

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 5, Number 25

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, June 21, 2007

On-going

- Cy Timmons at Fressers in Helen's Barn Wed-Sat from 6 p.m.
- Hal Phillips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant, Fri. & Sat. at 7-9 p.m.
- 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., Mon., Wed., Thurs. \$5 per class.
- Yoga Classes at the Rec Park. Mon. & Wed. at 7:30 a.m. \$7/class Call 526-4340.
- At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1F1T.

Every Saturday

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

Through Tuesday, Aug. 14

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

June 21-July 8

- At The Highlands Playhouse, Cole Porter's "Kiss Me Kate." To reserve tickets, call the box office at (828) 526-2695.

Thursday, June 21

- Forum on "Responsible Alcohol Sellers" from 2-4 p.m. at the Rec Park.

- SOAR Silent & Live Auction at the Highlands Conference Center. Live music, refreshments, and food by Wolfgang's Restaurant & Bistro. Call 526-0224.

- 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Call Summit One Gallery for reservations at 526-2673.

- Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at the Nature Center: "Left Brain, Right Brain: Plants in the Arts and Sciences."

Friday and Saturday, June 22-23

- "Parallel Lives" at the Instant Theater Call: 828-342-9197 for tickets.

Friday-Sunday, June 22-24

- At Acorn's on Main Street, Match Trunk Show – Handmade Italian pewter and ceramic tableware.

Friday, June 22

- "The Dendy Family with Southern Gospel" at Highlands School old gym. Clogging or square dancing 6:45-7:30 p.m. Concert at 7:30-9. FREE.

Saturday, June 23

- Highlands Playhouse's "Taming of the Shrew" at Tug Wa Ridge at 2 p.m. Free. Call 526-2695 for info.

- "Jazz At The PAC" at 7:30 p.m. \$15 for adults, \$8 for students under 18. Call 526-9047 or buy tickets at the door.

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, two signings. Bill Alexander "The Biltmore Nursery: A Botanical Legacy" noon-1:30 p.m. Ann B. Ross, author of "Miss Julia" series signs from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Sun., June 24 & Mon., June 25

- HCP auditions at PAC for "How the Other Half Loves," Sun. at 2 p.m., Mon. at 6 p.m. 3 men and 3 women, ages 30-60. Scripts are at area libraries.

Sunday, June 24

- Week-long Vacation Bible School at the Methodist church. Call 526-3376.

- Week long Vacation Bible School at Clear Creek Baptist Church.

Tuesday, June 26

- Free movie at PAC at 7 p.m. "Lake House."
- "An Innocent Consequence." Beth Moore shares her visit to the orphans of Kenya at the Catholic church at 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27

- "Owl Prowl" at the Nature Center. 7:30 p.m. Bring a flashlight. Free. Call 526-2623.

Highlands town tax rate to drop

Thanks to Macon County's increased property values, Highlands residents will see a reduction in the town's tax rate from 19 cents per \$100 valuation to 13.5 cents.

At a special budget work ses-

sion meeting Thursday, June 14, commissioners put finishing touches on the proposed 2007-2008 budget which will be accepted at the June 27 meeting as required by General Statute.

Though the proposed bud-

get initially reflected a revenue neutral millage rate of 12.5 cents, it was increased a penny to 13.5 cents to fund upcoming capital improvement projects.

"The problem is we're not

• See RATE page 8

Expanded discourse over county budget

After much discussion involving funding of the Veterans' Memorial, increased personnel for the sheriff department, teacher supplements, the fire tax rate, the distribution of room tax proceeds and the new recreation commission, the county budget was adopted at the June 18 commission meeting.

County Manager Sam Greenwood said at the last hour, requests came in for additional funding in some areas which needed approval prior to adoption.

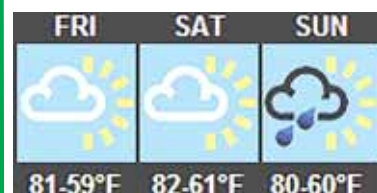
Veterans Memorial

Though the Veterans Memorial Commission hopes to raise enough funds for the memorial being erected on the park grounds, it requested \$50,000 so it can begin building right away.

"Once we have started the project, donations will pick up," wrote Robert Litten in a letter to the commission. "We have a number of individuals and companies who want to help out which will reduce the need for funds." Commissioners OK'd the request say-

• See COUNTY page 23

Weekend Weather:



SOAR activities begin Thursday



During this year's Special Operations Adventure Race, U.S. Marines and sailors from Special Boat Team 20 are volunteering as marshals on the 50-mile adventure course. Proceeds from the weekend activities -- silent/live auction, wine tasting and dance tonight and the race -- help send children of fallen heroes to college. In 2006, the foundation provided \$600,000 in college funds to 109 students. On Saturday, June 23, the Elite Race begins at 7 a.m. and the Sprint Race begins at 8 a.m. See more on page 20.

Interns identify new streams

Armed with verification as to their existence, the commissioners can now take steps to protect 10 more perennial streams which empty into Big Creek – the town's primary water source.

Last September interns from

UNC-Chapel Hill walked Big Creek about a mile and a half from the intake to Randal Lake looking for water sources that could be classified as perennial streams. The 10 they found were

• See STREAMS page 31

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Passage of ordinance paves way for construction

The moratorium on multi-story buildings has been cancelled and effective immediately, the height of new buildings in Macon County is capped at 50 feet.

During the public hearing on the Building Height Ordinance at the June 18 Macon County Commission meeting, 10 residents – two Franklin and eight from Highlands – spoke in favor of the ordinance.

"I hope you pass the ordinance to limit construction of buildings over 48-feet high," said Sue Waldroop. "I wish it was lower, but if that's the best you can do, we'll accept it but please don't make it higher. We don't need bigger buildings in Macon County no matter how beautiful they are."

Each speaker thereafter echoed Waldroop's sentiments – all saying they wish the height restriction was lower.

Last month, at the urging of Commissioner Bob Simpson, the board increased the height restriction two feet – from 48 feet to 50 feet – to take into consideration joists that may have to be laid on foundations to support a building. Simpson wanted to make sure that the top of the foundation and the point at which measurement started was at the top of the joists and not at the bottom.

As stated in the ordinance, the primary reason driving its incep-

• See ORDINANCE page 7

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

Editorial spoke to the point

Dear Editor,

Your editorial "Butting Heads" in the June 14 issue was excellent. The right-on comments about the good folks of Highlands perhaps considering the idea of better communication with county government was nothing short of perfect.

It was concise, basic and to point. Perhaps the constituency will pause in its playful pursuits to stop and think about who and what is representing their interests.

The residents of Highlands contribute heavily to the tax base of Macon County and its government's decisions are very important in being sure that these dollars are used to everyone's benefit.

We have a similar situation where I live in Florida and the leaders of the two governments meet on a regular basis to work on common/overlapping issues.

You really, really should do more of this commentary. You obviously understand the situations extremely well and someone truly needs to tell the emperor that he is naked.

It's a certainly a tough call, when you are the publisher, to speak unkindly about some of the hands who write the checks for advertising. But as long as you are fair and tell the truth, any protests will be transparent.

Judy Huskey
Scaly Mountain

Writers make for good reading

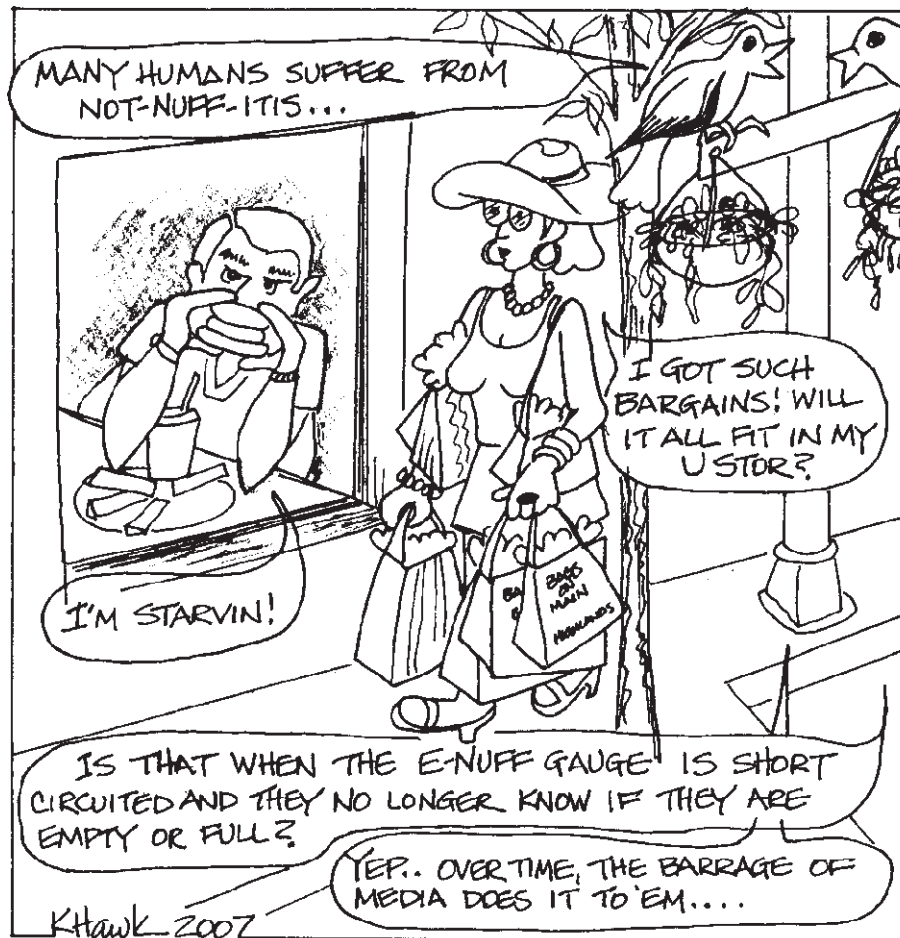
Dear Editor,

Katie Brugger's SpaceTime article in the June 14 issue was amazing. I was accepted to graduate school in math and philosophy and was very much impressed with this article as I have been with many of her other articles. You've got a good writer in this one.

Fred Wooldridge: Well, thank you for helping make the 'work-release' program a local success (figure, who else would use a high school yearbook photo?).

Best for your excellent newspaper,
Jodie Cook
Highlands

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



• LETTERS •

The call was heeded

Dear Editor,

We wish to commend the county commission in allowing three weeks to review the current budget proposal. It permitted the commissioners and the public to study this voluminous, complicated document and possibly understand where \$60 million of people's moey is spent.

We also thank the budget officer's recommendations of a true revenue neutral propety tax rate of 24.5 mils. It appears that this rate should provide sufficient funds to meet the needs of the county and provide adequate funding for necessary capital spending requirments.

Should the commisison have approved the budget as proposed prior to the appearance of this letter, we commend them for their willingness to respond to the voters' wishes.

Jennifer Steele
Secretary Macon Freedom Works
Franklin

• THANKS •

Woods family is grateful

Dear Editor,

Thank You Lord!

We can not even express how we feel right now. God has used us to glorify him. We do not even know how to thank everyone in the community. We have never felt such prayers, love, and compassion from so many people. So many blessings have been poured on us. The Highlands community is truly a wonderful place to live.

Please continue to pray for us as we have a long recovery. However, God has His hand on every detail. Thank you again for everything everyone is doing for us. We appreciate everything. We love you and cherish you in our hearts. Love and God Bless,

Jason and Kelly Woods
Highlands

NOTE:

Saturday, July 24, there the "Jason Woods Benefit" at the Highlands Rec Park at 4:30 p.m. Barbecue by Blue Valley BBQ Music by Uncultured Buttermilk, The Dendy Family, and Doug and Donna Ivie. There will be a live auction. Proceeds will go to help with medical expenses.

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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• OBITUARY •

James O. Watts, III

James O. Watts, III, of Atlanta, GA, and Highlands, N.C., died unexpectedly on June 13, 2007 while hiking in his beloved Highlands.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Ruthie, of Atlanta and Highlands; his daughter and son-in law, Mr. and Mrs. J.A.M. Douglas of Marietta, GA; his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Watts, IV of Lynchburg, VA; his daughters Sarah Key Watts of Deland, FL and Elliott Liscomb Watts of GA; his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin M. Giles, III of Richmond, VA; his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen H. Watts, II of Richmond; his sisters-in-law and brother-in law, Mr. and Mrs. Vance Barron of Greensboro, N.C., and Mrs. Edward J. Wannamaker of Charlotte; his stepmother, Mrs. James O. Watts, Jr. of Richmond; eight grandchildren and a host of valued relatives and faithful friends and business associates.

Jimmy was born February 16, 1940, in Lynchburg, Virginia. He lived from childhood through college at Poplar Forest, Thomas Jefferson's retreat in Bedford County, VA, where he developed a passion for nature and the outdoors that was a vital aspect of his life even to the very end of it. He excelled in academics, leadership and sports at Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA, where he graduated in 1958 and served as Senior Monitor and Chairman of the Honor Committee, and at Williams College in Williamstown, MA, where he captained the golf team and

graduated in 1962. After graduation from the University of Virginia Law School in 1965, Jimmy returned to Lynchburg to begin a successful period in the private

practice of law with the firm of Caskie, Frost, Davidson, and Watts. He relocated to Atlanta in 1968, where he began a career in the insurance industry with American Security Insurance Company. His success at American Security led him to the position of General Counsel and then into the executive ranks, where he retired as Vice-Chairman in 1999.

