

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 5, Number 13

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Editor's Note:

• Due to an error at the printing plant, page 22 of the March 22 issue wasn't printed. For those of you who didn't read the paper on-line at www.highlandsinfo.com or who didn't receive a paper with the page 22 insert, the two stories "Smaller hi-rise planned for U.S. 64 east" and "Audit shows community still believes in hospital" are on page 16.

On-going

• Registration has begun for this summer's nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are being offered. For details, please call 526-2623 or visit the Nature Center webpage at www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mon., Wed., Thurs., \$5 per class.

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes, a total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class, and Pilates classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

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

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

Every Tuesday

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

Fri. & Sat., March 30-31

• The Instant Theater presents the Highlands Community Players production of *Parallel Lives*. Call 342-9197 for tickets. Performances begin at 7 p.m.

Friday, March 30

• Preview Party with champagne and catering by Fressers at Jackson-Madeleine, "Classics for Children," 290 S. 4th St....on the hill, 10:30-2:30 p.m. Opening Saturday, March 31.

Saturday, March 31

• The Satolah volunteer fire department annual BBQ benefit at 5 p.m. \$7 per adult plate, children's plates, \$3.50. Entertainment starts at 6 p.m. with Foxfire, then Curtis Blackwell and the Dixie Bluegrass Boys.

Sunday, April 1

• At the Methodist church, worship at 11 a.m. with palm procession.

• The Scaly Mountain Church of God showing, "Facing the Giants," 6 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Monday, April 2

• North Carolina Stage Company performs "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Highlands School at 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 3

• Organizational Softball meeting at the Rec Park, at 6 p.m. Call 526-3556.

• Episcopal Church Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 5

• Passover Meal and Celebration of Holy Communion at 6 p.m. at the Methodist church. Reservations are recommended.

R1 home occupation ordinance drafted

It took some doing, but the Planning Board finally designed an ordinance allowing home occupations in the R1 zoning districts in town and in the ETJ.

Home occupations became an issue when residential areas in the ETJ area were zoned R1 which

technically doesn't allow home occupations. Currently, home-based businesses are allowed in R2, R3, B2, B4 and R4. Commissioners agreed to zone several ETJ areas R1 with the understanding that a home occupation ordinance would be drafted and ap-

plied to those areas.

Two paragraphs one in Section 405.2(A)(2) and one in Section 1002 in the current zoning ordinance would be replaced with nine paragraphs explaining the scope of home occupations.

• See ORDINANCE page 15

Board starts work on ETJ in HC & CC

With the northern and southern parts of Extra Territorial Jurisdiction zoned, the planning board is starting to tackle the ETJ areas of Clear Creek and Horse Cove.

At the March 26 Planning Board meeting, Chairman Griffin Bell said when the town extended ETJ, it was with the understanding that some kind of zoning would be applied to those areas, but it would take some time to be finalized.

At the combined Town Board/Planning Board meeting on March 14, Planning Board member Mike Bryson wondered if the current zoning ordinance should be applied to Horse Cove and Clear Creek.

"I don't think we have suitable ordinances for those areas," said Mike Bryson. "The purpose of ETJ was to protect the corridors and the watershed and neither of those are issues down there. It's a different category of zoning all together."

Interim Zoning Administrator Richard Betz made it clear it wasn't a question of whether Clear Creek and Horse Cove were part of the ETJ. "The town extended ETJ November 2005 so it's already

• See ETJ page 15

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
59-43°F	69-48°F	70-47°F

Girls play rough Towns County



Highlands School Senior Lucy Herz fends off her Towns County opponent at home, March 22. The next home game is Thursday, March 29 5:30 p.m. against Swain.

Photo by Noel Atherton

County detention officer arrested and charged Mon.

On March 26, detention officer John Nathan Mercier, 26, was arrested for theft of narcotics from the Macon County Detention Center. Because this matter involved an employee of the Sheriff's office, Sheriff Robert

L. Holland contacted the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) following the discovery of missing narcotics and requested them to investigate the incident. At the conclusion of the SBI criminal

• See ARRESTED page 15

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School board tweaks budget

By Susanna Hearn

Amendments to the 2007-2008 school budget was one topic discussed at the Macon County School Board meeting held in Highlands, Monday, March, 26.

"We passed resolutions to make amendments in the state, federal, local current expense budgets," said Superintendent Dan Brigrman. "These are normal activities and did not involve any unique situations."

New, was detailed documentation which itemized code numbers and descriptions, increases and decreases of each budget's expenditure and revenue statement.

"The general public doesn't understand our budget," said board member Roberta Swank. "They think the school board makes these decisions like they're rubber stamping things."

The board approved amendments to all three aspects of its budget – the Local Fund, which comes from the county level, the State Public School Fund and the Federal Fund.

At the local level, expenditures increased by \$28,101 and decreased by \$7,820 for a total amended amount of \$20,381.

Board of Education expenditures were increased by \$8,000; contracted services by \$6,000; two entries for substitute pay together increased by \$3,356; four entries for supplies and materials totaled an increase of \$6,231; insurance increased by \$3,372 and another \$1,142 accounted for increases for FICA, workshop expenses, con-

• See BUDGET page 20

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •

From my perspective

Highland's Board of Commissioners has settled the parking situation downtown, at least for this year. It will be basically unchanged with the exception of the east end of Church Street behind the Presbyterian Church which will no longer have two-hour parking but will remain restricted to employee parking. The Chamber of Commerce had done a study and recommended elimination of all two-hour parking. However, the Board elected to keep the two-hour parking and to continue giving passes to visitors so they could remain in two hour parking longer. The Board did not take the parking situation lightly and after much thought and discussion decided to leave alone what has worked for the last eight years.

At our Town board meeting this past week we also came a step closer to accomplishing our goal of making our Planning and Zoning Department complete. Josh Ward will begin his duties as our Planning and Development Code Enforcement Officer the first week in April. It is a much needed position that the Board has wanted for some time. Josh is from Franklin and currently works for Macon County in a similar position. He is thus very familiar with the area and the problems of building in mountain terrain and will eventually report to a Planning and Development Director. So



Mayor Don Mullen

far we have had quite a few applications for that position of Planning and Development Director and will be most conscientious in determining the right person for Highlands in this important place in our town. Hopefully, within the next month or two we will have in place an expert planning and development person and these personnel positions of the town will be secure.

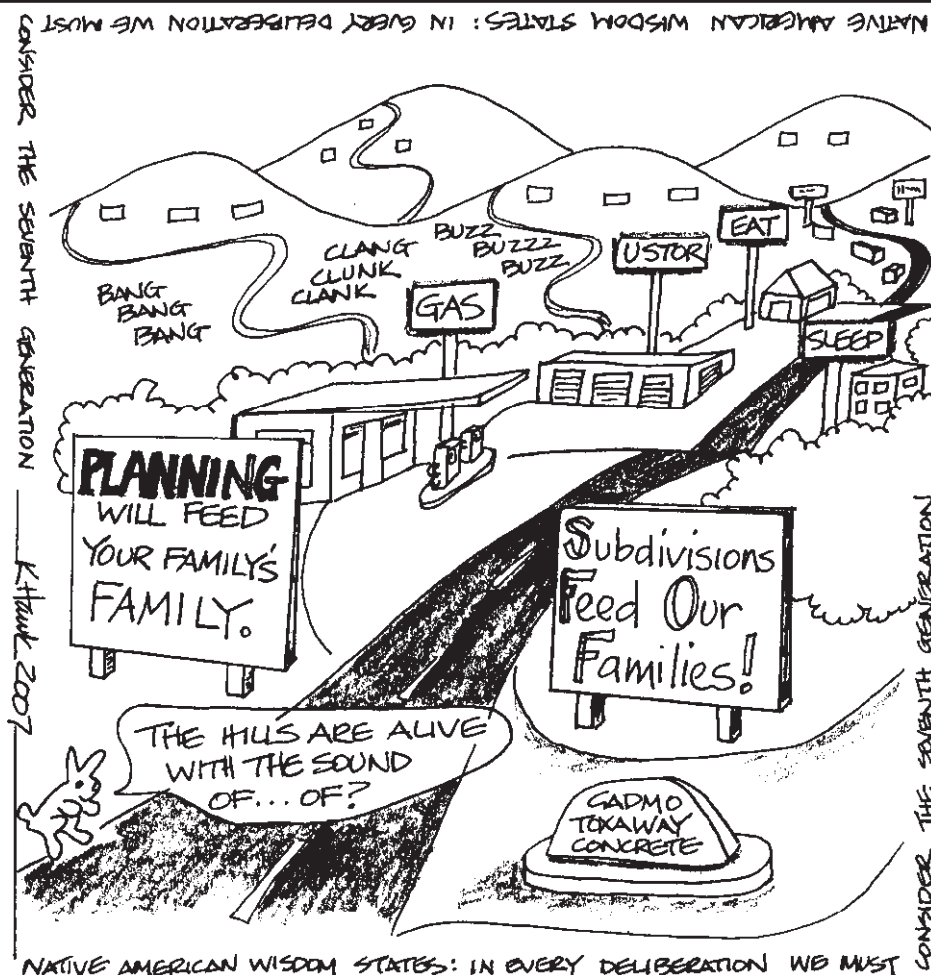
If you have been watching what is going on behind the Macon Bank, you will know that The Pine Street Park is at last in the first stages of becoming a reality for Highlands. There had been concerns about removing the concrete from the old post office building foundation but this has not been a problem. Soon the new park will have fill to raise it above flood plain levels and grass will be planted. The fund raising campaign is going well. Commissioner Hank Ross says the committee is almost 70% there in its goal to complete the job. All those who are interested in this area as a Town Park are encouraged to help out in finishing this wonderful project for the Town of Highlands. Make your donations so we can complete a project which will add significantly to making our town a great place to live.

The recent announcement of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation of its success this past year speaks volumes for the dedication and confidence of the people of Highlands, both permanent and second home owners, in the hard work that has been going on to improve our hospital and make it a place in which we can continue to be proud. Donations are up from the previous year under the capable management of Russell Harris. Once the hospital has obtained a surgeon for which we have been long searching, and then a gastroenterologist, the financial situation of the hospital itself should be secure. The hospital has been through a tough year, but we now can see the light at the end of the tunnel. We all appreciate greatly those who have supported our efforts which have been sometimes difficult under undue duress over this past year.

• THANK YOU •

On March 19, 2007, Special Olympics of Macon County hosted Field Day for Macon County's athletes. This is an annual event that allows the athletes a chance to practice for their events, and also to get their event times so that they can be placed in the appropriate time brackets at the Regional Games. I would like to thank the 57 volunteers from many groups that came out to support the 75 athletes at this event including Highlands Rotary and Highlands Interact.

Jennifer Garrett
Special Olympics Macon County



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.

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FREE every Thursday; circulation 7,500; 100+ distribution points

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Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com

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• MILESTONE •

James ready to embark on his future

Highlands School graduate Class of 2006 Allan James, 18, is officially 14 weeks closer to his goal as a Flight Engineer in the U.S. Air Force.

He and 50 other recruits recently completed basic training followed by technical training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He's home for some R&R, but April 2, James heads for what is now his home base, Charleston Air Force Base.

James said in basic training recruits are broken down as civilians and then built back up as a military member where they become accustomed to a routine lifestyle and a code of conduct which includes costumes and courtesies in the global community. "Basically, it's everything you need to become a soldier in the U.S. military," said James. In the midst of Basic Training, James said he wondered what the heck he was doing, but when it was over and Technical Training began, all doubts disappeared. "I'm loving every minute of this," he said. "I have no regrets in joining."

Initially, his parents even questioned his choice to join the military, but they're all for it now, he said. "And they're glad my home base is so close to home."



Allan James

He said he's glad to be home for a visit, but he's feeling kind of lost without the structure he's become accustomed to.

After basic, he joined eight other graduates in technical training as an Air Transportation specialist – the soldiers who handle mission specific cargo used to support ground troops. He will be working out of Charleston, S.C., until he is deployed to Balad Air Force Base in Iraq in September for a six to eight month stint.

"I'll be miles from action loading and unloading supplies and materials for other bases within the country," he said. "As part of the AEF, Air Expeditionary Force, we aren't just pencil pushers, but we don't actually fight in the war, either."

James signed up for six years in the Air Force with the possibility to re-enlist at the end of the six.

He sights are set on becoming a Flight Engineer, the person of the flight crew in charge of setting the mechanics for the plane. He will cross-train for that position for two years.

James said politics had nothing to do with his decision to enlist. "I have always had a desire to serve my country, regardless of who was president." – K. Lewicki

• OBITUARY •

Leo Albert Blair

Leo Albert Blair was born May 8, 1928 in Barton, VT to Aime P. and Irene Blair. At the age of five his family moved to East Plainfield, NH. He graduated from Lebanon High School in 1946.

After a short career as a poultry farmer he took over the family business, Blair Construction Company and February 24, 1954 he moved the company and all his employees and family to Delray Beach, FL. He spent the next 40 years as a successful custom home and commercial builder. He changed the face of Delray Beach's Atlantic Avenue twice.

In 1974-5 Blair Construction built the Sun First National Bank and face lifted Hand's Book Store, Minor's Apparel,

Vince Canning Shoes and Mercer Wenzel's. In 1989 he revitalized downtown when he redeveloped the former Arcade Tap Room property into stores, galleries, offices and a smaller restaurant selling the spaces to the shop owners. The risk he took led many others to invest in the now vibrant community.

