

# Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 5, Number 44

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Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007

**GET OUT AND VOTE!**  
There are items on the ballot both Macon County citizens and Town of Highlands citizens can vote on. So whether you live in town or not get to the polls and vote on Nov. 6.

**On-going**

- November auctions at Scudder's Galleries Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. Viewing from Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 352 Main St.

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

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

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

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

- "The Circle of Life" support group 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

**Every Monday**

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

**Every Tuesday**

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

**Every Wednesday**

- "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church.

- Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

**Every Thursday**

- Women's Bible Study at 9:30 am - 11:45 am at Community Bible Church. Beth Moore's *Believing God*. All women are invited.

**Every Saturday**

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

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

**Saturday, Nov. 3**

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Tom German signing "The Caucasian Dove" from 1-3 p.m.

- The Macon County Public Health flu vaccination clinics 9 a.m. to noon at the Highlands Civic Center. \$25.

**Tuesday, Nov. 3**

- Election Day. Polls at Civic Center open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

## Senator Snow requests funds for town

At a special Town Board meeting, Monday, Oct. 29, the Town Administrator Richard Betz distributed copies of a resolution drafted by Senator John Snow requesting the release of discretionary funds for the paving of Hickory Hill Road, Chowan Drive, and

Cullasaja Drive.

At a previous Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed to ask Senator Snow to seek the funds on the grounds that siltation from the roads is causing problems for the town's water source particularly around the intake

valves.

Commissioners have been discussing paving the roads for some time, beginning in a Public Works Committee meeting with NC DOT representatives. Initially, commissioners wanted DOT to

• See SNOW page 19

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## Halloween is a 'Main St.' thing in Highlands



On Halloween Day, various child care centers in town take the children on a Halloween Parade down Main Street to show off their costumes and even get some early treats. Above are children from the Highlands Community Child Development Center.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

## Town ready to address stormwater controls

Stormwater controls and remediation was the topic of this

week's Public Works Committee meeting.

Joining committee members Commissioners Alan Marsh, Hank Ross and Herb James were Mayor Don Mullen, Town Administrator Richard Betz, Town Engineering Lamar Nix and engineer with McGill Associates, J.P. Johns.

In February, McGill Associates presented the town with a Storm-

water Master Plan which outlines 18 projects within the town of Highlands and their costs and supplies a matrix of ordinances that could be blended into the town's zoning ordinance.

The goal of the plan was to identify capital improvement projects that maximize restoration of degraded waters, minimize ur-

• See STORMWATER page 29

### Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
55-29°F	56-30°F	55-30°F

## On the ballot on Nov. 6

On the Nov. 6 ballot there will be nine issues asked of the voters.

Five questions concern the county's proposed \$64 million bond project divided into areas of interest with costs and purposes explained; two questions concern the sale of malt or mixed beverages in Highlands, one question concerns the three seats open on the Highlands Town Board, and one question concerns the levy of a land transfer tax of 0.4%.

First the bond referendum.

The largest bond allocation will be for the construction of two new schools and the renovation of others in the Macon County School system.

School Bond Referendum

Shall the order adopted authorizing but not exceeding \$42,100,000 SCHOOL BOND for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating school buildings and other school facilities, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved? Yes or No?

For K-4 North Macon to combine the Cowee/Iotla schools — \$15,155,400; for the new 5-6 school across from the Macon Middle School — \$16,217,400; for East Franklin School additions — \$4,954,000; for the total construction fees — \$1,720,000; for

• See BALLOT page 6



# • THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

## • LETTERS •

### To the registered voters in the Town of Highlands

Dear Editor,

After attending the candidates forum this past week, it was obvious that there are some big differences in how the candidates feel Highlands should proceed in the future.

Present commissioners are lobbying for a new Town Hall complex at a cost of approximately \$10 million? This includes moving the ABC store at a cost of \$2.5 to \$3 million with a loss of \$15,000 a year in income to the town of Highlands which would take 15-20 years to recoup.

The issue of Pine Street Park, which the town has already committed \$300,000 to and will be expected to help fund the remainder purchase price of \$800,000, is an issue.

Construction of the facilities on the property will also be a town responsibility. Present commissioner candidates have worked for the closing of Pine Street with a loss of 45 parking spaces and losing Pine Street as a Main Street by-pass. This is insanity!

The Greenway Trail around Highlands is another bad idea! Why pay hundreds of thousands of dollars – the Greenway Committee asked for \$300,000 that would be replenished each year. The Town Board gave it \$100,000 this year – how much more in years to come?

Highlands has 100,000 acres of Forest Service land that is free for people to use and enjoy as well as Satulah, Sunset Rock, the Highlands Biological Station and the Rec Park. This is more than sufficient. The Greenway Trail would have very little use in my opinion.

The town has spent \$40,000 to do a study of the stormwater run-off. It has been projected that it will cost \$12 million to implement. This is another taxpayer boondoggle! No federal or state agency is requiring this at this time.

The dredging of the intake valve at the water plant is another bad idea. This will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and will silt up again. Since Lake Sequoyah is a Class I water source, why not move the intake valve into the middle of the lake where the water is 20-30 feet deep. That would be a permanent solution at less cost.

Present town commissioners are already talking about selling bonds to

pay for all this. Is this wise? With the federal and state governments broke and the county commissioners wanting to put the county in debt to the tune of \$64 million, why should the town join in this madness?

The issue of county/town relationships is of vital importance. We need a voice at all the county commissioner meetings – preferably the mayor with explicit instructions from the Town Board as to what its position is on matters affecting the town. There has been no presence at the county commission meetings for the last several years. Why hasn't the present Town Board required this?

There are clear choices in this election. You have the opportunity to change the Town Board for the betterment of all its citizens. It is up to you! Do your civic duty and vote on Nov. 6, for the candidates of your choice, whoever they should be. Just get out and vote!

The last election there was a 30% voter turnout. It would be nice if at least the majority of the voters showed up at the polls this time around.

John Cleaveland  
Highlands

### Get out and vote against liquor by the drink!

Dear Editor,

I didn't grow up here but have become very fond of these mountains and the people I've met. I was here the last time the townspeople voted "liquor by the drink" down, thankfully.

I was present at ...on the Verandah restaurant just a few years ago when one of Highlands' own successful restaurateurs told how he lost money in the bar business at the Cove. His brother was recently quoted when he admitted that in Franklin liquor by the drink has proven to be very disappointing.

I hear the phrase "Let's even the playing field." I've grown up learning that often the playing field is slightly uneven. Heck, if it was always even, we wouldn't have a ballgame we'd have an endless tie! I for one have always enjoyed a little competition.

It is often said "Change is good." Be careful. In the long run some changes prove not to be so good.

What will Liquor by the drink really bring? Will our Main Street be more inviting and more attractive to bars or small chain operations? Will we lose

just a little more of that southern charm that has attracted thousands to our plateau?

I too feel that putting this out to the voters was a necessity and I applaud the town's governing body. Now it's up to you and you and you to get out and be heard. Remember, not all restaurants in our town are in favor of passing this!

Marty Rosenfield  
Lakeside Restaurant  
Highlands

## • FORUM •

### What the Land Tax Referendum means to Macon County's pocketbook

Macon County is seeking to create a land transfer tax to fund school capital needs such as construction, renovation and equipment of schools. Under North Carolina law Macon County has the authority to levy a land transfer tax (up to 0.4 percent), following approval by voters.

Macon County has placed the referendum for a land transfer tax on the November 6, 2007 ballot.

#### What is a Land Transfer Tax (LTT)?

A tax assessed when a home, office building, land other interest in real property located in Macon county is sold in exchange for money or other property. For purposes of this tax, timber deeds and contracts for the sale of standing timber are treated like an interest in real property. The tax would be 0.4 percent of the property's sale price or value of the property transferred, and would be assessed against the seller.

#### Macon County Overview

- Current population: approximately 34,500 full time, 65,000 including part-time residents.

- Current county Budget: General Fund \$43,947,782

- Current Property Tax Rate: 24.5 cents per \$100 of property value

#### Land Transfer Tax Facts

- Based on 0.4% of sales price
- Assessed on a home, commercial building, land or other real estate, including sales and exchanges of real property for value.

- Paid a closing by seller

#### How the Tax is Collected

• See TRANSFER TAX page 20

### LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

## Highlands' Newspaper

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## Group starts 11th year of service

The Girls' Clubhouse members Alex Michaud and Autumn Chastain make Halloween masks with children at the Highlands Community Child Development Center. Far right Jacky Reyes, Autumn Chastain and Skylar Wagner with the end product! Each week the group does a community service project in town.



## • OBITUARIES •

### Joseph Forrest Cole III

Joseph Forrest Cole III, age 59, of Bull Pen Road, Cashiers, N.C. died Sunday, October 28, 2007 at Oteen's Veterans Hospital. He was born in Fulton County, GA, the son of Mary New Cole of Cashiers, NC and the late Joseph F. Cole, Jr. He was a Vietnam Veteran of the U.S. Air Force and was a graphic arts service representative of a Printing Industry. Joseph loved canoeing, kayaking, photography and was a master carpenter.

He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Mary Susan Joiner Cole, his daughter, Mary-Ashley Cole of Cashiers, NC; his three sons, Joey Cole and his wife Rena of Kennesaw, GA, Zachary Stallings and his wife Ashlea of Armory, Mississippi and Matthew Cole of Fairbanks, Alaska; three sisters, Diane Reese of Marietta, GA, Karen Higdon of Cashiers, NC and Pam Stercay of Westminster, SC; one brother, Stephen Cole of Stone Mtn., GA; four grandchildren, Marisa Cole, Hunter Cole, Arabella Stallings and Mesa Stallings. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m. at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Cashiers, NC.

Burial was held at Georgia Memorial Cemetery in Marietta, GA. Joey Cole, Zachary Stallings, Matthew Cole, Stephen Cole, Tim Joiner and Charles Harms will serve as pallbearers.

The family received friends Wednesday, October 31 from 1-2 p.m., one hour prior to the service at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. The body will remain at Bryant Funeral Home in Franklin until placed in the Church one hour prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, c/o Carol Foster, 1858 Bull Pen Road, Cashiers, NC 28717.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made by visiting [www.MeM.com](http://www.MeM.com)

### Mrs. Ruth Blanton Johnson

Mrs. Ruth Blanton Johnson, age 92, died at her home in Cairo, GA on Monday, October 29, 2007.

She was born in Leesburg, GA, on March 10, 1915, the daughter of the late Zebulon Vance and Ethel Brown Blanton. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Ezekiel Johnson, who died on July 27, 1980.

She was a homemaker and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Cairo, GA. She was a member of the Camellia Garden Club, a charter member of the Cairo Women's Club and United Methodist Women. She was a seasonal resident of Highlands, N.C.

She is survived by a daughter, Lequita J. LeGette of Cairo, GA; a sister Caroline Mixon Lewis of Cairo, GA; grandsons Tom Kennedy LeGette and wife, Lisa and Robert Thaddeus LeGette and wife, Ginny, all of Cairo, GA; great grandchildren Hannah LeGette, Thad LeGette, Lauren LeGette, Tom LeGette and Hollin LeGette, all of Cairo, GA; sisters-in-law, Mrs. Marcus Gandy of Macon, GA; Mrs. Ernie Elsiner of Charleston, S.C.; and brother-and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Johnson of Blue Ridge, GA.

A graveside service was held Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2007 at the Greenwood Cemetery in Cairo, GA with Rev. Tegler Greer and Rev. Eugene Cochran officiating.

Clark Funeral Home of Cairo, GA was in charge of the arrangements.

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Perfect mountain styled home in Highlands Falls Country Club. Vaulted and beamed ceilings in the great room, high quality Kitchen Aid kitchen, separate dining room with wet bar and wine cooler, 2 BR/ 2BA on the main level plus a large family room and a 3<sup>rd</sup> BR and 3<sup>rd</sup> BA in the lower walk-out level. A 1 car garage and golf course frontage. \$695,000



Mountain contemporary home in Highlands Falls Country Club. A large great room with lots of glass, extra large vaulted kitchen, wet bar, master suite with attached office, his/ her baths, 2 private guest suites, 2 car garage plus a great deck. Did we mention the gorgeous mountain view? \$865,000.



Walk to town from this newly constructed home. Lots of space with a large great room, granite kitchen with warm cabinetry, and a dining room/ keeping room. Master suite on the main level with upscale bath, 2<sup>nd</sup> bedroom upstairs with a large loft area. The back deck has a stone fireplace and great privacy. Plus a 2 car garage \$495,000



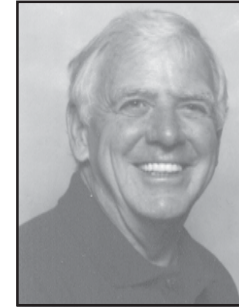
Nestled among 2 million dollar home is this traditional mountain cottage. What an opportunity to turn a smaller home into a bundle of cash. 3 BR/ 3 BA & 2 lofts. Newer roof, freshly painted exterior and interior. The greatroom has a beautiful stone fireplace and the home has the feeling of being in a great lodge. This place could become a gem. Plus a Whiteside Mountain view too. \$775,000



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## • LAUGHING AT LIFE •

### If I could vote



**Fred Wooldridge**

**Feedback  
is encouraged!  
email:**

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

If you think I'm cynical and confused about politics then by the time you finish reading this there will be no doubt in your mind I am a mess. If you have a solution, please let me have it, oops, I mean write in and inform me. Go easy on me and remember I hail from Palm Beach County, FL, the land of the DUH people.

Actually, I was only kidding about not voting but....ah, maybe not. I am thinking about sitting out the '08 elections. After watching the debates on television, I have grown to dislike all the candidates. Is "hate" too strong a word?

This is so weird. The liberal media is positive Hillary will win the whole shootin' match but I can't find anyone committed to her. Why does everyone put their finger down their throat and gag when her name comes up? What's that all about? Will "closet voters" put her in office? And if she does win, will she keep cigars handy in the oval office?

Thank you, national television, for reminding me what a sorry bunch of candidates we have. I turned off the debate the other night and said to the li'l missus. "Our country really is in the end days. Where have all our statesmen gone?"

Unless some knight in shining armor arrives at the last minute to save me, I will probably sit out the election in protest of the corruption, the incompetence and the lies. My knight will not arrive because if he is able to run, he is already corrupt. By the way, a statesman is an honest person who exercises political leadership wisely and without political partisanship. Not much of that around these days from either side.

The next time you watch a national debate, remember that everyone on that stage has their hand in some corporation's pocket and will be owned by them if elected. Each candidate has huge bucks in their own personal accounts and even more in their election campaign coffers. Can only the rich win an election in the land of the free and the brave where all men are created equal and anyone can be president? I'm passing out lapel stick-on's that say "I'm proud I didn't vote." The only thing certain for the '08 election is that Palm Beach County will get it wrong.

Then there's the Highlands' election, a place where the little guy can run for office and not be rich. For me, the irony is that I am eligible to vote in the national election and probably won't out of disgust but would love to vote in the Highlands' election and can't. Life is not fair.

I am salivating to vote in Highlands because it is how it's supposed to be....ah, I think. At least there are no hot babe videos sponsoring

candidates. Not yet, anyway.

Any person with a Highlands' voting card in their pocket who doesn't vote on Election Day is missing out on something pretty darn good. It doesn't matter who you vote for, just show up and vote. If you dislike them all, then show up and write in Elmer Fudd. At least they'll know you were there.

As usual, the fate of the candidates will depend on a small handful of voters, usually about 150 people. If you're one of those people not voting, then keep your dad gum (suitable foul language) mouth shut when elected officials do something stupid. You deserve it!

On the other hand, let's suppose you were convinced every single candidate running for office in Highlands was corrupt. Would you vote for the least corrupt person or would you refuse to support the corruption by not voting at all? That's my dilemma with the national elections. If you chose not to vote, would it be right to complain when politicians do bone-headed things? A puzzlement!

