

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 6, Number 32

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Aug. 7, 2008

On-going

• The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series is held each Thursday during the summer months at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Rd. For a complete schedule, visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• Various family activities daily at the Nature Center.

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

Sundays

• Hal Phillips at the piano during Sunday Brunch from 12 noon to 2 pm at Jack's at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road.

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

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

Mon. & Wed.

• Pilates Classes Level 1 of Jane Woodruff at the hospital at 4 p.m. \$10 per class. Call 526-5852.

Friday & Saturday

• Live music at The Rib Shack every Friday and Saturday night from 8-11 p.m.

Friday-Sunday

• At Skyline Lodge & Restaurant. Hal Phillips at the piano, 7-9 p.m. Flat Mountain Road. 526-2121.

Saturdays

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

Sundays

• Old-fashioned hymn-sing at the Little Church of the Wildwood at 7 p.m. Call Kay Ward at 743-5009 for more information. Dress is casual.

Through Aug. 10

• At Highlands Playhouse, "70th Anniversary Diamond Review." Call 828-526-2695.

All of August

• At Acorn's on Main Street, it's Juliska Month. Juliska's rich European heritage spans six centuries and combines historic shapes with imaginative new interpretations of glass and ceramic for home décor and tableware.

Wed.-Sat., Aug. 6-9

• At Instant Theatre on Main Street, at 8 p.m., Clarence Darrow. Call 828-342-9197 for tickets: \$20.

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 8-10

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Earthborn Pottery Trunk Show. Hand-crafted pottery from Leeds, Alabama that is dishwasher and microwave-safe.

• Carpe Diem Farms is offering an adult horse back program. Limited space, call now to make your reservation!

tion! 828-526-2854.

Friday, August 8

• Free mountain music in Highlands School old gym featuring, Heart of the South and The Country Kickin Cloggers at 6:45 p.m.

• RBC Centura Bank on at Oak and U.S. 64 west is holding a Yard/Rummage sale to raise money for the Mountain Top Relay For Life, Friday on the front lawn of RBC Bank 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Hot dogs, chips, soft drinks available for donations to Relay For Life.

Saturday, Aug. 9

• At Cyrano's Bookshop a book signing from 1-3 p.m. Charles F. Price "Nor the Battle to the Strong."

• At Cyrano's Bookshop a book signing from 3-5 p.m., by James Nolan "Lying to Tell the Truth: Creating Fiction from Real Life."

• At Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, "Healthy Living Fair" 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. It's Free.

• A Fundamentals Basketball Camp Saturday, at the Highlands Civic Center. Boys and girls ages 7-9 years old from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Boys and girls ages 10-12 years old from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$35. Call Michelle Munger at 342-3551.

Sunday, Aug. 10

• At Shakespeare & Co., a book-signing by James Nolan from 2-4 p.m., signing "Lying to Tell the Truth: Creating Fiction from Real Life."

• Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival Final Gala and Dinner Party: Concert at Highlands Performing Arts Center "Beethoven and Bluegrass" Chris Thile/Punch Brothers/Blair String Quartet, 5 p.m. A reception and dinner at Highlands Country Club follows the concert. 526-9060.

• The Highlands Audubon Society will have their annual potluck picnic at 5 p.m. on Sunday at the Highlands Recreation Park. Hamburgers with condiments and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish. Call Pat Davis at 828-526-0252.

Wednesday Aug. 13

• "Evening at Lakeside" restaurant to benefit The Bascom. Mention the organization and 15% will be donated.

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
76-56°F	78-57°F	77-56°F

'Shortoff Woods' shot down

Affordable housing is a great idea — something that's needed in Highlands say all — but in the end the proposed site and the potential granting of water and sewer to a private enterprise killed the project...for now.

Voting against granting water and sewer to Shortoff Woods — a prerequisite to necessary grant funding — were Commissioners Hank Ross, Larry Rogers and Buz Dotson.

"I think the committee has done a tremendous job and I hope it continues to look for property elsewhere because the proposed property is not the property for this project," said Ross. "There is property within the town

limits that will one day come about and will be perfect for this; a place within walking distance of the commercial district in the right zoning area with water and sewer."

Based on a petition signed by 35 Chestnut Hill residents, 11 people who went on record against the project

• See SHORTOFF page 19

Wishes really do come true



Seth Satterwhite, 9, of Highlands, center, is a happy camper. At the Make-A-Wish Foundation fundraiser Saturday in Sapphire Valley, he and seven other children with life threatening diseases were granted their wishes. Seth's wish was to go on a Disney cruise. Thanks to the \$30,000 raised Saturday he and his entire family will cruise the seas Oct. 5-9. Since his favorite vehicle is a Hummer, Robbie Howell, owner of a hummer, picked Seth up in the vehicle in Cashiers and drove him to the affair. When it was time to discover if his wish had been granted, he was driven to the stage in the Hummer. Seth, who attends Highlands School, has Hunter's Syndrome.

Board rules on 'outdoor displays'

Finally, the outdoor display of merchandise debate has been put to rest.

At Wednesday's Town Board meeting, commissioners voted 4 to 1 to adopt the amended ordinance.

Basically, an outdoor display can only be erected on private property immediately next to an establishment.

No clothing or merchandise with moveable parts can be displayed, nor can highly flammable or hazardous merchandise. The ordinance doesn't apply to retail plant nurseries, but basically all other merchandise is fair game.

During the comment period, businesses people and citizens spoke both for and against amending the ordinance.

nance.

Jerry Moore of Kilwin's encouraged the board to allow the outdoor display of clothing.

"This whole thing is really a non-issue," he said. "I have walked the town both as a citizen and a member of the Chamber of Commerce board and I haven't seen any

• See OUTDOOR page 15

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Police, sheriff ask for citizens' help

The Highlands Police Department and the Macon County Sheriff's Department are asking citizens with information concerning the following cases to come forward as soon as possible.

...

At 6:45 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 6, officers were called to the Marathon gas station on U.S. 64 east when employees reporting to work found a bullet hole in a window.

Chief Harrell said significant evidence was collected and secured at the scene and his department is seeking any information leading to the apprehension of the culprit.

Citizens are asked to contact Captain Todd Ensley with information concerning this crime at 526-8734.

...

At 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 6, officer Mike Jolly was flagged down by a resident of Trillium Place who reported two vehicles had been broken into overnight.

The vehicles had not been locked and were "unse-

• See POLICE page 20

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

This town needs an enema

Dear Editor,

I have been reading Fred Wooldridge's articles for several weeks now. Honestly, I like the way he thinks. I have only lived in Highlands for a little over a year and I have never experienced a town quite like this. It's beautiful yes, but the people of this town are making it quite ugly. People here spend their days waiting for an opportunity to be sour and cause a stir. The Obama sign. Really? Personally, I am glad that the family chose to voice their political affirmation and they have that right. Bottom line wasn't aesthetically pleasing, it was too big and it violated code. I like Fred have lived in big cities and no one would have batted an eye at the sign. The family should not be punished but praised.

The Shortoff Woods Project. One word. Necessity. I live on Mirror Lake with three other roommates and that is by pure luck. I happen to see the "For rent sign" the day it was posted. We work in a restaurant in town and it's an affordable rent. We are truly lucky. The point is it's hard for middle-class to live up here. The middle-class keeps this town alive! Who prepares the cuisine, provides retail assistance, garbage pickup, builds houses, etc. As long as you have good credit, are a U.S. citizen, and clear a criminal background check then it should be (should be) a no-brainer!

This town needs to realize that change can be good. It promotes itself as a "green" but is it really? Not hardly. We have committees and sub-committees. Is it possible to have an environmentally pro-active committee? Yes it is. We can have recycling in town and not just at Buck Creek. We can set up a bio-diesel gas station to help with the costs of school buses and construction trucks that travel up the mountain. Composting Bins could help with waste but also provide useful compost for the many landscapers in this town. No, I'm not a spoiled hippie or a trustafarian but I know it will work. This town is very "off the grid" in terms of being exclusive and not in terms of relying on the resources around us.

Anyway, I could go on. I have only one question. How do we pioneers and people of inquisitive minds improve this area that we live in?

**Mitch Sheppard
Highlands**

Alexander family overwhelmed, thankful for support and benefit turnout

Dear Editor,

We want to say "thank you so much" to everyone who organized, cooked, donated, attended and worked the most wonderful benefit for Tim Alexander on July 26.

The response and support from everyone was overwhelming and appreciated more than we can put into words. You were all there for us and helped us out tremendously. It was like a family reunion with everyone hugging and having a great time seeing people they hadn't seen for a long time.

The roof should've popped off with all the love and true Highlands spirit contained in the civic center that night.

Pete McCall said she wanted to do a bake sale and all the best cooks provided her with enough to open a bakery!

Joe, Judy and Michael Geoghagan with John McCall and Justin and Ron Leslie cooked the best barbeque that people lined up waiting for and which was gone in record time.

Bridgett's cole slaw from Highlands Hill Deli was perfect.

Benny Queen and the Wild Hog Band made us think we were in Helen's Barn again with Donnie Calloway and Judy Billingsley dancing.

Bobby Newton did an excellent job auctioning all the great items donated by merchants, clubs and individuals. Hard work and many hours made everything turn out perfectly.

We tried to list everyone to thank but the list was over a page long and still we were afraid of leaving someone out.

We would like to give special thanks to Dr. Patti Wheeler for the exceptional care Tim has receive, all the uplifting calls, cards, firewood, food, money, the friends and families who have stood by us from the beginning and carried us through these long months...and most importantly, all your prayers.

Our sincere thanks!

Tim, Trudy, Cole and Carly Alexander

Opponents should be clear

Dear Editor,

Shame, shame, shame, on the writers of the Letter-to-the-Editor entitled "Discussion about impact to town." I thought it was customary to READ a column before responding to it. I, too, read Dr. Salzarulo's (I call him Henry) July 24 column. The Letter-to-the-Editor refers to Henry's statement, "Several years ago, shortly after we moved here, we attended a dinner party. Highlands Country Club was building employee housing. Another guest said that if the club wanted to build housing for employees, it should do so in Scaly, and added..." Why would the writers of the letter assume we were at the club or that the speaker was a member? He wasn't.

Henry wasn't bashing Highlands Country Club or its members. He was bashing a racist. The insinuation that the reported statement was a fabrication is absurd. It wasn't. Obviously, the writers aren't frequent readers of Dr. Salzarulo. Lying isn't what he's about. He also isn't about hurting the Hispanic population. Dr. Salzarulo embraces, supports and welcomes our Southern brothers and sisters. When I read the column I saw a plea for introspection. Most of you that oppose the workforce housing project probably aren't racist, but racism is a hideous, undeniable fact of life that we all must consider. Question yourself.

When I was young, a very wise man told me that too many excuses (or reasons) weaken the argument and are often a cover for something one can't or is unwilling to reveal. I have found this to be true over and over again throughout my life.

Traffic, school over-crowding, water, sewer, decreased value at Chestnut Hill, and strain on the hospital from uninsured families are probably not real reasons for the objection. Nor is concern for the shopping and dining needs of future apartment residents, families who will move from Franklin, Sylva, Dillard, or Clayton to enjoy the benefits of life here, or just be closer to work.

Finally, the worry that "old time local" folks won't choose to live in subsidized housing. So what? If they choose not to, they don't need it. Now add possible future hospital expansion to the list.

If the project were for 48 units priced at \$950,000 each would the opposition be so strong? I'd like to think so, but I sincerely doubt it.

**Elizabeth B. Salzarulo
Highlands, NC**

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper.

Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m.

There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

"Our Community Service - A Free Local Newspaper"

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

Toll Free FAX: 866-212-8913 • (828) 526-0782



Email: HighlandsEditor@aol.com

Publisher/Editor - Kim Lewicki Cartoonist - Karen Hawk
Reporter - Sally Hanson Circulation & Digital Media
Copy Editor - Tom Merchant Jim Lewicki

Adobe PDF version at www.HighlandsInfo.com
265 Oak St.; P.O. Box 2703, Highlands, N.C., 28741

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• OBITUARIES •

Rodney Gordon Grantham

Rodney Gordon Grantham, age 80 of Rocky Knob Lane, Scaly Mountain, NC died Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at his residence. He was born in Jamestown, NY, the son of the late Rodney Gordon Grantham, Sr. and Irene Wahl Grantham. He served as a surgical scrub nurse in the US Navy during WWII and the Korean War. He had a long career as a hydrologist specializing in ground and surface water for the US Geological Survey. He was also a musician for a number of years playing both saxophone and clarinet.

While stationed in Yokuska, Japan, during the Korean War, he began the study of Judo, eventually reaching the rank of third degree black belt. After returning to the states, he began teaching judo and established several judo schools in Alabama. In 1967 he began the study of Aikido and reached the rank of sixth degree black belt. He founded the Aikido Center of Atlanta which is the third oldest Aikido dojo on the East Coast and is still in existence having been given over to one of his students. He and his wife Janet also collected Japanese woodblock prints (ukiyo-e) and amassed a collection spanning 250 years. He became one of the few experts in the Southeast and did appraisals and identifications. They exhibited parts of their collection at Japan Fest and Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, GA and at The Bascom-Louise Gallery in Highlands, NC as well as several other places.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Janet Davids Grantham; one step-daughter, Christine Reid Shaw of Atlanta, GA; three sons, Rodney Grantham, III of Roswell, GA, Dana Grantham of Hartwell, GA and Mark Grantham of Atlanta, GA; one step-son, Steven LeConte Shaw of Silver Springs, MD. Three grandchildren also survive. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Marie Grantham and a son Richard Grantham.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Atlanta, GA

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Highlands-Cashiers Hospice, 190 Hospital Drive, Highlands, NC 28741.

Online condolences can be made by visiting byrantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

• See OBITUARIES page 20

Highlands Troop 207 conducts flag ceremony

At the Monday, Aug. 4 Macon County Board of Commissioners meeting, Troop 207 led the opening flag ceremony and invocation. The troop was invited to perform these duties by Commissioner Brian McClellan.



Philip Murphy and Carter Potts were in charge of carrying the United States and North Carolina flags. Kenan Lewis was in charge of delivering the invocation and leading the flag ceremony.

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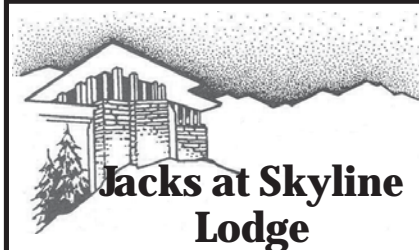


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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Look out, I'm flitting about

It's that time again because Highlands' season is in full swing and, in spite of a weak season thus far, Highlands' cash registers are still ch-ching-in' away. It is also time for me to be on the flit and report all the social and not so social happenings occurring right here in our li'l ole town.

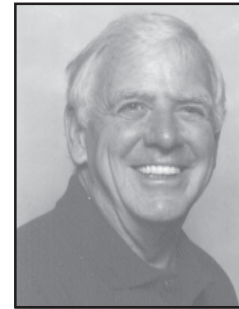
First, the important stuff and this certainly is good news. The canker sore on Mamma Cobb's rear end has finally healed. She no longer has to sit on that dad gum inner tube. Praise be. Thanks to the hard work of dedicated employees of our fine hospital, they finally found a treatment that works. Apparently applying mashed potatoes, without gravy, from the lunch menu did the trick.

Second and equally as important, George W. Bush did not, I repeat, did not assassinate President John Kennedy. Write that down.

Next, let's put to rest several nasty rumors that have been floating around all summer. The Satulah Village town homes project, sitting idle since last year, is not sinking into the ground. The contractors just wish they were. Second, they are not going to tear them down and build a Greek restaurant on the premises and, third, they are not going to give the whole mess to our fire department to burn down for practice. There just might be a teeny tiny bit of truth to the rumor they will sell the whole project to the government for low cost housing to get a huge government write-off. One thing for certain, lawyers are the only people making money on this disaster. Oh, this is important. Will some of Highlands' friendly single girls go over and sit with those miserable security guards? They're so lonely.

And speaking of low cost housing, it seems everyone has caught the fever and wants to help our minimum wage workers find a place to live. I heard all the administrators from all the country clubs got together for an important meeting on housing. They concluded that building low cost housing is like building an insane asylum. It's something we definitely need but somewhere else. They concluded Franklin would be a great place to build as it's only 18 miles away. Wow, why didn't I think of that?

And finally, here's the last word on



Fred Wooldridge

•
Feedback
is encouraged!
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

low cost housing. (Ha, maybe not) An investment group in Highlands is exploring the possibility of building a low cost motel for those less fortunate who snag a one night stand and can't afford our prices. They're calling it the “Lucky Boy Discount Motel.”

Moving on, here's something the mayor and his henchmen might not know. Years ago when people of color were not allowed to live on Miami Beach, a successful jitney

service operated between Miami and Miami Beach. They would pack the car full of workers and drop them off and pick them up right where they worked. Even though the fare was low, the service still made money. I just hate it when people apply common sense. Of course, if the government had run it, it would have lost money.

Here's a public notice to those concerned. The McMalley/Yokem family reunion was moved from the Rec. Park to the Blue Valley campground after organizers of the reunion were told gunplay would not be tolerated this year. Cheeeesh!

Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church has a brand new priest who, at his very first Sunday mass, had to stop in the middle of his message to shush a couple of rude adults. He informed the congregation talking in church would not be tolerated. Thank goodness, sleeping is still permitted.

On that note, remember when “Laugh In” character Arte Johnson asked Ruth Buzzi if she believed in the hereafter. When she said yes, Arte said, “Good, then you know what I'm here after.” Buzzi would beat Johnson to the ground with her purse. Well, in Potter Valley, Ca. a guy tried to pull that stunt on a hot babe in church and she shot him dead, claiming she was trying to kill a mouse. Rumor has it she was part of the McMalley/Yokem reunion. Sounds reasonable to me.

And finally, my 40-year-old daughter, already struggling with three Navy brats and a husband at sea, managed to come down with a serious case of chicken pox. I shipped her five pounds of mashed potatoes from the hospital. She's getting better.

• Who is the woman who haunts Fred's memory? Read his book, *I'm Moving Back to Mars*

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

The perils of parenthood

An Israeli couple, parents of five, left their three-year-old in the duty-free shop at Jerusalem's Ben Gurion Airport. According to a report, the family was doing a little last minute shopping before boarding a chartered jet for Paris. In what must have been an orgy of panic buying they forgot to count kids. Officials found the little one wandering around the store, calling for Mama, who had already boarded the plane, no doubt eagerly awaiting the delivery of her prize purchases. That's a strong argument for small families, or compulsive shopping counseling. The plane with the happy couple and 80% of their offspring had departed before airport officials could get the child to the gate.

Nature protects the survival of organisms like these. A female sea turtle lays hundreds of eggs in a single breeding season. Mother Nature knows that fewer than one in a thousand will survive to maturity. Elephants, on the other hand, insure the survival of their species by nurturing and protecting a small number of young. Humans are expected to do the same, and usually do, unless there is a really good sale at the perfume counter. It must be easy to lose count when the number reaches five. Still, I wonder.

