Volume 6, Number 16

PDF Version - www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, April 17, 2008

On-going

- Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.
- · At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1FIT.

Mondays

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

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

- · Live Music with Brad Vroon at Fireside Restaurant in Wright Square from 6-9 p.m. with Tapas Menu.
- · Al-Anon Meetings, noon in the First Presbyterian Church basement at Fifth & Main Street.

Friday & Saturday

· Live music at The Rib Shack every Friday and Saturday night from 7-10 p.m.

Saturdays

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

Sundays

· Live Music with Brad Vroon at Fireside Restaurant in Wright Square, noon-3 p.m.

Thursday, April 17

· Highlands School Talent Show is 6 7:30 p.m. and there will be a dinner benefiting the Highlands School Art Foundation which will begin at 5 p.m.

Fri.-Sat., April 18-19

· At ITC, Madeleine Davis and David Milford in "The Ice Breaker." Reservations are strongly suggested. Call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197.

Saturday, April 19

- · Earth Day at the Village Green in Cashiers on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 pm. It's FREE and will be held rain or shine.
- · At The Bascom, a "Regional High School" exhibition opens from 5-7 p.m. and runs through April 26.

Week of April 21

 The Town's Spring Cleanup Week when residents may arrange for the collection of white goods, such as old washing machines or refrigerators by calling the Town Office at 526-2118 during business hours, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
100	0	0
	روي	
68.44°F	57-39°F	64.44°F

Restaurant parking issue solved for now

Restaurant owners who need more parking to accommodate increased business, have a year's reprieve.

At the Wednesday Town Board meeting, commissioners agreed 3-2 to adopt Town Planner Joe Cooley's amendments to

the restaurant parking ordinance to include the use of public onstreet spaces and dual-use spaces to satisfy the seat-to-parking space

During the public hearing session of the meeting, both restaurant owners and business owners

spoke in favor of the proposed amendment.

Rick Siegel of 4 1/2 Street Inn said accommodating the restaurants is good for all businesses in town and will inspire future restaurants to open.

• See RESTAURANT page 19

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County bids out schools; too early to know effect on tax rate

The county is ready to bid out the East Franklin Elementary School expansion job and the new 5-6 school construction.

On Monday night, the Macon County Board of Education formally approved final plans for both projects at a special called meeting followed by approval by the County Commission at its

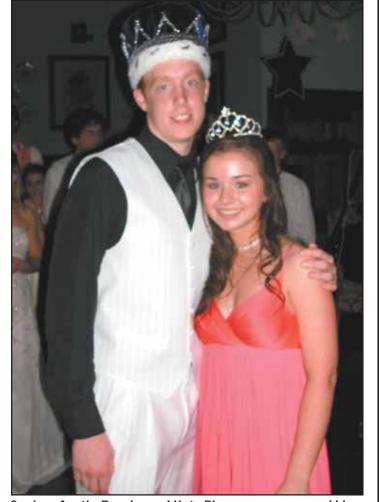
After a year of 67 presentations and planning meetings throughout the county aimed at developing a plan to address the county's educational facility needs, the bidding process is the next step toward construction.

With renovations funded through QZAB funds nearing completion at East Franklin Elementary School, both boards voted unanimously to move forward with expansion on that campus. Three new kindergarten classrooms and a new, full-size gymnasium will be built for the estimated cost of \$4.95 million.

The new 5-6 school will be constructed across the street from Macon Middle School on Clarks Chapel Road with an estimated cost of \$16.2 million

"Hopefully, the bids will come in much less than the projected costs of construction," said Superintendent Dan Brigman. • See SCHOOLS page 7

King and queen for the night



Seniors Austin Brooks and Katy Pierce were crowned king and queen of the prom Saturday, April 12 at Highlands Inn. For photos see page 6 Photo by Kim Lewicki

County match secures Sheriff Dept. Highway Safety grant

With a match from the councontinue the practice of purchasing traffic stop equipment with the goal of outfitting all its cruisers into the future.

At the April 14 Macon County, the Sheriff's Department can ty Commission meeting, Sheriff Robert Holland requested a \$36,750 match from the county toward the Governor's \$99,000 • See SHERIFF page 15

Town Board changing form of its government

Times are changing in Highlands and so is its means of gov-

At the April 16 Town Board meeting, the board voted unanimously to instruct Attorney Bill Coward to begin the process of changing the town charter from the Mayor-Council form of government to the Manager-Council form of government.

For about a year, Mayor Don **Mullen and Commissioners Amy** Patterson and Hank Ross have been discussing changing the form of government as well as meeting with town personnel and looking at the issues related to a potential management change.

The idea of change came from the management study the town enlisted from MAPS a little over a year ago which took a hard look at the organization of the town government.

Becky Vesey, with MAPS, said the making the decision to change formats depends on three things: the amount of services a town offers, not the size of the town; the number of employees; and whether a municipality is experiencing

"Above all else, we are looking at changing the form due to growth," said Commissioner Ross. Vesey said a community with a lot of growth puts 50% more pressure on employees compared to a • See GOVERNMENT page 18

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

What is a Chamber of Commerce?

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in response to the Forum editorial "Whose Money Is It?" in the April 10 edition of Highlands' Newspa-

A chamber of commerce is a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation of professionals, businesses and interested individuals working together to enhance the economic and socioeconomic health of their community. It is a catalyst agency that brings together forces, both public and private, in an effort to promote the orderly growth and development of the community. Its primary mission is to provide leadership and to promote a favorable business climate by working on issues of community wide interest.

Since the Spring of 1931, Highlands has had a continuously operating chamber of commerce. Many of Highlands' most influential business leaders have served as directors and presidents. Prior to 2005 and for several years the chamber along with the visitor center rented space in town hall until the town required the space to administer to the community's needs. As the town explores plans for a new town hall complex consideration is being given to contracting space to the chamber of commerce and visitor center which combined would require approximately 1,500 square feet to operate efficiently.

Over the course of its nearly eight decade existence the chamber's mission has remained consistent, however, its ever changing activities are influenced by the times in which it functions.

With the general decline of manufacturing and industry in Western North Carolina small business, seasonal homeownership, associated trades and tourism became increasingly important to many local economies. To Highlands, historically a resort community, these businesses were and remain critical to the success of the local economy.

In the mid 1980s, realizing the importance of tourism, Macon County successfully lobbied for legislative approval to impose a 3% room tax upon all county accommodations. The sole purpose of this tax is to promote travel and tourism to Macon County.

Upon Raleigh's approval to impose this tax, the county commissioners, in their best judgement, voted to distribute this tax money through the county's chambers of commerce with specific guidelines as to the proper expenditure of the funds and rules for accountability.

The tax money was not given to the chambers because they could not stand on their own, but because they were considered the best vehicle to accomplish the purpose for which the tax was intended. This process was legitimate then as it is

True, the chamber of commerce is not a visitor center. However, since 1986, the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, a private non-profit member funded organization, and the tourism promoting Visitor Center funded by the 3% room tax have worked closely together, but sepa-

They operate as separate businesses, with separate budgets and are separately audited annually by a certified public accountant the results of which are presented to the County Commissioners. The success of this program is in the numbers. What began as a modest revenue source for Macon County has grown to an estimated \$480,000 in the current fiscal year with approximately 60% of the collections generated in the Highlands area. What this tax, collected largely from non resident visitors, did for Highlands and Macon County in 2006 (2007 figures will be available in November 2008) willproduce \$111.16 million in visitor spending, an increase of 8.4% over 2005. It directly

provided 1,150 jobs for county residents and produced enough tax revenue to save each Macon county resident nearly \$450 in taxation. By any definition this is suc-

As times have changed, so has Highlands' reach. The Highlands economy reaches beyond its town borders. There are many interested parties in the local economy, not all of whom are physically situated within town limits. Nonetheless, they contribute significantly to the health of the local economy, a fact that was recognized several years ago, when chamber membership categories were expanded to recognize their contribution to the local economy by affording them the opportunity to join the chamber. Business membership within the Highlands town limits has remained stable with new members and departing members roughly equal. Currently, we have nearly 400 members. This number in itself reflects businesses recognition of the value of a chamber of commerce working on their behalf.

Highlands – a year round destination - yes, but not equally so throughout the

Many Highlanders remember when the season began Memorial Day weekend and ended promptly with the last fallen colorful leaf. Visitors are now seen and

guided by the Visitor Center every month of the year.

In 2007 more than 45,000 visitors found their way to the Highlands Visitor Center, although in much reduced numbers during the winter months. Even the local newspapers reflect the off season as the number of pages per edition is often half of what is printed during the height of the season.

Increased visitors to the plateau in what used to be the off season are the reason for festivities such as the Chamber and Visitor Center sponsored four-day long Culinary event in mid-November and the Christmas tree lighting and parade leading into December.

When visitor traffic is sufficient to justify payroll expense, the visitor center is open six days of the week and is manned by paid staff on weekends supplemented by our roving volunteer ambassadors who graciously welcome and assist visi-

The current sitting members of the chamber board of directors is reflective of this extension of the season as eight of the board members manage or operate businesses year round while only two close during the off season for brief periods. I can assure you that as Highlands changes the Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center will stand ready to provide the services required to promote the economy of Highlands. This is your Highlands Chamber & Visitor Center.

> Bob Kieltyka **Executive Director Highlands Area** Chamber of Commerce

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.

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'Child Safety Day' to be big event at **Highlands School May 31**

On May 31, the Highlands Police Department and the Highlands Fire & Rescue Department will present "Child Safety Day" at Highlands School.

Activities will include a bicycle rodeo, carseat inspections, fingerprinting and the Fire Safety Trailer.

During the event and after, the departments will be accepting new and gently used bicycle helmets and child booster seats.

• MILESTONES •

Dotson makes the grade

Miranda Lee Dotson has been placed on the Dean's list of Wake Forest University for the Fall 2007 semester. Miranda, a senior at Wake Forest, will graduate in May with degrees in communications and political science. She is currently serving an internship with FOX News in High Point, NC. Miranda is the daughter of Mary and John Dotson of Highlands and is a 2004 graduate of Highlands High



OBITUARIES

Alney H. Owens

Alney H. Owens, age 88, of Walking Stick Road, Clayton, GA died Wednesday, April 9, 2008. He had been in declining health for about a year and half. He was a native of Macon County, NC, and one of eight children of the late Thomas Riley and Rose Lee Owens. He was married to Ruth C. Owens, who died August 9, 1991.

Alney worked as a laborer all his life. He served in the CC Camps during the 1930s and worked from Georgia to California. He worked in construction and yard work until his 60s, then for the Forest Service until he was 85. He said, "I got so old I couldn't work hard, and I didn't want to steal their money." He attended Blue Valley Baptist Church. Alney was preceded in death by a son, Julius, who died April 13, 1987.

He is survived by one daughter, Alma Owens, of the home, and one son, Ellis Owens, and his wife Justine of Arlington, VA; one sister, Ora Sue Watson of Hildebran, NC; four grandchildren, Thomas, Clint, Kelli, and Elizabeth, four great-grandchildren, Nora, Christopher, Dallas and Gage.

Funeral services were held Saturday, April 12 at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands, with Rev. Oliver Rice and Rev. Walter Wilson officiating. Burial will be at Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Calvin Chastain, Jason Owens, Ronnie Owens, Brandon Picklesimer, Dennis Ivester, Kevin Nix, and Mack Chastain.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Louise M. Clark

There will be a memorial service for Louise M. Clark on April 19, 2008 at the Highlands United Methodist Church at 3 p.m. for those who would care to attend.

May's primary candidates explain platforms at League forum

By Sally Hanson

Reporter

April's League of Women Voters' meeting provided several political candidates the opportunity to speak about some important issues and their ideas for local and state government before the upcoming primary.

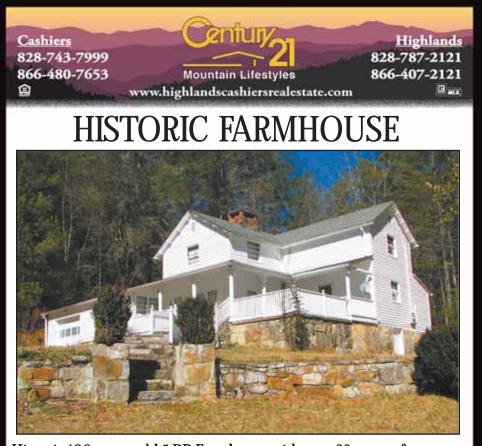
Avery Friedman, executive director of the Canary Coalition, is running against incumbent Phil Haire for the 119th District, which includes Macon, Jackson, Swain, and Haywood Counties. "I'm running because there are fundamental differences between where Haire and I stand on issues that I feel will define quality of life in western North

Carolina and beyond," he said.

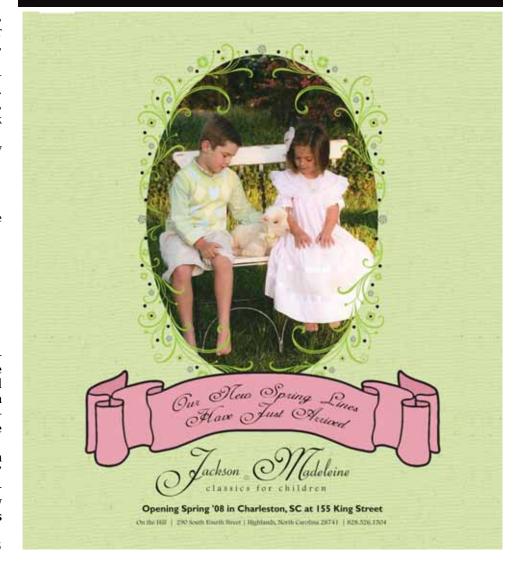
Some topics that Friedman wants to focus on are energy, air quality and climate change. "The Canary Coalition introduced the Clean Smokestacks Act" and Friedman stressed the importance of reducing mercury content, air pollution and greenhouse gases.

"One in three children in Western North Carolina has been diagnosed with asthma," Friedman said. "We need to reduce greenhouse gases by over 80% over the next few decades and invest in renewable resources like solar and wind power."