Chew on this. With so few voters showing up to cast ballots, it wouldn't take much to steal the election. Do the math. The 150 folks who vote have to pick three of the six candidates. If votes were to split fairly even, that would be less than 50 votes per candidate. Sooooo, if you wanted to get a crook in office, you only need about 50 crooked people to put him in and its party time with the taxpayer's money. Are there 50 crooked people in the new Highlands? Does the bear....

**Going home? Read Fred's column all year at:**

**<http://www.highlandinfo.com/newspaperdownload.htm>**



## • ANOTHER VIEW •

### 'Leaders lead. They do not push'

Let's imagine that the Turkish, no, even better, the French Parliament passed a resolution which branded American atrocities against Native Americans as genocide. Imagine the outrage! When the French declined to join our foolish invasion of Iraq, French Fries served in the Congressional dining room became Freedom Fries, and consumption of French wines was widely viewed as unpatriotic. I've always suspected that California grape growers were behind that one.

Congress is debating a resolution that labels the Turkish massacre of Armenians as genocide, a powerful word with terrible connotations, and one which the Turks wish to deny.

Turkey, under the teetering Ottoman Empire murdered hundreds of thousands, perhaps more than a million, Armenians. The Ottoman Empire ceased to exist after World War I. The massacres took place in 1915, 92 years ago. I don't doubt that the murders qualified as genocide. I am equally confident that there is no value to such a declaration today. The job of our Congress is not to write, rewrite, or interpret history.

Years of observing Congress from a safe distance have convinced me that its primary is re-election. Which brings us to the question. Why did Congress decide that this resolution was appropriate, important, and timely?

For years Armenian-American activists have sought such a resolution. Jim Rogan, a California congressman who failed to push the measure in 2000 lost his reelection bid, due at least in part to that failure, thus breaking the first rule of Congress, re-election. His successor, and beneficiary of his failure supported the resolution this time around. I doubt that it is mere coincidence that Armenian-Americans constitute an important voting block in his usually Democratic district. There are about 1.2 million Americans of Armenian decent concentrated primarily in California, New Jersey, and Michigan, each an important state with lots of electoral votes. Probably just another coincidence.

I'm really uncomfortable when I find myself in agreement with my fiercely conservative Republican mother-in-law. We share a common view on this issue, and for the life of me, I can't find the flaw in her logic. Surely, Congress has more important things to do than study early twentieth century Eastern European history. Dealing with the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, failure of our public education, a worsening health care crisis, a growing trade



**Dr. Henry Salzarulo**

**Feedback is encouraged.  
email:**

**hsalzarulo@aol.com**

imbalance, waste of resources, pollution, and global warming are surely more important than irritating an old ally.

It would be great if the Turks would prostate themselves, beat their breasts, utter a few "mea culpas" and satisfy the Armenians. For some reason, that admission is unacceptable to the Turks. So what business is it of ours?

There was a time when the United States of America was the undisputed moral leader of the world. I think even the residents of the Vatican would have

agreed. After World War II, we rebuilt a ravaged world. We did not claim the spoils of war as victors in earlier conflicts had done. Instead, we reached out to our former enemies and helped rebuild their countries and their economies. We were a beacon of democracy, opportunity, freedom of thought and expression, and human rights. We were the model for fledgling democracies around the world. We have lost much of our moral authority. We don't have the respect that we once enjoyed. We dodged genocide in Rwanda when we had a chance to stop it. Violence, genocide according to many observers, continues today in Darfur. Instead of dealing forcefully we spend our time condemning a regime that ceased to exist nearly 100 years ago. There was a time when the world listened. That day has passed.

Politicians argue that the resolution is the right course. They further contend that failure to approve it constitutes appeasement. It is not appeasement to mind our own business, to debate our treatment of Native Americans instead of Turkish crimes against Armenians. We rely heavily on Turkey for supply lines to our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. We are trying to dissuade them from attacks against terrorist Kurds in northern Iraq. It is very much in our interest, and that of the world, to limit the extension of hostilities in the Middle East. We certainly don't want Turkey to invade Iraq, and face the unpredictable ramifications of that action. We should maintain our friendship with Turkey, even if that means allowing them to deny the past. There is little to be gained and much to be lost with this meaningless resolution. Today we are asking the Turks to resist the urge to invade northern Iraq and seek out terrorists. I thought that's what we did.

We would do well to heed the words of my good friend, Basil Leiman, who said, "Leaders lead. They do not push." True in diplomacy, in war, and in life. It is a lesson that an ever increasingly arrogant American government must learn.



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## • REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Recently I read *Animal Vegetable Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver, about a year she and her family spent eating food grown within 50 miles of their home in the mountains of Virginia. They grew most of the food they ate, but had to live without some tropical exotics like bananas, lemons, and chocolate. They did compromise on coffee — only a fanatic would criticize them for that lapse!

In this book exploring the consequences of self-imposed dietary limitation I was captivated by an idea she had after visiting some Amish friends: that the Amish had accepted a life of limitations, but instead of being a burden it brought a life of peace and fulfillment.

Ms. Kingsolver writes: "David [the Amish farmer] summarizes his position on technology in one word: boundaries. 'The workhorse places a limit on the size of our farms, and the horse-drawn buggy limits the distances we travel. This is basically what we need. This is what keeps our communities healthy. It makes perfect sense, of course, that limiting territory size can yield dividends in

appreciation for what one already has, and the ability to manage it without debt. The surprise is to find whole communities gracefully accepting such boundaries, inside a nation that seems allergic to limitations, priding itself instead on the freedom to go as far as we want, as fast as we can, and buy until we run out of money — or longer, if we have credit cards."

This struck me as true about modern America. We seem to believe that happiness, the American Dream, lies in a life with no limitations at all.

This is why we dream of being rich, of winning the lottery, because we believe then we will have no limitations. The credit card companies prey on our belief that wealth brings freedom by making it possible for us to live wildly beyond our means.

### Limitations



Katie Brugger  
k-brugger@hotmail.com

This is why we eat and eat and don't exercise and expect medical science to come up with the wonder pill to solve the resulting problems of obesity and heart disease and diabetes.

We seem to think we should live forever. Years ago I read *A Path With Heart*, by Jack Kornfield, in which he describes the denial and delusion common in our culture. I can still remember him

citing as an example a ninety-six-year-old woman entering hospice and asking the director, "Why me?"

Many of us escape the limitations of family ties as soon as we can, moving across the country if necessary to be free.

I am glad I am not trying to raise children today. The pressures on parents trying to control their children and say no to the constant demands for more stuff are enormous. In a child psychology course I took many years ago I was taught that children need boundaries to develop properly. What a challenge in this day and age when most parents work and the kids spend lots of time unsupervised, and structured family life is mostly a thing of the past.

Ms. Kingsolver writes, "A survey of National Merit Scholars — exceptionally successful eighteen-year-olds crossing all lines of ethnicity, gender, geography, and class—turned up a common thread in their lives: the habit of sitting down to a family dinner. It's not just the food making them brilliant. It's probably the parents — their care, priorities, and

culture of support. The words: 'I'll expect you home for dinner.'"

The most basic fact of life is that we are limited. We have limited understanding: of ourselves and everything around us. Our very life is limited: all of us are going to die.

How much of our unhappiness stems from our lack of acceptance of this basic fact that we are limited and from the consequences of our attempts to escape limitation? The peace and fulfillment the Amish have found through accepting limitation is sorely lacking in our culture.

Of course if we completely accepted our limitations there would be no innovation, no creativity, no discovery. Life would be extremely boring!

Perhaps, as the Buddhists say, there is a middle way.

In *Philosophical Meditations on Zen Buddhism*, Dale Wright asserts that Buddhism teaches a different way of achieving liberation from limitation: not through escape but through acceptance. "Finally, rather than conceive of liberation as a kind of autonomy that transcends relations and their limiting, defining forces, Zen and Buddhist conceptions focus on ways in which human beings can be awakened to this relatedness...Seen in this light, freedom is not the abandonment of dependencies and connections, but rather a kind of movement in and among relations. Of more interest than freedom from the world is freedom within it."

The older I get the more I feel that my greatest goal is to find peace in the here and now. Not to escape to some Sugar Candy Mountain but to be happy here and now.

### ... BALLOT continued from page 1

miscellaneous equipment — \$73,000; and for water and sewer — \$3,980,000.

County-wide, renovations, expansion and new construction will mean 30% more capacity for Macon Middle Schools; gain 17% more capacity at all the elementary schools; will eliminate all but one portable classroom in Macon County (27); and will ensure all students have access to modern facilities and adequate resources.

#### Public Buildings Bond Referendum

Shall the order adopted authorize not exceeding \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds for acquiring, construction, expanding and renovation public buildings and other public facilities, including by not limited to the construction of new facilities for senior services, social services and emergency services and the acquisition of related

land rights of way and equipment be approved? Yes or No?

County officials want to move the EMS facility out of downtown Franklin for better access and service to the community for \$700,000; and expand the Social Services Complex with Senior Services for \$5.8 million;

#### Pertaining to Southwestern Community College Bond Referendum:

Shall the order authorizing not exceeding \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, to match, in whole or in part, State of North Carolina grant moneys, for the cost of acquiring, constructing, expanding, and renovating Building #2 of Southwestern Community College, including but not limited to, the acquisition of related land, rights of

• See BALLOT page 7

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## • VIDEO GUY •

### Vampires Kiss

The 1989 dark comedy, starring Nicolas Cage (Grindhouse, Next, Ghost Rider), Maria Conchita Alonso (Moscow on the Hudson, The House of the Spirits, among others), Jennifer Beals (The Grudge 2, Four Rooms), and Elizabeth Ashley. A perfect creepy/funny soundtrack by Howard Shore (composer of music for Lord of the Rings trilogy). Rated R for language, content, and the on screen demise of a most unfortunate cockroach.



**Stuart of  
The Movie Stop**

file that no one needs, and harassing her for days over it. That and the gradual destruction of his apartment illustrate that Peter may be a few bats shy of a cave.

While the whole cast is great, there is no question that this is Cage's show, in all his crazed, rabid glory, the kind of role he was made for (much like the frenzied thug type, sometimes likable, sometimes loathsome character he played in Raising Arizona, Amos & Moonstruck), and he is right on point.

Andrew and Moonstruck), and he is right on point.

This time, he's all loathsome, and it is clear before he even finishes his fist line. But the Yuppie Vampire is an intriguing story line, and Cage and the rest of the cast make this VERY dark comedy work well. Like many of Cage's earlier films, low budget, high energy, and actor driven, I don't think the story would be as dark or as funny with any other actor.

For those who like their comedy VERY dark, a few along these lines are Shadow of the Vampire, From Dusk Till Dawn, Green Butchers (an incredibly cool Danish film), and Jack Nicholson's Wolf. These and about 5,000 other titles are available for sale or rent at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give them a look.

The Storyline: Peter Loew (Cage, in one of his more manic roles) has it all, great clothes, a great job, beautiful girlfriends, and a good shrink, which is a good thing, because he also has a big psychosis.

A good portion of the story unfolds as Loew tells his therapist (Ashley) of his conquests and reveals to the audience just how rapidly he declines, especially after he is bitten by one of his lady friends (Jennifer Beals) who just may be a vampire.

As he changes from arrogant SOB to possible vampire (or at the very least, a demented Renfro), he begins to torment one of the office secretaries (Maria Conchita Alonso, and she is brilliant in this role), demanding she find a missing

### ... BALLOT continued from page 6

way and equipment be approved? Yes or No?

Funds will be used to construct a second classroom building on the Macon campus on Siler Road. This is a county match for state capital funding.

SCC proposes to build a multi-story, and resource-rich classroom/laboratory building to offer additional college degree programs and courses as well as continuing education offerings in such areas as health sciences, information/telecommunications, business/service technology fields and personal interest/development offerings.

With the Early College High School occupying the new Macon campus building, the facility is already full but with the additional building that program can also be expanded and enhanced.

SCC will continue to use the new Macon County Library and the proposed RecPlex for the delivery of select instructional services and support. This alleviates unnecessary duplication of facilities and resources.

Primary funding for the new classroom/laboratory building will come from

the issuance of state bonds. Southwestern has requested \$8 million in state bond funds for construction of the new facility. The state bond funds must be matched by local funds such as the acquisition of related land, rights of way, infrastructure improvements and local bond funds.

Parks and Recreation Facilities Bond Referendum:

Shall the order adopted authorizing not exceeding \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES bonds for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds for improving and expanding the existing park and recreational facilities and acquiring and constructing new park and recreation facility including without limitation the construction of athletic fields, and indoor recreational facilities, the acquisition of land and rights of way and the furnishing of incidental facilities and equipment be approved? Yes or No?

After the school bond referendum, the recreation bond carries the next highest price tag at \$9.4 million

Proposed is an indoor complex on Sil-

•See BALLOT page 14

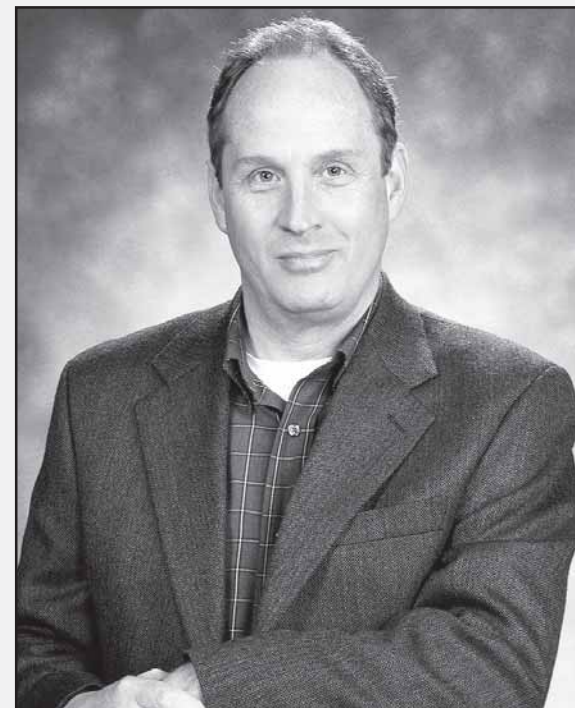
## Every Vote Counts and Highlands Needs Your Vote Do you need to vote? ABSOLUTELY!

Highlands and Macon County are undergoing some dramatic changes with many planned for the future.

Every resident will be affected. Your help and input with your vote are needed – NOW.

The results of your vote next Tuesday, November 6th will determine the direction of Highlands and Macon County for years to come.

Help make a POSITIVE DIFFERENCE by voting for:



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**June 1998-June 2001**

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## • CONSERVATIVE POV •

### Here we go again

**H**ave you ever uncovered a box full of pictures or letters or clippings that gave you a warm feeling as you paged through them, bringing back memories that you had buried in your wherever you bury these things? I have discovered that, instead of rummaging through the attic or basement, rummaging can now be done without leaving the laptop.

Just by chance, I heard mention of something I had forgotten about long ago. It concerned Al Gore's visit to a Buddhist Temple in Hacienda Heights, CA in 1996. Throughout the remainder of the campaign, he maintained that he didn't know the event was a fundraiser. In Jan., 1997, just a few weeks after the election, Gore was quoted on NBC's Today Show, "I did not know that it was a fund-raiser. I knew it was a political event, and I knew there were finance people that were going to be present, and so that alone should have told me (duh). This is inappropriate, and this is a mistake; don't do this. And I take responsibility for that. It was a mistake."

From a CNN website: "Two Buddhist nuns who helped coordinate an April, 1996 fund-raiser attended by Vice President Al Gore admitted today they destroyed a list of donors and other documents because they thought the information would embarrass the temple."

Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA) said the nuns were used by Democratic operatives and became 'sort of pawns in the whole operation.'

As you may remember, this was only one of many Clinton/Gore/Chinese connections.