I've lost Bull a few times. We disagree on the exact number, but I always remembered I had a kid. Once was at the Dallas Fort Worth Airport and another was at a Clemson basketball game. It only takes a second to lose track of a kid, but in my experience, the onset of panic is even quicker. Lizzie and I were carrying luggage and ski equipment through DFW, arguing about who had the greater load. I turned and found that three-year-old Bull, who had been following close behind, had disappeared. Instant panic! Thoughts of pedophiles and kidnappers flooded our minds. We found him seconds later, drawn into a shop by some pleasing object. I had no one with whom to share the blame the second time. I was concentrating on the game and Bull was chasing the Tiger mascot. When I checked, both were gone. Several agonizing minutes passed as an eternity. An announcement by the play-by-play guy and the fine work by a guard resulted in a joyful reunion. I called Lizzie, who had stayed home, before any of our friends had a chance to report the incident to her. It's important to get to a spouse first, with bad or embarrassing news.



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

I can't imagine just forgetting that he was following me through an airport or that I had taken him to a game. But then, I'm not much of a shopper, or some might argue, much of a parent. Just last week, while we were visiting London, Bull went to a rest room in a down town toy store. You know who hangs out in the rest rooms of toy stores; off duty Good Humor men. He was gone 10, 15, and finally 20 minutes. Honest, I fought the rising terror as long and as hard as I could, telling

myself that Bull is no longer three or four, but a big boy of 12. That was just about the time that I asked a store security officer to make an announcement. Bull quickly appeared at our agreed rendezvous point and addressed me with a single exasperated word, "Dad!" But the way he said it, sounded like Dad should be spelled with about four "a's". "Daaaad!" He was safe and I felt the fear recede. I was sorry that I had embarrassed him, but not so filled with remorse that I wouldn't do the same thing again, given similar circumstances.

I can't imagine forgetting my kid. Maybe if we had five, I'd lose count once in awhile. That's when I would say, "Stop moving around so I can count." I guess if we were in Circuit City and they were having a really great sale on flat screen TVs and the Olympic games were just around the corner, I might drop my guard for just a second. No. Not even that.

My sister let her kids run around unattended when they were three and four. They have a swimming pool, a pond, and Lake Murray frontage. Her son rode his tricycle into the swimming pool when no one was watching, except maybe God. The pool was empty, he rode into the shallow end, and he suffered only a few scratches. I told her at the time, "Your kids are going to be wonderfully independent and self confident, if they survive to adulthood." Just like a sea turtle. I'm happy to report that they are well on their way and doing well. That three year old Israeli kid is going to be one heck of a shopper, if he reaches adulthood. Just like a sea turtle.

P.S. Dad lost me on a ski hill, let me break my arm, watched a goose attack me, looked away as I almost drown while he was drinking a beer, and dropped me head first into a bucket of fish food. Some Dad.

— Bull

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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Drought in a rainforest

One day last week I was in a shop in Highlands and the clerk said, "Another beautiful day, isn't it great?!" I wanted to shout, "Don't you know we're in a drought?" but instead I just nodded and smiled. I have always wondered why our local papers don't publish the daily rainfall statistics like most newspapers, and the only thing that makes sense to me is that they think if visitors knew how much rain we got on average they would be scared off.



Katie Brugger
k-brugger@hotmail.com

sunk to 1,000 feet to tap what once flowed readily at half that depth or less." The dry years he was referring to were 2000 and 2001 when we only had 60.1 and 59.86 inches of rain. When we went back to an average rainfall in 2002 I can remember new residents complaining about how much rain we were getting. But rainfall — almost daily rainfall — is what is normal for Highlands.

According to Ran Shaffner's history of Highlands, *The Heart of the Blue Ridge*, the average annual rainfall for Highlands is 87.9 inches a year. Highlands is a temperate rain forest, second only to the Pacific Northwest in highest annual precipitation in the United States. Mr. Shaffner records that there have been numerous droughts since Highlands was founded, the most severe occurring in 1925 when only 53 inches of rain fell. A multi-year drought during the 1950s caused serious water problems in town. Mr. Shaffner continues, "The drought of the mid-fifties was severe, but dry conditions at the end of the twentieth century were vying to surpass it, as a growing Highlands population found its water table threatened. Wells were being

I have lived here for 20 years. When I first moved here it rained every single summer day in the afternoon. A fly-fisherman once told me that we never got a lot of rain, maybe a quarter-of-an-inch each day, but that rain added up. And it refreshed the air, cleaned the pollutants, cooled the temperature, and the sky almost always cleared for a beautiful sunset. I can remember a spring where the sun didn't shine for six weeks. I can remember learning not to stick leather boots in the back of a closet for the summer because they'd be covered in mold by fall.

I was clicking around on the Internet to learn more about Highlands being a rain forest, and found an article on CNN.com in their Travel Destinations,

• See BRUGGER page 12



Lake Sequoyah Dam in Highlands

• COACH'S CORNER •

FavrE-SPN?

If you haven't been living under a rock for the past week then you have probably heard about this guy that plays for the Green Bay Packers named Brett Favre. OK, maybe I should say **played** for the Green Bay Packers, because he supposedly retired this spring only to change his mind at the end of the summer. This should have come as no surprise to anyone that follows football on a regular basis, mainly because Favre has considered retirement each of the last two seasons before ultimately deciding to return.

While I happen to think that both sides are at fault here, mainly due to a great deal of unprofessionalism on both sides of the coin -- I have to say that my main problem with this whole ordeal is the non-stop coverage that Favre's every move has received from the sporting media.

While I have long considered Brett Favre to be one of the more overrated players in football, both from a quarterback standpoint and from a media-hype standpoint, there is no question that the guy is a Hall of Fame level football player and therefore is held to a different standard to the rest of us plebeians.

However, I seriously have a problem with the fact that every time I turn on my television I am bombarded with images of Favre, commentary about Favre, graphics detailing Favre's schedule, special reports from Ed Werder about Favre's every move (thankfully leaving out trips to the restroom). It has reached the point of absurdity.

It was bad enough that we had to hear countless accolades, praise, blatant man-love, etc. about Brett Favre when he was actually playing (Joe Buck's youngest son is named Favre...true story...or not) but now we have to hear about him 24 hours a day and he hasn't even set foot on a football field to practice yet this season.

There are so many other great storylines to talk about for preseason NFL football, college football, Major League Baseball, the Olympics and many others -- and yet ESPN's coverage is breathlessly based upon a guy who has not been to a Super Bowl in over a decade? Now you might be saying to yourself... "this guy is a huge hypocrite -- complaining about the media focusing on Favre in a column that he himself is writing about Favre."



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

First off, if you are saying things like this to yourself or answering yourself in another language...never a positive sign, you might want to consider some kind of therapy or counseling (just kidding).

Secondly, this is the type of subject that local media should be covering extensively, not the largest and most watched sports

network on the entire planet. If the local papers in Green Bay and around the rest of the Midwest are devoting most of their coverage to Favre, then I can definitely understand the impetus for that. Joe Friday in the Bronx on the other hand...he could care less about what Favre is doing. He's much more concerned with the American League Eastern Division and Joba Chamberlain's right shoulder.

As for the whole Favre situation, my solution to the problem is for Green Bay to trade Favre, for several reasons. First off-the guy has screwed over your organization by trying to strong arm (no pun intended) his way back on to the roster.

Secondly, if you bring Favre back, you ruin the career of Aaron Rodgers and totally waste the last four years of money and effort you have put into grooming him for the role of starter.

Thirdly, Brett Favre is still a very, very good football player -- good enough to command a couple of good pieces in a trade that could benefit Green Bay greatly in the future. Whatever the Pack decides to do, I hope they do it quickly, because I don't think I can take another week of As the Favre turns. (brought to you by ESPN)

See the solution to
Ryan's
"How well do you know
your presidents?"
crossword puzzle in the
July 31 issue on page
39.

... HIS & HERS continued from page 8

reminds her of her childhood home in Les Bordes, outside of Paris. People adore meeting her, and go out of their way to make her feel welcome.

Like many other events which could have turned out badly, Maman's move went much better than we expected, due to a lot of good will, and Maman's marvelously resilient spirit. She often shakes her head, and says, "If someone had told me when I was a little girl that I would marry an American soldier, and come to live in the USA, I would have thought they were crazy!" It's a great blessing to be able to be happy wherever you are. It's perhaps an even greater blessing not to make yourself miserable over what you can't have. People you've known forever

don't often surprise you, and perhaps we should have expected that Maman would handle all of this with the grace and class with which she handles just about everything in life. It's a source of great pride to be the daughter of such a special lady.

•About the Author: Michelle A.

Mead-Armor 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 and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. If you have a steady source of water and air conditioning, please keep her in mind.



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• HIS & HERS •

Reaching the Summit

“Small town charm, big time living”—this is the way the website advertises Summit Square, the retirement community where my mother now lives. Let's face it, folks. No matter how nice the place, there's always that pinch in your heart when your aging parent (sorry, Maman) moves out of the family house, and into a retirement community. You try to assuage your guilt by reminding yourself of cultures where the elderly are abandoned on ice flows, and left to drift off among the seals, the squalls, and the polar bears. Still, it's hard not to feel that there is something, anything you could have done so that this transition would not occur.

John was very kind. He offered Maman to let our home become her home, too. She would have enjoyed the cats, for sure. The bottom line is, my mother has a life in Waynesboro, and coming to Highlands would have been a complete rethinking of that life. My mother, at almost 81, is still a very sharp cookie. She plays bridge, volunteers at the local art center, and actively participates in book clubs, a wine club, and a group of French

speakers who get together regularly. To put it bluntly, she is her own person. She's forged a unique identity since the death of my father, almost ten years ago—no mean feat, as they were married over 50 years.

Let's face it. Living on top of a mountain, in an almost 100-year-old farmhouse with no central heating, no air conditioning, and a water supply which flirts dangerously with “empty” with each summer is no picnic, either. This is the woman who always refused to go camping. “If God had wanted us to go camping,” she would say, “He wouldn't have invented hotels!” I think my Maman's quota of privation was used up during World War II, in Nazi-occupied Paris. She's never made a big deal about the horrors of the War, but occasionally let's slip some detail which is stunning in its horrible simplicity.



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

Last week, John and I picked up a U-Haul truck in town, and began the eight hour trek to Waynesboro. The truck was surprisingly comfortable, and it was neat to be up so high. It made the view from our Jeep Liberty look positively dash hound-like. John impressed me with his truck driving skills (an alternative career for a lawyer?), and we made excellent time.

We arrived in Waynesboro just ten minutes after my brother Eric had winged and driven his way from Denver. His son, Mark, arrived the next day, after a nightmare of bad connections and barely missed flights which seem to be the norm these days.

The next few days were a flurry of sorting, packing, and hauling things from the house to the new apartment. Maman's new place is bright and sunny, a lovely two bedroom unit with 1 ½ baths and tons of closet space. A nice living room and kitchen complete the place. She's on the same floor as the dining hall, recreation center, and to my mind, the most important, almost across the hall from a magnificent library. If only my apartment in New York had been this great! While I did have three huge closets at my East 52nd Street nest, my place was so small that the flies had to file a flight plan upon entering and the mice all had hunchbacks (ouch, yes, I know—a little bit of sick New York apartment-dwellers humor....).

Summit Square is a marvelous use of a pre-existing structure. The way Highlands and Cashiers have a hospital between them; the towns of Waynesboro and Staunton have Augusta Medical Center. The Waynesboro Hospital building had served the community well—I'd had my tonsils out there as a teenager—but what would be its function after AMC was built? It often pains me to see older, still functional buildings demolished when imagination and forethought could find another use for these structures. They certainly seem to have gotten it right at Summit Square, whose location in the center of Waynesboro seems a perfect fit. The grounds are marvelously kept, the staff is warm and helpful—everything is done to make tenants feel at home. And yet.

It was hard to see the heartbreak my mother was going through, sorting

through a lifetime of memories, having to choose between what got taken to the new place, and what was given away, or left behind. Having been through a similar event only two years ago, I could commiserate even more. The new apartment, as roomy as it is, still could not handle all of the furniture from the old house. And her beautiful garden! The gladiolas were just coming into bloom. The bushes were full of dancing butterflies. During the day, squirrels and rabbits ran across the lawn. We watched, bemused, as the occasional jogger or power walker chugged past the house. The mailman walked from yard to yard, slipping mail through the slot in the front door. All that would be gone.

So what does Maman have in exchange for all that she has had to give up? That great house she lived in was on a street which was black as coal at night, with no street lights, and only the lamps from individual houses to light up the darkness. As more and more people left Shawnee Road, the street was full of houses with For Sale signs in the front lawns. In spite of her busy social life, it wasn't unheard of to phone Maman, and have her admit that mine was the only other human voice she'd heard all day. She often woke up, ate, watched TV, and went to bed without encountering another soul. As she grew older and frailer, my brother and I worried about her safety.

With the move to Summit Square, my mother has entered a new phase of her life, and, in a way, so have Eric and I. We are comforted in the fact that there are wonderful people surrounding her who are there to make her life more pleasant and comfortable. Many of her neighbors are old friends and former neighbors, like her former across-the-street neighbor Marty (Martha) Luxton. A shuttle service is available to take her to appointments and social events. There is a laundry room and laundry service. With my life here on the mountain often parts of “Little House on the Prairie,” “Green Acres,” I actually envy much of her new life. She can retain much of her independence, while not having to worry about many of life's picky and irritating details. Like many of life's toughest choices, it's a trade-off.

When she gets a longing for home life, we can always drive up and bring my mother down here. The cats adore her, following her from room to room, chatting noisily. Weasel, our female cat, jumps up on her bed, and sleeps on her feet at night. Maman loves the little shops, the library, and the beautiful scenery of Highlands. She says that Kettlerock

• See HIS & HERS page 7

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

A funny thing happened on the way to the recession

In my daily life, I watch financial news several hours a day. By habit, I watch CNBC, and since they are an NBC affiliate, the news isn't always objective. They have endless interviews with economists and political financial gurus and your head will spin and your brain will explode if you don't provide yourself with a constant distraction. "I think this"..."Well, I think that"..."and on and on it goes.

A common theme a few months ago was the relative certainty that we were heading into a recession – it was just a question of how severe it would be. The opinions ranged from shallow to disastrous. According to their timetable, we should be in whatever we were going to get in to, and amazingly, we aren't.

The economy hasn't contracted for any quarter yet and it isn't likely to.

So, why the doom-and-gloom mentality?

One would assume these geniuses are immune to outside influences but I'm not so sure. Let's switch gears for a minute, shall we? Remember the great apple scare? Something was supposed to have been sprayed on all the apples we eat that would curl our hair or our toes or something. It was horrible. Movie actresses testified before Congress about the impending doom facing apple eaters. Even though it turned out to be meaningless, the media made it out to be a disaster of biblical proportions.

Remember the great Asian flu scare that somehow morphed into the Avian (bird).

flu scare? Pandemic, that's what's coming. Run, run, the pandemic is coming. Oh Lord, if you'll just spare me from the bird flu thing I'll never sin again (right).

Lives were changed. Now, I'm not clear if the Asian variety that became the Avian (bird) variety ultimately transformed into the SARS flavor of the day, but I suspect the media just changes the name occasionally to keep the frightening news fresh. In my extensive research, I learned that more people died in the back seat of Teddy Kennedy's car (1) than died in the US from SARS (0). Who would have thought?

The West Nile Virus, Mad Cow disease, ebola – need I say more? OK, how about GLOBAL WARMING! I'm not going to beat on that donkey for now, but it is a great example of what the media can do to throw a good scare into their readers/viewers. From an economic standpoint, one would think



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

that the purveyors on this depressing stuff think it's a profitable strategy. Since their readership/viewership continues to dwindle, it doesn't seem to be working.

Turning to politics – which appears to be of interest to some of us – if there was a question as to the objectivity of the media before, after Obama's photo shoot extravaganza abroad the other week, that confusion was dispelled. We have all heard the report-

ers/news anchors are 90 + % liberal. That would explain some of it, but don't ignore the fact that somebody 1. hired them; and 2. pulls their strings. So what motivates the string pullers to hire whom they hire and direct their activities in a liberal way?

I will now reintroduce an organization about which I have serious misgivings. The Council on Foreign Relations was founded for the purpose of "guiding American public opinion." Later, it was modified to "informing public opinion." Its membership consists of US high-level politicians, corporate CEOs with a strong representation of media moguls. They espouse a one-world agenda.

They strongly influence the State Department, which may answer your questions about its activities. They lobby for the interests of international trade, which makes the corporate members very happy. And they effectively direct the media's support for political candidates friendly to their aims. This is how Jimmy Carter was elected, this is how Bill Clinton was elected and this is how Obama has gotten this far.

In retrospect, who would have made a stronger candidate on the Republican side, Mitt Romney or John McCain? What caused Romney's defeat? The media's pounding on his religion certainly worked against him and severely damaged his chances. Why the media's love affair with Obama? Because he is more malleable than Hillary and definitely more so than McCain.

Who was Bill Clinton in February 1992? Nobody. He was thrown on the altar of sacrifice since Geo. H. W. Bush seemed unbeatable. Bush, a member of the CFR, evidently wasn't as cooperative as the unknown Clinton, so Bush's campaign ground to a slog.

The outcome of the 2008 election remains to be seen, but you can bet the rent money that the media will have a strong influence on the outcome.



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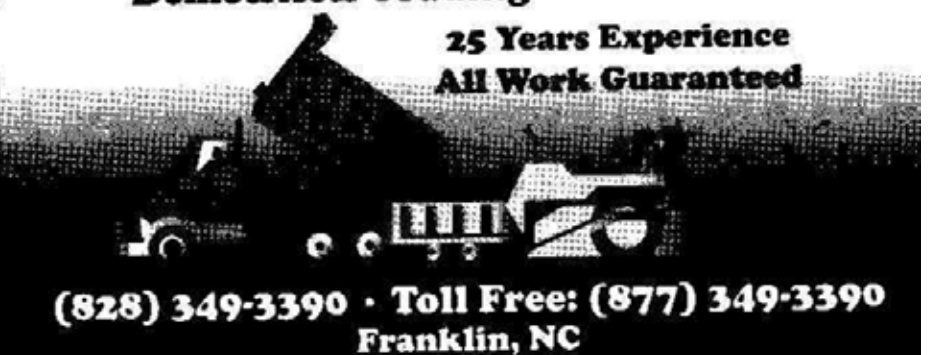
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• ANOTHER POV •

Do the crime, do the time

First let me go on record by saying I am against the death penalty, and I am against it for a number of reasons. It has been proven far too many times that our justice system is flawed and innocent people have been convicted, put to death and later found to be innocent. According to DPIC, since 1973, 173 death cases have been overturned. The length of time they spent in prison awaiting the execution of the death sentence before the case was overturned ranges from one year to 30 years with an average of 9.6 years. The inherent unfairness alone should be sufficient to ban the practice of it.