• See CANDIDATES page 5



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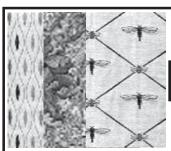
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LOOKING AT LIFE

Get 'Smart'

emember the television series "Get Smart" starring Don Adams? It was one of my favorites because I'm the kinda guy who also loved Peter Sellers in his "Pink Panther" movie series. That's my style of humor, making fun of cops who bungle their way through life. I actually knew some real-life Don Adams types. Inspector Clouseau...well, he's a study unto himself. The fact that Peter Sellers was a Frenchman made his movies even funnier. Here in America everyone loves

to laugh at the French. Not me! I have the utmost respect for French people because, not only can they take a joke, they are smarter than Americans. The fact that we Americans want to make war all the time while the French want to

make love all the time proves my point. While everyone hates America, everyone loves France, except maybe the Muslims. Also, while America may make awesome weapons, the French make awesome wine.

I know, I know, they built an entire city 12 feet under sea level, but don't forget they were drinking a lot of wine and having loads of sex back in those days. When a Frenchman has loads of sex, his brains drain from his head down to...well, you know.

Wait, here's more on how smart they are and we aren't. One hundred and twenty one years ago they sent us the Statue of Liberty, thinking they might want to honor our black Civil War soldiers. Hmmm, maybe not. For certain, immigration was the last thing on their minds. Today, rumors are flying about the first statue being a black woman with broken chains at her feet. Anyway, the French were smart enough not to put an inscription on the statue.

But we dumb Americans, having a burning desire to shoot ourselves in the foot, are not quite as smart. A New Yorker by the name of Emma Lazarus got our government to have her poem inscribed on the statue. While this might have been great for her ego, it proved disastrous for our country. It read: Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me: I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

I have no idea what that has to do with black Civil War soldiers. When the French heard about the inscription, they



Fred Wooldridge **Feedback** is encouraged! email:

askfredanything@aol.com

freaked out and said, "What are those crazy Americans doing now?" They're inviting everyone to live there? Are they crazy, or what? Now, because of ole Emma, we are overrun with immigrants while the French are laughing at us while sitting around sipping wine and making love. What were we thinking? A skillion immigrants and 121 years later, we are frantically building walls and sealing borders to keep everyone out and it's not working.

Maybe we should just relax, sip some wine and make love?

There's more. French engineers, just clowning around, of course, got together in Hambach, France and said, "Let's invent a really dumb, stupid looking car with lousy gas mileage and send it to the Americans; they'll buy anything. We'll disguise this dumb car by calling it the "Smart" car. The Americans will never know we did this to them because we'll get Mercedes Benz and the Swatch Company to put their labels on the car. When the Americans find they have been duped, they will blame the Germans and Swiss."

Soooo in early 2008 the *Smart* car arrived on our shores in New York Harbor. Did I see one of the cars wink at the Statute of Liberty as it passed? I predict these babies will sell fast, depending on how many Americans have a death wish. Some of the rich who own the larger SUVs will want to buy a Smart as a spare for the trunk of their car.

Word is spreading throughout the world about how dumb we have become. For example, to honor our current immigration policies, the Mexican government wants to erect a giant statue of one of its citizens sneaking over the border with illegal drugs in his pockets. Cool. Huh? I can't wait to see the inscription. How about, "There's no hope without dope?'

Finally, when Barack Obama becomes president, I am sure he will be in touch with France to find out whatever happened to the black Statute of Liberty with broken chains at her feet. Maybe we could negotiate a swap if we give them lots and lots of money! Circus music, please.

> • Read Fred online at www.highlandsinfo.com. scroll down, click on News.

Another View

Agendas are behind it all

arack Obama got into trouble last week when he said that voters cling to religion and guns because of Washington's inability to preserve and restore American jobs. He said that Americans are bitter.

In recent elections, Americans have, in increasing numbers, cast their votes for candidates who oppose abortion, same sex marriage, gun control, and stem cell research and who support capital punishment. A good many of those voters

are employed, and live, not in the rust belt, but in states which have enjoyed prosperity. These voters are worried about the direction America is taking. They long for the good old days, times that were largely illusionary, but which are nonetheless deeply etched in our national psyche.

No one championed the cause of same sex marriage when gays and lesbians cowered in the closet. Rolling back abortion rights was not an issue when frightened young women traveled back alleys to back rooms for dangerous, demeaning, and sometimes lethal, illegal terminations. There was no need to oppose stem cell research before development of the technology offered a glimmer of hope for life saving cures for chronic diseases.

Increasing numbers of guns in an increasingly violent society led some to question the intent and/or the relevance of the Second Amendment. Folks from the heartland, and beyond, terrified by societal evolution, were easy prey for an alliance between fundamentalist Christians and the Republican Party, a marriage of convenience which strengthened both — what the merger and acquisition guys call synergy.

Voters ignored troublesome issues like global warming, loss of American jobs, increasing poverty, a health care crisis, a crumbling infrastructure, and focused instead on a Constitutional amendment defining marriage, or legislation limiting abortion or banning stem cell research.

Christians and Republicans teamed up to distract voters from the problems of America and the legitimate role of government in a secular nation. The Republican Party wanted to make itself the majority party. Fundamentalists needed political muscle to create a Christian nation, to impose their moral view on the rest of us. Ûnlike radical Islamists, they had no desire to return to



Dr. Henry Salzarulo Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

the roots of their faith, no intention to sell everything and care for the poor, no thought of giving up their mega-churches, television revenues, and powerful friends.

Unlike the establishment of an "Islamic State," the dream of Muslim radicals, this "Christian State" would focus on a narrow agenda of symbolic issues which would expand the Republican base and empower the religious right.

The Democrats have finally caught on. Both Senators Clinton and Obama are talking about the importance of faith in their lives, although I'm certain that a good many Southern Baptists cringed at the image of Senator Clinton tossing back a shot and chasing it with a beer. Senator Clinton labeled Senator Obama an "elitist" and "out of touch" for his remarks about small town American voters clinging to guns and religion because of their

American voters should be bitter because of a cynical plan to hijack their votes. Citizens should be bitter, not because Washington is incapable of dealing with the nation's business, but because, with debts to pay to big business, big oil, the wealthy, and big religion, the government chooses to ignore the pressing problems of our time. At least, that's how it seems to me.

... CANDIDATES continued from page 3

Haire said that he is running for his sixth term in the House of Representatives, and he currently serves as co-chair of the House Appropriation Committee. The first topic he mentioned was how important it is to plan for the future growth of our state.

"According to North Carolina State Demographics we are projected to become the 7th largest state in the US. Right now we've passed New Jersey as the 10th largest state, and it is estimated that we are growing by 21 people an hour," Haire said.

"I was a prime sponsor of the Clean Air Act," Haire said. "Most pollution in western North Carolina comes from the Tennessee Valley and the upper Midwest. The Clean Air Act empowered the attorney general to act against the TVA to clean up old facilities," he said.

Haire also pointed out that he helped bring about a successful lawsuit against a

• See CANDIDATES page 10

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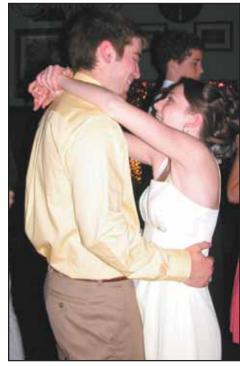
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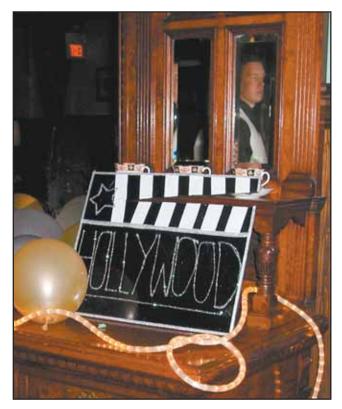
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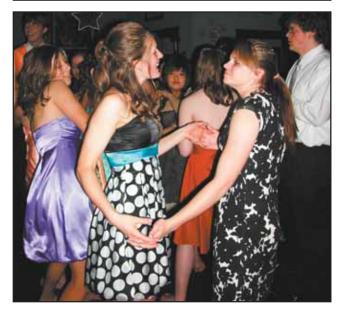






Shine Like
A Star
Photos by Kim Lewicki







Hnoroed were: Melvin "Pete" Penland, W.C. "Sonny" Burrell, Siler Slagle, Milles Gregory, Bob Carpenter, Clarence Mason, Bruce Bryant, Dolan Bates, Ralph Sanders, Raymond Shepherd, Jerry Sutton, Neville Bryson, Jerry Stewart, James Carpenter, Wayne Sheffield, Nelse Bates, Sutton Russell, Fred Munger, Jack Cabe, Mickey Duvall, Janet Greene, Harold Corbin, Mark West, Allan Bryson, Jay Dee Shepherd and Randy Gregory

Past commissioners honored during National County Government Week

Macon County celebrated National County Government Week (NCGW) April 6-12 hosting a reception honoring the 26 former living members of the Macon County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, April 10.

These members are Melvin "Pete" Penland, W.C. "Sonny" Burrell, Siler Slagle, Milles Gregory, Bob Carpenter, Clarence Mason, Bruce Bryant, Dolan Bates, Ralph Sanders, Raymond Shepherd, Jerry Sutton, Neville Bryson, Jerry Stewart, James Carpenter, Wayne Sheffield, Nelse Bates, Sutton Russell,

Fred Munger, Jack Cabe, Mickey Duvall, Janet Greene, Harold Corbin, Mark West, Allan Bryson, Jay Dee Shepherd and Randy Gregory

Current Board Members are Chairman Charles Leatherman, Vice-Chairman Ronnie Beale, Jim Davis, Brian McClellan and Bob Simpson.

Representatives from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, Region A Council of Government and elected state and local officials will be present. All citizens are invited to attend.

NCGW, sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo), was first celebrated in 1991 to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation's counties. Macon County is proud of the variety of services it provides to the community while maintaining the lowest tax rate in the State and invites the public to take a closer look at what the County does and the people behind the services provided.

Macon County is a member of

NACo, the only national organization that represents county government in the United States. NACo provides essential services to counties, advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public's understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money.

... SCHOOLS continued from page 1

"Any savings will be utilized for furniture and technology."

County Manager Jack Horton said it was important to get the bidding process moving. "It's necessary to have bids in hand before the final application for financing approval can be submitted to the N.C. Local Government Commission (LGC)," he said. "We have to have all required forms to Raleigh by the first week of June.

The bidding process timeline for the projects began April 15 when the two jobs went out to bid with a deadline for East Franklin of May 15 and the deadline for the 5-6 school of May 22.

Between May 26-30 the bids will be reviewed and the LGC package and contractor contracts will be formulated.

If all goes as planned, on July 14 crews will break ground on both projects.

Brigman said this culminates an extensive process among the community, county commission, school board and architects which began in earnest August 2007.

This outcome is not a spur of the moment, one-person plan, but instead, a collaborative process with ongoing input from a wealth of individuals who are genuinely concerned about the schools and the children of Macon County," said Brigman. "Hopefully, everyone will embrace the district's plan to improve our facilities and welcome the opportunity to provide safe, healthful schools and classrooms for all of our children.

County Commission Vice-Chairman Ronnie Beale, who with Commissioner Jim Davis was a liaison to the school board, said this was an exciting time for the children of Macon County. "We worked on this a good long while and I appreciate all the openmindedness throughout the process."

Commission Chairman Charlie Leatherman said the commission's liaison committee kept the lines of communication between the two boards open at all times. "This helped us understand each other and monitor events along established lines of communication. I look forward to this concept becoming a reality," he said.

At the commission meeting, Brigman asked the county to waive permit fees for the construction projects, but County Attorney Lesley Moxley said since the county currently owns the land and the county would be waiving its own fees the gesture wasn't necessary. After the schools are completed, they will be turned over to the school district.

The county is funding the East Frank-lin Elementary School expansion, construction of the 5-6 school, the Early College High School expansion at the SCC campus on Siler Road, and the Highlands School roof, soccer field and bathrooms during the 2008-2009 budget year -- estimated to cost \$70.8 million, including construction costs, contingencies and architectural and engineering fees.

"These are estimates at this point be-

cause we won't have real numbers until bids are in the end of May," said County Manger Jack Horton. "We are working on the 2008-2009 budget now and we will have the figures we need before the budget is completed. The actual construction costs are the big unknown and if they come in less than anticpated then the effect will be less to the taxpayer," he said.

Horton said it's a pretty competitive market right now so the county is expecting good bids.

"We know what our tax base is and once we know actual costs we can determine what it will cost to service the debt over a series of years," he said. "We'll figure out what a penny added to the current tax rate of 24.5 cents will bring in and calculate from there."

He said every year the county's tax base increases so each year one penny brings in more than the previous year.

- Kim Lewicki

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• HIS & HERS •

It Puzzles Me

Ilike to think I'm a pretty savvy person, and the older I get, the more I think I should know. Still, there are some answers to life's basic questions that still escape me, and this bugs me like crazy.

First off the bat, why is it that John can look in the refrigerator, have the object of his search right in front of

him, and still bellow out, "Honey, where's the mustard/milk/orange juice/sliced turkey?" My reply is always the same. "It's behind the mayonnaise." Of course, it isn't always behind the mayonnaise. It's an expression I picked up from comedienne, Rita Rudner, who has the same issue with her husband.

Sure enough, I trot into the kitchen, and there is John, with a puzzled look on his face.

"Here it is," I say, with an irritated little sigh in my voice, instantly able to put my hand on the missing item.

The object of his search was, of course, so close that it could have bitten him. He scratches his head.

"Gee, I don't know how I could have missed it." He shrugs.

Male pattern blindness, John calls it. It doesn't surprise me that I wind up finding stuff that I misplaced on my own. I find it more curious that I can find things that John has misplaced, and more often than he can.

The other day, it was his inhaler. "Where did I put my....." he began, not even finishing the sentence. I handed him his inhaler.

"How do you do that?" he asks. "How do you not?" I reply.

There is a neat thing about being the person who finds things. It does make you feel rather clever and important. Alas, it also means that you are constantly interrupted from what you are doing to find things your partner has misplaced. I guess it's a trade off.

I just spent \$535 on an airline ticket yesterday. This wasn't even for a round-trip ticket; this is one-way. Is this a one-way fare to London, Paris, or Rome? Nope. It is the cost to fly from Asheville, N.C., to Charlottesville, VA.

This is for the first leg of a journey which I will be taking to attend my 35th college reunion at Goucher College.

In Charlottesville, I pick up Maman, and the two of us fly to Baltimore. The two of us then fly to Asheville, so that John and I can spend a little quality time



Michelle Mead & John Armor michiemead@aol.com John_Armor@yale.edu with my mother, just in time for the primary on May 6.