Unwilling to cease working, he joined ZC Sterling Tax Solutions Limited in Atlanta as President and CEO, where he led an intrepid team of colleagues in the creation and establishment of new financial service products. He was a member of Peachtree Golf Club, Piedmont Driving Club in Atlanta, and Highlands Country Club, where he was an active member of the Board of Governors at the time of his death. He was perennial chairman of the Bob Jones Invitational Golf Tournament in Highlands, which honors Walker Cup golfers as a means of raising funds for Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Jimmy received from his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. James O. Watts, Jr., a relish for living, a commitment to quality in all things, a zest for competition tempered by a strong sense of fairness, a finely tuned sense of humor and a deep love of his family. He pursued his passions for golf, wine, dining, hiking, music, travel, his friends, and the community of Highlands with deep appreciation for the opportunity he was given to enjoy them all. He did nothing half-way. The strength of his will, his quick and curious mind and legal training made him a relentless seeker of information and a respected opponent, whether he was engaged in a matter of law or business, stalking a challenging putt to win a golf wager or debating a point in conversation over dinner. His elegantly understated sense of humor was usually accompanied by an observable gleam in the eye and followed by rich laughter. His accomplished leadership, gracious ease with people and proven character marked him as a true southern gentleman.

A memorial service was held at the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, N.C. at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 16, 2007. In lieu of flowers, Jimmy's family asks that those wishing to honor him consider making contributions to Jefferson's Poplar Forest, P.O. Box 419, Forest, VA 24551, email Development@poplarforest.org or to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, P.O. Box 190, Highlands, NC. 28741.



James O. Watts, III,

• MILESTONES •

Previous HS student graduates with honors

David Alex Steele graduated with an honors diploma from Rocky Bayou Christian Academy in Niceville, FL on May 18, 2007. He will be attending Mississippi College this fall as a Pre-Med major. David is the son of Bill and Jeanine Steele of the Destin, FL area, and the grandson of Alex Godbout of Franklin. He attended Highlands School from kindergarten through the fifth grade, and credits his many excellent teachers there with preparing him for the challenging curriculum at Rocky Bayou.



David Alex Steele

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Adorable 2 BR 2.5 BA cottage conveniently located off of Hicks Road in Highlands. Huge covered porch, cathedral ceilings and a floor to ceiling stone fireplace in the great room. Sunroom with hot tub has been added off the master suite. \$398,000.



HUGE Mountain views from this 2 BR 2 BA, plus two additional spaces for office, playroom or sewing room. There is also a family room 2 car garage. The acreage includes 3 additional platted lots with good building sites which can be sold separately. What a value at \$668,000.



Great new home close to town and Mirror Lake. 4BR 4.5 BA. Large kitchen with stainless steel appliances, custom cabinetry, an oversized work island and granite countertops. Large covered deck & 2 car garage. Offered at \$895,000



Newly remodeled, open and airy home on the 4th tee at Highlands Falls Country Club features a new kitchen, dining room with wet bar, 2 bedrooms & 2 baths upstairs, family room, 1 bed & 1 bath downstairs, beautiful laurel railings on the stairs, 1 car garage and lots of storage. \$695,000



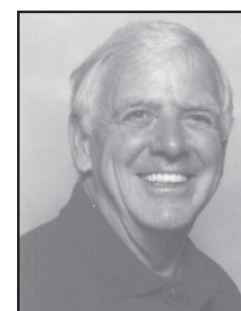
If you love to garden, this home is calling your name. Located in Highlands Country Club, this 3 BR 3.5 BA home features a gazebo-styled sun room off the large kitchen. A step down dining room has a corner fireplace to make any occasion feel extra special. \$895,000.



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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Incidentals



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback
is encouraged!
email:**

askfredanything@aol.com

The speed bumps are so high in Bryson's parking lot that if I still owned my little MG midget, the car would have gotten stuck on top of the bump. The extra high humps were put in to slow traffic and maybe even discourage folks from cutting through the lot...ha, ha, ha. Fortunately I have 4-wheel drive and there's no problemo. If they made the bumps even higher then only Hummers could make it over and the rest of us could shop at Mountain Fresh.

Just so you'll know, the difference between a hump and a bump is significant and no, I'm not going there.

There's soooooo much fuss about property taxes. Everyone seems to have an opinion. I have questions, like why was it decided that people who own real estate should be discriminated against by paying additional taxes? Why should property owners be taxed more than everyone else? Our government has us all so programmed, we expect to be taxed on everything we buy. That question is currently being asked in the Florida Legislature. People down there are just fed up. Stay tuned on the Florida tax fight because the fat lady has just now entered the church.

If my memory serves me correctly, didn't Jackson County declare a moratorium on building, causing area realtors to have temporary heart fibrillations? Wasn't their economy supposed to crash and the housing market collapse? Hmmm, whatever happened to that crisis? Things seem to be running pretty smoothly over there.

Consider this. If the world came to an end tomorrow and nothing was left on this planet, would there still be two-hour parking?

Are you aware that Highlands was created and founded by a bunch of dad gum Yankees? These Yankees are now called "locals." I think Highlands should create a "locals' club" where descendants could meet and discuss matters in Yankee talk. To join, one would have to produce their grandparents' birth certificates showing they were actually born within the Highlands Township. At last count, three persons were qualified to join.

Every week, I write a column that gets someone's shorts in a wad. I'm starting a "shorts in a wad" club, complete with T shirts, so members can meet and discuss ways to get rid of me. I suspect

membership would be a lot higher than the "locals' club." If you are angry about something I have written in the paper, please call me at 1-800-who-cares.

Speaking of clubs, area residents are becoming confused about the "Mad at Fred" club where membership is massive. This has nothing to do with the lesser known "Mad Fred" disease that is also spreading through the area. Those with "Mad Fred" disease actually believe what I write and are in need of a shrink.

Lots of Catholics have their hands at my throat because of remarks I recently made about scoundrel priests. Maybe if I just don't say anything at all, it will go away? This, of course, will happen right after the Sunnis and the Shia kiss and make up.

I am so bored with our current Mayor, Don Mullen, and most of the town commissioners. I get nothing from them. Ole Buck was much more colorful. Come on, Don, give me some stuff I can print. Even my two favorite commissioners, Hank and Amy, have been dormant. Attention all commissioners: Please call me if you have done something stupid and would like to confess.

How about this? Just for fun, let's do away with all parking restrictions, except fire zones, for two weeks and see what happens.

My next door neighbor is a Georgia peanut farmer who currently has nothing to do because he can't get his peanuts in the ground due to lack of rain. Subsequently, he sits on his Highlands' porch, scratches, sips beer and discusses politics. His next door neighbor in Georgia is Jimmy Carter and while he is still a lifetime member of the Carter club, I think I'm winning him over to joining the Elmer Fudd for president movement. Actually, if you look closely, Elmer and Jimmy have the exact same expressions. Hmmm.

By the way, there are two kinds of folks patting me on the back about my Elmer Fudd for president idea: those who wish me well and those who are feeling for a place to put the knife.

Finally, a special notice to Italian men of Highlands: It is not necessary to stop by my house to show me your privates. The column was a joke.

• HIS & HERS •

Bar Fight in the Blue Ridge: The Coming Battle for NC 11

You'd think that what happens in western Carolina, in the 11th Congressional District, isn't very important to the powers-that-be in Washington. That's usually so. But not now. And two extraordinary events that have occurred a year and a half before the 2008 election for that seat, prove the point.

Some of you are aware of the TV ads now being run by AFSCME that paint freshman Congressman Heath Shuler, NC 11th, as a good guy. The ad sponsor's full name is American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. This union is committed to steady expansion of government at all levels, supported by more taxes at all levels.

Why is that union, part of the left-wing of the Democratic Party, supporting Heath Shuler (who ran as a "conservative" Democrat) a year before he announces for re-election? It's simple. AFSCME is practical. If Shuler gets challenged by a hard-line liberal Democrat, like most of the Democrats who have run for this seat over the years, there are two possible bad outcomes. The liberal might beat Shuler and get trounced in the general election. Or, the liberal might damage Shuler so much that he will lose the general.

This exceptional action by this national union in 2007, has a clear meaning. The unions are trying to scare off any liberal competition for Shuler in his primary. It's a message that the unions are satisfied that they can work with Shuler for union issues in Congress.

And what gives them that assurance? Shuler has reliably voted with Speaker Nancy Pelosi on critical votes in the House, except when he sought permission to stray – on issues like stem cell research where she had the winning votes anyway, and Heath pleaded for a little independence for the sake of the folks back home.

Are the Republicans taking the 11th District as seriously in 2008? Yes, they are, as shown by the fact that the chief political strategist in the White House,



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

Karl Rove, came to the District recently to address the annual Convention of the Republicans here. Why would someone that important show up here?

The 11th District was one of about nine Districts which have been Republican for a decade or more,

that should have stayed that way even in 2006, but which the Democrats managed to take. These few Districts make up almost half of the seats the Republicans need to retake control of the House.

Who are the voters in the 11th District? We have a few more Democrats than Republicans, but independents (those who "declined" to name a party) occupy the center, about 11% of the total. Many of the independents and a significant number of the Democrats are like Zell Miller, former Senator from Georgia who lives just across the state line from us. These are, like Zell, conservative folks who happen to bear the label Democrat or independent.

The man who held this seat for the Republicans for 16 years, Charles Taylor, is making noises about running again. I think the only likely way for the Republicans to lose this seat to Shuler again, would be if Taylor gets the Republican nomination. Here's why:

Taylor used to be one of the most powerful Republicans in Washington. He got himself in trouble in a number of ways. He wound up losing to a rookie with no experience – while spending a million dollars more than the challenger. Taylor was supposedly a sharp cookie. Shuler's obviously not the sharpest tool in the shed. But Shuler won in 2006.

For 2008, Shuler is stronger, Taylor is weaker. If it's the same race, the result will be the same. On the other hand, if the Republicans run an experienced, knowledgeable, honest candidate, both parties will bring in their big guns, but the Republican should win comfortably.

And, the 11th District is, next year, a mine canary for all the House races.

• See HIS & HERS page 6

• SALONS & SPAS •



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Vacation Bible School
at
Clear Creek Baptist Church
The Week of
June 24
Beginning Sunday, June 24 at 7 p.m.

• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Lessons my cat taught me

I had the privilege of sharing 15 years of my life with a beautiful cat named Fluffles. She had luxuriously long hair and when she was backlit her guard hairs were so long as to be almost unbelievable. A vet once told me he had never seen guard hairs that long on a female cat. She loved to rub her soft fur against our legs; when she did this we were being "fluffed."



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

camouflaged it looked like one of the flower petals; the personality of the trees that surrounded me; the birds singing their songs; the skull of a wildcat on a steep slope among trilliums.

Fluffles and I spent many happy hours out in the woods. We would go out in the afternoon and spend two to three hours walking a distance I could walk in my ordinary pace

in half an hour. I have never been the same again in the woods.

She taught me not to look for big views, but to see the same interest and beauty in every bit of woods. And most of all: to be, to be silent, in the woods. To just sit.

The second thing I learned from Fluffles had to do with attitude. For years I worked in the evenings at a restaurant and my husband always woke up earlier than me. Fluffles would get up with him, have a little breakfast, then climb back in bed with me.

We had a beautiful bedroom with picture windows on the eastern and southern sides looking out on the glorious wooded mountains. There were no curtains and I loved waking up to a light-filled room. Every morning Fluffles would purr when I woke up, and I felt like she was saying, "isn't it good to be alive for another day to love each other."

I realized that for a long time my attitude had been that another day was a burden, just another day of drudgery to get through. Fluffles offered me a glimpse into another way of seeing life — as a gift of one day at a time to love, and be loved, and be happy.

Fluffles died seven years ago and I still miss her. She died when the daffodils were blooming; her lessons live on in my heart.

... HIS & HERS continued from page 5

Win or lose, the fate of the Republicans nationally will probably be the same as here, in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

[As a matter of full disclosure, the author ran for this seat in 2006, losing to Taylor in the primary.]

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.

... ORDINANCE continued from page 1

tion is public safety. "...to regulate the height of structures in such a manner as to promote for public health, safety and welfare. This purpose is achieved by allowing construction of buildings to a maximum height of 50 feet."

Commission Chairman Charlie Leath-erman asked County Planner Stacy Guffey if he was satisfied with the ordinance. He said he was and that the fire commission said it's at 30 feet that strategies for putting out fires change so 48 or 50 feet doesn't

make any difference.

As per the ordinance, a "story" is defined as that portion of a building included between the surface of a floor and the upper surface of the floor or roof next above; a "foundation" is that portion of a load-bearing wall below the level of the

adjoining grade or below the first floor beams or joints.

The ordinance reads: The maximum height on any building structure or unit...shall not exceed 50 feet or four stories, whichever is less. The building height

• See ORDINANCE page 12

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Fifth annual "Jazz at PAC" set for June 23

The fifth annual "Jazz At The PAC" concert has been set for Saturday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street, Highlands NC.

Headlining the program is New York jazz guitarist and Grammy nominee Pete McCann. This is the second trip to Highlands for the sought after McCann. "His performance here in 2005 was such a hit we just had to have him back," said Paul Scott, pianist and the concert's artistic director.

Joining McCann and Scott on the program are Nathan Scott, bass, Steve Gordon, drums, and John Williams, trumpet.

Also featured is vocalist Mary Beth Brody, a favorite on the local music scene.

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults, \$8 for students under 18. Reservations can be made by calling 828-526-9047 or at the door on June 23.