Beyond the complete unfairness of this situation, the financials alone make the death penalty financially unwise for us the taxpayer. By recent studies the cost of maintaining a prisoner is \$27,273 per year (as of June 2008). The cost of executions in North Carolina is a staggering \$2.5 million above the cost of holding a criminal in jail for life. In the state of Florida, the taxpayers spent \$51 million a year above what it would cost to punish all first degree murders with life imprisonment, that's over one million dollars per inmate.

All that being said, it just doesn't seem wise, appropriate or otherwise just to continue with this practice. From a cost standpoint alone it doesn't make sense to me.

On the other side of things, there is the case of Richard Cooley who is awaiting execution in Ohio for the rape and murder of two women in 1988. He has been on death row for 22 years and now, faced with an execution date of October 14, he has a lawsuit to stop his execution, not because he is innocent but because he is too fat. Let me say this again; he is saying that he is so fat that it will be difficult for the executioner to find his veins and because he takes a drug for migraine headaches the execution drugs could make his death "excruciating."

How broke is a system that first of all allows an inmate to balloon to 267 pounds while in jail. How can a criminal be in jail for more than 20 years while the legal process continues before the execution of his sentence and then permits a lawsuit over such an insane position? What are we supposed to do? Put him on a forced exercise program so



Matthew G. Eberz
Feedback is encouraged
Email:
mgeberz@verizon.net

he can lose weight, place him in a peaceful environment so he can reduce his stress, get off medication and then, when he is well, kill him? This entire process borders on the absurd.

In the case of Mr. Richard Cooley, who does not dispute his miserable crime, and if we convict them of the crime and the sentence is death then why not just take him outside and shoot him like the dog he was? On an emotional basis alone I wouldn't mind

pulling the trigger myself. And don't get me started on John Couey who killed little nine-year-old Jessica Lunsford. When I think of what these beasts that masquerade as humans have done I am enraged with a hatred that wants vengeance, not justice, just pure vengeance.

In spite of my desire to eradicate such scum as these two, I must try to see the bigger picture. A bigger picture that shows (as of 2003), 112 countries have abolished laws and practices that permit the death penalty and that the United States, which frequently claims itself as a human right champion, carried out over 864 executions since 1977. There is the position that the death penalty is a deterrent. According to DPIC the murder rate is actually lower in those states without the death penalty then with and has been since 1990.

So from a deterrent standpoint it's not working, from a financial standpoint it's not working, from a time from sentence to actual execution it's not working. So what's the point? If you want to see a system that worked I suggest you go visit the old state prison of the territory of Wyoming during the 1880s. It has a stone building, cold, with one-person cells that had a bed and a pot. There was no weight lifting room to get big in, no baseball diamond to play on, and no legal library. The average stay was one year and the return rate to the prison was four percent. This was truly a good example of "Do the Crime do the Time." Some people have the position that the death penalty is justice; emotionally I agree but intellectually and morally I cannot. It's time to eliminate the death penalty and lock them away for life. Besides, death is too good for them, let them live inside a box and think about their crime for say 50 years or so.

Next week I will present Another Point of View.



Jason and Kelly Woods with their daughter outside their new business -- Bumper to Bumper Centerline Auto Parts on Walhalla Road.

Blessed from the start

By Ted Schmidt
Contributor

This could be a story, like many others, about a young couple starting a business in a small town. Instead it is a story about the power of prayer, the blessing of living in a loving community, and one family's hope for the future.

On April 27, 2007 as Jason Woods prepared to leave for a Motocross event in Georgia, he felt like he was coming down with the flu. Jason, a 30-year-old life time Highlands resident, figured he would stop by the hospital, pick up a Z-pak to help fight it off, and be on his way. Little did he know he would visit three hospitals over the next five weeks, and be near death several times.

Shortly after arriving at the hospital, he began to display other symptoms which required him to be transferred to the hospital in Asheville. His finger tips started to turn blue, and his temperature dropped. While in Asheville, he went into cardiac arrest and flat-lined for 20 seconds before he was revived with defibrillation. His extremities turned black. For the next two weeks he was in a semi-conscious state while on a breathing tube. Jason was diagnosed with sepsis and disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC). The disease would claim all of his toes and many of his fingers.

According to WebMD.com, "Sepsis is a blood infection in which your body is fighting a severe infection. The number of people dying from sepsis has almost doubled in the past 20 years. This is not because doctors cannot care for people who have sepsis but because the number of people who get sepsis has increased. Sepsis can be caused by many different microbes. Although bacteria are most commonly the

cause, viruses and fungi can also cause sepsis. Infections in the lungs (pneumonia), bladder and kidneys (urinary tract infections), skin (cellulitis), abdomen (such as appendicitis), and other organs (such as meningitis) can spread and lead to sepsis. Infections that develop after surgery can also lead to sepsis." According to Answers.com, "In the United States, sepsis is the leading cause of death in non-coronary ICU patients, and the tenth most common cause of death overall according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sepsis is common and also more dangerous in elderly, immunocompromised, and critically ill patients. It occurs in 1%-2% of all hospitalizations and accounts for as much as 25% of intensive care unit (ICU) bed utilization. It is a major cause of death in intensive care units worldwide, with mortality rates that range from 20% for sepsis to 40% for severe sepsis to greater than 60% for septic shock."

WebMD.com defines disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC) as "a rare, life-threatening condition that prevents a person's blood from clotting normally. It may cause excessive clotting (thrombosis) or bleeding (hemorrhage) throughout the body and lead to shock, organ failure, and death." "When DIC causes the blood's platelets and clotting factors to become depleted, excessive bleeding (hemorrhage) occurs throughout the body. Symptoms of organ damage caused by excessive blood clotting may include shortness of breath from lung damage, low urine output from kidney damage, or stroke from damage to the brain. In severe cases, shock, with low blood pressure and widespread organ failure, may occur."

•See BLESSED page 14

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... BRUGGER continued from page 6

dated April 23, 1997, that took me back to what now seems like a distant memory of Highlands:

"Highlands is like a tiny little island sitting up on the Blue Ridge Mountains... and it drops off two or three thousand feet in all directions,' said biologist Robert Zahner. 'This is the only rain forest in eastern North America. And, it's a rain forest because of the high rainfall and also its elevation and cool temperature.' A deep breath following a soothing mountain rain is an experience to savor. The crisp air mingles with the smells of the forest, refreshing and rejuvenating the soul. The area's heavy rainfall keeps the native mountain laurel and rhododendron well-nourished, resulting in lush foliage; In fact, one of Highlands' most charming attributes is that it gets more rain than almost anywhere else in

the eastern United States. The rainy spells mean more quality time with family and friends doing jigsaw puzzles, reading or congregating around the roaring fires needed almost year-round to fend off after-dusk chills.

The frequent showers usually come and end rather quickly, feeding the area's amazing waterfalls." (www.cnn.com/TRAVEL/DESTINATIONS/9704/highlands.nc)

After the drought of 2000-2001 we had four years of good rains, helped in 2004 by two hurricanes in one month, Frances and Ivan, which brought 32.37 inches in the month of September alone.

But drought is back. Here's the precipitation statistics from the Highlands Biological Station, Highlands' official weather station since 1961 (<http://www.wcu.edu/hbs/>; click on "weather

data"): 2006, 68.19 inches; 2007, 58.79; and this year to date, 31.59.

A couple of weeks ago I saw something I never expected to see: the dam on Lake Sequoyah was completely dry. For a couple of days not a drop of water came over the dam. Unfortunately I did not get a photograph, but you can see in the photo I took Sunday, Aug. 3 that if we go another few days without rain I'll get another chance.

When I read Al Gore's book *An Inconvenient Truth*, which is a collection of some (if not all) of the slides in his presentation/film, I was struck by one that showed the projected impact of climate change on rainfall in the United States. Over western North Carolina was a large circle indicating a significant decrease in precipitation.

If you go to The National Drought Mitigation Center website, run by the University of Nebraska, the long term drought forecast calls for significantly less rainfall in exactly this same region. Go to www.drought.unl.edu/dm/ monitor, and you'll see a map of the United States. Western North Carolina is currently in the worst category, Exceptional. You can click on North Carolina for a closer look at which counties are affected, or you can scroll down the main page to other maps, including short and long term forecasts. For the short term, covering the next couple of months, our outlook is only "severe," but when you look at the long-range maps, covering the next few years, our region is solidly in the Exceptional category.

What amazes me is how well the wild plants are holding up. The rhododendrons looked a little sad this year and their blooms faded quickly, but my blackberry brambles are ripening beautifully and my apple trees are so loaded with fruit the limbs are bending to the ground. The late-summer flowers are filling the fields.

The exception of course is the hemlock, the sad patches of gray where once was deep forest green. Surely this drought is hastening the hemlock's demise, since it is a water-loving tree.

And I hate to even think about the creatures in the streams, the salamanders and the brook trout. Think about them every time you turn on your faucet.

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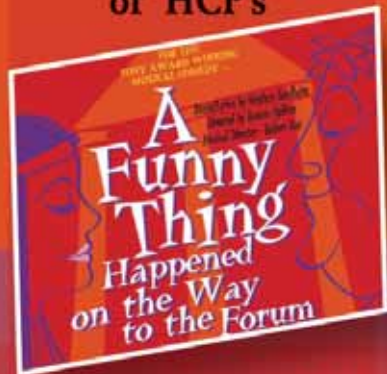
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FDA extends consumer warning on serrano peppers from Mexico

Laboratory testing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has confirmed that both a sample of serrano pepper and a sample of irrigation water collected by agency investigators on a farm in the state of Tamaulipas, Mexico (business address is in Nuevo Leon, Mexico) contain Salmonella Saintpaul with the same genetic fingerprint as the strain of bacteria that is causing the current outbreak in the United States.

As a result, until further notice, the FDA is advising consumers to avoid raw serrano peppers from Mexico, in addition to raw jalapeño peppers from Mexico, and any foods that contain them.

The test results announced are part of the FDA's continuing intensive investigation into the outbreak of Salmonella Saintpaul. The investigation has involved tracing back, through complex distribution channels, the origins of products associated with clusters of illness in the United States, as well as inspections and evaluation of farms and facilities in this country and in Mexico, and the collection and testing of environmental and product samples. One of these tracebacks led to a packing facility in Mexico, and to a particular farm, where the agency obtained the samples.

Previously, FDA inspectors collected a positive sample of jalapeño pepper from a produce-distribution center owned by Agricola Zaragosa in McAllen, Texas. The FDA continues to work on pinpointing where and how in the supply chain this first positive jalapeño pepper sample became contaminated. It originated from a different farm in Mexico than the positive samples of serrano pepper and irrigation water.

The FDA is still analyzing many of the samples taken at various farms in Mexico. If laboratory results warrant, the FDA will provide consumers with additional cautions or warnings necessary to protect their health.

On July 17, the FDA announced it had determined that fresh tomatoes now available in the domestic market are not associated with the current outbreak. As a result, the agency removed its June 7 warning

against eating certain types of red raw tomatoes.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is advising consumers that jalapeño and Serrano peppers grown in the United States are not connected with the current Salmonella St. Paul outbreak and consumers may feel free to eat them without concern of contamination.

The FDA's advisory to avoid eating raw jalapeño and raw serrano peppers, and foods that contain them, applies only to these types of peppers grown, harvested or packed in Mexico.

In addition to domestically grown raw jalapeño and raw serrano peppers, commercially canned, pickled and cooked jalapeño and serrano peppers from any geographic location also are not connected with the current Salmonella Saintpaul outbreak.

FDA is working with state regulatory agencies and food industry groups representing restaurants, grocery stores, and wholesalers to ensure that this new advisory is clearly understood by everyone. The FDA will continue to refine its consumer guidance as the agency's investigation continues.

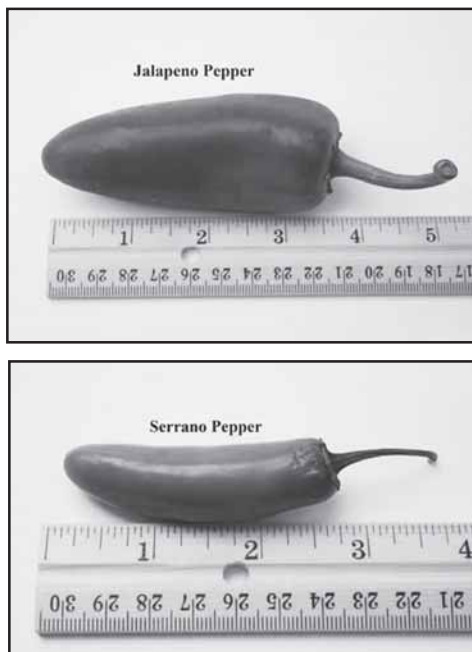
FDA's advisory to the public is based on evidence gathered by the in-

tensive investigation that has been ongoing for several weeks to find the source of the contamination. Information from FDA's traceback investigation, laboratory test results, and harvesting dates, matched with the dates that people became ill, have combined to indicate that the contaminated jalapeño and Serrano peppers originated in Mexico.

For more information consult <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics>.

NOTE:

- Bryson's Food Store isn't selling fresh jalapeño or Serrano pepper.
- August Produce is only selling local peppers from Ricky James' farm including jalapeño and Serrano.
- Mountain Fresh Fine Foods pulled its jalapeño peppers a week and a half ago and doesn't sell fresh Serrano peppers.



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The Center for Life Enrichment

Friday, Aug. 8

Modern Art Hits America's Shores with Dr. Martin DeWitt 10-12

Wednesday, Aug. 13

The origin of the Southern blue Ridge Mountains, with Dr. Steve Yurkovich 10-12

Thursday, Aug. 14

Other Ways to "See" a Film with Dr. Terry Nienhuis 10-12

Thursdays, Aug. 14, 21, 28, Sept 11

A Shakespeare Workshop - Henry IV with Dr. Terry Nienhuis 3-5
\$65 members, \$75 non members

Friday, Aug. 15

The Joy of Baking with Martha Porter 10-2.
\$40 for members, \$50 for non members

Unless noted \$20 each for CLE members; \$30 each for non-members
To become a CLE member and register for courses and events,
call the CLE office at 526-8811
www.clehighlands.org

... BLESSED continued from page 11

Concerned that Jason's condition was effecting his internal organs, the medical team in Asheville performed an exploratory operation to determine the condition of his vital organs. During the exploratory, there were 40 people who gathered at the hospital in prayer and support with Jason's wife, Kelly and mom, Janice. Kelly who is a cancer survivor herself was pregnant with their first child. During the exploratory, they were given word that Jason was not expected to recover. A priest joined the group, but at the completion of the surgery, the report was that Jason's organs were clear.

The prayer that started in Highlands, Franklin, and the surrounding areas when Jason's condition first appeared continued. His church had been on their knees in one accord, and Jason was prayed over and anointed in Jesus' name several times. Jason started on dialysis which filtered his blood

once or twice a day. His condition required his skin to be debrided which is the removal of dead, damaged skin. Jason describes the procedure as being "horrendously painful to the point of wanting to jump out of the hospital window." After this procedure, Jason was transferred to a burn unit in Winston-Salem because his dressings needed to be changed often. He was released from the unit on May 30, 2007, five weeks after he thought he had a touch of the flu.

The prospect of going home in his condition was frightening to Jason. He still needed physical therapy, but he was off dialysis, something the doctors could not explain. The young couple was also faced with nearly a million dollars in medical bills, but Jason and Kelly have always been close to the Lord. In fact, Jason had been to Wednesday night church service the day before his episode started. While in the

hospital, Jason took the opportunity to be a witness of his faith, just as he did during his Motocross events. When asked if he ever doubted he would recover, Jason told me, "I didn't care, because I knew I was in God's hands." In fact, throughout Jason's entire medical journey, he says, "I only got down and out once. After I came home, I tried to get on my bike, and I thought about if I would ever be able to play with my daughter." The "down and out" feeling only lasted about 10 minutes. Is it any wonder Jason's favorite bible verse is Philippians 4:13? ("I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.") Through it all, Kelly said, "My blood pressure never went above normal, and that is because of the relationship we have with the Lord."

Jason and Kelly don't know where to start when they talk about the support they have received - the prayer, the love from both of their families, their building that became available for their business, the financial support. "We are just so blessed to live in such a loving small town," Kelly said, "There was just so much love and support, and prayer. We are blessed that the

Lord is in our life, that Jason can walk, and go to events."

Events?

Yes, last week Jason placed second in the Extremity Games Motocross event, and he plans to compete in Snowboarding also. Expect to see him on ESPN in the X-Games. It is just another opportunity for Jason to witness his faith. Not bad for a patient who's doctor described him as "the sickest person to come through this Asheville hospital, and survive," and who currently is not on any medication.

Jason and Kelly have also started an auto parts business located in Highlands on the Walhalla Road. Bumper to Bumper Centerline Auto Parts offers a convenient location for everything from wiper blades to tail lights. Just don't be surprised by the 10 Commandments posted on the wall, or the Christian music playing in the background. The Woods family is not just another young couple starting a business in a small town. They are a family that knows the power of prayer, and the blessings of the Lord.