From the Washington Post: "Johnny Chung, who delivered a \$50,000 campaign contribution to the White House and escorted Chinese businessmen to a presidential radio address, is cooperating with the Justice Department's investigation of finance abuses in the 1996 campaign. Chung agreed to cooperate with investigators, and soon told them that Chinese army Lt. Col. Liu Chaoying, an executive with a state-owned aerospace company, gave him \$300,000 to donate to the Democrats' 1996 campaign. Chung's allegation - hotly denied by Liu and the Chinese government - is the strongest evidence yet of a direct money trail from the Chinese government to Democratic campaign coffers."

According to Wikipedia: "The most significant one-time illegal contribution was a \$460,000 donation by Yah Lin 'Charlie' Trie to President Bill Clinton's legal defense fund. The donation was made by the deliv-



**Don Swanson**  
**Feedback is**  
**encouraged. Email**  
**swansonson@dnnet.net**

ery of a envelope containing \$460,000 in \$1,000 contributions, some on sequentially numbered money orders made out in different names but in the same handwriting."

Then there is the association with Wang Jun, John Huang, James Riady and the Lippo group and others. The Clinton/Chinese association was ongoing and involved highly classified technical military information being turned over to China. One needed to wonder no

longer why the Chinese were so helpful in raising funds for the Clinton/Gore team.

But that was then, this is now. A few weeks ago, we wrote about the antics of Norman Hsu. Up to that point, Hsu was a darling of Democratic politicians, donating at least \$600,000 himself over the last four years, and raising far more than that from associates.

The biggest recipient of his largesse was Hillary Clinton. Aides to the New York senator estimate that Hsu raised \$860,000 for her presidential campaign. Despite the announcement that the money would be returned to the donors, we have seen nothing that the return has taken place.

Now we hear of Hillary's Chinatown connection. The Los Angeles Times, hardly a conservative mouthpiece, submitted the following report: "Dishwashers, waiters and others, whose jobs and dilapidated home addresses seem to make them unpromising targets for political fundraisers, are pouring \$1,000 and \$2,000 contributions into Clinton's campaign treasury. In April, a single fundraiser in an area long known for its gritty urban poverty yielded a whopping \$380,000."

The Times examined the cases of more than 150 donors who provided checks to Clinton. One-third of those donors could not be found using property, telephone or business records. Several dozen were described in financial reports as holding jobs, including dishwasher, server or cook that would normally make it difficult to donate amounts ranging from \$500 to the legal maximum of \$2,300 per election.

Searches disclosed many addresses given by donors don't exist, others existed but the donors were not known by other residents and still others who were found either denied attending fundraisers or said they had attended but did not make a contribution. It looks like the Clinton/China relationship is flourishing and who knows what the Chinese will expect from Hillary if she is elected. With Bill's shady finance team now working for Hillary, I shudder to think.



# • HIS & HERS •

## Going Native

**“W**e’re going to New York!” I said to just about anybody who would listen. Perhaps this didn’t seem like a big deal to most folks, but it was the first time I would be returning to Manhattan since I left for Highlands on November 15, 2006. John was attending a mini-reunion for the Yale Class of 1964, and we were

combining that event with two days of catching up with my friends and former colleagues.

“Oh, you simply have to take in this fabulous exhibition at the Met,” one person enthused. Another suggested a new play on Broadway. Yet another knew of a fabulous concert that we had to take in at Lincoln Center. But that’s their New York, not mine. In fact, that’s what I realized. Everyone has their own private New York

We drove to Atlanta, and boarded our plane. Gosh, I’d forgotten how awful air travel is these days – long corridors, lugging your suitcases, security lines – and the additional treat of physical searches now that I have an artificial knee. What’s the use of having a card from my operating physician? Every time I go through the x-ray machine, lights go off, buzzers go crazy, and they look at me as if I’m a one-woman terrorist campaign. “I’ve had knee replacement surgery” I stammer apologetically. “Female search!” they boom, as they usher me into a glass holding tank. Where I wait. And wait. And wait, until a bored security lady comes over to search me. I hold my arms out, and up. I lift one leg, and the other. To make matters worse, the underwiring of my bra sets off the security wand, so I get groped, for good measure. “I’m just using the back of my hands” says the lady. Who cares? A grope is a grope. It wouldn’t matter if she used her feet, for Pete’s sake. By the time she’s finished, I feel like I could skip my yearly mammogram.

Finally, they call our flight. Like cattle, we moo ourselves onto the plane, pushing and shoving. People come aboard with enormous suitcases, which they haul above their heads, and start cramming into the overhead luggage racks. I don’t know how they do it, but now I know who to call next time I can’t get into those jeans I bought last year. I



**Michelle Mead & John Armor**  
**michiamead@aol.com**  
**John\_Armor@yale.edu**

know it’s wrong, but I check out passengers as they go by. I let out a sigh of relief as the lady with the screaming baby keeps moving toward the back of the plane. And since they won’t give me back ¼ of my airfare if a large person takes up his seat, plus 25% of mine, I keep my fingers crossed for that, too.

Finally, we land at La Guardia – a particularly bumpy landing. I’ve always had my own idea about why the late pope used to kiss the ground. How odd to find the terminal comfortably familiar. Suddenly, I know where

• See BRUGGER page 15

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### SportsPage



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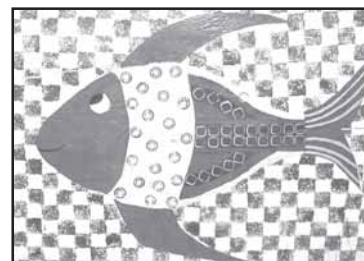
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# The last person in

By Mercedes Heller  
Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust

Would the last person in please close the door?

Except for those who live on boats, all of us have homes built on property that not too long ago was a wooded area, or farmland, or a mountaintop. Just a few generations before that was dense forest and marshes crisscrossed by hunting trails forged by Native Americans.

Yet, there is something about each of us that, once we have settled in whatever we deem to be a paradise, wants to keep others from coming in and ruining what we have – perhaps forgetting that those who were here before us thought the same thing about us.

Still, most agree that we should save some lands, some places, some traditions and culture that will be passed on to future generations. Just what to save and how to save it is a question with which the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust is grappling. Considerable success has been realized by enlisting large numbers of people who care enough to contribute both time and money by becoming members of HCLT.


Among HCLT's ongoing accomplishments are:

- Saving tracts of undeveloped land, some for public access.
- Limiting or stopping development of tracts of privately owned land by granting easements that give tax relief to owners.
- Working with programs that improve ground water and stream water quality.
- Preserving valuable property when new developments are being built by helping provide conservation design.
- Spreading the use of native flora through both individual gardens and woodland plantings.
- Helping preserve working farmland.
- Educating the general public through programs and classes.


Enlisting volunteers and raising funds for various programs.

Lobbying local government to further conservation goals.

Combined, these actions help provide a valuable will and testament by using some resources now while saving others for future generations. We invite you to help save the places you love by becoming a member. More information is available by calling 526-1111, emailing [hitrust@earthlink.net](mailto:hitrust@earthlink.net), or check the website at [hicashlt.org](http://hicashlt.org).



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## • COACH'S CORNER •

### Random thoughts from the weekend in sports

**Q**uick observation from the Georgia-Florida game from this weekend. Aside from the fact that Florida's defense is putrid, Georgia finally was able to exercise their recent demons against the Gators through the play of freshman running back Knowshon Moreno. My friends who (sadly) pull for the Bulldogs have been upset with Coach Mark Richt all year for not getting Moreno enough carries. In a bit of good fortune (in a morbid sort of way) injuries to running backs Gregg Lumpkin and Thomas Brown forced Richt to put the game on Moreno's shoulders, and he delivered with a terrific performance. Everyone is talking about Richt's motivational techniques for the Florida game, but don't overlook the fact that the game was won on the legs of Moreno.

The Red Sox won their second world series in four years this weekend, forcing me to reevaluate them from a fans perspective. The Sox (and Boston fans in general) have become more and more annoying as the year has gone on, and it makes me wonder if the Red Sox are turning to the dark side of the fans. With their huge payroll, (second only to the Yankees) obnoxious fan base (again, second to the Yanks) and recent success-it is little wonder than people are starting to look at the Sox the same way that they looked at the Yankees in recent years.

The NBA kicked off Tuesday night with three west coast games....does anyone care? It's time for David Stern to wake up and realize that the NBA regular season is becoming increasingly irrelevant in today's society. Between the officiating scandal and the numerous player arrests in the off season, fans have shown that professional basketball just isn't as interesting as it has been in recent years. Case in point- all of the NFL arrests and turmoil in the off season hasn't hurt interest at all, while off season events have wounded the NBA greatly. Time to suck it up and take a long hard look at some NBA rule changes Captain Stern, lest you suffer the same fate as hockey in the United States.

The NFL "game of the century" is this weekend as the Colts play the Patriots for supremacy in the AFC (and ultimately the NFL). A lot has been



**Ryan Potts**  
ryanpotts@hotmail.com

made about the dominance of the Patriots in the first half of the season. The Patriots have been unstoppable, mainly thanks to the best defense in the NFL and an unstoppable offense led by Randy Moss and Tom Brady. The Pats have also caught a lot of flack due to their fearless leader Bill Belichick ordering his squad to run up the score on teams this year in an attempt to prove

that he needed no unfair advantage in order to succeed. Belichick is currently playing his character (the role of villain coach in a Disney Movie) perfectly, but he is going to cost his team dearly when Tom Brady gets taken out by a rogue linebacker in the fourth quarter of a blowout. NFL players don't take kindly to being embarrassed, and poor Brady is going to pay the price for his coach's vendetta against the rest of the league at some point this season.

And finally, how about the Kansas Jayhawks? In a year where Kentucky and South Florida earned a ton of praise for climbing the rankings before ultimately crashing and burning, the Jayhawks have quietly climbed the rankings and are currently in position to crash the BCS party. Riding a superb defense and the offense of the velour suited/massively jowled supercoach Mark Mangino, Kansas has played extremely well all season and could...gasp...end up in the BCS title game if I have not sufficiently jinxed them by praising them in this column.

#### ...SPIRITUALLY from pg 25

I invite you into a life of reality. I invite you to cultivate the seeds of reality that you possess. If you need help on this journey, I invite you to join a group of friends, and a place to cultivate this reality. You can find them at a church near you. I invite you to read about this source of love described above. You can find it in a group of books called Scripture. And if you want to meet the man I mentioned above, look very closely in the mirror, in the eyes of a friend, in the eyes of a stranger, in the eyes of your enemy. His name is Jesus. Once you glimpse this reality, and cultivate the seeds of love, you will see it everywhere you look. Love is everywhere and in everyone. Love is the only reality that exists.

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**Cranberry relish**

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**One dozen rolls and one pie**

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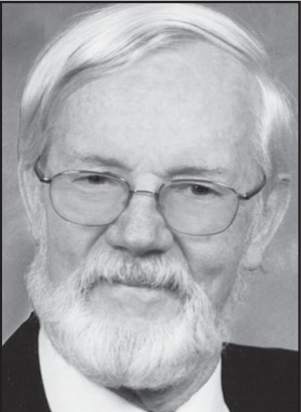
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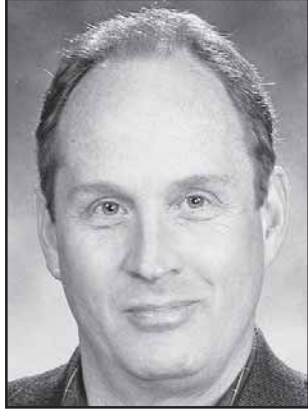




Larry Brannan



Dennis DeWolf



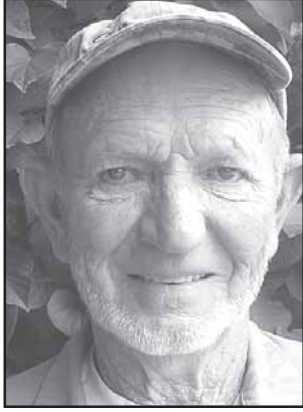
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Gary Drake



Alan Marsh



Larry Rogers

3

OFFICIAL BALLOT  
MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
NOVEMBER 6, 2007

Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

A	B	C
<b>BALLOT MARKING INSTRUCTIONS:</b> a. To vote for a candidate whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the candidate for whom you wish to vote. b. Mark with a black ball point pen or marking device provided. c. If you tear, deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another. d. To vote, fill in the oval to the left of your choice completely, like this: <input checked="" type="radio"/> e. If you wish to write in a candidate, where permitted, fill in the oval associated with the office and write the candidate's name on the line. Write-in votes are authorized only in certain races.	<b>TOWN OF HIGHLANDS MIXED BEVERAGE REFERENDUM</b>  To permit the sale of mixed beverages in hotels, restaurants, private clubs, community theatres, and convention centers.  <input type="radio"/> FOR <input type="radio"/> AGAINST  <b>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:</b> a. To vote YES to the proposition, fill in the oval to the left of the word, "YES". b. To vote NO to the proposition, fill in the oval to the left of the word, "NO". c. Mark with a Black ball point pen or marking device provided. d. If you tear, deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another. e. To vote, fill in the oval to the left of your choice completely, like this: <input checked="" type="radio"/>	<b>PUBLIC BUILDINGS BOND REFERENDUM</b>  Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$6,500,000 PUBLIC BUILDINGS BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating public buildings and other public facilities, including, but not limited to, the construction of new facilities for senior services, social services and emergency services, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?  <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
<b>COMMISSIONER TOWN OF HIGHLANDS</b> (You may vote for THREE)  <input type="radio"/> Larry Brannan <input type="radio"/> Dennis DeWolf <input type="radio"/> John (Buz) Dotson <input type="radio"/> Gary E. Drake <input type="radio"/> Alan Marsh <input type="radio"/> Larry Rogers  <input type="radio"/> Write-in _____ <input type="radio"/> Write-in _____ <input type="radio"/> Write-in _____	<b>SCHOOL BOND REFERENDUM</b>  Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$42,100,000 SCHOOL BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating school buildings and other school facilities, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?  <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<b>COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOND REFERENDUM</b>  Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$3,000,000 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, to match, in whole or in part, State of North Carolina grant moneys, for the cost of acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating Building #2 of Southwestern Community College, including, but not limited to, the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?  <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
<b>TOWN OF HIGHLANDS MALT BEVERAGE REFERENDUM</b>  To permit the "on-premises" sale of malt beverages by class A hotels, motels, and restaurants only, and to permit "off-premises" sales by other permittees.  <input type="radio"/> FOR <input type="radio"/> AGAINST		

Typ:01 Seq:0003 Spl:01 Ballot Style 3

D	E	F
<b>PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BOND REFERENDUM</b>  Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$9,400,000 PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for improving and expanding the existing park and recreational facilities of said County and acquiring and constructing new park and recreational facilities of said County, including, without limitation, the construction of athletic fields and indoor recreation facilities, the acquisition of land and rights of way and the furnishing of incidental facilities and equipment, be approved?  <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<b>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:</b> a. To vote FOR the proposition, fill in the oval to the left of the word, "FOR". b. To vote AGAINST the proposition, fill in the oval to the left of the word, "AGAINST". c. Mark with a Black ball point pen or marking device provided. d. If you tear, deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another. e. To vote, fill in the oval to the left of your choice completely, like this: <input checked="" type="radio"/>  <b>LEVY OF LAND TRANSFER TAX REFERENDUM</b>  Real property transfer tax at the rate of up to four tenths (0.4%) of value or consideration.  <input type="radio"/> FOR <input type="radio"/> AGAINST  <b>END OF BALLOT</b>	
<b>LIBRARY BOND REFERENDUM</b>  Shall the order adopted on September 10, 2007, authorizing not exceeding \$3,000,000 LIBRARY BONDS of the County of Macon, North Carolina, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds, for acquiring, constructing, expanding and renovating library buildings and other library facilities, both fixed and mobile, including but not limited to expansion of the Hudson Library facilities in Highlands, and the acquisition of related land, rights of way and equipment, be approved?  <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO		



## Question #6:

**What aspects of the bond referendum are most important to you as a citizen and as a potential Town Commissioner?**

Brannan:

We need to answer two questions. Are the bond proposals honest and accurate? Do we in Highlands want or need what is being offered and would we get our money's worth if approved?