Pete McCann

"We promise a whale of a performance you won't want to miss," said Scott.

... RATE continued from page 1

revenue neutral," said Mayor Pro Temp Amy Patterson. "We can't run the town for the same cost as last year. Gas has gone up, fuel has gone up. We have to provide

for normal growth."

Each year, commissioners prepare for the future by setting up accounts to hold funds for specific projects like the Town Hall complex, the Harris Lake Sewer Project, the Greenway and now siltation removal.

This budget session, commissioners agreed to put aside \$100,000 for the Greenway as is done for the Town Hall Complex, and earmark most of the \$176,000 generated by the 13.5 cent millage rate for siltation removal — \$50,000 will be used for dredging around the intake this year, and \$150,000 will be put aside for bigger de-silting projects in Lake Sequoyah and Big Creek.

Projected revenues based on 12.5 cents was about \$2,200,000. Projected revenues at the 13.5 cents will generate \$2,388,346.

Commissioners said the town may have to rely on its own sources to fund siltation removal because funding from the federal government and other sources hasn't materialized. Years ago, the town was working with a lobby in Washington to procure funds for the project, but they never materialized. The Town Board had agreed to pay \$40,000 for the lobby efforts, but efforts fell through so money was never exchanged.

The only nonprofits requesting money this year were the Hudson Library which requested \$14,000; the Highlands Historical Society which requested \$8,695; and Bascom Louise Gallery which requested \$30,000. Due to the policy enacted a couple of years ago capping the town's budget for nonprofits at \$50,000, commissioners decreased the gallery's allocation to \$27,305.

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It must be June madness

Why not June Madness? If men's college basketball rates March Madness, why shouldn't the pro's playoffs (the NBA) deserve a month of madness? Because nobody really gives a hoot, that's why. That is, except the crazies who spend a couple of hundred for a ticket to see a number of highly overpaid seven-foot tall people doing, admittedly, some fairly remarkable things. I suppose if you spent the winter in Detroit or Cleveland, you'd have to get excited about something.

Let's explore what inquiring minds want to know these days. Of course, the Queen of Crazies is Paris Hilton. Unfortunately, she may well be, and that's not a laughing matter. However, since she is a public person, and supports herself by making a public spectacle of herself, the least we can do is acknowledge her bad girl status and hope a stay in the slammer might square her around. Hope springs eternal.

The Judicial madness honor goes to Roy Pearson, the nut job who feels the Korean owners of a dry cleaning shop owe him tens of millions for misplacing his pants. The trial began on June 12 with Pearson breaking down in tears over the loss of his pants two years ago. Evidently, somewhere along the way, Judge Pearson lost his mind as well. He and Ms. Hilton should be made to share either a cell or a hospital room in Belleview. They deserve each other.

Our next item about entertainers gone mad involves our favorite twisted sister, Rosie, who received a verbal beating from a cutie conservative and had to leave the show (the View). Or maybe she was canned for her insistence that President Bush personally engineered the 9/11 attack and that he blew up building #5 all by himself. And John Kerry calls him stupid. Let's see him create such a debacle. Rosie wins the mad pig award for June.

Now I don't want to start anything here, but I've got to tell you, I am not going to miss the Sopranos. I love television drama. I am not particularly opposed to violence and offing folks who may deserve it doesn't bother me. "24" is one of my favorites. The reason I'm not going to miss it is I've never really watched it. I was on the road a while back, and I surfed the hotel room TV for something to waste my time. I came across the Sopranos (HBO is not on my home menu) and thought I'd see what all the excitement was about. After about five



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

minutes of non-stop crude words, I decided my time could be better spent elsewhere. The mob madness is bada-bye-bye.

The ecological madness continues to the steady drumbeat of global warming and the immediate demise of the earth and its people. So let's spend trillions of dollars (GE and their ilk love it) and lower that temperature .4 of a degree over 50 years. Now

Al Gore, the god of the issue, thinks that the world would be a much better off with one billion inhabitants rather than the six billion now walking the earth. So what better way to achieve the population retrograde than to melt the glaciers and drown five billion or so and there you are. Everybody who survives could live in Denver or Mexico City or other high places and all would be happy. Madness.

Now for two of my least favorite people. I admit I am not a fan of network television and Dan Rather may be one of the principle reasons. He is a dishonest, narcissistic fraud who misinformed the viewing public for years. He slanted the news to fit his liberal bias and managed to turn Walter Cronkite's lead that he inherited in the big three networks into a distant third. One of his only redeeming virtues was to recently knock CBS's management in promoting Katie Couric to his once anchor news position, where she continues the downward slide of viewership. CBS wins the network award for madness.

And finally, I find it ironic that the trial of Mike Nifong should start on the same day as the crying judge who lost his pants. I don't know what punishment is possible in Nifong's case, but it can't be bad enough to fit the crime. This is the worst case of malfeasance that I can recall and the fact that this slimeball was re-elected in the midst of his evil deeds is a sorry testimony to those entrusted with the vote. Nifong is my choice for madman of the month.

Theater camps at Highlands Playhouse

Children's theatre classes will be held at the Highlands Playhouse July 10-14 and July 17-21 with a performance on Saturday July 22, 2007.

The classes are for ages 6-15. Hours are 9 a.m.-Noon for ages 6-10 and 1-4 p.m. for ages 11-15. Cost is \$150 for the two week session. Call the Highlands Playhouse Box Office at 828-526-2695 for registration.

• ANOTHER VIEW •

Resting in paradise

In a recent column, I tried to make a case for preservation of the world's unique places. A reader, F. Carlton King, responded that it is pretty hard for impoverished countries to concentrate on preserving beauty.

My point was that in Africa and in the Galapagos Islands, poor nations have recognized the value of the majesty of nature and her critters, have learned that the rest of the world is willing to pay big bucks to visit these special places, and that it makes economic sense to conserve and restore these treasured spots.

In Botswana, park rangers kill poachers on sight. Each time a tourist steps foot on an island in the Galapagos



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

chain, he must be accompanied by a national park service guide, and must remain on marked trails to avoid the slightest disruption to the fragile ecosystem. Naturally there is pressure to increase tourism and cash in now, and poor countries find it difficult to limit visitors. Fewer tourists mean fewer dollars for nations desperately in need of money, but too much exposure results in

destruction of the attraction, and eventual loss of an important source of income.

I think these countries are doing a pretty decent job of balancing the immediate needs of their populations against the need to protect, preserve, and

• See ANOTHER VIEW page 14



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... ORDINANCE continued from page 7

shall mean the vertical distance measured from the top of the foundation to the uppermost point. The maximum height shall not apply to water, radio, telephone or television towers or any equipment for the transmission of electricity or communications or both; structures of a relatively slender nature and minor vertical projections of a parent building including chimneys, flagpoles, flues, spires, steeples, belfries, cupolas, antennas, poles, wires, or windmills, or buildings and structures designated as National Historic Sites on the National Archives Registry.

Judgment calls on any issue regarding the height ordinance comes from the county's Chief Building Inspector Jack Morgan.

Meanwhile, developer of the proposed Highland Views on U.S. 64 east – the project that prompted the county to put a moratorium on high-rise construction and draft an ordinance regulating height – is clearing one 1.3-acre lot for views and getting water and sewer in place.

On March 16, 2007, Shephard closed on two adjacent tracts on U.S. 64 across from the Community Bible Church for a total of 21-plus acres. However, the 19+-acre tract has a cloud on its deed.

The David family, the original owners of the

property, is in litigation with Sanders Dupree who bought the property and then sold it to Shephard. The dispute revolves around alleged covenants depicting building requirements and allowances – single family homes versus high-rise structures. The case will be heard mid-July.

On the 1.3 acres tract — a four-story building housing 23, three-bedroom, 2,400-2,600 sq. ft. condominium units could be built, but Shephard said he's going to wait to see how the lawsuit turns out.

"I'm not sure what direction we'll take until the lawsuit is decided," he said. "If we win the lawsuit, then the project will be bigger. If not, we'll build just one building."

The plan is for almost all of the condominium units to have a view of Shortoff Mountain. Parking will be dug out under the building. The complex will include a spa, indoor pool, meeting rooms and storage rooms for each condominium unit. The first floor of the four-story unit will be on ground level

Regardless of what ends up on the overall tract, Shephard plans hiking trails, picnic areas and a putting green on the property.

He and his architect are working up building designs utilizing wood, stone and timbers.

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Blood Diamond

The 2006 Action/Drama starring Leonardo DiCaprio (Departed), Djimon Hounsou (Eragon), and Jennifer Connelly (Little Children).

Directed by Edward Zwick (Glory, The Last Samurai), screenplay by Charles Leavitt, Rated R for graphic violence.

The Storyline: Solomon Vandy (brilliantly played by Djimon Hounsou) is a fisherman in Sierra Leone, and in 1999 during the civil war it might well be considered the worst place on Earth. Danny Archer (played by DiCaprio) is a mercenary, diamond smuggler, and really just an all around unpleasant sort of guy. Maddy Bowen (Connelly) is an American journalist with a mission, to uncover the money trail of blood diamonds (for those not familiar with the term, those are gem stones, often mined by forced labor, and sold for financing many of the African continent's various wars).

Solomon ends up as one of these forced laborers, and finds an unusual diamond, putting the story in motion that will lead to these three unlikely, and unwilling, allies on a quest for one family, one diamond, and one article as, for a variety of reasons, they team up to find, reunite, and save Vandy's family, recover and sell the diamond, and document the smuggling.

OK, I am not really a big fan of DiCaprio (though that doesn't seem to have hurt his career any), but that's alright, because the story is about Djimon Hounsou's character anyway, and his performance is perfect. DiCaprio and Connelly are just in the film to give it some star recognition. The filming is quite well done, there are parts are stunningly beautiful, but be forewarned, the violence is brutal and graphic, but probably a necessary part of telling the story. The background for the movie, the war in Sierra Leone, the diamond trade, and the presence of child soldiers in sub Saharan Africa is realistically done. Some of the elements of the primary story line, such as the romance between Archer and Bowen and the extraordinary effort for one specific diamond are a bit of a stretch, but over all the story holds together well, and is a compelling tale.

A few bits of trivia, much of the filming was actually done in South Africa, although the war in Sierra Leone



Stuart of
The Movie Stop

has been over for about 6 years now, and Djimon Hounsou won Best Supporting actor from National Board of Review Awards for his role.

A few more well done films dealing with African issues are Lords of War (starring Nicholas Cage) and the Academy award winning Tsotsi, stop on by and give them a look.

Nominated for Best Actor In A Leading Role - Leonardo DiCaprio.
Nominated for Best Actor

In A Supporting Role - Djimon Hounsou.

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 11

restore their natural resources.

There aren't many people who are generous enough to pass up a profit to save a special place. Without the promise of profit, special places will be defiled by the logger's ax, the farmer's plow, or the developer's greed.

I responded to Mr. King and suggested that he consider the approach of a close friend, Dr. Billy Campbell, who is personally attempting to save the world, or at least a million acres of it.

Billy was born and raised in Westminster, S.C. He was a river guide in his youth and is an unrepentant tree hugger. Billy has been threatened by loggers and referred to as a "new age" Jed Clampett. Billy wanted to save trees and wet lands. He wanted to preserve and restore natural habitat. He wanted to be on the cover of Forbes and make millions. His plan was to preserve and restore wilderness land by creating cemeteries.

The idea was straight-forward enough. It costs a lot of money to be buried. Billy reasoned that people might be willing to spend their money on a simple pine box instead of a bronze casket and concrete vault and put the difference into land preservation. He hoped that they would rather rest in pristine wilderness than in a manicured pasture dotted with plastic flowers. Finally he believed that there were people who would rather spend their money to help save wild lands than on a three-by-seven-foot plot in a fancy memorial park. He just didn't know if there were enough of them to make it work.

Thus, in 1997, was Memorial Ecosystems born. I invested in Billy's

• See ANOTHER VIEW page 14

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airs at 7 am, 9 am, 4 pm, 6 pm,
9 pm, and 11 pm.

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 11

dream and you should know that if this concept moves you to buy a plot, I hope to make a little money. Billy has always tried to do it right. He conceived Memorial Ecosystems as not only “green” but as a moral and ethical company as well. He and his wife Kimberly opened Ramsey Creek Preserve 10 years ago. The couple has traveled around the country talking with the Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, private land owners, and other environmental groups searching for land in need of love — land that is worthy of salvation but is in danger of development. The land must be treated with respect. The owner must be able to make a profit. Memorial Ecosystems is a vehicle to satisfy both needs. Burials are low density. Toxic embalming fluids are not permitted. At Ramsey Creek, we decay and contribute to the circle of life.

Shortly after he launched Memorial Ecosystems, it occurred to Billy that the Cherokee Reservation might be a wonderful site for a cemetery. The tribe had lots of land. They wanted money. They had a deep spirituality and a sacred

bond with the land. It was a natural fit or so it seemed. Dr. Campbell met with tribal elders who ultimately decided that their land would be more profitable as a golf course. Or was it as a casino parking lot? So much for stereotypes. He then became involved with a guy who owned a chain of cemeteries, wanted to catch the wave, and go “green.” It wasn’t until he bulldozed 100-year-old grass in Marin County, CA, that Billy realized that when he said “green” he meant dollars.