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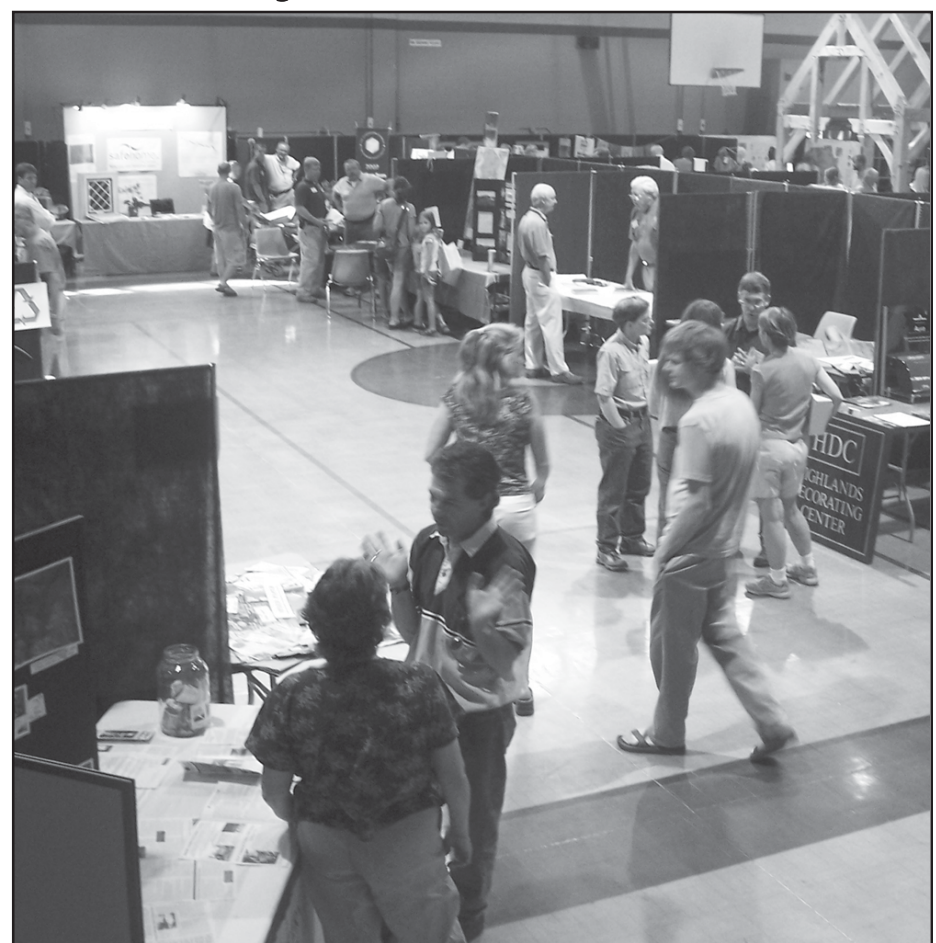
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Community turns out for 'Green Fair'



The Highlands Green Fair took place on Saturday, August 2. There was a various collection of vendors there including XZIEK which allows residents to make their own water from the air, and a geo-thermal heating company. There were representatives from businesses including Whole Life Market, Rita's Cottage, and other "green" building companies. Recycling companies, such as "Macon Pride" and "WNC Go Green" were also present, as well as a North Carolina Geological Survey representative exhibiting GIS (Geographic Information Systems). In addition the the vendors, the Green Fair also offered classes and lectures and a children's program. The leaders say the Green Fair will be back next year if this year was successful.

Photo by Evan Schmidt

... OUTDOOR continued from page 1

albatrosses. No one is concerned. No one sees it as a mess. If putting clothing outside shops on private property peeks someone's interest to walk in and buy, so what? It's not cheap to rent or own on Main Street. If we can draw people in, that's good. We need all the help we can get so we can stay open all year."

But Sharon Anderson, of Anderson Jewellers, said the display of merchandise outside stores is tacky. "It takes away from the beauty of the storefronts," she said. "Highlands has been in business a very long time. There are new houses, new condos, new businesses, it's not going to hurt anyone by making them do their business inside."

Citizen Alan Marsh, a long-time opponent to amending the ordinance, said once the board changes the ordinance the barn door is open and it won't know what its going to get. "There's no reason to change the existing ordinance," he said.

David Wilkes of Highland Hiker encouraged the board to take a hands off approach.

"For the Town Board, less is more, but the less you try to help us the better off we are. Give us a little leeway and don't try to tie us down too much," he said.

But Code Enforcement Officer Josh Ward and Zoning Administrator Joe Cooley

say the existing ordinance is not enforceable because the description of allowable merchandise is convoluted.

Now anyone who wants to display merchandise must obtain a permit from the Zoning Administrator and displays in the B1 and B2 districts can only be on private property with a minimum of five feet left open.

The display of merchandise in the B3, B4 and B5-ETJ districts is limited to an area 25 feet of the front or side of the building and isn't allowed within 25 feet of the edge of pavement of any roadway or within 10 feet of the back edge of a public sidewalk.

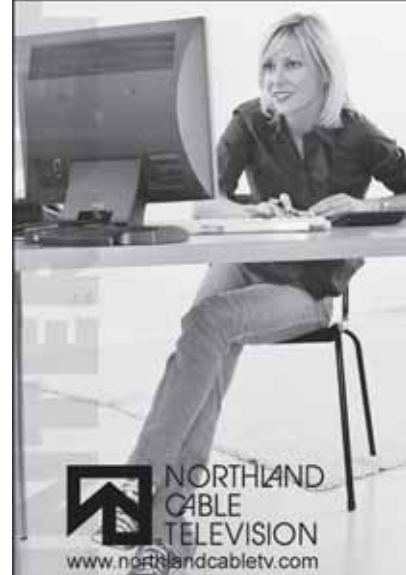
Commissioner Amy Patterson voted against the amendment.

Parking requirements in shopping centers were also modified with a unanimous vote. Residential units in shopping centers need two spaces, outdoor restaurant seating needs one spot for three seats and all other permitted uses are one space per 250 sq. ft. of gross floor space.

A shopping center is four or more establishments in a single unit of 5,000 ft. or more.

Cooley said this eliminates the variable ratio for parking which has been based on uses that always change. Now it all depends on square footage.

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Sports Page



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Red Cross issues urgent call for all blood types

While temperatures and fuel prices continue to rise this summer, the American Red Cross reports that the blood inventory levels are so low it is unable to sufficiently meet the demand of local hospitals. While there is a constant need for all blood types, donors with type O positive, O negative, A positive and A negative are asked to take an hour to donate right away.

It is especially crucial for donors with type O blood to donate within the next few days. Type O is the most common blood type and is used extensively by hospitals. Type O blood donors are considered universal red cell donors because their blood can be given to most other blood types in emergencies when there is no time to type a patient's blood. Hospitals commonly experience an increase in traumas during the summer, making the need for type O blood even greater.

Thursday, August 7

Franklin Community Blood Drive at
First United Methodist Church (66
Harrison Avenue)

12:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Please call 524-8787 for more
information or to schedule an
appointment.

*All presenting donors can enter a drawing
for one of three \$1,000 gas cards!*

Tuesday, August 26

Southwestern CC Public Safety
Training Center Blood Drive (225
Industrial Park Loop)

10 am to 2:30 pm

Please call 369-0591 for more
information or to schedule an
appointment.

*All presenting donors can enter a drawing
for one of three \$1,000 gas cards!*

Wednesday, August 27

Macon Bank Blood Drive (One Center
Court)

11 am to 3 pm

Please call Lacy at 524-7000 ext. 2373
for more information or to schedule an
appointment.

*All presenting donors can enter a drawing
for one of three \$1000 gas cards!*

"People often forget that the need for blood never takes a vacation," says Robert F. Fechner, chief executive officer, American Red Cross Carolinas Blood Services Region. "Blood donations always decline during the summer months, but blood is used to treat area hospital patients every day. Unless donors respond immediately, hospitals may need to cancel elective or non-emergency surgeries."

In the summer, blood shortages often occur because individual donations decrease, along with the number of organizations that are able to sponsor blood drives. The absence of high school and college blood drives also contributes to this annual drop in donations because these drives account for approximately 20 percent of all donations in the Carolinas Region.

"We want to make the donation process as convenient as possible for those who take time out of their day to help save lives. In order to avoid waits at our donor centers and blood drives, we ask that donors call to make appointments to give blood," adds Fechner.

The American Red Cross Carolinas Blood Services Region needs approximately 1,600 people to donate blood and platelets each weekday to meet the needs of hospital patients. Most people who are age 17 or older and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to give blood every 56 days. There is no substitute for blood, and the only source is from volunteer donors.

To schedule an appointment to donate or for information on the location of blood drives, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) or visit www.redcrossblood.org

Blood Facts

- In the U.S., about 4 million people need blood each year – that's one person every two seconds. The overwhelming majority of people who need it would die without it. Healthy, generous donors are the only source of blood. There is no substitute for blood.
- Blood is needed for emergencies, surgeries and for people who have cancer, blood disorders, sickle cell anemia and other illnesses. Every donation makes a difference in someone's life.

Does my blood make a difference?

- Every two seconds someone in the U.S. receives a blood transfusion.
- Each unit of blood can help up to three people.
- One in 10 people entering the hospital needs blood.
- The American Red Cross needs 25,000 people nationally to donate blood each day to serve patients in need.
- Only 5% of the eligible population gives blood.
- The need for blood is constant because blood only lasts a maximum of 45 days
- The American Red Cross supplies about one-half of the nation's blood.

• HOSPITAL NEWS •

Duke expert to talk on how genes predict disease

Imagine a time when your genetic makeup can be used to tell your physician which diseases are most likely to affect your health and what you can do to avoid them.

That time may already be here.

What many think is the future of preventive medicine in the 21 Century is already being developed at research centers such as the Duke Institute for Genomic Sciences and Policy, and local audiences will have the opportunity to glimpse what is already available, as well as what the future holds, at this year's Healthy Living Fair. The fair, which focuses on prevention, healthy lifestyle, and looking your best, will take place Saturday at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Alex Cho, MD, MBA, of the Center of Genomic Medicine at Duke will be a featured speaker during the morning's series of health lectures. A graduate of Harvard and the University of Minnesota Medical School, Cho is the IGSP Scholar at the center and an instructor with the Division of General Internal Medicine at the Duke University School of Medicine in Durham, NC. He completed his internal medicine residency at New York University School of Medicine and a fellowship in internal medicine and health services research at Duke. In addition



Dr. Alex Cho

to authoring numerous peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed articles, he is a reviewer for the *Journal of Genomic Medicine*, *Genomic Medicine*, and the *Yonsei Medical Journal*, among other professional publications.

The field of genomics has become one of the hottest medical topics these days, both within the profession and in the news media, as companies and some health providers have begun marketing genetic testing to predict an individual's risk for certain diseases. Dr. Cho will speak on the benefits and limitations of genomics, based on current research. That lecture, which is one of four physician talks, takes place at 11 a.m. on the first floor of the Jane Woodruff Clinic on the hospital campus.

The fair gets under way at 8:30 a.m. Lectures begin at 9 a.m., with Dr. Debra Wagner's talk on healthy comfort foods and accompanying smoothie demonstration. A talk on gastrointestinal health by Dr. Richard Carter follows at 10 a.m. The morning's lectures finish up at noon with "Enhancing Your Lifestyle" by Dr. Robert T. Buchanan.

The fair, which is free, lasts until 1 p.m., and will feature more than two dozen booths and exhibits, as well as numerous demonstrations.

• See GENES page 18

COUNTRY CLUB PROPERTIES

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A River Runs Through it!

Gorgeous 4.12 acres off Shortoff Road and Norton Ridge with Norton Creek running through it with an island picnic area. 5-bedroom septic permit and well in place. Reduced to sell. \$440,000.



Listen to the stream from the deck



This beautiful home in Twin Falls offers great space for entertaining with master bedroom with outdoor sitting room on the main level and guest bedrooms upstairs with their own sitting/family rooms. The open plan with its wonderful kitchen, dining and great room with stone fireplace leads to the open deck where you can listen to the stream. The property backs up to USFS yet is close to town. \$1.3 million.

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Holy Communion 11 a.m.**

All are invited to
"Come and see."
John 1:46

All Services at the
Highlands Community Building
(formerly Highlands Conference
Center next to the baseball field)
For more information call the
Christ Anglican Church
office at (828) 526-2320

office@christanglicanchurch.com

ALL ARE WELCOME!

... GENES from page 17

strations on healthy cooking, beauty and skin care, and fitness. Fair participants can also be pre-screened for osteoporosis.

Plenty of healthy food items will be available throughout the day, including some freshly prepared foods. And more than two dozen door and raffle prizes will be given away, many of them worth several hundred dollars. A full schedule of events is available on the hospital's website at www.hchospital.org.



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Even for a botanist, it was an unusual workday

Chris Ulrey, a botanist with the National Park Service, tossed the rope over the cliff's edge, announced his descent, and began dropping down the cliff face. But any semblance to recreational rappelling vanished when, dangling from the rope, Ulrey lifted the hammer drill that was slung over his shoulder, put a hole in the rock next to a cluster of endangered plants, nailed a numbered tag into the hole, and began yelling out plant measurements to a note taker below.

The rappelling, tagging, and data collection is part of an extended effort to track the endangered spreading avens, a plant found only on a handful of cliffs and rocky outcrops on some of the highest mountains in the Southern Appalachians.

"The goal is to get an accurate picture of the abundance and well-being of as many spreading avens populations as possible," said Carolyn Wells, a botanist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Wells and Ulrey are part of a team canvassing the small number of mountaintops where spreading avens is found. The team also includes botanists from the USDA Forest Service, North Carolina State Parks, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Grandfather Mountain, Tennessee Department of the Environment and Conservation, and the Archbold Biological Research Station.

Spreading avens grows in rosettes, with a circular pattern of small leaves just above the ground and a tall center stem bearing bright yellow flowers. The plants grow in patches ranging in size from a single rosette covering less than a square inch to hundreds of rosettes covering two square yards. The scientists will measure the size of each patch, tagging each with a metal tag, then use a laser range finder to map the patches in relation to one another. Additionally, they'll search for individual seedlings, tagging them with a metal pin. Returning annually to verify the presence of the tagged plants and patches, remeasure the patches, and note new seedlings will allow the botanists to track changes in the

population.

Once five to six years of data have been collected, scientists can run population viability analyses to estimate the extinction risk for each population.

"A population viability analysis looks at two things - how quickly new plants are being added, and how quickly plants are dying, basically birth and death rates," explained Wells. "It then estimates the risk of extinction at various points into the future, based on these rates. If we see a population de-

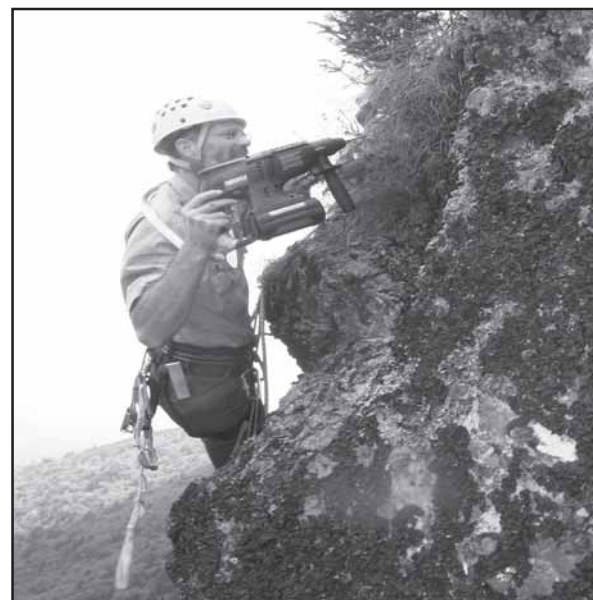
clining, we can try to determine why and address the problem."

Spreading avens was listed by the federal government as endangered in 1990, with one of the biggest threats being inadvertent trampling and associated erosion from hikers and climbers. It has also suffered from over-collection and botanists suspect the encroachment of competing shrubs also poses a threat.

A possible growing threat to the plant that isn't directly addressed by this work is global warming. Spreading avens is adapted to some of the coldest places, with the harshest weather, in the Southern Appalachians, and biologists expect two possible outcomes from warming temperatures.

In one scenario, warmer temperatures simply enable lower-elevation plants to move up the mountain, replacing cold-weather plants. Another scenario holds that encroaching plants are held at bay by harsh weather events, such as snow and ice, which periodically scour the rock surface, clearing away less hardy vegetation and opening up habitat for spreading avens.

Less frequent snow and ice could mean the rock outcrops wouldn't be scoured, allowing competing vegetation to grow and out-compete the endangered plant. While the work done by the botanists won't provide a clear, cause and effect link between global warming and any impacts to the plant, it will show population trends over time that may be correlated with changes in temperature.



Chris Ulrey, a botanist with the National Park Service tracks endangered avens.

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... SHORTOFF continued from page 1

— including owner of 4 ½ Street Inn Rick Siegel who was recently denied a town-paid sewer line and ETJ resident Dr. Kit Barker of Cottage Row on U.S. 64 who was denied permission to tie on — and the applause those speakers received, the majority of the people in the Civic Center Wednesday night were against the project.

Commissioner Larry Rogers' reasons against granting infrastructure were pretty cut and dry.

"The water and sewer lines belong to the taxpayers of Highlands who paid to build the plants," he said. "People are saying this won't cost the town of Highlands anything, but it costs the taxpayers. You're suggesting giving 48 sewer taps to people outside the town limits when people closer to town — Bryson's Quick Lube and others — were not allowed to tie in."

Commissioner Dotson agreed with everyone when he said that affordable housing is important but said, "It's years too late. OEL, Highlands Falls Country Club, Wildcat Cliffs Country Club, Highlands Country Club, all provided their own employee housing. The only major employer that hasn't is the hospital because it determined it was not eco-

nomically feasible."

He said he wasn't in favor of the project as currently planned on the proposed site. "Water and sewer needs to be provided to citizens within the city limits first and foremost," he said.

Though Commissioners Dennis DeWolf and Amy Patterson agreed in principle with the others — that water and sewer belonged to the taxpayers — they felt a "give and take" was necessary for the town to provide a need for the workers of the community.

"I feel if we decide it's important to provide affordable housing, then we need to give and take," he said. "I would hate to see this die right here."

Commissioner Patterson, who has long been against giving water and sewer to anyone outside the town and against increased development and density, said the pros and cons of the issue must be weighed.

"When it comes to affordable housing, either the government or a private enterprise is going to do it and no one wants the government to do it," she said. "That means we have to let someone make money off it. If this is the only way we can get affordable housing in our town and there is absolutely no other

site in town, then this is important enough to give on these issues. Sometimes you have to give a little to get something important for your town."

Dottie Gunther, executive director of Chestnut Hill spoke for the residents who couldn't attend the meeting. "The residents of Chestnut Hill do not object to the project, they object to its location," she said. "Our residents are a vital part of Macon County. They are huge contributors to the hospital both in dollar amount and as volunteers and contributors. This project will devalue the property value of Chestnut Hill which will affect our future sales."

Opponents cited heightened traffic and noise problems in an area already heavily traveled due to the recycling center, Zachary Field and the health clinic all on Buck Creek Road.

"Chestnut Hill is a quite residential community situated where it is to escape all those problems. That solitude will be gone with this project and we strenuously object," said Gunther.

Those for the project, members of the Affordable Housing Taskforce Committee, Bob Wright, Dick Lawrence, and Christy

Kelly and others, cited facts and figures to debunk decreased property values, increased crime rates, and increased traffic claims.

"Macon County Tax Assessor Richard Lightner said property in undesirable places like next to the asphalt plant and the land fill doesn't devalue, said Wright. "He said it increases at the same rate as unaffected property increases."

But Judy Michaud, who has opposed the project for the last several weeks, said Richard Lightner always says property in Macon County increases no matter what, so that's not saying much.

As far as crime goes, Wright said statistics show that emergency calls to the county's bench mark affordable housing complex in Franklin, Orchard View, amounted to 30 calls a year versus 30,000 countywide.

Other people for the project included Kay Burnell, a senior citizen on a fixed income who said she was ready to move in; Virginia Worley, who said Shortoff Woods "is the first concrete plan presented in a systematic way with a thoroughly researched design and is a great beginning for this type of project in Highlands. I'm in favor of this project and investigation needs to continue."

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... POLICE continued from page 1

cured" said the chief, but they were still "broken into."

