

Highlands' Newspaper FREE

Volume 6, Number 22

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, May 29, 2008

On-Going

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

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

• Pilates, Mon. & Wed., at 4 p.m. level 1 of the Jane Woodruff Clinic at the hospital. \$10 per class. Call 526-5852.

• Family activities at the Nature Center Mon-Sat.

Mondays

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

Wednesdays

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

Friday & Saturday

• Live music at The Rib Shack from 7-10 p.m.

Saturdays

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

Sundays

• Old-fashioned hymn-sing at the Little Church of the Willdwood at 7 p.m. Call Kay Ward at 743-5009.

Through June

• At the Book Worm in the basement of The Peggy Crosby Center, most hard cover books are \$1. The Book Worm is open Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday & Friday, May 29-30

• Collective Spirits Wine Festival to benefit The Bascom art center will be held at Highlands Country Club. Call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949.

Thursday, May 29

• Mirror Lake Improvement Association meeting 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Friday, May 30

• Booksigning at Cyrano's Bookshop on Main Street. Melanie Sue Bowles "The Horses of Proud Spirit." from 1-3 p.m.

• A "Washington Tea Party" from 2:30-4:30 p.m., at PAC. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

• Wine Dinnner at Lakeside Restaurant at 7 p.m. Call 526-9419.

• Hurricane Creek at The Instant Theatre 8-10:30 p.m. \$10 for adults over 18, children and students \$5.

• "Replica of a Presidential State Dinner," at Fressers Eatery at 6:30 p.m. Call 526-4188 for reservations.

• Wine dinner at Wolfgang's on Main. Call 526-3807 for reservations.

• At ...on the Verandah, a wine dinner fat 6:30 p.m. Call 526-2338 for reservations.

• "All the Presidents' Pastries" at 6:30 at PAC Call Fressers at 526-4188.

Sunday, June 1

• Gregory Broughton concert of Spirituals & Gospel music benefiting The Emergency Council at CBC at 2:30 p.m.

• At CLE, a concert by The Smoky Mountain Brass Band and CLE 2008 Preview Party. It's free at PAC at 3 p.m.

Town taxes could rise to offset deficit

It's not set in stone yet, but as of Wednesday night's special Town Board meeting it looks like the Town of Highlands 2008-2009 budget is up to about \$140.2 million.

Thanks to healthy sales tax proceeds, which generated more than anticipated in the 2007-2008

budget, and continued ad valorem property tax revenues, the town's general fund revenues are healthy.

For 2007-2008, \$750,000 in anticipated sales tax proceeds was budgeted – as of April 30, 2008, \$780,210 has come in with \$900,000 anticipated by year's end. At the end of 2006-2007,

\$802,249 in sales tax was realized. To be safe, Town Administrator Richard Betz has budgeted \$800,000 in potential sales tax revenue.

Despite healthy revenues, expenditures are expected to increase due to rising fuel costs and fuel-

• See TAXES page 15

Highlands School art students present designs for Pine Street Park



On Wednesday, May 28 students in Ms. Taylor's Art II class at Highlands School presented models of Pine Street Park to members of the Pine Street Committee, Commissioners Hank Ross and Dennis DeWolf, King and Janet Young and Selwyn Chalker as well as Town Planner Joe Cooley. Four groups of students rendered different versions of the park -- two utilizing the street with no or minimal parking, two without the street. Each piped the creek and covered it with trees or a water feature, used lots of trees and native plants, walkways, sculptures, ground lighting and more. Each model included elements of Highlands history or character with two incorporating a Christmas tree for town lightings. The Pine Street Committee met later that day to discuss incorporating some of the students ideas in hopes of consolidating a design for presentation to the Town Board the second week in June.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Officer on foot-patrol gets tip from citizen

On May 21 around 2 p.m., Highlands Police officer Erika Olvera was patrolling the downtown area when she was approached by a citizen about suspicious activity in a nearby neighborhood.

Officer Olvera learned that a vehicle and driver unknown to the residents in the neighborhood was on Shelby Place Circle.

She responded to the lead and while calling in the vehicle

and requesting backup, a white male carrying a backpack came down a wooded embankment toward the car.

When Officer Fish arrived, he and Olvera approached Mark Wells. Upon a routine "pat down" frisk for weapons, officers found marijuana, drug paraphernalia and a pipe.

After placing Wells, 50, of Greenville, S.C., under arrest for possession of drugs and drug par-

aphernalia, officers searched his vehicle and his backpack and found multiple controlled substances.

Approximately 12 ounces of marijuana and three grams of meth were found and seized. Drug paraphernalia included multiple pipes, grinders and plastic baggies with both drugs and residue of drugs in the bags.

All the seized items have been

• See TIP page 4

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Improving AYP scores top priority for Macon County Schools

At the May 27 Macon County School Board meeting held at Nantahala, the board accepted school improvement plans for all 11 schools in the county's system for the upcoming school year.

The two-year plan spans the 2008-2010 school year with the ultimate goal being improved student performance as evidenced by Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) scores.

The AYP scores are based on student achievement in 13 areas tested by end-of-course and end-of grade tests.

Action steps for Highlands School included semester benchmark exams given to all third through eighth grade students.

Teachers analyzed results based upon the passing percentage for individual students, the passing on individual questions and the passing percentage on each goal.

• See SCORES page 19

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
78-58°F	77-57°F	74-55°F

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FORUM •

• LETTERS •

For the record



Kim Lewicki
Publisher

This Memorial Day weekend was a memorable one for Highlands. Organizations, nonprofits and for-profit companies sponsored events that drew crowds, raised money and promoted good will.

A particularly commendable gesture was made by the Athens, GA based corporation Community Newspapers, Inc., (CNI) owner of The Highlander Newspaper and other papers in S.C., N.C., GA, and FL.

To celebrate The Highlander Newspaper's 50th anniversary and the 19 years it has been owned by the current CNI corporation, The Highlander staff, manned by publisher Eric NeSmith, and co-owners father Dink NeSmith and Tom Wood, gave out plates of free BBQ at Pine Street Park and offered wagon rides to The Bascom bridge pull.

Once the word got out that "a free lunch" really was available in Highlands, 850 people flocked to the park to partake of a hefty BBQ sandwich, baked beans and cole slaw.

The event was meant to commemorate an amazing thing – the fact that The Highlander was 50 years old with CNI at the helm for the past 19 years. And truly, it is amazing when any newspaper reaches the 50-year mark.

However, it's not mind-blowing that a multi-million dollar company with 30-plus newspapers in its stable has been able to keep a weekly newspaper afloat in a semi-seasonal town for 19 years.

In his article in the May 22 issue of The Highlander outlining the history of Highlands' newspapers, NeSmith painstakingly listed every newspaper ever attempted in town – as referenced by Ran Shaffner's "Heart of the Blue Ridge – Highlands, N.C." However, he left out one very important fact noted by Shaffner; that Highlands' Newspaper hit the streets July 18, 2003.

Though every single newspaper Ne-

•See FORUM page 3

HCCDC paver problem explained

Dear Editor,

The article in the May 22 issue about the Town Board budget & nonprofit requests states that the Highlands Community Child Development Center (HCCDC) plans "to resurface its parking lot which was constructed with pervious pavers that have not held up as well as hoped." Though this is what was likely said at the meeting, it doesn't tell the whole story.

In addition, the \$10,000 grant request covered several other HCCDC capital facility projects and is not the cost for re-furbishing the paver system alone.

HCCDC installed three different types of permeable (or pervious) pavers in the parking lots in 2004 using an Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association/EPA grant to provide a voluntary, civic demonstration site for the public and contractors to be able to observe different paver products installed in the mountain environment. The grant paid for the additional technology costs for the paver products and proper design and installation. I am not aware of what was said during the meeting, but all three paver products have worked well - actually, better than predicted by some agencies because permeable pavers are nominally rated for almost perfectly flat surfaces. HCCDC's pavers had

to be installed on varying slopes between 0% - 10% grade. Therefore, HCCDC is providing a real test of the pavers under high rainfall conditions and for gentle slopes.

HCCDC is not resurfacing its parking lot to replace the permeable pavers. We are planning to perform maintenance on the pavers to restore a higher rate of permeability. Periodic maintenance is a requirement of essentially all erosion control and stormwater practices if the owner intends to maintain the original function and performance. None of the Best Management Practices are "install and forget" items. I personally consider three years of operations following initial construction of the entire site to be good performance for these pavers and HCCDC's traffic. I anticipate more than three years between major maintenance on the pavers following this initial cleanout and re-filling the porous areas with new, washed gravel chips.

HCCDC's pavers feature a deep gravel under-layer and stormwater collection piping buried beneath the gravel bed. The design function of the paver pattern is to allow rain water to infiltrate the parking surface and for the water to be collected underground by the pipes and routed to HCCDC's rain garden. The rain garden

holds the excess runoff for less than 24 hours and removes most, if not all, of the pollutants, e.g., oils and greases, by filtering the runoff using the plant root systems and the engineered soil mix installed in the garden. High volumes of runoff are held in the rain garden and released slowly into the town's storm water sewer system after a rain event.

Periodic maintenance is required when the porous areas between the concrete pavers becomes plugged with soil, ground-up leaves, or small particles of trash. Several lessons have been learned at HCCDC since the original installation. For example, some post-construction work like landscaping created earlier-than-anticipated plugging problems for the pavers. Also, heavy winter leaf falls typical of the mountains must be removed quickly to minimize plugging by cars driving over the leaves daily.

Both the HCCDC board and UCWA would appreciate a clarification in your next issue so that the public will not draw the wrong conclusion about permeable pavers and their potential value as a stormwater runoff management practice here in Highlands. Further, please extend our invitation to everyone to come by HCCDC to see the pavers for themselves. I will be pleased to give them a personal tour of the site and the several imaginative and environmentally-friendly stormwater management practices installed at HCCDC. I can be reached at 371-2086 (cell) or 526-8905 (HCCDC).

Bob Wright

LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

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

Highlands' Newspaper

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• THANK YOU •

Important barriers were broken

Dear Editor,

As many of you have heard "The Dave Linn Foundation" has come to the end of its mission of promoting an active lifestyle among the physically challenged. The foundation started in the fall of 2001 and went on to help many physically challenged individuals throughout Western North Carolina and North Georgia during its years of existence.

DLF was able to help break the barriers of the physically challenged with help of the loving and caring citizens of Western North Carolina and throughout

•See THANK YOU page 3

• MILESTONE •



Reese graduates from UNC-Chapel Hill

Trent Evan Reese, Highlands School Class of 2004, graduated on May 11, 2008 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a B.S. in Information Science. He will be employed as a Business Analyst for Smith Breeden Associates, Inc. a global asset management firm in Durham, N.C.

... THANK YOU continued from page 2

the U.S. I would also, like to say "Thank you!" to all the sponsors, volunteers and racers, who provided their services and financial support to the foundation's yearly fundraiser event, "Mountain Madness Duathlon." To all the individuals I have helped through "The Dave Linn foundation," I

want to remind you to "Never Give Up!" and always remember "You are not handicapped but HANDICAPABLE!" Thank you to everyone who believed in this dream! I will always stride to promote an active lifestyle among the physically challenged!

Dave Linn

... FORUM continued from page 2

Smith listed other than The Highlander failed over the last 50 years, Highlands' Newspaper hasn't. In fact, year six begins July 18, 2008.

NeSmith wrote how thankful he is for the readers, subscribers and advertisers of The Highlander Newspaper over the years. Clearly, every publisher should be extremely thankful for community support. But what NeSmith should really be thankful for is the backing of his family's million-dollar corporation that will likely support his endeavors far into the future.

