

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 5, Number 28

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Fate of outdoor merchandise still hanging

Years ago the town drew up an ordinance prohibiting the display of outdoor merchandise. Now, with Code Enforcement Officer Josh Ward ready to enforce ordinances left unattended for years, the ambiguity of the wording has come back to haunt.

At the July 18 Town Board meeting, Town Administrator Richard Betz presented several photographs of merchandise that merchants display outside their shops — some for years.

All he and Ward want to know is how to interpret and

thereby enforce the ordinance that's on the books.

The ordinance reads: "It shall be unlawful for any commercial business to display goods, wares, or merchandise outside the building in which said business is conducted, except for merchandise

which is of such a nature that it ordinarily remains out of doors after business hours, such as produce, firewood, fertilizers, or garden plants; such merchandise shall in no way obstruct a public walkway required by the North

• See MERCHANDISE page 9

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On-going

- Live music Saturdays at Cyprus Restaurant in the Dillard Village Shopping Center at 9:30 p.m. \$10 cover.
- Live music every night at 7:30 p.m. and during brunch on Sunday at ...on the Verandah restaurant.
- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m.
- Hal Phillips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.
- Pilates classes with Sandi Trevathan on Level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Mon. and Wed. at 4 p.m. \$10.
- Step aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs. \$5 per class.
- Yoga classes at the Rec Park. Mon. and Wed. at 7:30 a.m. \$7 per person or \$50 for a month. Call 526-4340.
- At Health Tracks at the hospital, various exercise classes. Call 526-1FIT.

Every Monday

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

Every Tuesday

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

Every Thursday

- At Main Street Inn, Lisa Price piano and vocals in the wine bar 6-9 p.m.
- Rotary Bingo 6:30 8:30 pm at the Highlands Community Center. Open to all ages. Price is \$1 per card per game.

Every Saturday in July

- Courtenay Collins and Robert Ray's "Jukebox Journey" at PAC every Saturday at 5 and 8 p.m. Call 526-9047.

Through Sunday, July 22

- The Highlands Playhouse, "Laughter on the Twenty-Third Floor." Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Call 526-2695 for tickets.

Thursday, July 19

- 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: Mediterranean Odyssey at Artist Wesley Wofford's at 6 p.m. Call Summit One Gallery for reservations at 526-2673.

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22

- Trunk Show at Acorn's on Main

Street featuring Nina McLemore Fashions.

Friday, July 20

- Live Auction and Sale at the Scaly Mountain Community Center, at Buck Knob Road and NC 106 on at 6 p.m.
- "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" Midnight Party at Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street.

Friday & Saturday, July 20-21

- The Instant Theatre Company presents "Art," at 8 p.m. Call 828-342-9197 for tickets. Seating is limited.
- Trunk Show at Acorn's on Main Street featuring Slane & Slane Jewellery.
- Don't Count Your Chickens Arts and Crafts show 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center.

Saturday, July 21

- A booksigning at Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street, author Melanie Sue Bowles' "Horses of Proud Spirit."
- At Jackson Madeleine, a Mela Wilson Trunk Show, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, July 21-22

- The Art League of Highlands Summer Colors Fine Art Show at the Highlands Rec Park. Free admission.

Sunday, July 22

- Kirkin of the Tartans at First Presbyterian Church on Main Street at the 11 a.m. worship service. Luncheon to follow with Dr. John V. Griffith, president of Presbyterian College as the guest speaker. RSVP to 526-3175.

- At First Baptist Church, "Song Garden" recording artists, "Les Snyder and Sons of The Father" at 6:30 p.m.

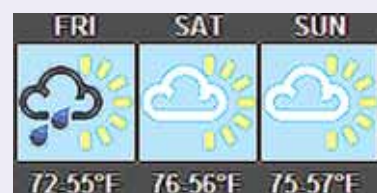
Wednesday-Saturday, July 25-28

- The Instant Theatre Company presents "Art," at 8 p.m. Call 828-342-9197.

Wednesday, July 25

- Interlude Concert Series at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m.

Weekend Weather:



The tradition continues



On Sunday, July 22, the annual Kirkin' of the Tartans takes place at the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street at the 11 a.m. worship service. A luncheon follows with Dr. John V. Griffith, president of Presbyterian College as the guest speaker. RSVP to 526-3175.

Pine Street Park affair OK'd

For the second time in a week, permission to use Pine Street Park was sought and at the July 18 Town Board meeting the first affair at the park was granted.

From November 8-11, the

Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center is presenting "The First Culinary Weekend" to "highlight Highlands majestic mountain location, boundless activities, ap-

• See PINE STREET page 31

Highlanders appointed to county boards

A few Highlanders' names came up when citizens were appointed to various boards at the July 16 Macon County Commission meeting.

Effective immediately, the county appointed Allan Bryson as one of the two ETJ representatives to the Highlands Planning Board.

Bryson is taking Mitch Gurganus's place who resigned from the board June 15 for health-related reasons.

Bryson's term expires June 30, 2009.

County Commissioner Brian McClellan asked how it was that Bryson was selected and County Manager Sam Greenwood said "Allan Bryson was the only person from Highlands who expressed interest in serving on the board."

When ETJ was evoked, the town agreed to let the county appoint two members from ETJ to the Planning Board and one ETJ member to the Zoning Board.

...

Part one of the county's Master Recreation Plan is now in place.

At Monday night's meeting, commissioners named seven voting members to the newly formed single countywide recreation commission with recreation liaison, Commissioner Bob Simpson at the head as chairman.

As per the resolution adopted at the June 18 Macon County

• See BOARDS page 14

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

What a long strange trip its been



Kim Lewicki
Publisher

Thank you readers, advertisers and loyal columnists – Highlands' Newspaper is blazing toward year five.

We produced our first paper July 18, 2003. It was 16 pages and though we had no doubts, most wondered if we'd make it to Labor Day.

Well, we did, and plan to make it to many more Labor Days to come.

This year you've seen our page count and color increase with reproduction on 50 lb. white stock. Though expensive, we feel the stock upgrade is a worthwhile investment considering the color and black and white reproduction it delivers.

Obviously, putting a free paper on the streets each week is all-consuming, but Jim and I are thoroughly enjoying the enterprise and hope you are, too.

We intend to continue to inform, educate and entertain you with each issue – balancing the hard with the soft.

We will forever be indebted to our columnists and contributors who never let us down despite the grind a weekly deadline demands.

We will forever be indebted to our readers, for without them there would be few advertisers. Advertisers know their dollar is ill-spent if no one sees their ad.

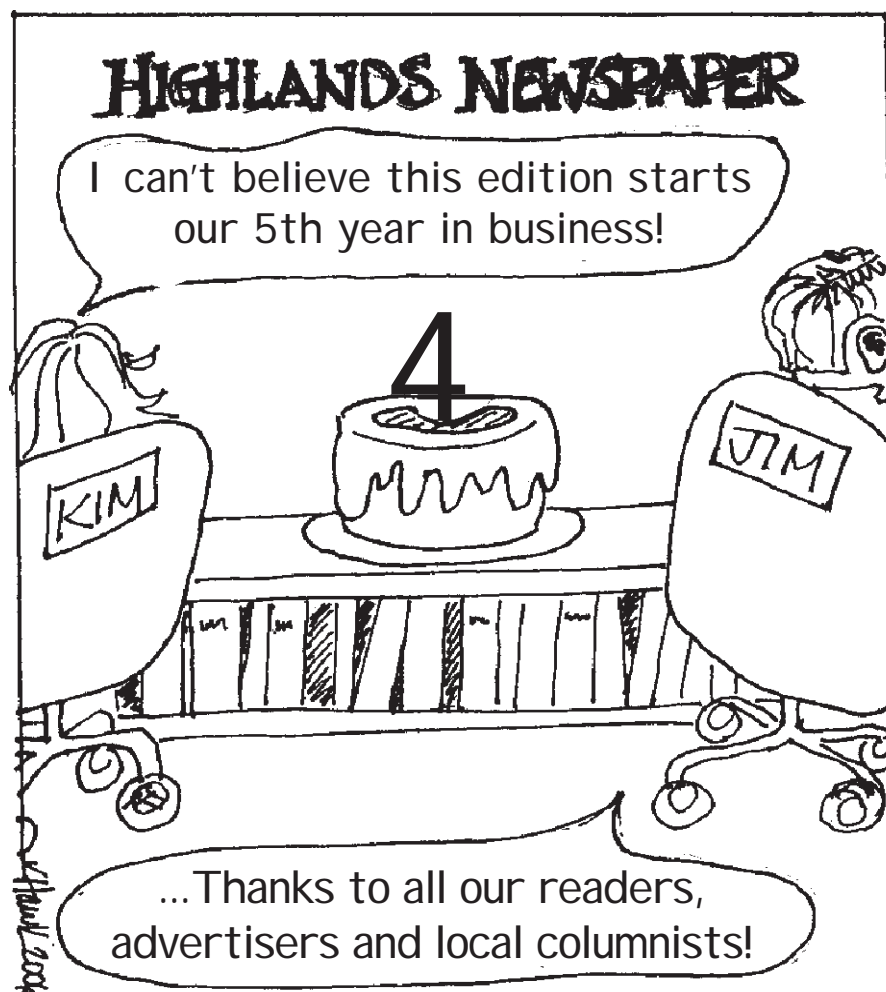
This symbiotic relationship between Highlands' Newspaper, the readers and the advertisers represents the best in the free marketplace.

We also thank our current printer for consistently delivering a stellar product.

Mr. Tom Merchant, our copyeditor-proofreader eases my mind each week, guiding and helping tirelessly.

Thank you, Highlands, for your contributions, words of kindness, accolades, and loyalty throughout the years. We vow to continue to deliver a product worthy of your praise and the community that is Highlands.

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

Highlands' Newspaper

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• LETTERS •

Macon County voters should be proud

Dear Editor,

As you see your very fine Macon County Commissioners, please thank them for having the courage, intelligence, business savy and great common sense to pass the ordinance prohibiting buildings taller than 50 feet from being built! GOD made Macon County a beautiful place and your Commissioners are helping to preserve it. They should be commended.

Jim Whitehurst
Highlands

Snow should know the people are watching

Dear Editor,

This is a letter I emailed Senator Snow. Perhaps others feel the same way.

I just read your update. I noticed that it contained nothing about property taxes. This is just to remind you that property tax (and all tax increases) is still an important issue with grass roots people. You all may bring more exciting things before the Legislature but we will remember taxes, especially property tax at election time. Thank you for your efforts in solving this problem.

Harold Neely
Highlands

Snow responds to Neely

Dear Editor,

This is the letter I sent in reply to Mr. Harold Neely's letter.

Please know that I continue to be interested in lowering property taxes for people in our area despite the fact that I don't write about them every week. You can read about the bill I have introduced about reducing property taxes for our people here: <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2007/Bills/Senate/HTML/S1442v1.html>

Moreover, if the bill that I have worked on concerning the lottery passes it will reduce the influence increasing property tax rates will play on our counties ability to gain construction funding.

Senator John Snow

• OBITUARY •

Amelia Ann Ray

Amelia Ann Ray, age 90, of Highlands, died Sunday, July 15, 2007 at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. She was born in LaPorte County, IN, the daughter of the late Michael and Louise Kubinieć. She was married to John Q. Ray who passed away in 1978. She was a homemaker and a member of the Highlands First United Methodist Church. She was a member of the LaPorte, Indiana Eastern Star. Mrs. Ray was an artist, seamstress, loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her son, Larry M. Ray and his wife, Mary Ann of Highlands, NC; one sister, Patricia Scott of Brevard, NC; two grandchildren, Linda Newton and her husband, Alan of Atlanta, Ga and Lisa Hennessy and her husband, Jack of Singapore; four great-grandchildren, Blair Newton, Anna Newton, Greg Hennessy and Georgia Hennessy. She was preceded in death by a sister, Genieve Levandoski, and a brother, Ted Kubinieć.

Burial will be held at a later date in LaPorte, IN. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Lonnie Lynwood Manley

Lonnie Lynwood Manley, age 71, of Highlands, NC, died Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at his residence. He was born in Tiff County, GA., the son of the late John Will Manley and Vesmer Bailey Manley. He was a U. S. Army Veteran, and retired as District Superintendent with Haywood Electric. He was also retired as Assistant Chief of Highlands Fire Department. He was a member of Highlands United Methodist Church and was a member at large for the Board of Trustees for the Church.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jessie Zachary Manley; one daughter, Mary Lynn Manley of Brevard, N.C.; two sons, Kenneth Manley and James (Popcorn) Manley and his wife Leesa all of Highlands, NC; three grandchildren, Daniel, Amber and Zachary Manley.

Funeral services will be held Friday, July 20 at 2 p.m. at Highlands United Methodist Church, with Rev. Mike Harris and Rev. Walter Wilson officiating. Burial will be at Evitt Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Daniel Manley, Zachary Manley, Grant Zachary, Morris Reed, Bobby Houston, and Buster Mercer. Members of the Highlands Fire Department will serve as honorary pallbearers.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m., Thursday evening at Bryant Funeral Home in Highlands, where the body will remain until placed in the Church thirty minutes prior to the service.

Memorials may be made to Highlands Fire Department, PO Box 460, Highlands, NC 28741 or to Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, PO Box 190, Highlands, NC 28741. Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made by visiting www.bryantfuneralhomes.com or www.MeM.com.

Gone in a puff of smoke

The massive boulder blocking passage under Bridal Veil Falls is now gone, thanks to developer Bill Nellis, who "just got tired of looking at it!" On Thursday the obstruction was blasted to smithereines



Photo by Katie Brugger

Five file for three Town Board seats

The three Town Board seats currently held by Commissioners Herb James, Dennis DeWolf and Alan Marsh and will be on the ballot Nov. 6.

So far, Commissioners Dennis DeWolf and Alan Marsh have filed for the seats as

well as, Larry Ray Brannan, John "Buzz" Dotson and Gary Drake. Commissioner Herb James is undecided.

The deadline to file is Friday, July 20 at noon at the Macon County Board of Elections at the courthouse in Franklin.



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Decorator furnished Apple Mountain home with 3 BR, 2.5 baths, home theater with surround sound. Features include: 2 masters; hardwood floors; newly re-done kitchen with Zodiac counters; great room with vaulted ceiling, stone fireplace and built-ins; screened porch with mountain views; plenty of storage. Price includes quality furnishings, art, Oriental rugs and antiques. Just bring your toothbrush - you'll find spa towels and robes, pretty dishes and stemware, high-end linens and more. \$649,000.



Delightful mountain home on 4.39 acres with warm pine ceiling and beams throughout located in Hickory Knoll off of Yellow Mountain Road. Spectacular mountain views and amazing privacy. The acreage includes 3 additional platted lots with good building sites which can be sold separately. Two bedrooms two baths, plus two additional spaces for office, playroom or sewing room. There is also a family room and a detached two car garage. What a value at \$668,000.



Wonderful home located above the 4th green at HFCC. The open kitchen boasts concrete and butcher block countertops and top of the line stainless steel appliances. The master suite features a huge walk-in tile shower and a sun room with hot tub. Watch the golfers putt on the green or just relax and enjoy the mountain view from the extra large covered porch. A two car garage, golf cart storage, circular driveway and extensive landscaping complete the package. A great value at \$698,000.