A cell phone was taken from one vehicle and items from inside the other vehicle were left scattered across the property. "They were initially taken from the vehicle but left elsewhere," said Jolly.

Again, substantial evidence was collected and the department is asking for help from citizens concerning this case. People are encouraged to call either Officer Mike Jolly or

Captain Todd Ensley at 526-8734.

Sheriff Dept. seeks help locating Mark Murray

Sheriff Robert L. Hollands is requesting information from the public to assist in locating Martin William Murray, born July 10, 1964, height, 6-feet 2 inches, weight, 185 pounds.

Murray's last known address is 6623



Martin William Murray

Buck Creek Road, Highlands. He has been on the run for four weeks and may currently be in South Carolina.

Murray is wanted for two counts of felony worthless check, class I felonies; 10 counts of communicating threats, class 1 misdemeanors; and 10 counts of harassing phone calls, class 2 misdemeanors.

Sheriff Holland said deputies have spoken to Murray by phone on several occasions and he has agreed to turn himself in to law enforcement. "As of today, he has not done so," said Holland.

Anyone with information regarding Murray is asked to call the Macon County Sheriff's office at 828-349-2104 or Macon County Crime Stoppers at 828-349-2600 or 866-274-8477.

For more information see Macon County's Most Wanted List at www.maconnc.org/wanted.

Space available for Playhouse trip to England

The Highlands Playhouse Theatre Lovers Tour is happy to announce that there are several openings available for the trip this November.

Two couples, for medical reasons, had to cancel giving an opportunity for more people to enjoy this amazing trip.

Unlike past years when the tour accommodated up to 40 persons, this year's trip to the south of England has a maximum of only 20 people making it a small and intimate group. Despite the lower value of the dollar, Joanna Baumrucker, the leader of the trip for twelve years, has been able to offer the tour for the price of \$3,250 per person. This cost includes the round trip airfare, a coach from Highlands to the airport, six nights in Bath and three nights in Winchester. All transportation on the ground is included as are a tea at Thornbury Castle, admission to several cathedrals, tips for porters and drivers and a musical afternoon at the home of Jane Austen.

The theme of the trip is rediscovering Jane Austen, the famous author of many books in an era of dominance of male writers. The tour leaves Highlands on Nov. 1 and returns to Highlands on Nov. 11, 2008.

There will also be ample time to visit places like Stonehenge and even take a train to London to take in a play or two. Fortunately the prices for the hotels and airfare were locked in early in the spring before the cost of fuel went up so this is a great opportunity to visit one of the most interesting and historic places in all of Great Britain at a reasonable price.

• OBITUARIES •

Louis Teicher

Louis Teicher, age 83, of Billy Cabin Road, Highlands, NC, died Sunday, August 3, 2008 at his residence. He was a native of Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, the son of the late Harry and Dora Brauner Teicher. He was a renowned pianist with Ferrante and Teicher music company.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Betty Gates Teicher; one daughter, Susan Teicher of Urbana, IL; two sons, David Teicher of West Port, Connecticut and Richard Teicher of New Jersey; four grandchildren, Pamela Machala, Julian Machala, Zachary Teicher, and Ari Teicher.

No services are planned.

Memorials may be made to the Macon County Humane Society, PO Box 81, Franklin, NC 28744. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com.

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POLICE , FIRE & SHERIFF LOGS

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for July 24-Aug. 3. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

July 24

• At noon, credit card fraud of a \$136.59 purchase at Fireside Restaurant was reported.

July 26

• At 8:50 a.m., a motorist at N.C. 28 and Second Street was cited for speeding 41 mph in a 25 zone.

July 29

• At 1:30 p.m., a citizen reported receiving threats.

July 30

• At 12:35 p.m., officers responded to a two vehicle accident.

Aug. 1

• At 8:25 a.m., a motorist at Spruce and U.S. 64 east was cited for driving with a revoked license.

• At 8:53 p.m., officers responded to a 9-1-1 call from a residence but upon responding found it to be unfounded.

• At 8:41 p.m., a motorist at N. 4th Street was cited for speeding 45 mph in a 25 zone on N. 4th Street.

• At 1:35 p.m., Highlands Police Dept. was asked to assist in the apprehension of Mark Murray who the Macon County Sheriff's Dept. had 10 warrants for arrest.

• At 10:11 a.m., a resident on Leonard Drive reported nails thrown on to her driveway.

• At 7:12 p.m., the department received a report of a driver of a black honda speeding toward Highlands on U.S. 64. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Aug. 2

• At 3:05 p.m., officers were called to assist Jackson County in apprehension of a person driving a truck they were pursuing toward Highlands.

• At 9:09 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle

accident at U.S. 64 and Oak Street.

• At 7:15 p.m., officers assisted a motorist in the ABC store parking lot.

Aug. 3

• At 11:48 p.m., officers responded to a call of a possible prowler at a residence on Oak Street.

Aug. 4

• At 10:33 p.m., officers got a call concerning an overdue hiker, but the hiker returned.

During the week, officers issued 7 warning tickets and responded to 4 alarm activations.

The following is the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of July 30-Aug. 6

July 30

• The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Hickory Lane. It was cancelled.

• The dept. returned to the plane crash area on Clear Creek Road to search and recover airplane parts.

Aug. 2

• The dept. responded to a vehicle accident on U.S. 64 west and to assist with traffic control.

Aug. 3

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

Aug. 4

• The dept. was called to investigate a fire on Raintree Lane, but it was a controlled burn.

Aug. 5

• The dept. provided mutual aid to assist Cashiers Fire Dept. with a structure fire. The call was cancelled en route.

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

Note:

At the Highlands Fire & Rescue annual open house on Saturday, Aug. 2, 600 hotdogs were given out and the department received \$2,800 in donations.

The following is the Macon County Sheriff Dept. log entries for July 25-29.

July 25

• At 8:48 p.m., Jamie Lee Frady, 29, of Clayton, GA, was arrested for possession of weapons, breaking and en-

tering and injury to real property at a residence on Turtle Pond.

July 27

• The 7:59 p.m., deputies responded to an alarm activation at a residence on Kettle Rock. The site was secure.

July 29

• At 2:54 p.m., deputies responded to a call of a plane crash on Clear Creek Road.



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... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from pg 22

the Catholic church. The seven years of training was not going to be an easy road, he knew, but with his ingrained hard work ethic, Peter felt confident that with God he could succeed, and he did.

"After I completed my priesthood training, I waited for six months to be a deacon, and I waited another six months to be a priest." This successful day came on June 24, 1995, when he was ordained as a priest in the Catholic church. "Immediately after I was ordained, I went to the Cathedral parish." During this time, Peter was transferred to various jobs within the priesthood, including serving as a priest at a parish, being a university chaplain, and working in the bishop's office.

It was in 2005 that Peter traveled to the United States, where he observed the differences between the Catholics in the Kenyan Christian revival and Catholics in the United States. "People in the U.S. are always in a hurry to get to the next place," he said. He also said that some Catholics in Kenya are disappointed when the services only last 90 minutes. "Here in the states, we are so much programmed that within this moment we have to be out and gone. If our services Kenya were 1 1/2 hours, some people would complain." The services in Kenya are also different than in the United States. "People are born singing and dancing, and they wanted to remain singing and dancing forever more, so there's a lot of singing and dancing in our

church services. So, in the rural services it's different. They have no particular program or schedule," he said. "They've come there because they want to have their time there, and that's their day to interact with each other, and they've worked for six days, so they enjoy it."

During his time serving at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, Peter says that his most memorable activity was the retreat he conducted. During the retreat, Peter talked about peace and his life in Kenya, and some of the current conditions in Kenya. In Kenya, Peter said he lives in a rural area, where a large majority of the citizens and members of his church are farmers. He says that about 75% of the population is Christian, but there is always an opportunity for evangelism.

When asked what his main task was at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, he said he did not come for any specific task, but he did enjoy doing what a priest is called to do, including his two weeks of weekly masses. "This time I did not come for any particular assignment; I actually came here to have a little holiday; a break from my normal activities.

After completing his time in Highlands, Peter went to New York to continue his training, and says after completing his visit in New York, he will return to Kenya and resume his job as a priest.

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Wednesdays: Mid-week prayer meeting – 7 p.m.

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

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Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

Corner of Spring and Third streets

Sundays: 11 a.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

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3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;

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

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

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

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

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

Pioneer Club 6 p.m.; Jr & Sr Youth Group 6:30 p.m.;

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

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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 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy

526-3376

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

5 p.m. Youth Group

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

studies; 6:15 – Adult choir

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

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

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

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

2nd Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

4th Saturday: Sabbath Services at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call 828-369-9270 or 828-

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Parish office, 526-2418

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(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. Andy Cloer.

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

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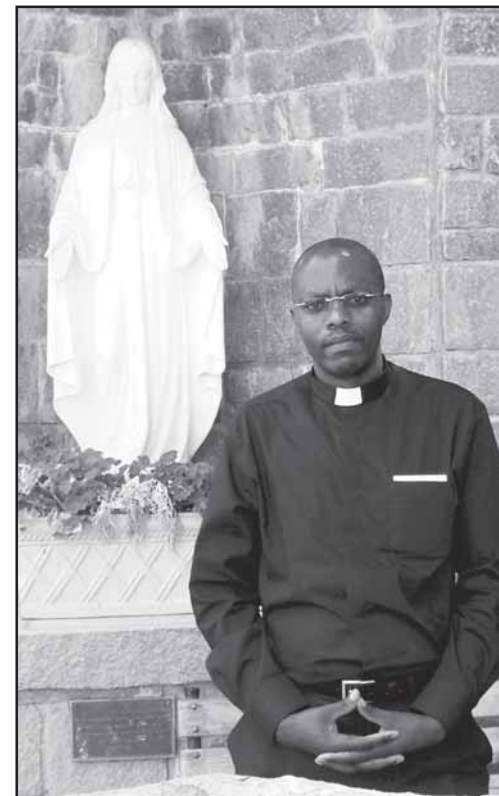
WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

A summer sojourn in Highlands



Father Peter Mucheru

Photo by Evan Schmidt

By Evan Schmidt

Reporter

"I couldn't say my childhood was easy. If a kid in America went through what I went through he'd probably sue his parents. It was a life that I'd have to say I would just make it through every day."

Those are the words of Father Peter Mucheru, a Catholic priest from Kenya who worked at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church during the months of June and July. "The basic things of clothing, housing and even education are not initial to a child in Kenya, but a kid in America is able to access so many things so quickly. In Kenya, you might want to go to school, but the parents have to the ability to get you there. They may want to have good clothing, but their parents may not have the ability to clothe them properly. They get stuck in situations that aren't very attractive, and they imagine that they'll go into the street and someone will give them a schilling or something."

Kenya has never been an easy place to grow up. Recently, it has been a country of civil war and challenged elections. When it comes to religion there are many different practices. "Because my parents never secured themselves a stable job or education, it was not easy for them to bring me up," Peter said. Despite these distractions, and the fact that Peter did not grow up in a Christian home, Peter learned what he should do when he was in high school. "When I was in high school, I started feeling a strong, strong desire to start a church. This calling became a clear indication that I should serve the people of God." Peter was positive that he felt a calling from God by the time he graduated from his high school education.

That was when Peter explored the path to be a priest in

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 21

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Auction of Remington bronze to benefit hospital



Hospital Foundation Director Richard Harris and Frank Scudder with Remington statue entitled "The Bronx Buster" which will be auctioned off at Scudders Gallery on Main Street, Friday, Aug. 15 at 9:30 p.m. with all proceeds sanctioned for the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. The public is encouraged to turn out for the festivities.

Highlands Falls CC has gone to the dogs



July 30 was Highlands Falls Country Club's first-ever dog show. More than 40 dogs and their owners signed up to participate in this year's show. The afternoon began with a Whine Bar Yappy Hour and all participants received a commemorative Rosette during the opening ceremony's Parade of Pride so no pup went home with empty paws! The dogs were then judged in a multitude of categories. A raffle was held to benefit the animals of the Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society. After the show, the shelter was presented a check for \$465.

Crews step up work on main building at The Bascom's Oak Street campus

Work at the site of The Bascom's new Oak Street campus is intensifying. The focus right now is the 21,000-square-foot main building, where multiple crews are advancing on several fronts.

In the last couple of weeks, several key features have been finished. The porte-cochere has been reinforced with laminated beams that provide the clear span of the structure. The subpaneling on the exterior walls has been installed on the porte-cochere, and the loft gallery flooring is in place. The timber frame and related structures are now secured and locked into place. The upper loft installation added final strength to the structure.

The roof decking is being applied now, and crews have also begun the metal framing on exterior walls. The area of the gift shop is now defined.

"The greatest task of the week was to

frame out the public elevator shaft that runs the full height of the building," said Pat Taylor, owner's representative and co-chair of The Bascom's facilities committee, who noted that the shaft is now complete.

Next on the horizon, The Bascom will reconstruct roof decking for the main building, and the building will be dried in so that mechanical and heat/air conditioning work can continue. Exterior paneling will be installed on the main building.

"We're pushing ahead," Taylor said.

The Bascom expects to move into its new facility over the winter, with 2009 programming to begin there in spring/summer.

For more information about the new campus or about how to support The Bascom's capital campaign for the new building, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 8#.



Construction is progressing at the site of The Bascom's new campus. Upcoming work includes the roof decking for the main building, plus drying in the building so that mechanical and heat/air conditioning work can continue.

Photo by Donna Rhodes

Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles names top producers for July

The top listing agent for the month of July in the Cashiers Office was Eddie Palmer, Broker Associate.

Eddie Palmer was recognized as a "Rising Star" for his office in 2007. To qualify for this distinction, agents must be relatively new in their real estate career and have demonstrated exemplary character.

In the Highlands office, Jerry Hudson, broker associate was named top sales agent

and top listing agent for the month of July.

Jerry Hudson was recognized as a "Rising Star" for his office in 2007. To qualify for this distinction agents must be relatively new in their real estate career and have demonstrated exemplary character.

CENTURY 21 Mountain Lifestyles has moved its Highlands office to 468 Main Street and is open seven days a week with extended hours to better serve its customers.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going

• Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to Benefit The Bascom. To purchase a raffle ticket, call Four different images will be available for sale and for raffle, so people can buy all four images for \$2,000 and have four difference chances of winning.

• The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series is held each Thursday during the summer months at 7p.m. at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Rd. For a complete schedule, visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

• Oak Street Café is donating a portion of its revenues to the Playhouse from meals purchased prior to show time. Park your car, have a meal, then walk across the street to the Playhouse production!

• The Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for "70th Anniversary Diamond Review," Thurs.-Sun., July 24-Aug. 10; and "One Voice" Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 14-31. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.

• 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 Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-

0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

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

• At Health Tracks at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, various exercise classes. Call Jeanette Fisher at 828-526-1F1T.

• "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodruff room 201, 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

Sundays

• Hal Phillips at the piano during Sunday Brunch from 12 noon to 2 pm at Jack's at Skyline Lodge & Restaurant on Flat Mountain Road.

Mondays & Wednesdays

• Pilates Classes Level 1 of Jane Woodruff at the hospital at 4 p.m. \$10 per class. Call 526-5852.

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.

• At the Nature Center, Animal Feeding Time 11 a.m.-noon, all ages welcome: Come and observe

what each of the Nature Center's animals eat and learn how they feed.

Tuesdays

• At the Nature Center, Family Nature Activity 3-4 p.m., ages 4 and up: Activities vary, but may include critter searches, discovery walks, or nature games \$1 per person.

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

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

Wednesdays

• At the Nature Center, Nature Show & Tell/Storytime 2:30-3 p.m., all ages: Come for a nature lesson based around a children's storybook using items from the Nature Center.

• 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

• At the Nature Center, Zahner Conservation Lecture Series 7 p.m., 12 and up: An evening seminar series featuring leading scientists, historians, writers and artists on a variety of environmental topics (schedule available at www.wcu.edu/hbs).

Fridays

• At the Nature Center, Botanical Garden Tour 10:30-11:30 a.m., all ages: A guided walk through the Highlands Botanical Garden, featuring the native plants of the region.

Friday & Saturday

• Live music at The Rib Shack every Friday and Saturday night from 8-11 p.m.

Friday-Sunday

• At Skyline Lodge & Restaurant. Hal Phillips at the piano, 7-9 p.m. Flat Mountain Road. 526-2121.

Saturdays

• At the Nature Center, Featured Creature 11:30-

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Violin prodigy to play at Incarnation

Ben Beilman, 18-year-old violinist who has earned the highest award available to young artists in the U.S. will give a concert on Sunday, Aug. 24 at Highlands Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

This concert by the young violin virtuoso will begin at 5 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

This, the second of the series "Great Performances at Incarnation," will be followed on Sept. 14 by the "All African American Choir" directed by Dr. Lawrence Weaver, performing a program of spirituals. This group features renowned African American soloists who comprise the outstanding chorale.

Ben Beilman recently received the gold medal at the White House as Presidential Scholar of the Arts from President Bush. His awards and accomplishments are far too many to mention but some include the Godl Medal, Stulberg International String Competition, Grand Prize, American String Teachers Association National

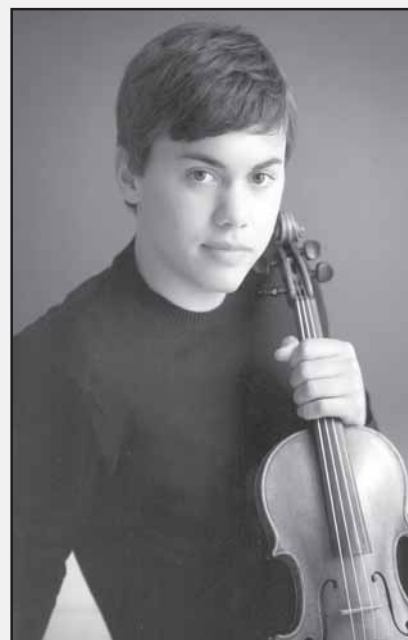
Solo Competition, National Winner, Music Teachers National Association and many others.

He frequently appears here and abroad with major symphony orchestras and next month makes his debut with the Detroit Symphony.

Beilman, who played his first international engagement at the age of eight with Fletcher Wolfe's internationally famous Atlanta Boy Choir, will travel to Highlands as a gesture of gratitude for this inauguration on the world stage.

He is now a student at Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, studies with legendary teacher Ida Kavafian. Between his studies and his heavy performing career, he resides with his family in Chicago. He made his Carnegie Hall debut two years ago with famed conductor Jaime Laredo.

Come early. The last performance at the church had 385 listeners, the largest audience ever to attend a concert of serious music in Highlands.



Ben Beilman

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

noon, all ages: come and learn more about one of the Nature Center's live animals up close.

- Live music at Cyprus Restaurant at 9:30 p.m.
- Children's classes ongoing at Bascom-Louise Gallery – cost is \$5 per student.

Sundays

• Old-fashioned hymn-sing at the Little Church of the Wildwood at 7 p.m. Call Kay Ward at 743-5009 for more information. Dress is casual.