Conversely, Highlands' Newspaper is a local business in the old Highlands tradition, run by a family without a treasure chest who has called Highlands home for 11 years. We are truly, truly thankful for our readers, local columnists and advertisers because without them, the paper absolutely would not exist.

Accolades concerning the birth, growth and success of Highlands' Newspaper were certainly not expected from NeSmith in his article. However, when a newspaper that considers itself the "newspaper of record" leaves out a very important part of Highlands' history – a story which will undoubtedly be archived in The Hudson Library – a shadow of doubt is cast on every claim found on its pages.

So beware. Last week by its omission, The Highlander declared Highlands' Newspaper nonexistent. Next

week it could be your business, your family, maybe even you.



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Old Highlands
Park

...TIP continued from page 1

sent to the state lab for identification.

"Based on the lab test results, other charges may be forthcoming," said Police Chief Bill Harrell.

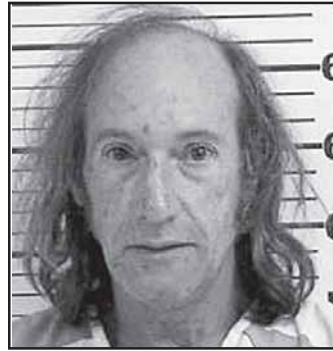
The Highlands Magistrate set Wells' bond at \$35,000. He is currently in the Macon County jail. Wells' vehicle has been impounded and \$300 in cash was also seized.

"This incident points to the importance of having officers both on bike and foot patrol," said Chief Harrell. "Foot and bike patrol makes officers much more approachable versus in a vehicle. In this case, information lead directly to a drug arrest."

Harrell said he's been told this is the

biggest controlled substance drug arrest ever made in the town limits of Highlands.

— Kim Lewicki



Mark Wells

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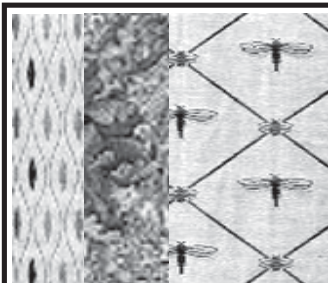
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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

Liar, liar, pants on fire!

Did I ever tell you I once *fixed bayonets* in Korea?"

"You were in the Korean War?"

"No, I owned a little repair shop in downtown Seoul. Soldiers would bring in their broken bayonets and I would fix them."

Ah, yes, the skillful art of lying, something every politician and satire writer must do to succeed on planet Earth. Did I tell you that when the li'l missus and I landed in Dubai this past winter, we were under sniper fire?

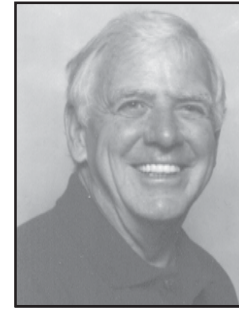
OK, stop right there. If you accept that statement and don't ask questions, then I have cleverly gotten you to think we were under sniper fire without actually telling you we were or weren't. I was merely asking a question.

If you're like most Americans who walk around with "duh" looks on their faces and never ask questions, then I have successfully lied to you without actually lying to you. You deserve it! Of course, in reality, the sniper I'm referring to was 859 miles away in Baghdad, but, if caught lying, I could pay him to swear he was aiming in our direction.

I'm almost ashamed to tell you (The key word here is almost.) I was once an awesome liar. But wait...let me tell you what separates me from the politicians who, of course, have no shame. Having worked as an undercover narcotics officer for years required me to look drug dealers square in the eye and lie through my teeth. The better the lie, the better chance I had of staying alive. I confess I have lied to many, many dope peddlers. So sue me!

Oh, here's another major difference between myself and politicians. If I got caught telling a bald-faced lie, I couldn't tell the dope peddler I *misspoke* and life would go on. Nope, you can bet the caca was about to hit the electrically controlled whirling device and something not good was about to happen. I once got caught in a serious misspeak and wound up having to throw a huge living room chair through a giant plate glass window to escape. Would I lie? Of course not 'cause who could make that up? Thank goodness storm windows had not been invented yet.

I love the term *misspoke*. Is that a fun word, or what? What's even more amazing is that if you look up the word *misspoke*, the *lie* word is nowhere in the definition. Ta da, satire writers and



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback

is encouraged!

email:

askfredanything@aol.com

politicians are off the hook when caught. We simply *misspoke*.

Carefully watch a politician when being interviewed. They practically never answer the question asked. They want to get through the interview without having to misspeak. If the question does not support their position, they simply say something unrelated. Our current president is famous for that. We also have a candidate who can talk and talk and talk and never misspeak because

he doesn't say anything. Now that's smart and everyone loves it.

Here's an example of an interview of me questioning one of the presidential candidates. I won't give his name so I don't embarrass him.

"Excuse me for asking, sir, but I can't help noticing your smokin' hot, blond bombshell trophy wife whose daddy owns an entire booze conglomerate. Do you still beat her...yes or no?"

"Thank you for inviting me to this interview. As you are aware, I am a smokin' hot, attractive retired Navy fighter pilot jock who wants the same in a life partner."

"Yeah, yeah, I know but do you still beat her? Answer carefully, yes or no."

"Thank you, again, for allowing me to answer that question. It would depend on what your definition of *beat* is. She allows me to *beat* every political opponent that comes my way. She also allows me to *beat* off other women, har, har, har." At this point you may have forgotten the question, have a blank expression with drool running out the corner of your mouth.

As you are aware, Americans have little say in picking their president. This is done by delegates who have also mastered *misspeak*.

Hillary is toast because she is a Pinocchio extraordinaire. She should have lied less and misspoke more. Funny, she is currently trying to pry her foot out of her mouth for speaking the truth. Since all politicians lie, oops, I mean *misspeak*, the selection for the delegates boils down to picking the one who misspoke the least...we hope. Good luck, only your life depends on it and I ain't lying.

How does Fred cheat at Bridge? Read his book, *I'm Moving Back to Mars*.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

To all who have served ...

I want to thank my generous readers for their contributions to Partners in Health. You are now partners in health. I'll wait another few days for any additional checks and then bundle up the donations and send them to Boston. The current total, with my matching donation, will be \$1,330. Thanks. I looked at the PIH web site and found how our money might be used. We gave enough to buy mosquito nets to protect 400 families from malaria. Partners in Health might buy enough AIDS drugs for 10 patients, or treat malnutrition in a dozen kids. I hope you feel as good as I do, Partners.

The long Memorial Day weekend is nearing an end. I've paused to recall my family's contribution in World War II. My Dad Bill, and all his brothers, Bob, Frank, Al, Ray, and Mark served. Ray died at Midway, piloting General Tinker's plane. Bob, also a pilot, was shot down over Germany and imprisoned at Stalag Luft III until the end of the war. Frank, a journalist and infantry officer was transferred days before his platoon was destroyed at the battle of the Bulge. Al and my Dad, Bill, were both officers. Dad served as a communications officer aboard a destroyer in the Pacific. Mark, the youngest, and last surviving brother, enlisted at age 17.

My grandfather insisted that Dad serve, although as a married father of two young children, he could have stayed home. It was years later that I became aware of the struggle between my mother, who felt Dad's role was to care for his family, and my grandfather, who wanted all his sons to repay the debt that he felt we owed to this great country. Grandfather ultimately won the battle for Dad's soul, and drove a wedge between my parents that never healed.

My parents' love was a casualty of the war that was not measured in battle field deaths and injuries. I am certain that Mom never forgave either my Dad or my Grandfather. They're all dead now, all but Mark. Gone, too, are Red and Blackie, who were married to Dad's sisters, Anne and Mary. They also served. Mom took her anger to the grave. I'm sure Dad carried his dismay to his. Ray's son, Ray, Jr., graduated from the Air Force Academy and was killed in Viet Nam. My brother was a naval officer, my sister, an Army attorney and I am an Army doctor. I guess we were the last of the family to feel the need to serve our country. Unfortunately, the immigrant mentality doesn't last



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.
email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

many generations.

I want to thank all who have served, those who died and those who survived, those who fought in WWII and those who served in later wars and in the lulls between wars. Some 16 million Americans served in World War II. More than 400,000 died. I am indebted to your family as well as to my own.

Lizzie asked that I thank her Mom, an Army nurse in England and Germany during and after the War.. Thanks, Helen. My Dad and

each of his brothers achieved considerable success after the war, but each felt that military service was his greatest accomplishment, his proudest moment. They were of a generation who believed that country was greater than self, greater than family, greater even than life. We owe them much. If only we could share their sense of duty, their willingness to sacrifice for the common good.

Today we live in a very different world, one in which magnetic ribbons and American flag lapel pins pass for patriotism. We are engaged in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, wars which are fought by the military rather than by the country. As the sun sets on this Memorial Day, I thank those who served then and those who serve today.

• OBITUARY •

Frances Elise Chastain

Frances Elise Chastain, 80, died Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at a Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. She was a native of Macon County, the daughter of the late Edward and Ada Bryson Chastain. She was a homemaker and a member of Clear Creek Baptist Church.

She is survived by two sisters, Maybell Neely and Carrie Crain of Highlands, NC. She is also survived by a number of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Ona Beck and Estelle Talley; three brothers, Earl (Buck), Clyde, and Carl Chastain.

Funeral services will be held Friday, May 30 at 2 p.m. at Clear Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Oliver Rice, Rev. Walter Wilson, Rev. Everette Brewer and Rev. Gary McCall officiating. Burial will be held at Clear Creek Community Cemetery. Lamar Nix, Vaughn Neely, Stacey Houston, Leslie Neely, Edison Neely and Scott Houston will serve as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends Thursday, May 29 from 6-8 p.m. at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands.

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Public turns out for Memorial Day weekend activities



On Saturday, May 24, residents of Scaly Mountain celebrated Memorial Day with an outdoor service commemorating those who served and sacrificed to protect the freedoms American citizens enjoy. After the service, some of Scaly Mountain's youth helped decorate the graves of veterans with new American flags."

- Photo by Susan Coram



Using a winch system alternately powered by horses and oxen, the bridge at The Bascom site on Oak Lane slowly inched its way across the creek to form the bridged entrance to the gallery's site. Joe Luke and his team take a turn.

The scores of people who turned out to watch the bridge pull were entertained with live picking at The Bascom. Likewise free BBQ and arts & crafts wares for sale at Pine Street Park drew crowds this weekend. Wagon rides to The Bascom bridge pull were a highlight as well. Below, thousands of native plants were sold at the Mountain Garden Club's annual plant sale at the ballpark whose proceeds fund scholarships for local youths.



On Sunday, Mayor Don Mullen cut the ribbon designating the opening of the Bug Hill cottage on the grounds of the Highlands Historical Village on N. 4th Street and told a little bit about tuberculosis and how fortunate it is mostly a thing of the past. At the ceremony, Helen Regnery portrayed Dr. Mary Lapham, who began the TB hospital on the site of the current Rec Park known to all as Bug Hill. The Bug Hill cottage, the Prince House and the Historical Museum will now be open to the public each Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of October.

- Photo by Katie Brugger



Photos by Kim and Jim Lewicki

• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

The Problem of Suffering

Here's a theological puzzler for you: Start with the basic premise that God is all-powerful and all-loving. Then why do humans suffer? Why doesn't God intervene to stop catastrophes, both natural and man-made?

Why did an all-powerful, loving God allow hundreds of thousands of people to suffer from the loss of their lives or their loved ones' lives this year in Burma and China? Why didn't God intervene to stop the Holocaust, or the genocides in Cambodia and Rwanda?