Huge coffered ceilings in the great room transition out to the covered deck which features a stone fireplace. The view includes the 3rd fairway and green plus some mountain ridge view. With 3 BR/3 BA, this home is all on one floor for easy living. The kitchen features beautiful painted cabinetry and stainless steel appliances with plenty of space for a custom island or breakfast table. Hardwood floors throughout the entire house. \$775,000



This 3 bedroom, 3 bath home is open with vaulted tongue and groove ceiling in the living/dining area and spacious kitchen. Master suite and 2 guest bedrooms on the main level. Family room w/ 2nd fireplace on the lower level with a 2 car garage. Great deck for entertaining or relaxing with a nice view of Little Bearpen Mountain, beautifully landscaped yard, and 2 car garage make this a must see. Furnishings are negotiable. \$469,000



Newly Completed home in HFCC. This 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home in Highlands Falls Country Club is nestled onto a wooded lot at the fork of Falls Drive West and North Big Bear Pen Rd. Newly completed construction, it boasts huge cathedral ceilings, stone faced, wood burning fireplaces, and a gently rolling lot. The huge covered deck has a fireplace and a great view of Shortoff Mountain. \$1,095,000

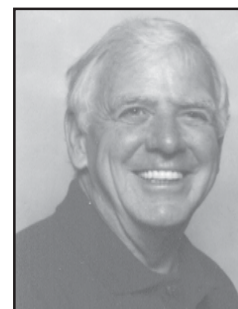


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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Why I'm not running for mayor

Don't panic....only kidding. Like thousands of seasonal people who gladly support Highlands by paying high taxes and exorbitant country club fees, I'm not eligible to run for anything. It's called taxation without representation. Where have I heard that before? I don't do the country club scene and I've already been told if I want representation, move here full time or shut up. Actually I don't do country clubs or shut up. Ask the li'l missus.



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback
is encouraged!
email:**

askfredanything@aol.com

Over 100 columns ago I predicted Highlands was slowly becoming the next Vail, Colorado, where most all its workers live off the mountain....way off the mountain. Not much has changed since then, except we have fewer workers living here now than ever.

Vail sells snow skiing and we sell altitude, attitude and luxury. Both resorts are driven by money from very wealthy people. Sometimes Highlanders try to pretend money is not the driving force behind some of its cockamamie decisions, like parks in the middle of the street, but it's always about the money. If you're a local with shallow pockets, you will eventually have to pack your stuff and leave unless, of course, I'm your Mayor....which, of course, I won't be.

It's almost comical that a well meaning study group is trying to figure out ways to provide affordable housing for workers when, if things keep going the way they're going, a typical worker won't even be able to pay the taxes and insurance on a home, much less a mortgage payment and town service fees. How does a hotel maid survive in a place where a hamburger, with one small pickle, cost \$14? Do the math and get real.

The first thing I would do as your new mayor is admit there's not one dad gum thing anyone can do about controlling growth or inflation. Control is a myth. If hoards of rich people want to roll in here and pay outrageous prices for everything and drive up our cost of living, I say "bring em' on."

The next thing I would do is publicly vow to never make money from my political decisions. If, by mistake, money did flow into my pocket from a decision I made, I would donate it to charity. As

your Mayor, I would publish my federal and state income tax returns and insist all my fellow commissioners do the same. Would that be fun, or what?

Next, I would completely do away with town taxes and town service fees, including town property taxes, for anyone who can prove they live here 12 months a year. Each person that presents a Highlands' voter registration card is eligible and will pay no taxes or town service fees. If they transfer their mail off the mountain for any period of

time, they're not eligible.

How will there be enough money to run the town? Har, har, har; enter the wealthy people. It's called "discrimination against the wealthy." They love the summer weather and will come here in May and go home in November no matter what. Only old age or death, not higher taxes, will stop this process. They're usually busy doing wealthy people things, like inspecting each others grand pianos, and remain totally disinterested in what is going on here locally. Best of all, they don't have a Highlands' voting card in their pocket; more har, har, har.

I recently asked a wealthy friend "What do you think about the Pine Street Park decision?" The answer, "Oh my, what country club is that park in? Can I join and how much do I make the check out for?"

The bottom line: It's the wealthy people that turned Highlands into what it is today, soooooo it should be the wealthy people who should pay for it. The locals who live and work here just kinda stood around in awe at what was happening. Believe me, if you pass the entire tax burden to part-time wealthy people, they will take it like another greens fee increase, then next May, come hell or high water, they'll come back. Highlands is their Capistrano.

Unfortunately, being Mayor means I would have to live here full-time which I can't do because I can't breathe from November to May. I have grown fond of breathing. So I guess our wealthy visitors are safe for now and the little people can continue to carry the burden of runaway everything until they eventually get kicked off the mountain and wealthy folks wind up paying for it all anyway.

• HIS & HERS •

Enforce Zina's laws!

The body of Zina Linnik was found Saturday in Tacoma, WA, based on information from a convicted sex offender who has been arrested in connection with her abduction, sexual torture, and death. Final charges have not been filed, and there has not been any trial. But available information now indicates that the man responsible is Terapon Adhahn, 42, an illegal alien who had been convicted in 1990 of incest against an underage relative.

He should have been deported then as a result of that conviction. He wasn't. As a representative of the Immigration Service said in one article about this subject, "We lost track of him." Indeed. The police and courts in Tacoma were not much better in keeping track of this criminal alien.

Thus it was that on the 4th of July, Adhahn was in his grey van on the street where Zina was going home to get her siblings to come out to watch fireworks. He apparently snatched her off the street. Her father was close enough to hear her scream, see the van, get part of the license plate, and find his daughter's shoe.

Within 24 hours, the police had found the van, found Adhahn, and developed information to find Zina's body, and arrest Adhahn on the initial charge of immigration violations. Other charges will follow.

Why did this happen? Who is responsible?

It happened because that's what pedophiles do. One of the most repetitious crimes of all is preying on children. Such criminals will almost always repeat their crimes until they are jailed or executed. But Adhahn was not jailed or executed. He was also not deported.

I have two daughters and four granddaughters. If any human slime did something like this to any of them, I would be wild with grief, and furious with anger at all responsible for this fate.

The main responsibility is the criminal himself. But in situations like this one, many other people share part of the blame.

Consider Amber Alerts, Megan's Law,



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

and Jessica's Law. All these began with the horrible death of one young girl in one state. All spread to most states in the union because they have the capacity to save the lives of other young girls from the horrors of pedophiles. Do we need more laws to protect other young girls from the fate of Zina? No we

don't.

We already HAVE Zina's Laws. They are the immigration laws of the United States. They require that a pedophile like Adhahn MUST be deported after their first conviction. It is bureaucrats drawing their checks and sitting on their duffs, who have not enforced these laws. It is members of Congress drawing their (recently increased) checks and sitting on their duffs, who have not both insisted on and paid for enforcement of these laws. It is a president who is drawing his checks and sitting on his duff, who is allowing Border Patrol agents to rot in jail rather than backing them up in doing their jobs.

Notice I have in no way condemned the dedicated but overmatched Border Patrol agents themselves.

How many Americans are exposed to attacks and death due to the failure to enforce Zina's Laws? A study by the Violent Crimes in Atlanta, released in May 2006 concluded that there are about 240,000 illegal immigrants in the United States as of then, who are sex offenders. These criminals had about four victims each. The study deals with the propensities of these criminals to "advance" to murder as well as sexual abuse, and the comparative tendencies of this group to commit crimes, compared to others.

We cannot jail the politicians who allowed Zina to be tortured and killed at the age of 12. But can we at least turn our rage on them so they either act to prevent future acts like this, or flee their offices in fear of our rage? Don't we owe that to Zina, and all the little girls like her?

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

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• ANOTHER VIEW •

Glass houses



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

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It's Saturday and the BB Hurricane Restaurant and Guest House in New Bern, N.C. is rocking. The facility serves sailors and land lubbers alike at a marina on the Neuse River. We're staying in a second-floor guest room, just a thin awning and a thick pillow removed from the action. There is bar-be-que, drinking, and dancing. A guy has set up a table selling cigars. A smuggled Cohiba is offered at \$10.80. And there is recorded music. The BB hurricane owners are celebrating the completion of their new deck. All are welcome and many have come. I guess I'll write a column. Not much chance of sleep.

Scrutiny of Chinese products is escalating. Chinese seafood products have been found to contain antibiotics, fungicides, and other unpleasant substances. Reports claim that China, which leads the world's aqua culture industry, raises its fish in tiny polluted ponds to maximize the yield. Since much of China lacks the refinement of sewage treatment, much, if not all of the seafood is raised in water containing human waste and industrial toxins. Given those realities, mixing a little penicillin with the fish food doesn't seem like such a bad idea.

I've never known anyone who would have knowingly eaten Chinese fish, even before these revelations. Even when I was eating in a Chinese restaurant, the thought never occurred to me that the Hunan shrimp might actually originate in China I never thought of McDonald's as a dessert place, and I just can't think of China as a seafood place. Customers are suddenly searching seafood packages in search for the country of origin. My guess is that when they can find it, they pass on the product from China and choose Belugistan instead.

Chinese tires have joined the list of defective and dangerous products arriving in the USA. Before we get too smug, we should remember that after several Ford Expeditions did highway somersaults a massive recall of Bridgestone/Firestone tires followed. The faulty tires were blamed for deaths, but at least surviving customers were able to locate the producer for replacements. We are not perfect. In what appears to be an example of international trade retaliations, the Chinese have rejected recent shipments of food products from the U.S. Refused items include pig ears and chicken feet. If I were going to eat chicken feet, I'd prefer American grown, but I wouldn't be terribly surprised to learn that they

were contaminated with Salmonella. What do you suppose is on the floor of a chicken house? I don't know of any toilet trained chickens, so I assume that unless their feet have had a thorough scrubbing and pedicure, there might be a certain level of bacterial contamination. I don't know what was wrong with the ears, but frozen ribs were found to contain antibiotics. The more we learn, the more our appetites suffer. It's a complete mystery how we all got

so fat.

The Chinese have taken drastic, even Draconian action. The former head of the Chinese Food and Drug Administration was executed last week. That is quite a step to protect "Brand China." That's what the Chinese were doing, protecting the brand. China leads the world in executions, so the life of one corrupt official compared to the loss of billions in export income is inconsequential. It is important that the Chinese appear to care about the quality of their exports, even though their real interest is shipping more junk to us.

If Lou Dobbs or Henry Salzarulo were to latch onto this story, there could be real trouble. There are those who believe that we should take similar action against corrupt politicians. We do, as a nation, exhibit an interesting lack of revulsion to white-collar crime. Crooked politicians and corrupt executives cost the consumer and investor millions, even billions. They are rarely tried, even less frequently convicted, and never executed. It is big news when they land in a Club Fed for a few months. Business executives routinely use the resources of the companies they raped to keep themselves out of jail. These are not easy crimes to prosecute, because unlike the guy who steals bread to feed his kids in full view of a surveillance camera, these guys are wrapped in many layers of subordinates, a protective blanket of insulation from responsibility. It's not easy, but we should try harder to secure justice and realize that white collar crime is not victimless.

It is fashionable to bash the Chinese, and I am a gleeful participant. But remember that their products are not as bad as we believe, nor ours as good as we pretend.

Several years ago, we were lamenting the loss of market share in grain exports to upstarts, Australia, Brazil, and Argentina. Their grain was simply better than ours. How, you might ask, does one produce better grain? Inspectors assign one of three grades to a grain shipment. Grade One is

•See ANOTHER VIEW page 35

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

The human family

A population geneticist has been studying the history of Homo sapiens; his research shows that about 50,000 years ago the *entire population* of our species had declined to 2,000. That's two thousand total human beings on the planet. That's the winter population of Highlands! Imagine Highlands being the repository of the human gene pool (kind of scary, isn't it).

I have a sketchy idea of the evolution of human beings—Homo erectus, Australopithecus, etc.—and I had always imagined that it had been many hundreds of thousands of years since our common ancestors formed that small a group.

The Genographic Project, headed by a man named Spencer Wells and supported by National Geographic, is “a five-year genetic anthropology study that aims to map historical human migration patterns by collecting and analyzing DNA samples from hundreds of thousands of people across five continents.” (wikipedia.com)

In our DNA are “genetic markers—tiny changes that arise rarely and spontaneously as our DNA is copied and passed down through the generations—which serve to unite people on ever older branches of the human family tree. If you share a marker with someone, you share an ancestor with him or her at some point in the past. These markers can be traced to relatively specific times and places as humans moved across the globe. The farther back in time and the closer to Africa we get, the more markers we all share.”

“Around 70,000 years ago it was getting very nippy in the northern part of the globe, with ice sheets bearing down on Seattle and New York; this was the last Ice Age. At that time, though, our species, Homo sapiens, was still limited to Africa; we were very much homebodies. But the encroaching Ice Age, perhaps coupled with the eruption of a super-volcano named Toba, in Sumatra, dried out the tropics and nearly decimated the early human population. While Homo Sapiens can be traced to around 200,000 years ago in the fossil record, it is remarkably difficult to find an archaeological record of our species between 80,000 and 50,000 years ago, and genetic data suggest that the population eventually dwindled to as few as 2,000 individuals. We were on the brink of extinction.” [“Out of



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

Africa,” by Spencer Wells, Vanity Fair June 2007] This group lived in the area of East Africa that is now the border of Kenya and Uganda, on the shores of Lake Victoria.

Two thousand seemed like such a small number—could this size population be large enough to have enough genetic diversity to survive? Recently Peter White, professor of biology at

Chapel Hill and director of the North Carolina Botanical Garden, was teaching a course at the Highlands Biological Station on conservation biology. At the Zahner Lecture he gave he spoke of competing theories for the minimum numbers of individuals required to have a viable community. I wrote to him asking to give me his thoughts on the Genographic Project theory.

“Let me explain first that biologists have wondered whether there is a standard minimum population size that could be considered viable and therefore capable of long-term persistence. As populations get small they are subject to genetic drift, inbreeding, risk due to randomness of birth and death events, and environmental fluctuation. There is no guarantee of success or failure, so the benchmark is expressed in terms of probabilities: that is, our definition of viable is ‘95% chance of surviving at least 100 years’ or something like that. Generally speaking, you need 50 breeding individuals (25 males and 25 females) to avoid genetic problems and 5,000 to avoid problems with environmental fluctuations. But these are just really broad guidelines, not proven data for any particular species or any particular environmental fluctuations. So they have never been investigated for the human species, for example.

“But, I also have to tell you that there is a totally different perspective on population size and extinction risk: population growth rate. A population with a high growth rate will grow quickly and thus avoid the problems discussed above. The human population, as we know, is highly successful. So a population size of 2,000 people might have no risk of extinction because it can grow so strongly.”

Evidently Homo Sapiens’ growth rate was high enough!

About 50,000 years ago something happened—perhaps some mutation

• See BRUGGER page 15

Highlands Playhouse

SUMMER SEASON

2007



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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

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While you're at it, why not throw some fresh vegetables on the barbie, too. Grilled vegetables are not only healthy and delicious, but they keep their color and even taste great as leftovers. Try fresh, local corn in the husk!

Pre-heat your grill to medium-high and oil it well.