Through Nov. 12

- The Village Green in Cashiers, NC presents

Sculpture on the Green 2008 1st Bi-Annual Invitational Exhibition. Last summer the 12.5 acre park began to integrate sculpture into the landscape and installed 5 sculptures to its Permanent Collection. Starting this summer, it is hosting a six month exhibition of 10 works from sculptors from all over the nation. Cast your vote for the sculpture to be added to the Permanent Collection at the Green.

Through Thurs., Aug. 14

- "Portraits and Figures" exhibition will be held at

The Bascom in the Hudson Library.

Through Aug. 10

- At Highlands Playhouse, "70th Anniversary Diamond Review." For further information or reservations please call 828-526-2695.

Mondays through Aug 18

- At CLE, Duane Meeter will teach Bridge Defense II (intermediate to advanced) at the Highlands Civic Center 9:30-11:30 \$45 members \$65 Non Member. Limited Seating Available, Please call 526-8811 to register

Monday-Saturday, through Aug. 9

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Spiders of the Southern Appalachians. For program descriptions and information about costs, academic credit, instructors, and prerequisites for our summer courses and workshops visit <http://www.wcu.edu/hbs/currentcourses.htm> or call 526-2602.

All of August

• At Acorn's on Main Street, it's Juliska Month. Juliska's rich European heritage spans six centuries and combines historic shapes with imaginative new

• See EVENTS page 26

Ronnie & Robert – Together again

The Highlands Cashiers Players couldn't believe their good fortune when professional director and entertainer Robert Ray of Atlanta agreed to be the musical director for their first musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." The Players certainly couldn't pay Robert Ray the big bucks he usually commands for directing. Had he heard of their excellent reputation as an all volunteer theater of professional quality? Was he looking forward to escaping the Atlanta heat in Highlands?

The mystery can be explained rather simply. Players' president Ronnie Spilton had an acquaintance of long-standing with Mr. Ray. It seems that when she was a young teacher at a high school in Georgia, Robert Ray was a student in her drama class. She directed him in the senior play, his first acting role, and took him to see his first professional play — "The Three Penny Opera" at the Alliance Theater in Atlanta.

Robert went on to major in music at the University of Georgia, where he was also active in the drama department. From there, he went on to become a professional actor, singer, dancer, and musician. He moved to New York City in 1978, was cast in a national tour of Oklahoma, and acted in five more national Broadway tours. He was the headline entertainer for several cruise lines and involved in many other theatrical activities during these years. Ronnie followed his career with interest and attended his performances when possible.

In 2005, Robert gravitated back to Georgia where he directed the sold out 75th anniversary celebration at the Fox Theater and a number of plays at the Alliance Theater, eventually choosing Atlanta as his headquarters. He has directed a season at the Highlands Playhouse and staged two of his musical revues at the Performing Arts Center in the past two years.



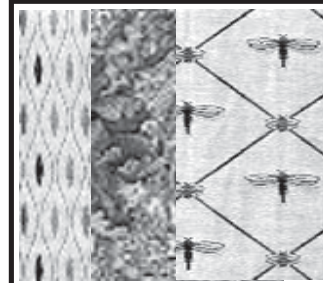
Music director Robert Ray takes a moment out from music rehearsal to consult with the Players' stage director, Ronnie Spilton, on a costume for Stuart Armor, who plays a Roman captain in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," opening Thursday, Aug. 21, to run through Saturday, Aug. 30.

Curt Sears, came to live in Highlands where Ronnie soon became involved with the Highlands Players, acting and directing, and eventually becoming their president when former president and founder Jean Morris stepped down.

When the Players decided to produce their first musical, Ronnie, with her background in Latin and interest in all things Roman, volunteered to direct the musical comedy, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." And who should come to mind for a musical director but her former student Robert Ray.

So, Ronnie and Robert are together again many years later in another theatrical endeavor that will soon be seen at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands, Aug. 21-30. The box office for Forum will be open for season subscribers Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 13 and 14, and on Friday, Aug. 15 for individual tickets and reservations. Call 828-526-8084 for information after Aug. 13.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Two Prize-Winning Southern authors at Cyrano's Saturday with Sunday discussion at Shakespeare & Company sponsored by Highlands Writers Group

North Carolinian Charles L. Price will be at Cyrano's Bookshop on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 1-3 p.m. to sign 'Nor the Battle to the Strong,' his new novel about the Revolutionary War. Later that afternoon, from 3-5, New Orleans native James Nolan will autograph his short-story collection, 'Perpetual Care.' The Carolinas and Georgia played a crucial, yet now all-too-often overlooked part in the American Revolution. In 'Nor the Battle to the Strong: A Novel of the American Revolution in the South,' Charles F. Price seeks to redress the balance by following the actions of two men who really took part in the struggle: Major General Nathanael Greene, who commanded the Continental Army in South and North Carolina in 1781; and James Johnson, a Scottish immigrant — and the author's ancestor — who fought as a private under Greene's command. The book culminates in one of the last large military engagements of the American Revolution, the Battle of Eutaw Springs, fought in central South Carolina on Sept. 18, 1781.

'Nor the Battle to the Strong' has been heaped with praise by historians and fiction writers alike, as well as newspaper reviewers. Award-winning novelist (and Highlands favorite) Ron Rash, author of 'One Foot in Eden' and 'The World Made Straight,' calls Price a natural-born storyteller; historian John Buchanan ('The Road to Guilford Courthouse: The American Revolution in the South') lauds this 'rare combination of both the novelist's and historian's art, a brilliant recreation of a distant past.' 'Nor Battle to the Strong' is a handsomely designed book that includes maps and illustrations by the author. Charles F. Price is the author of the four-volume Hiawasee series set in Western North Carolina, which together have won the Sir Walter Raleigh Award for best fiction by a North Carolina author; the Independent Publisher Book Award for one of the 10 outstanding books of the year; and two Historical Fiction Awards from the North Carolina Society of Historians.

A former lobbyist, urban planner and journalist, Price is a native of Haywood County; after many years in Washington, D.C., he and his wife now live in Burnsville. Price will be at Cyrano's from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday.

James Nolan is a fifth-generation native of New Orleans. A fiction writer, poet, essayist and translator, he has received two Fulbright Fellowships and a National Endowment for the Arts grant, and had been writer-in-residence at both Tulane and Loyola universities, and now directs the Loyola University-New Orleans Writing Institute.

As you can imagine, his prose is steeped in the Crescent City and 'Perpetual Care,' his first collection of short stories, features comic-yet-unsettling tales set mostly in New Orleans. In the title story, a tomb in the St. Louis Cemetery No. 3 on Esplanade Avenue is not as quiet as the proverb would have it. The final and recent resting place of a white, high-school student suicide, the tomb is in fact emitting really good Jazz (and other genres of African-American infused music) from inside. First there is consternation, then the P.R. people get involved and there is rejoicing. And then there is a surprise. Susan Larson of the Times-Picayune calls Nolan's writing, 'The real deal...New Orleans' long conversation with itself has never been louder or more insistent than in these stories, with all their exuberance, despair and wit.' Wyatt Prunty, director of the Sewanee Writers' Conference said 'Perpetual Care' stands in accomplishment with 'The Loved One,' 'Miss Lonely Hearts,' 'Wise Blood,' and 'A Confederacy of Dunces.' The stories are apt, disturbing, and funny. 'Perpetual Care' won the Jefferson Press Prize, and was a Book Sense Notable Book for July.

Nolan will sign at Cyrano's from 3-5 on Saturday. And on Sunday, Aug. 10, from 2-4 p.m., he will give a talk sponsored by the Highlands Writers Group: 'Lying to Tell the Truth: Creating Fiction from Real Life,' at Shakespeare & Co. in Highlands Village Square.

According to Highlands and New Orleans resident Marda Burton (author of a wonderful history of Galatoire's restaurant), Nolan is a 'kick and a half, a witty and entertaining speaker.'

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

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

interpretations of glass and ceramic for home décor and tableware.

Wed.-Sat., Aug. 6-9

• At Instant Theatre on Main Street, at 8 p.m., Clarence Darrow Here is the famous attorney reminiscing over his long and renowned career. Socko theatre...gutsy, exciting, inspiring, funny and beautiful. Tickets: \$20.

Thursday, Aug. 7

• The Friends of the Library will host a free family cookout and movie at the library on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for all the families in the community. Hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, cookies and drinks will be served. The 2007 PG movie "Enchanted" will begin at 6:30 p.m. It is an animated fairy tale and modern live action romance in one. When the beautiful princess Giselle is banished from the fairy tale kingdom by the evil queen, she finds herself in modern day New York. After falling in love, she has to wonder if a fairy tale romance can

survive in a modern world

Friday & Saturday, Aug. 8-9

• A "Native Landscaping & Water Management" workshop at the North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville on Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m.-noon. General skills and information useful in managing your land will be presented. The cost is \$50 per person per session, with spouse or other family member at \$25. Registration includes lunch, snacks and workshop-related materials. Registration for this workshop will be accepted through July 31. Credit toward NC Environmental Education Certification is available, as well as CEU credits. Workshops also count as electives toward the Asheville Board of Realtors ECO Certification. For more information and registration materials, visit www.cradleofforestry.org or contact Amy Garascia, Program Coordinator, at amysworkshopinfo@aol.com or 828-884-5713 ex. 26.

• See EVENTS page 28

Internationally known organist to perform at First Presbyterian Aug. 17



Gerre Hancock, one of America's most highly acclaimed concert organists and choral directors, will present a free recital on the pipe organ at First Presbyterian Church, Aug. 17 at 4 p.m.

David Milford as Clarence Darrow held over

The Instant Theatre Company is proud to announce that due to the overwhelmingly enthusiastic response to last weekend's performance of Clarence Darrow the run is being extended. David Milford, as Clarence Darrow, will play Aug. 8-9 as previously advertised, and also on Aug. 15-16, Aug. 22-23 and Aug. 29-30.

Glowing comments from audience members who attended the performances on the 1st and 2nd have been emailed to the ITC. The following is from Donna Cochran of Mirror Lake Antiques, Highlands. "I was taught that there are two parts to enjoying any theatrical experience: the play and the production. Let me say that watching David Milford as Clarence Darrow allowed for a wonderful evening on both counts.

Rintels, the playwright, has done a marvelous job acquainting us with Darrow: we see his foibles as well as his strengths, but most importantly we feel his passion for liberal causes, unpopular causes, even dangerous and career-ruining causes.

It is an important biography beautifully recounted by an extremely competent wordsmith. But if this was all there was to it, I could have stayed home and read the play. David Milford brings Clarence Darrow to life! Told in the first person, Darrow's life unfolds before the audience like a many course banquet. There are his early years of struggle, his middle years

wherein he "finds himself and his cause," and his later years - all carefully and thoroughly recounted. Milford is a master storyteller, but more he is a great actor. There were points when I, and I expect most of the audience, felt this WAS Darrow - not Milford reliving his life.

The minimalist set works beautifully, the lighting effective, and the direction superb. History buffs, lawyers, and most especially lovers of good theater should see this show."

John Gaston, President of the Highlands Library Board has this to say: "One seldom, if ever, meets a hero and these days as those who are called heroes are most often the product of some publicist's pen. However, those fortunate enough to be at the



Actor David Milford

Instant Theatre Company this past weekend were able to observe the essence of an authentic American Hero in David Milford's masterful portrayal of attorney Clarence Darrow. In the ITC's production of David W. Rintels play Milford so skillfully assumes the role of Darrow that one would almost believe that they were in the presence of the famed attorney. I laughed, I thought, and I learned a great deal about what it takes to be a true hero. I believe you will, too."

For reservations call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. All performances are at 8 P.M. The ITC's Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street, Highlands.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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FULL-TIME (SEASONAL) DRIVING RANGE ATTENDANT needed at Highlands Country Club. \$10 per hour. Contact Pat Tomlinson @ 526-3771. 8/14

HIGHLANDS FALLS COUNTRY CLUB - full or part-time golf cart staff needed. Call Allen at 526-2189.

Highlands Falls Country Club - Accepting applications Tues.-Fri, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for servers and busers. \$9-10 per hour. Call 526-4118.

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COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH is accepting resumes for an Office Assistant. Computer skills, people skills and

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 28

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 8-10

- At Acorn's on Main Street, a Earthborn Pottery Trunk Show. Handcrafted pottery from Leeds, Alabama that is dishwasher and microwave-safe.

- Carpe Diem Farms is offering an exquisite adult horse back program. All are invited to come out and participate in this award-worthy adult programming. Enhance relationships, overcome fears, improve communication, nurture yourself, expand your horizons. Let our horses help you learn. Limited space, call now to make your reservation! 828-526-2854.

Friday, August 8

- Mountain Music will abound in Highlands School old gym featuring, Heart of the South and The Country Kickin Cloggers. Square dancing and clogging will entertain and involve audiences beginning at 6:45 P.M. Concerts will run between 7:30 and 9 every Friday. These free concerts are sponsored by the Just for You Relay for Life team. This year's Relay for Life Event will be held in Cashiers on Friday, August 22.

- RBC Centura Bank on at Oak and U.S. 64 west is holding a Yard/Rummage sale to raise money for the Mountain Top Relay For Life, Friday on the front lawn of RBC Bank 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Hot dogs, chips, soft drinks available for donations to Relay For Life.

Sat.-Sat., Aug. 9-16

- Christmas in August Sale. Santa's workshop located in Glenville CDC Building. 1-6 p.m. Proceeds to the Glenville Community.

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 9-10

- At Sapphire Valley, an arts & crafts show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Live bluegrass music, food stand, drinks, and Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society Stop n' Adopt. Located at U.S. 64, 3 miles east of Cashiers. Free admission and parking. For more info, call 828-743-1163.

Saturday, Aug. 9

- At Cyrano's Bookshop a book signing from 1-3 p.m. Charles F. Price "Nor the Battle to the Strong."

- At Cyrano's Bookshop a book signing from 3-5 p.m., by James Nolan "Lying to Tell the Truth: Creating Fiction from Real Life."

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 6.5 mile strenuous hike on the Appalachian Trail, with an elevation change of 2,000 feet, starting from Highway 76 east of Clayton south to Addis Cap. This is a less hiked

J.W. Band to perform for Relay of Life benefit at High Country Cafe



On Saturday, Aug. 16, The J.W. Band performing at High Country Café on U.S. 64 east in memory of Cyndi McCall and as a fundraiser for Relay for Life 5-9 p.m. \$7 includes spaghetti dinner, band, dancing, auction and raffle.

section of the trail and relatively remote. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 8 a.m. Drive 90 miles round trip with car shuttle. Highlands/Cashiers hikers call leader for alternate meeting place. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear boots. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Doug Deane at 864-718-9265 for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

- At Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, "Healthy Living Fair" 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. featuring lectures by physicians, fitness demonstrations, cosmetic makeovers, and health information exhibits which include not only hospital programs but also other providers and purveyors from around the area. However, this year's fair will feature a lecture by Alex Cho, MD of the Duke Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy in Durham, NC. Genomics, which is one of the hottest subjects in medicine today, uses studies of genes to predict an

individual's risk for certain diseases, such as prostate cancer or hypertension. It's also being used to study why some tumors or diseases respond to treatment and other do not. It's Free.

- A Fundamentals Basketball Camp will be held Saturday, at the Highlands Civic Center. Boys and girls ages 7-9 years old will work on fundamentals and learning the game of basketball from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Boys and girls ages 10-12 years old are invited to come participate from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$35, coordinated by Michelle and Jesse Munger. For more information contact Michelle at 342-3551.

- The Cashiers Historical Society is sponsoring another Front Porch Family Fun event at the Zachary-Tolbert House in Cashiers on Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Local artist, Lee Knight, will entertain with his unique blend of music and storytelling. Knight is a long time favorite of both the young and the

young-at-heart. In addition, there will be crafts, activities, games, refreshments, and lots of interaction. Parents are invited to join in the fun or simply relax on the grounds while your kids enjoy the festivities. No pre-registration is required; simply drop in. For more information on this free event, contact the Historical Society at 743.7710.

Sunday, Aug. 10

- At Shakespeare & Co., a book signing by James Nolan from 2-4 p.m., signing "Lying to Tell the Truth: Creating Fiction from Real Life."

- Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival Final Gala and Dinner Party: Concert at Highlands Performing Arts Center "Beethoven and Bluegrass" Chris Thile/Punch Brothers/Blair String Quartet, 5 p.m.; A celebratory reception and dinner at Highlands Country Club follows the concert. 526-9060.

- The Highlands Audubon Society will have their annual potluck picnic at 5 p.m. on Sunday at the Highlands Recreation Park. Hamburgers with condiments and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish. For reservations call Pat Davis at 828-526-0252.

Monday, Aug. 11

- Canning Peach Jam will be offered on Monday from 1-4 p.m. The class will cost \$5 and pre-registration is required. You will learn to make peach jam and take a jar home. Register by calling 349-2046 before August 5. Sherrie Peeler, Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences will be teaching the classes.

- HIARPT: The Highlands Institute for Religious Thought presents a lecture by Bishop John S. Spong, Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, Retired: "Mark: The Basic Gospel - Born in the Synagogue," at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of The Incarnation.

- Beginning Food Preservation 101 - Encore will be offered for a second time, Monday from 9-11 a.m. The class will cost \$5 and pre-registration is required. To register by Aug. 6, call 349-2046.

Tuesday, Aug. 12

- Canning Green Beans will be offered on Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon. The class will cost \$5 and pre-registration is required. Please pre-register by calling 349-2046 before August 5. Sherrie Peeler, Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences will teach the classes.

- HIARPT: The Highlands Institute for Religious Thought presents a lecture by Bishop John S. Spong,

• See EVENTS page 29

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Respiratory Therapist: at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Part time and PRN positions available. 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 a current BLS and/or ACLS required. Experience with rehabilitation and disease prevention preferred. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

Scrub Tech at Highlands-Cashiers

Hospital. Full time position available. Assists surgeon during operative and invasive procedures. Operating Room Technician and BCLS certifications are required. Minimum of one year of work experience in the Operating Room is preferred. 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.

FOOD SERVICE MANAGER needed

at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full-time position. At least two years experience in institutional/food service environment with knowledge of therapeutic diets, food safety and sanitation guidelines needed. Experience with purchasing and inventory preferred. Must be a self-starter with strong organizational and managerial skills. 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 required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

CNA OR CNA II at Highlands-Cash-

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, Retired: "Matthew and Luke - Mark turned in two different directions," at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of The Incarnation.

Wednesday Aug. 13

• "Evening at Lakeside" restaurant to benefit The Bascom. Mention the organization and 15% will be donated.