I realize that fuel costs have gone up, but honestly, should a trip of this kind cost a total of over \$2,000? After all, this involves three states which actually touch each other. It's not like we're flying to California!

Another of life's little mysteries concerns

filling the gas tank. Why is it that some folks fill their cars with gas, and when the amount reads \$68.83, grab the nozzle, overriding the automatic pumping feature, so that they can add a few more drops of gas, and have a bill which reads \$71.46? If you're paying with a credit card, it doesn't matter that it's not a nice, round number. Hello! It irritates the heck out of me to see these stupid people trying to pump just that extra little bit of gas in their tank – and wind up spilling the stuff down the side of their cars. So much for saving money.

And while we're on the subject of cars, let's tackle the speed limit question in this part of the country. It seems to me you have two choices. Either you obey the speed limit, and have crazies up your tailpipe, trying to intimidate you off the road, or you drive at the same speed as everyone else on the road (i.e. generally, at least 10-15 miles over the speed limit) and run the chance of getting stopped for speeding. I've actually had kind, thoughtful people in Highlands brag about how they forced someone to pull over and let them go by. It seems to be a joke with some people. Believe me, it's no joke

Last week, a couple of my young friends were going back to their school from Highlands. Back of them was a white Toyota pick-up truck, jacked up high so that its halogen lights glared right into their rear view. For miles, this maniac in the pick-up tailgated them, flashing his lights, trying to force them off the road. They were in a place where pull offs were not possible.

Suddenly, they got to a nasty curve in the road, lost control of their vehicle, and crashed their car. The windshield was totaled; the airbags went off, injuring the young woman. Naturally, the nut job who caused the crash sped off, not waiting to see how badly hurt the couple was. Fortunately, the passengers in other vehicles behind them did stop. I saw my friends today, and found them bruised,

•See HIS & HERS page 12

• Reflections from Turtle Pond •

Gross domestic happiness

ow do we measure our national prosperity? One of the main measuring devices is something called the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the sum of all economic activity in the country. The concept of GDP was first developed in the early 1930s, and it is understandable that in the depths of the Depression prosperity would have been defined in a purely materialistic way. But 75 years later is this a good measure of the health of our economy?

Now that most of us no longer struggle to feed our families, what is it that makes us feel prosperous? Is it a few more electronic gadgets, or is it leisure time to enjoy our families and explore our interests? When is the last time you lay on the ground and watched the clouds go by? What is the value of that? Does prosperity just mean more jobs and industry regardless of the environmental cost or does it also require clean air and water?

I think the problem with GDP as an economic measure is that it is devoid of all value except one: money. GDP measures how much you produce, but not what you produce, or how you produce it.

Eric Weiner, in Geography of Bliss, writes that "GDP is simply the sum of all goods and services a nation produc-es over a given time." The sale <u>k-brugger@hotmail.com</u> of an assault rifle and the sale

of an antibiotic both contribute equally to the national tally...It's as if we tracked our caloric intake but cared not one whit what kind of calories we

consumed...GDP does not take into account unpaid work, the so-called compassionate economy. An elderly person who lives in a nursing home is contributing to GDP, while one cared for by rela-



Katie Brugger

tives at home is not. Indeed, he may even be guilty of reducing GDP if his caregivers are forced to take unpaid leave from work. You have to give economists credit. They have taken a vice selfishness — and converted it into a virtue." (You might want to read my article "Seven Deadly Sins Are Now Virtues" at my website.)

Another example of the perversity of the GDP: imag-

ine you have high-blood pressure and are taking medicine to lower it. But then you go to a new doctor who encourages you to change your diet and exercise so that you lose weight and no longer need the pills. You're not only lowering your blood pressure, you're lowering the nation's GDP because you're no longer buying pharmaceutical products — your good

health is bad for an economy based solely on consumption.

Third-world countries have encountered major problems by using GDP as their standard of progress. For example, by exploiting their natural resources they can appear prosperous, but once those resources are exhausted, the "prosperity" is revealed to be illusory. Haiti's lumber export companies inflated the country's GDP until the last of the trees were cut, leaving a denuded landscape and desperately poor people.

In 1972, aware of the problems afflicting other developing countries that focused only on economic growth, Bhutan's newly crowned leader, King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, decided to base his nation's economy not on GDP but on GNH: gross national happiness.

King Wangchuck was also concerned about the social conditions of wealthier

• See BRUGGER page 17

GHLANDS LATERIES •

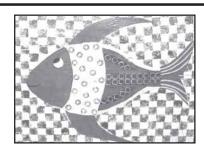
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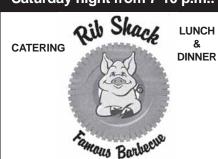


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• From My Perspective •

Pine Street Park on the front burner

t the last town board meeting the commissioners approved the new Pine Street Park Committee with Commissioner Hank Ross as chairman upon my recommendation. Other members Mercedes Heller, representing the Land Trust, King Young, representing the original Pine Street Park organizing committee and Sel-



There are many considerations and different organizations which will be involved in this design process. The Town which now owns the property is primarily interested in a detailed use policy but also storm-water and stream control, and both recreational and limited commercial usages. Macon Bank which owns the property on the north side of Pine Street along with the gazebo has been cooperative and encouraging in the use of its property. However, a formal agreement needs to be worked out with them. Both the Land Trust and the Greenway Committee along with the Planning Board all have a vested interest in the property as does the Chamber of Commerce.

Program development and property restrictions of the Pine Street Park along with space planning, budget, fundraising and construction planning all are important duties of the new Pine Street Park Committee. This committee will report directly to the Town Board for approval of the projects and uses of the park that are developed. We all look forward to working with this important developmental committee in the future for the good of Highlands.

The time of the year for budgeting fiscal year 2008-2009 has arrived and the Finance Committee has had their first meeting to begin formulating a plan. The final plan must be completed by the end of June. The request from not-for-profit organizations is higher than usual this year. This number is usually around \$50,000 but may go a little higher this year. The largest request comes from the Hudson Library board which has put in a request to be spread over a three-year period. These requests are usually limited to capital projects. One of our biggest expenses this year is going to be the Harris Lake Sewer project since we did not obtain as much from the Clean Water Man-



Mayor Don Mullen

agement Trust Fund as we had anticipated.

Let me just add that the Town of Highlands is in very good financial shape at the present time with an extremely good reserve fund which has grown over the years. Hopefully, we will be able to maintain the same millage as we did last year, but that remains to be seen.

This Wednesday night the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners had some important decisions which may affect us for years to come. We discussed our way of managing the town. Currently we have a Mayor-Council form of government. A committee of two commissioners along with outside consultates and I have been gathering data for over a year now as to whether we should go to a Manager-Council form of government or not. This type government takes some of the responsibilities of running the town off the commissioners and gives more responsibility to the Manager. Currently the town administrator handles most of the management of the town but with close consultation and approval of the board and without the ability to hire and fire employees of the town. In both forms of government the place of the Mayor is the same. All larger towns have this form of government.

As of this writing (Monday) no decision has been made on the town government but I am sure this paper has the results of that discussion.

... CANDIDATES continued from page 5

US Federal Agency to enforce mercury laws that were on the books but not being enforced. Then he mentioned a project he supports that is being overseen by Duke Energy to refurbish the Cliffside power plant in Rutherford County.

The plant currently has five furnaces that produce electricity in Rutherford County. Duke wants to do away with four of the furnaces and build a new one, then refit the fifth furnace. Haire cited a story that was published in the *Winston-Salem Journal* and written by Director of the NC Division of Air Quality Keith Overcash. This article praised the plant for its ability to reduce emissions by 80% while doubling the energy production in comparison with the existing, outdated power plant.

Haire also acknowledged that western North Carolina is fortunate to get much of its energy from hydroelectric sources.

"Not all pollution comes from the TVA,
• See CANDIDATES page 13

• COACH'S CORNER •

Wrestlemania 24 recap

know this is a bit tardy, mainly due to the distraction caused by the NCAA tournament and the start of the baseball season, but last weekend I had the opportunity to watch my first Wrestlemania in several years.

Despite being a major wrestling fan in my youth (and therefore receiving my membership to the

dork guild) I had gotten away from watching it on a regular basis, not to mention refusing to drop 40 bucks for every Pay Per View. However, as I sat back and watched Wrestlemania 24 (for free I might add, and it wasn't even illegal!) I was able to reconnect a bit and enjoy sports entertainment. Here are a few thoughts from some of the matches that stood out at this year's sports entertainment extravaganza.

Money in the Bank ladder match

The premise of this one is that there is a briefcase above the ring with a contract to challenge any current WWE champion and it goes to the winner -which I admit is a pretty cool concept. The match itself was quite brutal, with lots of moves performed off of the top of the ladder and several "holy crap" moments where you could definitely see that while the moves were choreographed, the pain was definitely real. CM Punk was the winner of the match, and when a young guy wins a match like this it usually means that they are going to start focusing on him quite a bit.

Batista vs. Umaga

Good to see that they still have Samoans in wrestling. Rule #1 for Samoans is that they must always wrestle barefoot. Rule #2 for Samoans is that they always have the hardest heads of any other wrestler. Rule #3, Samoans must use their derriere on a regular basis. Rule #4, Samoans must always lose matches to bigger names, which is exactly what happened here.

Triple Threat WWE Title Match

I am not a huge fan of John Cena, Randy Orton or Triple H (although my wife and sister are very large fans of all three wrestlers mainly because they have muscles, which are a foreign concept to this particular member of the Potts household) but this match was pretty good. Some good storytelling stuff and a pretty classic matchup as opposed to the earlier eye-candy with the ladder. I'm glad Orton won though, as usually the bad guys don't win at Wrestlemania,



Ryan Potts tryanpotts@hotmail.com

so it was something different.

World Title Match

I was really excited about this match because it featured my favorite wrestler, the Undertaker vs. the Champion Edge. I've always considered the Undertaker character to be the most creative character in wrestling history -- he definitely captured the imagination

of kids my age when he first debuted. This match saw all of the classic Taker stuff -- the walking on the ropes, the diving over the top rope (which is amazing for a guy bigger than me to do something like that) and the high flying clotheslines. It was also great from a match standpoint because Edge had some great counters for the standard Taker offense. I knew that Taker was going to win, because the buildup had been very heavy, so it was great TV to watch from my perspective.

Ric Flair's retirement

Probably the only thing that could steal the show from the Undertaker's match for me was watching one of the greatest ever wrestle his final match. Shawn Michaels was a great choice to take on Flair, as he can still really go but at the same time is a bit older and would have the proper perspective on such an event. Terrific match that told a great story in true Ric Flair tradition. The only thing that was missing was the Flair flip over the turnbuckle, but I can forgive that because the Nature Boy is pushing 60 years old and incapable of doing that stuff anymore. Great ending too, that saw Michaels and Flair both crying at the end of the match because of the magnitude of the event. This should have been the last match of the card, if only because it was a draining experience watching such a historic event. For a lot of people, Flair was the last link to the old school wrestling that people like my dad watched as a kid - and it was sad (albeit justified) to see Flair finally ride off into the sunset.

Highlands School Talent Show and dinner is April 17

Don't miss the Highlands School Talent Show, April 17 at Highlands School. It starts at 6-7:30 p.m. following a dinner benefiting the Highlands School Art Foundation at 5 p.m.





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... HIS & HERS continued from page 8

shaken, and angry. The damaged vehicle is in sad shape, and will cost a pretty penny to put right. Ahead of them, the couple has hassles with the insurance company, and medical bills. These are college students who don't have money to burn on stuff like this.

In the 17 months that I have lived in Highlands, I have seen some of the most reckless driving I have seen in my 57 years of life. Speeding and tailgating are the worst offenses, but are not the only ones. How anyone can barrel down some of the local roads at breakneck speeds while

chatting on a cell phone, guzzling a soda, or turning and talking to a passenger?

In the last three weeks, John and I have been passed by three cars and a motorcycle while we were on a road with a double yellow line forbidding passing. While we often pull over to let faster vehicles go by, it's not always safe or even possible to do this. It's April, and soon the roads will be clogged with the cars of our visiting tourists, many of them regular summer residents.

Loads of Highlands residents will start writing huffy letters about

Lowlanders (especially folks with Florida plates) and their slow-moving vehicles. Sorry, folks. You won't find a sympathetic ear with me. I'd rather be behind a slow car than tailgated by a speed demon who feels it's his god-given right to drive as fast as he feels he can take the road. And people who feel justified in intimidating folks by flashing lights, honking their horns, or forcing people off the road are not "aces of the road" – they are dangerous fools who have no business

Oh, and you might keep your eyes

out for that white Toyota pick-up truck with the halogen lights. I have a few choice words for its driver, as do a few friends of mine.

• 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. She lives on top of a mountain near Highlands. Michelle is a member of the Highlands Writers Group. She will soon begin driving in the Highlands area, and asks for your prayers and good wishes.

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• Conservative POV •

The 'scream'

Try to interject a little news into this column along with some philosophy intended to sway you to or keep you on the right side. It's presumptuous, I know, to think that anything I have to say has any influence on anyone's thinking, but self-delusion has carried me this far, so I'm going to stick with it. I find it amazing that I'm about to write about a nonnews event, but here goes.

Howard Dean is a doctor from Vermont who incidentally is the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. I don't know why, but I find it humorous that he received his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives in 1982, elected lieutenant governor in 1986 and became governor upon the death of the incumbent and served two terms. Actually, his record showed fiscal conservatism, paying off state debt, balancing the budget and lowering the tax rate. Who'd have thought?

Dean ran for president in 2004 and came out of nowhere to become the early frontrunner. He showed an ability to raise money using the internet and attracted a following of young people labeled "Deanie Babies' or Deany Boppers" or more aptly "Deaniacs." He vigorously opposed the war and showed disdain for Dems that didn't share his enthusiasm. Going into the Iowa Democrat caucuses, Dean and Dick Gephardt were the assumed leaders however the "Johns," Kerry and Edwards, prevailed and Dean became unglued. It was as a consequence of his third place finish that caused him to scream the impossible scream heard around the world.

So who gives a hoot about Howard Dean anyway? Well, if you are sadistic, as I have been accused of being, you are enjoying no end the position the Chairman of the Democrat National Committee, Mr. Dean, finds himself. If he had reason to scream on 2004, he currently has reason to shoot blood out of his eyes these days. After all, he is ultimately responsible for the Michigan fiasco, and the Florida fiasco, and faces what may prove to be the most contentious political convention in history.