These are the questions that haunt the author of a new book, *God's Problem: How the Bible Fails to Answer our Most Important Question — Why we Suffer* (231.8E). For most of his life Bart Ehrman was a devout Christian: he was an altar boy at an Episcopal church all through his teen-age years, he went to a fundamentalist Bible College, then to Princeton Theological Seminary and received both a master of divinity degree — to be a minister — and a Ph.D. in New Testament Studies. He currently teaches the New Testament and early Christianity at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

While he was teaching at Princeton a decade ago he was asked to teach a course about "the problem of suffering in the biblical tradition." After contemplating this problem for a few years he lost his faith completely. Now he is an agnostic, not really believing in God but unwilling to be so bold as to declare categorically there is no God. (It's kind of strange to think of him continuing to teach classes in Christianity!)

This book is an outgrowth of his research into the problem of human suffering and how it is addressed in the Bible. Mr. Ehrman moves through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and through the generous quotation of passages illustrates the following biblical explanations for human suffering:

1. suffering is punishment from God for our sins
2. wicked people cause others to suffer
3. suffering can be redemptive, that is, good can come from evil, a good that could not have happened if the evil had not existed
4. suffering exists to glorify God (Jesus delayed coming to Lazarus' sickbed "so that the Son of God might be glorified" by raising Lazarus from the dead.)



Katie Brugger
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5. suffering is a test to see if your faith is true — trials of Job, Abraham told to sacrifice Isaac

6. people atone for their sins through suffering

7. there is no reason for suffering — the book of Ecclesiastes

Mr. Ehrman asserts that the idea that suffering is atonement for sins is central to Christian theology. "This entire view of atonement is rooted in the classical understanding of suffering: sin requires suffering as punishment. Otherwise, God could simply forgive people whenever he wished, and there would be no reason for Christ to die. The Christian doctrine of atonement, and salvation for eternal life, is rooted in the prophetic view that people suffer because God is punishing them for disobedience."

Many people have sent him their ideas of what the Bible says about suffering, and chief among them is that "God gave us free will." He says that he didn't address this because it is not an argument made by Biblical authors so didn't fit into the theme of his book, but he also has plenty of arguments against the idea that free will is the root of the problem.

Other people think that somehow in the end, maybe after death, we'll understand why there was suffering. Then everything will stand explained and be justified. I have to admit I am one of those people — I love the song "Farther Along" (author unknown): "When death has come and taken our loved ones, leaving our home so lonely and drear, then do we wonder why others prosper, living so wicked year after year. Farther along we'll know all about it, farther along we'll understand why, cheer up my sister, live in the sunshine, we'll understand it all by and by."

Mr. Ehrman approvingly quotes Ivan Karamazov from Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *Brothers Karamazov*, who rejects the possibility that there can be any explanation good enough to justify the suffering he has seen: "I have a childlike conviction that the sufferings will be healed and smoothed over, and...that ultimately, at the world's finale, in the moment of eternal harmony, there will occur and be revealed something so precious that it will suffice for all hearts, to allay all indignation, to redeem all human villainy, all bloodshed; it will suffice not only to make forgiveness possible, but also to justify everything

• See BRUGGER page 21

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• HIS & HERS •

I've Got a Little List

Weddings, like wars, bring out the best and the worst in people. That famous list of stressful life events puts marriage at 50, on a scale where the highest score (the death of a spouse) is 100, and things like vacations and Christmas rank in the low teens. I look at TV programs like "Bridezillas," and sigh with envy. It amazes me how certain brides go so far off the handle, and get away with it. I'm trying hard to be polite and gracious, but there are times when I'd love to sneak off behind the barn and wail like a banshee. There's no such thing as perfection, but you can really drive yourself nuts aiming for it.

To date, we've had a change of wedding location, a major catering rethink, a new florist, and a change of soloist. It's meant a lot of rethinking, and a fair amount of stress and tension. The nice lady at the florist shop consoled me with the very wise comment that weddings come together during the last 48 hours, and it certainly seems that ours is going that way. What I find particularly touching is how much people are willing to step up to the plate, to make sure your wedding day is a wonderful, special one. The kindness of many folks – even perfect strangers – is amazing, and we are deeply grateful.

One thing I'd never suspected was so complicated was compiling our invitation list. Just the immediate family wound up being about 25 people, a considerable chunk of our planned ballpark figure of 100. After that, it was a real Sophie's Choice. Did we invite this friend, or that friend? If we invited one person, and not another, would we hurt someone's feelings? Couples are particularly tricky. When you announce you are getting married, someone always quips, "But do you honestly know any happily-married couples?" Actually, we do. We know several remarkable couples. When you see the way that these people look at each other after decades of marriage, the way they love, respect and support each other, it's an inspiration. Unfortunately, there's also a flip side. Do you have a dear male friend, who is an absolute doll, but whose wife is a complete dragon? Or a sweet female friend, whose husband is grumpy and permanently disagreeable? It puts you in an awkward position. Do you ignore the good friend, or invite the couple, comprised of one nice person, and one person who probably hasn't ever



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said two words to you? Tough call. Now I know why a career in diplomacy was probably not for me.

This is a small town, and an upcoming wedding is big news, even for a couple of old fogies like us. We've been stopped by people whose comments implied that they

really felt they should be on the guest list. If we could, we'd invite 500 people, not 100, and hope folks understand our constraints. To top it all, we ran out of printed invitations, in spite of all our planning.

Wedding presents were tricky, too. Since I moved to Highlands from New York, we have had a duplication of toasters, blenders, televisions, etc. by combining our two households. We don't really need much in the way of house wares, so I came up with what I hope is a good solution. Our yard is almost completely devoid of flowers and shrubbery. With that in mind, we've put together a list of plants which would make our home a more welcoming and colorful place. Hopefully, this will seem like a good idea to others, too. Without sounding corny, the best present of all is the good will and warm wishes of our friends. I only hope they know how much their friendship is a joy to us!

Speaking of wedding preparations, we recently found ourselves in a different part of town, and decided to try the other dry cleaners for John's wedding suit. Upon entering, we saw a huge pile of laundry, which probably contained about 20 items. They belonged to a rather attractive blonde woman in expensive jeans. We must have waited about ten minutes, during which a second woman arrived, and anticipating a long wait, took off. Two other women also came in, and we all stood there, patiently waiting. At no time did the first woman look in the direction of any of the other clients, apologize for taking up so much time, or suggest that any of us go ahead of her. No, she fussed and fiddled, going over the cleaning instructions on the labels of her clothes in great detail, totally consumed by her own desires and concerns. Finally, she picked up armloads of clean clothes on hangers, and sailed out of the dry cleaners. Not once did she make eye contact with any of the people she kept waiting, or apologize for inconveniencing everyone else in the

• See HIS & HERS page 21

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• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Growing pains

This past Memorial Day weekend marked the official beginning of the summer season. Many people have already returned and we expect the remainder of our seasonal residents to return over the next couple of weeks.

It is always great to see not only that group but also those people who travel to Highlands on the weekends to enjoy the clean atmosphere and cool temperatures of summer at 4,000 feet along with the incredibly fine restaurants, hiking, fishing, golf and shops we are blessed with on the plateau.

For some it is simply a time to unwind and sit in a comfortable chair and read great books. Whatever your desires, we welcome you all in your return to join what we think is one of the finest places on earth year round.

This past week I attended an important meeting of the Southwestern Commission. This organization of elected

officials and managers supports the political and financial activities of the seven counties in southwestern North Carolina. One of the concerns of all of us is the assessed values on the fair market value of real property, and it pertains to the Machinery Act of North Carolina which was made permanent in 1937 but has undergone only minimal reform to meet changing circumstances since that time. This has resulted in very rapid rise in taxable values for non-present-use valued properties along with the extraordinary appreciation in real property values on owner-occupied residential properties.

Despite double-digit increases in property values, local governments such as Highlands are finding it more difficult to offset these increases by reduction in



Mayor Don Mullen

tax millage rates because of mounting infrastructure needs stemming from growth.

Therefore, it was resolved by us at this Southwestern Commission meeting "that the Board [of western North Carolina officials] respectfully requests the General Assembly to establish a Joint Committee of the House and Senate to work with the Department of

Revenue, professional associations, government associations, local governments and citizens to study the state's property tax structure and analyze the impact on owner-occupied residential properties, the effectiveness of the current homestead exemption program, and replacement alternatives to property taxation favored by citizens to fund local government needs."

This is a process which has been

needed in North Carolina for some years and let us hope our representatives in Raleigh will listen to our request.

In our budget discussions last Wednesday the Town of Highlands Commissioners were more generous to charitable organizations than we have ever been. The amount was increased from \$52,000 last year to \$62,000 this coming year. We have many fine organizations in Highlands who certainly deserve assistance in their capital spending for which to improve the quality of life of all our people. The budget process continued this Wednesday night as we completed the approval process for fiscal '08-'09. This may mean a slight increase in the millage but we will not know until the final numbers are calculated.

The Board is also in the process of reviewing the Town's current charter and

• See MULLEN page 21

• HIGHLANDS EATERIES •

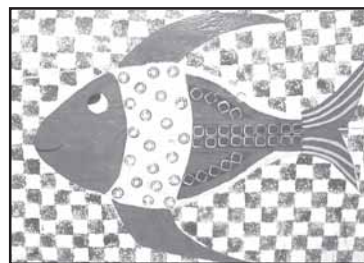
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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

You Heard It Here First

One of the most dramatic images that sticks in my mind is a satellite photo of the Korean Peninsula. I think it was in conjunction of an advertisement but I can't remember what it was advertising. The shot was taken at night; North Korea was pitch black, South Korea was lit up like a Christmas tree. The difference was so graphic I thought it must be doctored, but, as I recall, the advertiser was very credible and I had to believe it.



Don Swanson
Feedback is
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swansonson@dnnet.net

modern infrastructure, it is a world leader in science and information technology, it is the world's largest shipbuilder and is large in automobile manufacturing, steel production, biotechnology and robotics.

Could the difference be more dramatic? South Korea's star is obviously rising. How about ours? Frankly, I'm seeing signs of slippage here. Take automobiles.

Recently, Frank Luntz, big-time political consultant and Fox News contributor

was interviewing a focus group in either Michigan or Ohio, I can't remember which. He was taking the temperature of a focus group of folks previously employed in the auto industry. He asked a fellow, "I'll bet you didn't take your usual vacation to Florida last winter and you probably don't have a new car in the driveway like you have each year in the past, do you?" Mournfully, the answer was no. That's what making \$150,000 per year working on an assembly line will do to an industry. Shortsighted labor unions and gutless managers made vital employers seek opportunities elsewhere.

You know my opinion of the National Education Association. To give you a second opinion, let me quote from Wikipedia on the subject: "Substantial criticism has been leveled against the NEA and other teachers' unions for allegedly putting the interests of teachers ahead of students and for consistently opposing reforms that critics claim would help students but harm union interests."

The NEA has supported class size reductions and across-the-board salary increases for teachers; two measures that increase the number and compensation of NEA teachers. On the other hand, the NEA has often opposed measures such as merit pay, school vouchers, reforms to teacher tenure...and many accountability reforms."

What's the point? The current Democrat campaign is being contested by two politicians who have strong socialist tendencies. For starters, both want to institute socialized medicine and make no bones about it. Both say they will raise taxes, another step toward socialism. And both strongly support a labor movement that would continue to damage our

•See CONSERVATIVE POV page 21

What would account for such a black and white difference? Let's explore. For about 4,000 years, Korea was a unified country. One people, one government, one language, one currency, one country. When the Japanese were defeated in Sept. 1945, the U.S. and Russia were unable to agree on a government suitable to both, so they split the country at the 38th parallel, and installed governments of their choice, Russia in the North, the U.S. in the South.