Digging out the real needs and costs of bond referendums can be quite difficult. It is not unusual for the authors to deliberately hide or misstate what you are paying for, the actual necessity of the proposed items or services, and the real cost.

Some intentionally understate the cost and overstate the benefits in order to lure the voters into approving the referendum. They put forward proponents to convince the voter how badly an apparently too big and too expensive facility is needed. Then once approved, the cost overruns begin and the promised benefits don't quite happen.

If this seems to be the case, we could ask for a binding legal agreement (no Memo of Understanding) that specifies a maximum cost overrun of say 5%. If the cost exceeds that, then they must identify features/items that would be removed to stay within the agreed cost.

Other bond referendums suffer from the mindset that if the authors actually need 30 million dollars, they figure they might as well pump it up to 50 million and bury in the referendum all the little goodies that could never get approved on their own merit. Or they use the surplus money as a slush fund for things that might not be approved by the taxpayers. In this case, a binding promise of rebated surplus through reduced property taxes might be in order.

The process is already underway to review and challenge the details in the referendums.

And to determine just what benefits are in the proposals for us in Highlands. Any item not clearly and specifically stated should be questioned. The actual need and cost should be questioned and supported by estimates from disinterested persons/companies if possible.

Once we think we know what the truth is about each proposal, the taxpayers should be made aware of the details. In Highlands, there are quite a few people who pay taxes but can not vote to approve or disapprove these referendums. We should devise a way that their voices can be heard and that their opinions can influence the outcome. Then, it is up to each voter to determine her or his evaluation of perceived benefit for the stated cost.

If you would like to read or reread my personal information and/or my viewpoints on subjects previously published in this newspaper, please see my

web page at internet address [http://mysite.verizon.net/resrw8lk/larry\\_town\\_commissioner/](http://mysite.verizon.net/resrw8lk/larry_town_commissioner/)

DeWolf:

It's unfortunate that the County Commission has not provided a historical summary of past expenditures throughout Macon County for the various needs that are trying to be met through these proposals nor has it provided the financial information that verifies the County's ability to afford the ongoing maintenance and depreciation costs of the proposed facilities. The decision to do so leaves the voters in a vacuum as they try to assess the value of each proposal to themselves and their immediate community. The net affect diminishes the Commission's initiatives to keep pace with the growth of the County and adversely impacts the community as a whole

Dotson:

Each of the bond referendums are of great importance to all the citizens of Macon County, not just to the ones who live inside the city limits of Highlands and Franklin. I do not feel that any particular one of them carries more weight than the other, simply different tax burdens.

The largest by far, at over \$42 million, is the school bond issue. Macon County needs good schools and facilities and all our children deserve the best education they can get – politics aside.

It is at times like these that everyone in the county should open their eyes to the inequalities of this referendum and let's try to level the playing field.

Highlands and Nantahala are the fastest growing areas of our county but they are always the last to receive even a prorated share of our tax money. So now we need to raise MORE?

It's time we stopped playing politics with our kids' education, and let's not leave them with an additional tax burden for the next 30 years.

Marsh:

I am not in favor of the bond referendum in it's current form. I think it should be rewritten with more input from the Highlands area.

Rogers:

I feel that the most important aspect of the bond referendum is the final cost to the taxpayers. We need to be sure that the expenditure totals are accurate before any decisions are made.

The way I see it, what happens when you have money borrowed, (approximately \$64 million), and interest to payback in 30 years, and something happens within 15-20 years? Will it be the same problem again?



**"I want to see all your smiling faces on Nov. 6 at the polls!"**

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**It's time for a change!**

## IMPORTANT ISSUES:



**Wise use of taxpayers' money**



**ETJ**



**Sewer improvements**



**The new Town Hall Complex**



**Public input at Town Board meetings**

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Town Board  
Commissioner!**

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## ... HIS & HERS continued from page 9

everything is – the baggage pick-up, the taxi stand. I'm like an old war horse hearing parade music. My ears prick up; my nostrils flair. I can do this! Jumping into taxis, chatting with the drivers, working out the tip - it's all second nature to me. Sing it, Billy Joel. "I'm in a New York State of Mind!"

I found us a wonderful hotel just three blocks from my old apartment on East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street. It's strange going back to your old neighborhood. Some things are just the same as you remembered, while others are completely different. There's no explanation for why it's so. Always a dedicated foodie, I used to lead a charmed life. Within a two-block radius, there was Simchick, the butcher, Ideal Cheese, Piscane Seafood, and across the street, and up a block, Columbus Bakery. Simchick has moved a few blocks uptown, while there is a gaping hole where Columbus Bakery used to be. Soul-less high rises are taking over from row houses and charming little shops.

Some things never seem to change, however. I get a big hug from the Italian doorman at the corner of East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, who remembers years of friendly chats. Sheryl, the checkout lady at the Food Emporium, is still there. The Norwegian Church is as welcoming as ever, and we pick up a few bars of Norwegian chocolate from their little food store. Gérard welcomes us and ushers us to our table at *La Mangeoire*, at the corner of Second Avenue and East 53<sup>rd</sup>, where the *coq au vin* and chocolate mousse are still to die for. I'm beginning to feel like I never left.

John and I round the corner of East 52<sup>nd</sup>, and go into Clancy's, my favorite neighborhood pub. Robbie, the world's best and nicest bartender, greets us warmly. He looks at me long and hard, then says, "That's a whiskey sour with Jameson's, right?" This fulfills a childhood fantasy I used to have, of walking into a fancy restaurant, and being ushered to my special table. The waiter gives me a knowing smile, and smoothly coos, "The usual, Madame?" OK, it's not exactly the way I remembered it in my dream, but it's still impressive.

Fortunately, Clancy's is also the preferred watering hole of my former place of employment, and two of my old colleagues, Freddy and Richard, soon show up. We talk about the office, and soccer, and what it's been like to move to North Carolina. It's funny how some conversations never seem to end, and can be picked up seamlessly a year later.

The rest of the time just flies. We breakfast with my delightful friends, Barbara and her husband Dan, at Madison's, a great deli. Unable to find a local shoe repair place in the Highlands area, we lug John's shoes to New York, where George, the Greek cobbler, was

able to fix them. I did a lightning visit to my old office, and visited with my dear friend Chris, and then the personnel department for a few odds and ends. Back downstairs, we go to Godiva Chocolates to get treats for the cat sitters. Later that evening, John's Yalies turn out to be an interesting and pleasant bunch, not at all the aging snobs with trophy wives I'd feared they'd be.

Then, as suddenly as it began, the trip was over. We wing our way back to Atlanta, roll our suitcases back to our car, and drive home. That last bit of road up the mountain seems particularly sweet. We open the door, and are greeted to a chorus of happy meows. As quickly as we can, we are upstairs in bed, tucked in snugly, with two purring felines.

John had feared I'd get back to New York, and "go native" – that I'd be so happy to be back that I'd regret giving it all up, and moving to Highlands. I don't. It would be nice to visit New York more often, for an occasional "Big City Fix," but now I'm sure of one thing. I know where home is.

About the Author: Michelle A. Mead is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. Michelle is a member of the Highlands Writers Group. She makes her home in a hundred year old farmhouse with two very spoiled cats, and an equally spoiled lawyer.



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UNC students float through an ancient fish weir made by Cherokee in the Little Tennessee River below Franklin.

## Environmental science college students in Highlands for a field semester

Youth sighting in Highlands: A gang of very savvy college students have taken over the Highlands Biological Station, both to advance their education in environmental science – and give back a bit to the communities they're visiting this fall semester.

The program – now in its sixth year of operation at the Highlands field site – brings the students here under the University of North Carolina's Institute for the Environment. Of the 11 students here this year, 10 are from the UNC-Chapel Hill campus, and one is from Western Carolina University.

Besides carrying a full course load in GIS (Geographic Information Systems), Southern Appalachian Land Use History, Biogeography, Conservation Biology, and Biodiversity Studies, and a group research project, the students also do internships with local conservation and land use agencies. They will volunteer with organizations that range from non-profits to governmental organizations. They will produce scientific papers, both for publication and for use by localities throughout Western North Carolina, and many also take part in advocacy and public outreach in and around the Highlands Plateau. Their research topics range from organismal biology and ecology to environmental policy, sustainable energy, and even land use history.

"The students are very committed and hardworking," says Dr. Anya Hinkle, associate director of the Highlands Biological Station, and one of students' professors this year. The other main professors for the semester-long field course include the Station's executive director Dr. James Costa, also a faculty member at Western Carolina, and Dr. Gary Wein, executive director of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust.

"I've been really impressed with their

broad interest in the southern Appalachian region," said Hinkle. "They are creative and appreciate the integrative nature of the course. Many will certainly continue in science and environmental advocacy, and this course is a chance for them to see and experience these fields outside of a classroom."

The students arrived in Highlands the week of August 27-31 and were quickly put to the task of getting to know their environment with 3 day hiking trip on Appalachian Trail followed by a rafting trip down the wild and scenic Chattooga River.

More recently, they took a canoe trip down the Little Tennessee River to visit the Cowee Mound and view the valley containing evidence of Cherokee and pre-Cherokee cultures. Other field trips are planned, including to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

"The Highlands Plateau and environs comprise a living laboratory ideal for student research," Hinkle commented. "Although we present ideas in the classroom, we strongly emphasize an experiential approach to learning about cultural heritage, biodiversity, conservation, and policy. Scarcely a day goes by that we are not in the field doing something."

• Katy Betz, Highlands, NC, working with Paul Carlson of the Land Trust for the Little Tennessee. The project is focused on a section of land near Robbinsville along Yellow Creek with purported historical use by the Cherokee and British. She will collect historical information to summarize what is known about pre-contact use of the area by Cherokee, as well as historic use by the British and others. In addition, she will use GIS to map an existing trail through the area and make interpretations in light

• See SCIENCE page 18

**Needlepoint of Highlands**

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## • FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

### Get out and vote – it's a right worth fighting for

**W**e are rapidly approaching the elections next Tuesday. Since this is not a national election day for us, traditionally the turnout is low.

In fact, every year we have Board of Commissioner elections and Mayoral elections in Highlands, it is a so called off year and the turnout is low. That should not be so.

The decisions that affect us individually the most are made by our locally elected officials and these elections should be a priority for our citizens.

In addition to commissioners, this year we also have several very important issues which are on the ballot — the bond issues and liquor by the drink. I have not taken an official position on any of these issues but you can bet I will be at the civic center the first Tuesday in November to cast my vote in the privacy of the voting booth. That is a freedom in which we should all take pride, and I hope everyone will get out on that day and vote to exercise their rights as free citizens of this country.

I never ceased to be amazed at the talent we have in this town in the performing arts. Last week my wife and I went to the performance at the Performing Arts Center of the play "Raindrop Waltz" which was put on by the Highlands Community Players. And once again we were blown away by the quality of acting on that stage by this talented group of individuals. The last performance of this particular play was last weekend. This wonderful little play by playwright Gary Carden who himself played the town drunk was wonderful. His opening monologue was a work of art in its own right. Although you may have missed this performance, I would highly recommend that you not miss any future plays of this fine troop of actors.

Last Sunday afternoon we once again were honored by a free performance from the Music Department of Western Carolina University as three talented musicians put on "A Faculty Showcase Concert" which this time featured piano, clarinet and saxophone. It was held at the Presbyterian Church. These musicians had been spectacular in previous performances which are held there, and they did not disappoint us this time. I know you will not want to miss future events of these fine faculty members who always put on such a professional concert. We are privileged to have such talented individuals close



**Mayor Don Mullen**

by who enjoy performing for the people of Highlands.

We were glad to get confirmation from our auditor last week what we already knew. The town of Highlands is in good financial shape. Our Town as-

sets exceed our liabilities by over \$30 million. We have no debt, and this Board and administration has been fiscally responsible in maintaining our good rating. Your town staff is outstanding and very efficient in what they do. The Town of Highlands has reason to be proud as we look to the future with hope and optimism.

2007 has been a long year without a Planning and Zoning Manager. We have interviewed many people and this week we have continued this process. Let us hope that we are close to finding someone in the near future. However, we have come close before and been disappointed. Let us all hope and pray that soon we will have an important announcement to make regarding the placement of an important individual in our town government.

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... SCIENCE continued from page 16

of historical data.

- Brian Levo, Chapel Hill. Working with mentor Hillrie Quin on developing ordinances relevant to establishing the first loop of the Highlands Greenway, using GPS and GIS technologies to develop, and post on the Internet, a master Greenway map.
- Brian Houseman, Whiteville. Working with Dr. Gary Wein of the Highlands-Cashers Land Trust to an evaluate the impact that the new Jackson County steep slope and subdivision ordinances will have on development. He'll be using these new ordinance guidelines to evaluate land availability for development and potential conservation. This evaluation will also be extended to Macon County.
- Andrea Martin, Huntersville. Working with Dr. Brian Kloeppeel at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory, to investigate the effects of soil temperature and plant species from the death of native hemlocks.
- Sandy Skolochenko, Valdese. Also working at the Coweeta laboratory with Dr. Barry Clinton, and fellow student Andrea Martin, on the results of hemlock mortality on plants, soil temperature and moisture, and light intensity.
- Jason Baker, Weaverville. Working with the Balsam Mountain Trust on the restoration of Sugar Loaf Creek following a dam break several months ago, and the development of protocols to respond to similar events.
- Anna Vandenberg, Brevard. Working with Timm Muth at the Jackson County Green Energy Park on the preliminary research for a possible Anaerobic Digester system to supplement their supply of methane.
- Katie Supler, Raleigh. Working with Brent Martin of The Wilderness Society. She is doing a case study of the Boteler Peak Roadless Area to determine if it still qualifies as roadless since the last forest service road atlas was created. This information will be important as the Nantahalah and Pisgah National Forest Service Management Plans come under review and roadless areas are up for consideration as wilderness areas.
- Sally Whisler, Raleigh. Working with Tom Goforth from Crow Dog Nursery to investigate the possible development of hybrids in the fern genus Dryopteris along the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- Melissa Burt, Wake Forest, NC. Working with Patrick Brannon at the Highlands Nature Center. I'm studying the vertical distribution of small mammal populations (specifically shrews) and the effect of roadside trash on these populations. Our field work consists of collecting bottles along the roadsides and checking inside for shrew mortality as indicated by remains.
- Matt Whitehead, Asheville, working with Richard Betz and Matt Shuler of the Town of Highlands, locating, classifying, and mapping perennial streams to be approved and placed on a zoning map.

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## Two Entrances – Main and Oak streets • 787-2200



## ... SNOW continued from page 1

foot the cost of paving the roads, and DOT was ready to do so, but said it would have to be done at state standards.

When residents on the state-owned roads learned that the roads would be widened to DOT standards they protested. This prompted Mayor Don Mullen and the board to investigate other ways to both get the roads paved and have someone other than the town or DOT pay for it. The estimated cost is \$266,925 — \$96,900 for Hickory Hill, \$35,900 for Chowan Drive, and \$134,125 for Cullasaja Drive.

In a letter to Senator Marc Basnight, president pro tempore, Senator John Snow and Representative Roger West requested "discretionary transportation funds" for the preparation and paving of Hickory Hill Road, Chowan Drive and Cullasaja Road.

"We have inspected these roads with Wesley Grindstaff of the DOT and we believe it is necessary to pave them as soon as possible. These three unpaved roads are a major source of siltation and stormwater run-off in Lake Sequoyah, the town's only source of drinking water, and Mirror Lake which feeds Lake Sequoyah," reads the let-

ter.