Blair was a committed community leader. He was one of three founders of the Del-Trail Fire Department where he served on the three-member, governor appointed Board of Supervisors for 23 years. He served on the city's Board of Adjustment, planning and zoning Board, city council and was vice-mayor. He was a director of the Del-

•See OBIT page 20



Leo Albert Blair

Employment Opportunity

Retail Sales Associate position open for the 2007 season (May-October). We are seeking an energetic, positive person for full-time/seasonal employment who is interested in learning about and selling fine Asian art and jewelry in a long established retail business.

Retail experience not necessary, only a willingness to learn. Your duties will include retail sales of jewelry, antiques, gifts and all other merchandise on a non-commission basis: interaction with clientele of shop in a friendly, courteous and helpful nature; daily upkeep of shop including, but not limited to, arrangement and display of merchandise, cleaning of areas as needed, and possible clerical duties.

Hours are from 8:00-5:00, Monday thru Saturday, 4 to 5 days minimum, including Memorial Day & Labor Day, Sundays plus Sundays in October. Salary is negotiable.

Contact: Katrina Laverty for interview at 800-437-2741 or 828-526-2769.



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Nestles within historic Old Brushy Face lies this exclusive in-town community that blends original Highlands estates with new homes and legacy retreats. 33 home sites offering a variety of views from Blue Valley, Shortoff and Whiteside Mountains and dense forested sites with meandering streams. Look no further than BRUSHY FACE to create your family's legacy. Priced from \$275K-\$695K



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The finest craftsmanship and finishes are showcased throughout this stunning home in Pinchot. Poplar bark siding, slate styled roofing, true masonry chimneys, and travertine baths with heated floor and steam shower. Three guest suites in the main house plus a carriage house equipped with a 5th bedroom/office. That's not all.. a wonderful mountain view and easy access to the crossroads of Cashiers. \$1,695,000



Offering 3 BR & 3 BA all on one level, a living room with soaring ceilings and hardwood floors. French style windows and a beautiful kitchen with granite surfaces and stainless steel appliances. Outdoor fireplace & nestled on 2 acres and bordered on each side by streams. Amazing grounds and gold course views. \$1,195,000

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Hey guys, somebody's gotta kiss the ugly ones!

Have you seen the TV series "Ugly Betty?" Have you ever dated a girl so ugly that when you brought her home your grass died? Have you ever awakened next to a girl so ugly you would chew off your arm in order to get out without disturbing her? Don't they call them coyote girls?

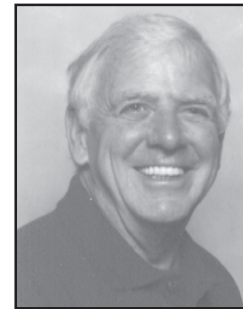
The directors of "Ugly Betty" hit it right on the head. Bottom line: the ugliest girl in the office is also the wisest, smartest and most efficient. In real life, it's a phenomenon. I know I'm about to get myself in really, really, really double Dutch knock your socks off big time trouble but so what else is new? I'm calling a frog a frog. Think about it; the most efficient gals around where you work are so ugly that if they stuck their heads out of the office window, they would be arrested for mooning.

I know there must be exceptions to this phenomenon but I know of none. Please write in if you know of a hot babe with a perfect figure who is also super intelligent and efficient at work. Nine times out of 10, if there is such a person, she has bad breath and snores.

When I was in high school, most kids my age wanted to marry a Marilyn Monroe-type who was oversexed, loved fast cars, football and fishing. Of course, her Pa had to own a liquor store. The problem with marrying a girl like that was everyone in town was in love with her. Those husbands were always walking around asking "Have you seen my wife?"

For those of you who are not yet married, here's my suggestion. In the privacy of your home, strip down naked in front of a full length mirror and take a good hard look at yourself in the buff. Don't forget to give yourself a profile view. Scary, huh? Make note of how goofy you look. Do you think Catherine Zeta-Jones is going to want to jump your bones? Get real, then go out and find a half-way decent looking gal who is willing to put up with an overweight slob like you who snores and has gas.

When I was in the army, there was a guy in our platoon who would only date the ugliest girls he could find. "Someone's gotta kiss the ugly ones and once the lights are out it doesn't matter anyway," was his motto. I think he spent every dime he had on dating ugly women while the rest of us sat around the barracks wasting our money playing poker.



Fred Wooldridge

**Feedback
is encouraged!
email:**

askfredanything@aol.com

In a perfect world, Vivian Leigh marries Clark Gable and they live happily ever after. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have 12 perfect kids who all grow up to be movie stars and ugly Betty marries an ugly geek from the computer department and their love burns eternal. Ha, if you believe that, you must be smoking those skinny cigarettes.

The divorce rate in this county is over 50% and for cops it's 75%. That means if you line up a 100 policemen, 75 of them have

signed away everything they own to their ex's except for maybe their guns and badges. It's astounding!

I beat the odds and have been married to the li'l missus my entire adult life. No, she was not a Marilyn Monroe-type and her dad didn't own a liquor store. I just couldn't take my eyes off her. She was awesome. That's how folks got to first base in the old days. It's second and third base where problems arise. If sex comes before compatibility, there will be trouble. Write that down. That didn't happen to us and we have stayed together through thick and thin.

Anyway, here's my suggestion. If you're not married, go out and kiss the ugliest girl you can find. Let me know if she slugs you. Who knows, she just might appreciate it. You remember the ole "kiss a frog to find a prince" saying, don't you? Well here's a new one. "The love of your life may be a frog, but she's your hot babe when the lights go out." Write that down also, but don't attribute it to me 'cause I'm in enough trouble explaining to the li'l missus that she is the exception to this article. So far, it's not working.

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

Satolah BBQ benefit

The Satolah, Georgia, volunteer fire department holds its annual benefit, Saturday, March 31 at the Moccasin precinct firehouse on Route 28. Food served at 5 p.m. (\$7 per adult plate, children's plates, \$3.50.) The entertainment starts at 6 p.m. with Foxfire, followed by Curtis Blackwell and the Dixie Bluegrass Boys, two of the most authentic bluegrass bands in these parts. Raffle tickets, \$1 for \$350 cash, or a .22 rifle or 20-gauge shotgun. The public is invited to this family-friendly event for a good cause.

• ANOTHER VIEW •

No longer a fan

The Final Four for the men's NCAA basketball tournament is set, and I don't care. My journey to indifference followed the reluctant realization that big time college athletics has nothing to do with the mission of the university and everything to do with money — lots of money — money from inflated ticket prices, money from adoring boosters, and most of all, money from television.

The decision by the NBA which virtually forced basketball players to spend at least one year in college was the final step for me. I understand the argument for the current system, which is money. Revenue sports, the argument goes, meaning basketball and football, fund the rest of a university's athletic programs. Football exists to support women's field hockey. Sure it does.

A second argument is that football and basketball provide an education for student athletes for whom higher education would otherwise be beyond reach. And believe it or not, some athletes really do get an education, something other than sociology at Duke or sports management everywhere else. Does the fact that some athletes actually get an education justify big time college sports?

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) proclaims, "There are just about 380,000 student athletes and just about every one of them will go pro in something other than sports." I suppose that is an accurate number. I know of no source other than the NCAA



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

for such information. Fair enough and I'm sure that those athletes are grateful for whatever financial support "revenue sports" provides.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is consistently rated the best educational value in the country. Part of the reason is that UNC is the number one "college brand" in America. Royalties from sale of baby blue apparel provide academic scholarships for many, many students who could not otherwise afford a

college education. Sale of those items is driven not by a great undergraduate education, not by a fine law school or a first-rate medical school, but by basketball. For some, that is justification enough to support the illusion of the student athlete.

Not for me. Not any more. There is the money thing again. Unfortunately, many schools are less successful than UNC, not only on the court but in fund raising as well. In some, football and basketball not only fail to finance the entire athletic budget. They don't even break even.

I don't think of myself as a prude or a purist in this matter. My conversion was not an abrupt, but a gradual process, spontaneous, rather than studied, inescapable rather than pursued. For a number of years, I have witnessed an ever increasing commercialization of college sports with a perversion of the academic mission of the university. The hypocrisy finally reached the point that I just lost

• See ANOTHER VIEW page 20

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HORSE COVE ESTATE 4 bed, 5 1/2 bath, 3 car garage, screened porch w/fireplace 11+ acres. Mtn. View \$1,995,000. mls #59340



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WILDCAT CLIFFS COUNTRY CLUB. 3 bed, 3 bath, vaulted living, 2 car garage. Membership requirements. \$595,000. mls #58872



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



Solar home, 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage, vaulted living, stone fireplace, winter view. Offered at \$545,000. mls #61079



In town on Mill Creek, 2 bed, 2 bath, fireplace & small den. Furnishing available. Offered at \$499,000.



Attention all renovators, 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage, cathedral living, paved rd. Offered at \$345,000. mls #59825



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



WILDCAT CLIFFS COUNTRY CLUB - 9th Green. Cathedral living rm, 3 bed, 3 bath & loft, large deck. Beautiful view. \$890,000.



Flat Mtn Area- ready for renovation. Large beautifully landscaped yard, delightful deck. Offered at \$240,000. mls #60338



3 bed, 2 1/2 bath, 3 levels, 2 full covered decks, unfinished basement, 2 car garage, Offered at \$419,000. mls #61036



In-Town Great View! Complete renovation, new landscaping, enlarged resurfaced driveway & new metal roof. \$595,000. mls #58906



Beautiful Landscaping, 5 bed, 3 bath, 1+/- acres, close to town, Offered at \$565,000. mls #59744



IN-TOWN, Major Remodel, Hardwood floors, large kitchen new granite countertops & stainless steel appliances. Offered at \$515,000.



MIRROR LAKEFRONT 3 bed, 2 bath, Stone fireplace, hardwood floors, knotty pine paneling, sun rm, private dock Offered at \$649,000.



Walking distance to town, 4 bed, 3 1/2 bath, hardwood floors, stone fireplace, custom kitchen, large deck, covered porches. \$749,000.



Beverly Cone, center, with her students in Ostuni.

Reading, writing and Rigatoni

Highlands resident makes connections in Italian classrooms

Retiree Beverly Cone experienced Italy from a refreshing perspective – the eyes of its younger generation – when she recently took a “volunteer vacation” to teach in the classrooms of the seldom-visited Puglia region.

Fresser's Eatery wins 2007 WNC Girl Scout Cookie Cook-Off

The WNC cookie lovers have spoken. Fresser's Eatery in Highlands is the number one vote getter in the 2007 Girl Scout Cookie Cook-Off!

Thirty-six restaurants, bakeries, and ice cream parlors throughout the 15 counties of Western North Carolina created a unique dessert based on one of eight varieties of Girl Scout cookies and then sold the dessert in their eatery during the first two weeks of February. One winner in each of 4 areas of Western North Carolina will be presented with a special First Place plaque by their local Girl Scout Ambassador Troop at special presentation ceremonies being scheduled for April.

A portion of the proceeds from each dessert sale is being donated to Girl Scouts of Western North Carolina Pisgah Council. To date, over \$2,720 in donations have been received from the participating restaurants and the Council hopes to top the \$3,000 mark.

Fresser's Eatery in Highlands received 214 votes overall for three dessert creations Peanut Butter Pie (113), Carmel Delite Fried Ice Cream (50) and Raspberry Thin Mint Mousse (51).

Cone spent two weeks from mid-February through early March teaching conversational English to Italian youths in the ancient city of Ostuni in the “heel” of Italy's “boot.” She was part of a team of North American volunteers participating on a project coordinated by Global Volunteers, a nonprofit organization that offers short-term service programs in 19 countries.

By immersing herself in the local culture, she gained unique, non-tourist insights into this fascinating corner of the world. “We shared much of our lives with the students, and in turn, saw first-hand how they live and what is important to them,” said Cone.

During free time, the volunteers explored the region. Excursions encompassed centuries-old churches and castles, medieval villages, vineyards and mysterious caves.

The service program was sponsored by Global Volunteers, a private, non-profit, nonsectarian development organization based in St. Paul, Minn.

At the invitation of local host organizations, Global Volunteers sends teams of volunteers to this community and sites in 19 other countries several times year-round. Knowing a country's language beforehand isn't necessary. Volunteers are given some basic language lessons while they are in service to help them navigate the cities or towns.

The volunteers pay a tax-deductible fee that ranges from \$1,500 to \$2,595, air fare excluded. The fee covers are all meals, lodging and project expenses. All project-related costs, including airfare, are tax-deductible for U.S. taxpayers.

For more information, contact Global Volunteers at 800-487-1074, 375 E. Little Canada Rd., St. Paul, Minn. 55117; <http://www.globalvolunteers.org>; email@globalvolunteers.org.

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

My Country — Right or Wrong?

The conservatives are right about something. When John Kerry made his miserable "joke" last year, when he mistakenly said that you had to be stupid to join the military, he was speaking the opinion of many liberals. Some of us do think the members of our armed forces are stupid, because if you weren't you'd never sign up.

One of the pleasant surprises in two movies I watched recently about our military — "Gunner Palace" and "Jarhead" — was the discovery that there are many fine, intelligent, creative people at the lowest levels of the services. After watching these films I felt much better about who we have representing us on the frontlines around the world.