If I were a cartoonist, I'd do one, a three-panel job. The first panel would show Dean looking at his right hand, which holds a hand-grenade. The second shows Dean looking at his left hand, which holds the pulled firing pin. The third, of course, shows Dean in full



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

scream mode.

I am not picking on the Democrats. While I am seeing the possibility of their party imploding, if it hasn't already, the Republicans are working hard at doing it to themselves, if they haven't done it already. Pop quiz. Name the Chairman of the National Republican Committee. Time's up. Mike Duncan. Tell you the truth, I had to look it up. Now, if it is the Chairman's job is to remain

obscure, he is a screaming success (pun intended).

What appears to be happening is that political parties at all levels are rapidly becoming irrelevant. With the advent of Internet contribution solicitation, Party fundraising has taken a distant back seat to candidates' direct appeal. Likewise, Party platforms seem to be less and less meaningful and ignored by most elected officials. But more important, they have pretty much ceased to represent the people and the party and taking what they can get for themselves.

It is increasingly evident that the presidential candidates are all globalists and, while our cultural, fiscal and physical infrastructure crumbles before our very eyes, we place political correctness and sensitivity and tolerance for everybody on earth, except Christians, above

Agenda 21, the UN's ongoing effort to impose "sustainable development" on the U.S., is taking hold and is literally coming over the mountain. They want us to eliminate the automobile, walk to work and to shop on "paths" (bicycle travel may be permitted), play checkers on the front porch and relinquish our superpower status.

Meanwhile, Al Gore (who advocated the elimination of the internal combustion engine in his book <u>Earth in the Balance – Ecology and the Human Spirit</u>) moves

ever onward to stifle our economy through his carbon stuff. I know it's intricate, but think about it. The only thing that stands in the way of the new religion of Ecology are those narrow-minded Christians, so let's marginalize them and so we can worship Mother Earth without having to listening to their objections.

We sleep while the lion roars. If we stand for nothing, we'll fall for anything and I'd say we're in freefall. Isolationism is sounding better and better to me. Close the borders and pull up the bedclothes.

... CANDIDATES from 10

and we're not only talking about pollution but also about mercury, arsenic, cadmium and other substances that come out of the smokestacks of coal-burning power plants," Friedman said. "Duke is convinced that the new plant is the best thing that ever happened, but those are not vitamins coming out of those smokestacks."

Friedman stressed the importance in investing in energy reduction, increasing economic incentives for alternate energy sources and utilizing wind resources, solar energy and mass transit instead of new roads.

When asked about local taxation policies, such as an extension of the homestead exemption, Haire said that in North Carolina, land values are based on the fair market value, and there is the same standard in all 100 counties. "If we mess with that, there could be problems with county tax revenue. School buildings, community college buildings, and county facilities have to have money to operate. There is no good solution to adjust this," he said.

Friedman said that local government should have more say in property values and taxes, and there should be a tiered system in determining property tax rates that take into account whether a person is a second homeowner or someone who lives and works here. "It's not fair the way it is now; people are losing their homes," Friedman said.

• See CANDIDATES page 16

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Gastroenterology is back.

Welcome Richard F. Carter, MD, FACC

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital is proud to welcome gastroenterologist Richard F. Carter, MD, FACC, to its Medical Staff. Dr. Carter is board-certified in gastroenterology and a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. **Beginning April 14**, he will bring his 30 years of experience diagnosing and treating diseases of the gastrointestinal tract to Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

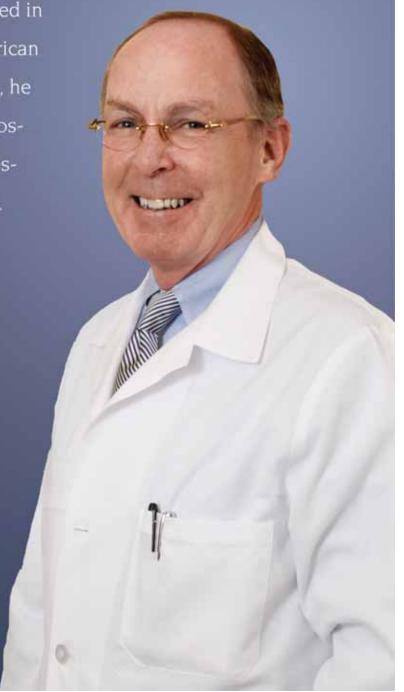
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Students team up by applying math



Students in the Advanced Functions high school class taught by Mrs. Gina Billingsley teamed up with 5th grade students to complete a real life math project. The project entitled polyhedraville, required the children to build a futuristic colony while maintaining a fixed budget. The children had to work together to plan, build and follow their construction budget. The final projects are on display in the Highlands School library.

... SHERIFF continued from page 1

Highway Safety Grant Program (GHSP).

The money will be spent on six each — mobile data terminals, dual antenna radars and in-car video cameras, send 14 deputies to Standardized Field Sobriety Training and seven deputies to radar certification training.

"The objective is to impact the traffic crash problem through selective traffic enforcement, training, public information and education and to use modern equipment," said Sheriff Holland. "The goal is to reduce traffic crashes and reduce the severity of injuries sustained by motorist, pedestrians and bikers."

The year 2005 marked a significant increase in crash problems in Macon County including increased fatalities, injuries and alcohol related crashes. In 2005 Macon County had a crash ranking of 77. The higher the number the better the ranking. During the previous four years rankings were in the mid-90s. Population increase as well as an increase in vehicles on the roads has attributed to the increased crash problem, said Holland.

In its grant proposal, the Sheriff's Department says the county is experiencing unprecedented population growth – 26.86% from 1990-2000 and an estimated 9.2% from April 2000 to July 2005. Additionally, part-time residents and tourism cause an annual influx of tens of thousands of people and thousands of vehicles during the spring, summer and fall.

As a direct result of the 2005 GHSP grant the Sheiff's Department received for checkpoint equipment, beginning October 1, 2005, the number of alcohol related crashes, fatalities and injuries decreased sig-

nificantly during the first six months of 2006.

The Macon County Sheriff's Department patrols 677 miles of primary and secondary roads in the 517 square mile county with four shifts of four deputies each.

ty with four shifts of four deputies each.
Since January 2008 the department has conducted 60 checkpoints which have resulted in arrests for drug infractions, DWI and possession of stolen goods.

"For every one we get, 10 get by," said Sheriff Holland. "But results in this first four months is much higher than this time last year."

From January 1, 2007 through April 1, 2007, six checkpoints were conducted resulting in 444 traffic stops, 234 citations and 160 warning tickets. Specifically, checkpoints resulted in 15 DWI arrests, 44 speeding tickets, 56 citations issued for driving without a license, 16 citations issued for driving with a revoked license and 4 citations for driving without insurance.

From January 1, 2008 through April 1, 2008, 35 checkpoints were conducted resulting in 786 traffic stops with 489 citations issued and 377 warning tickets issued.

Specifically, checkpoints resulted in 45 DWI arrests, 90 speeding tickets, 118 citations for driving without a license, 27 citations for driving with a revoked license and 4 citations for driving without insurance.

Holland said the equipment purchased protects his deputies while recording all traffic stop proceedings. "I can actually hear what take place one minute prior to the stop," he said. "This way if anyone disputes what actually happened, I can look and listen to the tape and know exactly what took place."

— Kim Lewicki

Highlands' Newspaper - Thursday, April 17, 2008 - Page 15

Highlands high school math students compete at WCU

On Thursday, April 3, 14 Highlands School students participated in the Western Carolina University's 38th Annual Mathematics Competition. Highlands School was rated 5th out of the 11 schools in its division. This is the first time that Highlands School has participated in the WCU math competition in at least 10 years. The students took exams in the following categories:

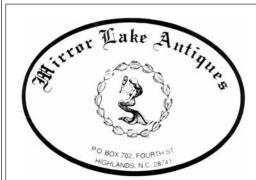
Algebra I: Marlee McCall ,Devon Potter, Amy Fogle, Taylor Burras

Geometry: Samuel Wheeler, Avee Graham, Tucker Bates

Algebra II: Brice Jenkins, Kate-Marie Parks, Katie Durham, Shelby Johnson, Matt McClellan

Comprehensive: Kyle Lassiter, Casey Jenkins.

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... CANDIDATES from page 13

The candidates were asked whether they thought local areas should have the opportunity to have more input into Department of Transportation (DOT) decisions that have a local impact.

Friedman said he was the founder of the Smart Roads group in Sylva, and that it's frustrating to deal with the DOT. He said "There has to be more autonomy in local communities on what roads we want, and improvements and maintenance. It shouldn't be determined by outsiders."

Haire said "If someone hadn't decided to build a bypass around Franklin, it would be chaos downtown. Someone has to make the decision."

County Commissioner candidate Jimmy Goodman introduced himself as a good candidate because he runs a small business. "I handle sales, budgeting and bookkeeping: the same things I will do as a county commissioner but on a smaller scale." Goodman has served on the Macon County Planning Board for three years, and he said he would like to unite citizens to work towards common goals.

"I propose an email list to keep citizens involved, and I'd like to see all commissioner meetings be web-broadcasts," Goodman said. He also suggested that monthly question and answer radio shows could be effective. "The Board of Education has done it in the past and it was a success," he said.

Incumbent commissioner Charlie Leatherman said he is seeking a $3^{\rm rd}$ term. "I have been married 25 years. I have three sons, and I teach $7^{\rm th}$ grade math at MMS." He also has a tax business on the side to supplement his income. "I was born here, and I want to die here. I want my sons to be able to do that if they want to, "Leatherman said.

Leatherman believes that all issues affecting the county are important. "When you start categorizing importance you fragment the county. The most important issue is quality of life." he said.

When asked about water supply and quality, Leatherman said that the county needs to impound water for citizens' use. "Water is contaminated by runoff, and deep wells are not the answer. We need to construct a reservoir for Macon County's citizens both in the city limits and in the county."

Goodman disagreed. "The majority of people are on wells, and impounding is a municipal problem," he said.

Regarding the issue of school expansion and keeping community schools, Goodman began by praising the County Commissioners' plans for a grades 5-6 middle school. "MMS is a problem," he said, "But megas-chools don't work, and we need to keep kids in their communities where their parents can remain involved. As a citizen, I'll be glad to pay more in tax dollars to keep community schools."

Leatherman said "If it's economically feasible I would build 10 new schools in the communities. The state says that we can only have so many teachers per a certain number of students. It's wonderful idea and I wish it would work, but we have to consolidate, and I'm standing behind the decision."

When asked about aesthetic goals for the county as far as 100 years in the future, Leatherman mentioned that the county is in the process of turning over acreage on the SCC campus below the library to create a Folk Heritage Village to preserve the area's cultural heritage.

"I'd like to see houses be solar. I'd like to see the government make an effort to solve our dependency on oil using things like wind, solar and geothermal energy," Leatherman said.

Goodman mentioned that roads are a serious problem and returned to the community schools concept. "We can subsidize the pay rate for teachers. If it's that important I'm willing to do that to keep families involved in educa-

• See CANDIDATES page 27

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

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Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770
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Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the mo

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

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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.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Everett Brewer

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

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3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship; 6:30 p.m. High School Group

Wednesdays: Dinner 5 p.m.-6 p.m.; 6 p.m. programs for all students; 6:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study

Thursdays: Women's Bible Study 10 a.m. EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan – Rector: 526-2968 Sunday: 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

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

Sun. school for all ages 9:45 a.m.
Wed: dinner 5 p.m. followed by childrens
Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; 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, Parish Associate 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

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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)

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

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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

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WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Committee ready to get to work on Pine Street Park

With the recent greening of Pine Street Park, commissioners are ready to formalize design plans and perhaps tweak its usage policy.

At a recent Town Board meeting Commissioner Hank Ross, Recreation Director Selwyn Chalker, Mercedes Heller and King Young were named to the committee which met for the first time Thursday, April 10.

At the initial strategy meeting, members agreed to have a master plan completed by June 10 and to present it to the Town Board at the June 18 meeting.

With the main goal to provide a design for Pine Street Park that meets the public needs of the Highlands area community, information gathering has begun.

Commissioner Ross suggested input be gathered concerning stormwater remediation needs, how the park fits into the county's master recreation plan, how the design and property use affiliated with Macon Bank will be affected, what the Land Trust wants and how the park can address urban needs.

Concerning design, the committee will consider physical constraints, a list of elements and their relationship to each other as well as property constraints.

A construction plan will also be outlined to include budgeting, phasing and fundraising.

Committee members were asked to gather input and return with financials at the April 17 meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Town Board room.

Though the town recently adopted a use policy concerning Pine Street Park, Commissioner Ross said it's not carved in stone and could change.

High school students in Highlands School art teacher Sally Taylor's art class will be designing the park as a project and the committee will pick a winner. Ross said its not likely the plans will be used by the town, but it's a great project for the students and a way to engage the community in the process.

Kim Lewicki

... BRUGGER continued from page 9

countries, as summarized in a study conducted by the Centre for Bhutan Studies: "Empirical evidence strongly suggests that modern economic development has not increased subjective wellbeing in high-income countries, despite manifold increases of incomes over just a couple of decades. In many countries, people even experience a deterioration of their quality of life as competitive forces grow along with incomes. Stress at the work place, longer work weeks and less sleep, inequality-induced discrimination and poverty are just a few examples. Rising depression and suicide rates, high incidence of obesity and large-scale environmental destruction are also typical side effects of the pursuit of economic growth.'

(bhutanstudies.org.bt)

The four pillars of Gross Domestic Happiness are: equitable socio-economic development, environmental protection, cultural preservation, and good gover-

Bhutanese officials have developed a variety of initiatives aimed at improving quality of life in the most equitable way. For example, Bhutan, which had no public education system in 1960, now has schools at all levels around the country and rotates teachers from urban to rural regions to be sure there is equal access to the best teachers.

An example of preserving cultural traditions is that people who enter hospitals with non-acute health problems can choose between Western and traditional medicine. The idea of measuring economic health using indicators other than money is slowly spreading. Britain is developing an "index of well-being," which takes into account not only income but traffic, pollution, access to parks, mental illness, civility, and crime rates.

"The evolving concept of GNH could well be the most significant advancement in economic theory over the last 150 years," is the opinion of Frank Dixon, a Harvard Business School graduate and managing director of research at Innovest Strategic Value Advisors, the largest international financial services firm catering to ethical investment funds.

Modern economics seems to be built on the premise that growth can continue indefinitely. In fact, it seems to require constant expansion. This makes me think of cancer and viruses, which grow until they destroy the host body and themselves.