The 150-acre Lake Sequoyah is a Class I reservoir and the town draws water from two water intakes in the Big Creek Arm. Currently, both Chowan Drive and Hickory Hill Road contribute heavily to siltation in Big Creek. Cullasaja Drive is a major source of siltation in Mirror Lake, as is development outside the town limits, said Betz in his initial letter to Senator Snow about the issue.

He said the town has had to remove silt and debris from around both intakes and has replaced its pumps at a very significant cost. In addition to mechanical problems at the intakes, Betz said that the silt-laden arm of the lake has affected the quantity and quality of Highlands water.

"Due to the level of silt in the lake, it doesn't take much of a rain-event to raise the raw water turbidity level above 15 NTUs with the current maximum allowed at 0.5 NTUs," wrote Betz. When the turbidity level rises to 15 NTUs the plant must shut down and if that occurs over a period of time greater than the town's storage time, the

•See SNOW page 34

Skylar Wagner signs her name to the "Proud to be Drug Free" bulletin board at Highlands School. The board and the signatures on it signify the schools and the community's commitment to make and keep Highlands drug-free.

## 'Red Ribbon' Week at Highlands School



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Domaine Serene

Flavor spectrum luncheon at 11:30

November 10<sup>th</sup>

Silver Oak Cellars and

Thomas Arvid

Wine Dinner

"Life is a Cabernet!" 6 p.m.

November 11<sup>th</sup>

Thomas Arvid and

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# Taxpayers' Alert!!!

There are two items on the Nov. 6 ballot we urge you to say "NO" to.

We encourage Highlands voters to VOTE AGAINST the \$64 million bond referendum being proposed during the Nov. 6 election.

This proposal contains very little for the people of Highlands. Even though we are paying almost 50% of the ad valorem taxes in Macon County, we will receive less than 8% of the bond issue.

These bonds will be sold for 30 years with millions of dollars in interest paid by Macon County taxpayers and will be passed on to future generations of taxpayers.

Please VOTE "NO" on the bond issue for Nov. 6

Also:

We encourage Highlands voters to VOTE AGAINST the real estate transfer tax. This tax will impact Highlands more than any other part of Macon County. Again, Highlands taxpayers will be asked to pay a disproportionate share of the taxes, with most of the money staying in Franklin.

Please VOTE "NO" on Nov. 6

Paid for by the Macon County Taxpayers' Association.

## ... TRANSFER TAX continued from page 2

- Property sold for \$100,000  
0.4% x \$100,000 = \$400 LTT
- Property sold for \$250,000  
0.4% x \$250,000 = \$900 LTT
- Property sold for \$500,000  
0.4% x \$500,000 = \$2,000 LTT

### What is Subject to a Land Transfer Tax?

- Traditional real estate sales
- Exchanges of real property for money or other property
- Timber deeds and contracts for the sale of standing timber.

### What is excluded from the Land Transfer Tax?

Real property transfers exempted from excise taxes under Sections 105-228.28 of the N.C. General Statutes which includes transfers:

- By operation of law
  - By lease for term of years
  - By or pursuant to the provisions of a will
  - By gift
  - By merger, conversion or consolidation
  - By an instrument securing indebtedness
  - If no consideration in property or money is due or paid by transferee to transferor
  - By a governmental unit or an instrumentality of a government unit.
- Potential New Revenues Generated Over 5 years

- 2007-08 \$1.15 million
- 2008-09 \$2.4 million
- 2009-10 \$2.64 million
- 2010-11 \$2.9 million
- 2011-12 \$3.2 million

### How would revenues be used?

The Macon County Board of Commissioners has committed to using land transfer revenues for capital facility expense with a priority for school capital outlay. In this fast growing county, a land transfer tax will go a long way toward paying the debt on bonds and limiting property tax increases.

### Background information

• Seven coastal counties have had the authority to levy a 1% land transfer tax since 1990.

• Counties have been asking the General Assembly for several years to have the same opportunity for voters to approve other revenue options.

• Until this year, the General Assembly had not extended this authority to any other counties.

• The new legislation provided for a 0.4% tax, not the full 1% land transfer tax, to be approved by voters.

### Voters' Choice on the Ballot

Real property transfer tax at the rate of up to 0.4% of value or consideration.

The voters of Macon County have the opportunity to choose whether the county will have another option for paying for school construction and renovation.

– MC Commission



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## Freeman Gas

The Freeman Center



Dillard Hwy 526-0040





From left, Laura Ammons, RT, manager of the hospital's Radiology Department with Kathy Ray, RT, mammography technician.

## Hospital's mammography program achieves reaccreditation

The mammography program at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has again been awarded three-year accreditation by the American College of Radiology.

The hospital's program has been accredited since the early 1990s, even before passage of the Mammography Quality Standards Act, which charges the FDA with maintaining certain mammography standards throughout the country.

"Our history of attaining accreditation, which goes back more than 15 years, is indicative of the hospital's continuing commitment to maintain high standards for all its services, and to providing quality patient care" observed Ken Shull, President and CEO of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. "It's also a tribute to the commitment of the people in our communities who have supported the hospital and helped provide the equipment and technology needed to maintain those high standards."

In fact, the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation is currently looking to raise approximately \$120,000 to bring computer-aided technology to its mammography program. Most of the rest of the radiology department's technology is already in the digital age.

The American College of Radiology, headquartered in Reston, VA, awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer review evaluation of the facility. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of each facility's equipment. Surveyors report their findings to the college's Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides a comprehensive report, and awards accreditation to those facilities that meet the criteria. ACR certificates of accreditation give assurance that staff and equipment have

passed the ACR's rigorous evaluation.

Mammography is routinely used to screen healthy women for signs of breast cancer, or as follow-up on earlier findings of symptoms of breast disease. Mammography is important because it can detect cancers before they can be felt by self examination. Yearly mammograms are recommended for women age 40 and over, and for other women who are deemed by their physicians to be at unusually high risk for breast cancer.

The American College of Radiology is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic and interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists and nuclear medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.

## Brass bells stolen from HUMC

Last week two brass bells – an F sharp and F7 were stolen off the table in the sanctuary of the Highlands United Methodist Church.

The bell choir had prepared for Sunday's recital by arranging the bells on tables in front of the sanctuary. Sometime between Thursday evening and Sunday morning the bells were taken.

Luckily, a church in Franklin lent the two bells to HUMC for the performance. Meanwhile, it will cost the church somewhere in the realm of \$500 to replace them.

Typically, bells are sold in sets so it costs quite a bit to replace just one or two.

Anyone with information about this is encouraged to contact the Highlands Police Department or the Highlands United Methodist Church.

Remember to  
turn your  
clocks back  
Sunday and  
vote on  
Tuesday!

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# COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

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**MIRROR LAKE** – This darling Mirror Lake cottage is on more than a 1/2 acre of wooded land, walk to the lake and to town. It has a large covered porch and lots of old Highlands charm. On city sewer and ready to move in. This is what everyone wants when they come to the mountains. Two bed, 1 bath. Offered at \$395,000. Call Dan Chapman at 342-6640. MLS# 62560



**BIG BEAR PEN** – This is what everybody wants when they come to the mountains. Close to town in the woods, charming and comfortable. Three bedrooms with fireplace in master bedroom. Two baths. Owner wants to sell. Offered at \$595,000. Call Dan Chapman at 342-6640. MLS#63260.



**CULLASAJA CLUB** – Newly furnished posh get-away perfect place to turn the key and leave the guarded gates of Cullasja in charge. Zero maintenance cabin. Chic, skyhigh beams, unique wooden floors, 4 carpeted bedrooms and 4 1/2 stone, tile, Kohler baths with granite counters. Perfect kids' or owners' retreat upstairs. Greatroom has two stone fireplaces and a slate wet bar with ice maker. Carport. \$895,000. Call Dan Chapman at 342-6640. MLS#61700.

Call Dan Chapman at 342-6640



**BEAR'S DEN.** This former lodge has a beautiful view of the mountains and Whiteside with 7 bedrooms and baths, it can be a great retreat or family compound. Offering a huge great room with stone fireplace and commercial-sized kitchen. The nearly 9-acres backs up to forest service property and is private and secluded. It also has a tennis court. \$1.2 million. MLS#60752



**WALK TO HARRIS LAKE DOWNTOWN** – This is a completely updated 4 bed, 3 bath home. The open floor plan offers Old Highlands charm with a gracious outdoor family room. Two master suites and children's room with bunk beds. Two massive stone fireplaces, cypress and slate flooring and lovely finishes. Offered at \$899,000. Call Pam Taylor at 342-6988 or 526-9027. MLS#59837.

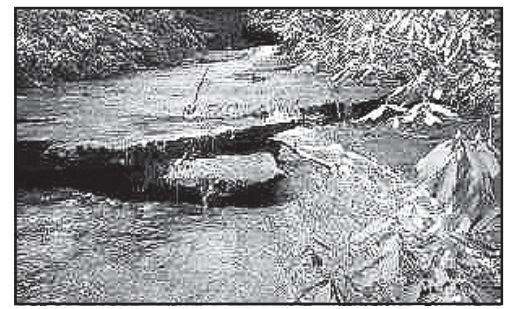


**ON APPLE LAKE** – Two levels of gracious mountain living with main floor kitchen, great room with dining and stone fireplace, master bedroom and bath, one guest room and wrap-around deckin. Lower level bedroom and bath, party area and workshop lead to expansive decks that lead to lake. Beautiful landscaping and natural growth and garden area. House and one lot offered at \$895,000 or house and 2.16 acres for \$1,200,000. Call Pam Taylor at 342-6988 or 526-9027. MLS#59116.

**VACANT LAND - OFFERED AT: \$595,000** Gorgeous 4.12 acres +/- off Shortoff Road and Norton Ridge, with Norton Creek running through it and an island picnic area! 5 bedroom septic permit and well in place— this property is ready for you to build your dream mountain home on. Only 6 estate parcels in Norton Ridge, with 2 luxury homes already built and occupied. Call Pam Taylor at 342-6988 or 526-9027. MLS#61830.

Call Pam Taylor at 342-6988 or 526-9027

**7.39 +/- ACRES IN HICKORY RIDGE** – Beautiful wooded lot with a small pond and lazy creek. Property has community well



access, paved roads and conveniently located to Cashiers and Highlands off U.S. 64. Priced to sell at \$285,000. Contact Rick Joiner at 200-9214 or 526-2592. MLS#61307.



**HORSE COVE ROAD** – Beautiful custom 4 bed 6 bath home built in 2004 by Coppage and Coppage. On 2+/- acres minutes from Main Street. Nearly 6,000 sq. ft. of living space, loads of custom features wine room, generator, gourmet kitchen, bar/billiard room, \$1,295,000. Call Rick Joiner at 200-9214 or 526-2592. MLS#60672.



**GRAND MOUNTAIN VIEW** – This masterpiece is complete and ready for its new owners. Outstanding floor plan and magnificent, unobstructed year-round view of Cashiers' Valley and Devil's Court. Quality finishes throughout and thoughtful upgrades. \$2,399,000. Call Rick Joiner at 200-9214 or 526-2592. MLS#60795.

**SEQUOYAH LAKEFRONT PROPERTY** – Over 450 feet of lakefront property on beautiful Lake Sequoyah. This 2.33+/- acre lot has spectacular views, paved access with access to city water and sewer. Minutes from downtown. \$995,000. Call Rick Joiner at 200-9214 or 526-2592. MLS#62354.



Call Rick Joiner at 200-9214 or 526-2592





Hospital Board Chairman Bud Smith (right) welcomes new members George Maloney (left) and Bill Nellis (center).

## H-C Hospital Board adds two new faces, keeps same officers

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital has two new additions to its Board of Directors. Highlands developer William R. "Bill" Nellis and retired executive George T. Maloney, of Highlands and Stuart, Fl, have begun serving new three-year terms on the hospital board.

Thursday's regular monthly meeting was their first as full members, but the two got a head start on their responsibilities, attending last month's meeting as observers and subsequently participating in a number of committee meetings.

The two were elected to the board back in August. At that meeting the board also reappointed Bud Smith, of Cashiers, and Griffin B. Bell, Jr., of Highlands, for three more years. Smith has served on the board since 2003 – including serving the last two years as chairman. Bell served out the final year of an unexpired term; this will be his first full, three-year term.

Nellis and Maloney replace out-going board members Tony Potts of Highlands and Rick Robson of Cashiers, whose terms had expired.

And although not a new face, Dr. Robert T. Buchanan, is now a voting member of the board by virtue of his position as chief of the hospital's Medical Staff. As vice chief, Buchanan has attended board meetings for the past year, but as a non-voting member. New Vice Chief of Staff Carl Curtiss, MD will now fill that ex-officio position.

Also a familiar face on the board from the past is William A. "Bill" Gaston, of Highlands and Spartanburg, SC, who joins the board again as the voting representative of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation Board. Gaston, who has served as chairman of the Foundation Board on four previous occasions, became chairman again on Oct. 1, replacing out-going Chairperson Cassandra Manley, of Cashiers and

Houston, TX.

In other changes, several non-members have also been invited to provide input to various board committees. Although no longer a board member, Potts will continue to serve on the Finance Committee, and Robson will continue as a member of the Program and Facilities Committee (formerly the Planning Committee). The board also named Earle Mauldin, chairman of the annual Bob Jones Golf Tournament at Highlands Country Club, to serve on the Finance Committee.

While there will be a mixture of new and familiar faces on the board for the coming year, members chose to keep the same slate of the officers. Smith remains chairman. Board Vice Chairman Donald C. Mullen, MD, of Highlands, and Secretary Brenda Stewart, of Cashiers, will also stay in their leadership posts.

A native of New York, Nellis graduated from the University of South Florida with a bachelor's degree in finance. He came to Highlands seven years ago from Atlanta, where he developed commercial real estate. Since arriving in Highlands he has focused on residential development, including the Cotswolds (in Webmont), Village Walk, Bear Foot on Flat Mountain, Old Highlands Park (currently under construction), and High Meadows (in Cashiers). His company, Nellis Communities, is also about to begin another development, The Birches at Wildcat Cliffs between Highlands and Cashiers.

He is a member of the Macon County Watershed Council and the Mayor's Task Force for Affordable Housing in Highlands. His hobbies include golf and landscaping.

Maloney spent more than 30 years with the international medical device manufacturing firm of C.R. Bard, Inc., headquartered

• See BOARD page 24

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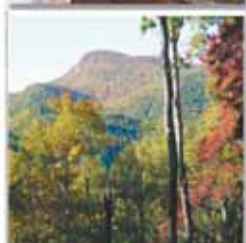
CAROLINA



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A dream kitchen built for entertaining with custom cabinets, granite  
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Low-maintenance landscaping completes the package!

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Philip L. Dickey, MPH, PHR, human resources director of Doctors Management, presents a certificate of completion to Lori Gross, physician practice manager for Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

## Gross earns certification in physician practice management

Lori Gross, physician practice manager for Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, recently earned the designation of Certified Medical Practice Manager (CMPM) by attending the DoctorsManagement School of Medical Practice Manager's Certificate Program.

The course of study demands a 12-month commitment and focuses on giving participants the knowledge needed to position physician practices to survive and prosper in an ever-changing health care industry. Participants are exposed to 40 hours of instruction, discussion, and interactive participation. The courses were conducted in Knoxville, TN.

“With the frequent changes that occur almost every day in reimbursement, licens-

ing requirements, and federal and state regulations covering health care providers, it's extremely important that our staff is up to date in all of the areas that affect running physician practices,” said hospital CEO and President Ken Shull. “Continuing education is no longer a luxury in health care; it's a necessity. Successfully completing this course shows that Ms. Gross, like all of our staff, is committed to attaining the highest professional standards in the health care field.”

Ms. Gross oversees four physician practices that are owned by the hospital, and also acts as building manager for the hospital's four medical office buildings (two in Highlands, one in Cashiers and one in Dillard, GA).