The director of "Gunner Palace," Michael Tucker, lived with the 2/3 Field Artillery for two months in 2003. At that time everyone believed the war would soon be over so he thought he had to rush the filming before all the U.S. soldiers left Iraq. When that didn't happen he returned in early 2004.

Gunner Palace is in Baghdad, the bombed-out former palace of Uday, one of Saddam's sons, now the soldiers' home.

In the film you travel with the soldiers on patrol and watch them relax around the swimming pool, then hear them speak in revealing one-on-one interviews. You could see some of the soldiers suffering from the pain of killing human beings or from doubt about what they were doing in Iraq. One of the soldiers commented that he had been trained to "defend his country" and that it was clear that this — Iraq — was not about defending his country.

The tension of life patrolling Baghdad is interspersed with funny, entertaining moments created by the soldiers — excellent hip-hop and poetry by some of the black men, and very funny silly stunts by some of the white men. When the soldiers are breaking into houses looking for "bad guys," you feel like you're watching the TV show "Cops."

Soldiers are put in the position of teaching politics — were they trained for this? One soldier is filmed at a local council meeting. The Iraqis are yelling and the American says, "Remember we've been working on civility. Remember, civility, you've been doing real good. Don't yell across the table..."

"Jarhead" is about the first Gulf War [I wonder if in the future they will consider this one war that stretched from



Katie Brugger
kbrugger@hughes.net

1990-2009(?)] Like "Gunner Palace," this is a very first-person war account about a marine platoon that was among the first to be sent to Saudi Arabia in 1990.

It is based on the book *Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles*, by Anthony Swofford (956.7044S). Swofford is not the stereotyped Marine; he reads *The Iliad* and *The Stranger* by Camus on the eve of battle.

Swofford also questioned what the war was about: "Do you think oil maybe?" The scenes of the oilfields burning were so vivid in the film I woke up that night from a bad dream of oil and war.

The film was extremely true to the book, but one of my favorite scenes from the book was missing. On the eve of the war, when they still believed they would see battle, one of the soldiers in Swofford's platoon asked for hugs. Eventually everyone in the platoon hugged the man. I found this very moving: "We are about to die in combat, so why not get one last hug, one last bit of physical contact. And through the hugs Welty has helped make us human again. He's exposed himself to us, exposed his need, and we in turn have exposed ourselves to him, and for that we are no longer simple grunt savages in the desert ready to jump the berm and begin killing."

Swofford described the towns his friends were from as "shit towns," places of failed industry. I remembered that in "Gunner Palace" the filmmaker commented most of the soldiers were from small towns you had never heard of. I guess the military is still a good place to go if there is no opportunity in your home town.

I really shouldn't be surprised about the quality of our soldiers. My older brother made a friend in elementary school who became almost a member of our family — in fact, he and his wife still come to our family reunions. Mark was poor compared to us and didn't have the ability to go to college. He joined the marines and became a drill instructor.

A few years ago I was surprised to hear he had quit the Marines and was attending college, and, most surprising, he was majoring in math! Now he teaches at an inner-city high school and I think of how useful that drill instructor experience must be.

So why is there a prejudice against

• See BRUGGER page 25

Pine Street Park becoming a reality



Highlands is on its way to developing a park downtown! With many thanks to the community – the Cashiers-Highlands Land Trust, Macon Bank, the Town, County, and many individual donors – the land for the park site at Pine and Fifth Streets has been almost paid for, and a campaign has begun to acquire additional funds for the development of the park site: planting trees, shrubs, adding a pavilion. Work is now complete removing the asphalt and concrete which previously covered the site, so that grass seed can be sown for a new green space look. Contributions are still needed and are most welcome to help make the park a reality for the Town of Highlands. Please send your tax deductible contributions to the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust. PO Box 1703, Highlands, NC 28741, marked "for the Pine Street Park." If you'd like additional information about the park, call Hillrie Quin at 526-2385.

Mountain Garden Club seeks plants For 25th Annual Sale

Has it been three years or more since you divided your hostas? Are black-eyed Susans and Shasta daisies crowding out the other flowers in your perennial beds? Would you like to send some of your *Pachysandra* packing?

Call Jackie Hills (828 526-0299) or Carol Strunk (828 526-0974) and help will soon be on the way.

"Our shovels are sharp and we're ready to dig," said Hills, co-chair of the Mountain Garden Club's 25th annual plant sale. "Call us and we'll arrange for a gardening team to come to your property when it's convenient for you. We'll dig the plants you tell us to dig and carry them away for our plant sale."



Jackie Hills and Carol Strunk

The Mountain Garden Club plant sale will be held 9 a.m.-1 p.m., May 26, at the baseball park on the corner of Highway 64 East (North 4th Street) and Hickory Street in Highlands.

"Your excess plants will help send kids to college," said Hills.

Proceeds from the Mountain Garden Club plant sale support Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Scholarships for college-level studies of horticulture or related fields. Since 1996, the Mountain Garden Club has provided over \$25,000 in scholarships to local students.

Proceeds from the plant sale also support local landscaping projects and public gardens, including the butterfly garden at Highlands School, the Wertzler Memorial Garden at Town Hall, and 'Plants of the Cherokee' — a new garden being developed at the Highlands Nature Center and Biological Station.

"The lush growing conditions in Highlands and Cashiers can make home gardens too full. Digging and dividing perennials now...in early spring...is a great way to get your garden in shape for the rest of the year," said Carol Strunk, co-chair for the sale. "Help your garden and your community. Call us today to donate plants for the Mountain Garden Club plant sale."

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Superintendent meets with 'Communications Councils'



Macon County schools superintendent Dan Brigman continues to meet with members of the Superintendent's Communications Councils. These groups include faculty and staff members, parents, students, and community leaders, and provide information and feedback to the school leadership team on a quarterly basis. In addition to these focus groups, Macon County Schools recently completed a stakeholders' survey process. The results of these surveys will be available in the next few weeks and will provide a cornerstone to review district accomplishments and establish goals for the upcoming year. Other requirements fulfilled through this survey process include Southern Association of Colleges & Schools (SACS) and federal reporting associated with title funding.

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• HIS & HERS •

Out of tune with eHarmony

I'm an incurable romantic, so, of course, I wanted to meet a fella the normal way, in the frozen food section of the supermarket. Picture the scene. I'm pushing my shopping cart around the store, minding my own business. I get to the frozen food section. I reach for a bag of frozen peas. At the same time, a charming gentleman reaches for the same bag of frozen peas. Our hands touch. Our eyes lock. I look to see what's in his shopping cart. It's exactly what's in mine. We know.

This may come as a shock to you, but before I Googled John on the Internet, I tried finding my match on eHarmony. Yup. I'd gotten tired of walking around my neighborhood in Manhattan, seeing men peering out of bars, tongues lolling out, ogling air-headed bimbos in their 20s. And me, with my Master's Degree and a good job as a banker? Nada. These men didn't want women with more brains than God gave a grapefruit. They wanted eye-candy and breeders.

Yes, Dear Readers, men also have biological clocks that tick, and they tick loud and fast among men in their 40s and 50s who have played the field so long they know the bartender's kids by name. After messing around for 20 years, they realize that their parents aren't getting any younger, and neither are they. If children and grandchildren are going to come into the picture, they have to have longer stands than General Custer.

These men are so much fun to watch. They go about finding marriage material the way they would pick out a new computer. I'm surprised that they haven't begged *Consumer Reports* to add a dating section. The ads they place all contain the same elements. The women they want are invariably "model thin" and a good 10-25 years younger than themselves. The sad thing is that these women are supposed to stay "model thin" while producing the heirs to fill those lofts and duplex apartments. Thus, the "basketball pregnancy."

New York women are supposed to gain a minimum of weight during their pregnancies. No puffy faces or swollen ankles here, folks. No, these perfect little wives are supposed to look like they have slipped a perfectly round little



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

basketball underneath their designer maternity wear. The paint is barely dry in the nursery, and already they are back in the gym, sweating and starving themselves back into shape. And for whom? A middle-aged banker with a paunch and a comb-over.

So, after years of being invisible, I decided to embrace modernity, and look for love on an Internet dating service. Since I'd heard that eHarmony was a classy organization, I signed on for a trial membership. Their questions were very comprehensive and extensive. I was impressed. What was I looking for? A man with a sense of humor, smart, reasonably attractive, around my age, or a few years older. I wanted someone with a strong sense of family, since mine is very important to me. I wasn't fussy about whether the man had been married before, was divorced, widowed, or never married (although at my age, this did arouse a certain amount of suspicion). Oh, and I asked that he live within 60 miles of me. I didn't ask that he live within the same zip code. My criteria didn't seem unreasonable at all.

Well, obviously they were, since eHarmony got back to me, and told me that nowhere within a 60 mile radius of New York City was there any man fitting this description. Not one. I was floored. After all, I hadn't asked for a Nobel scientist, a millionaire, or an aging Chippendale. I just wanted a nice guy with a job, a bit of hair, most of his own teeth, and the ability to laugh at my jokes. It didn't seem like rocket science.

So, now I watch those eHarmony ads with a certain amount of irony. While delighted for those blissful, happy couples on TV, I know that I had better luck looking through an old photo album, looking for my heart's desire. It's a pity, though. I had a coupon for those frozen peas.

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, VA, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She is currently lives in Highlands.

• THE CONSERVATIVE POV •

March madness!

I have to preface this by saying I'm writing it a week early because I'll be out of pocket for several days. If things seem disjointed time-wise, please understand.

I admit my mind is still pretty messed up after researching last week's column on Global Cooling/Warming and I don't have an original thought in my head, so I just punched in the title and we'll see what happens together.

Madness #1. The insanity within the Congress is getting into high gear. The despicable Democrats, who evidently don't have the guts (or the votes) to deny funding for the war, have attached all sorts of non-war related pork projects to the current Iraq spending bill. Pelosi is preparing to put to a vote a bill which includes a troop move-out date of August 31, 2008. It also includes \$29 BILLION in PORK among which is \$60,000,000 for Pacific Coast salmon fishermen, \$25,000,000 for Salinas Valley spinach growers and \$65,000,000 for peanut storage. This is being done by the high and mighty demos who blasted the last Congress for the same thing. Bush says he'll veto if it comes to him with strings. We'll see.

Madness #2. The Anna Nicole Smith saga drones on. After several weeks, they still haven't got a plan to find out "who's her daddy?" Try as I may to keep the news on this subject out of my sight, in our house it can't be done. The other night, I saw an interview with her father who brought a previously hushed issue out on the table. MURDER! That ought to be good for another month or two. I vaguely remember something about a judge in the case breaking down on the bench and bawling, about what I have no clue. Now enter another Florida judge who evidently had something to do with the DNA hearing in Hollywood, FL who got busted for smoking pot in a local park. Oh my.

Madness #3. Attorney General Gonzales is on the hot seat (he may be gone by the time you read this) for dismissing eight U. S. attorneys. This is a crock concocted by the demos in order to get Karl Rove and Harriet Miers to testify under oath about who knows what. It certainly won't be about Bill Clinton's wholesale firing of 93 U.S. attorneys to get rid of one who was going to prosecute him and Hillary for the Whitewater debacle. The demos



Don Swanson
Feedback is
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swandonson@dnnet.net

vitriol was expected, but the madness is how the White House has laid down in the face of opposition. The demos wanted Don Rumsfeld out so out he goes with barely a whimper. Now they want to get rid of Gonzales and support for him is sadly lacking. How about a little show of testosterone here, boys?

Madness #4. Speaking of crocks, Al Gore is

speaking to a couple of congressional committees this week (last week by the time you read this) on his favorite subject, global warming. I know February isn't March, but it's close enough. Please cut me some slack. Quotes from selected newspapers: Roanoke "coldest February in history;" Chicago "9th coldest February in 137 years;" Philadelphia "coldest February since Carter was president!;" Toronto "coldest February in 28 years;" Ft. Wayne "3rd coldest February in history;" Austin "record cold February;" Indianapolis "among the five coldest Februaries." You get the idea. While I realize one month doesn't prove the point, global warming is MADNESS!

Madness #5. Here we are, 10+ months ahead of super duper Tuesday which effectively ends the primary issue and more than a year and a half before the election, and we have 30+/- folks running around the country in a frenzy raising money, kissing babies and generally making fools of themselves, hoping to become PRESIDENT! Who in their right mind (aha) would want to be PRESIDENT? Good grief, Clinton got skewered (pun intended) for his various felonious activities by a hostile Republican Congress. And now, Bush must feel like a piece of meat on a rotisserie, being basted by the demos on a daily basis. It appears that governmental warfare is in vogue and the prez is the piñata. So who in their right mind?

Personally, I'm all for madness in small doses well spaced but things are getting out of hand. Costa Rica is starting to look pretty good to me and New Zealand has a certain appeal. I think some serious research is in order just in case the unthinkable happens. That, of course, would be President Clinton II. I shudder at the thought. Thank God the "sweet sixteen" is coming up this weekend (the Final Four to you) to interject a little sanity into our lives.