We need a new economics, one that is based on sustainability and on human values such as love, respect, compassion, and equality.

If you'd like to find out more about Bhutan, the March 2008 National Geographic has an article on the country (available at the Hudson Library). I just watched a wonderful Bhutanese film "Travelers and Magicians," by a revered Bhutanese Buddhist monk/filmmaker, available through NetFlix.

All of Katie Brugger's columns are available on her website: www.kathleenbrugger.com

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Three forms of muncipal government explained

Council-Manager; Mayor-Council; City Commission

Council-Manager Government

The council-manager government is one of two main variations of representative municipal government in the United States. This system of government is used in the majority of American cities with populations over 12.000.

In the council-manager form of government, an elected city council (typically between five and 11 people) is responsible for making policy, passing ordinances, voting appropriations, and having overall supervisory authority in the city government. In such a government, the mayor (or equivalent executive) will perform strictly ceremonial duties or will act as a member and presiding officer of the council, similar to a chairman. The council will appoint a city manager or administrator who will be responsible for supervising government operations and implementing the policies adopted by the council. The manager serves the council, usually with a contract that specifies duties and responsibilities. Ideally, the manager is apolitical, but this is often difficult.

Municipal governments are usually administratively divided into several departments, depending on the size of the city. Though cities differ in the division of responsibility, the typical arrangement is to have the following departments handle the following roles:

- 1. Urban planning and zoning:
- 2. Economic development and tourism
- 3. Public works construction and maintenance of all city-owned or operated assets, including the water supply system, sewer, streets, stormwater, snow removal, street signs, vehicles, buildings, land, etc.
- 4. Parks and recreation construction and maintenance of city parks, common areas, parkways, publicly-owned land, operation of various recreation programs and facilities
 - 5. Police
 - 6. Fire
 - 7. Emergency medical services
 - 8. Emergency management
- 9. Accounting/finance often tax collection, audits
 - 10. Human resources for city workers
- 11. Legal counsel/risk management legal matters such as writing municipal bonds, ensuring city compliance with state and federal law, responding to citizen law-suits stemming from city actions or inactions.
- 12. Transportation (varies widely) if the city has a municipal bus or light rail service, this function may be its own department or it may be folded into the another of the above departments.
- 13. Information technology supports computer systems used by city employees; may be also responsible for a city website, phones and other systems.
 - 14. Housing department

The council-manager system can be seen to place all power into the hands of the legislative branch. However, a city manager can be seen as a similar role to that of corporate chief executive officer (CEO) in providing professional management to an organization. Council-manager government is much like a publicly-traded corporation. In a corporation, the board of directors appoints a CEO, makes major decisions and wields representative power on behalf of shareholders. In council-manager government, the city council appoints a city manager, makes major decisions, and wields representative power on behalf of the citizens.

ed, has little real political power and less independence under this form, serves largely ceremonial duties, and may even be a member of the council. Charles Adrian and Charles Press explain, "The weak-mayor plan is a product of Jacksonian democracy. It comes from the belief that if politicians have few powers and many checks, then they can do relatively little damage." This form of government is most commonly used in small towns. It is a variant of the city commission government.

Strong-mayor, or executive, form

The strong-mayor form of mayor-council government consists of a popularly elected executive branch and a legislative branch,

er the City Commission as a predecessor of the Council-Manager form.

In a city commission government, voters elect a small commission, typically from five to seven members, on a plurality-atlarge basis. These commissioners constitute the legislative body of the city and as a group are responsible for taxation, appropriations, ordinances, and other general functions. Individual commissioners are assigned responsibility for a specific aspect of municipal affairs, such as public works, finance, or public safety. One commissioner is designated to function as chairman or mayor, but this was largely a procedural or ceremonial designation and typically did not involve significant additional powers beyond that exercised by the other commissioners. As such, this form of government blends legislative and executive branch functions in the same body. This form of government is used mostly in the South Florida region.

It is in many ways similar to the "weak mayor" form of Mayor-council government.

... GOVERNMENT from 1

town without such growth. We have been besieged with growth and development and it's made it hard for the board to make good decisions."

Commissioner Patterson said the Town Board isn't made up of professional managers. "We've been trying to do it, but the town and citizens deserve a professional to do it, a trained professional," she said. "This is not a power struggle. There are just too many things beyond the capability of what five elected people should be doing." In addition, she said it puts a big burden on the Town Board to take care of everyone's complaints.

Commissioner Larry Rogers said the change shouldn't affect anyone's job. "I wouldn't be for this if people were going to lose their jobs. It will be the same as it is now, except there will be a direct link between the manager and the Town Board and there will be some reorganization.

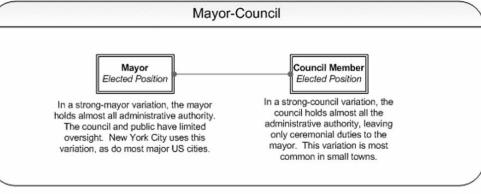
Mayor Mullen said another main difference is that the manager has the authority to hire and fire.

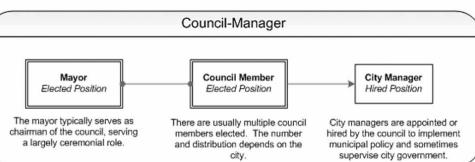
Commissioner Buz Dotson said one plus is the new system will give department heads some management tools to work with.

Commissioner Patterson said she was initially against the change but in the final analysis it's about efficiency and effectiveness. "We need one person to implement the policies of the Town Board," she said.

While Coward works on the charter change, the town will begin advertising for a Town Manager.

Once a town's charter is changed it is irreversible for two years. - **Kim Lewicki**





The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is a professional organization for city managers. It was founded in 1914, and has more than 8000 members worldwide.

Mayor-Council Government

The Mayor-Council government system, sometimes called the Mayor-Commission government system, is one of two variations of government most commonly used in modern representative municipal governments in the United States. The Mayor-Council variant can be broken down into two main variations depending on the relationship between the legislative and executive branches.

Weak-mayor, or ceremonial, form

In the weak-mayor form of the mayorcouncil government, the council possesses both legislative and executive authority. The council may appoint officials and must approve of mayoral nominations. The council also exercises primary control over the municipal budget. The mayor, though electtively. In the strong-mayor form the mayor is given almost total administrative authority and a clear, wide range of political independence, with the power to appoint and dismiss department heads without council approval and little public input. In this system, the strong mayor prepares and administers the city budget, although that budget often must be approved by the city council. In some strong-mayor governments, the mayor will appoint a chief administrative officer, or CAO, who will supervise department heads, prepare the budget, and coordinate departments. This CAO, sometimes also called a city managing director, is responsible only to the mayor.

usually a city mayor and city council respec-

City Commission Government

City Commission government is a form of municipal government that was once common in the United States, but has fallen out of favor, most cities formerly governed by Commission having switched to the Council-Manager form. Some consid-

... RESTAURANT continued from page 1

"If you want the town to expand and the business season to lengthen then restaurants have to be open year-round so guests who come in through the winter have a place to come," he said.

Planning Board member Thomas Craig encouraged the board to adopt the ordinance Cooley and the Planning Board came up with. He said it wasn't reasonable to wait until a traffic and parking study was completed to amend the ordinance. "It's important that you do this and don't put it off any longer," he said.

Debbie Grossman of Fresser's Eatery said if the town is going to grow and not stagnant then the board has to support business. "There is plenty of parking available and there is no need to create more. Find ways to share what's here and let's work as a community together," she said.

Jerry Moore, owner of Kilwin's and on the Chamber of Commerce board said with almost 1,000 public parking spaces in town it seems reasonable to let people use them and encourage walking to restaurants.

Alan Shultz, owner of Fireside Restaurant, spoke against amending the ordinance on the grounds that he and other restaurant owners, like Marlene Alvarez of ... on the Verandah and owners of Nick's Restaurant, had to abide by the rules of the day and spend thousands of dollars creating and maintaining parking areas for their customers.

"What is fair?" he asked. "Bringing businesses into compliance would cause fiscal hardship to some and be an unpopular decision, but why have some had to comply, often at great expense, and others don't? It costs those of us who did comply tens of thousands of dollars to develop town mandated parking, this in addition to acquiring land. Why them and not others?"

Alvarez, whose parents started ...on the Verandah and spent \$100,000 on the parking lot 12 years ago said her parents abided by the rules, but rules can and should change. "All restaurants are in need of more parking. It's important the town move with the times and grow in a sustainable fashion preferably year-round," she said. "Look with vision toward the future."

Initially, it looked like the board may

go with Commissioners Hank Ross and Buz Dotson who suggested waiting to amend the ordinance until Cooley could determine if simply increasing the seat-to-parking ratio would solve the problem. Currently, a restaurant can have three seats for each parking spot. They suggested increasing that to four or five seats per parking space.

"I do think the number of seats per parking space for the B2 and B3 zones needs to be revised because their needs and their peaking times are different from other businesses. But what's in front of us this evening is very complex in my mind and will be difficult to enforce," said Ross.

But Cooley said the way the ordinance is written, especially since restaurants can't establish a vested interest through the ordinance, not only can the town retract it or change it and thereby negate what is offered for something different if necessary, it's easy to enforce.

Dotson made a motion to table the proposed ordinance until Cooley could research the affect of four to five seats per parking space on area restaurants.

Cooley said he could present the information sometime in May. But the motion failed 2-3.

The Bruns of Wild Thyme, whose parking situation instigated the proposed restaurant ordinance change, said with May approaching they needed an answer or would have to close their business.

But Nancy Brun said the change isn't just about Wild Thyme. "You've talked about wanting Highlands to be a walking town and not wanting to add more pavement and there is plenty of parking to use," she said.

The ordinance was adopted as a stopgap measure until a complete parking and traffic flow study is completed hopefully within a year. Commissioners said, based on the outcome of the study which could cost \$25,000-\$40,000 to complete, the restaurant ordinance could change entirely and restaurant owners needed to be aware of that fact.

Carter Bruns said he understood that completely. "The 'no vested intent' is very clear but if it gets me through another season, I'm thrilled." — **Kim Lewicki**

Business News

Century 21 names March producers

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

In the Cashiers Office Cathy Garren, CRB, e-PRO, Broker/Owner, Fine Homes & Estates Specialist and New Construction Specialist was named Top Listing Agent.. Garren received the Bronze Producer award for her production in 2007 as well as the Top Listing by Volume award for her office last year

In the Highlands Office Bob Shipp, Broker Associate, was named Top Sales Agent. Bob Shipp was awarded the Bronze Producer Award for his production in 2007.

Gary Garren, Broker Associate, Broker/ Owner and Fine Homes & Estates Specialist was named Top Listing Agent. Garren was awarded the Silver Producer award for his production last year, as well as the Top Listing by Volume & Units award and the Top Sales by Volume award for his office.

CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles is located in eight offices in Buncombe, Henderson, Jackson, Macon and Transylvania counties. It is ranked 52nd in the nation among CENTURY 21[®] companies.

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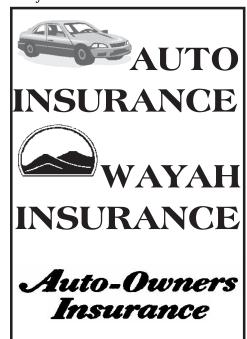
Work continues on Land Trust property

Volunteers and board members of the Highlands-Cashiers Land have been hard at work repairing and preparing land trust sites for spring weather and the activity that accompanies being outside enjoying nature on the Highlands Plateau.

The Highlands Falls Country Club golf course team headed by Fred Gehrisch, Superintendent of Golf Course Management undertook the task of rebuilding and repairing one of the trails on Satulah Mountain. Gehrisch's assistant, Chris O'Connor and several of the golf course crew braved rainy weather to provide a community service project for the land trust and the citizens of Highlands. This trail was rebuilt to USFS standards and will welcome many hikers to the peaks of the mountain. Benches will be placed at the top for the weary climber to rest and enjoy the quiet and serenity of the vistas.

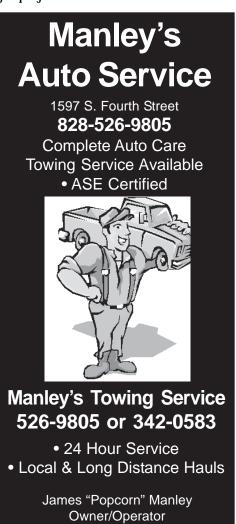
Benches have been placed around the lake at Dixon Park and on the Kelsey Trail. Scheduled for more benches are Pinky Falls, Sunset Rock, and the corner of Foreman Road and Route 64 following reclamation of that land trust property. These benches are approved by the Greenway Trail Committee, the Town of Highlands, and HCLT and are being placed in cooperation with the Greenway Trail project. The benches were built and assembled on site by the Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corp Cement Trade students from Franklin.

This work will continue throughout the spring. You will see many volunteers and members of the HCLT Stewardship Committee hard at work making land trust property more "user friendly." HCLT extends special appreciation to Highlands Falls Country Club for their help with this major project.



ONE AND THE SAME

Call Wayah at 526-3713 or stop by the office on Carolina Way



'The Ice Breaker' might be the best yet from ITC

The production now on stage at The Instant Theatre's Studio on Main is a must see. The topic is timely, the cast is stellar and the set is warm, inviting and colorful.

Sets don't make a production but since The Instant Theatre is known for its minimal sets, the set for "The Ice-Breaker" is a special treat.

One patron said it made her want to jump up on the stage and hang out.

Co-stars David Milford and Madeleine Davis have honed their chemistry that started with their work together in last year's production at ITC, "Copenhagen."

It looks like – at least for Milford and Davis – a pattern is developing. When they come together you can be sure it won't be for anything silly or frivolous. In "Copenhagen" it was about the atomic bomb, in "The Ice-Breaker" it is about global warming and the next ice age. Heavy stuff, delivered in an intelligent, provocative, humorous and thoroughly entertaining way. Called a "psychological climatic love story," Ice-Breaker is not only fun to experience but educational, too.

Davis makes Sonja Milan – an intelligent scientist-groupie – exciting and adorable. Milford plays the rumpled, scarred, disenchanted scientist Dr. Lawrence Blanchard perfectly.

Playwright David Rambo has a knack for blending scientific information with intimate human drama and his writing gives The Ice-Breaker both an intelligence and a warmth of human character. But written plays need actors to bring them to life and that's exactly what Milford and Davis do.

This is a show that should be seen. Its topic, its intelligence and the caliber of the actors and director's work will linger long after the show is over.