The North has a somewhat greater landmass than the South, while the South has more than twice as many people. I can't find what the relative populations were in 1945, but I'm certain the difference was much smaller. As the effects of their socialist government took hold, the birth rate of North Korea plunged. All sorts of catastrophes have challenged their government including the collapse of the Communist block and a famine that forced them to accept contributions of food from the U.S. and others.

The Gross Domestic Product of South Korea, with a republic form of government and a capitalist economy, is \$1.276 trillion, or \$26,277 per capita. In North Korea,

with their socialist economy, the Gross Domestic Product is \$22.85 billion, or \$1,007 per capita. I can't imagine a better demonstration of the difference between the two economic philosophies.

While the U.S. is busy shipping food to the still starving people of North Korea, Kim Jong-il threatens the region with nuclear aggression. For years, he has used his nuclear ambitions to extract food and oil from peace-loving nations. Meanwhile, the South Korean leadership has created an economic powerhouse that has become a model for developing countries. It has a very advanced and

• COACH'S CORNER •

Giving the Devil Rays their due.

Fifty games into the Major League Baseball season, the team with the best record in baseball is not the defending champion Boston Red Sox. It is also not the Chicago Cubs, New York Yankees (who are not worthy of expletive deleted status any longer) or New York Mets. (and it sure as heck isn't my Pirates) Nope, the team with the best record in baseball after 50 games is the Tampa Bay Rays (having dropped the devil from their name last season...coincidence...we'll have to ask the Church Lady for confirmation on that one)

When most people think of Florida, they immediately think of sunny beaches and old people (a winning combination). However, the Rays are a team built primarily on youth, with just the right touch of experience (or "oldness" as John McCain would say). The Rays starting rotation has an average age of 24, and their lineup contains six starters under the age of 30. The experience for the Rays comes in the form of designated hitter Cliff Floyd, and also in their bullpen, which has several veteran relievers in addition to a rejuvenated Troy Percival closing out ballgames. This particular version of the Rays has been built through solid drafting and savvy front office moves, particularly the acquisition of first baseman Carlos Pena and the aforementioned Percival. The signing of young position players such as BJ Upton and Evan Longoria to good contracts has also allowed the Rays to have quality play up and down their lineup, which is a necessity in the American League.

Despite having a terrific start to the season, the Rays are currently only a half game ahead of the Boston Red Sox in the AL East, which suggests that the margin of error for Tampa Bay is relatively small. At this point, many baseball columnists and insiders see Tampa Bay as a nice surprise that will eventually come back to reality before the season is complete. However, Tampa Bay has learned something from their neighbors in Miami, and that is that young pitching and speed can equal big time success in the postseason. The Florida Marlins have won two World Series titles in the past fifteen years by committing to youth and the right free agent pickups. This Rays team is actually built perfectly for a long playoff run, with two young flamethrowers at the top of the rotation in Kazmir and Edwin Jackson to complement a veteran bullpen and a speedy lineup that can manufacture runs.



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

Unfortunately for the Rays, the challenge is going to be actually making the playoffs in a brutal AL East. It is unlikely that the Rays will be able to keep pace with a deeper and more talented Red Sox squad intent on defending their World Series Championship. Thus, the Rays are going to have to aim for the Wild Card spot in the playoffs and hope to get the Red Sox in a short series where their two studs could pitch them to victory. There remains a long way to go in the long Major League Baseball season, and with injuries and fatigue always being a factor for young teams, it is possible that the Rays could wither as the season moves along. Regardless of the outcome of the season, it is always great to see a young franchise that has been down have success. It gives hope to fans of small market teams like myself that through the right combination of personnel moves and good drafting that success is a possibility and not the pipe dream that many small market teams face on a yearly basis.



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9th Grade
"A" Tucker Bates
"A" Amy Fogle
"A" Avee Graham
"A" Marlee McCall
"A" Samuel Wheeler
"AB" Ana Damian
"AB" Calyton Lassiter
"AB" Casey Molinary
"AB" Devon Potter
"AB" Sarah Power
"AB" Courtney Rogers
"AB" Bevan Schiffl
"AB" Cord Strawn

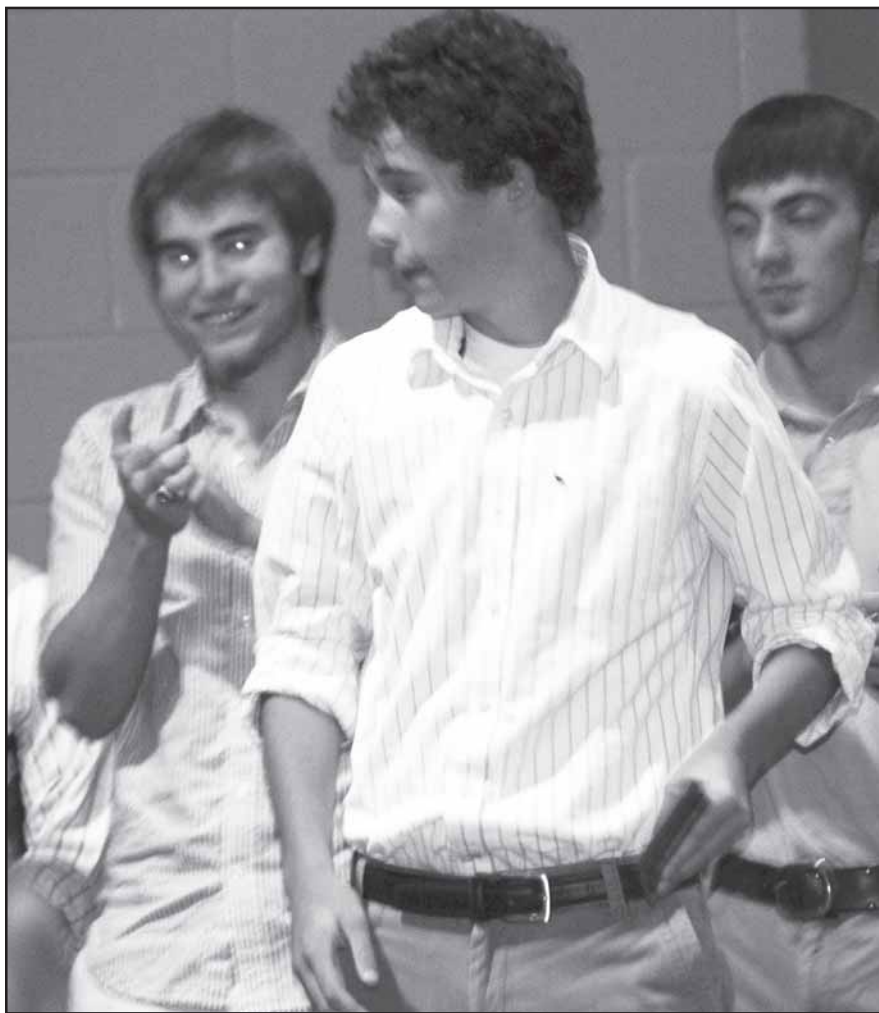
10th Grade
"A" Katie Durham
"A" Brice Jenkins
"A" Shelby Johnson
"A" Beverly Nix
"A" Kate Marie Parks
"AB" Aaron Burton
"AB" Shelbi Chastain
"AB" Will Mathiowdis
"AB" Haley Rice
"AB" Bobbi Jo Talley
"AB" Lacey Tucker

11th Grade
"A" Michael Nix
"A" Griselda Sanchez
"A" Carolyn Hornsby
"AB" Caden Brown
"AB" Ezra Herz
"AB" Casey Jenkins
"AB" Luke McClellan
"AB" Matt McClellan
"AB" Danielle Reese
"AB" Lucy Ruiz

12th Grade
"A" Jake Heffington
"A" Kyle Lassiter
"A" Taylor Stinson
"A" Sally Wheeler
"A" Amanda Parmalee
"AB" Billy Ray Converse
"AB" Jessica Dryman
"AB" Michael Grabe
"AB" Russell Graham
"AB" Adam Hedden
"AB" Katie Pierce
"AB" Greg Porter

Athletes honored at annual banquet

Highlands' Newspaper - Thursday, May 29, 2008- Page 13



Junior Ezra Herz joins senior Jake Heffington accepting the Most Valuable Player award for boys basketball at Tuesday's ceremony. Heffington was also named MVP for boys soccer.

Photo by Stephanie McCall

On May 20 Highlands School varsity athletes received awards and named Most Valuable Player per sport.

- Volleyball MVP – Brie Schmitt;
 - Boys' Soccer MVP – Jake Heffington;
 - Girls' Basketball MVP – Brie Schmitt
- Most Improved –Sarah Power Coaches Award – Courtney Rogers Sportsmanship – Devon Potter and Highlander Award –

Taylor Buras;

- Boys' Basketball MVP – Jake Heffington and Ezra Herz;
- Girls' Soccer MVP – Kate Marie Parks and Paige Strahan;
- Baseball MVP – Michael Shearl and Casey Molinar;
- Golf MVP – Andrew Watson.

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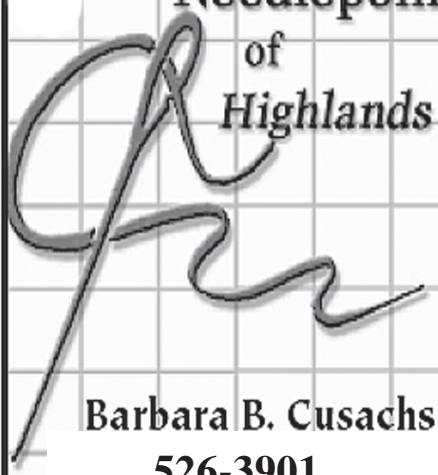
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• ANOTHER POV •

Their Due

I am an American soldier. I serve in the forces that guard my country and my way of life. I am prepared to give my life in its defense." That is the First General Order for all soldiers in the United States Army, I memorized that in 1973, and I remembered it as well today as I did the day I learned it — and I believe it today as well.

While I served until 1992, it was always clear to me as a soldier what my duty was and I suspect it is the same for those serving today. As a soldier it was not my choice where I served or what I had to do. As a young officer I commanded many soldiers and as it is with the army, lost a few brave souls. I can also remember many a night being afraid; whether on the deck of a small watercraft pitching in rough seas, rappelling from a sheer cliff or hovering helicopter, or sitting in a hole in the ground with another soldier watching in the darkness for some unforeseen foe. It was all very traumatic to say the least.

War is an awful thing for anyone who serves. So many brilliant minds have had equally brilliant thoughts about its futility yet few seem to heed and it still goes on. American was born of Revolutionary War. We have continued in war with our Civil War, the two World Wars, Korea, and Vietnam. In all those wars the American people were intensely involved.

In the Revolution, the war was on our door steps and the 'civilians' were literally in the war. That also was true in the Civil War. During the World Wars our civilians lived the war every day. Serving in war-time jobs, conducting war-bond drives, scrap drives of all sorts, struggling with short supply of just about everything and the daily news of the loss of loved ones, friends and neighbors in battle. During Vietnam our streets filled with demonstrators to end the war; if you did not see it yourself in the streets then the images filled the TV screens every night.

This war, or whatever it is, has not reached out to the general American public as those wars before reached us. There are no scrap drives — I guess American is still the land of plenty. There are no war bond campaigns — the government just gets loans from China. And there are no mothers marching in the streets to end a draft to keep their sons home from war. I believe if there



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

were a draft, and the unwilling were compelled to fight in this war, the streets would have been filled with people protesting this war and it would be over by now.