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• LETTER FROM BOLIVIA – PART 2 •

Annual mission going well

By Dr. John Baumrucker

Sunday was one of those special days. First we went to the church service at the Dios Es Amor. We were given the opportunity to speak to the congregation, interact with the church members and enjoy the sermon and songs. Since the time was growing short for the dental team, I took them to the foster home to see the boys and the grounds, and also eat lunch there. The house mother prepared us all chicken we brought and cooked bananas or plantain plus rice completed the meal. They know that we don't eat leafy greens here.

A few of the group went to Santa Cruz for a meeting but I returned to play with the kids. I love playing with my boys. We had a successful soccer practice and a good game. Then we played made-up games in the playground. There are several areas where your imagination can find new games. There is a place where old tires are buried half way in the ground separating the play area from the parking lot. That area in particular was the source of new games. My first real job in 1960 was being a playground leader and that experience has served me well here.

I had hoped to write the journal before I forgot some things as this was a busy weekend, but other things got in the way. Nancy Main and I had a long discussion about the micro-finance project and whether it would be a Bible-based program or a business-based one. The business-based plan has worked before but the Bible-based one, to my knowledge, has not been tried. We will decide on the path tomorrow when we meet for lunch. Since we gave the cook a night off, I have not seen her to tell her that she might expect an additional 15 to 20 people for lunch. She has always taken this stride before, but I hate to do this to her.

Soon it was time to go to the various churches for activities that had been planned. As I left I noticed we had a flat tire. I had traveled about a ½ block before noticing the characteristic noise of the tire. What next, I thought. Two tires in a week! We changed the tire in about a ½ hour, not being familiar with the jack and it was dark. We had to find a few bricks to elevate the jack enough to put on the spare tire.



I thought how impossible this would have been if we had been in the mud yesterday when the tire went flat. We still arrived at the first church before their bus which was supposed to have left a ½ hour earlier. This is typical Bolivia. God knew what would happen and we were on His timetable.

We did our business there and went to a small Presbyterian church where Michelle Main was supposed to do some skits. The service was over, but there were still people there as we arrived. Those remaining were mainly deaf mutes who were signing with one another. What a perfect place to do the skits that really need no words or explaining. They did have several hearing signers who translated the Spanish to signs as our translator changed the English to Spanish.

I had previously planned to leave to write in my journal and then come back, but I was glad I stayed. Here were all these people who could not hear or talk, but I have never seen so many happy people. I was enthralled by the enthusiasm of one man in particular. Also their children, all of whom seemed able to speak and hear. They were some of the happiest children I have ever seen. These people had practically no possessions and then God seemed to have taken away even what little they had left, e.g. their senses, but they were happier than many people I know who are blessed with much.

I think this is the reason I like this place so much and why everyone else enjoys being here too. It is way past midnight as I write, but I don't care. It was a great weekend!

Stay tuned!

• See Part 1 on page 2 of the March 22 issue of Highlands' Newspaper.

Vital health screening and this story could save your life

By Martha Betz

On February 14, my dad, Alan Lewis, age 76, of Highlands, had a routine health screening that saved his life.

The Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) screening showed he had an aneurysm the size of a grapefruit! He was told to go straight to the nearest emergency room, as this was a life-threatening matter.

The occurrence of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms (AAA) has tripled over the past three decades. This is a frightening statistic for a condition that often occurs without recognizable symptoms.

AAA is the most common type of aortic aneurism. They occur in the abdominal section — lower section — of the aortic artery. Like other aneurisms, AAAs are immediately caused by a weakness in the aortic wall which bulges under the influence of blood pressure.

In the United States ruptured abdominal aortic aneurisms are responsible for an estimated 15,000 deaths per year. This fact makes aneurism rupture one of the leading causes of death in the United States. If an aneurism does rupture, massive internal hemorrhaging is usually the result. Death will normally occur within hours.

Fortunately a simple, non-invasive test saved my dad's life. He underwent four hours of vascular surgery in Asheville, N.C., and although the surgery went well, he developed some complications, including a blood clot in his leg, which lengthened his hospital stay to two weeks. Thankfully he is now home, but still faces several months of recovery time. My mother, Jane Lewis, also had the health screening, and was given a clean bill of health.

Generally speaking, aortic aneurisms occur among the older generation. Specifically, over 75% of diagnosed aortic aneurisms are found in people beyond the age of 60. It has been estimated that one in 250 people over the age of 50 will die of a ruptured AAA.

If you have never had the simple non-invasive screening, I urge you to schedule an appointment — it could literally save your life!

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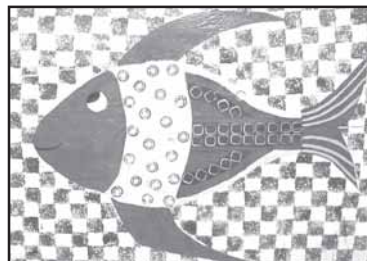
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Local ventures to England to learn age-old craft

By Kim Lewicki

You've read about them in books, seen them in countless movies, but have you ever wondered how they're made? Allan Frederick did.

Thatched roofs on English cottages are part of the romantic English countryside image and represent an age-old craft that is both artistic and skillful in nature.

"That's one of the reasons learning how to thatch a roof was appealing to me," said Allan Frederick. "It's a physical skill with an artistic component to it." The fact that his mother is English may have tipped him in that direction, too.

The last week in February, Frederick gave up his day job as manager of Highlands-Cashiers rehabilitation services and traveled to Bovey Tracey in Devon, England to learn the art of thatching from master thatchers brothers Robin and John Singleton.

I emailed them and volunteered my services and they volunteered to teach me," said Frederick. "They put me to work immediately."

Considered extremely labor-intensive, the number of thatched buildings in England decreased from one million in 1800 to 35,000 by 1960, due partly to mechanization and transport enabling other materials to be used like slate. Today there are around 24,000 thatched buildings listed in England and for those who want to keep the traditional English timber-framed thatched look and keep their homes on the historical register, thatched roofs are the only way to go. With value placed on the "historical" these days, thatchers — particularly those in Devon which is known for thatched roofs — are in demand. Frederick said the Singleton brothers don't want for work.

Technically a thatched roof is a roof made with a plant material such as reeds or palm fronds, but for the Singletons nothing but wheat straw grown particularly for thatching will do. Wheat straw is a premium material because of its length and the thickness of its reed wall.

Rather than storing materials on site, nearby farmers deliver the wheat straw as needed, rain or shine. "If it started raining we just put on raincoats and kept on working," said Frederick.

Depending on the quality of work, thatching can last 10-20 years. New bundles of thatching is typically 2-4 feet thick and lies on top of the old thatch which can be up to eight feet thick. The pitch of the roof is one main reason thatching lasts so long and why the roofs don't leak. "The rain runs right off," said Frederick.

Once the bundles are delivered to the site, thatchers split them in two, and after evening them by dropping them on the ground a few times, a chainsaw is used to make all the reeds in the bundle the same length. After worn thatch patches are removed from the roof, bundles are carried up a ladder and laid on top of the old thatching. Eaves and framework are also repaired if needed.

Wooden staples — usually hazel spars — are used to hold the thatch in place. Finally, thatching paddles are used to even out and contour the bundles once fixed. Hazel wood is used extensively for thatching, in particular for the making of spars, because it can be split into quadrants from the round, which are then sharpened at each end and twisted in the middle to make a staple.

Frederick said the days were long and the work was intensive but time for tea and socializing was always made. "The owner of the house brought us a cup of tea in china cups each day and at night we'd go have a beer in the pub," he said. "It was about as English as you get."



Bundles of wheat straw are delivered as needed.



A chainsaw is used to even out bundle ends.



Thatched roofs are common in Devon, England.



John Singleton carries wheat straw to the roof.



Allan Frederick uses the paddle to contour thatch.

... ORDINANCE continued from page 1

Home occupations are defined as certain occupations pursued or carried on by the owner or lessee of a residence, or in a customary accessory outbuilding under the following conditions:

- The residence must be the primary residence of the owner or lessee;
- The home occupation may only be pursued by the owner or lessee or immediate family members thereof who reside on the property as well as one person who is not a family member or resident and that person shall be an employee, a partner or any other participant in the business;
- There is adequate off-street parking must be provided;
- Excessive noise, dust, smoke, vibration, smell, glare, electrical interference, traffic congestion, fire, chemical hazard or any other type of nuisance may not be created;
- A customary outbuilding used for the home occupation may be located in the side or rear yard only;
- Only one unlit sign not exceeding four square feet may be used;
- Home occupations may include, by way of example and not by way of limitation: artist studios, studios of home crafters, antique restorers, upholsters, writers, musicians and music teachers, dancers and dance instructors, classes or studios for instruction or counseling provided no more than five students per day or one class per day are permitted; dressmakers or tailors, beauticians with only one chair,

computer programmers or business consultants, home caterers if the kitchen is approved by the Macon County Health Department; repair shops for small appliances, professional offices of accountants, architects, artists, attorneys, brokers, licensed counselors, dentists, engineers, insurance agents, physicians, real estate agents, surveyors, or salespersons where no retail or wholesale goods are exchanged; and family daycare homes keeping less than six unrelated children.

- Home occupations may not include veterinary services, the boarding of animals, commercial uses such as retail or wholesale, or retail service businesses which are permitted in commercial zoning districts or special uses permitted in commercial districts; automotive repair garages and heavy equipment depots.
- Finally, the ordinance doesn't negate or preclude covenants enforced in subdivision ordinances.

The draft prompted much discussion as members tried to ensure home businesses wouldn't be a nuisance to neighbors while still promoting property rights.

In the end, interim Town Planner Richard Betz said "You can't design a fool proof ordinance. There are going to be gray areas which is where the Zoning Administrator comes in."

The draft will be presented to the Town Board at the April 4 meeting. If the board approves the draft it will be set for a public hearing in May.

— Kim Lewicki

... ETJ continued from page 1

been done and some regulations automatically apply while others don't," he said. "The town's soil erosion ordinance and the subdivision ordinance which outlines setback and road widths are already in affect, but lot sizes, uses and zoning designations haven't been determined."

Several members of the Wilson family — owners of land off NC 28 south across the road from the ETJ areas of Clear Creek, were present and voiced concerns felt by many in the ETJ areas about maintaining their lifestyle within the parameters of ETJ.

Like several landowners in the ETJ areas, the Wilsons said they had been farming and working their land for 150 years. They said the land they had left was destined for children, grandchildren and great grandchildren so they were concerned about subdividing regulations and other issues. They also said they have horses, cattle, pasture to extend and barns to build and they don't want anyone telling them they can't do those things.

"In years to come, I don't want you telling me what I can and can't do. I fought for freedom of this nation and now our freedoms are being taken away from us," said Clarence Wilson. The Wilson property isn't in the ETJ area but they suspect it will be someday and were speaking about a lifestyle they want protected.

Wilson also said he hunts regularly and is concerned about firearm and noise ordinances prohibiting him from continuing.

Betz said there are only firearm and noise ordinances within the town limits and all the activities he described were allowed in the R1 district — should it be zoned that — but it was too early to tell what the zoning would be.

Board member Pat Taylor reminded the board that early in the ETJ process Commissioner Amy Patterson made it clear that current lifestyles, such as farming and the raising of livestock, shouldn't be disturbed or curtailed in any way by ETJ.

"We may need a different zone -- an agricultural zone -- for Clear Creek and Horse Cove," said Taylor.

Luther Turner, who owns about 40 acres in Horse Cove, said he has a petition signed by 24 property owners de-

claring support of ETJ in the cove.

"We are concerned about 20, 30, 40 years down the road," he said. "I have 40 acres and I'm sure my children will end up developing the property and I just want to make sure it is done attractively. This is important to the future of Horse Cove."

But Planning Board member Mitch Gurganus, who also is a resident of Horse Cove, said he has letters from nine major landowners in the cove who don't want ETJ.

In the end, the board agreed to work up an agricultural zone for Clear Creek and Horse Cove and to meet April 16 at 5:30 p.m. Betz said GIS Engineer Matt Schuler will produce large maps of those areas clearly depicting the parcels. The board also asked the Wilsons to return to help them identify property ownership and uses.

— Kim Lewicki

... ARRESTED continued from page 1

investigation and after conferring with the District Attorney's office, the decision was made to file criminal charges against the officer.

"After reviewing the findings, I support the decision made by the agencies conducting the criminal investigation and appreciate their professional conduct in handling this matter," said Sheriff Holland.

Following the SBI investigation, Macon County deputies arrested Mercier on (1) felony count of larceny by an employee and (1) misdemeanor count of possession of a schedule II controlled substance and he appeared before magistrate Brandon McDowell.

Following being processed into the Macon County Detention Center, Mercier was released on a \$5,000 unsecured bond and is scheduled to



John Nathan Mercier

Fancy head work against Towns County



Highlands School Sara Bates heads the ball during the Towns County home game last week.
Photo by Noel Atherton

appear in District Court on April 4.

"It is difficult to see one of our own arrested, booked and processed into our facility, but as officers we have an obligation to uphold the laws of this state impartially," said Sheriff Holland. "Criminal activity by members of the MCSO will not be tolerated. I, along with my officers, should be and will be held accountable for our actions."

Mercier was immediately terminated by Sheriff Holland and is no longer employed by the Macon County Sheriff's Office. Due to North Carolina laws pertaining to "personnel matters," Sheriff Holland will not make any additional comments at this time.

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Smaller hi-rise planned for U.S. 64 tract

The dust has settled concerning the transaction of property on U.S. 64 east where a high-rise condominium complex was planned. Now, the buyer is ready to move forward with his plans for Highland Views.