To grill corn with husks, pull back the husk and tie the ends together to make a natural handle. Remove the corn silk. Brush kernels with seasoned melted butter or oil. Grill 7 to 10 minutes, turning occasionally (use that handle!) to get delicious bronz-

Gingered Orange Catfish and Corn

YIELD: 4 servings

2 tablespoons orange juice
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 teaspoons minced garlic
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
4 ears husked fresh corn
4 U.S. farm-raised catfish fillets
(6 to 8 ounces each)

Orange Sauce (recipe follows)

Preheat grill or broiler. In small bowl combine orange juice, oil, garlic, ginger, salt and pepper. Reserve 1 tablespoon of mixture for Orange Sauce; brush all sides of corn and catfish fillets with remaining mixture. On oiled rack or broiler pan, grill fillets and corn, 4 inches from heat source, until catfish is opaque in center and corn is lightly browned, 7 to 10 minutes, turning corn occasionally. Serve catfish drizzled with Orange Sauce. Garnish with broiled orange wedges and mixed greens, if desired.

For Orange Sauce: In small saucepan combine 3/4 cup orange juice, 1 teaspoon cornstarch and reserved 1 tablespoon orange-ginger mixture. Cook over low heat, stirring until thickened, about 5 minutes.

• All materials courtesy of Family Features, The Catfish Institute and Fresh Supersweet Corn Council



ing on the kernels.

Or, grill the corn in the husk. After removing the silk, replace husks and tie with a strip of husk or string. Soak ears in cold water for 10 minutes. Grill, turning often, until husks are charred and corn is hot, 10 to 15 minutes.

It's easy to prepare great-tasting catfish on your grill, too. Marinades and seasonings using citrus flavors or fresh garden herbs work well as do southwestern inspired chili flavors.

To grill or broil thicker fillets, brush the fish with vegetable oil on both sides and season to taste. Grill 4 to 5 minutes per side, turning only once, until fish is opaque.

To grill or broil thinner fillets, simply grill on one side without turning, until fillets are opaque.

Southwest Grilled Catfish and Corn Salad

YIELD: 4 portions

2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1/2 teaspoon salt
4 ears husked fresh corn
4 U.S. farm-raised catfish fillets
(6 to 8 ounces each)
1 cup canned red kidney beans,
rinsed and drained
1/3 cup coarsely chopped cilantro
1/4 cup thinly sliced green onions
(scallions)

**6 tablespoons bottled vinaigrette,
divided**

4 cups loosely packed mixed greens

Preheat grill or broiler. In small bowl combine oil, chili powder, cumin and salt. Brush all sides of corn and catfish fillets with oil mixture.

On oiled rack or broiler pan grill corn 4 inches from heat source, until just tender, 7 to 10 minutes, turning corn occasionally.

Remove; cool to room temperature. Cut kernels from cobs. In large bowl combine kernels with beans, cilantro, onions and 2 tablespoons of vinaigrette.

On oiled rack or broiler pan, grill fillets 4 inches from heat source, until opaque in center, 8 to 10 minutes.

Toss greens with 2 tablespoons of remaining vinaigrette; divide among 4 plates; top each with corn salad and catfish fillet. Drizzle remaining vinaigrette over fish.

... MERCHANDISE continued from page 1

Carolina State Building Code."

The problem is, over the years various Zoning Administrators have both neglected to enforce the ordinance and allowed merchandise to remain outside if it doesn't have to be brought in at night.

"In other words, if it has to be brought in at night, then it can't come out the next day," said Betz. "That's how it's been interpreted in the past."

But pictures presented showed what everyone has come to accept in Highlands – birdhouses and garden ware; garments on racks; statues, earthenware, and such, displayed on private property in front of shops out of the public right-of-way. Some of it is brought in at night, some of it stays out all night.

Commissioners couldn't come to a consensus concerning what should be allowed, or if they should enforce the ordinance at all.

"If we don't let them put things out on the street, it makes it look sterile," said Commissioner Hank Ross. "It adds to the charm and color of town and makes it lively and festive."

But Commissioner Amy Patterson said

it comes down to "taste."

"Without the ordinance, we're relying on the taste of each individual merchant," said Patterson. "We don't want the town to turn into a T-shirt open market."

Ross agreed that it does become a taste issue and suggested the board write the ordinance adding what it doesn't want rather than saying what it does want.

Patterson said she thought it should be the other way around.

Mayor Don Mullen said the ordinance was too ambiguous; Patterson said it wasn't ambiguous at all.

In the end Commissioner Herb James said the ordinance must be written so that anyone can understand what it says.

The board considered sending the issue to the Planning Board but couldn't agree on what to tell the board to do.

"We have to tell them what we want it to say so we need a consensus and we don't have that," said Ross.

In the end, the board agreed to have Betz and Ward draft what they think will work, bring it back to the Town Board who will then send it to the Planning Board.

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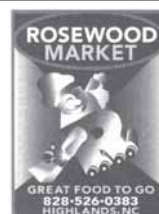
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• THE VIDEO GUY •

Idiocracy

Idiocracy, the 2007 comedy starring Luke Wilson (My Super Ex Girlfriend), Maya Rudolph (A Prairie Home Companion), and as president of the United States, pro wrestler and porn star, Terry Crews (Norbit). Directed by Mike Judge (Office Space) and written by Judge and the brilliant Etan Cohen. Rated R for language, general rudeness and rather noticeable lack of aesthetic ambiance.

The Storyline: In 2005, Army librarian Joe Bauers (Wilson), determined to be the most average man in the US Army, and Rita (Maya Rudolph), a, um, let's just say a working girl, are recruited in a one-year-long secret hibernation project. Due to a variety of errors, they are frozen until the year 2505, when they are



Stuart of
The Movie Stop

unearthed during the Great Garbage Avalanche. Due to the gradual (or not so) dumbing down of the world's population, Joe now finds himself to be the smartest person on the planet, a fact that draws both admiration and eventually, ire. All ends well (sort of) for our erstwhile hero, if not for the planet as a whole.

Very funny, very savage satire, acid commentary about commercialism

(brand names companies run the planet, and even crop up in characters names such as Frito Pendejo, Dwayne Elizondo Mountain Dew Herbert Camacho, Hormel Chavez, Formica Davis, Hank BMW, and Tylenol Jones), an unflattering view of humanity's future, one that belies the ideas of evolution AND intelligent

•See VIDEO GUY page 30



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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Pine Street Park and beyond

Last week at the Town Board meeting there was a very lively discussion regarding the Pine Street Park. It has been my opinion all along that the park is a project in progress and it was not appropriate at this time for the decision whether or not to close the street permanently. I think that quite a bit of traffic and parking study is necessary before that decision should be made. I have made no decision myself on the closing the street until appropriate study and public discussion is carried out and felt like a vote at this time would be a rush to judgment in a very controversial issue. This board usually deliberates very carefully about matters like this.

At the present time this property where the old post office used to sit is yet to be turned over to the town but it is the town's decision, of course, when to temporarily close Pine Street for events which may be going on. However, several of the commissioners are so opposed to permanently closing the street that they forced a vote at this time on that issue. After a brisk and emotional discussion amongst not only board members but other people who were present, the board voted 3 to 2 not to have the street closed perma-



Mayor Don Mullen

nently in the future, but only temporarily for special events. This Park Street Park issue is almost sure to be a hot topic for the elections this fall.

To continue to maintain our small town village character I think it is important for the town to not only preserve open green space but make an attempt to create green space close to Main Street where both residents and visitors can enjoy not only specific entertaining events but quiet solitude at other times.

Whether that be Pine Street or some other location, it needs to be close to the downtown area. A park such as this would be an asset to the town and good for those who are close to it. A Pine Street Park would draw people not only to businesses in the Oak St. Village area but also those on 4th Street. Shop owners on 4th Street have come to me complaining that people do not come their way because they are off the beaten path of Main Street. Something must be done to enhance pedestrian traffic in this area.

The Board also finally made a decision on home businesses in the ETJ area. The planning board had approved both inside town R-1 businesses and ETJ home

•See MULLEN page 17

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• GARDENING ON THE PLATEAU •

Water smart to save money

Most homeowners over-water their yards, unwittingly wasting money every time they turn on the hose. Adopting water-savvy habits not only helps reduce this waste, it saves money while promoting a healthier lawn and landscape. According to the Irrigation Association, you should follow these tips to ensure that you're lawn is getting the most out of your watering schedule.

Water it right

Watering at the right time of day, when the sun is low, the winds are calm and temperatures are cool, will save a lot of water — as much as 30 percent — by reducing evaporative losses. The best time to water is late afternoon, evening and just before sunrise.

• **Saturate the root zones.** Roots are generally within the top 6 inches of soil. Water roots, then let the soil dry. Watering too frequently results in shallow roots, weed growth, disease and fungus.

• **Don't water too long.** Water each zone several times for short periods rather than in one long session. This reduces run-off.

• **Take careful aim.** Be sure sprinklers are not watering driveways, sidewalks, patios or buildings. That's all water down the drain.

Plan and plant right to save water

Conserving water doesn't have to involve a lot of trenching and plumbing. These tips can be implemented as part of your normal landscaping and gardening routine.

• **Aerate your lawn and around trees** at least once a year to ensure good water penetration. Turn and cultivate soil, adding compost, or fertilizer, when planting.

• **Mulch well around plants, bushes and trees.** Using 2 to 4 inches of mulch reduces evaporation, moderates soil temperatures, improves water penetration and helps to control

weeds that compete for water.

• Landscape to suit your lot.

Evaluate your yard conditions (sun, shade, dry and damp areas) and purchase turf or plant species that have low water requirements and are well suited to the area of the yard where they will be planted.

• **Hydro-zone your yard.** Group landscape plants with similar moisture needs in the same area. Separate them from turf areas, which have different water requirements.

• **Plant in spring or fall** when less water is needed to establish new plants. Smaller plants require less water to become established.

• **Create functional turf areas,** for example, in play areas. Avoid using turf where it's difficult to irrigate properly, such as on steep slopes. Good alternatives for hard-to-irrigate areas

include ground covers, perimeter plants and mulch.

• **Plant shade trees** to lower the air and soil temperatures. This will reduce soil moisture loss.

• **Maintain your yard** by mowing, weeding, pruning and irrigating as needed. A well-maintained yard requires less water.

Upgrade your watering tools

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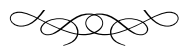
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... BOARDS continued from page 1

Commission meeting, one commissioner chairs the seven-member recreation commission which will oversee all recreation matters in the county. One member each is from Highlands and Nantahala and four members are from Franklin.

Commissioner Bob Simpson appointed Allan Bryson as the representative from Highlands and Vince West as the Nantahala representative – each fill two-year terms which expire July 15, 2009.

Franklin representatives are Matt Bulis and Gloria Thun who will serve for three years with their terms expiring July 15, 2010. Also representing Franklin are Tex Davis and Dennis Conley, who will each serve a one-year term which expires July 15, 2008.

When the resolution was adopted, establishing the single countywide recreation commission, the county's independent Franklin, Nantahala and Highlands recreation commissions which have been in place for years were abolished.

The idea behind the single countywide recreation commission is to ensure all areas of the county get a standard rate of service – proportional to population – with a unified command structure – headed up by a single director, said commissioners. The director's position hasn't been filled, yet, and the director's salary will be funded by reallocating funds previously slotted for Franklin recreation purposes.

"Vince West from Nantahala, is a volunteer who has attended all the recreation commission meetings in Nantahala and

will do a fine job," said Simpson. As far as Highlands goes, Simpson said, "There isn't another person who knows as much about Highlands recreation as Allan Bryson. As previous county commissioner, he was responsible for the county projects up there and will serve well."

Highlands Town Administrator Richard Betz said he doesn't know if the current Highlands Recreation Committee will continue without the county representative but said there's no reason why there can't be a local recreation committee.

Currently, Highlands Town Board members Amy Patterson and Dennis DeWolf serve on the committee with Highlands Recreation Director Selwyn Chalker.

Lines of demarcation concerning recreation in Highlands as it applies to the county aren't clear at this time.

In the proposed Macon County 2007-2008 budget, funding for recreation in Highlands allows for either the continued \$500,000 through a contract between the county and Highlands, or a merger into the countywide comprehensive program recommended last year.

Meanwhile, Highlands has yet to receive the promised \$500,000 for 2006-2007 fiscal year.

...

With the recent resignation of Carolyn Patton from the Library Board of Trustees, Highlander Cynthia Trevathan, who expressed written interest, was appointed. Her term will expire February 28, 2009. — **KL**

POWR committee hears good news

The scope of the newly named POWR committee which is addressing affordable housing for the working people of Highlands has changed.

At the July 13 meeting, members realized that the end-product may be accomplished through a blending scenario – the blending of funding, builders and end-users.

Input from Dean Edwards, development manager and vice president of development of the affordable housing component of Crosland Developers, clarified many issues for the committee concerning viable funding, management and occupants.

He said for Highlands, like Davidson, N.C., where his company recently completed three projects to house both working citizens and seniors, a "blended" approach was key because it doesn't fit a "cookie cutter" scenario.

"You may have to blend incomes and occupants in this project to qualify for Federal Tax Credits," he said. "For instance, instead of a person qualifying for the straight 60% of the median income of \$30,000 a year scenario, maybe a market study may verify that 80% or even 100% of the median income would be necessary and you may need to include more of the population in Highlands."

Committee member Pat Boyd said there are lots of seniors in Highlands who aren't destitute but who can't afford to live at Chestnut Hill Retirement Community yet could be self-sufficient in a one-bedroom apartment.

In the end, the project could include people from various income levels – as long as they meet the criteria set forth – based on a percentage of base median income.

Federal Tax Credits can attract investors who put money into the project which reduces the debt the project has to carry, thereby reducing the rent. Financing through a Division of Community Assistance Small Cities Block Grant and a low-interest subsidized loan may also be an answer.

A senior housing project for the United Methodist Church in Lake Junaluska was realized by blending a \$500,000 grant with a \$600,000 2% subsidized loan.

A blending of developers may also be necessary to make a small project – 24-48 units – viable for his company which typically deals with 100-unit projects. He said a local developer could work with Crosland with a capped profit defined from the beginning. Typically, Crosland can build a unit in a complex for about \$106,000. He said that's the only way to keep the rents low.

• See POWR page 35

• A REVIEW •

"Laughter on the Twenty-third Floor"

The story is simple: all week a group of writers basically eat, sleep and create together to produce funny, sophisticated dialogue for a one-man comedy show.

As can be expected, when people spend that much time together they tend to get loopy, act crazy, with words and actions becoming a little risky, but mostly funny.

That's what happens during the current production at the Playhouse, "Laughter on the Twenty-Third Floor."

Neil Simon wrote the play to show what it's like to be a TV writer – with many situations mimicking what he experienced himself.

If you like fast-paced, sophisticated, contemporary humor and understand that banter oftentimes gets dicey, you'll enjoy "Laughter."

The faces are familiar – most on stage have either performed in other performances at the Playhouse or were just seen in "Kiss Me, Kate" – but the characters and the place is far removed from Padua, Italy.

The time is the 1950s at the twilight of one-man, stand-up TV show where a team of writers write for one man whose personality and idiosyncrasies rule the day and their livelihood. The writers are constantly vying for their boss's attention and accolades – not far removed from life in corporate America in any era.