One thing is the same today as in all wars; the rivers of tears shed by the families of those soldiers who are not coming home. In all wars we have lost members of the military in battle, but this is the first time we have asked our military to endure

returning to the war zone three and now four times. Can you imagine standing at a checkpoint everyday and wondering if the next car is the one that is going to blow up and kill or maim you? I can't imagine the mental stress they are undergoing every day. If they survive it physically, mentally it stills takes its toll. The suicide rate among our soldiers is at record highs and one out of every eight of our soldiers suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Is it real? Think of the worst event of your life and how it affected you the next day and the day after that. Try to imagine living with that event reoccurring every day for a year, then, just when you thought it was over you had to go back to wherever that was and face it again. Now maybe we can understand what these soldiers go through in their three and four tours of duty.

As for the end of this 'War' more and more Americans are becoming frustrated, concerned and just plain outraged with the cost of the war, and more and more are saying, 'Enough is enough.' I fear however we have not seen the final cost of this war, nor in dollars and not in human cost. I fear the impact of the billions in loans made to foreign governments will have on our economy, but more so I worry how our soldiers will survive post Iraq. If you remember post Vietnam, you will remember the answer was not well.

The Senate has passed a bill by a vote of 75-22 for a new GI benefit plan that the we now await the House vote and the President said he will Veto the bill. One opponent of the bill said, "It (the Bill) is too generous and will encourage soldiers to leave the service too soon." Too generous? I can not imagine how we can be too generous to those who served so well.

This country has a debt to pay. Next week I will express Another POV.

Girl Scouts donate cookies and money to 'The Pantry'

Highlands Girl Scouts Junior Troop #219 donated 23 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies and \$100 to the Food Pantry of Highlands. Pictured is the Troop giving a check to Barbara Landwehr, co-director of the Food Pantry and Mary Heffington who gave the Girl Scouts a tour of Pantry.



... TAXES continued from page 1

related costs plus interest on investments has decreased.

"The average rate has dropped below 3% on local Certificates of Deposit," wrote Betz in his budget message.

"General fund expenditures are projected to increase dramatically this year," said Betz. "The cost of fuel is anticipated to increase by 50%, health insurance by 10% and salaries by 5%. With those projections there is expected to be a deficit of \$350,000 in general fund revenues, assuming the town wants to continue funding the Town Hall Reserve Fund, the Lake Remediation Fund, stormwater projects and the Greenway Trail."

The town has budgeted \$115,000 per year for the Town Hall Reserve, \$150,000 for Lake Remediation, \$100,000 for stormwater projects and the creation of an ordinance and \$100,000 for the Greenway.

At last week's budget work session, commissioners agreed to raise the tax rate from .135 per \$100 valuation to .155 which would generate an additional \$377,934 alleviating the projected deficit in the general fund revenues.

The property revaluation that went into effect last year increased the tax base in the Macon County portion of the town limits from about \$1.11 billion to \$1.73 billion – a 56% increase.

Betz said Richard Lightner, the county tax supervisor, reports that the tax base will increase by about \$20 million this year, for a total of about \$1.825 billion up from about \$1.805 billion last year. Those figures are based on a 98% tax collection rate and includes Jackson County tax revenue and Macon County personal property.

Due to the cost of living expenses and the rising cost of gasoline, commissioners are rethinking the 5% salary increase which would include a cost of living increase of 4% and merit increases of about 1%.

Commissioner Larry Rogers said cheap workers don't work and good workers aren't

cheap. To keep and recruit good employees, both he and Commissioner Hank Ross suggested more than a 4% increase. They asked Betz to calculate how an increase of 5% with a merit increase of 1% and a cost of living increase of 6% with a merit of 1% would impact the budget.

To foot that bill, commissioners discussed the possibility of increasing the tax rate to .160 which would generate an additional \$467,384 which could offset both salary increases over 5% and take care of the projected revenue deficit.

Since landfill rates have increased due to new state mandates, Betz suggested an increase in residential solid waste fees from \$14 per month to \$16 per month. "This would generate \$48,000 and would only mean an additional \$24 annual per resident," he said.

However, Commissioner Buz Dotson suggested raising commercial solid waste fees rather than residential rates since commercial entities can take the cost of business off their taxes.

No money has been budgeted for Pine Street Park improvements or stormwater improvements associated with the park.

Commissioner Hank Ross, who is on the Pine Street Park committee, suggested the board consider funding stormwater improvements as they apply in the park for the 2008-2009 budget.

Though fixing stormwater problems in the general area of the park, the Episcopal Church, Fifth, Pine and Fourth streets is estimated to be several hundred thousand dollars, commissioners think the \$100,000 currently budgeted for stormwater projects would be enough to remediate stormwater problems in the park proper.

Betz will return on June 4 with a new budget scenario. Once approved, the budget is set to be accepted at the June 25 meeting. The June 18 meeting has been cancelled.



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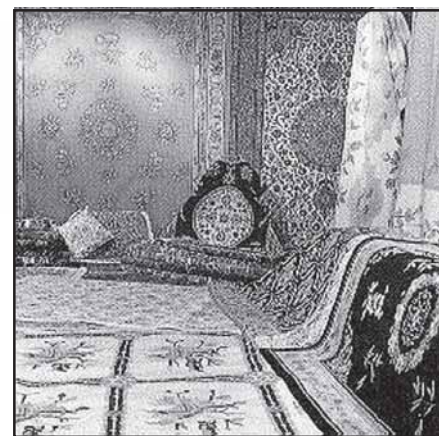


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With 'big school' on the horizon, Ms. Wilma's last graduating class takes flight May 13, 2008



Photos by Paula Gordon

Camping trip marks start of Highlands tradition



Highlands Police officer Richard Davis (in the overalls) with teens during camping weekend.

On April 25 and 26, Highlands Police Officer Richard Davis had 13 students, including his son and nephew, to his residence for a weekend camping trip.

The purpose of the outing was to create a closer connection between young people and law enforcement.

Over the weekend students enjoyed riding their personal ATVs, dirt bikes, live music and a cook out. These trips will continue throughout the summer for those students interested.

"I believe the camping, four-wheeling, and guitar picking extravaganza was an excellent opportunity to bridge the gap and relate with the young people in our community about the lives officers lead out of uniform and the four marked sides of a steel cruiser that typically robes them," said Highlands Police Chief Bill Harrell. "I am convinced that the actions of our officers involved in such activities are prime examples of the community policing philosophy at its best, specifically as it relates to young people."

Officers in the Highlands Police Department also participate in Big Brothers & Big Sisters, Highlands School Read-a-thon, Rotary, Shop-with-a-Cop, Community Seat Belt Safety Projects, and the most eagerly anticipated inception of Highlands first Law Enforcement Explorer Post for teens!

"Participation in these activities make a difference in the community and keep lines of communication open," said Chief Harrell. "I am extremely proud to be a part of the efforts these men and women are tirelessly giving toward raising the bar at the Highlands Police Department and the quality of life in our community."

The Highlands Police will soon be implementing a Law Enforcement Explorer Program in the Highlands community and more camping trips are planned for the summer for any students interested in participating.



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Wine Dinner on May 30!



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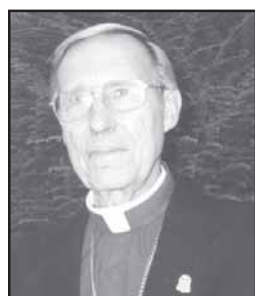
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Dr. Kit Barker, Ph.D • 828-526-1566
#5 Cottage Row • 64 E. • Highlands, NC

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Greater Love



**•The Right Rev. Dr. John S. Erbeling
Senior Pastor, Chapel of Sky Valley
Sky Valley, GA**

The greatest sermon I ever heard preached was while I sat on a cold concrete bench on a bright fall day. No words were spoken. In the silence broken only by the breeze rustling the stiffened leaves of autumn, I listened to a message given through the click of heels and the sound of a rifle being shifted from right arm to left arm by a guard walking his post at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

That sermon echoed throughout the hills in Virginia and around the world that Abraham Lincoln was correct when he said, "We highly resolve these dead shall not have died in vain." It was on yet another battlefield in Virginia, Gettysburg 1863. But he was wrong in saying, "the world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here," but oh, so right, "it can never forget what they did here."

Jesus speaks often about forgiveness and joy and responsibility, about caring and commitment; but rarely does he speak about love. When he does speak about love, he speaks to us in utter simplicity - not about warm feelings, not about candlelight dinners, or moonlight walks on the beach, but about the nitty-gritty of our lives.

Such are the words of the gospel: "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

I think, were Jesus in the pulpit last Sunday morning, he would hold up a military uniform and say, simply, "Greater love has no one than this. . ."

This week we honor the men and women of this country who, by their service in the armed forces, have, in one way or another, whether knowingly or unknowingly, followed the words of Jesus. . . they have loved us. . . they have kept us safe. . . and they have done what was required to keep the vision and the dreams we so cherish alive.

I have spent time over the past few months talking with some about their time in the armed service, and over the past couple of years, like you, I have watched movies like Saving Private Ryan, Gettysburg, the Band of Brothers, and thought about all those men in combat and all those men and women who served in support positions, doing the paperwork, repairing the equipment, supplying food and ammunition, tending the sick and dying.

Many lost their lives, others lost arms or legs or mental stability. Some live with warm and proud memories, others live with night sweats and haunting dreams. All, at some point, left the comfort of their homes — their wives, husbands, companions, young

• See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 21

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

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

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship
Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Healing and Prayer with Holy
Communion each service

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

NC 28 N. and Pine Ridge Rd., (828) 369-8329
Rai Cammack, Branch President, (828) 369-1627

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

at First Baptist Church

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 11
Prayer – 6:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685
3645 U.S. 64 east, Highlands
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 Worship;
6:30 p.m. High School Group

Wednesdays: 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.

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

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

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

(nursery provided)

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

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

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

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School – 9:30

a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir – 7:15

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

p.m.; Prayer – 6:15 p.m., Choir – 7:30 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Mark Kayser, Interim Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, 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

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

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.;

5 p.m. Youth Group

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

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

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell

2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Adult discussion

group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion – 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th Sunday of the month.

LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD

Services at the Church in the Wildwood in

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ioned hymn-sing.

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Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130

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

Choir – 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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

Friday: Sabbath Eve Services at 7 p.m.

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

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Tien, Priest

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

(through last Saturday of October)

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

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

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore

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

Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Wayne Price

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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Lay Led Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

'Greenway' through The Bascom property scrutinized

Pat Taylor, right, building committee co-chair for The Bascom, and Hillrie Quinn, Highlands Greenway Committee chair, walk The Bascom's Nature/Sculpture Trail to coordinate how the trail will tie into the Greenway. The Greenway allows people to walk all the way from Sunset Rock to downtown Highlands to The Bascom's new art campus and back through to Mirror Lake. Here, the pair examine a set of log steps on the trail to determine where erosion control might be needed, such as by these trees, at left.



... SCORES continued from page 1

Buckle Down coach materials were purchased in preparation for the end-of-grade testing practice and for re-teaching in class, group and individual settings.

The test results for 2007-2008 haven't been released yet, but end-of-grade tests for 2006-2007 indicate reading scores for third through eighth grade ranged from 95.23% to 100% and 2006-2007 math scores ranged from 76.19% to 96% across the grades.

With improvement always possible, steps have been taken as of January 2008 to raise scores school-wide.

School-wide learning labs are being offered to focus on makeup work and attendance as well as academic remediation. Elementary ESL students are offered tutoring two mornings a week and elementary, middle and high school students can participate in the accelerated reader programs.

Afterschool tutoring has been available for elementary and middle school students since March with students invited to participate based on semester examination results.