Neither Billy nor Kimberly ever lost faith. The size of the Ramsey Creek Preserve has doubled. Billy recently entered into an agreement with a monastery in Conyers, GA. The monks had land and needed money. I suppose that Atlanta is creeping closer and closer. At the Monastery of the Holy Spirit, the monks grow bonsai and sell bonsai supplies. They have a bookstore and an abbey store. Their web sit lists the “gourmet one-pound fruit cake” as the leading seller at the abbey store. Anybody who sells more fruitcake than fudge needs money. The monks have taken

orders for about 100 burial sites in just a few weeks. Other monasteries are keeping an eye on the project. They have land, an inclination for isolation, and sagging fruitcake sales. The monks have agreed that anybody of any persuasion can be buried. Christians and Jews rest comfortably together at Ramsey Creek. Billy was delighted to inter a Wiccan.

Last week, I picked up a “People Magazine” while I waited in a check-out line at Walmart. Imagine my surprise when I opened it to find a picture of Billy and Kimberly standing in a shallow freshly dug grave. Other pictures showed the funeral of a woman who had died from leukemia. The text mentioned that my friends owned one of four green cemeteries in the country and hinted that the concept may be gaining a niche in the American funeral industry. I’ve known Billy for many years. He is a devoted tree hugger, a good and faithful friend, a talented family physician, an entrepreneur, and visionary. I suspect that Billy will be as bemused with celebrity as he was being labeled a “new age Jed Clampett.”

We think of preserving wilderness as the business of governments. Governments are broke. Government officials usually side with developers over environmentalists. I guess it’s the good feeling one gets deep in the wallet when he sees a beautiful new condo where nasty old growth forest once stood. Governments must still assume a major role in preservation, but there is plenty of room for guys who want to do well by doing good.

Smokeless bowling offered this Sunday afternoon

Bowlers can enjoy their game in a smoke free atmosphere at Franklin Lanes this coming Sunday afternoon from 1-4 p.m. Normal rates apply. “That’s right, one of the most popular family sports, bowling, is coming to Franklin Lanes without tobacco smoke this Sunday,” said Diane Alexander, a county public health educator. Smoking will not be permitted and the environment will be cleaned overnight.

Another great feature of the afternoon is the new equipment and automatic scoreboards at the bowling alley. RED PIN BOWLING will be in play. If you score and strike when a red pin is in position, you will win a FREE GAME.

The smoke-free afternoon is a project of Franklin Lanes, FHS Teens Against Tobacco Use (T.A.T.U.), and the Macon County Public Health Center. For more information about the T.A.T.U.group, contact Diane Alexander at 349-2436.

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Sports Page



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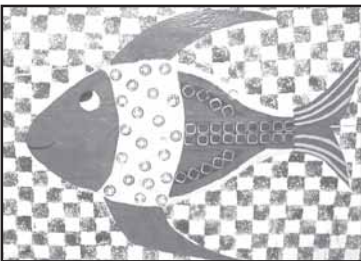
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Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

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pastries, sandwiches
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Cast readying for opening night of "Kiss Me Kate" Thursday, June 21. The preview show is Wednesday, both at 8 p.m.

'Kiss Me Kate' opens June 21

When rehearsals started for the Highlands Playhouse's performance of *Kiss Me, Kate*, a rare thing happened: the cast began rehearsing on the final set. The set crew, which included of Pete Talton, Jeremy Miller, and Michael Chesterman, had arrived at Highlands early and decided to start working on the set. Due to the ballet performance in the Playhouse, the set had to be constructed outside. Before the ballet had left, the *Kiss Me, Kate* set had already been completed.

Bill Gabelhausen, director of *Kiss Me, Kate*, was amazed at the feat the set crew had achieved. "When I worked as a professional actor and director, I had always been in rehearsal spaces or using a rehearsal set. This was the first time I've ever started rehearsal in a completed set."

One Sunday, the set crew worked from noon until 10 or 11 at night on the set while

everyone else in the company was watching the Tony's. Upon their completion, the set crew had the cast and crew of *Kiss Me, Kate* sit in the audience of the Playhouse and unveiled the completed set to everyone. Michael Chesterman, who helped construct the set, said that "as a whole I think it's a really good set; it works really well. I just wish we had more time to do the backdrop and make it look more realistic, but a lot of people helped with it and I'm very pleased with the outcome."

Gabelhausen says that his actors "were definitely aware of what a unique opportunity this was and they all know how lucky they are."

Kiss Me, Kate opens on June 21 and will run until June 30. For ticket information, the Highlands Playhouse box office is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (828) 526-2695.

'Taming of the Shrew' version of 'Kate' featured at Tug Wa Ridge

When the Highlands Playhouse decided to make the Cole Porter musical *Kiss Me, Kate* part of its 2007 season, they also made the choice to perform Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, which *Kiss Me, Kate* is based on, as a companion piece. It all began when Bill Gabelhausen, director of *Kiss Me, Kate*, was asked by Playhouse General Manager Henry Johnson if there was a way for the Playhouse to do both shows. Gabelhausen said "the only way I thought we could do it was if we did *Kiss Me, Kate* full-tilt and did a scaled-down version of *Taming of the Shrew* that focused on the language and conveying the story."

For a location of this scaled-down *Taming of the Shrew*, the Playhouse decided to make it an outdoors event, with each of the two performances taking place at different locations. The first show, on Saturday, June 23, at the Tug Wa Ridge estate at 2 p.m.. The second will take place Saturday, June 30 at the Pine Street Park

at 2 p.m. Both performances are free.

Gabelhausen said that the art of juggling two shows with one director has been "a crazy time, but at the same time I'm thankful that it's these two shows because one lends insight into the other." Actress Danielle Bailey Miller, who plays Katherina in *Taming of the Shrew*, relishes the experience, saying, "It really gives the audience a chance to see the duality of both plays. Cole Porter's musical makes Shakespeare easier to understand and offering both shows gives the audience a chance to see what the musical was based on."

The Tug Wa Ridge Showhouse will offer people a unique opportunity to see a luxurious estate never before open to the public. The Highlands Playhouse, along with other charities, will be selling advance tickets for \$25. The Playhouse box office is open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (828) 526-2695.

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Highlands School Class of 2007 graduated Saturday, June 16



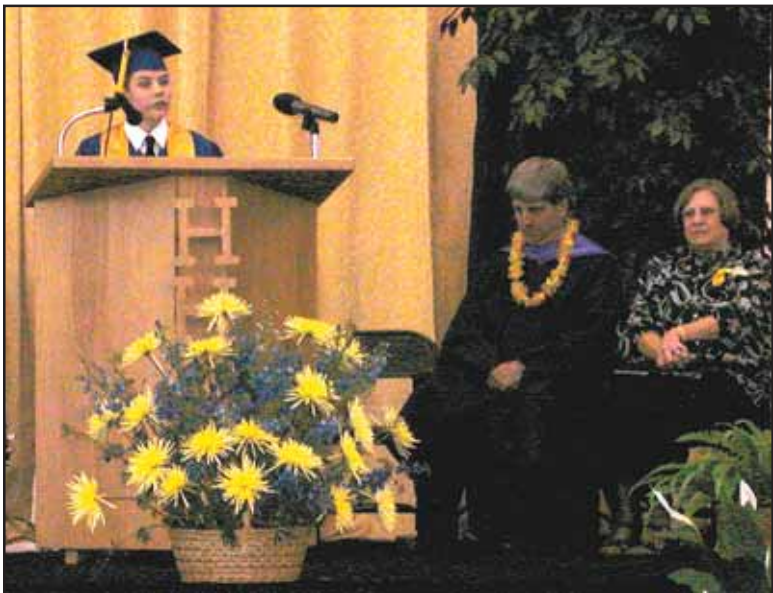
Left, Matthew McClellan and Katie Pierce open the ceremony with a song authored by McClellan. Speakers included Salutatorian Lucy Herz, above,

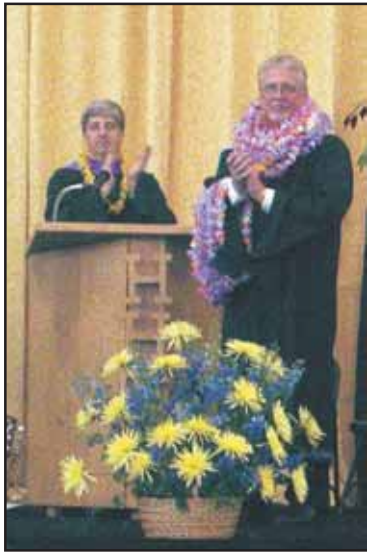


On the podium were Superintendent Dan Brigman, Principal Brian Jetter and Vice Principal Terry Bradley.



In the time-honored tradition, Junior Marshals gave each graduate a flower which they in turn presented to their parents.





Above, Principal Jetter is adorned with leis which each graduate gave him after receiving their diploma.



Above, as graduates left the stage with their diplomas, they stopped to toss the preceding graduate's tassel.



Mascot Madison Reese Lloyd



Graduates take their final walk past family and friends

The class of 2007 says 'good-bye' rich in memories and scholarship funds from community and town!



When the ceremony was over, graduates tossed their hats in the air signifying the final step over the threshold.



By the June 15 Highlands School Scholarship ceremony, \$238,000 in scholarships were awarded graduating seniors. Some came from organizations in the Highlands community, others were given by colleges and universities to entering freshmen. The Old Edwards Hospitality Group, represented by Mario and Cynthia Gomes, presented Highlands School with a check for \$38,500. Each graduate with plans to further his or her education after high school, received \$1,000. Valedictorian Chase Jenkins received \$5,000 and Salutatorian Lucy Herz received \$2,500 from the OEI group. The Old Edwards Group has done this for the past four years. Since it was established July 1, 1987, the town has awarded \$498,170 to graduating seniors and previous graduates. In 1988 14 students received scholarships for a total of \$9,000. In 2007, 55 students, including current and past graduates, were awarded a total of \$40,200, the most ever. The principal balance in the Scholarship Endowment Fund as of April 15, 2007, was \$722,970.37.



Christ Anglican Church

Traditional • Conservative • Orthodox
at the Highlands Community Center

Visiting Rector Series

Sunday, June 24, 11 a.m.

The Rev. Gene Mallard
Area Dean for the Anglican
Province of America

Sunday, July 1, 11 a.m.

Holy Communion
The Rev. Alex Dickson
Retired Bishop of West
Tennessee

Sunday, July 8, 11 a.m.

Holy Communion
The Rev. Paul Blankinship
Assistant at All Saint's Anglican
Church, Arden, NC

All services are at the
Highlands Community Center
on Highway 64 next to the ballpark.
For more information, call the
Christ Anglican Church office at 526-2320
Visitors and friends are welcome!

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Anesthesiologist joins hospital

An anesthesiologist with 20 years experience in the field of anesthesia and pain management has joined the medical staff at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Dr. Mark Shoptaugh of Baton Rouge, LA, will initially practice part-time at the hospital, filling in whenever either of the hospital's two primary anesthesiologists, Dr. S. David Register, or Dr. Leila Martin, is unavailable. Dr. Shoptaugh is currently associated with Anesthesiology Group Associates, Inc., a large group practice in Baton Rouge, where he has spent his entire career until now. In fact, his will be a familiar face behind the surgical mask for local orthopedic surgeon Herbert K. Plauché, MD, FAAOS.



Dr. Mark Shoptaugh

Plauché, who relocated his practice to Highlands in 1998 from Baton Rouge, performed many surgeries with Shoptaugh over approximately ten years.

"I was fortunate to have worked with him in Baton Rouge for a number of years and I'm extremely pleased he has decided to bring his talents and experience here to our communities," Plauché said. "I look forward to working with Mark again."

Like Plauché, Dr. Shoptaugh is a native of Louisiana and a graduate of Louisiana State University Medical School in New Orleans. He completed his internship in internal medicine at LSU affiliated hospitals in 1985, before entering the anesthesiology residency program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. After completion of his residency, he entered private practice in Baton Rouge.

"We are delighted that he is interested in practicing in our area," said Dr. Leila Martin, who joined the hospital's staff as the first full-time anesthesiologist in 1997. "This comes at a very beneficial time for me particularly, as I will be cutting back my time at the hospital in order to spend more time with a family member who is in ill health. We are all pleased with Dr. Shoptaugh's qualifications and we think he will be a very good addition to the medical staff."

Dr. Shoptaugh and his wife recently purchased a home in the Cold Springs community in Highlands, but he says he plans to continue to work in Baton Rouge when he's not needed here. He hopes to move more and more of his practice to this area over the course of the next several years.

"Mark and his wife, Anna, are great people. My wife and I have enjoyed getting to know them and we look forward to having them here," said Dr. David Register. "I expect Dr. Shoptaugh will love the Highlands and Cashiers areas, especially with his interest in golf and tennis. In fact, he won the number three position SEC champion-

ship in tennis while at LSU, so the better tennis players here in the area will be in for a treat."

Shoptaugh is currently on the medical staff of Our Lady of the Lakes Medical Center in Baton Rouge, as well as the staff of the Surgical Specialty Center, where he is Director of Pain Medicine. He has served in the past as medical director of that center, as well as chief of anesthesia at Baton Rouge General Medical Center, and as medical director of the Surgicenter of Baton Rouge.

A member of the American Society of Interventional Pain Practice and the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Dr. Shoptaugh is certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology in both anesthesiology and the subspecialty of pain medicine. Board certification is required for all physicians at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Owl Prowl at the Nature Center

Would you like to see an owl up close? Or listen to its calls? Do you want to learn more about them? Then come to the Highlands Nature Center's annual Owl Prowl tomorrow evening, Wednesday, June 27.