Patrick Rose and Patrick Young, who stole many a scene as the gangsters in "Kate," are formidable, but so is everyone else in the cast – each holding their own.

Jeremy Miller plays a great "Max Prince" holding a crazy court while his needs and failings dominate the lives of his writers.

As can be expected the only woman writer is forced to hold her own, exemplifying a time when women didn't work and certainly not in an all male hot-bed. But Carol, played by Danielle Miller, banters with the best of them in the three-ring circus atmosphere where something is always going on and someone is always saying something to someone else.

The cast melded well with timing on track – as if they have been congregating to write and banter on the 23rd floor on 57th Street in New York City for ever.

Some may find *some* of the humor crude, *some* of the language somewhat base, but I've seen and heard much worse during a PG-13 movie.

"Laughter on the Twenty-Third Floor" is a nice breather between musical productions slated at the Playhouse. Go see it. It's fun and the talent shines through.

For ticket information call the box office at 526-2695 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

– **Kim Lewicki**

... BRUGGER continued from page 7

which improved mental capacity—because waves of Homo Sapiens began moving out of Africa and within a couple of thousand years they had reached as far as Australia.

50,000 years just doesn't seem that long ago, really. 10,000 years ago was the beginning of agriculture and civilization. I just read an article about a study of people's ability to read strangers' facial expressions. What struck me was that people of all cultures recognize the same six basic emotions. We are truly one big human family.

I have been feeling closer to the six billion cousins I share this planet with since I first read about this project. So I

was surprised to find that not everyone shares my family sentiments. As of December 2006, almost every federally recognized tribe in North America has declined to take part in the study. "What the scientists are trying to prove is that we're the same as the Pilgrims except we came over several thousand years before," said Maurice Foxx, chairman of the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs and a member of the Mashpee

Wampanoag. Exactly.

If you'd like to read more about this, visit the website at nationalgeographic.com/genographic. They have a detailed interactive map, descriptions of the DNA science involved, and you can participate in the study. For \$100 you can purchase a DNA testing kit and you will learn which markers you have and then can trace your ancestors' journey out of Africa.

Recently honored...



Min Swanson attended her 50th nursing reunion anniversary of her graduation from Swedish Hospital School of Nursing in Minneapolis, MN. While there, she received the Distinguished Alumnae Award at the Alumnae Association banquet where she was emcee for her class part of the program. Min's husband Don, writes the weekly "Conservative POV" column for Highlands' Newspaper.



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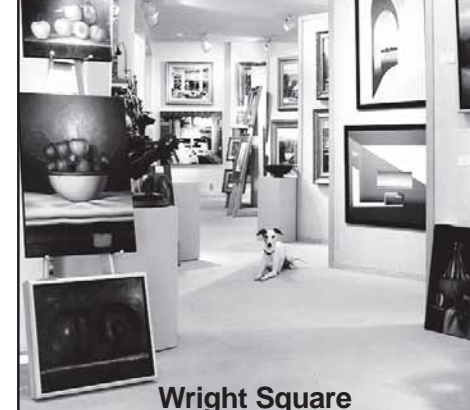


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Mountain Top Rotary has new president



On Friday, July 6, Nicholas Bazan began his term as the sixth President of the Rotary Club of Highlands-Mountaintop. Bazan said he is "very honored to be taking over as President and is looking forward to a great year." Bazan, on the left, presented outgoing President Jim Mullen with a plaque recognizing his dedication to serving the community and his excellent Rotary leadership over the past year. Highlands Mountaintop Rotary meets every Wednesday at 7:30 am at the Highlands Conference Center.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Community Foundation grant aids Bascom-Louise Fine Art Center

Thanks to a recent grant from the Highlands Community Foundation and The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina (CFWNC), The Fine Art Center/Bascom-Louise Gallery has needed funds for new management. The CFWNC granted the center \$25,000 toward the hiring of its new director of marketing and administration. The hiring is part of the center's transition to its new major, multipurpose visual art center, which will be complete in summer 2008.

Because of the grant, the center was able to hire Jessica Connor for the position. Connor started in late April and manages all major business functions for the nonprofit, including marketing, communications, fundraising and special events.

According to Bob Fisher, chairman of the Bascom-Louise, "This grant helps us fund Jessica's position during her start-up phase, while she is getting started. Jessica is a real 'go getter' who will pay her own way once she gets established."

The Highlands Community Foundation manages an endowment created by local people, and it is dedicated to supporting the charitable needs of our community. The Highlands Community Foundation is an affiliate of the CFWNC, a nonprofit organization that serves the 18-county mountain region by professionally managing charitable funds created by individuals and families, and by using those funds to make grants to local nonprofit organizations.

'Make a Wish Foundation' concert for kids is July 28

The Great Imponderables, a professional events band, has teamed up with an organization that helps grant the wish of kids with life threatening illnesses. They will be having a special concert on July 28, 2007 to raise money for kids in Western North Carolina. The event will be outdoors on the ski slopes of Sapphire Valley, just 3 miles from Cashiers. Tickets are available for a contribution of \$10 and all proceeds from this event will benefit kids in Macon, Jackson, and Transylvania counties.

The purpose of the event is to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy. "We want families to know what is available for them" say event organizers, "and this is a great way to get the word out while having a great time and benefiting others."

The Great Imponderables have been performing for many country clubs, weddings, and special fund raisers. They have performed for three relief efforts for Katrina victims with crowds nearing 4,000 people. Last May, in Knoxville, they brought in 1,800 spectators willing to stand in a pouring rain to listen to the band. They have performed at Pack Place, Asheville Civic Center, Charlotte, and are scheduled for Grove Park Inn later this summer.

"This is a great opportunity for us," said one of the band members, a Cashiers resident. "Not often do we have an

opportunity to participate in our local communities for such an important event. I know some of the stories of these kids and their families. It brings each of us personal joy to be able to do something for them. We hope that many will attend since this is a family event." Organizers are hoping to have near 1,000 individuals for this event and are asking everyone to help spread the word. E-mail or call your friends and enjoy a great evening of live music while helping the local kids.

The band will be playing music from Elvis to Snow Patrol, Otis Redding to Green Day, and many others. "We have something for people of all ages," say band members. "Basically, we play music where people can dance and have a good time. Nothing hard and no screaming, just good music that everyone enjoys." "From funk to swing and everything in between" is the tag line of the band.

Spectators can bring a chair, blanket, food, or whatever they like to stretch out on the hill to enjoy the concert. They will also have the opportunity to win an ATV that will be presented that evening.

For more information about the band, you can visit their web site at www.thegreatimponderables.com

For ticket and event information, call the Sapphire Valley Community Center at 828-743-7663.



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... MULLEN continued from page 11

occupations but the Town board felt they should be dealt with separately. Home based occupations at the present time are not allowed in Residential One areas within the town of Highlands although many exist and we must take up this issue at sometime in the near future. One of the big issues over the last year and a half in making zoning decision in the ETJ area has been home-based businesses. This now has been resolved which I am sure will make many people who live in the ETJ areas happy.

How about Bill Nellis!! The story of a man taking the ball and running with it. Bridal Veil Falls has looked bad for almost four years now with that huge boulder which fell from the top of the falls adjacent to the gorge road to Franklin. This past Thursday Mr. Nellis, a local developer, took the matter into his own hands, dynamited the 150-ton rock and hauled it away in pieces. We thank Bill for doing that for the community to bring back the

looks of the beautiful falls and allow once again people to drive and walk under the falls. Bill Nellis speaks positively by his actions.



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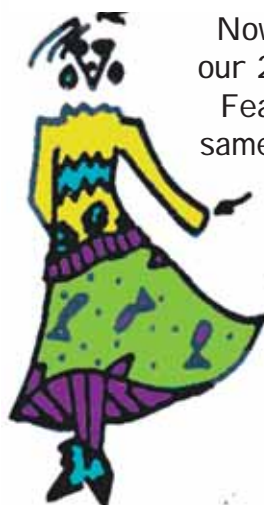
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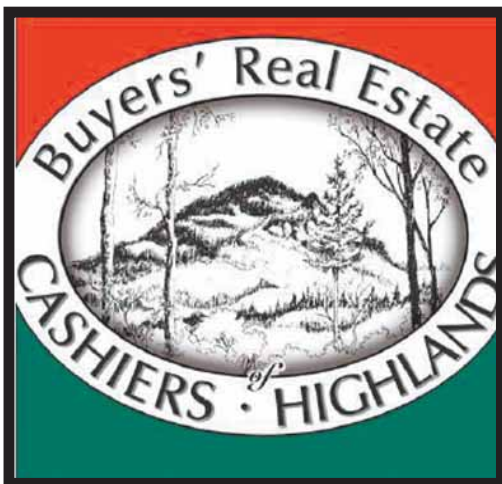
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Commissioners impose 8-month moratorium on RV park development in county's watershed and floodplain areas

A proposed 185-site, high-end, recreational vehicle park on 47.9 acres of the former Parker Meadows Golf Course along the Cartoogechaye Creek in Franklin has adjacent landowners and landowners up- and down-creek up in arms.

During an impassioned public hearing at the July 16 Macon County Commission meeting, several residents – both natives and transplants – cited numerous public safety and health-related reasons against the proposed development.

Recent catastrophes along Peek's Creek and the subsequent updating of the 1978 flood plain map caused commissioners to take heed of concerns and propose an 11-month moratorium on RV park development in watershed and floodplain areas.

Since the project lies in Franklin's public water supply watershed, the Town of Franklin is concerned. Franklin Town Administrator Mike Decker presented a letter in favor of the moratorium.

"Cartoogechaye Creek is the town's sole source of drinking water and serves more than 8,600 customers both inside and outside the corporate limits...the planned RV park will be approximately 1.6 miles above the town's raw water intake, which raises a number of potential issues with regard to protection of our water supply," stated the letter. Decker said the town is not trying to stop development, just exercising vigilance with regard to protecting its water source.

Proponents of the moratorium presented slides of the area severely flooded after heavy rain events and recent hurricanes. Slides also showed the Peek's Creek area where RVs and mobile homes were seen tippy-turvy, submerged and floating down the creek.

"The force of these rivers and creeks is tremendous," said Ben Utley. "And this area floods from the Cullasaja River to Maxwell Farm Road with 23%-25% of the proposed development in the floodplain."

Proponents said if the RVs are connected to six-inch sewage lines as proposed and they break loose during a flood, the creek and subsequently Franklin's water supply could be contaminated. Utley and others also said hundreds of gallons of diesel fuel and other contaminants could end up in the creek, as well.

Spokesman for the developer, Monty Beck with the law firm Coward, Hicks and Siler, said his client isn't against a moratorium set for a "reasonable" time but thought 11 months was too long. He also

said unlike traditional homes, RVs can be moved if a storm is coming which might prevent disasters witnessed during Peek's Creek.

Jack Bright, the last to speak, and a Peek's Creek survivor, gave a harrowing description of what happened to him and his wife when Peek's Creek rose.

"No one can move as fast as a river," he said. "And yes, RVs can be moved but only if someone is there to move them. Nothing can change as fast as a river. We got out, but just barely. In 12 minutes the water rose from my shins to my chest. No one has said anything about the safety of the RV owners and that's an issue, too. Allowing an RV park in the floodplain is stupid, just plain stupid," he said.

County commissioners initially proposed the moratorium for 11 months in hopes of receiving the updated flood plain map promised by the state by then.

But County Planner Stacy Guffey said he's heard conflicting stories as to its arrival date. "I've heard sometime this year and sometime next year," he said.

Meanwhile the Macon County Watershed Council is working on an ordinance which would prohibit construction below three-feet of the baseline elevation of a water body -- the high water mark -- but it hasn't been adopted, yet.

If the county can't depend on the state's updated floodplain map, commissioners would likely depend on its own watershed ordinance to help regulate development in flood prone areas.

Citing the need for time to consider revisions to the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and the Watershed Protection Ordinance to protect property and life in the floodplain and to protect the drinking water supply in the county's watersheds, the moratorium on RV park development in watershed and floodplain areas was set for eight months -- effective July 16, 2007 through March 16, 2008.

During the moratorium, the county staff will study the potential impact of RV park development in the watershed and floodplain areas; and within the next six months will prepare recommendations and revisions to its ordinance and submit them for consideration to the Macon County Watershed Council and the Watershed Review Board. Finally, two months prior to expiration of the moratorium, proposed revisions will be taken to the Board of Commissioners.

– Kim Lewicki

• STATE & FEDERAL POLITICS •

The week that was

By Senator John Snow
50th Senate District of NC

Update From Raleigh - July 13, 2007
All of last week the issue of relieving the counties of Medicaid sat on the side of the table and smoldered and smoldered and then finally began to cool off a bit. While it sat there we have been able to have some extremely productive discussions about the rest of the budget. Ideas are being discussed and debated frankly, agency budget requests are getting whittled down to their final parts, and in general the things you would expect to happen during a budget negotiation are happening at a speed that is respectful of the fact that we are approaching a deadline at the end of the month - which is when the continuing resolution that we passed at the end of last month expires.

Around Wednesday of this week we finally pulled out the tongs and decided that the Medicaid issue had cooled enough to begin discussing it again. Within moments of picking up the Medicaid issue the conversation got hotter than your steering wheel in August and the entire conversation looked like it was about to fall apart until some of the members from our part of the State poured a pitcher of water on it

by figuring out a way to make the entire proposal work at a cost the State could afford. Part of the discussion about relieving the counties of a Medicaid burden has included a provision which would provide tax relief for low income earners with families through an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

The Federal Tax Code already allows for this type of credit, which reduces or eliminates the taxes that low income working people pay. Usually North Carolina's would tax code mirrors the federal one but at a reduced percentage. Unlike some welfare programs which encourage someone to stay at the house an EITC encourages work and is an interesting tax credit in the fact that nationally it receives bi-partisan support in both the federal legislature and state legislatures. In fact President Reagan was a tremendous champion of the EITC during his two terms and the democratically controlled Congress at the time fully supported his EITC plans. Normally the EITC is a credit that goes against the payroll taxes of low income earners. The plan that the Senate passed would help around 440,000 people in North Carolina.

• See POLITICS page 20

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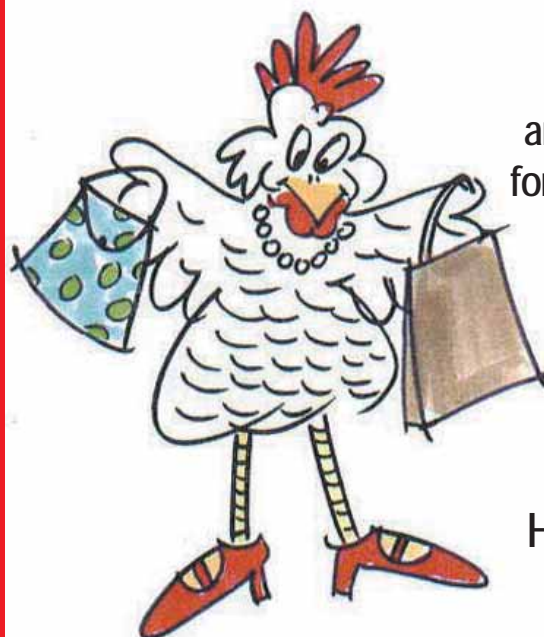
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Ritchie Watts at The Hen House

Ritchie Watts of Jackson, Mississippi returns for a visit and demonstration at the Hen House Friday, July 27th and Saturday, July 28th. His pottery is featured and is very popular in the Highlands area.