Next year, two weeks before the end-of-grade tests, all elementary and middle school students will be invited to participate in intensive after-school tutoring sessions.

Over the past year, teachers have been using a variety of instructional technology strategies to enhance academic performance including various software programs, LCD projectors and the new ActivBoards.

Next year, the middle school will implement the Merit System to reward excellent conduct.

In the elementary school, the Highlander Pride creed will be fully implemented: Do the right thing, learn something new everyday, treat others the way you want to be treated and take responsibility for your own actions.

Another priority for Highlands School is fostering continued strong family, community and business support.

This is achieved through participation by parent and community volunteers, tutors, PTO as evidenced through the number of volunteer hours, the amount of financial support the school receives from the PTO and business groups, the number of community groups that support the school, the number of students recognized by community groups and the number of scholarships awarded to graduates.

Principal Brian Jetter said Highlands School will continue to facilitate effective transition-communication between pre-school and kindergarten and between other school levels.

"We do this by communicating between school and day-care centers, by having pre-school visit the school before school starts in August and by holding open houses for all grades and initiating student-parent meetings when transitioning between middle and high school."

New for 2008-2009, Agenda Books will be provided for grades 3-8 which should make communicating between home and school easier, he said.

Financially, Jetter plans to maximize the use of state funds and local flexibility to improve student achievement.

"We will convert vacant teacher assistant positions to teacher positions; convert non-instructional support positions to teacher positions; utilize teacher assistants in grades other than K-3 for a part of the day; utilize vacant months of employment for other staff positions or for instructional supplies; transfer state funds allotted for textbooks to classroom materials, instructional supplies and equipment; and use state textbook funds for the purchase of textbooks not on the NC Textbook Adoption List," he said.

In addition he plans to use waivers for

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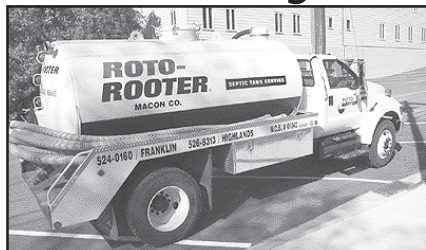
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maximum flexibility to exceed class sizes in grades 4-12 and to exceed the 150 student contacts per teachers.

School Improvement Team members include Principal Brian Jetter, Media Specialist Carol Chalker, Great Beginnings Teacher Jane Chalker, Assistant Principal Jim Draheim, Guidance Secretary and Re-

ceptionist, Annette Jenkins, Middle School Language Arts Teacher Michelle Lane, Middle School Social Studies Teacher, Steve Massey, High School English Teacher Cathy McIntyre-Ross, Elementary Teacher's Aid, Judy Mouchet and Fourth Grade Teacher, Denise West.

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'Child Safety Day'— May 31

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

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

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

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Summit Charter kids visit hospital



Another group of students from Summit Charter School in Cashiers recently got the chance for a close-up look at inner workings of Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Above Teri Core, RN, demonstrates how a cardiac monitor reads a patient's heart beat and other vital signs during a tour of the emergency room. Youngsters are always eager to see their own heartbeat appear on the screen, but they also got to spend a few minutes with Dr. John Baumrucker, who was the ER physician on duty that day, looking at x-rays and other medical imagery. And during their tour of other departments, students got to see of how sound ways are used to produce "live" images of blood vessels inside the body, and what goes on in the test tubes and Petri dishes at the hospital's laboratory. This was the third group of Summit students to get a "behind the scenes" look at what makes the hospital tick.

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9 pm, and 11 pm.

Visiting hospital officials brainstorm



Highlands-Cashiers Hospital recently hosted a mini-summit for the CEOs and chief financial officers, and chief nursing officers from critical access designation hospitals across Western North Carolina. The hospital here is one of eight hospitals in this end of the state that have been given critical access status by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. To qualify, hospitals have to have 25 beds or less, and be located a certain distance from a neighboring hospital. Critical access hospitals are reimbursed differently from larger hospitals for treating Medicare or Medicaid patients, which is generally to their benefit. But that system of special treatment presents challenges and obstacles of its own, many of which were the topics of those who gathered here. A representative for the North Carolina Office of Rural Health was also in attendance. Six of the eight critical access hospitals in WNC sent representatives – the award for traveling the farthest going to Ashe Memorial Hospital in Jefferson, NC.

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from page 16

or unborn children, and budding careers, to protect their country, our country. All did, in one way or another, lay down their lives for their country. We used to welcome our military returning from war with honors and great enthusiasm. But that has not happened much in recent years. As a result, we have lost part of our soul.

So let us be grateful for the men and women among us who have served in the armed forces of our country. Let us honor them, respect them and thank God for their bravery, their courage and their self-sacrifice.

We in this country are desperate for heroes and heroines, men and women

who can remind us of the deep truths of what it means to be human. But what we have been handed are Donald Trump, Barry Bonds and Brittany Spears.

How sad. How very, very sad, especially when we are surrounded by names and faces and people sitting next to us who have made great sacrifices, who have exhibited such courage and bravery not for their own gain or fame or fortune or adulation, but for their neighbors, their children and their children's children. Greater love we have not been given. Remembering this, let us pray that we can regain that lost part of our soul.

... MULLEN continued from page 9

preparing to approve a "resolution of intent" before setting a public hearing on our intent to change from a mayor-council to a manager-council form of government. This change does not affect the position of Mayor. The public hearing must be held within 45 days of the approval of the resolution of intent. We hope to get response from our citizens on this proposal at that time. In the meantime, we are going ahead with the search for a manager since our town administrator, Richard Betz, will be retiring next year.

Town Administrator Richard Betz has agreed to help us in this process with the transition it requires. We are all certainly

highly indebted to the tremendous work that Richard Betz has done over the years to make our town efficient and financially viable. His first position as zoning manager in the '80s and early 90s put the town in a position to control our future more effectively and his work as town administrator for the past thirteen years has been untiring in his efforts to provide the town with outstanding leadership in leading us in obtaining a workforce in the town which is second to none. We are grateful that Richard has agreed to stay on until March of next year. His institutional knowledge is invaluable and a smooth transition depends on his help in this major transition process.

... HIS & HERS continued from page 8

shop. Should there ever be a Miss Piggy Award, I have a nominee. Normally, something like this would be a minor annoyance. These days, steam comes out of my ears.

Okay, okay. I'm a little on edge right now, and not as patient as I should be. Let me apologize in advance for any slights or missteps which I may make in the next few weeks. I am not in my right mind. While I may not actually be a Bridezilla, John says I am having my

moments.

About the Author: Michelle A. Mead is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She lives on top of a mountain near Highlands. Michelle is a member of the Highlands Writers Group. She is currently suffering from temporary insanity, mostly due to her impending marriage to fellow columnist, John Armor

... BRUGGER continued from page 7

that has happened...Let all of this come true and be revealed, but I do not accept it and do not want to accept it!...I'd rather remain with my unrequited suffering and my unquenched indignation, *even if I am wrong.*

When I read this passage I thought of a fantastic film entitled *The Rapture* (1991, directed by Michael Tolkin). I don't want to give too much away because I highly recommend this film, but it is a powerful story of someone rejecting God for exactly the reason Ivan Karamazov did.

Mr. Ehrman agrees with the author of Ecclesiastes that there is no explanation for suffering. He is an existentialist (although he never calls himself that):

"The solution to life is to enjoy it while we can, because it is fleeting. This world, and everything in it, is temporary, transient, and soon to be over...And so we should enjoy life to the fullest, as much as we can, as long as we can."

I have my own ideas about why there is suffering (of course!). If you're interested, I suggest you check out my husband's and my book, *The Game of God* (171.3H) from the Hudson Library. You can read the introduction online at www.gameofgod.com and see how we answer this problem of God's.

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

... CONSERVATIVE POV continued from page 10

culture and economy.

But enough of that heavy stuff. The Mrs. said to me, "We need to take a road trip and see the Hurricanes play in the ACC baseball Tournament in Jacksonville. Not one to refuse a road trip, off we went. There is no better slice of Americana than a college baseball game; an emerald grass field, Dads there with their young'uns, it's beautiful. Oh, BTW, the Canes swept to win the Conference title. Now, the NCAAs.

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June 4

Jan Clanton presents two lectures entitled "The Italian Renaissance" and "The French Impressionists"

June 9

Virginia Groves Beach speaks on "Garden Statuary"

June 11

Timeless Tips for Landscape Design with Mary Palmer Dargan

June 18

Dr. James Costa gives an overview of the many "Insects of Highlands"

June 19

Award winning author Sandra Mackey will present "What you always wanted to know about the Middle East"

June 20

Author Ron Rash will explore "The Role of Place in Fiction Reading"

Cost is \$20 each for CLE members, \$30 each for non-members.

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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Lakeside Restaurant welcomes
Laura Harison

Lakeside Restaurant is excited to welcome new hire, Laura Harison, to their Management Team. Laura was most recently Membership Coordinator for the Highlands Chamber of Commerce. During her tenor, she was a dedicated advocate and planner for the First Annual Culinary Week-end. Her fascination for culinary arts and fine wines brought her back into the restaurant business.

"We are thrilled to have Laura join the Lakeside staff. Her experience and passion for good food, wine and service is certainly what we want for our team," said Donna Woods, owner of Lakeside Restaurant. "We're looking forward to her bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm to her new position."

Lakeside Restaurant is located on charming Harris Lake at 531 Smallwood Avenue.

Open for dinner, Tuesday through Saturday from 5:30 p.m. Call Laura at Lakeside to make your reservation. A warm welcome and a delicious meal await you.

Owners walk prop to new location



Ben and Craig Nelson carried Buffalo Bill to Silver Eagle's new home at 330 Main Street in Highlands this past weekend.

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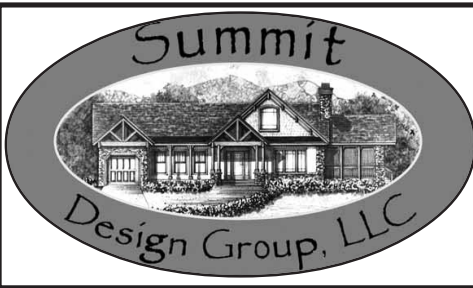
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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

On-going Through June 11

• FREE sports physicals given to any athlete that will be playing Highlands High School or Middle School sports in the 08-09 school year. To receive the free physical the student-athlete must have the form signed by a parent or guardian at the time of the physical. The forms will be sent home June 6 and other copies can be picked up in the school office. The girls physicals will be given from 10 a.m. to noon and the boys will start at noon. If you have any questions please call Coach Lamb at Highlands School at 526-2147.

• 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!

• Book Sale at the Jackson County Library. Bargains galore can be found at the Friends of the Library Used Bookstore which is located at 536 West Main Street in downtown Sylva. All bargain books have been priced at 2 for 50 cents and 2 for 25 cents. The pricing is effective immediately. All the profits from the Friends of the Library Bookstore go to support the Jackson County Public Library.

• The Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for "Always Patsy Cline," Thurs.-Sun., June 19-July 6; "On Golden Pond," Thurs.-Sun., July 10-20; "70th Anniversary Diamond Review," Thurs.-Sun., July 24-Aug. 10; and "Inherit the Wind" Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 14-31. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.

• Highlands Playhouse is taking reservations for its annual Children's Theatre Mond-Fri., July 7-18, taught by instructors with extensive experience in theatre education 9 a.m. to noon for ages 6-10, and 1-4 p.m. for ages 11-16. Please call 828-526-2695 or write or PO Box 896, Highlands, NC 28741.