## ... BOARD continued from page 23

in Murray Hill, NJ, rising from the position of salesman to become chairman and CEO of the company prior to his retirement in the mid 1990s. He has also served on the boards of several other publicly held companies, including Electro-Nucleonics, Inc., Summit Bancorporation and Electro-Biology, Inc.

A native of Philadelphia, PA, he graduated from Siena College in Loudonville, NY, with a bachelor's degree in economics. He is also a graduate of Harvard University's Advance Management Program, and served in the US Army as a 1st Lieutenant of artillery in Korea. During his long career with C.R. Bard, Inc., he was active in civic affairs, serving on a number of boards of various organizations, including as a trust-

ee of his alma mater, Siena College, and on the board of trustees of Overlook Hospital, and Atlantic Health Systems. He was also a trustee for the Hemophilia Association of New Jersey, and was awarded that organization's Humanitarian Award in 1988. The National University of Ireland awarded him an Honorary Doctorate of Laws Degree in 1993.

He and his wife Sally moved to Highlands in 1999. Since he has been in Highlands, he has served on the board of the Highlands Community Foundation and continues to play an active role in Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, where he is on the church council and a lector as well as a Eucharistic minister.



# • SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

## Seeds of reality



Rev. Brian Sullivan  
Episcopal Church of the  
Incarnation

Our lives are surrounded by reality, the trees turning bright colors, the children on the Main Street for Halloween, the friends next door, and the extended family visiting for the holidays. Then there is the reality we read in the newspaper, the ideas exchanged by political parties, our houses filled with things, and the investments we make for the future. While both these lists are real, there is one list that contains a reality goes to the base of our very essence. It is the one based on love. It is found in creation, relationships, and family.

Love is the thing that contains an eternal, primary, and significant source of reality. The other "realities" are simply temporal, secondary, and trivial.

The word love may bring to mind feelings or pie-in-the-sky ideas. But look at the two lists: creation, family, and friends were all created out of love. Creation exists because of the love of our Creator. Our families exist because of the love we had for our spouse. Friends exist because of the love we have for others.

When we focus ourselves on love, suddenly things begin to come into focus. Love is the reality that connects everything that exists. Love is what brings us together, makes us realize we are all connected. Love gives us a foundation to build our lives.

All of us hold this seed of love. It was there from the beginning. The seed of love can be watered, fed and tended. It is where the beauty of humanity builds openness, forgiveness, kindness, gentleness and peace. It is also true that we have other seeds that can grow into hard-heartedness division, hatred, anger and war.

Given free will, we have a choice about which seeds to feed, water and tend. If you choose to cultivate the reality of love, I suggest surrounding yourself with friends who exemplify this reality, find a place to learn how to connect to the source of this reality, and read about the reality of love.

I am sure many of you have heard about the one person who best exemplified this reality. He taught against making love into a religion with authorities and religious prescriptions. He taught us to look for love in its simplest form. His very presence brought the purest form of love to others, literally healing them from illness. He spent time with the oppressed, the sick, the downtrodden, even those living in the opposite reality of love. He made friends everywhere he went. He even gave those friends the greatest gift one can give another friend, his life. It was this ultimate gift, which made love a reality to the world. Thus he turned fiction into reality, or as you may have heard it: he turned death into life.

•See SPIRITUALLY page 11

# • PLACES OF WORSHIP •

## BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

## BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

## CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

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

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 10 a.m. - Worship

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

## CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329  
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## CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

3rd & Spring Streets

Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday testimony meeting 7 p.m.

Study room open Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

## CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

Prayer - 6:30 p.m.

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

## COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;  
6:30 p.m. High School Group

Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m. Supper (free for kids 8th grade  
and under); 6:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study; 6:30 p.m.  
programs for students.

Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan - Rector: 526-2968

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

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

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

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

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

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

4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

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

10:30 A.M. Daughters of the King

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

## FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

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

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

(nursery provided)

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

Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by children's

Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr 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 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. Mark Kayser, Interim Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Associate Pastor 526-3175

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

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - Seekers

Choir - 7

## HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

## HIGHLANDS 7TH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Wednesday evening prayer & Bible Study

Call Lloyd Kidder at 526-9474

## HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

5 p.m. Youth Group

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

studies; 6:15 - Adult choir

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

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

## HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell

2152 Dillard Road - 526-9741

Sundays: Worship/Communion - 10:30

## LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD

Services at the Church in the Wildwood in Horse

Cove. Sundays at 7 p.m. through Labor Day. Dress is

casual. Old fashioned hymn-sing.

## MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

8 miles south of Highlands on N.C. 28 S in Satolah

Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130

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

Choir - 6 p.m.

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

## MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin 369-6871

Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

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

## OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC

CHURCH

Rev. Tien, Priest

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass - 11 a.m.

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

(through last Saturday of October)

## SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

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

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.

## SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

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

Evening Worship - 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

## SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study - 7

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

828-369-3633

Lay Led Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Sundays: Worship - 11 a.m.

## WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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



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526-0490



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**Full Swing Indoor Golf**  
\$50/hr.  
10-5 Mon-Sat  
(or by appt. before 10 and after 5)  
**Full line of Ladies & Men's MacGregor Clubs**  
**Adidas Apparel & Shoes and Hi-Tec Shoes**

468 Carolina Way • Highlands • 526-9292



The house, located at 424 Big Bearpen Road, is a two-story log cabin built around 1925 by Joe Webb for Rucker L. Ragland

## HHS selects Christmas Showhouse

The Highlands Historical Society has just announced its selection of an historic home for use as its 2007 Christmas Showhouse.

The house, located at 424 Big Bearpen Road, is a two-story log cabin built around 1925 by Joe Webb for Rucker L. Ragland. The home, now owned by Tom and Vicki Chambers, sits on a large wooded lot that still boasts the spring that once provided drinking water and cooling for food as was the custom of the time. Some of the furniture in the house was also crafted by Joe Webb and his stepson, Furman Vinson.

The Christmas Showhouse will be open to visitors from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, December 1 and 2. The

Historical Society hopes that all Highlanders and their visitors will view the Christmas Parade, then go to the Civic Center on N. 4th Street to be shuttled to the Showhouse. Highlands merchants and individuals are busy now planning Christmas decorations that are appropriate for this country home or for any home in the mountains.

Tickets to the Christmas Showhouse are \$15 each and will soon be available at Country Club Properties, Cyrano's Bookshop and Macon Bank. All proceeds will benefit the work at the Highlands Historic Village, including the Museum and Archives, the Prince House and the Bug Hill Cottage.

## • HOSPITAL BOARD NEWS •

### Summary of Combined October 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 its most recent meeting on Thursday, Oct. 25.

Board members began their October meeting with a brief field trip, touring the new Nuclear Medicine Suite in the hospital's Radiology Department. Remodeling was completed earlier this month and technicians began installing and tuning up the nuclear medicine camera last week. Radiology Manager Laura Ammons and local cardiologist Carl M. Curtiss, MD, FACC, answered questions about the technology and what it will mean for area pa-

tients. Nuclear medicine technology is used to diagnose a number of ailments and diseases, particularly malfunctioning gallbladders and coronary artery disease. The state-of-the-art equipment is expected to be in operation by Nov. 1.

Back in the board room following the tour, members heard a brief report from Dr. Jim Rothermel, chairman of the Physician Recruitment Committee, who said new general surgeon F. Augustus Dozier, MC, FACS, will begin his practice here on Monday, Nov. 5. The hospital continues to interview other general surgeons who could provide additional coverage in conjunction with Dr. Dozier. Several candidates have recently visited the hospital and some are

•See HOSPITAL NEWS page 27



## ... HOSPITAL NEWS continued from page 26

slated for second visits over the course of the next few weeks.

Chief Financial Officer Mike Daiken presented the financial report for September, which showed a slight loss before some one-time write-offs, mostly to clean up long-standing carryovers. Board members also approved the hospital capital budget for the 2007-08 year. That budget calls for spending up to \$714,000 for equipment during the year ahead, more than half of it to replace the conventional x-ray and fluoroscopy unit in Radiology.

Program and Facilities Committee Chairman Julian Franklin told board members that the committee continues to look at possible ways the hospital could work with a town ad hoc housing committee on ways to address both the hospital's and the community's need for employee housing. The other major topic currently before the committee is the proposed new medical office building in Cashiers, he said. Architects are still in the process of developing the plans for that site, located on NC 107 North.

Vice President of Operations Frank Leslie presented a report from the Performance Improvement Committee evaluating the hospital's performance in 22 areas of operations over a 21-month period. The hospital continually monitors both patient care, safety and other operational indicators, and systematically encourages projects to improve performance.

During his administrator's report, President and CEO Ken Shull told the board that he is in the process of hopefully finalizing a contractual relationship with a new gastroenterologist, who could begin practice here by the first of the year.

Shull also presented a graph showing the level of support provided to the hospital by the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation over the past five years, as well

as the amount being requested from the Foundation for the coming year. He pointed out that contributions from the Foundation for hospital operations has remained fairly consistent over the five-year period, even though the hospital has un-

dergone some difficult financial times since it has been without general surgery and gastroenterology. Shull said operational deficits are not draining the Foundation as some critics have claimed. In fact, the Foundation's assets have actually increased overall in the last two years. Combined

contributions for both operations and capital needs have fluctuated greatly in the past five years, depending on whether major building projects were occurring. The hospital has not had to call on the Foundation for major capital support in the last two years.

## Actions speak louder than words

It is often taken for granted how our actions are viewed by others, and that they speak louder than words. However, our words certainly can speak volumes.

We all need to set the right examples for our youth, always, but especially during festive seasons by not drinking and driving, consuming alcoholic beverages on our town streets and sidewalks or carrying open alcohol containers (cups, bottles, etc.).

These actions are not only open for interpretation and often send the wrong messages, but they are also illegal in our state and town.

Let's all make informed, responsible decisions during festive occasions and the upcoming holiday season.

— Chief Bill Harrell, Highlands PD

## Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Is Proud To Welcome General Surgeon Gus Dozier, MD, FACS

### Offices Opening Monday, Nov. 5

**Mountain Medical & Surgical Group**

*Jane Woodruff Clinic, Suite 104*

*209 Hospital Drive, Highlands, NC 28741*

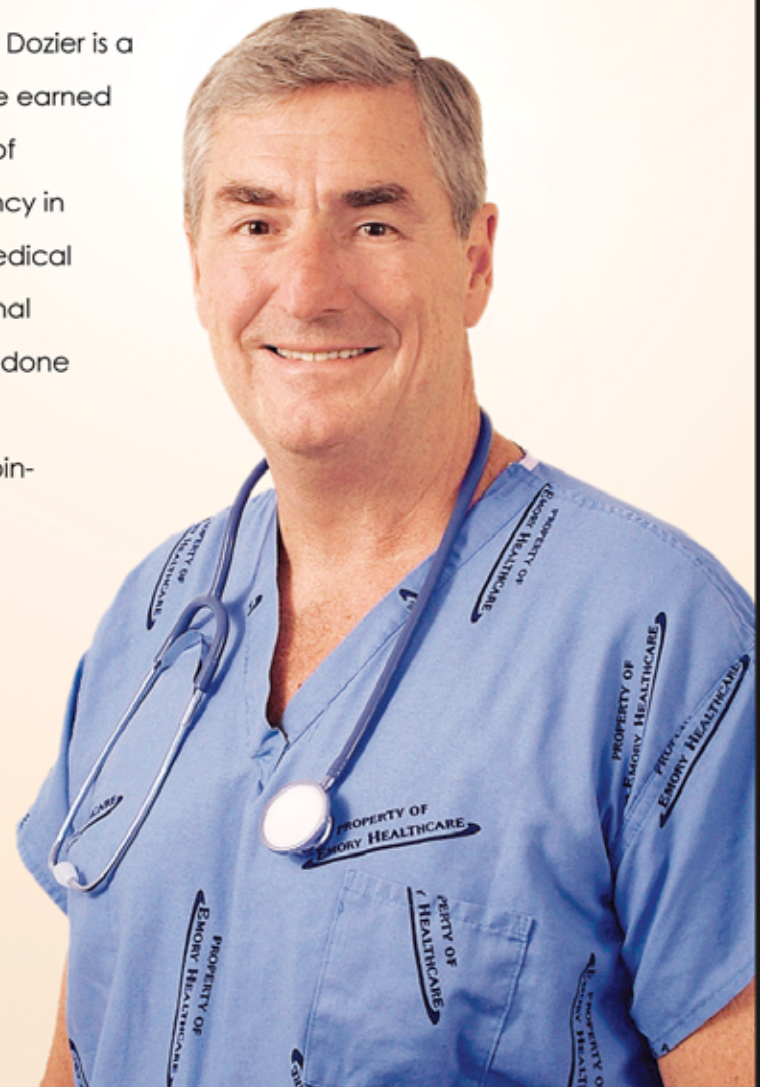
**For Appointments, Call (828) 526-2371**

Certified by the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Dozier is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, and completed his residency in general surgery at Atlanta's Georgia Baptist Medical Center and affiliated hospitals. He has additional certification in laser and laparoscopy, and has done postgraduate study in diseases of the liver and pancreas, trauma and critical care, and gastrointestinal surgery. He is also an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Georgia.



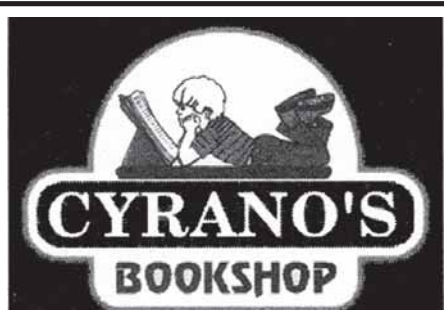
**Highlands-Cashiers**  
**H O S P I T A L**

[www.highlandscashiershospital.org](http://www.highlandscashiershospital.org)





## • UPCOMING EVENTS •



390 Main Street • 526-5488

### Upcoming Book Signings

**Saturday, Nov. 3**

Thomas German  
"The Caucasian Dove"  
1-3 p.m.

**Friday, Nov. 9**

Robert Morgan  
"Boone: A Biography"  
Noon-1:30 p.m.

**Friday, Nov. 9**

Brent Martin  
"Poems from Snow Hill  
Road"  
1:30-3 p.m.

### Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin  
524-2076

**Nov. 2-8**

**BEE MOVIE rated PG**

Mon – Thurs:(4:30), 7  
Fri: (4:30), 7, 9:10

Sat & Sun: (2), (4:30), 7, 9:10

**AMERICAN GANGSTER rated R**

Mon – Thurs:(4), 7:30  
Fri: (4), 7:30

Sat & Sun: (4), 7:30

**MICHAEL CLAYTON rated R**

Mon – Thurs:(4:20), 7:10  
Fri: (4:20), 7:10, 9:20

Sat & Sun: (2:10), (4:20), 7:10, 9:20

**SAW IV rated R**

Mon – Thurs:7:15  
Fri: 7:15

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

**30 DAYS OF NIGHT rated R**

Mon – Thurs:(4:15),  
Fri: (4:15), 9:15

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

#### On-going

- November auctions at Scudder's Galleries Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. Viewing from Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 352 Main St.

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

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

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

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

- Live music with Angie Jenkins, Friday and Saturday nights at Old Clayton Inn on Main Street in Clayton.

- 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](http://www.ncmana.org).

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

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

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

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

#### First Mondays

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

#### Every Monday

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

#### Every Tuesday

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

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

- 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 Wednesday

- "The Bible Tells Me So" at 6:15 p.m. at the Highlands United Methodist Church. The assigned readings for each week are taken from the book, "The Bible Tells Me

So: uses and abuses of Holy Scripture" by Jim Hill and Rand Cheadle. This book is currently out-of-print so copies of each reading assignment will be handed out each week. The study will meet in the Fellowship Hall — beginning promptly at 6:15 and will last approximately one hour.