At the heart of his work is his love of clay. Color, design and technique are the sciences that mold his clay into functional art which is then transformed into a unique, durable and practical line of dinnerware.

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Ritchie Watts will be appearing at the Hen House at 488 E. Main Street in Highlands on July 27th and 28th, 11 a.m to 6 p.m. Plan to stop by during his visit to discover for yourself how his love for clay and color can transform your personal dining experience. More information can be obtained from The Hen House by calling (828) 787-2473.



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Jacuzzis

... POLITICS continued from page 19

Of the various pieces of legislation that passed the Senate this week this is one of the most significant things that the Senate has done this session. With the Medicaid relief plan now out of the Senate it is up to the House to take up this issue. I think that the plan is fair, something that will have a positive impact on people's lives, and will give our counties the money they need to address the growth they are experiencing. Perhaps I'll have something to tell you about concerning House action next week.

This Week - Locked Out, Thirsty, Without a Roof, Alone on a Hill, and Wanting to Get In

Locked Out

For those of you who have tried to purchase a mobile home lately you've probably run into a problem doing so - especially if you have a driver's license that is not from North Carolina. Last week the legislature passed and the Governor signed Senate Bill 830 which amongst other things took away the requirement that Social Security numbers be provided to register a car and replaced it with a North Carolina drivers license or ID card. State Government in general is trying to move away from using social security numbers because of concerns about identity theft. The new requirement didn't take into account people such as military, out-of-state students, non-residents, and people who just moved here who may own or are in the process of purchasing a second home or a new car in North Carolina. Obviously this is a mistake. This week the legislature passed and on Friday the Governor signed Senate Bill 1350 which corrects this error. So if you have a friend in another State who is thinking about purchasing a new car or mobile home encourage them to come and purchase one here in North Carolina.

Thirsty

There is bad news this week from the State's Climatologist. Their office is estimating that drought-related agricultural losses this year could match or exceed those in 2002. Then, at the tail-end of four dry years, the state's combined agricultural losses from drought were about \$398 million, according to N.C. Department of Agriculture estimates. This year's drought has yet to deplete reservoirs that supply public drinking water, but it has hit farmers particularly hard during their peak growing season. About a fifth or more of the state's soybean, cotton and potato crops are in "poor" or "very poor" condition, according to N.C. Department of Agriculture statistics. About a third of the state's corn and burley tobacco is similarly hurting. And about half of the state's pastures are in bad shape. So if you can save some water.

Without a Roof

Earlier this year I told you that one of the key things that I planned to work on was getting a more equitable distribution system for lottery proceeds that go towards school construction. The current system

essentially provides two pots of money. One pot contains 65% of the construction allocated lottery proceeds and the other pot contains the remaining 35%. The 65% pot is allocated to every school district based on the number of children in the classroom. The 35% pot is allocated to a school district only if that school district's effective tax rate is higher than the state's average effective tax rate. Under this current plan 49 counties never see that additional 35% funding despite the fact that many of those 49 counties have school districts which realizing school growth that is much higher than many of the counties that do receive the additional 35%. Moreover, the current formula only allows access to the second 35% pot if county commissioners raise property tax rates to a level which brings their rate to level that is above the State rate. Anybody who has lived in our district for more than half an hour knows that we cannot afford to have property taxes any higher than they currently are.

I am happy to report that we took a very big step forward this week in getting a plan that is more equitable passed into law. The proposal, which allocates lottery proceeds based on the number of children in the classroom, the growth of the school, and low wealth passed both a House committee and the full House with very competitive vote margins. Despite the margins the bill did pass. I was happy to work with Rep. Bruce Goforth from Asheville in developing the bill. The reason we did this in the House is that Rep. Goforth had introduced a measure adjusting the formula earlier in the session which was unsuccessful but the membership of the House was familiar with the concept which is part of the reason that the measure went through committee and the full House in less than 48 hours. This bill is now headed over to the Senate and as of this writing it has not yet been assigned to committee. Based on some of our early counting it looks like this bill will be much more difficult to pass in the Senate. We expect the margins to be much slimmer but we hope that members will be persuaded to expunge a policy which essentially puts every county west of Charlotte at a disadvantage and punishes many of the state's fastest growing counties such as Wake which will have the largest school system in the state by September and New Hanover which has a growth rate above 10% above 10%.

Wanting to Get in

One of the really neat places in our district is the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute located near Rosman. The site was built by the Federal Government during the early days of the nation's space program, NASA recognized the intrinsic value of the location when it was conducting a worldwide search for sites to host its network of satellite tracking and data collection stations. At the current PARI site in 1962, NASA built the Rosman Research Station to be the primary east coast facility for track-

•See POLITICS page 21

... POLITICS continued from page 20

ing satellites and monitoring manned space flights. It was especially helpful to track Russian satellites during the Cold War. In 1981, the Rosman Research Station was transferred to the Department of Defense (DOD) and used for satellite data collection. At its peak, about 350 people were employed at the Rosman facility. In January 1999, the site was acquired through private funds and gifted to the foundation. The Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute was born: a 200-acre infant with a proud heritage, untapped potential and vast needs.

PARI is now a first class museum and learning station for both kids and adults which allows its visitors to see into the far reaches of space. If you have some time this summer it really is worth the trip to Rosman to take in all they have to offer. You

can find directions at their website <http://www.pari.edu> <<http://www.pari.edu/>> . The General Assembly supports museums like PARI through the grassroots sciences museum collaborative. These museums and their work are designed to give kids a better appreciation and understanding of science in all of its various forms. For the last few years PARI has tried to become a member of this network to help expand the learning opportunities that they have there. I have been working with them this year and this week a bill that would allow for them to become a member passed a Senate appropriations committee. I am hopeful that we can get this museum into the collaborative and expand the learning opportunities that kids from across this state can have through PARI.

Freeing America from foreign oil dependency

By Congressman Heath Shuler

Last week the House of Representatives took up legislation to change our nation's course is Iraq, the Responsible Redeployment from Iraq Act, H.R. 2956.

For four years the men and women of our Armed Forces have performed in Iraq. They have carried out every military mission put before them with unsurpassed professionalism, courage, and success. Now, after spending four years in the middle of an ever-deteriorating sectarian conflict, we must allow our Armed Forces to focus on the military missions for which they are trained. We can and will continue the fighting terrorists that threaten America wherever they exist. I will always vote to provide our troops with the funding they need to protect themselves and carry out their missions, but I cannot and will not allow America's men and women to police the civil war that is being waged in Iraq.

After waiting for four years to see real progress made in the stabilization of post-war Iraq and for the Iraqi government to stand up and take ownership of its country, the time has come for a truly new and different course. Last week saw the release the Initial Benchmark Assessment Report required by the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007. The report lists 18 benchmarks for the stabilization and long-term security of Iraq. It states that the Iraqi government has made unsatisfactory progress on many of the major benchmarks including eliminating militia control of local security, increasing the number of Iraqi Security Forces units capable of operating independently, and establishing a date for provincial elections. Additionally, the report states that the "pre-requisites" for disarming the militias in Iraq are not even present.

We have heard repeatedly from numerous military commanders that the President's military-only solution to continuing violence in Iraq is not the proper course of action. General David Petraeus, commander of American forces in Iraq, has himself

said, "There is no military solution to a problem like that in Iraq, to the insurgency of Iraq." We need a new course and H.R. 2956 provides the opportunity for that new course.

This bill requires that a responsible redeployment of American forces begin within 120 days from its enactment and be transitioned to a limited presence by April 1, 2008. The bill also requires that the President submit to Congress a comprehensive

• See POLITICS page 34

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wesley Wofford & Summit One Gallery host the Studio Dinner Series; Thursday, July 26.



Sculptor Wesley Wofford amidst some of his creations.

Come enjoy a “Mediterranean Odyssey;” a romantic evening of figurative sculpture, candles, flowers, and Mediterranean cuisine set in the sculptor’s studio. Catered by Hovaness Kabbenjjan of Hovan Gourmet, Atlanta with wines paired by Scott Roddy of Highlands Wine and Cheese Shoppe. A portion of the proceeds of all art sales will be donated to Sculpture on the Green at Cashiers’ Village Green.

Wesley grew up in a rural southern town in Georgia and displayed an artistic talent at an early age. In 1990, he entered the Valdosta State University BFA Program on a competitive art scholarship and immersed himself in developing his talents. Wesley began to feel frustrated with his college direction and decided to leave with his Associate Degree and head for Hollywood, CA.

Infatuated with hyper-realism, Wesley pursued work in the motion picture industry creating realistic people, characters, and animals. His obsession with advanced translucent silicones led him to develop his own formulas and techniques which in turn catapulted him to the forefront of the makeup effects industry.

Wesley has worked on over 45 motion pictures and various television shows. His credits include A Beautiful Mind, Hannibal, Batman and Robin, The

Rock, and Collateral. He has personally worked with such actors as Tom Cruise, Robin Williams, Julia Roberts, Will Smith, Chow Yun-Fat, and Russell Crowe. He has been featured in numerous articles and has received many awards, including an Emmy and an Academy Award.

Wesley eventually became dissatisfied with the medium. “My endeavors in the motion picture industry were rooted in the pursuit of sculpture but became about everything else. I had to flee to preserve my artistic sanity, which was pretty drastic considering I was at the height of my industry.” Wesley moved into the mountains of North Carolina with his wife and two children to “converse with my muse on a more intimate level.”

His sculpture studio is a 2,300 sq. ft. barn that is nestled with his home on a mountaintop. He is still involved in the motion picture industry from time to time. “I succumb if the project speaks to me and re-ignites the passion for the medium.” Otherwise, his energy is focused on “rediscovering my figurative roots and embracing my muse.”

For more information please call: Summit One Gallery 828.526.2673 email: summitonegallery@veriozn.net www.summitonegallery.com Summit One Gallery is located in “The Galleries” on South Second Street, Highlands.



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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Sims Valley developers keep family memories alive



A centuries-old family returns to the mountain they call home

For many of us, remembering a time when we sat on a grandparent's lap and heard stories from the "old days" is not that difficult. But what about a visit with a great-grandparent? Or, for that matter, a great-great-grandparent?

For the Sims family, they had only to name a date to meet up with generations of family members. And it's not just memories and stories they're concerned with keeping alive, it's also the North Carolina

mountain they call home.

So, just who are the Sims? They are a North Carolina mountain family that dates back to the 1800s. The original homesteaders, Willis and Laura, raised their six children in a mountain valley now named after them. The family made their livelihood raising and herding cattle and goats.

The hand-hewn homestead that this couple built has been restored to its natu-

•See BUSINESS NEWS page 31

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

True Faith



Rev. Sam Forrester
Whiteside Presbyterian
Church

There is so much talk about faith today. We are told faith is the cure to all our problems, it is some type of force that we can manipulate God with and get whatever we want from Him. All we have to do is learn how to properly use it.

If you watched the movies in the two Star Wars trilogies you saw a very good presentation of this idea of faith. The "Force" was faith and it was necessary that Anikan and Luke learn how to use the force if they were to overcome their enemies. This was very much along the lines of taking a blind leap and trusting that your "faith" would save you.

This is the popular concept of faith today. It is not a Biblical faith but a humanistic or man-centered faith. Man is seen as the final authority over his own life, by how well, he can handle the "force" of faith.

The faith I read about in the Bible is much different. It is true that man needs faith, God created him with that need. The faith that man needs is faith in the true and living God. Hebrews 11:6 tells us, "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

Take the account of the man Enoch. In the Old Testament, Genesis 5:24, we are told, "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him." The New Testament adds to this in Hebrews 11:5, "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

Here is the proper understanding of faith, First, it must be directed toward someone, it must have an object. Second, it must believe something about the one it is directed toward. Enoch directed his faith toward God and believed that God was and that God would reward obedience.

Enoch was surely rewarded for his trust in God. This was no blind leap into the unknown. Enoch had lived and trusted God for a long time and God had never let him down. Neither will God let those today down who place their trust in the One He has sent to provide salvation. Place your faith in Jesus Christ and God will be pleased with you and will reward you with eternal life, just as he did Enoch.

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

Sky Valley, Georgia
The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling, Pastor
Church: 706-746-2999

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Rev. Cass Daly • Office – 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion – 11 a.m.
(Highlands Community Center on U.S. 64 next to the
ballfield in Highlands)

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

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

at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

3rd & Spring Streets
Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday testimony meeting 7 p.m.

Study room open Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

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

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan – Rector: 526-2968

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

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

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

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

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

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

4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

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

10:30 A.M. Daughters of the King

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

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977

Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.

(nursery provided)

Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.

Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children's
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30
p.m.;

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

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

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

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

Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers

Choir – 7

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

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

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.;

5 p.m. Youth Group

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

studies; 6:15 – Adult choir

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

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell

2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion – 10:30

LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD

Services at the Church in the Wildwood in Horse
Cove. Sundays at 7 p.m. through Labor Day. Dress is
casual. Old fashioned hymn-sing.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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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.

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

(through last Saturday of October)

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

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Pilates classes with Sandi Trevathan on Level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic, Mon. and Wed. at 4 p.m. \$10 per class.

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

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

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

7663.

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

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

- 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. Contact Helen Moore (Hospice) 526-0727 or Martha Porter (Chaplain at HCH) at 787-1463.

First Mondays

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

Every Monday

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

Every Tuesday

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

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

- Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. at Com-

Understanding the Black Bear July 25



On Wednesday, July 25 renowned nature photographer, Bill Lea, will present "Understanding the Black Bear," a free lecture, as part of the Village Nature Series in Cashiers. Capturing intimate images of wildlife, scenery, wildflowers, and a variety of other natural subjects in "just the right light" has long been the trademark of Bill's photography. He may best be known for his artistic documentation of deer and bear behavior, the various moods of the Great Smoky Mountains, and southern ecosystems. Photographing in the Smokies since 1975 has afforded this photographer limitless opportunities to observe and record the flora, fauna, and scenery of the region.

More than 6,000 of Bill's photos have been presented in an array of books, calendars, magazines, advertisements and other publications. His work has appeared in *Audubon Calendars*, *Defenders of Wildlife*, *Exploring the Smokies*, *National Geographic* books, *Nature Conservancy*, *National Wildlife*, and many others. When asked what he would like most to achieve through his photography, Bill replies, "I hope my images will promote a better understanding and appreciation for wildlife, the natural world, and most of all, our Creator."

The Village Nature Series has been made possible by a partnership between The Village Green and Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. Lectures will take place monthly through September at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers at 6:30 p.m. An invitation is extended to all. Catered refreshments will be served following the lecture. Future speakers will include Dr. Gary Wein, Executive Director of Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust who will introduce the audience to Geographic Information Systems on August 22 and Dr. James Costa, Executive Director of the Highlands Biological Station who will talk about "Insects of the Night" followed by an excursion for identifying the insects on September 26. Mark your calendars for these events!

munity Bible Church. Summer series on 1 & 2 Peter. All women are invited

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

Tuesdays and Thursdays

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

Every Wednesday

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

Every Third Wednesday

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

Every Thursday

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

- Rotary Bingo 6:30 8:30 pm at the Highlands Community Center. Open to all ages. Price is \$1 per card per game.