• Register now for the 2008 summer nature day camps at the Highlands Nature Center. Five different camps are offered: "WOW! - a World of Wonder" (ages 4-6), "Amazing Animals" (ages 7-10), "NatureWorks" (ages 7-11), "Mountain Explorers" (ages 10-14), and "Junior Ecologists" (ages 11-15). Some camps are offered more than once during the summer. Sessions run from Tuesday to Friday each week. For complete schedules, costs, and other information, please call 828-526-2623 or visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

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

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

• NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC 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 Woodward room 201, 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

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

• 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.

• Open Studio Night Figure Drawing:

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

Wednesdays

• 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 7-10 p.m.

Saturdays

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

Mon.-Sat., through May 31

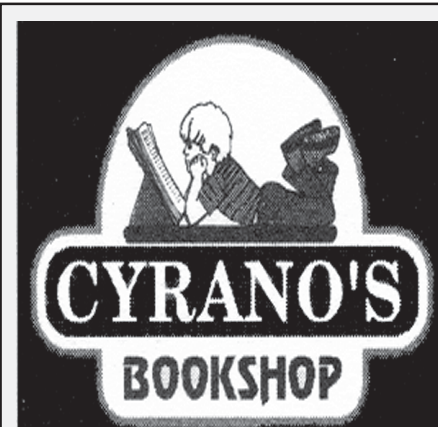
• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Biology of Plethodontid Salamanders. For program descriptions and information about costs, academic credit, instructors, and prerequisites for our summer courses and workshops visit <http://www.wcu.edu/hbs/currentcourses.htm> or call the Highlands

• See EVENTS page 24

"Let's Have a Ball"



Highlands Playhouse is hosting a costume party on Monday, June 16th at 6:30pm at "On the Verandah" Restaurant. Come as your favorite character and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine, and wonderful entertainment. There will be a cash bar offered. Please make your reservations with Marlene at 828-526-2338. Space is limited to 100 at \$85.00pp and you don't want to miss out on this function. What better way to have fun and also support your Highlands Playhouse.



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Upcoming Book Signings

May 31

1-3 pm

Melanie Sue Bowles

The Horses of Proud Spirit

May 31

3-5 pm

Melanie Bowles

Hoof Prints

June 19

3-5 pm

Sandra Mackey

Mirror of the Arab World

June 28

1-3 pm

David Bajo

The 351 Books of Irma Acuri

July 26

1-3 pm

Charles Martin

author of

Chasing Fireflies,

When Crickets Cry, May

August 9

1-3 pm

Charles F. Price

Nor the Battle to the Strong

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Biological Station at (828) 526-2602.

Through June

• At the Book Worm in the basement of The Peggy Crosby Center, most hard cover books are \$1. The Book Worm is open Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Through Thursday, June 12

• Dovetail and Nail: Southern Furniture Exhibition is held at The Bascom. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Thursday & Friday, May 29-30

• Collective Spirits Wine Festival to benefit The Bascom art center will be held at Highlands Country Club. Collective Spirits begins on May 29, at 6:30 p.m. with the tasting of carefully chosen international and domestic wines, plus piano music and culinary stations. It continues on May 30 at 11 a.m. with a buffet brunch, sparkling wine tasting and lecture. At 1 p.m. the live auction begins, delivered by well-known auctioneer Dennis Hall. For tickets or

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

Thursday, May 29

• Mirror Lake Improvement Association meeting 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Friday, May 30

• Lakeside Restaurant presents Delia Viader Wine Dinner at 7 p.m. Begin the evening with a Meet & Greet with Owner/Winemaker, Delia Viader. Enjoy 5 current release varietals of Viader Wines perfectly paired with Lakeside Specialties! \$125 per person plus tax and gratuity. Reservations Required. Call 828-526-9419.

• Hurricane Creek returns to The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. The swinging six bring home the classic rock n'roll and rhythm and blues that will make your spirits soar and feet fly. The dance is on Friday May 30 from 8-10:30 p.m. \$10 for adults over 18, children and students \$5.

Refreshments are available for purchase.

• "Replica of a Presidential State Dinner," a five-course wine dinner at Fressers Eatery at 6:30 p.m. featuring dessert by Roland Mesnier, legendary White House Pastry Chef. \$150 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

• At Wolfgang's on Main, "Diamonds of Ferrari Carano" wine dinner. Chef Wolfgang and Chef David will pair these wines with a creative and delicious menu. Call 526-3807 for reservations.

• At ...on the Verandah, a wine dinner featuring Chef Andrew Figel and winemaker Michael DeLoach of Hook & Ladder Vineyards at 6:30 p.m. \$95 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Call 526-2338 for reservations.

Saturday, May 31

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6 mile hike on the GA Bartram Trail from Warwoman Dell to the Pinnacle, passing two waterfalls along the way. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin, opposite Burger King, at 9 a.m. Drive 16 miles round trip. Hikers from Highlands or Cashiers call leader for alternate meeting place. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader, Gail Lehman, 524-5298, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

• At the Nature Center, the 5th Annual Salamander Meander, 9 p.m. - until, ages 7 to adult: A night search for some of the area's magnificent salamanders in the wild (advanced registration required, \$5/person).

• A "Washington Tea Party" from 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Performing Art Center featuring a lecture, demonstration and tea with Roland Mesnier, legendary White House Pastry Chef. \$75 per person. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

• Booksigning at Cyrano's Bookshop at 390 Main Street, Melanie Sue Bowles "The Horses of Proud Spirit" from 1-3 p.m. For more information, call 526-5488.

• "All the Presidents' Pastries" at 6:30 at the Performing Arts Center featuring a photo essay and lecture followed by a champagne and dessert reception and booksigning. \$85 per person. Call Fressers at 526-4188 for reservations.

• Sports Physical appointments are still available for Middle grade and High School students who plan to participate in school athletics during the next school year. The cost is \$10. For appointments or further information please call Macon County Public Health Center at 349-2081.

Sunday, June 1

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take two hikes, mostly downhill, in the Wayah Bald area. Hike 1, from Wayah Bald to Wayah Crest, is a 4.2 mile easy-to moderate hike. Hike 2, from Wilson Lick Ranger Station to Wayah Crest, is an easy 1.5 mile hike. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 35 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• 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. Gregory Broughton - a

concert of Spirituals & Gospel music benefiting The Emergency Council.

• At CLE, a concert by The Smoky Mountain Brass Band and CLE 2008 Preview Party. It's free and open to the public at PAC at 3 p.m. To become a CLE member and register for courses and events call the CLE office at 526-8811.

Monday-Saturday, June 2-14

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Mammals of the Southern Appalachian Mountains 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 the Highlands Biological Station at (828) 526-2602.

Wednesday, June 4

• At CLE, Jan Clanton presents two lectures entitled "The Italian Renaissance" and "The French Impressionists" Cost is \$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.

Thursday, June 5

• At Highland School at 6:30 p.m., a community meeting for middle and high school students, parents and concerned citizens concerning youth driving under the influence, teen suicide and other issues.

• NAMI Appalachian South will feature a presentation at 7 p.m. at the Children's Home on Wiley Brown Road in Franklin by Jim Greer, a member of the Consumer Empowerment Team for the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (MH/DD/SAS). The presentation will focus on opportunities for advocacy.

Last chance for tickets to Collective Spirits Wine Festival



A few tickets remain for Collective Spirits Wine Festival, a benefit event for The Bascom. Call (828) 526-4949, ext. 2#.

Only a handful of tickets remain for The Bascom's Collective Spirits Wine Festival, set for Thursday and Friday, May 29 and 30, at Highlands Country Club. Proceeds benefit the nonprofit art center.

"This is your last chance this season to enjoy a top-level wine festival right here in Highlands," said Donna Woods, The Bascom's events director. "From a domestic and international wine tasting on Thursday night to a live wine auction and brunch on Friday, we have pulled out all the stops."

The festival begins at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday with an international food and wine tasting. More than 90 wineries will offer a vast array of wines to taste, with a lavish spread of food to complement. A silent auction and piano music will round out the evening's festivities.

The festival continues at 11 a.m. on Friday with a champagne and sparkling wine brunch, a live auction with auctioneer Dennis Hall, and a short but lively lecture with keynote speakers Delia Viader, Michael DeLoach and Martin Kolk. Auction items include trips, dinners, rare and large-format wines, and much more.

Cost is \$125 for the Thursday event, \$100 for Friday and \$200 for a combination ticket to both events.

For tickets or more information, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949, ext. 2#.

Ruby Cinemas

Hwy. 441, Franklin • 524-2076

Showing May 29-June 4

SEX AND THE CITY rated R

Mon - Fri (4), 7, 9:45

Sat & Sun: (1), (4), 7, 9:45

INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF CRYSTAL SKULL
rated PG-13

Mon - Fri: (4:30), 7:10, 9:30

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

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN rated PG

Mon - Fri: (4:15), 7:30

Sat & Sun: (1:15), (4:15), 7:30

WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS
rated PG-13

Mon - Fri: (4:20), 9:20

Sat & Sun: (4:20), 9:20

IRON MAN rated PG-13

Mon - Fri: 7:10

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

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Broughton, tenor, to perform a program of spirituals to benefit Highlands Emergency Council



Christ Anglican Church and the Community Bible Church will host tenor Gregory Broughton on Sunday, June 1 at 2:30 p.m. to present the second program in their First Sunday Concert Series. Broughton is an esteemed singer and teacher, currently on the music faculty at the University of Georgia. He has performed with symphonies throughout America and has also had great success on the operatic stage. More recently, he has devoted his performance attentions to the repertoire of the African American Spiritual, with a particular emphasis on those written or arranged by Athens, GA native Hall Johnson. His performance will showcase several of the spirituals that Gregory Broughton has been working with in recent years, and should prove to be an enriching experience for the audience. The event is free, but a goodwill offering will be accepted to benefit the Highlands Emergency Council. For more information, contact David Gresham, Christ Anglican Church's Director of Sacred Music, at 828-553-4383.

cy within the mental health arena. NAMI, or the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is a national organization that provides support, education and advocacy on behalf of people with mental illness. Following the presentation, we will hold a support group meeting. For further information contact: Mary Ann Widenhouse at 524-1355, or Ann Nandrea at 369-7385.

- Audubon Field Trip: The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a birding field trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Meet at the public parking area next to the Highlands Town Hall at 7 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on the Parkway. Call leader Brock Hutchins at 787-1387 for additional information.

- The Zahner Conservation Lecture Series hosts photographer and artist Rosamund Purcell. Rosamond W Purcell is a photographer, writer, art-

ist, curator and collector. Her photographs have been widely exhibited, and she has published eight books and many articles on aspects of natural and cultural history. Her recent detailed recreation of a 17th century "cabinet of curiosities" has been exhibited in museums in California, New England and Denmark. The series is held each Thursday during the summer months at 7pm at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Rd. For a complete schedule, visit www.wcu.edu/hbs.

- The Inn Keepers Tour in Highlands, North Carolina, will take place on Wednesday, June 4, from 1 to 5 pm. Area inns will showcase their rooms and facilities for the public to view. Stop by the Chamber for directions to specific inns or for general information. You may also visit highlandschamber.org for a list of participating inns. The tour only takes place once every two years.

Friday & Saturday, June 6-7

- HIARPT presents Drs. Beverly Harrison and Carter Haywood during the Women's Dialogue segment of HIARPT at the Highlands Country Club clubhouse. They will discuss "Conversations on Religion, Feminism, Ethics and Spirituality - How Can the Well-being of Women Matter More?" The Registration fee is \$120 and covers the program fee, lunch and dinner. It's 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday with dinner at 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday. To register, call Dr. Carole Light at 526-9769.