Meet at the Nature Center amphitheater at 8 p.m. for an educational presentation given by the Carolina Raptor Center featuring live owls. This program will last approximately one hour and is offered in collaboration with the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society.

Following the program, stay until dark for the "Owl Prowl" led by several members of the Audubon Society. Learn the different calls of local owls and then split into small groups and venture to various locations to search for owls in the wild. Wear light colored clothing and bring your flashlight.

The Owl Prowl is free to the public, but contributions for the Carolina Raptor Center are appreciated.

Visitors are encouraged to carpool due to limited parking. Parking is available behind the Nature Center, across the street at Sunset Rock, or next door at Valentine House dormitory. The Nature Center is also within walking distance of downtown.

In addition, the Tuesday, June 26, Family Nature Activity will feature an examination of owl pellets. Owl pellets contain the bones of the owl's prey, such as mice, shrews, or small birds. The fee for this activity is only \$1 per person. Meet at the Nature Center at 3:00 p.m. and see what you can find in yours!

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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

“Less Judgment, More Curiosity”

– A.Redmountain

By Dr. Carol Light

On June 15 and 16, 27 women met for a Women's Dialogue which is a part of the Highlands Institute of American Religious and Philosophical Thought. The seminar focus was on how to assess the health of religious systems, especially as they impact women. The workshop was led by Dr. Elizabeth Bowman, a psychiatrist trained in Religious Studies. In 2004, the American Psychiatric Association awarded Dr. Bowman the Oskar Pfister award which recognizes outstanding contributions to the dialogue between religion and psychiatry.

The group discussed and concluded that the following elements are present in healthy religious systems: flexible organizational structure with open communication that promotes personal growth, encourages questioning and doubt, provides a sense of community and connection, accepts differences in beliefs, understands there are many ways to believe and to celebrate life, encourages encounter and dialogue.

Religious systems are unhealthy when they are intolerant of differences, operate in a rigid belief system, discourage individuality, support surrender to a hierarchy of power, confuse symbols with the reality they represent, limit the growth and development of individuality, especially of women, assign rigid role limitations, and promote communication that is secretive with no accountability to the congregation.

The participants were encouraged to examine the various religious systems they had been part of over the course of their lives with these attributes in mind, and discussed ways they could be empowered to encourage more healthy elements in the religious groups they choose to be part of. The women who participated were: Elinor Artman, Bettie Banks, Suzanne L. Barrett, Pat Boyd, Vivian Brewer, Elizabeth Bowman, Millie Coleman, Nancy Geller, Rachel Hamilton, Jean Hammond, Katherine Kaiser, Alison Lee, Carole Light, Sara Mann, Evelyn Miller, Lynn Normile, Ute Partain, Frissy Peden, and Nancy Tarbox.

Vacation Bible School at HUMC

All children ages 2 through rising sixth-graders are invited to the Methodist Church's Vacation Bible School, *Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God.*

The action begins Sunday, June 24 and ends Thursday, June 28 from 5:30-8 p.m. Each lesson will be supported with Bible stories, science activities, songs, crafts, and games.

A child-friendly meal will be served each night at 5 p.m. There will be an adult Bible study each night at 6 p.m. Please call 526-3376.

Highlands Town Board election

The Highlands municipal election is November 6, 2007. The sign-up period for the three openings on the Town Board is July 6-20. The seats are currently held by Commissioners Herb James, Dennis DeWolf and Alan Marsh.

• 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.

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Sky Valley, Georgia
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Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

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

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Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

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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.

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

Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens

Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

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

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

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

Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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

Mondays: 8 a.m. – 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

Pastors Eddie & Kim Ingram, 526-3376

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

5 p.m. Youth Group

Wed: noon – Men's Emmaus Reunion Group; 4:45 –

Children's choir and handbells; 5:30 – Supper; 6 –

Adult Handbells; 6:15 – children, youth, & adults

studies;

7:15 – Adult choir

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

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell

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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.

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

Sundays: School –10 a.m.; Worship –11 a.m. & 7

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;

Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Rev. Maureen Killoran (part-time) 526-9769

Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11



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When: 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Where: Jane Woodruff Clinic, Level 1, on the hospital campus

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U.S. Marines from Athens, GA, and sailors from Special Boat Team 29, Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, VA, will stand as Marshals throughout this weekend's 50-mile SOAR course.

Highlands SOAR activities begin Thursday night; race is Saturday

Since the terrorist attacks in 2001, America has demanded much of its elite Special Operations Forces. We are, indeed, "the Land of the Free because we are the Home of the Brave." With Highlands hosting the Special Operations Adventure Race (SOAR) for the fifth time this Saturday, the military will be very much in evidence. Please meet and greet our visiting servicemen this weekend.

There will be U.S. Marines from Athens, GA and sailors from Special Boat Team 20, Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, VA. They are volunteering as Marshals throughout the 50-mile course. Another 30 from the military will be competing in this significant annual event benefitting the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.

The Special Operations Warrior Foundation has for 27 years, provided college educations to the surviving children

of Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps special operations personnel killed in combat or training. Additionally, the Warrior Foundation provides immediate financial assistance to special operations personnel severely wounded in the global war on terror.

The Foundation has enabled the college graduation of 114 children. There are currently 125 students enrolled in colleges and universities across the country and there are a total 696 children in the program. With more than 120 students eligible for college each year, the Warrior Foundation's estimated financial need is \$76 million.

Your donations to this noble cause are continuing to be accepted and gratefully received. Please make your checks payable to SOAR at Box 923, Highlands, NC 28741 USA www.soarhighlands.org and www.specialops.org

SOAR activities and itinerary

This year the Highlands SOAR committee has worked diligently to honor these heroes. These "quiet professionals" have given the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. The foundation provides grants (not loans) to the children of fallen heroes for a college education. They also provide support and assistance to special operations personnel severely wounded in the global war against terrorism.

It is important to remind our military that their community supports their efforts, and if they lose their lives fighting for our freedom, they know the Warrior Foundation is here to provide for their children's education and family counseling. In the year 2006 the foundation provided \$600,000 to some 109 students enrolled in

colleges and universities across the country.

June 21, 5 p.m.

Highlands Conference Center

Tickets \$35 at the door

Food donated by Wolfgang's

Music by Hurricane Creek

Wine Tasting by

Highlands Wine & Cheese

Many great treasures to bid on.

Special Operations Adventure Race

June 23

Elite Race Start: 7 a.m.

Sprint Race Start: 8 a.m.

Mary Beth Brody

will sing the National Anthem

Come and cheer the racers on!

Historical Society's 'Walk in the Park' begins June 29-July 1

The Highlands Historical Society will present its 8th annual "Walk in the Park" June 29 and 30, and July 1. This year's performance will tell the life stories of families who lived in the HHS house-museum from the time it was built in 1877 until 1976 when last occupant, "Lizzie" Prince, died.

Each summer for the last seven years the Highlands Historical Society has presented lessons on the history of the town through stories told by actors portraying people from the town's past, a tradition started shortly after the Society purchased the oldest remaining residence in town, the "Prince" house at 520 North Fourth Street.

To date, all performances of "Walk in the Park" have taken place in Highlands Memorial Park, the town's cemetery. However, many older residents and visitors have been reluctant to attempt to stand on the asphalt driveway at Memorial Park long enough to see the performance, so this year for the first time the Society has arranged to present one of the three performances on stage at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center. That performance will begin at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 1.

Rick Trevathan will portray builder Arthur House, who arrived in Highlands shortly after its founding in 1875. Rick Siegel will represent the second owner of the

house, Frank Boynton. In 1889 the house was sold to Ms. Alicia Trapier, the daughter of Episcopal Bishop William Trapier of Charleston. She will be represented by Sally Sausman.

The next occupant of the house, Robert Walter Reese, will be portrayed by Ron Leslie. Reese first came to Highlands as a child, when his father, a master carpenter, came from Franklin to build the First Presbyterian Church. The "Billy" Potts family then lived in the house until 1913. Helen Regnery will tell the story of the Potts family as it might have been told by "Billy's" wife, Mattie Ammons Potts. After the Potts family moved out, Frank Wright and his young family moved in. Unfortunately, he developed typhoid fever and died at the age of 33, leaving a wife and two young children. His story will be told by Eric NeSmith. The last occupant of the house was "Lizzie" Prince, the sister of Frank Wright. She will be portrayed at "Walk in the Park" by Pegi Williard.

Friday and Saturday performances will begin with shuttles leaving the Highlands Community Center (former "Conference Center") every 15 minutes from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets for any of the three performances are priced \$15 each, with students admitted free. Tickets are available at

D & J Express Mart, the Old Rangoon, Cyrano's Bookshop, or on the day of performance at the Community Center or Per-

forming Arts Center. All proceeds are used by the Historical Society for the upkeep of the Highlands Historic Village.

Ip

Highlands Playhouse

SUMMER SEASON

2007

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June 21 - July 8

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clubhouse and Peregrine at the Cove restaurant and bar. Come see us. We promise you a mountain high.

We're located six miles east of Highlands on Highway 64. For information, visit the sales office adjacent to the entry gate. Or call us: 828-526-8128 or toll free 1-866-220-2209. Homesites range from \$175,000 to \$650,000. Single-family homes begin in the low \$900,000's. Condominium homes are priced from \$695,000. Web site: www.highlandscove.com.



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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wayah Insurance in Highlands welcomes new face

Wayah Insurance Group welcomes Jarret Calloway to the sales team in the

Highlands office. Jarret is a native of Highlands, graduating from Highlands School in 1999, attended Western Carolina University graduating with a B.S. in Marketing and after working in both hospitality and technology, has returned to Highlands.

Jarret is a licensed property and casualty insurance agent in the state of North Carolina and brings a wealth of marketing and sales experience along with a great enthusiasm for his job. Steve Chenoweth, owner of Wayah Insurance, says Jarret fits beautifully in the relationship driven insurance industry and looks forward to a long and prosperous association with Jarret. His responsibilities will focus on providing customized insurance programs for business and personal lines clients.



Jarret Calloway

Century 21 Mountainlifestyles names top producers for May

The following CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles agents were top producers for their office during the month of May:

In the Cashiers office, Sharon Dalton, professional broker, was named top listing agent and Elizabeth Matej, broker associate and fine homes & estates specialist was named top sales agent. She was also awarded the bronze producer award for her production in 2006.

In the Highlands office, Bob Shipp, broker associate, was named both top listing agent and top sales agent. Shipp received the "Rookie of the Year" award in his office for his production in 2006.



Elizabeth Matej,
Broker Associate
and Fine Homes
& Estates
Specialist,
Cashiers office



Bob Shipp,
Broker Associate
Highlands office



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... COUNTY continued from page 1

ing the veterans are responsible for the freedoms Americans enjoy today.

The Sheriff Department

The sheriff department requested funding for two more deputies to round out its Nantahala four-man force as well as continued funding for a sheriff department attorney.

Deputy Andy Shields, who represented the department, said changes to 604 laws over the last five years has jeopardized the departments' ability to know exactly where it stands concerning the law. Law changes mainly centered on DWI and sexual offenses. Shields said the attorney helps reduce civil litigation against the county because he keeps the department abreast of changes and trains deputies to deal with situations correctly. He also writes grants for the department.

Commissioners OK'd the request for extra funding with the guarantee that Nantahala would have a consistent sheriff department presence there.

Teacher Supplements

In the public session, Bob Lavery suggested Commissioners Charlie Leatherman, Bob Simpson and Brian McClellan should not vote on supplement for teachers because members of their family are teachers and because Commissioner Leatherman is himself a teacher.

"Guy Gooder was recently forced off the school board due to a perceived conflict of interest so I think these commissioners should recuse themselves from voting on that part of the budget that has to do with teacher supplements," said Lavery.

Commissioner Simpson said since the teacher supplement isn't just for his wife, McClellan's wife or for Commissioner Leatherman but rather for all teachers, there is no direct conflict of interest and by law he and the others are required to vote if there isn't a conflict of interest. County Attorney Lesley Moxley substantiated his claim.

Commissioner Leatherman asked how many of Lavery's children attended Macon County Schools. Lavery said "none."

"Since I have been on this board and since you've been in Macon County, you've done nothing but be critical of the Macon County School system," said Leatherman. "You always downgrade the school system and are never complimentary of it. Since you never had children in it, perhaps your issues come from somewhere else."

He said Lavery's focus should be on the school system that graduated his children and not Macon County's.

Commissioner Jim Davis reminded the audience that the amount of the supplement isn't being increased this year, and that Commissioner Leatherman donates his supplement back to the county.

Fire Tax Rate

Over the last few months, the commission has gone back and forth on the fire tax rate. The rates that were initially proposed didn't reflect a revenue neutral stance

so they were changed – decreased in most instances. But at Monday night's meeting, the board voted to put the rates back to the original figures.

Commissioners Davis and McClellan wanted the fire tax to reflect the revenue neutral stance down the line, but for most departments that would mean a lack of funding for either a full-time paid person or for payments on structures and equipment.

"I have a responsibility to the citizens of Macon County and before I spend a dime, I need to know where it's going. I need to be accountable," said Commissioner McClellan.

Commissioner Davis felt the same way and said he wanted to see detailed audits from all 11 fire departments to verify the need for anything but a revenue neutral rate.

Commissioners Ronnie Beale and Simpson said there has never been any misuse of funds in the past. "This is about safety and concern for our citizens. It's about time, which is money to all of us," said Beale.

Emergency Services Director Warren Cabe said he agreed audits were necessary, but said the men in the fire departments were volunteers and not accountants.