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

Every Saturday in July

- Courtenay Collins and Robert Ray's "Jukebox Journey at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center will be "hoppin,' boppin' and rocking" every Saturday evening at 5 and 8 p.m.

Every Saturday

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

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

Through Sunday, July 22

- The Highlands Playhouse, "Laughter on the Twenty-Third Floor." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the Box office at 526-2695 for ticket information.

Through Tuesday, July 31

- At Summit One Gallery at its new location on South Second Street and Helen's Barn Ave., exhibit "Hudson River Valley School Revisited" featuring artist Ron Williams.

Through Tuesday, Aug. 14

- Summer Art Camp is held at Bascom-Louise Gallery. To register, call 526-4949.

Thursday, July 19

- 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: Mediterranean Odyssey at Artist Wesley Wofford's at 6 p.m. Mediterranean cuisine catered by Hovaness Kabben-

Summer Colors Fine Art Show July 21-22



Children will find plenty of creative fun in the Children's Room during the Art League of Highlands Summer Colors Fine Art Show on July 21 and 22. The Recreation Park gymnasium will be packed with over 50 artists, some of whom will be demonstrating their techniques. Hours are 10 a.m. -5 p.m., admission is free and there are door prizes for all ages.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

jian Hovan Gourmet from Atlanta, wines by Highlands Wine and Cheese, part of art sales to benefit the Village Green Sculpture Park in Cashiers. Call Summit One Gallery for reservations at 526-2673.

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22

- Trunk Show at Acorn's on Main Street featuring Nina McLemore Fashions.

Friday, July 20

- Live Auction and Sale at the Scaly Mountain Community Center, corner of Buck Knob Road and NC Highway 106 on Friday, July 20 at 6 p.m..

- "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" Midnight Party at Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street.

Friday & Saturday, July 20-21

- The Instant Theatre Company presents "Art" with Stray Productions, from Athens, Ga. For reservations call the box office at 828-342-9197. Seating is limited.

- Trunk Show at Acorn's on Main Street featuring Slane & Slane Jewelry.

- New and exciting programs will be featured at the 4th Annual Mountain Wildlife and Wilderness Days on July 20 and 21 at the Sapphire Valley Resort Community Center. There will be presentations which are stimulating, educational and entertaining. Call 743-7663 for additional information and schedule.

- Don't Count Your Chickens arts and craft show 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center. Wonderful garden accoutrements, fun functional linens, unique French pottery, folk art paintings, woodland rabbits, metal candle holders, cachepots and more.

Saturday, July 21

- A booksigning at Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street, author Melanie Sue Bowles' "Horses of Proud Spirit."

- At Jackson Madeleine, a Mela Wilson

Trunk Show, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 526-1504.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike, with an elevation change of 300 feet and a short car shuttle, to the upper Narrows of the Chattooga River. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 10 a.m. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes and bring water shoes, if you wish, to wade in the river. Drive 20 miles round trip. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904.

Saturday and Sunday, July 21-22

- The Art League of Highlands Summer Colors Fine Art Show at the Highlands Rec Park. Free admission. Door Prizes. (828) 526-2177

Sunday, July 22

- Kirkin of the Tartans at First Presbyterian Church on Main Street at the 11 a.m. worship service. Luncheon to follow with Dr. John V. Griffith, president of Presbyterian College as the guest speaker. Reservations requested if possible. Call 526-3175.

- At First Baptist Church, "Song Garden" recording artists, "Les Snyder and Sons of The Father" Christian singers will perform at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 526-4153.

Wednesday-Saturday, July 25-28

- The Instant Theatre Company presents "Art" by Stray Productions, from Athens, Ga. For reservations call the box office at 828-342-9197. Seating is limited and reservations are strongly suggested.

Wednesday, July 25

- The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village Nature Series presents, Bill Lea and "Understanding the Black Bear." Lectures begin at 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow. Presentation at the Albert-Carlton Library in Cashiers. FREE.

Thurs.-Sunday, July 26-Aug. 12

- The Highlands Playhouse, "My Way." Performances are Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and

Tour of Historic homes is journey through time on Aug. 4



The old Ravenel home "Playmore" is an "extra" on the Highlands Historical Society tour of homes Aug. 4.

The Annual Tour of Historic Homes, sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society, will be held Saturday, Aug. 4. This year's tour offers a glimpse into how several generations, who have all loved Highlands, have lived and vacationed in this special mountain retreat.

General admission of \$40 includes three unique homes in the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District. For an additional fee of \$40, this year's tour offers the rare opportunity for guests to see "Playmore," the home built by the Ravenel family in 1879. The Ravenels were one of the first families to summer in Highlands.

Acclaimed through the generations as Highland's finest summer house, Playmore has long been a landmark in the mountain landscape. Located at the north end of Wolf Ridge, the home offers a commanding view of Horse Cove Valley. In 1914, the J. Blanc Monroe

family purchased Playmore and summered there until the property was sold this year to Judy and Bennett Kight. Playmore is still very much in its original state, and the Kights are in the midst of lovingly restoring the home. No photography will be allowed inside the house.

The Tour will run from 10 a.m. with the last shuttle leaving at 3:30 p.m. from the parking lot at Highlands Civic Center (Rec Park). Tickets may be purchased at Country Club Properties, Cyrano's Bookstore, Macon Bank, Highlands Country Club, or at the Rec Park on the day of the tour. Funds raised by this event go to support the Historic Village, which is open each Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 pm. throughout the summer. For more information, visit the Historical Society's website, www.highlandshistory.com.

Fisher estate gardens on tour July 28



Tour the Fisher Estate gardens 9:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Saturday, July 28. Tickets are \$25 and benefit the Episcopal Church's Outreach Programs, available at the church. Call 526-2968 ext. 202 9-4 Mon.-Fri

Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Call the Box office at 526-2695 for ticket information.

Thursday, July 26

- Block Party on 4th Streeton the hill starting at 5 p.m. featuring all the shops on the hill and Hurricane Creek.

- The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will feature local guide, Jim Mincey, at its next meeting on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. Jim Mincey was born in Cullowhee and began fly fishing the Tuckaseegee River at age 6. He will share his expertise on the various headwaters of the Tuck as well as other local streams and rivers. In addition to guiding for

Brookings, Jim ties flies and builds custom fly rods. A raffle for the Orvis waders and boots will follow the speaker. Call 743-2078 for information.

- Paul Manos (Associate Professor, Duke University), The Hitchhiker's Guide to Biological Dependency: Stories about plant and fungal interactions in the Southern Appalachians at the Zahner Lecture Series at the Nature Center beginning at 7 p.m. It's free.

Fri. & Sat., July 27-28

- At the Hen House at the corner of Main and 5th streets, Potter Ritchie Watts of Good Earth Pottery. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

• See EVENTS page 28

Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin
524-2076

July 20-26

**I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU
CHUCK AND LARRY**

rated PG-13

Daily (2), (4:20), 7:15

HARRY POTTER AND

THE ORDER

OF THE PHOENIX

rated PG-13

Daily: (1:30), (4), 7, 9:30

TRANSFORMERS

rated PG-13

Daily: (1), (4:15), 7:15, 10

RATATOUILLE

rated G

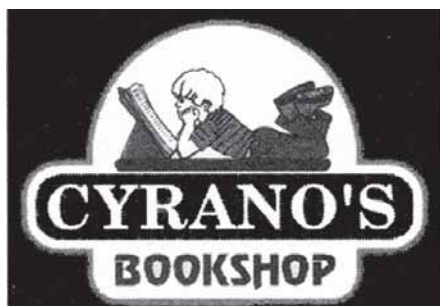
Daily (2:05), (4:10), 7:10, 9:15

LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD

rated PG-13

Daily: 9:20

The 2007 Ruby Cinemas
Free Summer Kids Movie Program shows
at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.



390 Main Street • 526-5488

Upcoming Book Signings

July 20

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
Midnight Party at Cyrano's

July 21

1-3 p.m.

Melanie Sue Bowles – Horses of
Proud Spirit

July 27

5-7 p.m.

M.C. Hensen – Unwritten

July 28

1-3 p.m.

Cassandra Key – Queen of Broken
Hearts

3-5 p.m.

Ron Cash – Tragedy in Tin Can
Holler

August 18

Ann Sharpteen – I Walk the Line

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Friday, July 27

- Mountain Faith — McMahan Family performing at the FREE Annual Mountain Music Concerts sponsored by the Just for You Relay for Life team. Clogging or square dancing runs from 6:45-7:30 p.m. Concerts run from 7:30-9 at Highlands School old gym at corner of Fifth Street and Pierson Drive. Weekly raffles and luminary sales are available. Funds raised support the American Cancer Society's "Just for You:" survivors, strugglers, succumbed, servants and spared.

Saturday, July 28

- Live Music and Country Supper at High Country Cafe from 5-9 p.m. \$12.95.

- Tour the Fisher Estate gardens 9:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and benefit the Episcopal Church's Outreach Programs, available at the church. Call 526-2968 ext. 202 9-4 Mon.-Fri.

- Kids Concert on the ski slopes at Sapphire Valley 7-9 p.m. Contribution of \$10 to raise money for kids in Western North Carolina with life-threatening illnesses. All money raised will go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation for WNC.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 5 mile moderate-to-strenuous hike to four waterfalls on the Horsepasture River with elevation changes of 300 feet and 500 feet. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 10 a.m. or at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10:20. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes and bring water shoes, if you wish, to wade in the river. Drive 30 miles round trip. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904.

Sunday, July 29

- The 11th Annual Cashiers Shape-Note Singing Sunday, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library. Singing from the reissue of the 1873 William Walker Christian Harmony song book. Loaner books available, so come and listen, or, better yet, join in with Christian Harmony singers from all over western North Carolina. For information, call Carl Blozan 743-1765.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3-mile hike on the Skitty Creek and Cliffside Lake loop trails. Meet in the Bi-Lo parking area at 2 p.m. (driving 40 miles round trip) or call the leader for an alternate meeting place if coming from Highlands or Cashiers. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. 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.

Friday, August 3

- Upward Bound — Bowman Family performing at the FREE Annual Mountain Music Concerts sponsored by the Just for You Relay for Life team. Clogging or square dancing runs from 6:45-7:30 p.m. Concerts run from 7:30-9 at Highlands School old gym at corner of Fifth Street and Pierson Drive. Weekly raffles and luminary sales are available. Funds raised support the American Cancer Society's "Just for You:" survivors, strugglers, succumbed, servants and spared.

Tuesday, July 31

- The Franklin Women's Connection features a "Health and Wellness" luncheon and program at the Community Building in Franklin from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dr. Carlos Vargas will share "His Advice for a Healthier You." Songs for the soul will be presented by Renee Vargas. The speaker Karen Barefoot from Greensboro, NC will share "The Future's So Bright, I Gotta Put On My Shades." Cost for the luncheon and program is \$10 inclusive. For reservations, call Susan at 369-7697 or Georgann at 369-9117 by noon on Thursday, July 26.

Saturday-Thursday, Aug. 4-23

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

Saturday, Aug. 4

- Artists Reception at Summit One Gallery on South Second Street and Helen's Barn Ave. from 5-7 p.m. for the exhibit "Go Figure."

- Tour the Fisher Estate gardens 9:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and benefit the Episcopal Church's Outreach Programs, available at the church. Call 526-2968 ext. 202 9-4 Mon.-Fri.

- Highlands Fire Department annual Open House featuring free fire truck rides, hot dog plates and drinks. Donations accepted.

Aug. 5

- Black-tie optional fundraiser for the Highlands Playhouse at the Main Street Inn on Sunday. The night will include a meal, cocktails, and entertainment from the cast of *My Way*. Only 50 tickets available, \$125 apiece, which include five raffle tickets for the Highlands Playhouse annual Theatre Lover's Tour, which is an 11-day tour of Sicily this year. Call 526-2695.

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 11-12

- Cashiers Quilters Guild quilt show at the Sapphire Valley Community Center east of Cashiers on U.S. 64. A quilt will be raffled off the last day of the show. Tickets available at Ingles in Cashiers and at Bryson's Food Store in Highlands.

Saturday, August 11

- Johnny Webb Band performing at High Country Café. Clogging or square dancing runs from 6:45-7:30 p.m. Concerts run from 7:30-9 at Highlands School old gym at corner of Fifth Street and Pierson Drive. Weekly raffles and luminary sales are available. Funds raised support the American Cancer Society's "Just for You:" survivors, strugglers, succumbed, servants and spared.

Wednesday, Aug. 15

- Loving Literacy Premier Gala. The Highlands Community Players will partner with the Literacy Council to present a special performance of "How the Other Half Loves." The gala begins with wine and hors d'oeuvres then moves to the hilarious comedy and ends with coffee and dessert and a special drawing. Tickets are \$125 per person and all proceeds benefit the Literacy Council. Call 526-9938 for ticket information.

Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 16-18

- The North Carolina Premier of "My Secret

Weapon" by Carol Caldwell is at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater. For reservations and tickets call 828-342-9197.

Thurs.-Sun. Aug. 16-19

- How the Other Half Loves, will be held at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center (PAC), Chestnut Street, Highlands. Performanc-

H-C Chamber music festival continues July 20 & 21



**Valerie von
Pechy Whitcup**



**Bertrand
Giraud**

The third week of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival gets underway Friday at 7 p.m., July 20 in Highlands and Saturday at 5 p.m., July 21 in Cashiers and marks the return of Bertrand Giraud, the acclaimed French pianist.

Joining Mr. Giraud will be the Festival Woodwind Quintet (Brice Andrus, horn; Laura Ardan, clarinet; Russ deLuna, oboe; William Ludwig, bassoon; Christina Smith, flute); and Richard Prior, narrator. They will perform a program of Reicha, Poulenc, and Thuille. Mr. Giraud and Mr. Prior will team up in Poulenc's delightful *Babar the Elephant* with story by de Brunhoff.

Sunday at 5 p.m., July 22 in Highlands and Monday at 7 p.m., July 23 in Cashiers will once again feature Bertrand Giraud on piano; Brice Andrus, horn; Laura Ardan, clarinet; Russ deLuna, oboe; William Ludwig, bassoon. They will be joined by Valerie von Pechy Whitcup on harp who will play one of her own compositions *Flight of Fancy for Harp, Oboe and Bassoon*. Also on the program will be the Mozart *Quintet for Piano and Winds* (about which Mozart wrote to his father "For my part, I consider it the best thing that I have written as yet in all my life. It has met with extraordinary success."), Poulenc's *Sonata for Clarinet and Piano* (commissioned by Benny Goodman who was joined by Leonard Bernstein at the piano for its world premiere), and Schumann's *Adagio and Allegro for French Horn and Piano*.

For more information or tickets, please call 828.526.9060 or check out our website at h-cmusicfestival.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Stray Productions 'Art' at ITC Fri. & Sat.



"Art" is at ITC Friday and Saturday of this week and Wednesday through Saturday of next week.

Tony Award Winning Play 'ART' opens Friday July 20 at 8 p.m.

'Art' by Yasmina Reza opens Friday July 20th at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. Produced by Stray Productions

from Athens, GA., this highly acclaimed, award winning play will run July 20-21 and 25-28.