Luckily it's on for another three days at The Studio on Main, April 17-19. All performances are at 8 p.m. For reservations call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. The ITC's Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street, in Highlands.

– Kim Lewicki

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UPCOMING EVENTS •

Mountain Lakes 5K set for May 3

invited to participate in the Mountain Lakes 5-K Race, scheduled for Saturday, May 3, at 9 a.m.

The event is the annual fund-raiser for the Highlands Roadrunners Club, and organizers are expecting good attendance for the race, now in its ninth year. "We already have a lot of out-of-town runners signed up, but would also like to have good local participation," said Race Director Richard Betz.

'Our goal as a running club is to encourage life-long fitness, and running or walking is the key to it for a lot of us," Betz said. "Whether it's keeping your weight off, maintaining good muscle tone, even having more energy; you name it—beginning and staying with a program of running or fitness walking can definitely help.

The 5-K (3.1-mile) course is a loop that begins on US 64 in front of the Highlands Civic Center, circles around Lake Ravenel and Harris Lake, and finishes on Laurel Street beside First Citizens Bank. Traffic control will be provided throughout the course by Police and volunteers. Betz said that fitness walkers are encouraged to participate, and that the course is relatively easy. However, since part of the route is on an unpaved gravel road, strollers are not recommended.

The entry fee for the race is \$15 before race day, and entry forms are available at the Town Hall, the Civic Center, and the Visitors Center, or on line at www.main.nc.us/hrc. Each participant will receive a quality long-sleeved T-shirt, and trophies will be awarded to the

Runners and fitness walkers alike are overall male and female winners, male and female masters winners (over 40), and to the male and female first, second, and third place finishers in five-year age groups. As in past years, Powerade will be provided by Coca-Cola company and finish line bananas will be provided by August Produce.

Pre-registered runners can pick up their numbers and race packets at the Civic Center on the morning of the race beginning at 7:30 a.m. Race-day registration will also take place that morning at the Civic Center. Race-day registration will be \$17 per person.

Gold level sponsors this year are Country Club Properties, Koenig Homebuilders, Wilson Gas Service, Lupoli Construction, McPhail Properties, and the Highlands Chamber of Commerce. Silver sponsors are Coward, Hicks & Siler, P.A., Highlands Decorating Center, and First Citizens Bank.

As in past years, proceeds from the race will go toward fitness-related programs in the local community. The club awards a number of scholarships each year to Highlands School graduates who carry on some type of fitness activities while continuing their education. The club has also used the proceeds from past races to help purchase fitness equipment for Highlands School, HealthTracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, and the Highlands Recreation Park. Since its inception, the race has raised almost \$10,000 for these projects. The Highlands Roadrunners Club is a non-profit organization, and entry fees and contributions are tax-deductible.

On-going

- · Book Sale at the Jackson County Library. Bargains galore can be found at the Friends of the Library Used Bookstore which is located at 536 West Main Street in downtown Sylva. All bargain books have been priced at 2 for 50 cents and 2 for 25 cents. The pricing is effective immediately. All the profits from the Friends of the Library Bookstore go to support the Jackson County Public Li-
- The Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for "Always Patsy Cline," Thurs.-Sun., June 19-July 6; "On Golden Pond," Thurs.-Sun., July 10-20; "70th Anniversary Diamond Review," Thurs.-Sun., July 24-Aug. 10; and "Inherit the Wind" Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 14-31. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.
- Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for its annual Children's Theatre Mond-Fri., July 7-18, taught by instructors with extensive experience in theatre education 9 a.m. to noon for ages 6-10, and 1-4 p.m. for ages 11-16. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.
- · Registration is now open for the 2008 summer nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are offered: "WOW! a World of Wonder" (ages 4-6), "Amazing Animals"

(ages 7-10), "NatureWorks" (ages 7-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-14), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-15). Some camps are offered more than once during the summer. Sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• Yoga at the Rec Park, 7:30 a.m Monday and Wednesdays. Call 526-4340 for information.

· Yoga in the bottom floor of Jane Woodruff Building. 10:30 a.m. Thursdays. Call 526-4340.

- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satelite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.
- · Step Aerobics at the Rec Park, 4-5 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays. \$5 per class.
- 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, 10 a.m. until noon. 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.

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- · 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
- · 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.

Wednesdays

- · Adult handbell rehearsals at Highlands United Methodist Church at 6 p.m. Call Carroll Harris at
- 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.

1st & 3rd Thursdays

• The local affiliate of NAMI NC (National Alliance on Mental Illness), NAMI Appalachian South, meets from 7-9 p.m. at the Family Restoration Center, 1095 Wiley Brown Road, Franklin. NAMI offers peer support, education, and advocacy for individuals suffering from serious mental illness and their families and loved ones. Contact Ann Nandrea 369-7385, Carole Light 524-9769 or Mary Ann Widenhouse 524-1355 for more information.

Thursdays

· Live Music with Brad Vroon at Fireside Restaurant in Wright Square from 6-9 p.m. with Tapas Menu.

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

Friday & Saturday

· Live music at The Rib Shack every Friday and Saturday night from 7-10 p.m.

Fridays

• 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.

Saturdays

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

• See EVENTS page 22

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LEATHERHEADS rated PG-13

Mon - Thurs: (4:10), 7:05 Fri: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10 Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

NIM'S ISLAND rated PG

Mon - Thurs: (4), 7 Fri: (4), 7, 9 Sat & Sun: (2), (4), 7, 9

Hospital free health screening April 26

There's still time to sign up for the spring community health screening being held Saturday, April 26 for residents of the Highlands and Scaly Mountain communities.

The screening, which is one of five community screenings being offered around the area by Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, is completely free. Preregistration is required, however.

As in past years, the screening will be held on the first level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus. It will

Would-be participants can sign up through April 23 screening by calling the hospital foundation office at (828) 526-1435. They can also sign up on the hospital's website www.highlandscashiershospital.org (click on the screening menu, and complete the registration form). Those registering on line will receive a confirmation email.

Appointment times will be assigned

as part of the registration process to help reduce lines and waiting times.

Participants will be screened for height and weight, BMI (body mass index) and body composition (body fat), blood pressure, blood oxygen saturation level, cholesterol and triglyceride levels, glucose (blood sugar) level, and white and red blood cell counts (to detect anemia and infection). Men over the age of 45 will also receive a blood test to detect prostate cancer (PSA). Dietitians and exercise specialists will be on hand to discuss healthy eating and exercise habits, and a physical therapist will be available to evaluate balance and strength. Hearing tests and ear examinations are also be conducted.

As in the past, those participating in screenings are asked not to eat or drink anything but water after midnight the night before. Confidential results of screening tests will be reviewed by a physician and mailed out to each participant.

UPCOMING EVENTS •

Wertzler hostas at plant sale May 24

It is that time of year when gardeners are starting to find their tools and plan for this year's new plants.

A wonderful addition ot any garden would be hostas! They are a great perennial that return each year whether or not you have a

green thumb. Hostas come in over 100 varieties in different colors and sizes.

Dorothy Wertzler was a hosta-holic! A past president of the Mountain Garden club, she died five years ago but her hostas live on in Highlands.

Come to the Mountain Garden Club plant sale on May 24, and you may bet

to buy some of Dorothy's hostas. But come early. They go fast.

The 26th annual Mountain Garden Club plant sale will be May 24, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the baseball park on the corner of U.S. 64 east and Hickory Street in High-

lands. The rain date is May 25 from 1-4

In addition to hostas, the plant sale will feature native flowers and plants.

Proceeds and contributions of the plant sale support Dorothy Wertzler Memorial Scholarships for college students studying horticulture and related fields.

er.

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

Sundays

• Live Music with Brad Vroon at Fireside Restaurant in Wright Square, noon-3 p.m.

Wednesdays, through May 7

• Sick and Tired of being sick and tired? The Macon County Cooperative Extension Service is offering a 6-week chronic disease self-management program to help you improve your health one step at a time. Wednesday mornings at the cooperative extension office 9:30 a.m. to noon. To register call Sherrie Peeler at 828-349-2046 or Mary Barker at 828-586-1962.

Wednesdays through May 14

• A series of seven classes covering the Principles and Elements of Design meets every Wednesday at the Highlands Rec Park from 1 to 4 p.m. Each class will include a brief informative in-

troduction to an element or principle, a fun and quick exercise, and an art project using a variety of materials. Classes include instruction on a variety of painting and drawing materials, as well as Balance, Emphasis, Contrast, Proportion, Repetition, Rhythm and Harmony. Call Donna Rhodes at 828.526.4949. 4#.

Thursday, April 17

- Highlands School Talent Show is 6 -7:30 p.m. and there will be a dinner benefiting the Highlands School Art Foundation which will begin at 5 p.m.
- Franklin Community Blood Drive at First Baptist Church 12:30 pm to 5:30 p.m. Please call (828) 369-9559 for more information or to schedule an appointment. All presenting donors can enter a drawing for a trip to Disney World!
- Take a Eco-Tour with the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust at the Hambridge Center a center for Creative Arts and Sciences on 600 acres in

the North Georgia Mountains. The event is free for HCLT members and only a \$25 donation for non-members. Reservations are required and space is limited so reserve your spot early by calling HCLT at 526.1111 or email Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net.

Fri.-Sat., April 18-19

· At ITC, Madeleine Davis and David Milford in

"The Ice Breaker" by David Rambo is a thought provoking drama following in the footsteps of such plays as Arcadia, Proof and Copenhagen. Reservations are strongly suggested. Call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197.

Friday, April 18

"Movie Night" at 7 p.m., Grace Community

The Bascom presents 'Collective Spirits: An International Wine Tasting' May 29-30



Wine and fine dining aficionados, cultural tourists and festival-goers are invited for a two-day May 29-30 wine extravaganza. Collective Spirits, a benefit event and program of The Bascom, will be held at Highlands Country Club.

Collective Spirits begins on Thursday, May 29, at 6:30 p.m. with the tasting of carefully chosen international and domestic wines. The kickoff evening includes piano music by Angela Jenkins, plus varied culinary stations.

Collective Spirits continues on Friday, May 30, at 11 a.m. with a bountiful buffet brunch, sparkling wine tasting, lecture by Delia Viader of Viader Vineyards and Michael DeLoach of Hook and Ladder Vineyards, brief discussion of sparkling wines by Vinilanda owner Martin Yolk, and guitar music by Cy Timmons. At 1 p.m. the live auction begins, delivered by well-known auctioneer Dennis Hall. The auction will boast lots of rare and fine wines, as well as numerous trips and tours, resort vacations, dining experiences and handcrafted items. Dozens of silent auction items will include hard-tofind wines, artworks and crafts.

For Friday evening, participants will have a choice of wine dinners at Highlands-area restaurants, among them Lakeside, On The Verandah, Fressers and Wolfgang's On Main; a wine dinner at Cyprus on Saturday night; and a Saturday afternoon wine tasting at Highlands Wine and Cheese.

Event patrons at the \$1,500 per couple and above levels will enjoy a private dinner party in a spectacular hilltop home with special guest DeLoach.

Corporate sponsors of these two-day festivities include Bank of New York-Mellon, First Citizens Bank, Harry Norman Realtors and WHLC FM 104.5.

All proceeds will benefit The Bascom, a nonprofit art and education center and community fine arts school.

Ticket pricing begins at \$125 per person for May 29 and \$100 per person for May 30, or \$200 per person for a two-day combination ticket. The ticket price includes the gift of a Stolzle-USA wine glass per person. The Friday dinners will be on your own at an additional cost, payable directly to the restaurant of a participant's choice.

"Fine wine and food, event proceeds to benefit an essential arts charity, a mountain village and resort respite – these are reasons for the public to sign up for Collective Spirits and be in Highlands when corks are popped and South American, French, Italian, Australian, Spanish, South African, Californian and a broad range of wines are poured on May 29 and 30," said Donna Woods, The Bascom's events director.

For tickets or information on becoming an event patron, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949 or email info@thebascom.org.

HCP selects cast for 'The Last Night of Ballyhoo'



The Last Night of Ballyhoo by Alfred Uhry opens Thursday, May 8th at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands NC. The production continues May, 9, 10 & 11 and again the following weekend, May 15, 16, 17, & 18. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 2:30 p.m. Pictured are: Mary Adair Leslie, Director, Becky Schilling, Ralph Stevens, Jenny King, Laura Miller, Matt McClellan, Katie Cochran, and Colin Long.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regional High School Exhibition opens at The Bascom on Friday





Work from regional high school artists like this Art II cooperative project from Highlands School, left, and this piece by Christian Hunt of Tuscola High School, right, will be showcased in the exhibition.

gia High Schools will take part in the 2008 Regional High School Exhibition, set for April 19-26 at The Bascom, a center for the visual arts.

The public is invited to the free opening reception, on April 19 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Participating schools include Blue Ridge School of Cashiers; Highlands High School, Highlands; Rabun County High School, Tiger, Ga.; Rabun Gap Nacoochee School, Dillard, Ga.; Smoky Mountain High School, Sylva; and Tuscola High School, Waynesville.

"This is an exciting year because we have expanded the number of high

Six North Carolina and North Geor-schools from last year," said Kaye Gorecki, The Bascom's artistic director and organizer of the event. "The work of these exceptional young artists is awesome."

A wide variety of media are represented, including woodturning, ceramics, oil, acrylic, graphics, drawing and more.

The exhibitions are free and open to the public. The Bascom is located inside the Hudson Library, on Main Street in Highlands. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

For more information about this or other Bascom events and exhibitions, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 6#.

Church will be showing the movie, "The Ultimate Gift," starring James Garner & Brian Dennehy, and based on Jim Stovall's best selling novel. Admission and refreshments are free, and all are welcome. For more information, call the church at 743-9814.

Saturday, April 19

- · The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance, Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association, and Whole Life Market are hosting the annual Earth Day celebration at the Village Green in Cashiers on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 pm. The event is FREE and will be held rain or
- •The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a special wildflower hike in the Whitewater River Gorge where at least a million trillium should be in bloom. The 3.5 mile hike is rated moderate with a descent of 800 feet, requiring some cautious footwork in steep places. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30 a.m. and the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9:50 a.m. Call leader Jim Whitehurst. 526-8134, for reservations
 - At The Bascom, a "Regional High School"

exhibition opens from 5-7 p.m. and runs through

Sun.-Wed., April 20-30

· Highlands United Methodist Church trip to the Holy Land Trip: Please speak with Pastor Mike or Pastor Todd for more details.