Chairman Leatherman wanted a guarantee from Cabe that down the line, the lack of funding on the commission's part would not jeopardize life or limb.

Cabe said most of the funding realized by the additional penny or so on the fire tax would be going to payments on buildings and paying for a full time personnel. "Volunteers are getting harder to come by. Between working full time, training and responding, it's just not worth it. I know, I've done it," said Cabe. "If a call came in to Cullasaja during the day and the department wasn't able to respond, yes, someone could get hurt, something could happen, if there wasn't someone to respond."

With \$2 million spent on 400 employees, Cabe said the county's volunteer fire departments were the best bargain in the county. "That's \$6,000 per employee," he said.

In the end, the board voted unanimously to accept the fire tax as originally budgeted, not the revised revenue neutral amount. For Highlands that means the rate of .0009 was granted instead of the revised revenue neutral rate of .0008 – the equivalent \$9 per \$100,000 valuation which translates to a little more than \$35,000 for the Highlands Department.

Room Tax Disbursement

During the public session, Executive Director of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce Bob Kieltyka spoke against the county's plan to revise the disbursement of the county's room tax proceeds to include the Economic Development Commission.

"In addition to continuing its existing programs, the EDC wants to use room tax money to staff a person to assist the EDC and work with the commissioners to estab-

lish a countywide tourism development program," wrote County Manager Sam Greenwood in his budget message. "Existing and consulting and professional costs are to be used to support approved development of a commercial park around the airport and to continue to work with existing industry and incubator programs."

Currently the only two entities receiving room tax proceeds – the tax collected from visitors who stay in bed and breakfasts, inns, hotels, motels, camps sites and vacation rental homes – are the Franklin and Highlands chambers of commerce.

Now the county is considering putting the money in a pool and allowing organizations to apply for it on a project by project basis.

"The proposed budget will change significantly a program that has served the county well for 21 years without the benefit of having a well defined replacement program in place and without the benefit of input from all involved parties," read Kieltyka from a prepared statement. "Given the significance of this change, the undefined revised control and application of this revenue source, the lack of discussion and program details, its impact on existing Visitor Center operations, staffing, leases and other overhead costs, budgets and programs, we respectfully request the commissioners discard for the next year or at the very least defer action this part of the proposed budget until further deliberations involving all affected parties can occur and program details finalized."

No one from the Franklin Chamber of Commerce spoke on the issue. Commissioner McClellan spoke on behalf of the Highlands Chamber.

"I don't see merit in taking revenue from something that expands our property tax base," said McClellan. "It just doesn't make good fiscal sense when this has clearly worked for 20 some years. At least don't change it this year. We need to get more legal counsel and look at possibilities."

The NC State Legislature adopted Senate Bill 948 June 1985 and Macon County passed a resolution October 1986 authorizing the disbursement of a portion of the county occupancy tax collected to the chambers.

Because the rule regarding the disbursement of the funds is broad – "With the understanding that this money is to be used as the law states for the promotion of travel and tourism" – recently, in other areas of the state, the funds have been used to bolster infrastructure, parks, greenways and visitor centers – all under the umbrella of promoting and sustaining tourism.

In its annual "tax fund audit" dated June 30, 2006, the Highlands Chamber of Commerce shows receiving \$251,577 in room tax money 2005-2006.

Monday night, County Manager Sam Greenwood said the disbursement of room tax proceeds to the Franklin and Highlands

•See COUNTY page 31

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Sunset Mountain Estates - Lt. 7



Sunset Mountain Estates - Lt. 13



Sunset Mountain Estates - Lt. 12

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River Valley Ranch



Springwood Cliffs



River Valley Ranch

Otto is minutes from Franklin and Dillard on Hwy 441 with easy access to Highlands via Hwy 106.

Book signings at Cyrano's June 23

Miss Julia comes to Highlands! Ann B. Ross, author of the popular "Miss Julia" series of novels, will sign copies of "Miss Julia Strikes Back" at Cyrano's Bookshop on Saturday, June 23, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. And gardeners and plant lovers take note: Bill Alexander autographs his new book, "The Biltmore Nursery: A Botanical Legacy" from noon to 1:30 p.m. the same afternoon.

If you've admired the plantings bordering the three-mile-long drive between the Biltmore Estate's gatehouse and its chateau—you can thank Highlands, in part.

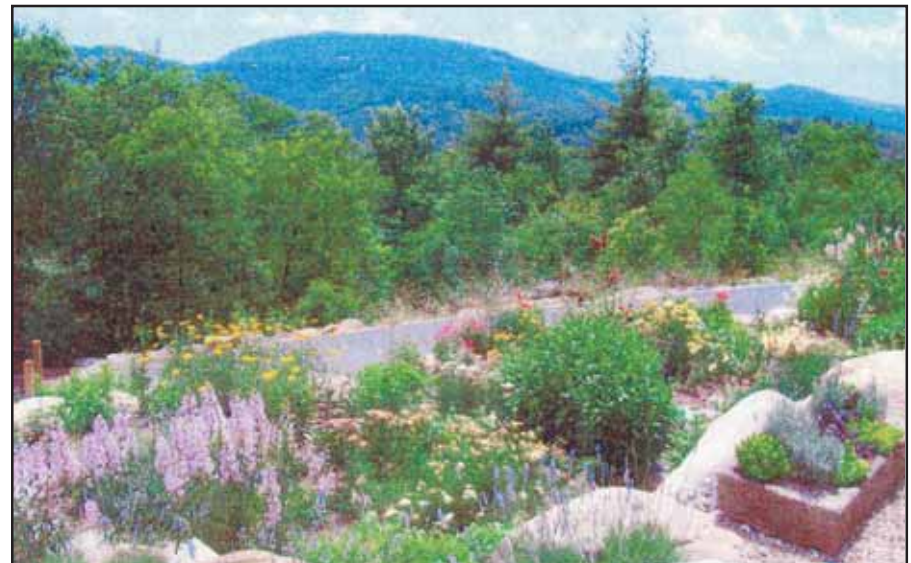
In "The Biltmore Nursery" Bill Alexander explains that in the 1890s George Vanderbilt acquired many of those handsome rhododendron from Highlands horticulturist Harlan P. Kelsey, son of our town's co-founder, Samuel Kelsey. But of course it was prohibitively expensive — even for a Gilded-Age robber baron — to cover thousands of acres with the millions of flowers, shrubs and trees required. So Frederick law Olmsted Sr., who designed New York's Central Park before laying out the grounds of Biltmore, suggested creating a nursery to propagate and rear plants on a large scale, "they would cost you [Vanderbilt] not a quarter as much as the commercial price." Mr. Alexander is Biltmore's Landscape and Forest Historian and his "Biltmore Nursery" provides a history of the estate that also in-

cludes an account of the gardens, park and pleasure grounds beyond the nursery. This beautifully produced book includes a complete reproduction of the Estate's 1912 nursery catalog, as well as fascinating archival images and color photographs.

Fans of the irrepressible but perfectly proper lady "of a certain age" Julia Springer of Abbotsville, North Carolina, will welcome "Miss Julia Strikes Back," the eighth book in the warm and humorous series chronicling her adventures that began with "Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind." This time around our heroine leaves her small town in hot pursuit of thieves who stole her jewelry, including her engagement ring — an exact replica of Princess Diana's. The trail leads to Palm Beach for sun, sand and a stakeout as our amateur detective and her gathering posse closes in on the bad guys. Fannie Flag said "Miss Julia is one of the most delightful characters to come along in years." Ms. Ross's books regularly appear on the New York Times Extended Bestseller List. Ms. Ross has taught literature at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and lives in Hendersonville.

Cyrano's Bookshop is at 390 Main Street in Highlands. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488 or sending an e-mail to cyranos@nctv.com.

Fisher gardens on tour



Once again, the Fishers are sharing their great series of gardens with wide ranging views and exquisite landscaping atop Sagee Mountain in Sagee Woods. These tours are dedicated to benefit the Outreach Programs of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Enjoy the sense of antiquity, and the compatibility of the handsome home and the complimentary gardens. First there are beds of peonies, roses, and dahlias then the brilliant cutting garden. Near the pool, it's the fruit and vegetable garden with an inventive mix of nasturtium and gourds climbing sturdy wooden trellises. The perennial beds planned by famous English garden designer Rosemary Verey are perhaps the highlight of the tour. Tickets are \$25 per person available at the Episcopal Church on Main Street. Carpools leave from the gazebo on Pine Street hourly from 9:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Saturdays June 30, July 7, July 28 and Aug. 4. For more information, call the church at 526-2968 ext. 202.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

- Live music at Fressers in Helen's Barn with Cy Timmons Wed-Sat 6 p.m. until.
- Hal Phillips at the piano at Skyline Lodge and Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road Fri. & Sat. at 6 p.m.
- Registration has begun for this 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.

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

Every 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 Home-schoolers, 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.

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

- 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 Community 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.

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.

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.

Through Saturday, July 14

- A "Baskets at the Bascom" exhibit will be held at the Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands from June 16 to July 14. This is the gallery's first national show featuring the NBO (National Basket Organization). Baskets from all over the nation will be on display, from Nantucket to Appalachian to Avant-garde. A free exhibit opening will be June 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. For information, call 526-4949.

Throught Tuesday, Aug. 14

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

June 21-July 8

- At The Highlands Playhouse, Cole Porter's "Kiss Me Kate," performed from June 21 through July 8. To reserve tickets, call the box office at (828) 526-2695.

Thursday, June 21

- Forum on "Responsible Alcohol Sellers" from 2-4 p.m. at the Rec Park. Marnini Queen will speak on the subject of responsible sales of alcohol.

- SOAR Silent Live Auction to benefit Special Operations Warrior Foundation. Held at the Highlands Conference Center. Live music, refreshments, and food donated by Wolfgang's Restaurant & Bistro. For more information contact Nancy at 526-0224.

- 2007 Studio Dinner Series in artists' creative environments. Theme: East of the Sun, West of the Moon at Artist Rosemary Stiefel's at 6 p.m. Euro-Asian cuisine catered by Let Holly Do the Cooking, wines by Highlands Wine and Cheese, part of art sales to benefit the Highlands Land Trust. Call Summit One Gal-

'Parallel Lives' Friday & Saturday



Last chance to see "Parallel Lives." Friday & Saturday, June 22 & 23. "Parallel Lives" sold out for every performance in March and May. This weekend and then again Wednesday and Thursday, July 11 & 12 will be the final performances of this fun and touching play; a series of vignettes chronicling the trials and tribulations of life and love. Call: 828.342.9197 for tickets.

lery for reservations at 526-2673.

- Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at The Highlands Nature Center: 930 Horse Cove Road. A reception will follow this lecture Left Brain, Right Brain: Plants in the Arts and Sciences. Peter White (Professor of Biology & Director of the North Carolina Botanical Garden, UNC at Chapel Hill).

- Art League of Highlands Children's Task Force from 1-3 p.m. Special art project during Summer Rec Camp. "Make a Snake" with Dawn Nicholson and Susan Bauknight. Two age groups. Call Rec Park to register. 526-3556.

Friday and Saturday, June 22-23

- "Parallel Lives" presented by the Highlands Community Players at the Instant Theater on Main Street in Oak Square. A fun and touching play; a series of vignettes chronicling the trials and tribulations of life and love. Call: 828.342.9197 for tickets.

Friday-Sunday, June 22-24

- At Acorn's on Main Street, Match Truck Show – Handmade Italian pewter and ceramic tableware.

Saturday & Sunday, June 23 & 24

- Paws on Parade — a two-day-fun-filled summer event for the family and the family dog. Paws on Parade will be held Saturday, June 23, in Sapphire Valley Resort. Family lunches will be available at the Four Seasons Grill on the ski slopes. Any organization or business who is dog-related and would like to have a booth may call 743-1683.

Friday, June 22

- "The Dendy Family with Southern Gospel" 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, June 23

- "Taming of the Shrew" by the Highlands Playhouse at Tug Wa Ridge, at 2 p.m. It's free.

- The fifth annual "Jazz At The PAC" concert has been set for Saturday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center, 507 Chestnut Street. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$8 for students under 18. For reservations call 526-9047 or buy tickets at the door.

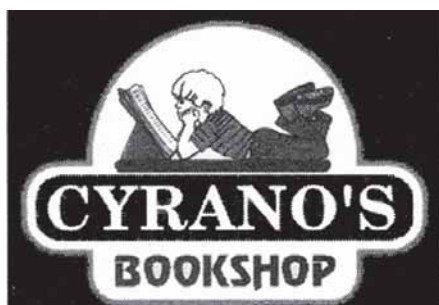
- At Cyrano's Bookshop, gardeners and plant lovers take note: Bill Alexander autographs his new book, "The Biltmore Nursery: A Botanical Legacy" from noon to 1:30 p.m. and Ann B. Ross, author of the popular "Miss Julia" series of novels, will sign copies of "Miss Julia Strikes Back" from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate-to-strenuous 6-mile hike to the lower falls of Middlecreek. Hikers should bring along shoes (and a small towel) to wade across the creek. Meet at 10 a.m. at the first overlook on GA highway 246, about 5 miles coming up from Dillard toward Highlands. Drive 3-miles round trip. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

- Coweeta Baptist Church in Otto, NC, invites all to a night of music with the "Shining Pathway" at 7 p.m. Call 369-7508 for directions.

Sunday, June 24 & Monday, June 25

- The Highlands Community Players will be hold-



390 Main Street • 526-5488

Upcoming Book Signings

June 23

- 12:30-2

Bill Alexander
"Biltmore Nursery:
A Botanical Legacy"

- 2:30-4:30

Ann Ross
"Miss Julia Strikes Again"

June 30

- 1-3 p.m.