Though a cloud still exists on the 19-acre deed regarding the allowance of multi-story condominium structures, Friday, March 16, developer Bill Shephard closed on the two original tracts involved for a total of 21-plus acres.

On the front 1.3 acres – the tract without a cloud on the deed – a four-story building housing 23, three-bedroom, 2,400-2,600 sq. ft. condominium units is planned.

If the court removes the cloud on the deed for the remaining 19 acres, Shephard said a matching building will be constructed there for a total of 40-46 units.

The case is set to go to court early in May.

If allowed, the second condominium building will be built on a knoll of land where the first settlers on the property orig-

inally located.

Either way, Shephard is moving forward. "I hope the pending suit goes in the right direction and I can build the second building, but if it doesn't, I will build the one condominium building and a cluster development of 19 homes on the 19-acres instead. I prefer to cluster because it doesn't destroy the environment," he said.

Almost all of the condominium units – 95 percent – will have a view of Shortoff Mountain. Parking will be dug out under the building which 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 for the property.

He and his architect, Dan Buncombe of Cashiers, are working up a smaller version of the original plan utilizing wood, stone and timbers.

"I understand height was an issue on

the original plans, but it was never going to look like a Miami complex as depicted by some," said Shephard.

As long as he adheres to Macon County's building ordinance height restriction he said the county's planning department is behind the project 100 percent.

There is a moratorium on multi-story buildings capping them at 48 feet. Meanwhile the Macon County Planning Board is working on the verbiage of the ordinance.

"The maximum building height on any building, structure or unit within the jurisdiction of Macon County shall not exceed 48 feet or four stories, whichever is greater," reads the proposed ordinance.

At its planning board meeting in February, Macon County Building Inspector Jack Morgan said the language in the first sentence is confusing. The board is working on its clarification.

Shephard said his sales office will go up in the next three to four months and he plans to begin selling condominium units in the first building prior to beginning construction.

– Kim Lewicki

Audit shows community still believes in hospital

The hospital foundation doesn't know exactly why, but despite a rocky year, donations were up for 2005-2006.

"During last year's period of turmoil we had more contributions than the previous year," said Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation board member Clem Patton. "We don't know if people were stepping up or if had there been no turmoil it would have been even better year."

Current assets of the foundation for fiscal year 2006 (Oct. 1, 2005-Sept. 30, 2006) were \$20.75 million, down from \$21.9 in 2005. But that's not a true picture of the state of affairs.

The foundation picked 2006 to clean up its assets and liabilities – basically write off unfulfilled pledges instead of keeping them on the books as assets as it had in years past.

"We still have a reserve for a certain amount of uncollected pledges that we are sure are coming in and we count that as an asset, but we've become much more conservative or rather more realistic regarding payment," said Patton. "Now the books show what we are more certain of actually getting."

In the "long-term unconditional promises to give" column, for 2006 – after the adjustment – \$296,687 is listed; for 2005 that figure was \$3,856,106.

Most of the uncollected pledges are left over from the 1999-2000 Challenge Campaign where \$27 million was originally pledged. That figure was rounded down to \$22 million by the time the dust settled. They wrote off \$3.6 million.

Money in the foundation's capital fund is used to purchase equipment and make

other infrastructure improvements for the hospital while the endowment principal is untouched it is interest bearing.

Typically, including purchases and infrastructure upkeep, the hospital goes to the foundation for about \$2 million a year – but it can be more.

"The hospital requires a subsidy to operate," said Patton. "So far the foundation has had the means to carry the hospital through. We received more donations in 2006 than 2005 and for that trend to continue, we need the confidence and support of the community. We'll need more years like last year to continue."

Patton said it's getting harder and harder to provide healthcare in this country. Hospitals need certainty to continue rather than approaching operations with a "pay as you go" mentality. The foundation supplies the underpinning the hospital needs.

Last year the foundation funded the purchase of the MRI machine. This year the hospital is looking to the foundation for a nuclear imaging camera for about \$500,000 and additional plant improvements.

Included in the foundation's assets column is \$3.7 million that represents the eight acres purchased in Cashiers to expand facilities there at some point. Patton said it's likely the hospital won't need the eight acres and part of that will be eventually sold off.

Due to the backing of the foundation, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital can offer the community services beyond what a community the size of Highlands and Cashiers typically sees.

Russell Harris, director of the hospital foundation said his donor list is growing.

"We had 176 new donors in 2006 and about 90 more people gave in November of 2006 than in November of 2005."

In addition, he said the average gift of \$90 is up so there are more donors giving a higher amount.

"There is a generosity of the people here who know that for this facility to continue they have to step up to the plate," said Patton. "The community is willing to support at a level not normally seen by hospitals."

Harris agreed. "Highlands has deep donor support. The hospital can be what the community is willing to support. But encouragement is the essential ingredient for people to continue to give and to come back and give," he said.

Hugh Spruill, vice-chair of the foundation board said the more people living in the Highlands-Cashiers area the better it will be for the hospital.

"We have a better chance to have a healthy foundation and a viable hospital as more people move here," he said.

Spruill said the hardships the hospital went through last year represents a period of adjustment that can be attributed to the hospital growing bigger and people expecting a certain quality of care at the hospital.

"We have moved into another mode. It's not just enough to have a hospital in town, anymore. Expectations have moved up. But moving up isn't easy. There are growing pains when moving to the next level," he said. "But we have moved successfully to that next level."

Patton said he has great confidence in this hospital. "It was here when I needed it and able to do what I needed it to do. It's the best hospital care anywhere." – KL

NC Stage's Shakespeare Troupe to perform at Highlands School Monday, April 2

Group to perform for 15,000 students in 22 days

North Carolina Stage Company will serve almost 15,000 students 22 days through a high profile school tour of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The tour will travel to nine Western NC counties. NC Stage's production is a part of *Shakespeare for A New Generation*, a national theater initiative sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Arts Midwest. NC Stage was one of only 36 theatres across the country and the only North Carolina theatre to receive this grant.

The tour will take place over just three weeks, March 12 – April 2, meaning the cast will perform two shows a day on average and even three on some days. Students in Macon, Transylvania, Henderson, Polk, Buncombe, Madison, Yancey, Mitchell and McDowell counties will see an energetic, abridged version of Shakespeare's classic comedy. A question and answer session follows each performance for those attending. Immediately following the performance package, selected students at each school will have their choice of taking a workshop on Shakespeare's language or stage combat.

In addition, 25% of the schools have elected to bring a Shakespeare residency to their students. In Page to Stage, NC Stage's residency program, professional teaching arts lead a variety of hands-on activities that explore Shakespeare's language, plot and characters. Far from stuffy, these residencies feature exercises like "Shakespearean Insults", in which students revel in Shakespeare's language, creating phrases like, "Thou dissembling,

dizzy-eyed coxcomb."

Eight young actors tackle all the roles in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, switching quickly between Athenian nobility, fairies of the forest and rustic craftsmen. In one of Shakespeare's lightest comedies, Helena loves Demetrius, who is engaged to Hermia, who adores Lysander. When the young lovers escape to the woods, they unknowingly walk into a battle of wills between the King and Queen of the fairies. The production features costumes inspired by Indian and punk rock styles, as well as the surprising use of a RipStik skateboard. The music is a dizzying mix of old and new, from Bach to Christina Aguilera.

Director Ron Bashford has directed back-to-back shows in Asheville this spring: *All in the Timing* for NC Stage and Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* for Warren Wilson College. Bashford has been responsible for some of NC Stage's most popular plays, including *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Hamlet*, and *Art*. For this production, Bashford trimmed Shakespeare's script to 80 minutes, while keeping the original language and story intact.

A Midsummer Night's Dream features eight young actors from Asheville and across the country: Mike Coghlan, Jonathan Frappier, Lauren Fortuna, Willie Repoley, Hannah Sloat, Vivian Smith, Marcus Truschinski, and Matthew Winning. After the school tour concludes, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will run April 11 - 29, 2007 in its an expanded version full length at NC Stage's theatre in downtown Asheville.

'Highlander Pride' tennis club

Under the watchful eye of Highlands School Guidance Counselor Thomas Jessup, Highlands School students are participating in a school tennis club. With enough interest, the club could evolve into a varsity sport, but Jessup said for now, it's a club. "We're a club, not a varsity sport because I wanted to start slow and build interest to see if we could field a girl's team in fall and boy's next spring," he said.

The co-ed club practices Tuesday and Thursday at the Rec Park from 4-5:30 p.m. "I have very limited skills and knowledge of the game," said Jessup, "but we're working on swing, grip, score keeping, names of parts of the court — very basic

stuff."

So far four regulars show up and four students show up now and then, but Jessup said it's a start. "They're a great group of kids. I'm sure there is some real talent up here, it's just that many students don't know about the club and others are playing other sports this spring."

Jessup urges any community member who likes tennis and would like to help out to join the club Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Rec Park. Financial assistance is also needed. Currently the club is using last year's "flat balls" for practice. For more information, contact Jessup at thomas.jessup@mcsk-12.org.

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Rotary supports scout troop #207



Rotary President Brian McCellan presents a check for \$325 to Buck Trott for Highlands' Boy Scout Troop #207. Former Mayor Trott is Chairman of the 207 Troop Committee and an active promoter of Scouting. Troop 207 meets weekly at the Highlands Community Center. The Highlands Rotary Club has sponsored Troop 207 since its founding.

Priest wears many-colored robe

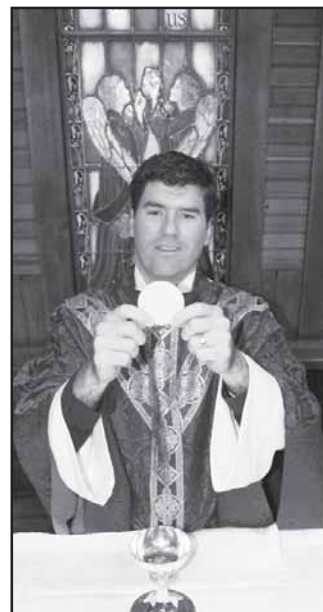
"To sing in choir's Good Friday performance"

Father Brian Sullivan, rector of Highlands Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, has many other talents in addition to shepherding his flock and preaching outstanding sermons.

Father Sullivan utilizes his talents as an artist in designing many of the church's visual aids used in promotion and publicity. He was an art major at the University of Georgia before he entered the Seminary.

In addition to this ability, he also sings the mass on occasion and is a regular member of the church choir. Fletcher Wolfe, choir director, says

that Brian has a luminous and very lovely tenor voice. He attends weekly choir rehearsals regularly and during the choir's anthem presentation on Sunday morning he trades his place at the altar for a



Father Brian Sullivan

role as tenor in the choir.

The Lenten and Easter season sees Father Sullivan presiding over the many services held at the church, as well as delivering inspirational and spirit-filled homilies.

He resides in Highlands with his decorator wife, Mindy, and their three small children, Ase 1, Lexie 2 ½, and Maggie 4 ½. Also, living at their home, is an Italian hunting dog named "Neo" and two cats.

Father Sullivan, an avid biker and fisherman, will appear with the Incarnation choir on Good Friday evening, April 6, in their presentation of The-

odore Dubois' beautiful "Seven Last Words of Christ". This performance, to be directed by Fletcher Wolfe, will commence at 7 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

Reverend Bruce Shortell to visit Christ Anglican Church on Palm Sunday

The Reverend Bruce Shortell, former canon of The Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta, will preach and celebrate Holy Communion at Christ Anglican Church on Palm Sunday, April 1. Services will be at 2:00 p.m. at Community Bible Church. Rev. Shortell is one of several distinguished Anglican priests making a trip to Highlands this spring, and he will be accompanied by his wife, Carolyn. His sermon will touch on appreciating, and benefiting from, our preparation for Easter, and how this preparation can be applied to our lives during and after the Easter season.

Rev. Shortell served at The Cathedral of St. Philip, at the time the largest Episcopal Church in the United States, for 17 years until retirement in 1998. He served as Canon for Ministries and Canon Pastor. After his son-in-law died, he studied the grief process and has helped numerous people see that Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter provide a useful paradigm for all of life's losses.

He is presently Fleet Chaplain at the

University Yacht Club at Lake Lanier in Georgia.

Rev. Shortell grew up in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and graduated from Moravian College. After a career with Bethlehem Steel Corporation he felt the nudge of the Lord calling him to ordained ministry. He received his Master of Divinity

from Virginia Theological Seminary and served two parishes in Pennsylvania.

Over the span of his ministry Rev. Shortell developed a deep personal relationship with Jesus and renewed his commitment to Him as Lord. Eventually this led to working with the National Church as a Regional Associate for Evangelism and Renewal and traveling around the country leading conferences to help parishes regain their vision for Evangelism and Renewal.

The Very Reverend David B. Collins, Dean Emeritus of The Cathedral of St. Philip follows Rev. Shortell at Christ Anglican Church and will conduct both Good Friday and Easter services.