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

- Men's interdenominational Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

#### Every Third Wednesday

- Study sessions at the Universal Unitarian Fellowship Hall in Franklin. A \$5 soup-supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Study sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 828-524-6777 or 706-746-9964.

#### Every Thursday

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

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

- Women's Bible Study at 9:30 am - 11:45 am at Community Bible Church. Beth Moore's **Believing God**. All women are invited.

#### Every Saturday

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

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

#### Every Friday

- The Girls' Clubhouse meets in the school cafeteria 3-4:30 p.m. All 6-8 grade girls are welcome. Come have fun while serving others. For more information, call Kim Lewicki 526-0782.

#### Saturday, Nov. 3

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Tom German signing "The Caucasian Dove" from 1-3 p.m.

- The Macon County Public Health flu vaccination clinics for adults and healthy children age 9 and older. Appointments are not needed for these clinics and vaccine will be given on a first come, first served basis. Individuals unable to wait in line may have someone wait in line for them and a nurse will take vaccine to their vehicle 9 a.m. to noon. at the Highlands Civic Center in Highlands. The cost for the vaccine is \$25.

The health center will bill Medicare and Medicare replacements, BCBS, and Cresent, so bring your card for these. Free vaccine for high-risk children and pregnant women will be available at a later date. This includes all children 6 to 59 months of age and those with certain medical conditions. For more information about flu clinics, call the Macon County Public Health Center at 349-2081.

#### Sunday, Nov. 4

- High Mountain Squares will host their After Halloween Dance from 1:30-5 p.m. at the Macon County Community Building on Georgia Rd (441S), Franklin, NC. The caller will be Gary Monday from Asheville, NC. Sandy & Kit Brown from Murphy, NC will cue rounds. We dance Modern Western Style square dancing and rounds. All visitors are welcome. For more information call: 349-0905, 369-8344, or [www.highmountainsquares.org](http://www.highmountainsquares.org).

#### Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 8-11

- 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.

#### Friday, Nov. 9

- At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Robert Moyer signing "Boone – A Biography" from 12-1:30 p.m. and Brent Martin signing "Poems from Snow Hill" from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

#### Saturday, Nov. 10

- At The Instant Theatre, musicians Freddy Bradburn and Sylvia Sammons will perform at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Reservations are suggested. Call 828-342-9197 for further information. Refreshments are sold at each event. Check for everything ITC by visiting: [www.instanttheatre.org](http://www.instanttheatre.org).

- The fourth annual Great Smoky Mountain Book Fair, a fundraiser for the Jackson County Library building fund, will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sylva's First United Methodist Church.

- American Red Cross Blood Drive at Memorial United Methodist Church (4668 Old Murphy Road, Franklin) 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call 349-3254 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors can enter a drawing for 2 Delta Air Lines domestic round-trip tickets! Vol-

### HCP Auditions for 'Lend Me a Tenor'

Highlands Community Players will have open auditions for *Lend Me a Tenor* By Ken Ludwig

Directed by Annette Coleman on Sunday, Dec. 2 from 2-6 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 3 from 5-9 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center, Chestnut Street, Highlands NC.

This clever comedy requires four

women and three men ranging in ages twenties to sixties. One man must sing.

Rehearsals will begin on Monday, Jan. 7, 2008. Performance dates are Feb. 28 & 29 and March 1 & 2 and March 7, 8, & 9, 2008.

Scripts are available at the Hudson Library in Highlands. For questions or more information please call: 828.526.5440



## • UPCOMING EVENTS •

unteer blood and platelet donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh no less than 110 pounds. It is safe to give blood every 56 days and platelets every two weeks. All volunteer blood donors must show a photo ID. To find a convenient place to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

• "An Enchanted Evening" sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Franklin. Performances by harpist Valerie Von Pechy-Whitcup and Classical Guitarist, Michael Waters. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 85 Sierra Dive, off Lakeside Drive in Franklin. Call 524-6777 or 526-8971 or 342-0546 for tickets.

### Friday & Saturday, Nov. 16-17

• ITC presents David Milford and Madeleine Davis in a staged reading you do not want to miss, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* by Mark Twain at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Reservations are suggested. Call 828-342-9197 for further information. Refreshments are sold at each event. Check for everything ITC by visiting: [www.instanttheatre.org](http://www.instanttheatre.org).

### Friday, Nov. 16

• American Red Cross Blood Drive at Angel Medical Center (120 Riverview Street, Franklin), 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 369-4166 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors can enter a drawing for 2 Delta Air Lines domestic round-trip tickets! Volunteer blood and platelet donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh no less than 110 pounds. It is safe to give blood every 56 days and platelets every two weeks. All volunteer blood donors must show a photo ID. To find a convenient place to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

### Tuesday, Nov. 20

• American Red Cross Blood Drive at The Chef and His Wife (Iotla Street, Franklin) 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please call 231-1372 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors will receive a coupon for a dessert from The Chef and His Wife and can enter a drawing for 2 Delta Air Lines domestic round-trip tickets! Volunteer blood and platelet donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh no less than 110 pounds. It is safe to give blood every 56 days and platelets every two weeks. All volunteer blood donors must show a photo ID. To find a convenient place to donate, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

### Saturday, Nov. 24

• At Cyrano's Bookshop author Mary Kay Andrews signing three books from 1-3 p.m.

• At Instant Theatre the second annual Tree Lighting Dance at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$2.50 for children. No reservations are necessary. Call 828-342-9197 for further information. Refreshments are sold at each event.

## "Yes everyone, there really is entertainment in Highlands after the last leaf falls"

The Instant Theatre Company (ITC) brings an eclectic variety of entertainment this November to "the third largest theatre in Highlands NC," the Studio on Main. On Nov. 10 at 8 p.m., Freddy Bradburn and Sylvia Sammons will play and sing on a delightful double bill.

Freddy Bradburn was one of the most popular singer-songwriters in the ITC's Song-Writers-in-the-Round series. His song writing is unique and original, and his amusing song *Love in the Same Old Skin* will have you in the aisles. Freddy is an award winning songwriter, his song *Cartoonland* won best song in the Mountain Stage New Song Festival. His songs are little movies with great special effects. He is insightful, touching and hilarious. Freddy is an instructor in songwriting, story telling, and southern culture at McDowell Technical Community College and lives in Marion, NC.

Sylvia Sammons is well known to old time Highlanders. For eight years before moving to Highlands she toured by Greyhound bus, with her guide dog, from Boston to Miami, playing and singing her own compositions in the coffee houses that were then at the height of their popularity. She has some very funny stories about those touring days. Sylvia moved to Highlands in 1981 and opened a remarkable wood working shop "up on the hill" which she operat-



Musician Freddy Bradburn

ed until 2003. During the summer from 1990 through 2003 she gave weekly free concerts from her balcony above her shop. The Instant Theatre Company is very pleased to be able to introduce Sylvia Sammons to audiences who have never heard her music or experienced her wit.

Nov.16-17 at 8 p.m., ITC presents David Milford and Madeleine Davis in a staged reading you do not want to miss, *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* by Mark Twain. In these diaries, with his trademark charm and wit, Mark Twain tells the Garden of Eden story in the first person, allegedly deciphering the newly discovered diaries of the legendary father and mother of the human race. In Twain's "translation" Adam comes across as the

original couch potato, grumpily uninterested at first in his new female companion who keeps pestering him with her all-too-innovative ideas. Eve, by contrast, is the talkative, ever curious experimenter whose inquisitive nature prompts her to name all the animals in the garden, among other things. This is a funny and touching retelling, full of Twain's sarcastic humor, incisive intelligence, and subtle touches of pathos for the foibles of human nature.

November 24 it's the second annual Tree Lighting Dance. Directly following the Town Tree Lighting and choral singing in front of the Highlands United Methodist Church, Hurricane Creek will strike up the band for a merry, seasonal dance sponsored by Carolina Eyes, Highlands new complete eye care center in Wright Square.

Tickets for the evenings with Freddy & Sylvia and *The Diaries of Adam and Eve* are \$15, reservations are suggested. Tickets for the Tree Lighting Dance are \$10 for adults and \$2.50 for children. No reservations are necessary. Refreshments are sold at all events. The Studio on Main is located at 310 Main Street Oak Square, upstairs. An elevator is available nearby. Call 828-342-9197 for further information.

## ... STORMWATER continued from page 1

ban water quality impacts, and address flooding and hydraulic issues.

Most of these stormwater control issues are remedial in nature but commissioners also want ordinances in place to deal with future commercial and residential development.

After a meeting with McGill in July, the town outlined areas of importance – mainly modification to the outlet structures of three existing lakes – Harris, Linderwood at the Biological Station and Tudor Lake at Mill Creek Village.

The idea is that modifications will maximize flood storage capacities and reduce peak flow rates and flow velocities of stormwater runoff in the Mill Creek drainage basin.

Johns presented the committee with a "Project Scope of Services for Hydrologic/Hydraulic Lake Analysis" with an initial price tag of \$15,000. But Johns said that price could decrease if the town could supply a one-foot contour map so his firm wouldn't have to produce it.

By the end of the meeting, however, the initial scope had expanded to a system-

wide solution including Harris Lake and areas north.

Johns said the town would be more likely to get Clean Water Management Trust Funds if it applies for a system-wide solution rather than a piecemeal one.

"Clean Water likes to look at a whole-istic approach rather than spot fixes," he said.

Lamar Nix said that made more sense anyway. "It's like a domino effect or links in a chain," he said. "When one area breaks down it adds to the flow of the next."

With that in mind, the committee asked Johns to resubmit a scope of services to include lake analysis, a stream analysis, culvert analysis, construction costs, and the cost to remove debris from streams and culverts that currently blocks flow throughout town. In addition the committee wants a stormwater ordinance that could be blended into the town's zoning ordinance as quickly as possible.

Johns said he'd have the revised scope back by the end of next week.

Nix and Commissioner Ross pushed for inclusion of the stormwater ordinance

in the town's ordinance. "We're way behind on this," said Ross.

Nix suggested even a rough draft ordinance so when the town's new planner finally does arrive, he or she will have something to work off immediately. Nix said, and Johns agreed, that many towns and cities charge impact fees of developers and a "rainwater" tax of citizens so municipalities can easily address infrastructure issues concerning stormwater as they arise.

Johns said those fees would be incorporated into the stormwater ordinance.

Clean Water Management Grant applications are accepted once a year in March and recipients learn mid-November of allocations.

Since the town is hoping to use grant money to install stormwater controls, it's not likely anything will happen for at least a year.

The committee said its recommendation to the Town Board will include the comprehensive scope, stormwater ordinance inclusion in the zoning ordinance as soon as possible and help from McGill with the Clean Water Trust Fund grant application.



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## • STATE AND FEDERAL POLITICS •

### Various legislation passes in the House

#### By Congressman Heath Shuler

Last week the House of Representatives again took up legislation that would reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program. This compromise legislation, H.R. 3963, was put together by Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Charles Grassley (R-IA), along with Democrats and some House Republicans.

H.R. 3963 addressed many of the concerns that House Republicans had expressed during the debate of the previous SCHIP legislation, which President Bush had vetoed.

This compromise bill provides financial incentives only to states enrolling uninsured children who are eligible for Medicaid are enrolled in that program. Enrollment in SCHIP remained limited to chil-

dren of families with an income below 300%.

The compromise SCHIP legislation also further strengthened provisions that prevent illegal immigrants from receiving benefits. Finally, H.R. 3963 phased out childless adults in the program over one year – faster than the original SCHIP legislation requirement of two years.

It is unacceptable and immoral that the greatest nation on the Earth has over 9 million children living without the health care they need. Ensuring that every American child is able to receive that care is an issue we will continue to fight for in this Congress.

The bill passed the House, again with strong bipartisan support, by a vote of 265-142.

Another bill that passed the House last week was H.R. 1483, which authorized the creation of nine new National Heritage Areas. National Heritage Areas (NHA) are areas with important natural, cultural, historic, and recreational values. The areas tell important stories about our Nation and help Americans fully understand our history.

In Western North Carolina, the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area is a perfect example of how important these areas are. Our NHA encompasses the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and the Qualla Boundary of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The NHA highlights our landscape, crafts, music, and Cherokee culture.

H.R. 1483 passed the House with tremendous bipartisan support, 291-122.

The House also passed H.R. 505, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, with bipartisan support by a vote of 261 to 153.

H.R. 505 provides a process for the reorganization of a single Native Hawaiian government and reaffirms the special political and legal relationship between the United States and Native Hawaiians. The bill establishes a process to form a Native Hawaiian governing entity that could negotiate with the state and federal government on behalf of the indigenous people of Hawaii. Since the annexation of the Territory of Hawaii, Native Hawaiians, Hawaii's indigenous peoples, have been treated by Congress in a manner similar to American Indians and Alaska Natives. This legislation codifies the Federal relationship with Native Hawaiians, as expressed in over 160 laws.

### Get flu shots Nov. 3 in Highlands

On Saturday, Nov. 3, the Macon County Public Health Center will be giving flu shots at the Highlands Civic Center from 9 a.m. to noon.

Individuals unable to wait in line may have someone wait in line for them and a nurse will take vaccine to their vehicle.

The vaccination clinics are for adults and healthy\* children age 9 and older. Appointments are not needed for these clinics and vaccine will be given on a first come, first served basis.

The cost for the vaccine is \$25. The health center will bill Medicare and Medicaid replacements, BCBS, and Cresent, so bring your card for these.

\*Free vaccine for high-risk people will be given at a later date.

For more information about flu clinics, call the Macon County Public Health

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### HELP WANTED

#### **COMPUTER VOLUNTEER NEEDED AT ART CENTER**

Calling all techies: the Bascom-Louise Gallery is in need of a volunteer to help the non-profit art center with its computers. From networking to printer issues to backing up their computers, the art center could use an extra person to volunteer his or her time to help. The art center also needs a wide range of other volunteers to help with several different areas: gallery docents, hospitality workers, gallery shop workers, clerical assistants, visitor services, library assistants, teaching assistants and Movers and Shakers (those who help with prop building, landscaping and other indoor and outdoor

physical activities). For more information on volunteer opportunities, call (828) 526-0207.

#### **HIGHLANDS FALLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGER**

Position involves overseeing office administrative activities, operation and maintenance of water and sewer utilities systems, roads, landscaping, security, and new and renovation home construction. Submit resume and three references to [hfcsearch@yahoo.com](mailto:hfcsearch@yahoo.com) or by mail to HFCA Search Committee, PO Box 128, Highlands NC 28741.

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH** is currently accepting resumes for a full-time office position. Computer skills, people skills and creative abilities are needed. Call for more info 526-4685.

#### **HOUSEKEEPER AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL AND FIDELIA ECKERD LIVING CENTER.**

Full-time position. Hours are from 7:00am to 3:30pm. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Experience in hospital cleaning preferred. Other cleaning experience helpful. Must be able to communicate and follow instructions in English, both oral and written. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at [www.hchospital.org](http://www.hchospital.org).

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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 31

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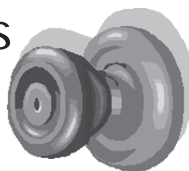
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**LOOKING FOR A HOUSEKEEPER?** Call: Manuela at 526-9586 (Highlands) Raquel Dugan at 524-4052 (Franklin) also, Experienced Truck Driver Seeks Full Time Employment: Please call 828-524-4052, or call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290.

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**DAYLIGHT BASEMENT APARTMENT** – One year lease, 3 minutes from H-C Hospital. Recently renovated. Fully furnished. 1 bed, 1 bath, kitchen, dining room, living room, W/D, cable connection, fireplace. \$600 includes water, sewer, electricity. Single-family. References required. No pets. No smoking. Call Jim at 770-789-2489.

**ON MIRROR LAKE** – Charming 3 bed, 2 bath. Huge sunroom, stone fireplace, 3 decks, canoe, furnished. Available Nov-May. \$1500 a month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.

