,000 miles. Cherry condition. \$3,500. Call 526-0539.

<u>1993 CADILLAC 60 SPECIAL</u> – 4-door, DeVille chassis, 4.7 V/8, 16 city/24Hwy. Beautiful Artic white with flawless red leather, ABS Brakes, Air bags, sun roof, Bose CD sound system, new Michelin tires. Two owners, Florida car. Like new. Non smoker. \$4,750. Call 828-787-1563 or cell: 828-200-

•See CLASSIFIEDS page 22

## 2007 HIGHLANDS MAP

5,000 copies printed per week – 250,000 copies per year

The Map is Updated Weekly
Lodging, Dining, Realty, Shops
Map Dot Annual Fee \$250
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and to get a copy of
Highlands' Newspaper's
2007 Media Kit
828-526-0782

Highlands' Newspaper Map is "The Best Map In Town"

## **CLASSIFIEDS** •

1563.

2003 DODGE STRATUS - red exterior, gray interior, 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-

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

<u>UNWANTED ITEMS</u> in good condition for a tile, drywall repairs and more. Call 828-332-7201. family of five. please call Tony @ 828-779-1765.

#### SERVICES

WINTER CLEANUP - Yards, landscaping. STORAGE ORGANIZATION -- garages, attics, storage rooms. Call 526-0241.

FIVE STAR CLEANING & MAINTENANCE - Light and detail cleaning, concierge services, openings and closings, grocery shopping, personal shopping, personal chef and table service, house repairs, improvements: lighting, plumbing, fixtures,

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D.P. PAINTING & PRESSURE WASHING -Interior and exterior painting. Quality Work. References. In business since 1984. Dennis Perkins. 526-3542 or 371-2277.

YARD WORK & PRESSURE WASHING -Yard and property maintenance. Pressure Washing and odd jobs. Call Bruce at 828-369-3168 or 828 371-2766. 8/18

H & D HOUSE CLEANERS – We're the team for minor cleans. Dishes, bed, floors, & baths. Give us a call 'cause we are the Best!" 706-982-1994 or 706-782-0376

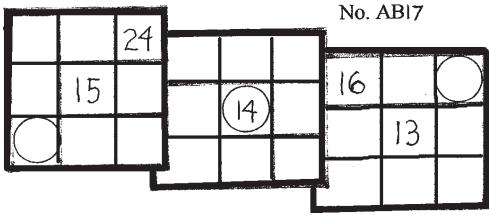
SCOTTS CONSTRUCTION 'ME FIX IT' -Decks, roofs, pressure washing, painting, lawn service, small electrical, floors, carpet cleaning, house cleaning! No job too small. 30 yrs. exp. Call David at 828-369-5886 or 828-347-5051

<u>C&C CONTRACTING – WE GET IT DONE</u> — SMALL OR LARGE – Remodeling, decks, doors, windows or the whole house! Call Art Doughty at 828-508-1360 Workmen's Comp, General Liability, References

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

## **Pseudocube**

## a new mind 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 equalling 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

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

## • Police & Fire Report •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 17-Jan. 2. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

#### Dec. 17

· At 1:10 p.m., Brian Justin Garland, 20, of Greenville, and Terren Kacey Elrod, 20 of Greenville, were arrested for shoplifting in Jolie's, Mountainique, and Bear Mountain Outfitters earlier that same day.

#### Dec. 19

• At 6:30 p.m., a resident on Split Rail Row reported the lock on the chain across his driveway

#### Dec. 20

• At 2 p.m. fraudulent use of a credit card was on U.S. 64 east reported at Dr. Christopher Dyer's office.

## Dec. 21

- A motorist was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone at N.C. 28 and Cherokee Drive..
- · At 11 a.m., a trailer valued at \$800 was reported stolen from a job site on Upper Lake Road.

#### Dec. 22

· At 1 p.m., damage to two windows and a door were reported at Highlands School.

#### Dec. 26

- · At 9: 15 p.m., officers responded to a twovehicle accident at U.S. 64 east and Little Bear Pen.
- At 9:15 p.m., a motorist was cited for exceeding a safe speed for road conditions at U.S. 64 east and Little Bear Pen.

#### Dec. 27

• At 7 p.m., Thomas Glen Mancini, 26 of Franklin was arrested for DWI and driving with a revoked license on the Gorge Road.

#### Dec. 29

- At 5:45 p.m., a resident on Mt. Lori Road was cited for violating a town's burning ordinance.
- · At 9 a.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 62 mph in a 35 zone at Cherokee and N.C. 28.
- At 2 p.m., officers responded to a call from a resident on Dogwood Drive concerning a simple assault with a knife where two men fighting.

- · At 4:15 p.m., Derrick Roy Potts, 40, of Highlands, was arrested for buying and selling stolen property, burglary and forcible entry and larceny.
- At 8:30 a.m., officers responded to a twovehicle accident at Talley Road and N.C. 106.
- At 8:30 a.m., a motorist was cited for driving without a commercial driver's license at Talley Road and N.C. 106.