Reverend Bruce Shortell



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• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

The importance of belief



Rev. Sam Forrester
Whiteside
Presbyterian Church

I heard someone not long ago talking about his dislike of theology and doctrine. This person was a professing Christian. I wondered as I listened to him how he could profess to believe in Jesus Christ and not understand the importance of theology and doctrine. Theology is a word that comes to us from the Greek language. It is made up of two words, *theo* which means God and *logos* which means word. Literally it is God's Word. How can God's Word not be important to one who professes to believe in him? Doctrine also comes to us from the Greek. It is derived from the word *didasko* which means to teach. When used in relationship to the Church it means to teach God's Word. Is that not exactly what Jesus told us to do in the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations . . . teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." How can any true believer not want to grow in his doctrine, so he can be a more effective witness for their Lord and Savior?

It is a great tragedy that in our modern times and in many modern Churches these two words have been thrown out. Christianity is about faith and faith, simply put, is believing God. The Apostle Paul says in Romans 4:3, "Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness." Jesus told the crowds in John 6:29, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." Jesus in John 3:16 says "whoever believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life." Believing is the heart of what Christianity is all about. Jesus was sent into this world to do for the sinner what he could never do for himself. He came and lived the perfect life on behalf of all those the Father gave him. He took that perfect life and offered it as an atoning sacrifice on the altar of God for the forgiveness of all who would believe and trust in him and in him alone. He went to the grave and paid the final price for their sin which is death. But, he did not stay there, he defeated death through his resurrection. He returned to heaven to take his place at the Father's right hand to intercede for his people. This is what Christians are called to believe. This is theology. This is God's Word. It is doctrine. Which every Christian should know and teach to others.

Theology and doctrine are important. It is important what you believe, what you hold to as truth. Yes, you must live your beliefs, if they are to have any kind of positive impact on others. James says "faith without works is dead" but works without faith are worthless. Belief is the foundation to good works. Paul says in Ephesians 2:8-10 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 20

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

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Sundays: School - 10 a.m., Worship - 11
Sunday night services every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7
Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting - 7 p.m.
Special Singing Schedule -- 7 p.m.
March 25: John Raby & Family
April 22: Morris Staneil
April 29: Promised Land with worship and lunch

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627
CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
Office - 526-2320
Sunday: Holy Communion - 2 p.m.
(Community Bible Church on U.S. 64 between Highlands and Cashiers)

Tuesday: Womens weekly Bible study at 2 p.m.
Wednesday: Mens Bible study at 8 a.m.
at First Baptist Church
Pot Luck Supper last Sunday of each month.
All are Welcome!

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

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

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Brian Sullivan - 526-2968
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast; 9 a.m. - Sunday School;
9:45 a.m. - Choir Practice; 10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II;
5:30 p.m. - Youth Meeting
Monday: 7:30 a.m. - Stations of the Cross; 11 a.m. -
Contemplative Prayer; 4 p.m. - Womens Cursillo Group; 5
p.m. - Evening Prayer
Tuesday: 8 a.m. - Mens Cursillo Group; 9:30 a.m. - Staff
Meeting; 11 a.m. - Contemplative Prayer; 4:30 p.m. - EFM
Meeting; 5 p.m. - Stations of the Cross; 5:30 p.m. - Dinner; 6
p.m. - Speaker

Wednesday: 11 a.m. - Contemplative Prayer; 5 p.m. -
Evening Prayer

Thursday: 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with healing; 11
a.m. - Contemplative Prayer; 5 p.m. - Evening Prayer
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - Stations of the Cross; 11 a.m. -
Contemplative Prayer; 5 p.m. - Evening Prayer

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

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

Rev. Mitch Schultz, Pastor • 828-369-7977
Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m. (nursery provided)
Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.

Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Junior & Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;
Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

7:15 - Adult choir
(nursery provided for Wed. p.m. activities)

Thurs:12:30 - Womens Bible Study (nursery)

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell
2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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

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

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price
Sundays: School - 10 a.m.; Worship - 11
Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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

Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 19

do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." God's Word says you are saved by God's grace and that once you have that salvation, you are enabled to believe that Jesus Christ has done for you everything you could not do for yourself. You are thus being remade into his image and enabled to begin doing the good works he prepared in advance for you to do. What are those

good works? They begin with holding to the theology of the Scripture and teaching the doctrines of Jesus Christ.

Nothing is more important to the believer than what he believes. Just as Abraham was justified by his belief, so will you be justified by what you believe. Don't be foolish and think you can get into heaven by works. Jesus makes clear in John 18:18 what is required to enter heaven. "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son." Theology and doctrine are two of the most important things for a Christian to know and understand. Believe and you will be saved. That is theology and doctrine all rolled into one clear and simple belief and it must be held to, loved and appreciated by all who call themselves followers of Jesus Christ.

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Why Knot Knit Highlands

A spinning demonstration featuring Marci Rheinschild from Wauka Valley Farms
Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come by and meet Marci, view her incredible selection of yarn and see what's new for spring in the shop.

**202 North 5th St. in The Village Square
828-787-1972**

... BUDGET continued from page 1

tract transportation and instructional supplies.

"Each increase is specifically for a specific area," said Finance Director Betty Waldroop. "Every bit of that money is for a specific program and we have to use it for those things."

The decrease of \$7,820 were due to \$1,500 in after-school salaries; \$450 in non-capitalized equipment; \$3,622 in food; \$500 for tire and tubes; \$300 in instructional supplies; \$1,448 in workshop expenses.

Local revenues increased by \$20,281 — \$8,000 from Medicaid, \$2,281 from the Summer Edventure Program and \$10,000 from fines and forfeitures.

... ANOTHER VIEW continued from page 5

interest. Coaches routinely make 10 times as much as university presidents. If one can comfortably justify that vast discrepancy on the basis of the income that successful athletic teams produce for the institution, then why don't we pay the athletes who are most responsible for victories on the field or court. Apologists claim that the athletes are being paid in the form of an academic opportunity worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. But the NCCA, the NBA, and the NFL didn't ask the athletes if they prefer education or money. If I thought for a single minute that the motivation was to introduce the athlete to higher education or to reduce the physical stress on the young athlete while he achieved musculo-skeletal maturity, or to shelter him for a year or two while he reaches emotional maturity, I might feel differently. I don't. Athletes are "meat" for college coaches, fund raisers and boosters. Eligibility rules provide gladiators for the universities and a proving ground, or minor league, for the professional leagues.

Why deny football and basketball

The amended total appropriation in the local current expense fund is now \$7,77,293.

The part of the budget reflecting the state public school fund was also amended to \$24,249,409.80 from \$24,243,764.80, an increase of \$5,645. Increases include an eight percent increase for certified personnel and a five percent increase for non-certified personnel.

The part of the budget reflecting the federal fund was amended from \$2,269,434 to \$2,437,968.01 — an increase of \$168,534.01. The budget will be presented to Macon County Commission at its May 14 meeting.

players the option of going pro as soon as a professional team is willing to pay them? Those who are not tapped by the pros and offered millions may choose to represent a college and settle for thousands. They could be offered a tuition waiver, if they are interested, and accept free tuition as part of a compensation package. The stadiums and field houses await. The uniforms have been purchased. The system needs only athletes to fill the uniforms and seats and share in the profits they make possible. Those who choose education will have truly earned their degrees and restored a measure of integrity to a corrupt system. You don't think it can work. Of course not. It would require abandoning the charade of the amateur athlete and paying the players for their effort. It would necessitate acknowledging that the athletic department is not an integral part of the university, exists to raise money, and has nothing else to do with education. And the truth is, in highly successful programs like UNC, Notre Dame, and Ohio State, college sports raise a lot more money than car washes and bake sales.

... OBIT continued from page 3

ray Beach Chamber of Commerce, Delray Beach Rotary, the Community Chest, Barnett Bank of West Delray and Snow Concrete. He was a member of the Associated General Contractors of America and a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow. For 53 years he was an active member of St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church serving in many capacities. He was past president of the Men's Club, an usher and ardent volunteer.

In 1982 he bought a summer home and became a member of the Highlands Country Club in Highlands, NC. He was a member of Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church, served on the board of The Mountain Club and was an ardent, loyal and generous volunteer and Advisory Board member of Carpe Diem Farms.

Preceded in death by his son, Gary Leo Blair and two brothers, Rich and Bob, he is survived by his loving wife of 58 years Joan, daughter Sue of Highlands, NC and grandson Taylor of Delray Beach. He is also sur-

vived by brothers C.G. of Sebastian, FL Jerry of Seward, Alaska, and Tom of Boise, Idaho and a sister, Elaine 'Sis' Cattabriga of Boynton Beach. Many nieces, nephews, cousins and long-time family friends also survive him.

Visiting hours will be held on Friday, March 30, 2007 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at Lorne & Sons Funeral Home, 745 NE 6th Avenue, Delray Beach, FL.

A funeral mass will be celebrated on Saturday, March 31, 2007 at 11 a.m. at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, Delray Beach, FL. Entombment will follow at the

Boca Raton Mausoleum, Boca Raton, FL.

In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions be made to the Leo A. Blair Memorial Building Fund at Carpe Diem Farms, (a 501(c)(3) educational foundation) 544 Western Rhodes Drive, Highlands, NC 28741.

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Hospital's annual free health screenings to begin April 21

Registration is already under way for the first free community health screening of the season, set for April 21 in Highlands.

Again this year Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will be hosting four community screenings, two in Highlands (April 21 and Sept. 15) and two in Cashiers (May 19 and Aug. 25). All the dates are Saturdays.

And as in the past, the screenings are free to everyone. However, there are several changes in the works this year. The location for the Highlands events is among those changes. While the Highlands screenings will still be held at the Jane Woodruff Clinic (on the hospital campus), they will move down one floor – to Suite 104 on the first level.

Many of the core screening tests will still be offered, such as height, weight, blood pressure, and lab tests for glucose and cholesterol levels, but several other stations are being changed or eliminated to keep pace with health care trends and reduce the time required for participants to go through the process.

"We are constantly evaluating the tests and information we offer to make the screenings as relevant and up to date as possible," said President and CEO Ken Shull. "We are beginning our 13th year of offering free screenings, and we remain very committed to this part of our mission to improve the health of our communities."

Between 400 and 500 area residents participate in the four to five community screenings offered each year, but there is room for far more.

"We would like to see more people take advantage of these screenings. There is no cost for any of the tests," observed Skip Taylor, director of Community Relations for the hospital. "And this year we are working with the Community Care Clinic in Highlands, not only to try to reach a larger audience, but also to make sure those who have some type of health issue, and who may not be able to afford medical care themselves, receive the follow-up care they need through the clinic."

One major difference in the screenings this time around involves how participants will be assessed for obesity. The hospital will no longer be testing for body fat. Instead exercise and nutrition counselors will focus on body mass index, a ratio of height to weight.

"BMI (body mass index) is really the standard tool being used throughout the health care industry to evaluate obesity," says Yvonne Smith, RD, MS, CDE, director of HealthTracks at the hospital. "We've used both BMI and actual body fat measurement in the past, but that is something of a duplication. Eliminating the body fat test will also help participants move through

the screening process much faster."

For those who still want to have their body fat level checked, the hospital plans to offer free vouchers to be measured at HealthTracks at a later date.

Preliminary testing that helps assess one's risk for osteoporosis is also being changed this year. Ultrasound ankle tests will no longer be offered at any of the health screenings.

"We made the decision to drop this particular test because so many of the participants who attended last year's events had already had it done," explained Taylor. "Once you've had the test, there is no reason to repeat it, since the information it provides is very limited. It's not cost effective for the folks from the Osteoporosis Outreach Program at Haywood Regional Medical Center to drive from Clyde to see so few people."

Seventy-five to 80 percent of those who attended last year's events were not appropriate candidates for the test, said Taylor. Instead the hospital will host two free Saturday morning fairs this summer specifically dedicated to the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis (July 21 in Highlands and Aug. 4 in Cashiers). Osteoporosis screening will be offered at those events and also at the Healthy Living Fair, scheduled for June 9 at the hospital.

In the way of new offerings this year, hospital personnel will be giving free pneumonia vaccinations to participants 65 and old who have not received the vaccine in the last five years, or others who suffer from chronic diseases. The vaccinations must be pre-scheduled at the time of registration.

Additional information booths, such as one offering suggesting of disaster home preparedness, are planned as well. And participants at the Highlands events will be able to tour the Healing Touch Massage suites and receive an abbreviated table massage free (as scheduling permits).

Pre-registration is required for all screenings. People can sign up by calling the hospital at 526-1434, or by completing the registration form on line at www.highlandscashiershospital.org

Those registering on line will receive a confirmation email. Appointment times will be assigned as part of the registration process to help reduce lines and waiting times. As in the past, those participating in screenings are asked not to eat or drink anything but water after midnight the night before.

Confidential results of screening tests will be reviewed by the participant's own family physician (or another local physician if no family doctor is specified) before being mailed out.

Highlands United Methodist Church Holy Week Services



Sunday, April 1
Palm Sunday – 11 a.m. Worship

Palm processional led by children and bagpiper. Celebration of Holy Communion.

Thursday, April 5
Passover Meal and Holy Communion – 6 p.m.

Gather around tables to celebrate the traditional Passover meal together. Jesus and his disciples were celebrating Passover that night in the Upper Room. After the Passover celebration, participate in Holy Communion and the ritual of washing one another's hands as Jesus washed the disciples' feet. This is a very special and participatory service. It is especially meaningful for children. Because of limited space in the fellowship hall, we recommend reservations. Childcare provided for younger children.