• High Mountain Squares will dance this Wednesday at the Macon County Community Building from 7-

9 p.m. Stan "The Man" Russell from Greenville SC will be the callers. Western Style Square Dancing, main/stream and plus levels. Everyone is welcome. High Mountain Squares will start New Dancers lessons September 28. Come learn to square dance. For information call 828-349-0905, 828-349-4187, 706-782-0943, or www.highmountainsquares.org

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 14-31

• At Highlands Playhouse, "One Voice," featuring selections from Patsy Cline, Judy Garland and Karen

Carpenter. For further information or reservations please call 828-526-2695 or P.O. Box 896 in Highlands.

Thursday, Aug. 14

• In the 2008 movie "The Other Boleyn Girl," Anne Boleyn (Natalie Portman) and Mary Boleyn (Scarlett Johansson) compete for the love of Henry VII. The free movies are usually shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. Donations are appreciated.

Friday, August 15

• Award-winning storyteller Regina Ress will be at the Hudson Library for an evening storytelling session at 6 p.m. This will be a family event, suitable for children and their parents. Scheduled program is "The Emperor's New Clothes and Other Tales."

• At Scudders Gallery on Main Street in Highlands, an auction of a Remington Bronze entitled "The Bronks Buster" at 9:30 p.m., the public is encouraged

• See EVENTS page 30



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COOK AND DIETARY AIDE at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Various shifts and days available. Must be able to work weekends and be able to read and speak

English. Salary depends on experience. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Mandy Talley at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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ployees, 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.

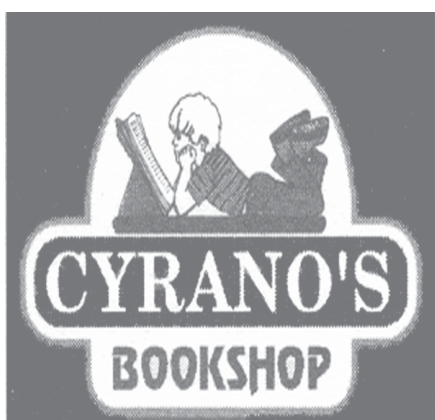
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duct recruitment and retention activities. Masters degree with a background in nursing leadership required. This position reports directly to the CEO/President of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, working closely with the QA Nurse Manager and the VP of Operations. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of 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

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 30

• UPCOMING EVENTS •



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Upcoming Book Signings

Saturday, August 9

1-3 p.m.

Charles F. Price
"Nor the Battle to the Strong"
3:30-5:30 p.m.
James Nolan
"Perpetual Care"

Saturday, August 16

2-4 p.m.

Jane Nardy
"The Historic Tales of Cashiers"

Saturday, August 23

1-3 p.m.

Chester Campbell
"The Marathon Murders"

Thursday, September 4

1-3 p.m.

Susan Wilson
"Come to the Table" cookbook

Saturday, September 6

2-4 p.m.

Rod Andrew
"Wade Hampton"

to turn out. Proceeds of the auction will go to the Highlands/Cashiers Hospital.

• At CLE, The Joy of Baking with Martha Porter 10-2. Cost is \$40 for members, \$50 for non members. Please call 526-8811 to register.

Saturday, Aug. 16

• A Fundamentals Basketball Camp will be held Saturday, at the Highlands Civic Center. Boys and girls ages 7-9 years old will work on fundamentals and learning the game of basketball from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Boys and girls ages 10-12 years old are invited to come participate from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$35, coordinated by Michelle and Jesse Munger. For more information contact Michelle at 342-3551.

Sunday, Aug. 17

• Internationally known organist Gerre Hancock, one of America's most highly acclaimed concert organists and choral directors will present a recital on the pipe organ at Highlands First Presbyterian Church at 4 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 1.5 mile easy hike to Big Laurel Falls in the Standing Indian area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2:00 p.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations.

Tuesday, Aug. 19

• The Hudson Library is hosting a presentation by retired Miami homicide detective Marshall Frank about his memoir, "From Violins to Violence." 2 pm, FREE. For more information, 526-3031.

• The popular free lecture series, "Take Charge of Your Health," presented by Dr. Jim Johnson and Dr. Sue Aery of Cashiers-Highlands Chiropractic and Acupuncture continues at the Hudson Library with a presentation on Back Pain. FREE, 6-7 p.m. For more information, 526-3031

Wed.-Fri., Aug. 20-22

• At The Bascom, art classes with Cherry Cratty from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Pulp Painting featuring Roy the Rooster currently on display in the entrance to The Bascom at the Hudson Library. Learn how to create rich, textural paintings with pigment and paper. To register, call 526-4949, ext. #4.

Wednesday, August 20

The Bascom to offer party-themed art classes

Summertime is party time here in the mountains, and a series of art classes offered by The Bascom will focus on just that. "Entertaining Mountain Style" runs Aug. 12-16, and class registration is going on now.

What could say party better than a show-stopping centerpiece? Margie Shambaugh, veteran florist, will teach you how to create floral designs with jaw-dropping results. Whether a beginner or an accomplished arranger there's something for everyone in "Show-stopping Centerpieces," set for Aug. 12, 1-4 p.m. Cost is \$25 for Bascom members; \$27.50 for not-yet-members.

Learn how to steep and serve elegant teas in the style of the royals. Sip and nosh from divine, traditional and fanciful settings with "High Tea, Mountain Style," set for Aug. 16, 1-4 p.m. Cost is \$30 for Bascom members; \$33 for not-yet-members

Let The Bascom show you how to rejuvenate old baskets with decoupage, stenciling, painting and more. Everything old is new again with this fun-filled afternoon of "Artful Basket Rescue with Paper and Paint," set for Aug. 14, 1-4 p.m. Cost is \$27 for Bascom members; \$30 for not-yet-members.

Create simple, yet elegant hand-painted stemware and dessert plates with dishwasher safe glass painting techniques in "Personalizing Your Stemware," set for Aug. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$27 for Bascom members; \$30 for not-yet-members.

To register for one of these classes, or for more information on other Bascom offerings, visit www.thebascom.org or call (828) 526-4949, 4#.

• The free Interlude concerts presented by the First Presbyterian Church held on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Dress is casual. Stell Huie, Baritone, Angie Jenkins, Piano

Thurs.-Sat., Aug. 21-23

• At Instant Theatre at 8 p.m., "Second Lady." A remarkable award winning play about a fictional political wife who has mislaid her prepared remarks and must draw on her experiences and recollections to fulfill a speaking engagement on behalf of her husband. Tickets: \$20.

Thursday, August 21

• An Italian Experience Wine Dinner at OEI's The Farm. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Call 866-526-8008.

• In the 2007 movie "Elizabeth: The Golden Age," Cate Blanchett plays the queen in this exploration of her relationship with Sir Walter Raleigh. The free movies are usually shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. Donations are appreciated.

• Republicans in Jackson, Macon and Swain Counties are invited to a breakfast event at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, at the Jarrett House in Dillsboro. The breakfast is being organized by the Jackson County Republican Organization to welcome Representative Paul Stamm, North Carolina State House Minority Leader, to Western North Carolina. Representative Stamm will address the group with an update on the legislature's 2008 session and the legislative agenda in 2009. For additional information and reservations call Republican Headquarters at 828-586-3634 or visit the Jackson County Republican Organization website at www.jacksoncountygop.com.

Friday-Sunday, Aug. 22-24

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Dweck Jewelry Trunk Show. Unique jewelry- bold, colorful, yet worldly.

Saturday, Aug. 23

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4 mile moderate hike to the Devil's Courthouse on Whiteside Mountain, with an elevation change of 700 feet. Meet at Whiteside Mountain Parking lot off Hwy. 64 between Highlands and Cashiers at 9:30 am. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• At Cyrano's Book Shop on Main Street, Chester Campbell will sign "The Marathon Murders" from

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FOUND

A RING – At Sliding Rock Falls in Whiteside Cove. Call Steve at 743-5470.

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2,000 SQ. FT. + OR - 399 Main Street, Highlands, rear of building. Call 526-4154.

COMMERCIAL RETAIL OR OFFICE

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 32

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

1-3 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 24

• Violin prodigy Ben Beilman, will perform at the Highlands Episcopal Church of the Incarnation at 5 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

Monday, August 25

• Wine Dinner at Wolfgang's Bistro. Oakville Ranch Vineyards, "Traveling Wine Diva," Paula Kornell Part of the fun of this dinner is Paula herself and her positively wonderful personality that reminds you how wine dinners can be very enjoyable and not pretentious. Chef Wolfgang and Chef David have fun with this

dinner as well, because they know her wines so well. To make reservations, please call Wolfgang's at 828.526.3807 or visit our web site at www.wolfgangs.net.

• The Town Scholarship Golf Tournament at Cullasaja Club.

Beginning Tuesday, Aug. 26

• At Health Tracks at the hospital, "Freedom from Smoking" classes. The round of eight classes, taught by a certified instructor, is free. Space is limited, so those interested should call as soon as possible to

• See EVENTS page 32

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

register. For more information or to register, call Health Tracks at 526-1FIT (526-1348)

Tues.-Fri., Aug. 26-29

• At The Bascom, watercolor classes with Herbie Rose from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring paper and paint. To register, call 526-4949, ext. #4.

Wednesday, August 27

• The Village Nature Series is a free summertime lecture series co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust & Village Green. "The Making of the Mountains" with Steve Yurkovich. Everyone is welcome. Lectures

are held at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 PM. Refreshments follow. There is no charge but donations are graciously accepted. Call HCLT for info: 526.1111.

• "Evening at Lakeside" restaurant to benefit the Audubon Society. Mention the organization and 15% will be donated.

Thurs.-Sat., Aug. 28-30

• At Instant Theatre at 8 p.m., "Second Lady." A remarkable award winning play about a fictional political wife who has mislaid her prepared remarks and must draw on her experiences and recollections to

fulfill a speaking engagement on behalf of her husband. Tickets: \$20.

Thursday-Tuesday, Aug. 28-Sept. 2

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Coralia Leets Designs Trunk Show. Distinctive jewelry with precious and semi-precious stones, gems and pearls set in 14k and 18k gold.

Thursday, Aug. 28

• In the 2006 movie "The Queen," Helen Mirren won the Oscar for her performance as Queen Elizabeth II as she struggled with the events after Princess Diana's death. The free movies are usually shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. Donations are appreciated.

Friday-Monday, Aug. 29-Sept. 1

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Nina McLemore Clothing Trunk Show. Clothing designed by a woman with fashion and business expertise, for smart, confident women on the go.

Sunday, Aug. 31

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 1-mile easy-to-moderate hike on the Rufus Morgan Trail with a pretty waterfall and a couple of short climbs along the way. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 2:00 p.m. Drive 24 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people; reservations are required. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations.

Wed. September 3

• "Evening at Lakeside" restaurant to benefit the Highlands Plateau Greenway. Mention the organization and 15% will be donated.

Thursday, Sept. 4

• At Cyrano's Book Shop on Main Street, Susan Wilson will sign "Come to the Table" a cookbook from 1-3 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 6

• Coming Soon to a Blank Canvas Near You. The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Quickdraw is at 5:30 p.m. at Peregrine's Restaurant at Highlands Cove. The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Quickdraw is an exciting event where local and regional artists will race the clock and complete a piece of artwork in two hours. The spectator has a chance to see the art being created from start to finish and interact with the artist as they make choices and compose the piece of work. Immediately following the Quickdraw, the pieces that were completed during the two hour time period will be auc-

"The Emperor's New Clothes" at the Hudson Library

Award-winning storyteller Regina Ress is coming to Highlands for an evening storytelling concert at the Hudson Library on Friday, August 15. Ms. Ress is a storyteller, educator, and writer who has performed and taught for over 30 years from Broadway to Brazil, in a wide variety of settings, from schools to nursing homes, from homeless shelters to universities, from prisons to the White House, where she told the Tale of Peter Rabbit for the Easter Egg Roll in 2000.

Based in New York City, she has performed at numerous cultural institutions, including Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. She has been a featured storyteller in the Hans Christian Anderson storytelling series in New York's Central Park for 16 years and she will be telling Anderson's The Emperor's New Clothes, along with other folktales from around the

world, at the library.

Ms Ress is also an actress, having appeared in the Broadway production of The

Women and numerous touring productions. In the summer of 1974, her acting brought her to the Highlands Playhouse where she co-starred in the two-character musical I Do! I Do! She returned in subsequent seasons and was featured in a dozen shows including the 1981 production of Same Time Next Year. She fell in love with Highlands and has returned often to visit ever since.

Storytelling is for people of all ages and this program is recommended for adults and children 5 and older. So come to the Hudson Library on August 15 at 6 p.m. for an evening to remember.

The program is free and open to everyone. Donations

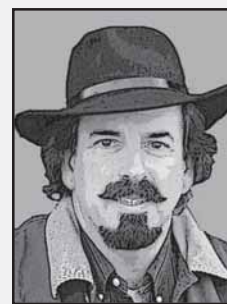
are always welcome. For more information, call the Hudson Library, 526-3031.



Award-winning story-teller Regina Ress is coming to the Hudson Library to tell The Emperor's New Clothes, by Hans Christian Anderson on Friday, Aug. 15. Photo by Ari Ress

The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Quickdraw Sept. 6

A self portrait by Andrews, NC, Artist Mark Menendez, who is one of the artists participating in the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Quickdraw.



The Highlands Mountaintop Rotary Quickdraw is when local and regional artists will race the clock and complete a piece of artwork in two hours. The spectator has a chance to see the art being created from start to finish and interact with the artist as they make choices and compose the piece of work. Immediately following the Quickdraw, the pieces will be auctioned off. All proceeds from the auction will be used by the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary to fund Rotary projects in the Highlands-Cashiers area.

Artists Bonnie Adams, Chris Bell, Kathie Blozan, Jim Chapman, Cheryl Coombs, Kay Gorecki, Duncan Greenlee, Valerie Lennon, Bob Martin, Diane McPhail, Mark Menendez, Karen Pait, Jack Stern and Robert Tino will be competing. Rotarian Dennis Hall will be donating his services as Auctioneer for the live auction.

The Quickdraw event will be held Saturday, Sept. 6 at Peregrine's at Highlands Cove. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the Quickdraw beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$35, which includes an hors d'oeuvres buffet, the Quickdraw and silent auction, and the live auction. Cash bar available. For tickets call 828-421-2548.

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tance 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.

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LOST

YELLOW CAT — No tail. From Rocky

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HILTON HEAD, SC, BUILDING LOT FOR TRADE OR SALE. Enjoy breathtaking views of marsh and beyond to deep water. Watch the shrimp boats pass by! Located on a quiet cul-d-sac, in a new gated community. Community dock, stables nearby, short drive to beach. \$299,000 sale or trade up or down for local

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

tioned off. All proceeds from the auction will be used by the Highlands Mountaintop Rotary to fund Rotary projects in the Highlands-Cashiers area. Tickets are \$35, which includes an hors d'oeuvres buffet, the Quickdraw and silent auction, and the live auction. A cash bar will be available. For more information or to purchase tickets please call 828-421-2548, e-mail

mtntopquickdraw@aol.com

Sunday, Sept. 7

• Christ Anglican Church of Highlands/Cashiers and Community Bible Church series of concerts, Sundays at CBC at 2:30. Love offerings will be given to noted agencies. The Mountain Chamber Players –

Author discusses book 'From Violins to Violence' at Hudson Library

On Tuesday, Aug. 19 the Hudson Library is hosting a presentation by retired Miami homicide detective Marshall Frank about his memoir, "From Violins to Violence." In the book Mr. Frank bares all about his transition from a classical violinist, dancer and stepson of a Miami Beach mobster, to becoming one of Miami-Dade County's premier homicide detectives. Mr. Frank has also authored several crime novels and two essay collections, and is a regular editorial columnist for The Smoky Mountain News.

"Thirty years of law enforcement with a major police agency would provide any retired cop with a tremendous reservoir of experiences from which to tap in order to write any book, fiction or non-fiction," commented Mr. Frank. "I originally started by documenting true life experiences, then realized I could tell more of these stories by embellishing, using those real-life people as composite subjects for fictional characters and real-life events as the basis for plots. As I delved more into the realm of fiction, I saw where I could not only tell a suspenseful story, but deliver messages to the reader about the many problems inherent within police agencies in today's complex world of fighting crime and injustice.

"My intention is to not only entertain my audience with clever twists of criminal investigation, but to unveil the personal side of many cop's lives. After all, there is

often much that affects a cop's life off-duty, as well as on."

Born to vaudevillian parents in New York City, Frank moved to Miami, Florida at the age of five. After graduating high school, he worked various jobs including ballroom dance instructor and symphony violinist. Thanks to the advice of a notorious Miami Beach bookie, and a thoughtful stepfather, he found his niche in law enforcement by joining the Dade County Sheriff's Office in 1960, serving as a road patrolman for three years before rising through the ranks to captain. He spent the majority of his 30 years investigating murders or commanding those who did.

Outside of working vice, Mr. Frank's career covered the gamut of high stress police assignments, including Internal Affairs, Criminal Intelligence and 16 years in Homicide and Crime Scene Investigations, seven years as a detective and nine more in a command status. His last arrest as a sworn officer was that of five police officers charged with the beating death of an unarmed motorcyclist, which came to be known as the infamous "McDuffie" case. Their subsequent acquittal led to the Miami riots in May of 1980 and another 18 brutal killings of innocent people. That same month, Mr. Frank was invited to testify before the U.S. Congress to discuss the problems of violent crime in America.

Bel Canto artistic director brings back Highlands well-loved tenor

Returning to the Highlands stage for the 16th annual Bel Canto is tenor Roy Cornelius Smith.

Smith has received accolades the world round with statements like, "(He) used his voice and demeanor to create a f l e s h - a n d - b l o o d character...with ringing high notes and a sweet middle range....," *Aspen Music Festival* and "Vienna claimed as its new darling Roy Cornelius Smith... His big, beautiful, bronze tenor seemed tailor-made for Calaf, easily alternating between tender, sweet-toned passages with Liù and a velvet trumpet in his confrontations with his *principessa*," *Opera News*.

Smith performed here last in 2006 with soprano and violinist Megan Roth.

Smith joins baritone John Packard under the artistic direction of Stella Zambalis – another darling of the Highlands opera stage.

It was Zambalis who actually encouraged his return. After working together a concert in Oklahoma, she asked him to return to the Highlands stage and he said he was eager to accept the offer. Smith first met Zambalis when he was an apprentice with the Knoxville Opera

Company.

Smith said opera has been a wonderful and unexpected experience for him. Growing up, he wanted to be a gospel/country singer – until his teacher heard him sing a high D-flat and suggested he reconsider.

"I had no idea what opera was because I was never exposed to it growing up. I come from a very small town in the southwest part of Virginia – Big Stone Gap. She took me to see Faust at the Knoxville Opera company and I was fascinated," he said.

Smith has a full schedule in the next few months, performing as Calaf in Turandot in Vienna, Jacksonville and Charlotte. But first he is to perform in Manon Lescaut and said he hopes at the Highlands event he has the opportunity to perform a few arias from that piece.