Jan. 2

- At 8:55 a.m., a gas drive-off was reported at the Farmer's Market.
- · At 8:10 a.m., officers responded to a twovehicle accident on N.C. 106.
- · At 8:10 a.m, a motorist was cited for exceeding a safe speed on N.C. 106.

Over the past two weeks, the department responded to three alarms and issued five warning citations.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Dec. 22-

## Dec. 22

• The dept. responded to a call of an accident

#### Dec. 25

• The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly at the site of a vehicle accident on N.C. 106..

## Dec. 26

 The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 east and Little Bear Pen. There were no injuries.

#### Dec. 27

• The dept. responded to a structure fire on Sassafrass Gap Road. The structure was severely damaged but not destroyed.

#### Dec. 28

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

#### Dec. 29

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Cobb Road where a man riding a bike suffered a seizure. There was no trans-
- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Bowery Road. It was false.

#### Dec. 30

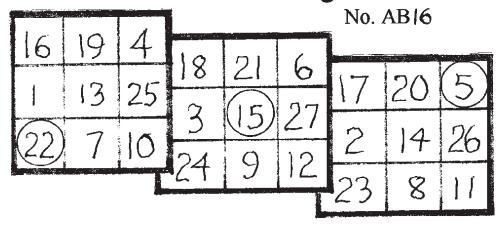
- The dept. responded to an alarm at OEI when the steam from the spa shower set of the alarm.
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly but it was cancelled en route.

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. is now accepting applications for membership. If interested, stop by the station on Oak St., Monday-Friday before 11 a.m., or call 526-3645 for an appointment.

## Solution for puzzle # AB16 in the Dec. 21 issue

## **Pseudocube** © 2006

## a new mind game



**ANTIQUES** Elephant's Foot Highlands, 526-5451 **Shiraz Oriental Rugs** Highlands, 526-5759 **ART GALLERIES** Bryant Art Glass Highlands, 526-4095 **Hubert Shuptrine** Highlands, 787-1123 John Collette Highlands, 526-0339 Mill Creek Highlands, 787-2021 Robert Tino Highlands, 526-0667 The Very Thing Highlands, 526-2333 Tin Roof Highlands, 526-3900 **BEAUTY & SPA** All Seasons Salon Highlands, 526-0349 **Creative Concepts** Highlands, 526-3939 Images Spa Highlands, 526-8832

**AnnaWear** Highlands, 526-4660 **Bear Mtn Outfitters** Highlands, 526-5784 **Bungalow Boutique** Highlands, 526-8555 Cabin Casuals Highlands, 526-3320 Coolcats Hotdogs Highlands, 526-9990 McCulley's Highlands, 526-4407 Nancy's Fancys Highlands, 526-1029 The Exchange Highlands, 526-1029

**FOODS** August Produce Bryson's Foods Dusty's Market

Highlands, 526-4617 Highlands, 526-3775 Highlands, 526-2762 Ingles Food Store Cashiers, 743-3801 Mountain Fresh Highlands, 526-2357 **Rosewood Market** Highlands, 526-0383

The Hen House

Highlands, 787-2473

Radio Shack Highlands, 526-3350 Speckled Hen Highlands, 526-3910 **HOME DECOR** Amer. Upholstery Walhala, 864-638-9661 **Black Bear Furniture** Highlands, 526-9933 Dry Sink Highlands, 526-5226 **Furniture Buy-Trips** 

Highlands, 526-2973

**Highlands Cabinet** 

Highlands, 526-8364

Highlands, 526-5577 Wholesale Down Highlands, 526-4905 **JEWELRY** Acorns Highlands, 787-1877 Drake's Diamonds Highlands, 526-5858 Highlands Gem Highlands, 526-2767 **Highlands Fine Art** Highlands, 526-0656 Kent LTD Highlands, 526-1960 Silver Eagle Highlands, 526-5190

Highlands, 526-2121 RESTAURANTS Brick Oven Pizza Highlands, 526-4121 **Bucks Cafe** Highlands, 526-0020 Cafe 460 Highlands, 526-8926 Cyprus

Highlands, 526-2338 Peregrine Highlands, 787-2465 Pescado's Highlands, 526-9313 Pizza Place Highlands, 526-5660 Rib Shack Highlands, 526-2626 Ristorante Paoletti Highlands, 526-4429 Highlands, 526-4906 Don Leon's **Rosewood Market** Highlands, 526-1600 Highlands, 526-0383 Fressers Eatery Skyline Restaurant Highlands, 526-4188 Highlands, 526-2121 Fressers Express **SportsPage** Highlands, 526-8867 Highlands, 526-3555 Country Club Prop. Highlands, 526-2520 Highlands Cove Highlands, 526-4185 John Schiffli Highlands, 526-5750 Keller Williams Highlands, 526-9520 Meadows Mountain Highlands, 526-1717 Architect - Soellner Sapphire, 743-6010 Builder - Warth

Highlands, 526-4929

Highlands, 526-4780

Builder - NBG