Don Brown
"Treason"

- 5-7 p.m.

Gayden Metcalfe

"Somebody is Going to Die if Lilly Beth
Doesn't Catch that Bouquet"

July 7

- 1-3 p.m.

Charles Martin

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

ing auditions at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center for their summer production, "How the Other Half Loves," on Sunday at 2 p.m. and Monday at 6 p.m. Three men and three women are needed, ages 30 - 60. Scripts are available at the Highlands, Cashiers, and Franklin libraries. For information call Director, Nancy Reeder 828-369-1927.

Sunday, June 24

- Week long Vacation Bible School at Highlands United Methodist Church featuring "Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God." Call 526-3376.

- Week long Vacation Bible School at Clear Creek Baptist Church.

Monday, June 25

- "Wild World of Folk Art." Art League of Highlands, monthly meeting from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Highlands Rec Park. Refreshments, 5:30. Program, 6 p.m.. Highlands Rec Park. Fine artist, calligrapher and folk artist Helen Newton. Her early art career was steeped in the traditional and she has gradually incorporated fiber, wearable, three dimensional into her "wild" pieces. Call Bill Richardson for info 828-524-6070.

- Calling all Koren War Veterans. The Korean War Veterans' NC Chapter #265 invites all Korean War veterans, spouses and guests to the Fourth Annual Memorial Service commemorating the start of the Korean War. The service is a 10 a.m. at the Western North Carolina Veteran's Cemetery in Black Mountain. A Dutch Treat luncheon follows at the Monte Vista Hotel. Call 828-669-8089 for more information.

Tuesday, June 26

- Movies at PAC at 7 p.m. "Lake House." Refreshments served at 6:30 p.m. It's FREE.

- "An Innocent Consequence," a virtual journey to Africa with Beth Moore as she shares her visit to the Orphans of Kenya. Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, North Fifth Street, Highlands. If you like, bring a dish to share at 5:30 p.m. Slide presentation begins at 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27

- "Owl Prowl" at the Highlands Nature Center. 7:30 p.m., all ages. In collaboration with the Highlands Plateau Audubon Society. Come to our amphitheater for a presentation by the Carolina Raptor Center featuring live owls, then stay for a night hike to look for owls in the wild. Bring your flashlight. Free, but contributions to CRC are appreciated. Call 526-2623.

- At CLE, "Hand Papermaking" with Sara Morgan Wingfield at her studio from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Meet at the Civic Center at 9 a.m. to carpool to the studio. \$25 for members. \$35 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811.

- SIGMA CHI Fraternity brothers invited to a luncheon at the Sapphire Country Club at 12:30 p.m. Call 828-743-9013.

Thursday, June 28

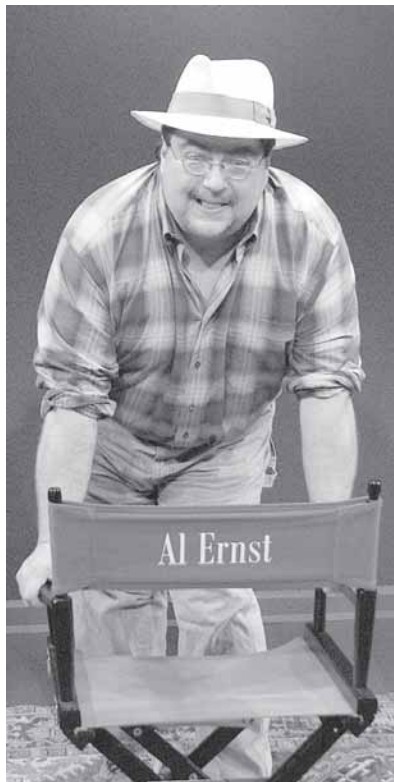
- Lambert Bridge Vineyards Wine dinner at OEI's The Farm. Each dinner is \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Reception begins at 6 p.m. and guests will be seated for dinner at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited, and advance reservations are required. Call 828-787-2604.

- Zahner Conservation Lectures 2007, 7 p.m. at The Highlands Nature Center: 930 Horse Cove Road. A reception will follow this lecture What Has Been Lost; What Must Be Saved: A Writer's Views on Environmental Issues in Southern Appalachia. Ron Rash (Author, James Still Award by the Fellowship of Southern Writers 2005).

- At CLE, "How Highlands Works" with Town Administrator Richard Betz at Town Hall from 10 a.m. to noon. It's Free. Call 526-8811.

- Art League of Highlands Children's Task Force.

Comedy Buffet coming to ITC



Friday, June 29 and Saturday, June 30 at 8 p.m. come to the ITCs Studio on Main and laugh until tears are rolling down your cheeks. Al Ernst is coming back to town with all his "All You Can laugh Buffet." Take a trip off the beaten path with Al, creator of the E-MAN NATION. Not only is Al a one-of-a-kind comedian, he is also a presenter of meaningful and funny personal development seminars. Make a date to spend one of these two evenings enjoying Al's performance in comfortable director chair seats with a glass of wine, a beer, or a fine cup of coffee in your hand. The Studio on Main is located in Oak Square at 310 Main Street, Highlands. For reservations call 828-342-9197. Seating is limited.

Special art project during Summer Rec Camp from 1-2 p.m.. "Chinese Brush Painting" (sumi-e) with Bonnie Adams and Sue Keikes. Two age groups. Call Rec Park to register. 526-3556.

- The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will present Bill and Linda Fuchs, world class fly fishers, at the meeting on Thursday. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Albert-Carlton-Cashiers Library and everyone is welcome. The Fuchs own Wilderness Taxidermy and Outfitters in Franklin and have fly fished around the world. Their program will feature fishing for peacock bass in the Amazon, King Salmon on Kodiak Island and big rainbows in Wyoming. Many of these fish will be on display. The Fuchs have guided fly fishing trips to the Rockies for 30 years and will share some of their

special locations! Bill Fuchs is an extraordinary speaker and attendees will be entertained as well as informed. Following the speaker, a raffle will be held for the Orvis waders and boots. Call 743-2078 for information

Friday & Saturday, June 29 & 30

- At the Instant Theater, Al Ernst - All You Can Laugh Comedy Buffet. Call the ITC Box Office at (828) 342-9197 to reserve your tickets.

Friday, Sunday, June 29-July 1

- The Highlands Historical Society will present its 8th annual "Walk in the Park" June 29 and 30, and July 1. Friday and Saturday performances will begin with shuttles leaving the Highlands Community Center (former "Conference Center") every 15 minutes from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets for any of the three performances are priced \$15 each, with students admitted free. Tickets are available at D & J Express Mart, the Old Rangoon, Cyrano's Bookshop, or on the day of performance at the Community Center or Performing Arts Center. All proceeds are used by the Historical Society for the upkeep of the Highlands Historic Village. Sunday's performance is at PAC.

Friday, June 29

- At CLE, "The Heiresses: American Royalty" with Rick Hutto at the Performing Arts Center from 10 a.m. to noon. \$20 for members. \$30 for nonmembers. Call 526-8811.

- "Earl Cowart and Heart of Dixie Band" 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.

June 30-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.

Saturday, June 30

- "Taming of the Shrew" by the Highlands Playhouse at Pine Street Park at 2 p.m. It's free.

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4-mile hike to Lower Whitewater Falls from the Bad Creek Reservoir parking area, with an elevation change of 500 feet. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 44 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy shoes. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations.

- Special sports physical clinic for school athletic programs are being held at the Macon County Public Health Center in Franklin. The clinics are open to rising 7th grade -12th grade students who plan to participate in school athletics anytime during the 2007-2008 school year. Appointments are required and may be scheduled at the Macon County Public Health Center by calling 349-2081. There will be a charge of \$10 for the physical and all proceeds will go to the Schools' Athletic Fund.

- Land Trust Day is a special day when businesses who partner with Land Trusts donate a percentage of their sales to the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. In exchange the Land Trust promotes each business. For more information, call Julie Schott with the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust at 526-9936 ext. 254.

- Join the Nantahala Hiking Club and the Konnarock Crew for lunch and work on a 6-mile section of the Appalachian Trail in celebration of National Trails Day. Meet in front of the Nantahala Outdoor Center store in Wesser at 9 a.m., returning by 5 p.m. Call Bill Van Horn, 369-1983, to make reservations by

11 a.m.

June 30-July 7

- 2007 Highlands Show House at Tug Wa Ridge, ca. 1920. All proceeds to benefit the children's programs at Bascom-Louise Gallery, Carpe Diem Farms, Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society, Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers, Highlands Playhouse. Hours are Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and noon-5 p.m. on Sundays.

Saturday, June 30

- 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. Tickets are available at the church. Call 526-2968 ext. 202 9-4 Mon.-Fri.

Tuesday, July 3

- Abe Lincoln impersonator performing at Tug Wa Ridge, the Highlands Showhouse, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$125 per person includes wine, hors d'oeuvres and an invitation to the showhouse. Call 526-2112 or 526-4464 for tickets.

Wednesday, July 4

- Rotary's 4th of July BBQ from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Community Center at Poplar and U.S. 64 east. Eat at the community center or pick up BBQ to go at Bryson's Drive Thru in Highlands Plaza from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. BBQ plates are \$8 and Hot Dog Plates are \$6. Also will be selling in bulk for \$10 per pound.

- At noon at the ballfield, old-fashion 4th of July festivities plus skydiving!

- Abe Lincoln impersonator 5 p.m. at PAC. It's free. All donations to benefit area nonprofits.. Free tick-

Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin
524-2076

June 22-28

1408 rated PG-13

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

FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER rated PG-13

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

SURF'S UP rated PG Daily(4:20)

OCEAN'S THIRTEEN rated PG-13

Daily: (2:05), 7:05, 9:20

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END rated PG-13 Last Showing on Tuesday 6/26

Daily: (2), 5, 8

LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD rated PG-13 Starts Wednesday 6/27

Daily:(2), (4:30), 7, 9:30

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

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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FOR SALE less than \$1,000.**

**All other terms:
20 words for \$5; \$2 for
each 10-word increment.**

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Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-0782**

HELP WANTED

FURNITURE DELIVERY – mostly in Highlands-Cashiers areas. Professional appearing individual experienced in dealing with the public. Non-smoker. Good driving record. Attention to detail. Monday through Friday, some Saturdays. Call the Summer House at 526-5577.

CHESTNUT HILL is currently hiring for the following positions: R.N., Med Aide, Dishwasher, Cook, and Courtesy Officer. Call 828-526-5251 or stop by for an interview.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK – Full time year round position at Highlands Country Club. Good benefits and nice working conditions in a non-smoking office. Prior accounts payable experience is needed. Send resume by fax to 828-526-3461 or mail to Controller, P.O. Box 220, Highlands, NC 28741 6/28

SALES – FULL OR PART TIME – Seasonal, weekend required. Previous sales or customer service experienced preferred. Must be professional. Non-smoking environment. Call the Summer House at 828-526-5577.

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. Sea-

sonal/ 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.

MEDICAL LAB TECH AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, Friday-Sunday position. MLT, MT, or CLS degree required. Must have strong communication and organizational skills, along with the ability to prioritize. Should have good phlebotomy skills for all age groups. Full benefits after 60 days to full-time employees. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

STAFF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time position, 7pm to 7am with rotating schedule. Qualified candidates must be registered by the ARRT or be registry eligible. CT experience helpful. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECH AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Full-time, Monday through Friday position. Must be ARRT certified. Previous experience preferred. Call rotation required. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full-time position. Experience in institutional/food service environment with knowledge of therapeutic diets, food safety and sanitation guidelines preferred. Good communication, organizational, and leadership skills a must. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RN'S AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER. Full, Part-time and PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits 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.

COOKS AND DIETARY AIDES AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL. Various shifts and days available. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak English. Salary depends on 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.

CNA OR CNA II We have available Full, Part-time, and PRN positions at the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center for day and night shifts. Our NEW WAGE SCALE for CNA's is \$11 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits after 60 days to full-time employees. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical

insurance. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

FOR RENT

WAREHOUSE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RENT. 1,100 – 1,800 sq. ft. bays with large overhead rolling doors. Rent is \$500-\$600 a month. Located one mile from the crossroads in Cashiers off 107 S. For More information please call Josh Barber 828-743-0077.

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

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

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

VACATION RENTAL

LITTLE BEAR CABIN – On private lake in Highlands. 3 bed, 3 bath, Weekend and weekly rates. 3-day minimum. Call B or Bill at 770-643-1010 or 404-695-8839. 7/12

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

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

NEW HOME/CHALET – 10 minutes from town off Turtle Pond Road. 2/1 with loft, .897 acres, 1,177 sq. ft. \$179,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

IN TOWN — 3/2.5 log home. The cottages lakeside at Harris Lake. Less than 2 years old. \$349,000. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

PINE GROVE TOWNHOUSE CASHIERS. Two bedrooms two and 1/2 bath. Walking distance to crossroads, restaurants and shopping. Large deck overlooking green lawn \$229,000. Call Manuel de Juan 828-743-1021. Owner broker. Visual tour at www.pixellitvideos.com/townhome

LOT FOR SALE: Lot #8 Osage. This is almost 1 acre (.94+ acres). Lot has complete road system, 10 gallon well and Macon County septic permit. Don't miss chance! Rocky Knob fees of ONLY \$100 a YEAR! Call Chris Gilbert Broker/Owner (828)421 3161. Reduced \$109,000. Ready to build.