Sunday, April 20

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4.5 mile easy-to moderate hike to Rough Run and High Falls with a small elevation change of less than 200 feet and some scrambling over rocky terrain near High Falls. Call leader Carl Blozan, 743-1765 for reservations.
- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easyto-moderate one-mile loop hike on the Rufus Morgan Trail to a beautiful waterfall with lovely spring flowers along the way. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 24 miles round trip. Bring water, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations.

Week of April 21

• The Town has designated the week as Spring Cleanup Week this year. Residents may arrange for the collection of white goods, such as old washing machines or refrigerators, during that week by calling the Town Office at 526-2118 during business hours, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Tuesday, April 22

- · Horsepasture River Reclassification. The Environmental Management Commission, at the request of the Sierra Club, is proposing to reclassify the lower 4.6 mile portion of the Horsepasture River, and its tributaries, in Transylvania County to Outstanding Resource Waters. There will be a public hearing at 6 pm at the Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library, 249 Frank Allen Road, Cashiers, NC 28717. Comments are due by June 2, 2008 to Elizabeth Kountis, DENR/Division of Water Quality, Planning Section, 1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1617, phone (919) 733-5083 x369.
- · All western North Carolina citizens are invited to attend the first Orville Coward Forum on Public Issues to be held at 7 p.m. in the Gazebo at 553 West Main Street Restaurant in downtown Sylva. The topic,"The Cost of Medical Care as Affected by Court Cases and Insurance", will be presented by Dr. Randall Provost well known medical authority who will also answer questions and comments from attendees. Prior to the presentation light refreshments will be served or attendees may arrive early to enjoy dinner at the restaurant. Reservations are requested by April 19th and may be made by check for \$10 per person payable to The Orville Coward Forums and mailed to Republican Headquarters, 482 West Main Street, Sylva, NC 28779. Reservations may also be paid in person at the address

above. For information please call Forums Chair, Fran Webster at 828 586-3577.

Thursday, April 24

 The Gem & Mineral Society presents "Paleo-lithic Research Pertaining to the Origins of Man" based on Biblical Archaeology at the Community Building in Franklin on S. 441 at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy this talk on the Pleistocene Era stone tools and culture with national educator Alex Solimine. For more info, call 828-332-0138.

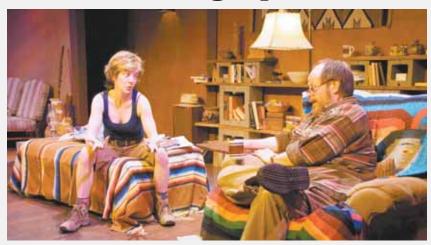
Friday, April 25

 The Operation Hope Relay for Life Team at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will host an ice cream social on Friday, April 25. In addition to an assortment of flavors of ice cream and frozen yogurt, there will be the makings for sundaes and banana splits. The event will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the surgical center lounge in the hospital. The public is invited. All benefits will go toward this year's Relay for Life, set for this August in Cashiers.

Saturday, April 26

- · Catch the Spirit of Appalachia will host the Traditional Heritage Walk at the upcoming Greening Up the Mountains Festival in downtown Sylva from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. A nonprofit heritage organization, Catch the Spirit of Appalachia (CSA), will bring to this year's festival artisans who specialize in honoring and saving our local human and natural heritage through their hands. Call 828-631-4587, or go to website www.spiritofappalachia.org.
- · Spring Gorge Road Clean Up is from 8 a.m. to noon. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Contact the Chamber of Commerce at 526-5841

'Ice Breaker' on stage April 17-19 at ITC



David Milford, as Dr. Lawrence Blanchard, and Madeleine Davis, as Sonia Milan, costar in The Ice-Breaker.

Photo by EndlessSummerStudios.com

Attention theatre lovers. Your chance to experience one of the best plays to ever hit the South is slipping away.

The Ice-Breaker by David Rambo produced by the Instant Theatre Company costarring David Milford and Madeleine Davis will end its critically acclaimed run Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 17-19.

For two hours theatre goers are transported to the American Southwest desert and into the lives of two passionate scientists who meet for the first time. One audience member observed, "You would have to go to the theatre mecca, NYC, to

find acting and a production like this." Audiences have been riveted to their seats until the end of the last scene, when they threw themselves to their feet in thunderous applause of appreciation.

Make your reservations now before it's too late. There will be no more chances, no DVD, it will be gone. Phone 828-342-9197 to reserve your seat in The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main, "the third largest theatre in Highlands NC" 310 Main Street Oak Square. The play is for mature audiences. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., Curtain at 8.

CLASSIFIEDS •

Free Classified Ads for items
FOR SALE less than \$1,000.
 All other terms:
20 words for \$5; \$2 for each 10-word increment.
 Email copy to:
 highlandseditor@aol.com
 or FAX to 1-866-212-8913
 Send check to:
 Highlands' Newspaper
 P.O. Box 2703
 Highlands, NC 28741
 828-526-0782

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY -

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation is looking for a part-time receptionist (Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 am-1 pm). If you are interested, please submit resumes to PO Box 729 Highlands, NC 28741.

RN NEEDED for upscale retirement community. Oversee health care needs of 26 assisted living residents, including supervising CNAs and med techs. Good public relations and customer service skills needed. Apply in person at chestnut Hill, 64 Clubhouse Trail, Highlands, NC. Or email your resume to admin@chestnuthillslc.com. Drug screening and background check. EOE. 4/17

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

WHY KNOT KNIT HIGHLANDS is seeking a manager for its knitting retail shop. Must be courteous, dependabe and know how to knit. For more info, contact: Beki at #404-542-2904.

<u>COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH</u> is accepting resumes for an Office Assistant. Computer skills, people skills and creative abilities are required. 828-526-4685 or <u>office@cbchighlands.com</u>

THE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CENTER OF HIGHLANDS, NC is seeking part time administrative assistant starting May 1, 2008. Appli-

BlackRock

REALTY GROUP, LLC

Blackrock is looking for a few

Blackrock is looking for a few GREAT (licensed) BROKERS for our new expanded Main Street Highlands office and our new Pilot Knob Sales office in Glenville.

Contact Doug at doug@doughelms.com or by phone at 526-0000.

All communications confidential.

cant must have both written and oral Spanish knowledge, must be motivated and work well with others. Basic computer skills are necessary. Additional training will be given once applicant begins. For more information please call Jill at 828-526-9938 x 290.

SERVERS AND COUNTER HELP NEEDED at SweeTreats, Highlands. Call 526-9822.

HOUSEKEEPER needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full time position available for days. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

<u>RNS</u> at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. Full, Part-time and PRN positions available for 12 hour day and night shifts. Excellent wage scale, with shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. We are now offering part-time employees, working at least 24 hours a week, medical insurance. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

DIRECTOR OF NURSING is needed in the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina. Experienced nurse leader for a 24-bed Critical Access Hospital, responsible for managing a budget, quality of patient care, customer satisfaction, and the oversight of management for the Acute Care Unit (Med/Šurg), ER, OR, PACU and GI Lab, Hospice, and Cardio-Pulmonary. Must be able to provide leadership for managers and staff, and conduct recruitment and retention activities. Masters degree with a background in nursing leadership required. This position reports directly to the CEO/President of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, working closely with the QA Nurse Manager and the VP of Operations. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of fulltime employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full-time position with 8 and 12 hour shifts. Responsibilities include taking call and being able to respond within 20 minutes. Also must be able to intubate a patient. Current registration or certification in North Carolina, along with current BCLS and/or ACLS required. Experience with rehabilitation and disease prevention preferred. 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 Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. Full-time, positions for night shifts. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employment. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

<u>UNIT CLERK</u> needed at Highlands Cashiers Hospital. Performs clerical duties and acts as receptionist for the nursing unit. Experience in a hospital setting preferred. 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 Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

LOST & FOUND

<u>CANOE FOUND IN MIRROR LAKE</u>. Call 828-506-0308 for details

YARD SALE - APRIL 17, 18, 19

IT'S GOTTA GO! Furniture, bric-brac, household, antiques, tools, plumbing, electrical, garden. REASONABLE. 90 Laurel Heights Road (U.S. 64 west to Webbmont Road, 2nd Right, 3rd House on left). Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 526-2671.

WORK WANTED

<u>RESPONSIBLE CAREGIVER</u> – Available night shifts. (possible live-in) Call Clara at 828-342-1603 or 828-369-9812.

<u>HOME DUTY SITTER</u> available for elderly, caring, experienced with references. Please call for hours available and specifics. Denise - 369-3813

EXPERIENCED FINISH CARPENTER: Call Alfredo at 828-349-1590. You can also call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290

CLEANING OR RESTAURANT WORK WANTED: Contact Gloria at 828-371-5806. You can also call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290.

LOOKING FOR A HOUSEKEEPER? Call Dora at 828-200-1038. Call Janet at 828-399-9693 or 828-526-9709. Luz Maria at 349-2735. Cira at 349-1838. Erica at 864-886-9986. You can also call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290

EXPERIENCED TRUCK DRIVER SEEKS FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT: Call Mike at 828-524-4052. You can also call the International Friendship Center to see how we can help! 828-526-9938 x 290.

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

PRIME OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT — 800 sq. ft., air-conditioned, heated, plenty of parking. Call 526-5673.

IN-TOWN COMMERCIAL Space with Optional Living space for rent. Charming and supremely convenient commercial building In high traffic district. One block off main, Walking distance to Main Street shopping at Old Edwards Inn. Loft apartment above commercial space. Commercial space \$1,700/month. Loft \$850/month. Call today to schedule a showing! 828-526-2769.Ask for Ralph.

<u>UNIQUE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY</u> <u>ON MAIN ST HIGHLANDS.</u> 800 sq ft retail/office space just in time for the season. Space includes bath & kitchen. Call for details 526-3363.

RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE, Hearthstone Center on busy Hwy 64 beside the old Hardee's, 2,052 sq ft, High visibility, Plenty of parking, Great retail location ready to be occupied, central heat & air, carpet, excellent condition, Busy shopping center, Call 828-243-2939 or 828-743-9454 for more

nformation

RETAIL/OFFICE SPACE - 800 - 3,000 Sq Ft. Located in Highlands Plaza. Entrances on Hwy. 28 & 106. Great Visibility. High Traffic. Abundant Parking. Reasonable Terms. Best location in town. Call 864-630-0808 for info.

RESIDENTIAL SPACE FOR RENT

CONVENIENT IN-TOWN LOCATION – Charming Loft Living on Spring Street. Fully Furnished Apartment 1 block off of Main Street. 1 Bedroom, Large Bath with Jacuzzi Tub, Stocked Kitchenette, \$850./month, no pets. Please call 526-2769.

<u>DOWNSTAIRS APARTMENT</u> with shared kitchen. one bedroom, living room, bathroom. Close to Town. \$700/mth, utilities included. Call 828-342-0157

ONE BR/ONE BATH FURNISHED APART-MENT close to town including all utilities except phone. \$750. Contact Tucker or Jeannie Chambers, The Chambers Agency, REALTORS. 828-526-3717.

<u>1BED/1BATH</u> 900sq.ft. \$825/month includes utilities.\$300 deposit. Unfurnished.Non-smoker perferred. Walking distance to town. (828)526-9494

<u>ON MIRROR LAKE</u> – 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.

<u>COTTAGE FOR RENT</u> – 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/ AC, FP, extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$750. monthly plus utilities. Call 526-1684.

VACATION RENTAL

HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB – Sorry, golf and club priviledges not available. \$2,495 a week. Call 912-230-7202.

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

1,600 sq.ft. handicapped access. house on 2 acres. 3br/2 large bath w/roll under sinks; elevator, finished basement w/workshop area, 2 car carport; new metal roof; native stone fireplace & landscaping; new hardwood floors. Bordered by Forest Srv. & creek and state road. Access to fish pond.\$329,000. Call 526-5910

BEST DEAL IN SCALY – 1+/- acres on Buck Knob. Septic and water systems installed. House site leveled and ready. Views and waterfall sounds. Approx 3,400-3,500 elevation. No modulars or trailers. \$49,999 MLS 64785. Ann James. Cabe Realty 526-2475 www.caberealty.com 5/1

HOUSE FOR SALE IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA. 3 bedroom, 2 ½ bath in adorable, quiet neighborhood 2 miles from ocean and Palm Beach Island and 5 miles from downtown. \$450,000. Call 561-379-9151. 7/31

MOTOR COACH SITE - DOWNTOWN

• CLASSIFIEDS •

<u>HIGHLANDS</u>. With Cedar shake Coach House. Gated. Private. Overlooks active stream. Short walk to shopping and dining. Located at the cor. of Fifth and Chestnut Sts. For all info. visit at your leisure: www.JTIMMS.com/HIDDENCREEK or contact owner directly at 828-526-5333.

LOTS FOR SALE – .85 AC lot off Turtle Pond. Backs to USFS. Views. \$30K; .90 AC lot, drive cut in. \$30k. 2-bed septic approved. Ready to build. New shared well for both. Call Ty at 828-577-9261.

<u>UPPER CLEAR CREEK ROAD AT CORNET</u> <u>LANE</u> 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.

HOUSE FOR SALE (ISLAMORADA, FLOR-IDA) – Two bedroom, one and ½ bath conch house for sale at Mile Marker 86, near Founders Park on Oceanside. House sits on a 8,520 square foot lot in a great subdivision with a public boat ramp on the next street over. Founders Park, which is across the street, has a park with a boat ramp, marina, pool, beach, tennis courts, etc. Great deal — owner moving out of state. \$475,000. Call 305-852-4369 for more info.

<u>OCEAN FRONT</u> – Beautiful home in Surf City, N.C. zoned residential/commercial. Walk to pier and town. 7-bed, 4 full baths. Separate apartment. Good rental income. Call 919-340-2280.

HOUSE FOR SALE – HFCC 2 story split, 3/2, large lot, lake, golf course, mountain views, membership available but optional. \$795,000. Call 526-4154

<u>LAND BY OWNER</u> – 3/4 acre lot. Close to Town. Very, very, level building lot. Community water available. \$79,000. Call Ginger at 828-526-4959.

OCEANFRONT LOT KEY LARGO, FLORI-DA – Cleared, buildable with all services. Last unimproved lot in Silver Shores subdivision. \$599,900. For information and photos call Frank (954) 964-7649 or email ft442@bellsouth.net.

ITEMS FOR SALE

FREE DINING ROOM TABLE, Glass Top, 6 chairs. White. Call 526-5910

<u>DUMP TRAILER</u> — 12 ft. hydralic. \$1,200. Call 526-5910.