Friday, April 6
Good Friday
Stations of the Cross – Noon
(An Ecumenical gathering of Highlands churches)

Beginning at Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church, walk through Highlands, stopping at various places to read the stations of the cross. The procession carries a cross and sings familiar hymns as they move. It takes about 30-45 minutes and finishes at First Baptist Church. If it is raining, bring an umbrella.

Service of Darkness – 7 p.m.

This service in the sanctuary, remembers the crucifixion. It is always a very powerful service of music and scripture. Childcare will be provided.

Sunday, April 8
Easter Sunday – 8:30 and 11 worship services

Covered Dish Breakfast – 9:45 a.m.
Children's Egg Hunt and Devotion – 10 a.m.

Join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!
A nursery is provided.



Highlands United Methodist Church
315 Main Street • Highlands, NC 28741
828-526-3376

• UPCOMING EVENTS •



Bretha Stroud and Jenny King in "Las Hermanas"

'Parallel Lives' this weekend at ITC

This weekend at The Studio on Main is the return of the Highlands Community Players in "Parallel Lives" Fri., March 30 and Sat., March 31.

The reviews of this production have been glowing and each and every one of the nine women performing simply shine. *Parallel Lives* was originally written and performed by Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney as a two-woman show in the early 90s. It was seen on Broadway and on television as an HBO series. In this irreverent look at life and relationships all roles are played by women and the audience enjoys watching them play characters as diverse as a teenaged cou-

ple dating; young girls in church; a man and woman at a country-western bar; and actors in a farcical Shakespearean play.

The Highlands Community Players starring in this production are: Katie Cochran, Bonnie Earman, Jenny King, Mary Adair Leslie, Lee Lyons, Nancy Reeder, Jennifer Royce, Ronnie Spilton and Bretha Stroud.

The play contains adult content and language and is not appropriate for young audiences. Complimentary wine and snacks will be served. The show begins at 7 p.m. and doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call the Instant Theatre Company box office for tickets. 828-342-9197.



Katie Cochran and Jenna Royce in "GOD," one of the four plays.

Note:

• There isn't a Senior Luncheon at the Rec Park for March. The next luncheon will be April 20 at noon.

On-going

• Registration has begun for this summer's nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are being offered: "WOW! - a World of Wonder" (ages 4 to 6), "Amazing Animals" (ages 7 to 10), "NatureWorks" (ages 7 to 11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10 to 14), and "Jr. Ecologists" (ages 11 to 15). For details, 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.

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

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

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

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

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

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Osteoporosis prevention exercise classes, a total body and muscle-toning workout exercise class, and Pilates 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 Tuesday Weight Watchers meets at the Highlands Civic Center. Weigh-in is at 5:30. The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

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

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

• Children's classes resume at Bascom-Louise Gallery - cost is \$5 per student. Mondays: For Homeschoolers, classes are from 1-3 p.m. For 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.

Every Tuesday

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

• 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.

Fri. & Sat., March 30-31

• The Instant Theater presents the Highlands Community Players production of *Parallel Lives*, by Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney. Directed by Mary Adair Leslie. Tackling such subjects as religion, death, diversity and dating, the play is for adult audiences as it contain strong language and adult content. Call the Instant Theatre Box Office to reserve your tickets at 342-9197. Performances begin at 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 31

• The Satolah, Georgia, volunteer fire department holds its annual benefit, Saturday, at the Moccasin precinct firehouse on Route 28. Food served at 5 p.m. (\$7 per adult plate, children's plates, \$3.50.) The entertainment starts at 6 p.m. with Foxfire, followed by Curtis Blackwell and the Dixie Bluegrass Boys, two of the most authentic bluegrass bands in these parts. Raffle tickets, \$1for \$350 cash, or a .22 rifle or 20-gauge shotgun. The public is invited to this family-friendly event for a good cause.

• The Cashiers Historical Society in cooperation with the Cashiers Community Center is planning a Heritage Apple Day on Saturday March 31st, 2007 to be held on the grounds of the Cashiers Community Center from 10:30am-3pm. The schedule for the day will be: 10:30 a.m.-noon — presentations and discussion; 1-3 p.m. — Apple grafting demonstration and workshop. Participants will learn about varieties of heritage apples from this area, and will learn how to graft apples. Members of the community are encouraged to bring their own apple cuttings. Additionally rootstock will be available for grafting at no charge..

Sunday, April 1

• At Highlands United Methodist Church, worship at 11 a.m. with palm processional.

• The Scaly Mountain Church of God has purchased the site license to show the movie, "Facing the Giants." It will be shown on at 6 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Monday, April 2

• North Carolina Stage Company has received a major grant from the NEA to tour "A Midsummer Night's Dream" to nine WNC counties, including Macon County. We will be performing at Highlands School Monday April 2nd at 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 3

• Organizational Softball Meeting at Highlands Rec Park, at 6 p.m. If interested, have a representative attend the meeting. For more information, call 526-3556.

• Episcopal Church Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 5:30 p.m. All invited.

• HIARPT's "Frozen in time: the disabled nine-year-old girl who will remain a child all her life." From The Guardian (UK) and other sources. Coordinator: Beverlee Kritz. Brief reading material will be sent by email and also be available at the preceding session. 10 a.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Lunch will follow at 11:30 for those wishing to at-

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

tend.

Thursday, April 5

• Maundy Thursday at Highlands United Methodist Church – Passover Meal and Celebration of Holy Communion, at 6 p.m. Reservations are recommended.

Friday, April 6

• Good Friday at Highlands United Methodist Church – Stations of the Cross at noon beginning at the Catholic Church and at 7 p.m., Service of Darkness, here at HUMC.

• The Incarnation choir on Good Friday evening, presents Theodore Dubois' beautiful "Seven Last Words of Christ." This performance, to be directed by Fletcher Wolfe, will commence at 7 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

Sunday, April 8

• Macon County convenience centers will be closed reopen Monday, April 9 as scheduled.

Tuesday-Thursday, April 10-12

• Volunteers needed to help at Highlands Botanical Garden prepare for 80th year celebration. The Highlands Botanical Garden needs volunteers a few hours at a time on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, April 10-12, anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity to become involved with the Highlands Botanical Garden, which is free and open to the public, year-round, from dawn till dusk. Stop by the Highlands Biological Station office on Sixth Street or call 526-2602 and ask for the location of the day's projects. Please bring gardening gloves, sturdy shoes, outdoor clothing, food, water, and a sun hat. Rain cancels. We invite you to the Garden and appreciate your help as we get ready for our 80th year celebrations and the season!

Every weekend beginning April 13 & 14

• The Highlands Historical Museum will open again this season from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every weekend through October. The public is invited to view the many exhibits relating to Highlands history and to view hundreds of photographs, documents, fam-

ily histories, etc., which are now available on the Museum computer.

Saturday, April 14

• Why Knot Knit Highlands will present a Spinning demonstration featuring Marci Rheinschild from Wauka Valley Farms. Saturday, April 14 10-4 p.m. in the shop at Village Square.

• Hurricane Creek at the Instant Theatre at Oak Square on Main Street. Come dance the night away beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Complimentary wine, beer and mixed drinks. Call 828-342-9197 for tickets and reservations.

Friday, April 20

• Senior Luncheon at the Rec Park. It's free.

Saturday, April 21

• Earth Day litter sweep begins at 9 a.m. Meet at Highlands Rec Park for an assignment. DOT provides needed gloves, reflective vests and trash bags. The National Forest Service and the Town of Highlands assist in picking up the litter bags from the roadside and disposing of them.

• Earth Day Fair on the green in Cashiers. Rain or shine. 10 a.m.

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

Thursday, April 26

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

Saturday, May 19

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

Thursday, May 24

• Wine Tasting 6-8 p.m. at the Bascom-Louise Gallery.

Saturday, May 26

• Groundbreaking of Fine Arts Center 11 a.m.-2 p.m.. Barbeque, Music and Fun

• Village Square Art and Craft Show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food available.

• The Mountain Garden Club plant sale will be held 9 a.m.-1 p.m., May 26, at the baseball park on the corner of Highway 64 East (North 4th Street) and Hickory Street in Highlands.

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.

Monday-Friday, July 9-13

• 4th Annual Challenger Soccer camp this summer. Half-day camps available for all ages from 3-16 and full-day camps for children 10 and older. For more information on registration or camp you may call Christy Nix Weller at 526-9931 or you may also contact Tony Esterwood at 524-1928. Register for camp at www.challengersports.com, 45 days prior to camp to receive a free challenger soccer

Hurricane Creek coming to ITC April 14



The original Sadie Hawkins Day was a stroke of creative genius of cartoonist Al Capp. Previous to the 1960s and the women's liberation movement, asking a man out was considered bad form. On November 17, 1937, Al Capp changed all that by creating a day when women were encouraged to pursue men. It was not Mr. Capp's intention to have a day set aside like Thanksgiving or Mother's Day, but for over 30 years Sadie had her day on November 17, and so did millions of women all over America.

In keeping with Al's wishes the Instant Theatre Company is bringing back that glorious tradition on Saturday, April 14 by presenting Hurricane Creek, the local Kings of Rhythm, Blues and Rock and Roll. Gals now is the time to get that special someone to dance with you. If you catch them, they have to go. That's the rule.

The power of Hurricane Creek and the most magical dance hall in Highlands, The Studio on Main, 310 Main Street Oak Square, downtown Highlands, will provide you everything (including complimentary beer and wine) you need to have that perfect evening. It is suggested that you ask your date and make your reservations early by calling the ITC box office at 342-9197. One can also always visit the ITC website at: InstantTheatre.org, and get on the email list so you don't miss one chance for a grand time.

Ruby Cinemas

Playing March 30-April 5

BLADES OF GLORY rated PG-13

Fri: (4:20), 7:15, 9:20

Sat & Sun: (2:15), (4:20), 7:15, 9:20

Mon – Thurs (4:20), 7:15

MEET THE ROBINSONS rated G

Fri: (4:10), 7:00, 9:10

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:10), 7:00

SHOOTER rated R

Fri: (4:10), 6:50, 9:10

Sat & Sun: (1:50), (4:10), 6:50, 9:10

Mon – Thurs: (4:10), 6:50

WILD HOGS rated PG-13

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

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:15), 7:10

jersey!

Thursday, July 12

• Fine Art Center Patron Party

Friday & Saturday, July 13-14

• Garden Festival for Fine Art Center

Thursday, Aug. 23

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

Saturday, Aug. 25

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

Sunday, Sept. 9

• Bel Canto sponsored by the Fine Art Center.

Saturday, Sept. 21

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

Friday, Oct. 5

• Collect Spirits Action at Fine Art Center.

Thursday, Oct. 18

• Steele/Shooting Star 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.

Thursday, Nov. 8 — Sunday, Nov. 11

• The Chamber of Commerce presents "Cooking Central" at the First Annual Highlands Culinary Weekend. Highlands area restaurants, accommodations, and merchants will partner to present instructional culinary courses/classes, tastings, and outdoor activities. Call 866-526-5841 or 526-5841.

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**HELP WANTED AT SCALY MOUNTAIN
GENERAL STORE AND BP STATION.** Flex hours, premium pay. Come by for interview and application.

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB is hiring for the season. Come join our team. Housing available, employee meals and much more. We are looking for servers, server's assistants, bartenders and housekeepers. Our chef is looking for an experienced sous chef and line and prep cooks. Please forward your resume to Highlands Country Club, P.O. Box 220, Highlands, NC, 28741, Or email to crawforg@aol.com or stop in the office on Hwy 106 and fill out an application. 3/22

HIGHLANDS FALLS COUNTRY CLUB is now accepting applications for full and part-time seasonal employment for Clubhouse, dining, golf course and golf shop operations. Highlands Falls offers flexible work schedules and competitive benefits. Applicants must possess good communication skills and enjoy the service industry. To arrange for an application please call Glenda Creel at 526-4118.

FRESSERS EATERY – Now hiring team players. Apply in person before 11:30 a.m. or after 3 p.m. at 151 Helen's Barn Ave. in Highlands. Also accepting applications for Fressers Express.

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

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

**RECEPTIONIST WITH REHABILITATION
SERVICES AND HEALTH TRACKS AT
HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND
FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER.** This is a full-time position requiring good communication and computer skills, including experience with word processing and office management software. Clerical and receptionist experience required. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

OUTPATIENT CODER AT HIGHLANDS-

**CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD
LIVING CENTER.** Minimum of 2 years experience with ICD-9 and CPT coding required. Must have full knowledge of Local Medical Review Policies and good communication skills. Responsible for pre-certification appeals process along with other Business Office and Medical Record functions as assigned. Full benefits after 60 days. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

**UNIT CLERK IN ACUTE CARE AT
HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL.** Responsible for admissions and data entry. Good communication skills and computer knowledge helpful. Full-time position, 12 hour shifts. 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.

**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 \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits after 60 days to full-time employees. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Mandy Talley, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

WANTED TO RENT

**LOCAL COUPLE SEEKS 2 BEDROOM, 2
BATH HOUSE** In town. Unfurnished, Maximum of \$900 a month rent. Will take great care of house, very clean and handy. Call 526-9606.

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.