'Art' has dazzled and delighted audiences in New York, London and Paris, and has been performed in over twenty languages world wide. It won the 1996 Oliver Award for Best Comedy and the 1998 Tony Award for Best Play. In its outstanding reviews it has been

described variously as "wildly funny," "sophisticated, stylish, stimulating and moving." How much would you pay for a white painting? Would it matter who the painter was? Would it be art? These are just some of the questions that three old friends struggle with when one of them buys 'Art' in Yasmina Reza's hilarious play.

For reservations call the box office at 828-342-9197. Curtain time 8 p.m. Seating is limited and early reservations are strongly suggested.

The ITC's Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street, Highlands www.instanttheatre.org

es will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Thurs., Aug. 16-Sun., Aug. 26

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

Friday, August 17

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

Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 21-25

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

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 23-26

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

Wednesday, Aug. 22

• The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village

Nature Series presents, Gary Wein and "Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Dummies." Presentation at the library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow. It's free but donations are graciously accepted. Call 526.9938 x254.

Thursday, Aug. 23

• Caymus Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Reception begins at 6 p.m. and guests will be seated for dinner at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited, and advance reservations are required. Call 828-787-2604.

Saturday, Aug. 25

• Highlands-Cashier Hospital FREE Health Screenings. re-registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434, or by completing the registration form on line at www.highlandscashiershospital.org

Thursday, Sept. 6

• 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: Caribbean Lively-Up

at Artists Shari Erickson's & Doug Gifford's at 6 p.m. Caribbean cuisine and wines by Tim Lundy of Rosewood Market, part of art sales to benefit Cashiers Fire & Rescue Department. Call 526-2673.

Sunday, Sept. 9

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

Saturday, Sept. 21

• Highlands-Cashier Hospital FREE Health Screenings. re-registration is required for all
• See EVENTS page 30

Sinatra fans will love 'My Way' at Playhouse July 26

The Highlands Playhouse has begun rehearsals for its third show of the season: *My Way*, a musical tribute to Frank Sinatra. The show offers stories about Sinatra and more than 50 Sinatra classics performed by two professional impersonators: Gabe Russo and Jim Noe. The impersonators are balanced out by actresses Allie Payton and Shannon Webber, both of whom previously graced the Playhouse's stage on the first show of the season: *Kiss Me, Kate*.

daMon Goff, musical director for *My Way* and *Kiss Me, Kate*, is excited about getting to perform Sinatra music. Growing up, Goff listened to The Beatles and rock 'n roll. He learned about Sinatra music through playing at bars and restaurants. "People would come up and request Sinatra songs and I'd tell them I didn't know any, but when they told me some of the song names I knew them because I knew the composers." Goff also mentioned that the reason for this is because "Sinatra sang the best songs that were written between the 1940s and the 1960s and these songs are undeniably classics, these songs are wonderful and enticing no matter what age you are."

In addition to the performance, there will be a black-tie optional fundraiser on Sunday, August 5 at the Main Street Inn. The night will include a meal, cocktails, and entertainment from the cast of *My Way*. Space is limited to the first 50 reservations and tickets are \$125 apiece, which include five raffle tickets for the Highlands Playhouse annual Theatre Lover's Tour, which is an eleven-day tour of Sicily this year.

Tickets for *My Way* and the black tie fundraiser can be purchased at the box office can be reached at 828-526-2695 and is open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

• BIZ NEWS •

Harry Potter and Horse Rescuer at Cyrano's July 20 & 21

Cyrano's Bookshop in Highlands marks the publication of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," the last installment in J.K. Rowling phenomenal series, with special events starting on July 20 and culminating at midnight (July 21) with release of the book. And later, on Saturday afternoon, Melanie Sue Bowles will sign copies of "The Horses of Proud Spirit," from 1-3 p.m.

On Friday, July 20, Cyrano's will close at 4 p.m. to transform the store into Hogwarts, and then will reopen at 10 p.m. for the Harry Potter party. There will be a costume contest, with the best four costumes winning a free copy of the book. Refreshments will be served and there are activities for restless children and other Muggles forced to stay up late. All our customers will be able to enter a drawing sponsored by the American Booksellers Association, with a chance for one person in the United States to win the grand prize of a trip for four to London. Cyrano's will begin selling "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" at the stroke of midnight on July 21. Copies of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" can be reserved by calling the store at 526-5488.

In "The Horses of Proud Spirit," Melanie Sue Bowles recounts her efforts to save unwanted and abused horses and provide them with a safe, nurturing environment. She and her husband Jim live in Mena, AK, where they care for their animals on a farm of more than 300 acres. Over the years Ms. Bowles has rescued almost 200 horses. Cody, a broken-down thoroughbred was the first, so mistreated, sick and hobbled with pain that she couldn't be ridden. Months of care and attention from a veterinarian and the Bowles restored Cody to health. "I want to make a difference in the lives of horses," the author says, and provide a "place where they can live out their lives in peace and dignity." Her book is full of heartwarming (and sometimes sad) stories and is illustrated with photos of Cody, Strut, Annie, Wrangler and many other of the proud and happy equines that have ended their days under the care of the Melanie Sue and Jim. Ms. Bowles will sign copies of her memoir at Cyrano's Bookshop on Saturday, July 21, from 1-3 p.m.

Cyrano's Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands. Books can be reserved by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an e-mail to cyranos@nctv.com; to learn more about our store please visit www.cyranosbooks.com.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434.

Wednesday, Sept. 26

• The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust Village Nature Series presents, Jim Costa

and "Bugs in the Night-Exploring the Diversity and Biology of Nocturnal Insects," at the Albert-Carlton Library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow. It's free but donations are graciously accepted. Call 526.9938

• HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

Sports Page



Sandwich Shoppe

Soups • Salads • Sandwiches
Desserts • Loaded Baked Potatoes

Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

314 Main Street • 526-3555

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

High Country Cafe



Down home
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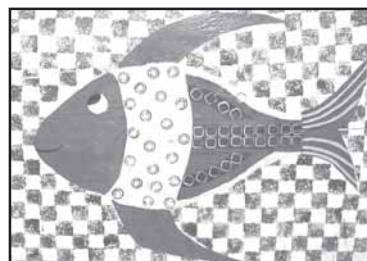
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The Literacy Council and Highlands Community Players join forces for:

**"Loving Literacy" – A Premiere Gala is set for
Wednesday, Aug. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at PAC**

Last December, the boards of Highlands Community Players and The Literacy Council of Highlands resolved to battle illiteracy together in a dramatic way. Since then, they have been working diligently planning the premiere performance of "How the Other Half Loves."

This is the twelfth season for Highlands Community Players. Since 1995 with their first performance of "Steel Magnolias," they have entertained and inspired audiences and given our closet thespian neighbors a creative voice. "How the Other Half Loves" is their final production of the 2006-2007 season.

The Literacy Council of Highlands was founded in 1991 after surveys and statistics showed one third of the adult population in Macon County does not have a high school diploma and almost 15% of those adults have less than a ninth grade education. More recent data show that fifty-one percent of the adult population here in Macon County struggle with illiteracy.

Adults who cannot read have trouble with the basics of everyday life, from reading street signs to filling out insurance forms, to helping their children with school work. Children whose parents cannot read are twice as likely to become adults who cannot read and these same children are five times more susceptible to dropping out of high

school, continuing the cycle of illiteracy.

The educational programs at the Literacy Council of Highlands are designed to help break this cycle. These programs can continue with generosity from our community.

Join the Literacy Council of Highlands and Highlands Community Play-

ers in the fight against illiteracy. Plan to attend "How the Other Half Loves" on Wednesday, August 15, at the Martin-Lipscott Performing Arts Center. The opening reception with wine and Hors d'oeuvres, catered by Let Holly Do The Cooking, will begin at 6:30 p.m. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. and after the play, coffee and dessert will be prepared by Jan Zehr of Blackberry Hill Bakery and Deli.

Individual tickets

are \$125. Additional levels of sponsorships are: Pulitzer Prize (6 premiere seats and acknowledgment in the program - \$1,500), National Book Award (4 premiere seats and acknowledgment in the program - \$1,000), Best Seller (2 premiere seats and acknowledgment in the program - \$500), and Editor (unable to attend, but would like to contribute). Tickets can be purchased or donations made at www.highlandsliteracy.org or by calling The Literacy Council of Highlands at (828) 526-9938 at extension 240.



... VIDEO GUY continued from page 10

design, because in the future, clearly, neither has taken place.

The main body of the story, while quite funny, and having surprisingly good special effects and hilarious one-liners, is only good, not great. The genius of the movie is in the over narration, especially in the introduction, done in documentary style, as you see step-by-step how and why the world comes to change

over the next few centuries.

A few more like these, some comic, some more Sci Fi in tone are Repo Man, Slingblade, American Dreamz, Mad Max Beyond the Thunderdome, and one of the coolest, weirdest 70s Sci Fi film, Brother From Another Planet. These and about 5,000 other titles are available at Movie Stop Video, come on by and give them a look.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Bel Canto Recital is Sept. 9

Bel Canto, the annual recital that has brought beautiful singing at Highlands since 1993, will celebrate its 15th anniversary on Sept. 9 with a quartet of celebrated singers.

The gala event will again benefit the music program in Highlands School and the permanent art collection in the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

Two of the artists are returning by popular demand: Stella Zambalis, Highlands' favorite operatic soprano and Kelly Anderson, the captivating baritone who starred with her in the 2005 recital. They will be joined by Phyllis Pancella, dynamic mezzo-soprano, a favorite in San Francisco and Mark Thomsen, the renowned tenor who opened Chicago Lyric's opera season two years ago.

Highlands will hear voices that have been acclaimed at the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera, San Francisco and Houston operas, as well as Carnegie Hall. All are old friends and are excited about singing together in Highlands on Sept. 9.

They will be accompanied by Stephen Dubberly, the master pianist, "who has contributed more than anyone else to the artistic quality and pleasure of Bel Canto since its inception 15 years ago," says Richard Joel, founder of Bel



Back by popular demand: Kelly Anderson, baritone, and Stella Zambalis, soprano, will return on Sept. 9 for Bel Canto's 15th Anniversary Recital.

Canto and chairman of the recital's steering committee.

The Martin-Lipscorn Performing Arts Center will be the scene of the celebration performed by voices that have attracted music lovers throughout this country and abroad. "Whether you are a veteran opera goer or just beginning to experience this magnificent art form, you will be thrilled by a program filled with melody and drama – especially when it is presented by a quartet of distinguished singers of

this magnitude," he said.

The bravo-provoking program will include many of the arias, duets, and quartets that won favor with Bel Canto audiences at former recitals. There will be highlights from favorite operas and musical theater, and a special piano solo by Dr. Dubberly.

Dedicated to supporting the arts in Highlands and with all proceeds going to the school and the art gallery, few events of the summer bring more pleasure to benefactors than the Bel Canto Recital and the festive reception-buffet following the performance at the Highlands Falls Country Club.

Because only 200 patrons can be accommodated at the Performing Arts Center, seating is limited and early subscriptions are recommended. Call 526-5252.

... BUSINESS NEWS continued from page 23

ral beauty using as many original elements as possible. Brookwood Property, the developers restoring Sims Valley, has re-built the Sims' cabin using the original timbers and tin roof.

This restoration was the reason more than 25 Sims family members gathered on "their mountain" June 23 at a reunion honoring their family. For many, it was their first time seeing the renovated homestead and their first visit to Sims Valley since its transformation into a master-planned real estate community.

Juanita Burrell, granddaughter of Willis and Laura Sims, attended the family reunion and said the afternoon was spent with family, "pouring over old photos and dining on hamburgers and hot dogs." Grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great, great-grandchildren were all in attendance.

The one thing she is most excited about is the fact that the mountain doesn't look too dissimilar from what she remembers

as a child. Juanita and her family lived on a nearby mountain, and she and her siblings blazed a trail through the woods for faster access to her grandparent's home.

"The part we are most thrilled about is the way they preserved our mountain," Juanita said. "They planned it well and left space for wildflowers and recreation and did not mutilate our mountains the way so many people these days do."

The development team was careful to save everything they could, sticking to a mission of preservation and even going so far as to build an exact replica of the springhouse Juanita remembers. An original apple tree has also been resurrected from the stump and is being groomed to see what kind of apples it will produce along with a mulberry tree in the front yard.

Juanita says that the family members who couldn't make it to the reunion are already planning a visit and, when they do, she'll be along for the ride to give them the grand tour.

... PINE STREET continued from page 1

pealing accommodations, unique retail shops and of course, a culinary paradise," reads the letter presented.

Marlene Alvarez, chamber board member and Culinary Event committee member, requested use of the park for the event's opening reception.

On Thursday, Nov. 8, Pine Street will be closed from 3 p.m. to midnight from Pine Street Alley to Fifth Street; wine will be served and a jazz band will perform from 7-10 p.m. The Town Board unanimously OK'd the requests to close the street, serve wine and have music.

Part of the street will be tented, port-a-johns will be set up in the vicinity and shuttles will cart patrons from the Highlands Plaza parking lot and the Civic Center parking lot and "people will be discouraged from parking in the area," said Chamber Director Bob Kieltyka.

Alvarez said the Highlands Culinary Event and the Opening Night Reception are open to everyone and participation in the

event is open to all restaurants, inns and businesses regardless of chamber membership or affiliation. Tickets for the Nov. 8 opening night reception are \$95.

At last week's Town Board meeting, Cynthia Strain of Mill Creek Gallery, who holds free arts & crafts fairs a couple times a year, discussed use of Pine Street Park over Labor Day weekend. Her plans were stymied when she learned of the parking requirement of three spaces per booth in the B2-zone.

She was told as per the town's ordinance, she would have to supply the parking if she wanted to use the park and since she can't, the arts & crafts fair will take place only on the Village Square property which is in the B1-zone where parking isn't required.

She asked that the town re-think the parking requirement now that Pine Street Park is a reality. "It's an issue that's going to come up," she said.

Commission Amy Patterson said parking wasn't required for the Chamber event

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HELP WANTED

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

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

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

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

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FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OPENING FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. Require building management, computer, marketing and interpersonal skills. resumes to P.O. Box 734, Highlands, NC 28741 by July 31. 7/26

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

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED — Stephen L. Lucas CPA, PA has an opening for an Administrative Assistant to support our growing public accounting and business consulting practice based in Highlands, N.C. Position responsibilities would include receptionist and secretarial duties. Qualified person would have good people skills, practical computer experience including Microsoft Word, Excel, Microsoft Outlook. For more information and to schedule an interview, please call 828-526-2399 or send or email a resume to: P.O. Box 1357, Highlands, NC, 28741, bob.starkey@lucascpa.com

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

THE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB is looking for a utility/handyman to assist in maintaining the roads including culvert cleaning, weed-eating, and trash removal. General handyman skills are also required for minor home repairs. Seasonal/ part-time position with flexible hours. Great for semi-retired person. Call Sylvia at 526-8286 to schedule an interview.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE FOREMAN — for Highlands area company. Duties include overseeing and maintenance for high-end properties. Chance to grow with company including bonuses and retirement. (828) 526-8953.