<u>STONE CARVING</u> – Reproduction piece 15" high, from the Olmec Era (1,200 years old). \$40. Call Alex (828) 332-0138

RADIAL SAW – Craftsman, 10-inch, model # 113.199200. Excellent condition. \$200. Call Fred at 828-743-6108

ANTIQUE FURNITURE: Medallion Back Sofa, Louis XV substyle. \$300. Matching Lady's and Gentleman's Chairs, \$400 set. Rocking Chair, Lincoln Type, upholstered. \$175. Sold separately or all for \$750. Call Sandy at 524-7350 or 369-6263.

FRENCH HORN Recently overhauled Conn 6-D double, excellent condition \$1,500. 828-526-2905 leave message

GREEN PRINT VELOUR SWIVEL ROCK-ER, new, \$250; blue stripe club chair w/ottoman, like new, \$175; large pine armoire, like new, \$200;.Simms X-large waders w/attached boots, bought at Highland Hiker, used 3 times, \$250. Call Beatrice or Dennis at 743-5600.

OFFICE DESK FOR SALE. 30x60, dark oak finish, 6 drawers. \$150. Call Sandy at 369-6263 or 524-7350.

JEEP RIMS – 17-inch aluminum factory rims

off 2005 Jeep Liberty 4x4. Brand new! Complete set of 4 \$800. Valued at \$265 each. Call 706-982-2254.

KING SIZE BEDROOM SET – Complete set includes two nightstands, two chest of drawers, large dresser with mirror. Like new. \$500. Call 706-982-2251

PAIR OF DESIGNER WING BACK CHAIRS

- Fabric with velvet trim. Neutral colors in Brown, cream/gold muted \$375. Coordinating area carpet roughly 8 x 10 (can be cut to size) 526-4340 8-5

BARELY USED 30GB ZUNE VIDEO MP3
PLAYER. Comes with leather case. \$150 or best offer. Call Davis at 828-526-9152 for more information.

<u>BALDWIN ACROSONIC PIANO</u> Excellent condition. \$300. Call 743-5151.

TWO SIT-ON TOP KAYAKS. Orange. Paddles included. \$500 for both. Call Lisa at 770-842-3784.

THREE "HOUSE OF DENMARK" BOOK-CASES – walnut, 3' x 6', containing TV, tape player, turn table, radio/CD. Sold as an entertainment unit including 2 Advent speakers. \$550. Call 526-9273.

MISC. ITEMS – Play Station 2 \$75; Old Walt Disney movies (never opened); Indoor plants; Girls' bicycle; Collectible Basketball Cards (never opened). Call 526-9123.

SNOW TIRES For Ford Expedition 03-05 factory rims. Complete set of 4 only \$400. Size 17 x 75 J. Call Wolfgang at 526-8396.

<u>POOL TĂBLE</u> – Peter Vitalie 8' x 50" pool table, burl wood rails, upgrades leather pockets, new upgraded felt – oak in color – \$3,400.Table located in Cashiers, Call 770-313-0899.

BARBOUR COAT Burghley Duster. \$350. Call 526-9027.

MASSEY FERGUSON DIESEL DELUXE 35 WITH POWER STEERING. Completely rebuilt, repainted, new tires. Includes scrape blade, and an 8,000 lbs. tandem axle trailer. Sharp Package! \$7,500. Call (828)526-1684 and leave message.

<u>SEII BUNK BED SET</u> – Very Nice Desk; One 11X15 rug, Lt. in color, very good condition; Mountain Bike w/car carrier, helmet. Call 828-526-4064.

<u>ANTIQUE ORNATE WALNUT</u> Victorian gold velvet sofa and blue chair. Call 369-0498 and leave message.

BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTERS: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, \$8.00 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Wide barn siding, \$3/ft. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to reassemble. 215-529-7637.Delivery available.

<u>DINING ROOM TABLE & 8 CHAIRS</u> – (7 w/ o leaves) Great forMountain Home. Nearly New. Good Condition. Leather & Upholstered chairs. \$1,000. Call Linda at 526-1517.

KING-SIZE HEADBOARD, \$40; new glass fireplace screen, (still in box.) polished brass finish, fits fireplace opening Height 24 3/4 "- 29 3/4". Width 30" to 37 1/2," \$125. Call 828-371-2999

ANTIQUE CHERRY DINING TABLE from Estate Sale. Double drop-leaf. Rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people Extends to 4x10 ft \$1,500 obo 828-787-1515

<u>DOG KENNEL.</u> 10' x 10' x 6', heavy gauge chainlink. Like New. \$175, was \$270. call

828.389.2722 Hayesville, NC

<u>DELUXE VENTED GAS</u> heater high btu, slightly used, \$100. 524-6038.

<u>ČUSTOM DECK SET</u> – Painted aluminum Love seat & club chair with laminated waverly cushions. \$125. Call 526-1078.

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

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

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

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

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

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

<u>2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE</u> – 4-dr, 63,500 miles. Green with tan leather.Excellent condition. \$14,000. Call 828-743-6946.

2002 4WD, LS ISUZU TROOPER — 71,000 miles with all the bells & whistles. New car coming. Reduced to \$7,600 OBO. Call 526-3262.

<u>EUROPEAN CAR OWNERS</u> – Most European manufacturers require synthetic oils and fluids in their vehicles. AMSOIL has a complete line of oil products to improve mileage and maintenance intervals. Synthetics last longer, reducing environmental waste. AMSOIL is proven #1 and does not void your warranty. Call Clay (828) 342-1603 or 828-369-9812. 4/10

<u>1992 TOYOTA CELICA ST</u> – White, AT, 164k,in good shape. Call 828-200-0465.

2002 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER, Blk/tan leather, NAV, wood-grain, 6 CD,80,400 miles w/ ext. warranty to 116k miles. \$25,000. 770-965-6551

2003 VOLKSWAGON JETTA GLS SEDAN – 4-door, 5-speed, AC, Power Everything. Cruise, Premium Sound System, Moon Roof, Leather Seats, 85,000 miles. \$10,500. Call 526-3606.

<u>2002 TOYOTA TACOMA TRUCK</u> – Good Condition. 67,000 miles, new battery, wipers, tires. \$7,000. 828-526-2416.

2006 SUZUKI DR 200SE MOTORCYCLE – 29 miles, only, perfect condition, 1-cylinder, 4-stoke, 199cc. \$3,000. Call 828-342-6789 or home at 828-526-5507.

SERVICES

<u>CLOCK REPAIR</u> – Antique or modern. Complicated antiques are my specialty. Experienced and dependable with house calls available. Call 706-704-9631 or visit my website at www.oldclockrepair.com. Joseph McGahee, clockmakder.

MILT'S LAWN SERVICE – Lawn mowing, weed eating, yard cleaning & light hauling. Call Bill at 828-524-8659 or Milton at 828-421-7919 or 828-369-3569. 5/8

FIREWOOD "Nature Dried" Call 526-2251.

<u>CUTTING EDGE TREE SERVICE</u> - "Let us go out on a Limb for You." We specialize in tree removal, trimming, Lot/View clearing, under brushing and stump grinding. Quality work and Fully insured. For Free Estimate call 524-1309 or 421-2905.

TREE SERVICE – From view clearing to the most complicated tree removal, under brushing, stump removal/grinding/brush chipping/hauling and storm clean-up. For good quality, dependable services, fully insured, give us a call at 828-526-2251.

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL HEMLOCK WOOL-LY ADELGID TREATMENT & FERTILIZATION – Great Results by J&J Lawn and Landscaping services. NC Licensed Applicator, Highlands, NC 828-526-2251.

J&J LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVIC-ES – 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.

<u>ŠHIPPING SERVICES - STORK'S WRAP, PACK & SHIP</u> 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.

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

BUSINESSES FOR SALE

HIGHLANDS RADIO SHACK! Own a successful year-round business on Main Street. Asking \$399,000. Call Thea or Chuck at 526-3350.

LOST

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

<u>LOST DOG "SALTY"</u> – Black and white female Lab mix. Medium-size. Missing from around Owl Gap Road on N.C. 106. Please call 828-526-4575.

LEGALS

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

5 WEST MAIN STREET FRANKLIN, N.C. 28734 828-349-2034

Pursuant to G.S. 163-230.1(c1) the Macon County Board of Elections will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the Election Board Office on the following dates to take action on applications for absentee ballots and other election business for the May 6, 2008 Primary Election. Tuesday April 15, 2008, Tuesday April 22, 2008, Tuesday April 29, 2008 and Tuesday May 6, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. The Board is not required to hold any of the prescribed meetings in said statute unless there are applications or election business to be passed upon.

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman Macon County Board of Elections 4/10, 4/17, 4/24

JIMMY GOODMAN

Candidate for County Commission – District 3 – Macon County – NC - Call Me: 828-421-3487

"It's time for New Ideas"!

We need:

MORE CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT:

"We propose web-casts of all County Commission Meetings."

We can't all attend all of the meetings all of the time. Wouldn't it be nice if you could sit at your computer and watch the meetings from the comfort of your own home? That's just one of the changes I want to implement as your next County Commissioner.

MORE QUESTIONS:

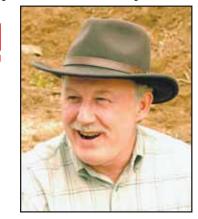
- Do you feel we need more open county government?
- Do you feel your voice is not being heard regarding local issues?
- Do you feel county politicians sometimes operate with hidden agendas?
- Do you feel the county sometimes passes unneeded and redundant laws?
- Do you feel business is stagnating in Macon County as compared to adjoining counties?
- With inflation ravaging your finances, do you feel that Macon County government should have to tighten up, just as you and I have to do?

As **YOUR** Commissioner I **PROMISE** to address **ALL** these issues. Thanks for your time and your vote.

"It's time for New Ideas"!

 $Elect \ \underline{Jimmy \ Goodman} - Commissioner$

Vote May 6, 2008 – in the Republican Primary Avoid the crowds: Early Bird voting starts: April 17, 2008



... CANDIDATES from page 16

tion. A big problem in education is the family is not involved, and we need to find ways to keep them involved," he said.

The candidates were asked how county development policies had been affected by increasing fuel costs. Leatherman said that the county can't control the market. "The cost of fuel increases the cost of everything that is delivered by trucking.

Goodman said "I don't have all the answers, but childcare and housing are two important issues. It's wrong when people can't get by on a decent wage." He also mentioned that the old elementary schools could be used for affordable childcare.

Leatherman closed by acknowledging that all the topics that had been discussed were important issues. "The Board of Commissioners don't always agree, but as a board they support the decisions they reach collectively. We decide on the best decision out of all the alternatives." He said that they have to operate within the statutes set forth by the state of North Carolina. "I have tried to do that for the past eight years, and I will try to do that for the next four," he said.

Goodman summed up by saying "It's time for new ideas. I want to serve Macon County, and I want to stay here the rest of my life. We need to work together to unify the county and go forward to make it a better county."

POLICE, FIRE, & SHERIFF DEPT. LOGS

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for April 7-16. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

April 7

• At 7:10 p.m., a motorist on U.S. 64 east was cited for driving left of center.

April 11

- At 12:35 a.m., officers were called to "keep the peace" at a residence on Harris Drive..
- At 1:15 a.m., Eder Omar De Leon Lopez, 25 of Franklin, was arrested for driving without a license, driving an uninsured and unregistered vehicle with a fictitious license plate..

April 13

• At 4:34 p.m., officers were called to assist another department at a traffic stop on U.S. 64 east..

April 15

- At 5:25 p.m., a motorist at Poplar and U.S. 64 east was cited for speeding 52 mph in a 35 zone.
 - During the week officers issued 2 warning ticket.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of April 11-16.

April 11

• The dept. responded to an accident involving two vehicles. There was one injury and the victim was transported to the hospital.

April 12

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

April 14

- The dept. was first responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Clear Creek Road. The victim was transported to the hospital.
- The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Crescent Trail. It was set off by workers.

April 16

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a business on Church Street. It was set off by a water problem..

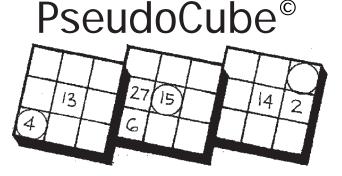
The following is the Macon County Sheriff Dept. log entries for the Highlands Township for the week of April 13.

April 13

• At 4 p.m., Alberto Perez Morales from Lake Glenville, was arrested for driving without a license.

FUN & GAMES •

N-Cryptoku[©]



AZ3D - Level of Difficulty - Difficult

THE SETUP:

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

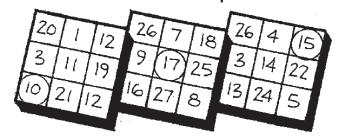
THE CHALLENGE:

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

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com

Solution to #DZ4D in April 10 issue



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

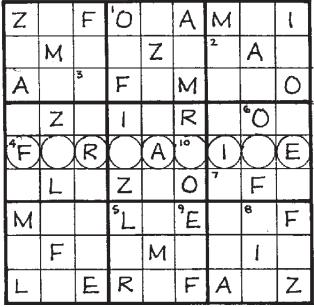
"Providing required format"

Across

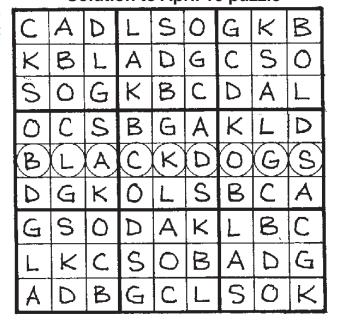
- 1. Alternative indicator (2)
- 2. Long way (3)
- 3. Conditional conjunction (2)
- 4. Preposition indicating purpose (3)
- 5. Falsehood (3)

Down

- 6. Dorothy's goal (2)
- 7. Fish eggs (3)
- 8. Edge (3)
- 9. Easy (abbr.) (2)
- 10. __ and behold! (2)



Solution to April 10 puzzle



8 Pescado's

9 Rib Shack

10 Sports Page

11 Wolfgang's

Manley's Auto Service J&J Lawn & Landscaping

The Farm & Highlands C.C.

Summer House & Tin Roof

Silver Eagle

Shiraz Rugs

Village Kids

2 Tino Gallery

3 Twigs

Wholesale Down 5 Summit One

Peggy

Crosby

Shack Fri. & Sa

7-10 p.m

Mt Magic