**COTTAGE FOR RENT** – 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/AC, FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$800. monthly plus utilities.

ties. Call 526-5939.

**HOUSE FOR SALE WITH "RENT TO BUY" OPTION** – In town. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 decks. \$975/month. Sales Price: \$259,000. Ownership arrangement negotiable. Call Jimmy at 970-819-3815.

**COMMERCIAL** – Warehouse, 1,000 sq. ft. Cashiers Road. Call 526-4154.

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**CUTE 3 BED/2 BATH** Mirror lake home \$1,350-\$1,550 + utilities a month, less than mile from Main Street. Call 770-977-5692

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

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

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**UPPER CLEAR CREEK ROAD AT CORNET LANE** 1.20+ acres less than 4 miles to Main Street. Paved Access. Some winter views 3 sided corner lot has old logging road as your driveway. \$62,500 Call 526-9021 or 787-2307.

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**DOG KENNEL.** 10' x 10' x 6', heavy gauge chainlink. Like New. \$175, was \$270. call 828.389.2722 Hayesville, NC

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**RECREATIONAL VEHICLE FOR SALE** – 2002 Discovery – 38P Cat 338 HP. Immaculate. Double Slide. Smoke/pet free. Original owner. All options Electric awnings. W/D. Six new batteries. Extended warranty. Brake Pro. 28,000 miles. \$98,000. Call 743-5593.

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**J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICES** – complete lawn and landscaping service, spring cleanup, gutter cleaning, under-brushing, tree removal, lot clearing, storm cleanup, rockwork, retaining walls, flowerbeds, firewood. 828-526-2251.

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

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

**C&C CONTRACTING** – We Get It Done — Small or Large – Remodeling, decks, doors, windows or the whole house! Call Art Doughty at 828-508-1360 Workmen's Comp, General Liability, References

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

**MARK'S SEDAN DRIVING SERVICE** – All airports – Atlanta, Asheville, scenic tours, parks, special occasions, restaurant trips, auto delivery. Town Car. Call 828-524-0424 or cell (239)-292-3623. 10/25

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

**UNIQUE BUSINESS FOR SALE** in Highlands. Established Market. Call 828-200-0061.

## LOST

**LOST DOG IN SHORTOFF ROAD AREA.** Australian Shepherd. Blue Merle. Female. No tale. No Collar. Needs seizure medicine. Reward. Call 704-560-2911 or 704-365-9614.

## PUPPIES FOR SALE

**BOXER/BULLDOG/SHEPHERD PUPPIES:** 2 male puppies for sale. One of a kind dog that can box, fight bulls, and guard your house! Mother is CKC boxer/bulldog and father is German Shepherd. \$200. each. Call 526-2465 after 5 p.m.





Full Service Property Care and Management  
Family owned, full-service property management and maintenance company

MHM will take care of all of your property needs:  
snow removal, housekeeping, bi weekly and monthly inspections, grounds keeping, holiday lights, pet sitting, concierge service, house sitting, winterizing your home, boat, car and more!

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Jeff Nickerson, owner-operator  
828-230-2989

## 7 Days A Week 24 Hours A Day...Even Holidays

We will locate, excavate and pump it!



Mention this ad & SAVE \$25

Roto-Rooter Plumbing & Drain Cleaning of Highlands and Cashiers now offers septic tank pumping, drain field cleaning and septic field location.

Think your drainfield needs replacing?

The majority of drainfield problems occur due to build up in the drain lines. Roto-Rooter can clean lines, saving you thousands of dollars when compared to replacing lines.

Based in Highlands • Call 526-8313 • Free Estimates

## • REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS •

PIN, ADDRESS, GRANTEE, DATE, SALE, GRANTOR, ASSESSED VALUE

### TOWN OF HIGHLANDS

• 0503490, 10 OAK LN, BASCOM-LOUISE GALLERY CORP, 9/20/2007, \$250,000., BUTLER EVERLY C TRUSTEE, \$217,900.

• 0500360, LOT 325 CHESTNUT ST, HELMS RAY DOUGLAS JR, 10/9/2007, \$225,000., HARRIS LUCIEN III TRUSTEE, \$226,630.

• 0549850, 495 SPRUCE ST, HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY THEATRE INC., 9/25/2007, \$0., HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY THEATRE INC., \$1,155,650.

• 0504346, 563 ARNOLD RD, GILLFILLAN SIEGLINDE KC/O SIEGLINDE & JOHN GILLFILLAN, 9/17/2007, \$835,000., SAWYER D JACK JR, \$508,730.

### HIGHLANDS TOWNSHIP

• 0503887, 707 HOLT RD LOT 8 PONDEROSA, SCHENCK ANNE M, 9/10/2007, \$675,000., PLATEAU PROPERTIES LLC, \$470,130.

• 0503589, MT MOORING DR UNIT 4, SCHMID MARGARET ELAINE, 10/10/2007, \$250,000., SCHMID THOMAS W, \$180,930.

• 0502602, 50 OLD FARM RD OFF SATULAH RD, FIFTY OLD FARM ROAD LLC, 10/4/2007, \$0., BRYSON JAMES P, \$305,080.

• 0502440, 197 & 201 CROWE DR, CROWE JOHN STEPHEN, 9/5/2007, \$308,000., CROWE MERLIN M, \$635,510.

• 0501046, 185 HAWKS NEST LN UNIT 7, BOWES FRANK T TRUSTEE, 9/26/2007, \$0., BOWES FRANK THOMAS TRUSTEE, \$55,360.

• 0516924, LOT 25 CULLASAJA CLUB, MOORE M DAVID C/O DARREN WHATLEY 10/9/2007, \$195,000., GRIFFIN CLAUDIA P, \$198,100.

• 0550052, HEDDEN LNOFF RD 1544, CHAMBERS THOMAS T, 10/1/2007, \$0., CHAMBERS OVERTON II & ISABEL, \$300,450.

• 0549919, BUCK CREEK RD, BARBER CLIFFORD LYLE, 9/17/2007, \$0., BARBER CLIFFORD LYLE, \$61,800.

• 0543579, SUMMIT TR LOT 7 GREYROCKS, BENNETT RICHARDA, 9/17/2007, \$0., HIGHGATE LLC, \$240,000.

• 0543433, 22 WILD PINE WAY LOT 2A WILDWOOD FOREST, CARR TIFFANY A, 9/4/2007, \$440,000. MORRISON MICHAEL, \$434,930.

• 0542758, 489 FLAT MOUNTAIN RD, KNOX FREDERICK W, 9/7/2007, \$1,080,000., GANS GILBERT J TRUSTEE, \$622,880.

• 0542759, FLAT MTN RD LOTS 21 & 22 TR 2 PRIMEVAL EST, KNOX FREDERICK W, 9/7/2007, \$1,080,000., GANS GILBERT J TRUSTEE, \$115,800.

• 0540861, 42 HOLT COTTAGE LN, BRANNEN JOHN J, 9/17/2007, \$385,000., LINCOLN TRUST CO TRUSTEE, \$375,360.

• 0505105, 85 CLEARVIEW LN, SMITH MARION III, 9/28/2007, \$225,000., ROBERTS JOHN D, \$224,970.

• 0505115, 148 WISTERIA LN, CASA SUENOS PROPERTIES LLC, 9/4/2007, \$0., ELLINS KARL, \$424,800.

• 0505051, 120 BALSAM LN HFCC, SHALHOOP M JACK, 10/1/2007, \$870,000., FOSTER CHARLES F, \$1,013,560.

• 0505053, BALSAM LN HFCC, SHALHOOP M JACK, 10/1/2007, \$870,000., FOSTER CHARLES F, \$41,550.

• 0504786, CLEARVIEW LN LOT 24, SMITH MARION III, 9/28/2007, \$225,000., ROBERTS JOHN D, \$7,400.

• 0538520, CLEARVIEW LN, SMITH MARION III, 9/28/2007, \$225,000., ROBERTS JOHN D, \$34,160.

• 0538536, OFF RD 1608 LOT 9 WALKINGSTICK FALLS, PROCTOR DONALD C, 9/19/2007, \$310,000., BLASI TRACEY MASON, \$382,500.

• 0538225, SR 1547 LOT 12 THE COTSWOLDS, BAMBERG LOUIS, 9/7/2007, \$0., THOMPSON JEFFREY C TRUSTEE, \$322,060.

• 0503941, OLD WALHALLARD, R.E.L. NO.4 LLC, 9/21/2007, \$270,000., LAYTON RUTH E, \$213,350.

• 0520914, 224 BERIT LN MIRRORMONT, LENNOX KENNETH W TRUSTEE, 9/28/2007, \$0., LENNOX BERIT L, \$980,870.

• 0503729, OFF RD 1620, WRIGHT FRANCES C, 10/9/2007, \$0., WRIGHT THOMAS B, \$2350,000.

• 0502940, 19 THORNHILL RD BROADVIEW ACRES, CAGLE JOHNNY L, 9/21/2007, \$350,000., TAULERE ALAIN, \$432,240.

## ... SNOW continued from page 19

town could have a water quantity problem.

Another problem related to siltation is the trihalomethanes (TTHMs) — by-products of the town's disinfection chemical, chlorine, that form due to a chemical reaction with organic matter. The shallow water and direct sunlight make the water warmer and more susceptible to algae growth which produces organic matter. As of July, the town is barely within allowable limits of chemical use to alleviate the problem.

DOT representatives have often said they would like to relinquish ownership of the roads because they are expensive to maintain and require a lot of attention.

"My understanding is that, once the town knows that the funds will be coming

from the state, the town will offer to accept the roads. Once the state transfers the roads to the town, the town can have them paved to existing dimensions," said Betz. "Otherwise, the state would have to pave them to its standards."

Betz said a paving contractor has not been selected. "Wesley Grindstaff, with NC DOT, alluded to the possibility that one of his paving crews might be able to do it and could be reimbursed by the town from funds that Senator Snow obtains."

Included in the letter to Basnight is a resolution accepted at the Town Board meeting, supporting and agreeing with the terms of the project.

The Town Board hopes to hear from Snow soon.



## • POLICE & FIRE •

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for the week of Oct. 22-31. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

**Oct. 22**

- A little past midnight, officers assisted a motorist on S. 4th Street..

**Oct. 23**

- At 3:49 p.m., officers responded to an accident in the parking lot of Duncan Oil.
- At 6 p.m., officers responded to a dog complaint on Foreman Road.
- At 9:32 p.m., officers responded to a verbal dispute at a residence on Dogwood Drive.
- At 6:10 p.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles on Carolina Way.
- A little past midnight, officers assisted the Sheriff's Dept. with a call about a prowler at a residence on N.C. 28.

**Oct. 24**

- At 6 p.m., David Michael Rogers, 44, of Franklin was arrested on a fugitive warrant..

**Oct. 26**

- At 7:50 p.m., a motorist at Third Street and N.C. 28 was cited for driving without a license.

**Oct. 27**

- At 1:05 a.m., a motorist at Main and Second streets was cited for speeding 32 mph in a 20 zone.
- At 12:20 p.m., officers responded to an accident at NC 28 and Fifth Street.

**Oct. 28**

- At 4 p.m., officers responded to a "gas drive-off" for \$11 at the Stop and Shop.
- At 10:45 a.m., officers responded to a two vehicle accident at Oak and U.S. 64 west.
- At 1:50 p.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 west and Hickory Hill was cited for speeding 52 mph in a 35 zone.
- Bernardo Olea Flores, 34, of Highlands, was arrested for simple assault, communicating threats and damage to property.

**Oct 30**

- At 3 p.m., a motorist at Mirror Lake Road and U.S. 64 west was cited for making an unsafe movement at the site of a two-vehicle accident. A motorist was also cited for driving without a license.

**Oct. 31**

- At 6:07 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Horse Cove Road.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Oct. 24-31

**Oct. 24**

- The dept. responded to a false fire alarm at a residence on Falls Court.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call on Hospital Drive where a man was having an allergic reaction. He was transported to the hospital.

**Oct. 26**

- The dept. responded to a report of a tree on fire on Buck Creek Road. It was unfounded.

**Oct. 29**

- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Gibson Street. It was cancelled en route.
- The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Azalea Court. The victim was transported to the hospital.

**Oct. 30**

- The dept. responded to a call of "smell of smoke" at Highlands Inn. It was due to a heater.

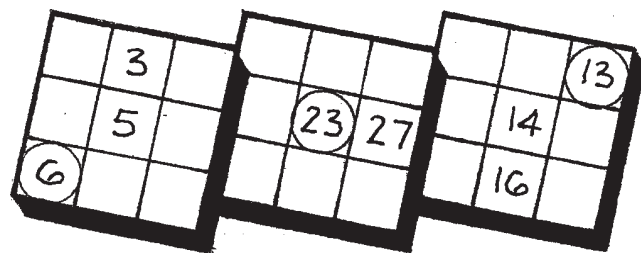
**NOTE:**

The Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. requests that all citizens display their 9-1-1 numbers at their residences. To know where to put them, call 526-3645.

## • FUN & GAMES •

### PseudoCube<sup>©</sup>

#BN4D - Level of Difficulty - Easy



#### THE SETUP:

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

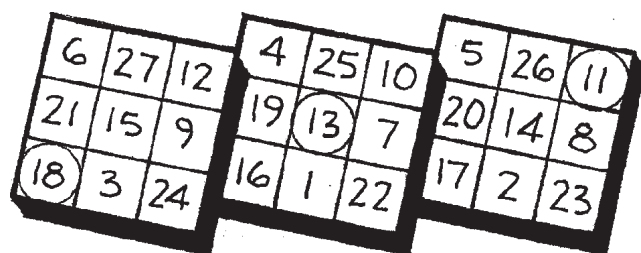
#### THE CHALLENGE:

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

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

Email: [pseudocube8@aol.com](mailto:pseudocube8@aol.com)

Solution to #AZ2C in Oct. 25 issue



### N-Cryptoku<sup>©</sup>

**Object:** Assign 9 **different** letters to each cell of 9 columns and 9 rows. In addition, nine 3 x 3 cells in the layout have the same nine **different** letters (this is similar to Sudoku but uses nine letters instead of nine numbers). A 'mystery word or phrase' using all nine different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different 'mystery word or phrase' (no spaces).

**How to Solve:** Determine the nine different letters among those given. Try to solve the mystery word using the clue given and write it in. Other small words will appear in the puzzle. As in conventional crossword puzzles, a list of meanings for these ACROSS/ DOWN words is given and number positions shown. Doing them will speed up your solution to the puzzle. Using your powers of induction, inference and insight, place missing letters in all blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or 3 x 3 cell.

#### MYSTERY WORD:

"Poetic Terms" (9 letters)

#### ACROSS

1. Hearing Organ (3)
2. Garden implement (3)
3. Came Together (3)
4. Man's Name (3)
5. Garden Tool (3)

#### DOWN

- 6..Land Diagram (3)
7. Foot appendage (3)
8. Highest Point (3)
9. Dine (3)
- 10.Mineral (3)

	<sup>6</sup> M			H	<sup>7</sup>		A	
H		E	R		O	P		<sup>8</sup> T
	P			A			H	
A	<sup>2</sup>	O	<sup>9</sup> E		R	T		P
<sup>3</sup>	E				P			R
R			<sup>4</sup> T	<sup>10</sup>		A		
	T			R			P	
P		M	H		S	R		A
	R			T		<sup>5</sup> O		

Solution to Oct. 25 puzzle

M	E	C	H	T	Y	I	S	R
I	T	R	S	E	M	Y	C	H
H	S	Y	C	R	I	E	T	M
Y	M	I	T	C	R	S	H	E
C	H	E	M	I	S	T	R	Y
S	R	T	Y	H	E	C	M	I
E	I	H	R	S	C	M	Y	T
T	C	M	E	Y	H	R	I	S
R	Y	S	I	M	T	H	E	C