PHYSICIAN BILLING CLERK AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, Monday through Friday position. Requires good computer and organizational skills. Must be a multi-tasker and have good customer service skills. Full benefits after 60 days of employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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experience. Full benefits available after 60 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time position available with alternating weekends. Responsibilities include cleaning patient and non-patient care areas, linen service, waste removal, sharps container removal and adhering to Infection Control/Sanitation functions and maintenance. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org

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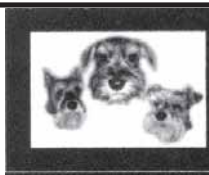
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... CLASSIFIEDS continued from page 33

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... POLITICS continued from page 21

strategy for continued U.S. involvement in Iraq by no later than January 31, 2008. This strategic plan must include a discussion and comprehensive plan to protect U.S. national security interests in Iraq and the broader Middle East region after the redeployment of American forces. The President would also need to publicly justify the mission and number of troops required to conduct post-deployment missions in Iraq.

Every American hopes and prays that our troops return home quickly and safely. However, those of us in elected office must not only fervently hope and pray — we must act. Last week we did.

The House also addressed the issue of college affordability last week. The College Cost Reduction Act, H.R. 2669, passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support and will help thousands of working families across North Carolina pay for college.

The College Cost Reduction Act, which is the single largest investment in financial aid for college students since the GI Bill was passed in 1944, will boost financial aid by nearly \$18 billion over the next five years. The bill is paid for at no new cost to the American taxpayers and pays for itself by reducing the excessive federal subsidies paid to private lenders in the college loan industry by \$19 billion. The bill also provides for \$750 million in federal deficit reduction.

Every year over 90,000 students at North Carolina's 4-year public colleges and universities take out need-based loans to pay for their education. The typical North Carolina student finishes their education with more than \$13,000 in debt.

Through the College Cost Reduction Act

the maximum value of the Pell Grant scholarship will increase by \$500 over the next five years. When combined with other Pell Grant increases passed or proposed by Congress this year, the maximum Pell Grant would reach \$4,900 in 2008 and \$5,200 in 2011, up from \$4,050 in 2006. This increase in the Pell Grant's maximum value will restore its purchasing power and benefit nearly 6 million low- and middle-income students.

The bill also cuts interest rates in half on need-based student loans, reducing the cost of those loans for millions of student borrowers. Like legislation passed by the House earlier this year, the College Cost Reduction Act would cut interest rates from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent in equal steps over the next five years. Once fully phased-in, this would save the typical student borrower — with \$13,800 in need-based student loan debt — \$4,400 over the life of the loan.

As we compete in the global marketplace of the 21st Century, we must invest in our children's education. The return we see from each dollar that we invest in our children's education is immeasurable. It is one of the greatest investments we can make for our future.

We must ensure that the doors to America's colleges and universities remain open to every student, regardless of their family's wealth. With this bill, along with the work we have already done this year in the House, we are ensuring that every American student who wants to go to college can go to college.

This week the House will return to the discussion and debate of appropriations bills for the 2008 Fiscal Year.



Macon County Sheriff Office Deputy Ryan Angel checks license of driver during checkpoint on Highlands Road.

Operation Fire Cracker

From June 28 – July 8, the Macon County Sheriff's Office participated in a statewide operation with the NC State Highway Patrol called "Operation Fire Cracker." At the conclusion of this operation there was 2,129 Driving While Intoxicated arrests statewide and the following statistics were compiled for Macon County:

MACON COUNTY VIOLATIONS

DWI: Driving While Impaired- 20; NOL: No operators Licenses- 37; DWLR: Driving While License Revoked- 9; No insurance- 3; Faulty Equipment- 6; Seatbelt Violations- 3; Inspection Violations- 5; Open Alcohol Container- 2; Reckless Driving- 3; Drug Violations- 5

Cross pleads guilty

On July 12, Deborah Cross plead guilty to 10 misdemeanor counts involving crimes committed against homeowners in Highlands Country Club. Based upon available evidence, the Highlands Police Dept. agreed to allow a plea agreement to have Cross adjudicated guilty for crimes committed against each victim. The Highlands PD investigation resulted in the recovery and return of hundreds of items to the rightful owners. These crimes were committed between Augusts 2004 through May 2006.

... POWR continued from pg. 14

Though nothing is set in stone, the committee said working with Crosland is tempting because it not only helps with the red-tape and Federal Tax Credit paper work, it builds the housing and puts an on-site manager in place. "Our managers are trained and well versed in all the rules and regulations required by the government concerning the paperwork associated with affordable housing complexes," he said. "And there's a lot of it."

Getting federal money in the form of block grants also gets easier with a 501-3C nonprofit as the lead agency, particularly one with "affordable housing" in its mission statement.

Land is still the big issue both due to Highlands prices and geography.

Mayor Don Mullen said the hospital foundation might provide acreage around the hospital campus for some sort of housing for working people and seniors especially if a child-care component was part of the project. But that issue is only in the "talk" phases.

At the June 22 meeting, the affordable housing committee changed its name to POWR - Privately Owned Workforce Residents. Before it's all over, the name may change again. – **Kim Lewicki**

• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of July 12-16. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

July 12

- At 2:10 p.m., officers responded to an accident on Chowan Road where a truck fell onto U.S. 64 west from Chowan Road. The driver was traveling up Chowan toward Wyanoak when the hood of the truck flew up and then the truck went down the embankment and landed on its side on U.S. 64 west. The driver was transported to the hospital.

July 13

- At 10 a.m. officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at N.C. 106 and Hudson Road. One driver was cited for failing to decrease speed to avoid an accident.

- At 12:40 p.m., officers responded to an accident at U.S. 64 east and Pinecrest Road. The driver's right front tire went off the road as she approached the curve. The vehicle followed the slope of the ditch, struck a fire hydrant and ended upside down. She was removed from the car by Highlands Fire & Rescue. She wasn't taken to the hospital.

- At 2:18, a cleaning lady at a residence on Foreman Road arrived to find the house broken into. Police are investigating.

- At 2:20 p.m., officers responded to nuisance animal call at a residence on Mirror Lake and delivered a "nuisance dog notice" to the owner.

July 14

- At 2:25 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Mountain Fresh Store parking lot..

July 15

- A little past midnight, a motorist was cited for speeding 48 mph in a 35 zone at N.C. 106 and Buttermilk Lane.

July 16

- At 5:40 p.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and High Shoals was cited for driving without a license.

During the week officers issued eight warning tickets.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the weeks of July 11-17

July 11

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a man who was found sitting on the road at U.S. 64 and Raoul Road. He was taken to Franklin.

... ANOTHER VIEW from page 6

pure fine clean grain, the kind the foreigners were selling. A farmer or inspector could drive his hand deep into a bushel of grain and pull up a golden pyramid on his palm, open his fingers, and watch a golden stream flow back into the basket. It made him proud to be an American producer. If he reached into a bucket of Grade Three, he would likely pick up rodents, roaches, and rotting grain. Grade Two was somewhere in the middle. Guess what American agribusiness did. Rather than dispose of Grade Three, which was unacceptable to our customers, they mixed it with grade one, created grade two, and shipped it with less rotten grain and fewer dead rats per bushel.

We've lost our edge in manufacturing partly because of low foreign wages and protective tariffs against our products. But a level playing field won't help much until we refocus on quality. We didn't lose our automobile market because Japanese cars were cheaper. We lost out because they are better. We continue to lose because American managers don't care about American workers, or American quality. They care about bigger profits and obscene bonuses. They outsource manufacturing jobs and service jobs to improve the bottom line. They import foreign scientists because they work for less than their American counterparts. They sell you Chinese junk so that they can buy German cars, Swiss watches, and French wine.

Pass the fish, please, and a bowl of food for my dog.

- The dept. assisted with traffic when a motorhome went off the road on U.S. 64 west.

July 12

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at Oak Square where a woman fell down the stairs. She was transported to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and later airlifted to Mission Memorial in Asheville.

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road. It was false..

- The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 west and Chowan Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.

July 13

- The dept. responded to an accident at U.S. 64 east and Culla-saja Drive. The victim was transported to the hospital.

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at Chestnut Hill. The victim was transported to the hospital.

July 14

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS when a man fell down some steps on Oak Street.

July 16

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers. The call was cancelled en route.

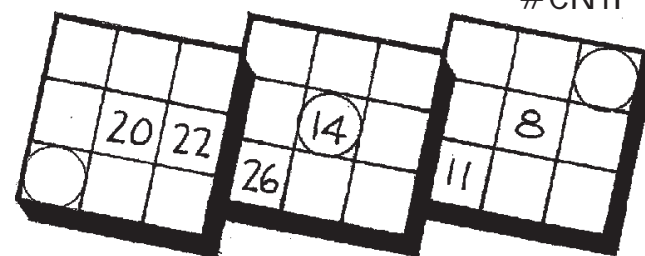
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Scaly Fire & Rescue when a man was escorted off the Bartram Trail due to complications with diabetes.

July 17

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers five times. The calls were cancelled en route.

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

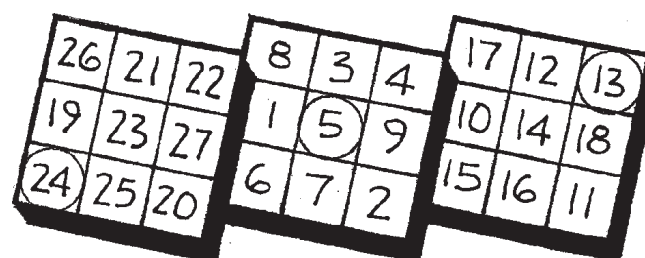
THE CHALLENGE:

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

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com

Solution to #BN4C in the July 12 paper



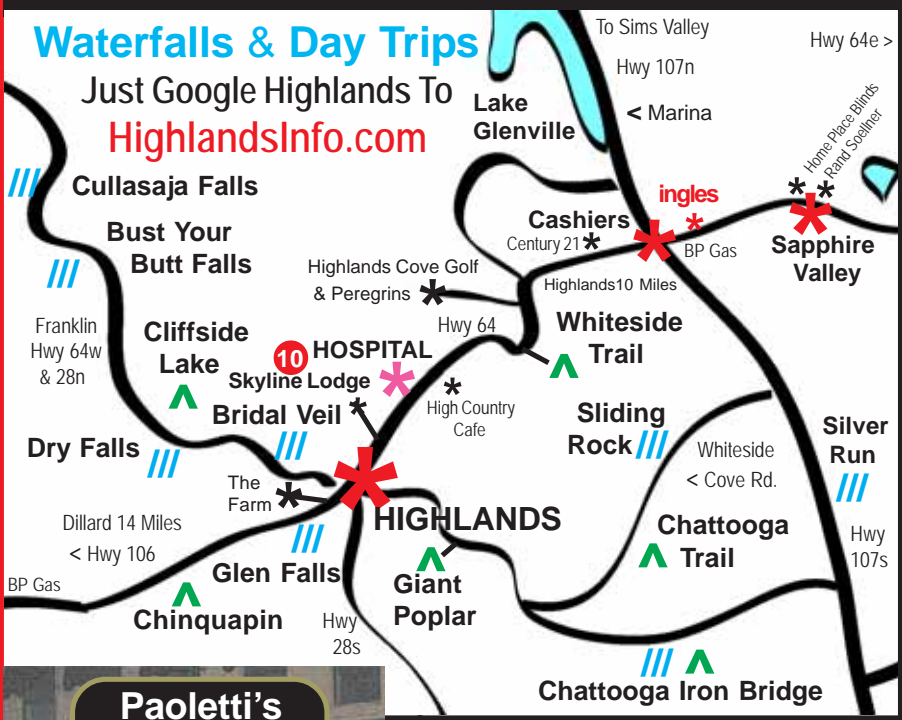
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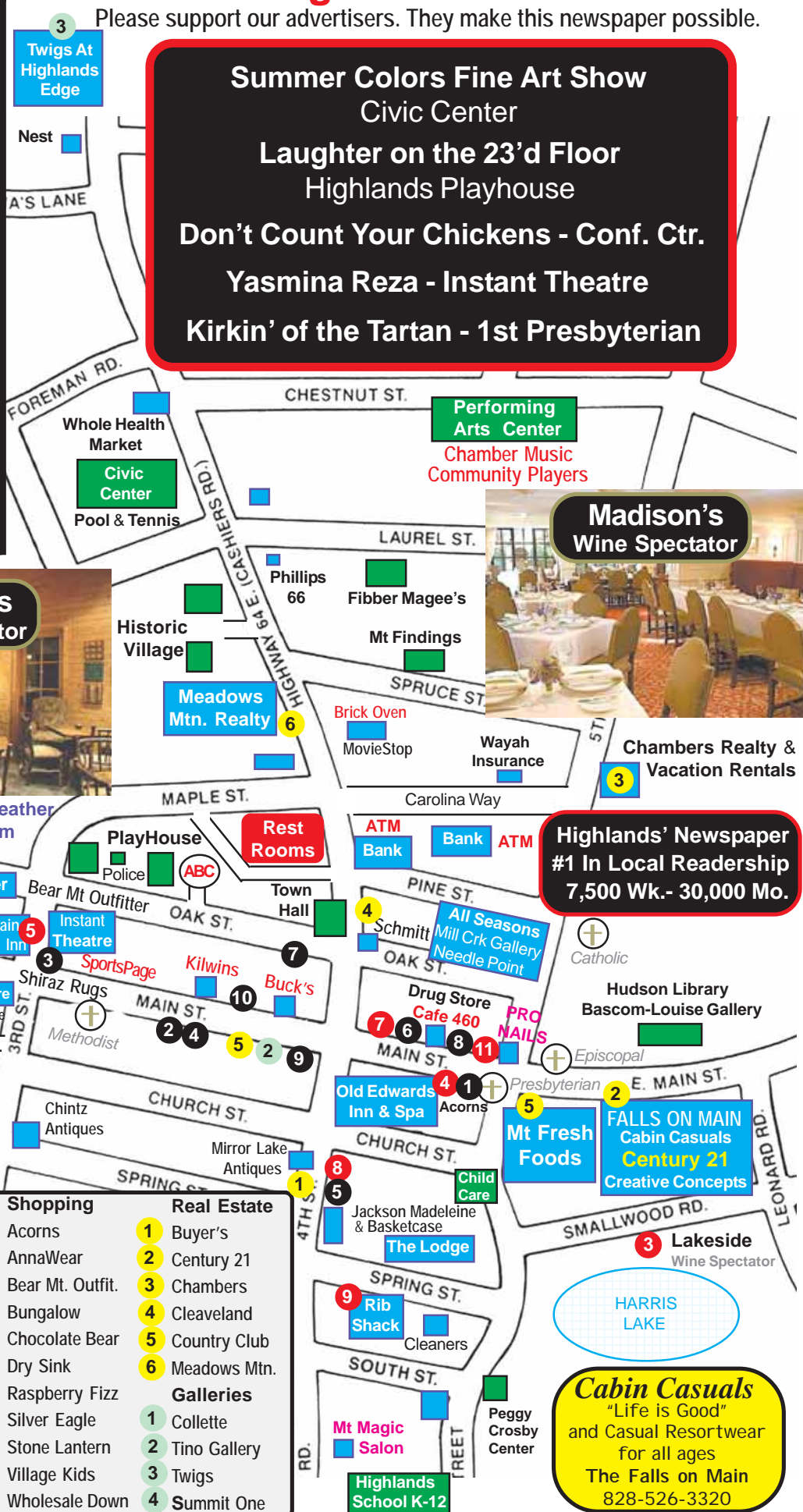
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