CUTE AND VERY PRIVATE 1 BR 1 BA

house in the Town Limit. Includes additional sleeping loft/office, large deck, gentle yard and babbling creek. Fully furnished or unfurnished available weekly or monthly but prefer annual lease. Broker owned. (828) 421-7922.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY – 1,500 sq. ft. Plenty of parking. In town. \$1,500 a month. Call 770-827-0450. 5/3

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

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

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

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

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

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.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CUTEST COTTAGE IN TIGER GA, minutes from Highlands. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths on large lot. \$151,000. Call 706-782-0721 4/5

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

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. Exec-

utive 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.

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

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

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE/MOVING SALE - Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 214 Forest Trail, 2 Bedroom suites, New HP printer, Treadmill, Upholstered chairs, Deck table with umbrella with 6 chairs, and lots more.

ITEMS FOR SALE

18' INFLATABLE SWIMMING POOL. 4' deep. All attachments, Like New. \$100. Call Sandy at 369-6263 or Bob at SweetTreats, 526-9822.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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• CLASSIFIEDS •

PETS FOR SALE

MINIATURE DACHSHUND – 9-month old male, red-short-haired, good with kids, CKC registered. \$250, OBO. Call 828-526-2787 or 828-421-0730.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1993 LEXUS ES 3000 – \$2,000. Call 526-1789 or cell: 864-934-0694.

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.

SERVICES

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

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

... BRUGGER from page 8

the military among liberals? Perhaps it is because the idea of voluntarily joining an organization that will strip away your individuality and right to think for yourself seems abhorrent. Perhaps it is because liberals think war should be obsolete and can't imagine willingly signing up to be a soldier.

Or maybe it's the nature of the wars we've been fighting in the last few decades. As one soldier said in "Gunner Palace," "I was trained to defend my country. I don't see how fighting in Iraq is defending my country." Or as Swofford said, "we're here to protect the profits of the Bushes and Cheneys and the House of Saud."

You're a hero to fight and die for freedom, but a sap to fight and die for someone else's profits.

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• HOSPITAL NEWS •

March meeting of the Highlands-Cashiers Board of Directors

To keep the news media and the public better informed about Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, we are providing you with a summary of the more significant actions and discussion items coming before the hospital's board of directors at their most recent meeting (Thursday, March 22).

The board began its March meeting by listening to an educational minute presented by Information Technology Manager Kris Keen on the hospital computer system and the precautions that are routinely taken to make sure that all data is safeguarded. He explained the multiple backup systems use to make sure vital data can be recovered in the event of a catastrophic system failure.

The Finance Committee approved the purchase of a new cardiac telemetry monitoring system. The new equipment will replace the hospital's existing monitoring system which was due for replacement. It is expected to be installed and operational by June.

While the hospital again showed a loss during the month of February, the amount of the shortfall was much better than had been budgeted. For the year to date, the hospital's finances are very close to what was projected under the "turnaround" plan approved last fall.

Vice Chairman Don Mullen reported on behalf of the Governance Committee, reminding board members that a day-long planning session has been scheduled for May 17 at The Mountain Camp and Conference Center in Highlands. A large portion of that event will be devoted to meeting with an outside strategic planning consultant. Nathan Kaufman of Kaufman Strategic Advisors, LLC., of San Diego, CA, has been hired to help develop a new strategic plan for the hospital. Kaufman is a nationally-known expert in planning, and was recommended by James Orlikoff, the governance consultant who helped the hospital restructure its board last fall.

In other leadership areas, Mullen said an orientation session is being planned for new board members. The hospital also plans to review its committee structure to eliminate duplicate duties and make the committee process more efficient.

The board approved the recommendation of the Medical Staff to recredential several current physicians and to grant privileges to three new physicians. New ER medical director and physician Tony Fisher, MD, was formally granted privileges (he had been working under temporary privileges), and two other new physicians who will be filling in from time to time in the hospital's ER were also credentialed. Craig Moore, MD and John Canon, MD are both board certified and have extensive ER experience.

In his administrative report, President and CEO Ken Shull informed the board that a new internal medicine physician who has practiced for the past eight years in the Northeast has signed a formal letter of intent to relocate to Highlands this summer. With that addition to the medical community, there should sufficient number of primary care physicians to serve the area, based on accepted physician to population ratios. Recruiting continues for a general surgeon, an urologist, and a gastroenterologist, he said.

Shull also informed board members that the new administrator of the Fidelia Eckerd Living Center, Shawna Mellott, will begin her duties on Monday (March 26).

• POLICE & FIRE REPORT •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of March 21-28. Only the names of persons arrested or public officials have been used.

March 21

- At 5 p.m., a motorist at Main and Smallwood Ave. was cited for driving without a license..

March 22

- At 3:26 p.m., a motorist was cited for speeding 41 mph in a 25 zone on Horse Cove Road.
- At 5 p.m., a resident on Sherwood Forest reported receiving harassing phone calls.

March 23

- At 4:10 p.m., officers investigated a claim that someone was peddling wares out of an enclosed trailer at Fourth and Poplar streets.

March 24

- At 1:35 p.m., a motorist was cited for unlawfully operating a vehicle at U.S. 64 east and Laurel Street.
- At 1:35 p.m., Timothy Lee Dearth, 22, of Scaly Mountain, was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 25 zone and arrested for DWI on Main Street.

March 26

- At 9 a.m., injury to property was reported at a site on Church Street where a scissor lift was damaged. Damage was valued at \$500.
- At 6:20 p.m., a motorist on U.S. 64 west was cited for speeding 63 mph in a 35 zone.

March 27

- At 3:20 p.m., a motorist at Main and Second streets was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 20 zone.
- At 6:22 p.m., a motorist on N.C. 28 south was cited for speeding 57 mph in a 35 zone..

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of March 21-28

March 21

- The dept. extinguished a chimney fire at a home on Flat Mountain Road. There was no damage..

March 23

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Bowery Road. It was false..
- The dept. responded to an alarm at Highlands-Cashiers Hospi-

tal. It was false..

March 24

- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Hemlock Woods Road.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Peregrine Road where a man had fallen. He was transported to the hospital.

March 25

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Bowery Road. It was false.
- The dept. responded to a call of a brush fire on Western Rhodes Drive. It was a controlled burn.

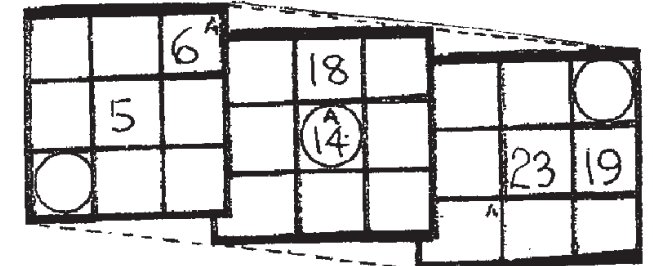
March 26

- The dept. responded to a call of smoke in the Clear Creek area. The smoke was caused by two controlled burns by the USFS. One was 1,000 acres in the Long Creek area of South Carolina. The other was 500 acres in Rabun County. The local fire departments in Highlands and Scaly or Satolah, Ga., weren't advised of the controlled burns ahead of time and so responded.

• RE TRANSACTIONS •

Because of the revaluation appeal process the Tax Administrator has requested that the real estate transactions not be posted until the board of equalization and review meets, and second notices of revaluation have been mailed around the end of April. Highlands' Newspaper will resume posting transactions at that time.

PseudoCube[©] #BN2A



THE SETUP:

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

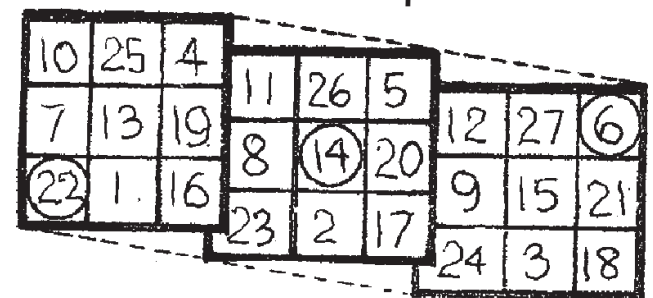
THE CHALLENGE:

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

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com

Solution for March 22 puzzle #AN1A



Fugitive at large in county

A Franklin, N.C. man wanted on federal charges is being sought after eluding arrest in the Cedar Bluff road area of Macon County yesterday afternoon.

Deputy U.S. Marshals were attempting to arrest Jack Vinson, 53, as he arrived near his home off of Highlands Road. As deputies were approaching his van, Vinson produced a weapon and fled into a wooded area. A passenger in his vehicle was unharmed. Several weapons were recovered from the van.

Law enforcement officers from the U.S. Marshals, Macon County Sheriff's Office, N.C. Highway Patrol and State Bureau of Investigation searched the heavily wooded area for several hours without success.

Vinson is wanted for violating Supervised Release after a 2002 conviction on federal marijuana conspiracy charges in Texas. After his release, supervision was transferred to the U.S. Probation Department, Western District of North Carolina.

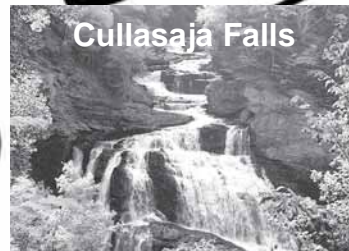
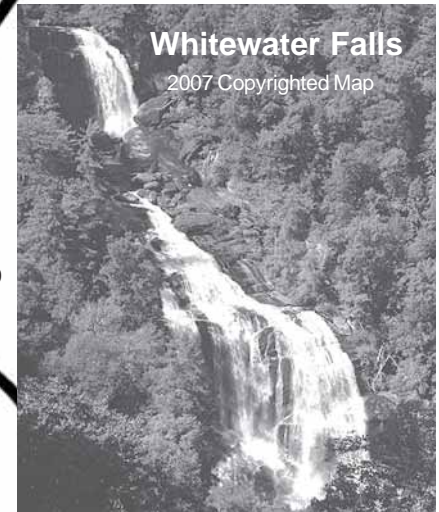
Vinson is described as being 5'7" tall, 160 lbs, gray hair, green eyes, and was last seen wearing a dark blue tee shirt and dark jeans. He is considered armed and dangerous so extreme caution should be used. Anyone seeing Vinson or someone fitting this description is encouraged to call 9-1-1 immediately.



Jack Vinson



< Marina Gas & Store



MAP DOTS \$250 Annual Fee For Advertisers	1 Summer House	4 Outdoor Tool	7 Century 21	10 Macon Bank	13 Grinning Frog	16 SMC Realty	19 New 2007 Updates
	2 Tin Roof Gallery	5	8 Mtn Golf Properties	11 Fairfield Realty	14 Rand Soellner Arch.	17 Hampton Inn	20 April 5th Edition
	3 On The Verandah	6 Skyline Lodge	9 Buyers' Real Estate	12 TUBBY Tubing	15 HomePlace Blinds	18 Brew Bird Cafe	21 Coming Very Soon

Internet Banner Ad Links Available For Highlands' Newspaper Advertisers

This bar chart displays the daily count of internet banner ad links available for advertisers in Highlands from January 1st to March 27th. The vertical axis (y-axis) represents the number of links, ranging from 0 to 3,000 in increments of 500. The horizontal axis (x-axis) shows dates at two-week intervals: Jan 01, Jan 22, Feb 13, Mar 06, and Mar 27. The data shows a relatively stable number of links (mostly between 500 and 1,000) from January through mid-February. A significant increase begins in late February, peaking at approximately 2,900 links around February 25th. Following this peak, the number of links fluctuates but remains elevated, generally staying above 1,000 through the end of the period shown.

Tours & Maps

Highlands' Newspaper continues to be our areas most read publication - Hardcopy and/or Internet PDFs. Everyday people download back editions of Highlands' Newspaper - Your advertising goes a very long way. Do you have a new business ? - Contact us about our "Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Services" 526-0782

Find It All On This Map

Upscale Lodging, Fine Dining, Unique Shops & Best Realtors

LODGING

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

DINING

- 07) Brick Oven
- 08) Bucks Cafe
- 09) Cafe 460
- 10) Cyprus
- 11) Don Leon's
- 12) Fressers
- 14) Highlands Deli
- 15) Hill-Top Grill
- 17) Madison's
- 18) Main Street Inn
- 19) On The Verandah
- 20) Paoletti
- 21) Pescado's
- 22) Pizza Place
- 23) Rib Shack
- 24) Sports-Page
- 25) SweetTreats Cafe
- 26) Wolfgang's

REAL ESTATE

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

GIFTS

BOUTIQUES

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

BEAUTY & SPA

ANTIQUES

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

ART GALLERIES

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

SERVICES

- 120) Bear Mountain

This map is updated every week to insure complete accuracy.

Mountain Fresh Foods



Real-Time Weather & WebCam

We Now Offer Ribbon Cutting Services With Press Releases
No Chamber Membership Req.

Highlands Map

www.HighlandsInfo.com

Main Street Inn



MILL CREEK GALLERY

Village Square

Breakfast & Wine Bar
Open To The Public

Performing Arts Center

Community Players

Madison's



Wine Spectator

Chambers Realty & Vacation Rentals

Nature Center
500 Yards >>

Sunset Rock
500 Yards >>

Hudson Library
Bascom-Louise Gallery

Mt Fresh Foods
Everything You Need

Wine Dinner @
"The Farm"
4/26/07 * 787-2604

Cabin Casuals
Casual Sportswear
for the Whole Family!
The Falls on Main
828-526-3320