LOTS – Exclusive RiverRock, Tuckasegee Village: 2.1 acre Lot 48, great building site, adjoins horse farm. \$364,900; and THE premier view

Lot 34, best view lot development. \$799,900 Call HUTCH (706) 831-0892 owner/agent.

DEVELOPER CLOSE-OUT. Commercial purchase/rental: Last unit! 2,300+-sq ft unit/NC 106. Retail unit has 1,600+-sq ft on the main level with hardwood floors/700sq ft loft. Unit has separate meter, heat pump and 3ton A/C. Call Jim Tate (828) 371-0773. Owner/broker Chris Gilbert. Reduced to \$349,000 or rent to own.

FIX 'R' UPPER – 2,500 sq. ft home. 2-3 decks. 2-3 bed/baths. New furnace. Walk to hospital. Interior unfinished...must have imagination. Make offer. Call 828-200-9333.

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

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

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

ITEMS FOR SALE

FARM HOUSE STYLE PINE TOP COUNTRY TABLE with white-washed legs, 6 chairs with white-washed legs. Best offer over \$700. Call 526-1597.

MASSAGE TABLE. StrongLite. Off-white cover w/ bolsters, haul bag. Ready for use. \$300. Very good condition. Call 526-8880.

QUEEN SLEEPER SOFA: 78," light taupe, like new. Very comfortable. \$325 obo. 404-386-3073.

HP 1350 THREE-IN-ONE PRINTER/COPIER - in Box - \$69. Call, 526-2713

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

2003 AIRSTREAM TRAVEL TRAILER – 30' Classic with rear island queen, walk-thru bath, and dinette. Excellent condition, \$45K. (828) 526-5939.

ANTIQUE BEAMS, FLOORING AND STRUCTURES: Hand hewn beams in oak and yellow pine. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4 per board foot. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Also selling entire log and timber frame structures. 215-529-7637 (www.jcwoodworking.info)

BEAUTIFUL FLOORING: Wormy white oak flooring, resawn, milled and ready to lay w/ t&g, 6-12" widths, \$8/sq. ft. 215-529-7637

RANGE, DISHWASHER AND REFRIGERATOR – white, Kenmore. Like new. Call 828-342-6838.

LOG CABIN KIT – 32 x 24 8 1/2 inch yellow Pine logs. Walls only. \$9,999. Call 526-0241.

TIME CLOCK, Acroprint Model 125, and time cards. See Bob at SweetTreats, 526-9822.

BISTRO TABLES, 21" round (black and white), 2 black chairs. (4 sets @ \$125 per set). See Bob at SweetTreats 526-9822.

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

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

• CLASSIFIEDS •

7886

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

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1997 LINCOLN TOWN CAR – white with every option. Call Dan for details. Cell: 342-6640. Home: 526-2888.

1999 CAMARO – New tires, low mileage, 5-speed, 6-cylinder, excellent condition. Call 828-369-3619.

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

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

2003 DODGE STRATUS – red exterior, gray interior, 30,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, A.C. PW, PS, PB, clean. \$8,000 OBO 828-526-3257.

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

YARD SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 10-4, RAIN OR SHINE. Lots of stuff. Household items, crafts, furniture, misc. 174 Dolly Lane. Take Mirrormont Lane (off Hicks Road) to Bonnie Drive to Dolly Lane. Cul-de-sac on top.

SERVICES

ATM PAINTING "Fussy painter for fussy people" Licensed and insured. Interior and exterior. 30 years experience. Call Alan Davies at 828-577-9262.

CAREGIVER/COMPANION – I do live-ins with seniors, housekeeping, meals, personal and medical care, errands, appointments, travel, all at reasonable rates. Lots of experience. For more information, call Joanne at 706-282-0021.

6/28

SHIPPING SERVICES - STORK'S WRAP, PACK & SHIP UPS Ground & Next Day Air services and large furniture shipping available. Packing services and/or supplies. Gift wrapping and fax services. 323 Hwy 107 N., Cashiers, NC (1/2 mile from crossroads) (828) 743-3222

HOUSE CLEANING & ERRAND RUNNING – References available. Call 524-3261.

NEED YOUR HOME CLEANED? Call Charlotte at Letson Enterprise for a free estimate. 828-369-9127 or Bill at 828-421-0971.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY -- THE REAL ESTATE BOOK – North America's largest and most successful "Homes For Sale" magazine, is offering the chance to be an Independent Distributor of the Cashiers-Highlands area. This market meets the criteria of our 400 successful territories. Comprehensive training, on-going support help ensure success. Candidate should possess strong sales skills, customer support and follow-up. No franchise fees or royalties. Initial start-up and working capital required. Contact Tar Truitt at 770-962-7220, ext. 24608 or email ttruitt@trcb.com for more information.

PERSONAL COMPANION/CAREGIVER Whatever your needs may be we can help. References available (828)421-5940, (828) 399-1749.

PERSONAL CARETAKER – Run errands, clean house, buy groceries, Transport to appointments. References available. Call Cheryl. 828-421-6685.

FIVE STAR CLEANING & MAINTENANCE – Light and detail cleaning, concierge services, openings and closings, grocery shopping, personal shopping, personal chef and table service, house repairs, improvements: lighting, plumbing, fixtures, tile, drywall repairs and more. Call 828-332-7201.

D.P. PAINTING & PRESSURE WASHING – Interior and exterior painting. Quality Work. References. In business since 1984.

Dennis Perkins. 526-3542 or 371-2277.

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

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

SCOTTS CONSTRUCTION 'ME FIX IT' – Decks, roofs, pressure washing, painting, lawn service, small electrical, floors, carpet

cleaning, house cleaning! No job too small. 30 yrs. exp. Call David at 828-369-5886 or 828-347-5051.

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

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Art League of Highlands Summer Colors



Color is what it is all about at the Art League of Highlands July 21, 22 "Summer Colors Fine Art Show" and childrens paintings say it all. These were done by Dillon Sutherland, age 6.

As the "Summer Colors Fine Art Show" approaches, plans are underway to make the July 21, 22 event at the Rec Park in Highlands an outstanding occasion for artists of all ages, including children. Many of the participants in the gymnasium will be demonstrating their techniques at their booths where the public can meet the artists. Meanwhile the Childrens Art Room will be abuzz with creativity in preparation for a childrens art show in the foyer. Hours are 10:00-5:00 and admission is free. For info on the show or about the Art League of Highlands, contact show chair Karen Taylor at 526-2177 or president Caroline Cook at 828-526-2742.

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• POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of June 12-20. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

June 12

- At 8:30 a.m., a motorist at N.C. 106 and Arnold Road was cited for speeding 52 mph in a 25 zone.
- At 6:45 a.m., officers responded to a domestic dispute at a residence on Paul Walden Way.
- At 5:39 p.m., officers responded to a call of suspicious people waiting outside a house on Bowery Road.

June 13

- At 5:10 p.m., officers were called to Highlands School where the front glass of the trophy case was found broken. Nothing was taken.

June 14

- At 6 p.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 and Mirror Lake Road was cited for driving too close to the preceding vehicle..

June 15

- At 9:45 a.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 and Webbmont was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.
- At 8:30 a.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 and Webbmont was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.
- At 8:50 a.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 and Webbmont was cited for driving without a license.
- At 9:50 a.m., a gas drive-off was reported valued at \$50 was reported at the Farmers Exxon.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log en-

... STREAMS from page 1

verified as such and will be subject to a 25-foot buffer once the Zoning Ordinance is amended to include them.

Though there isn't an exact definition of a perennial stream, certain characteristics do exist.

"They can discharge all year round, but they may not carry water during periods of drought," said Steve Foster, a watershed scientist hired by the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association to verify the interns' findings. "I generally look to see if the stream has well formed walls, a stream channel and the presence of aqua-microinvertebrates."

Foster said all 10 streams identified by the interns qualified and as such can be legally protected.

At the June 20 Town Board meeting, commissioners voted to accept the 10 new perennial streams and to send the findings on to the Planning Board. Since stream buffering is a land use regulation, the Zoning Ordinance must be amended and the issue considered by the Planning Board.

The Town Board set a public hearing on the streams' inclusion and amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for Aug. 1.

In the mean time, commissioners said any additional perennial streams identified and verified as such may also be considered at the public hearing in August.

"In my line of work, I constantly come across streams that I can't believe aren't on the USGS map," said Commissioner Hank Ross.

Though Foster said the USGS map is notoriously wrong, it is considered key source to perennial stream identification.

The Town Board is considering using interns do identify potential perennial streams in the Mill Creek, Munger Creek and Cullasaja River water basins so it can address the issue of stream pollution quickly.

Foster said protecting water sources is becoming more critical as urbanization and development increases.

"Water sources are becoming more and more critical even here in the east," he said. "There's more runoff, increased water use and water sources must be protected."

tries for the weeks of June 13-19

June 13

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on the Whiteside Cove Trail where a man was pronounced DOA.

June 14

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a business on S. 4th St. It was false.
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Westview Way. It was false.

June 16

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

June 17

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Hickory Lane. It was false.
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashier Fire Dept. It was cancelled en route.

June 18

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Hapoldt Drive. It was set off by the storm.
- The dept. provided mutual aid to Cashiers Fire Dept. It was cancelled en route.
- The dept. was first responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Raoul Road. The resident was DOA.

June 19

- The dept. provided mutual aid to the Cashiers Fire Dept. It was cancelled en route.
- The dept. provided mutual aid to the Scaly Fire Dept. It was cancelled en route.
- The dept. responded to an accident on U.S. 64 west where it assisted with traffic.
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a business on Main Street. It was false.
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a business on Church Street. It was false.

... COUNTY continued from page 23

chambers has been done over the past 20 years in a "questionable manner that won't stand the legal test."

"You need to take some affirmative action acknowledging the problem that has been pointed out. Staff notified you of this some time ago and if you defer this without action you are putting the county in peril. It is my job to inform you of that and I have," he said.

Since Attorney Moxley has been on board, the commission has been straightening out contracts, resolutions and agreements on many levels. Greenwood said some sort of contract needs to be in place concerning the collection and disbursement of the room tax proceeds.

Commissioner McClellan said the system should stay as it is for now until a contract is in place and the county tries to straighten things out to be on solid legal footing.

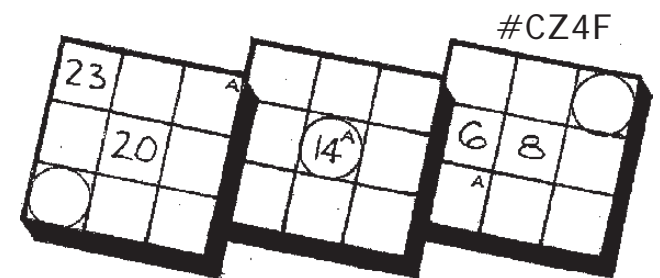
Greenwood agreed that it would be too disruptive to the chambers if the funding was simply pulled. "A grace period or a hold harmless period would give the chambers time to adjust their focus with the understanding that the county will be putting legal contracts in place," he said.

The board voted unanimously to disburse the 2006-2007 room tax collected up until now to the chambers so they can uphold current obligations and to take the rest of the fiscal year to devise a new plan. They will return next month with nominees for a task force which will help devise a new system for room tax disbursement.

Recreation Commission

The board also OK'd a resolution establishing a single county-wide recreation commission and abolished the independent Franklin, Nantahala and Highlands recreation commissions.

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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 equalling the total of the three center numbers. One of the diagonals is shown with circles.

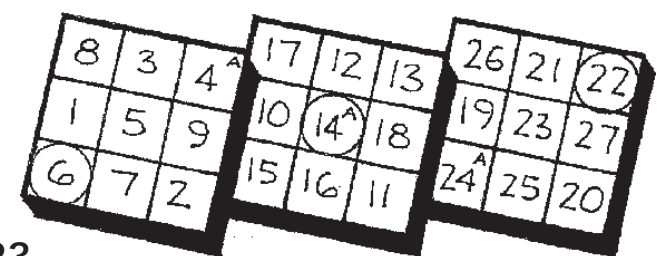
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Start with the three center numbers for each layer and the other numbers given. Now pour a cup of coffee, pick up a pencil and eraser and try to figure out where the other numbers belong. Good Luck!

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

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Solution to #BN4A in the June 14 paper



The idea behind the commission is to ensure all areas of the county get a standard rate of service – proportional to population — with a unified command structure.

The formation of the single recreation commission and the hiring of a director won't be an addition to the 2007-2008 budget or cost the county any extra this year.

Commissioner Simpson said the salary for a county recreation director can be funded by reallocating funds previously dispersed in Franklin for recreation purposes. Commissioners agreed that Nantahala was sorely lacking in recreational facilities. "At some point down the line I can see a swimming pool and ball fields so people don't have to travel to Andrews or Franklin to play sports," said Leatherman.

Though the board adopted the Master Recreation Plan some months ago, commissioners agreed that not all aspects of the plan would be instituted – like the suggested convention center and indoor pools for all. "That's a \$40 million plan and it's just not happening," said Commissioner Davis.

Other items added to the budget involved \$35,000 to SCC and Early College High School facility, and \$1,250 mistakenly omitted for the R.E.A.C.H security system, previously OK'd by the commission.

Chairman Leatherman said the county is in trouble due to the 24.5 cent millage rate and he will never again be held hostage to a revenue neutral rate.

To fund future capital improvement projects, the county is proposing a \$70 million bond referendum be put on the ballot during the November 6 municipal election.

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