The 16th annual Bel Canto takes place Sept. 7 at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center and will be followed by a dinner at Highlands Country Club. Tickets are \$150 and proceeds benefit both the Highlands School and the permanent collection of The Bascom. For more information, call 526-9047 or writ P.O. Box 2392, Highlands, NC, 28741.



Roy Smith

chamber music involving a variety of instruments and voices – benefiting The Community Care Clinic.

Thursday, September 11

• A Krupp Brothers Wine Dinner at OEI's The Farm. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Call 866-526-8008.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 12-14

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Planet Clothing Trunk Show. Contemporary clothing with a distinctive Oriental flair.

Saturday, Sept. 13

• At Instant Theatre at 8 p.m., Steve Gillette & Cindy Mangsen in Concert. Steve Gillette is a legendary folk songwriter, guitarist and singer. His wife Cindy Mangsen sings with a rare voice that radiates smoke and crystal. Together they create magical music. Tickets: \$25.

Wed.-Sat., Sept. 17- 20

• At Instant Theatre on Main Street at 8 p.m.,

• See EVENTS page 34

• CLASSIFIEDS •

home or villa. Owner SCREA. Call John at 843-301-5640. 8/21

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GREAT CONDO AT VZ TOP. This 3 bedroom/3 bath flat has been updated and features new stainless steel appliances in the kitchen. The walls have also been updated and there is new flooring and new bathroom tile. The greatroom has a stone faced fireplace and opens onto a wonderful covered deck with exceptional long mountain views. Great buy, just reduced to \$312,500 fully furnished. Call

Meadows Mountain Realty at 828-526-1717 to see

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fireplace, \$600 includes water, sewer, electricity, Single Family, References Required, No Pets, No Smoking, Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489.

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• See CLASSIFIEDS page 34

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

"2000 Year Old Man." An hilariously, side-splitting interview with a 2000 year old man, written and first performed by the famed Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner. Tickets: \$20

Wed. September 17

• "Evening at Lakeside" restaurant to benefit the Highlands Community Child Development Center. Mention the organization and 15% will be donated.

Thursday, September 18

• A Miner Vineyards Wine Dinner at OEI's The Farm. \$169 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Call 866-526-8008.

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 19-21

• At Acorn's on Main Street, two trunk shows: a Match Trunk Show. Table furnishings of pewter, crys-

Make literacy your passion, too

"If you read any statistics about literacy at all you will be appalled at the 51 percent rate of illiteracy in our country," says Matt Eberz, president of the Literacy Council of Highlands. "As an author and avid reader, I am personally committed to literacy, which is why I serve on the Literacy Council of Highlands board, sponsor the now annual writing contest and work to improve the lot of the few I can reach."

"This year the Literacy Council has

reached out to more students, both young and old. We have extended our services out beyond the classroom with our offerings on the Internet, including our Rotary sponsored Computer-Assisted Literacy Solutions (CALS), which is a new method of reward-based, tutor assisted, and intelligent language solution that encourages student participation. We have also issued low-end laptops to children that are totally focused on English language training, and in order to reach young

and older adults, we are planning the implementation a program of lending laptops to these students for use with CALS. We are also, with the aid of such civic-minded builders as Bill Nellis, offering on the job-site programs."

Matt's talking about "Loving Literacy: A Premiere Gala," a performance of "Forum" by the Highlands Cashiers Players, Aug. 20 at The Performing Arts Center. The evening will feature the hilarious musical comedy, hors d'oeuvres, wine and exquisite desserts. There'll also be an opportunity to mingle with "Forum's" cast and crew, just like a Hollywood premiere.

For tickets to this exclusive, one-night-only event, call the Literacy Council at (828) 526-9938, ext. 240.

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

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rated PG-13

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

THE DARK KNIGHT

rated PG-13

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Sat & Sun: (4:30), 7:30

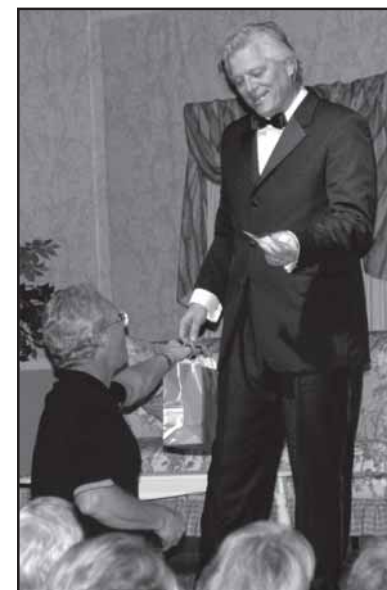
The Highlands Historical Society annual tour of homes is Aug. 9

This year's tour features six homes in the "Clemson Colony," including several Joe Webb constructed cabins. The colony is located on the south shore of Mirror Lake on Cullasaja Drive. It was originally composed of many summer retreats for professors of Clemson College. Joe Webb, who is well known for building unique log cabins in the Highlands area, built three of the homes highlighted on the tour. A general admission ticket of \$40 will include a tour of all 6 homes and refreshments. The tour will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9.

Shuttles will leave from the Recreation Center with the last shuttle leaving at 2:45 p.m. Tickets for the event may be purchased at Country Club Properties, The Highlander Newspaper, Cyranos Bookshop, Macon Bank or at the Recreation Center on the day of the tour. Funds raised by this event will go to the support of the Historic Village, which is open each Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the summer.



The Lippincott home built in 1931 is one of the six homes on tour this weekend.



The Literacy Council's board president Matt Eberz hands out one of six golf gift certificates to one of the lucky winners at last year's Loving Literacy Gala.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Chamber Music Festival Finale - Another Cutting-edge Performance

The Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival has always been on the cutting edge with exciting, imaginative, interesting programming and internationally-known performers, and the 27th Season Finale just may be the best concert yet.

Chris Thile, member of the Grammy Award-winning band and bluegrass phenomenon Nickel Creek, is bringing his new band Punch Brothers to town to join forces with the award-winning classical Blair String Quartet in an innovative program entitled "Beethoven and Bluegrass." The energy generated by these two powerhouse groups will be unforgettable as they share the stage and mix and match genres.

Chris Teal, first violin of the Blair Quartet, will play a solo Bach piece and then be answered by Chris Thile playing the same piece on mandolin. Banjo player Noam Pikelnny will join the Blair in the Edgar Meyer/Bela Fleck "Quintet for Banjo and String Quartet"; and Punch Brothers will answer Blair's Beethoven with original Bluegrass music of their own.



The Blair String Quartet and Chris Thile's Punch Brothers Band will be joining forces at the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival Finale for an innovative program of "Beethoven and Bluegrass."

Chris Thile released the first of five solo albums when he was just thirteen and, by the time he was 20, was attracting a following as a member of Nickel Creek. A Washington Post critic recently said Thile "may well be the most virtuosic American ever to play the mandolin."

Thile has often incorporated pieces by Bach and other classical masters into his live performances, and now he's released on CD a long-form composition of his own entitled "The Blind Leaving the Blind." Instead of working with a traditional chamber ensemble, though, he employs the instrumentation that has fascinated him

since childhood: mandolin, banjo, guitar, violin, and bass. "I had this idea of a long-form composition that was grounded in folk music," Thile explained. "Though much of it reads like a string quintet, there are parts that read like a jazz lead sheet."

The piece debuted at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall on March 17, 2007, and the New York Times wrote that the piece "Expands the frontier of an emerging style of what might be called American country-classical chamber music."

The Blair String Quartet, in residence at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University, is well known for their inter-

pretations of the standard chamber music repertoire. They have also championed music by contemporary American composers. "The Quintet for Banjo and String Quartet," composed for the quartet by Meyer and Fleck, has been featured nationally on the PBS series, "Lonesome Pine Special."

The Festival Finale will be a concert talked about for many years to come. You won't want to miss this amazing collaboration, being performed for the first time ever on Sunday August 10th at 5 PM at the Highlands PAC. Visit with both groups after the concert at a sumptuous dinner at the Highlands Country Club to celebrate the close of the 27th Season in high style.

For tickets and more information about the Festival's concerts, call 828-526-9060; online at hcmusicfestival.org.

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•See CLASSIFIEDS page 36

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THREE "HOUSE OF DENMARK" BOOKCASES – 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.

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•See CLASSIFIEDS page 38

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8:30 A.M. Until 1:00 P.M.

Scheduled Lectures & Talks

9:00 AM	Healthy Comfort Foods	Debra A. Wagner, MD
10:00 AM	Avoiding Common GI Issues	Richard Carter, MD
11:00 AM	Genomic Medicine	Alex Cho, MD, of Duke
12 Noon	Enhancing Your Lifestyle	Robert T. Buchanan, MD

Demonstrations

8:30 AM	Wake-up Smoothies	Chef Larry Murray
9:45 AM	Lactic Facial Peel	Center for Plastic Surgery
9:45 AM	Soothing Smoothies	Chef Larry Murray
10:30 AM	Hot Stone Massage	Robin Walker, LMBT
11:00 AM	Improving Your Golf Swing	Kelly Childs, CCSV Pro
11:30 AM	Making Healthy Pizzas	The Pizza Place
12:15 PM	Tai Chi Chan	Barbara Helm
12:30 PM	Healthy Grilling	Margaret Downs-West, RD

Displays & Exhibits By

Dr. Hal Alpert of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Center for Sleep Studies, The Medi-Spa & Center for Plastic Surgery, Highlands Whole Life Market, Highlands Dermatology, Wagner Medical Associates, HealthTracks & Healthy PathWeighs, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, Nantahala Hiking Club, Highlands Roadrunners Club, Smoking Cessation, Medication Cards, Guiltless Gourmet, Juice Plus, Pilates & Yoga, and organ donation.

On-going Demonstrations & Screenings

Free make-overs by **The Medi-Spa at the Center for Plastic Surgery**, osteoporosis screening and information from the **Haywood Regional Osteoporosis Prevention Program**, 10-minute massages by **Healing Touch**, body composition evaluation by **HealthTracks**.

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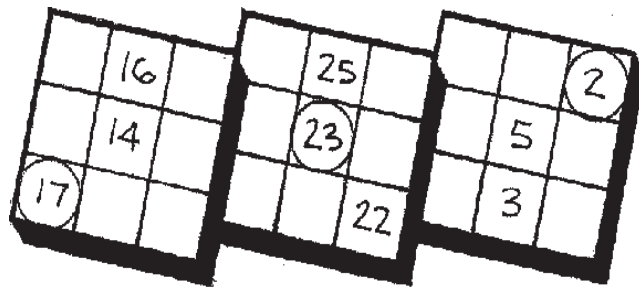


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• FUN & GAMES •

PseudoCube®



#BZ1E Level of Difficulty EASY

THE SETUP:

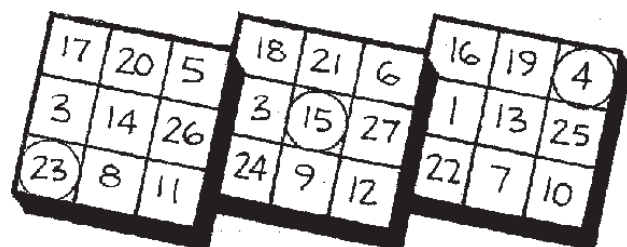
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ1E in July 31 issue



N-Cryptoku®

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. Email: pseudocube8@aol.com. Feedback encouraged!

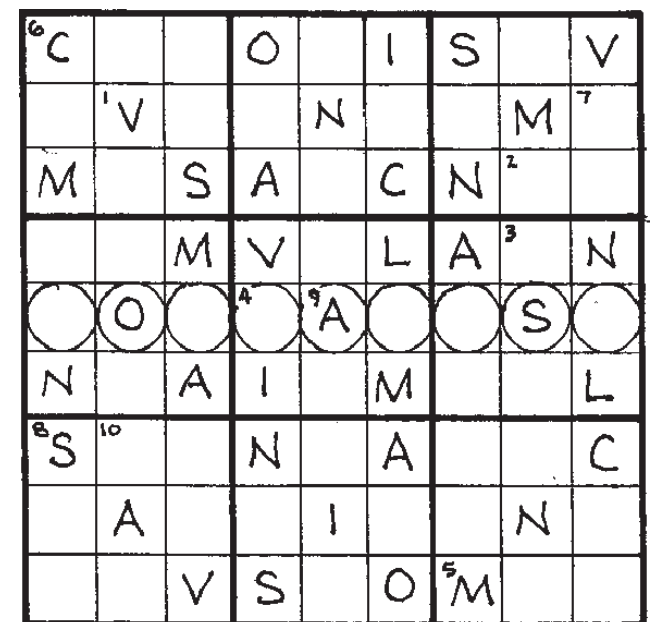
Mystery Word "Volcanic Force" (9)

Across

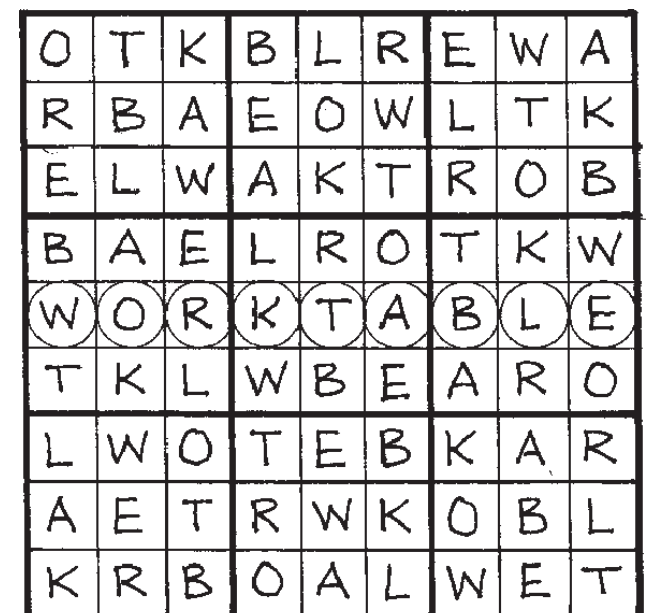
1. Volunteer (abbr) (3)
2. -- and behold (2)
3. Off or -- (2)
4. Able to (3)
5. Missing in action (abbr) (3)

Down

6. Eccentric wheel (3)
7. Charged atom (3)
8. Colloidal solution (3)
9. Internet server (3)
10. Male human (3)



Solution to July 31 puzzle



• CLASSIFIEDS •

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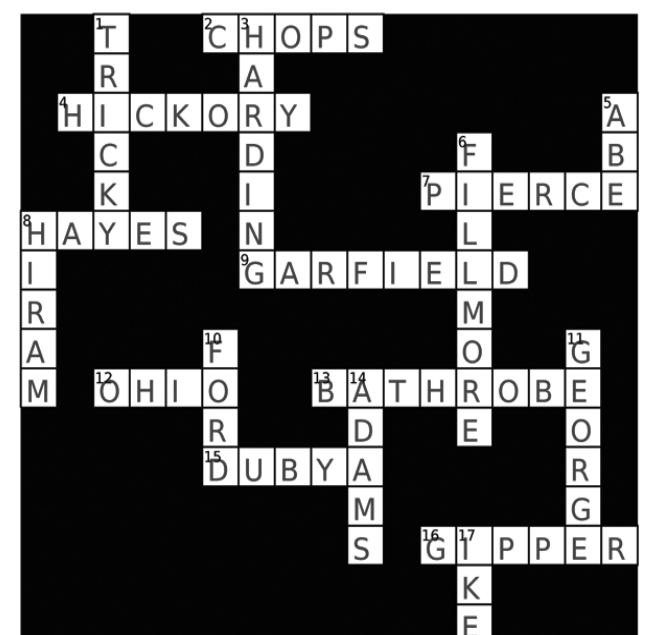
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• JULY 31 CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION •



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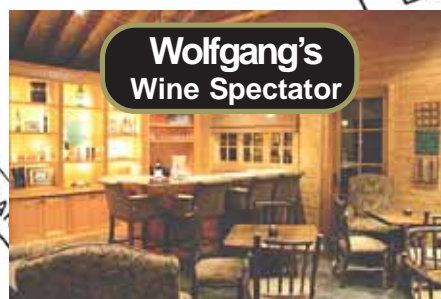
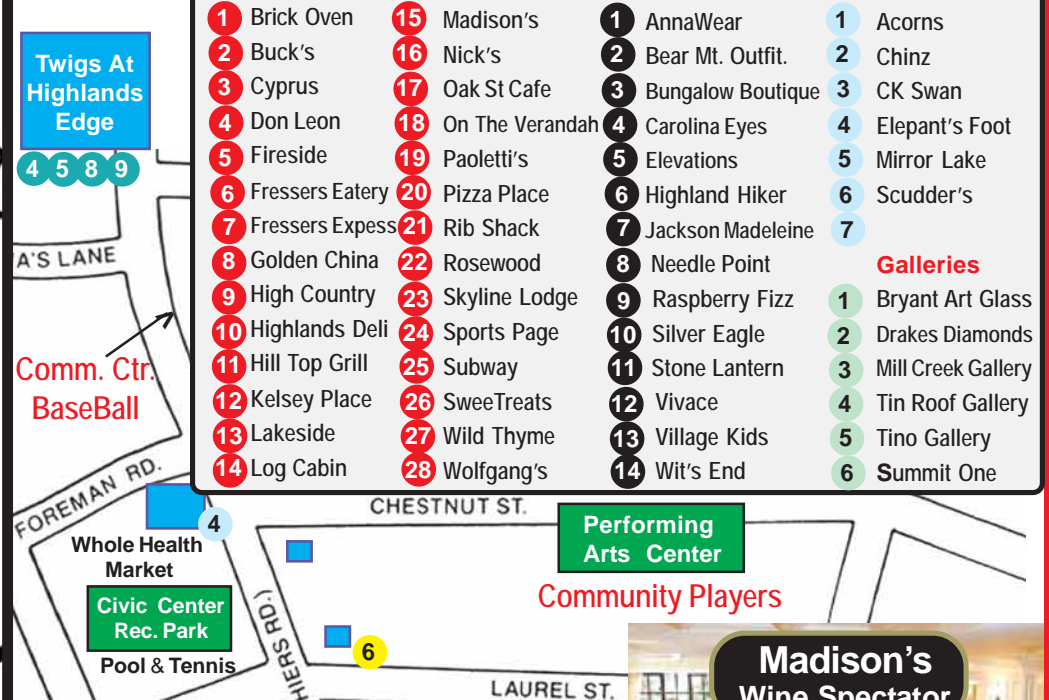
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2008 Highlands Map

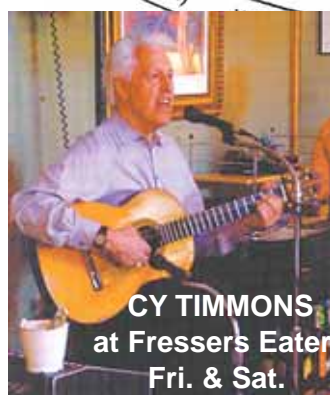
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