Saturday, June 7

- For National Trail Day (June 7) the Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike on a national trail — the NC Bartram Trail — ascending Scaly Mtn. and descending to Tennesse Campground with an elevation change of 1,000 feet. Drive 15 miles round trip with car shuttle. Meet at the Scaly Mtn. post office on Hwy. 106 at 9:30 a.m. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Virginia Talbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome but no pets please.

- The plateau's second annual Land Trust Day! Treat yourself to a day of shopping and dining for a great cause. When you support your local participating businesses you will be contributing to Highlands-Cashier Land Trust's mission to "save the places we all love." Participating businesses to be announced. Contact HCLT for more info: 526.1111, Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net, www.hicashlt.org.

- Sports Physical appointments are still available for Middle grade and High School students who plan to participate in school athletics during the next school year. The cost is \$10. For appointments or further information please call Macon County Public Health Center at 349-2081.

Sunday, June 8

- HCP's auditions for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," at PAC at 2 p.m. The performance is Aug. 20-30.

- The St. Andrew's Academy Choir will visit Highlands for a concert at 2:30 pm. It's free but donations are welcome. This concert is sponsored by Christ Anglican Church and will be presented at Community Bible Church. The choir hales from the mountains of northern California where they attend school together and study Latin, Greek, Rhetoric, Logic and all the other more traditional subjects one would find in a parochial school. All the choristers are also fencers on the school's fencing team.

Horse Rescuer at Cyrano's Bookshop on Saturday, May 31

Famed horse-rescuer Melanie Sue Bowles, author of "The Horses of Proud Spirit" will be back in Highlands to sign copies of her new book, "Hoof Prints," on Saturday, May 31, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. In "Hoof Prints: More Stories From Proud Spirit," Bowles continues the remarkable account of her—and husband Jim's—efforts to save elderly, abused and unwanted equines. From a handful of horses located on just five acres in Florida, the Proud Spirit Horse Sanctuary has now grown into a beautiful, 320 acre-spread set amidst the rolling hills of Mena, Arkansas, where the Bowles have made it possible for more than 150 of these formerly neglected creatures to live out their lives in peace and happiness. The horses aren't kept in stables, but rather get to run free as a herd, without any cross fencing. At Proud Spirit, Jim and Melanie Sue place just as much emphasis on the horses' emotional well-being as on their physical needs. The newspaper Florida Today called "The Horses of Proud Spirit" "...a remarkable book by a remarkable person"; Melanie Sue and her sanctuary are also the subject of a PBS documentary.

In "Hoof Prints," readers will experience the sanctuary's removal from Florida

to western Arkansas—which involved carrying 40 horses in three, 53-foot semi-trailers across half the country. Once settled in their new home, Jim and Melanie Sue and the other dedicated caregivers helping them (especially their veterinarians and a remarkable Romanian orphan named Cosmina), rescued yet more animals, including Ranger, Rosie, Rebel and Gambler, Sammy, Jesse and her foal Riley, not to mention two donkeys. Their stories are sure to make your eyes mist up, just as those about Cody and the horses in Melanie Sue's earlier book did. For while the Bowles's are able to nurse many of their charges back to health, some don't make it, and all of them age and must eventually die. Parting with each one is difficult, but Melanie Sue's motto is "The purpose of life is to have a life of purpose," and hers surely has. All animal lovers will want to read her latest book.

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.

ing team.

- A memorial service by the Highlands-Cashiers Hospice for all who have died June 2007-May 2008 at 2:30 p.m. at the Cashiers United Methodist Church, on Hwy 107 South in Cashiers with a reception to follow. RSVP to 526-1402.

Monday, June 9

- HCP's auditions for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," at PAC at 5 p.m. The performance is Aug. 20-30.

- At CLE, Virginia Groves Beach speaks on "Garden Statuary" Cost is \$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.

- The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a program on coyotes by Dr. Chris Mowry, from the Biology Department at Berry College at 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Chris' recent research on coyotes has involved radiotracking collared individuals in north Georgia to assess the population structure, movement patterns and distributional relationships of different social groups of coyotes. Chris' ongoing studies should add considerable insight into the ecology and behavior of these highly intelligent and adaptive predators. There will have a potluck supper beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the program following at 7:30 p.m. Please call Brock Hutchins at 787-1387 for additional information.

Wed.-Sat., June 11-14

- At The Instant Theater, "The Return of Herbert Bracewell" by Andrew Johns at 8 p.m. This

delightful, nostalgic tale which takes place on a New Years Eve during the first decade of the 20th century, costars the exciting, new acting team of David Milford and Madeleine Davis, and is directed by Ralph Stevens. For reservations please call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. Advance reservations are \$20. At the door tickets are \$25

Wednesday, June 11

- At CLE, Timeless Tips for Landscape Design with Mary Palmer Dargan. Cost is \$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.

Thursday, June 12

- Join friends of Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for "Birding with the Audubon Society" This moderate hike includes a trail lunch by the waterfalls. Contact HCLT by June 11 to sign up & for info: 526.1111, Julie.hitrust@earthlink.net.

- The growing international problem of human trafficking will be the focus of a community education forum at the Franklin First United Methodist Church 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is sponsored by the Zonta Club of Franklin, REACH of Macon County and the 30th Judicial District Alliance Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. The forum is open to the public at no cost.

Saturday, June 14

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will hike the unofficial Bartram Trail in South Carolina, from the state line at Hwy. 28 to Hwy. 107, including parts of the Chattooga River Trail and the SC Foothills Trail.

• See EVENTS page 26

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

The Bascom to present two art lectures

Art lovers have two opportunities to hear informative lectures in the coming week.

Next Thursday, June 5, at 5 p.m. at the Performing Art Center, Janet Clanton will present a lecture on the life and work of painter Helen Frankenthaler. Clanton is the associate curator of adult programs at the Orlando Museum of Art.

The Bascom is presenting the Clanton lecture to celebrate its acquisition of a dramatic Frankenthaler painting, anonymously donated to the art center's permanent collection. The free lecture is for Bascom members only and will be followed by a wine and cheese reception; to become a member, call the art center at (828) 526-4949. Annual memberships start at \$35, and all proceeds support the art center's programming.

Then, on Monday, June 9, at 7 p.m., The Bascom will host "The Red Cherry Rocker," by acclaimed storyteller Anne Doggett and friends. It is an evening of entertaining tall tales and family fables, and the theme is the old red cherry rocker, its mystery and its history. The setting is The Bascom's "Dovetail and Nail" exhibition, a collection of fine old Southern furniture and tools dating back to the 1700s.

The lecture will be held at The Bascom (inside the Hudson Library); the cost is \$15 (\$13.50 for Bascom members).

For more information, or to become a member of The Bascom and support these and other events, visit www.thebascom.org, or call (828) 526-4949.

The hike, rated moderate, is 6.9 miles in length with a number of ups and downs along the way. Drive 60 miles round trip. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9 a.m. Hikers coming from Franklin or Cashiers, call the leader for carpool and driving information. Bring a drink, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Doug Deane, 864-718-9265.

- At the Nature Center, Nature by Night 9-10:30 p.m., ages 6 to adult): Bring a flashlight and learn about nocturnal animals through a variety of activities, games, and observations in the Botanical Garden (advanced registration required, \$2/person).

- SOAR "Silent and Live Auction" at the Highlands Community Building at 5:30. Tickets are \$30 at the door. Featuring a Low Country Boil, live entertainment and a wine tasting with Highlands Wine and Cheese.

- Special Operations Adventure Race at 5th & Main. Elite Race Start: 7 a.m., Sprint Race Start: 8 a.m. Mary Beth Brody will sing the National Anthem. Come and cheer the racers on!

- Blood Drive from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Otto Community Building. Call Phyllis Caste for an appointment at 524-9307.

Sunday, June 15

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 2-mile hike on the Highlands Nature Center and Biological Station trails. Meet at the BiLo Center at 2 p.m. Drive 40 miles round trip. Highlands and Cashiers hikers meet across from the Nature Center in Highlands at 2:45 p.m. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations.

Monday-Saturday, June 16-20

- Summer Workshop at the Highlands Biological Station: Teacher Education Workshop in Mountain Biodiversity Studies. 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 the Highlands Biological Station at (828) 526-2602.

Monday-Saturday, June 16-28

- Summer Courses offered at the Highlands

Biological Station. Biodiversity and Conservation of Birds. 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 the Highlands Biological Station at (828) 526-2602.

Monday, June 16

- Highlands Playhouse is hosting a costume party at 6:30 p.m. at "...on the Verandah" Restaurant. Come as your favorite character and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine, and wonderful entertainment. There will be a cash bar offered. Please make your reservations with Marlene at 828-526-2338. Space is limited to 100 at \$85 per person and you don't want to miss out on this function. What better way to have fun and also support your Highlands Playhouse.

- Special Operations Warrior Golf Tournament at Burlingame Country Club of Sapphire Lakes. Registration is at 11 a.m. Shotgun Start is at noon. Individual Player, \$100, Teams of 4, Format: Captions Choice. Bag Lunch, Tee Bags, and Dinner. Prizes; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Door Prizes. For more information call, Bill Horwitz, 526-0224. *All proceeds will benefit the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, a 501(c)3 non profit organization.*

Wednesday-Saturday, June 18-21

- At The Instant Theater, "The Return of Herbert Bracewell" by Andrew Johns at 8 p.m. This delightful, nostalgic tale which takes place on a New Years Eve during the first decade of the 20th century, costars the exciting, new acting team of David Milford and Madeleine Davis, and is directed by Ralph Stevens. For reservations please call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. Advance reservations are \$20. At the door tickets are \$25

Wednesday, June 18

- At CLE, Dr. James Costa gives an overview of the many "Insects of Highlands" Cost is \$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.

Thurs.-Sun., June 19-July 6

- At Highlands Playhouse, "Always Patsy

Cline." For reservations, call 828-526-2695.

Thursday, June 19

- At CLE, Award winning author Sandra Mackey will present "What you always wanted to know about the Middle East" Cost is \$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.

- Audubon Field Trip: The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a birding field trip to various birding hotspots around Highlands. Meet at the public parking area next to the Highlands Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. Call leader Brock Hutchins at 787-1387 for additional information.

Friday, June 20

- At CLE, Author Ron Rash will explore "The Role of Place in Fiction Reading" Cost is \$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.

Saturday, June 21

- The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy-to-moderate 4.5-mile hike from Sloan Bridge to Upper Whitewater Falls. This hike offers great views

from the ridge above Whitewater Falls. Meet at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 10 a.m. Drive 14 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy, comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, 743-1079, for reservations.

Monday-Thursday, June 23-27

- At The Bascom, registration continues this week for "Painting With Colored Pencil," a workshop with acclaimed artist Gary Greene. Offered by The Bascom, the workshop is aimed at intermediate to advanced students, but some beginners with art experience will be invited to attend with instructor approval. The workshop is expected to fill up quickly, so The Bascom urges people to sign up right away. The workshop will be held at Chestnut Hill. "Whether you are a weekend artist or a botanical illustrator, you'll enjoy an informal, encouraging learning environment with an emphasis on fun," said Donna Rhodes, Bascom education director. For more information about the workshop or to sign up, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 4#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

ITC presents 'The Return of Herbert Bracewell' June 11

David Milford costars with Madeleine Davis in "The Return of Herbert Bracewell" opening June 11 at The Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main. Milford plays the role of Herbert Bracewell, a lovably senile, turn-of-the-twentieth-century, Irish character actor planning a comeback to the stage.

Davis appears as Florence, his long-suffering wife, who is an actress with a comeback scheme of her own. At the opening of the play we find that Herbert has retired to the attic of his

New York home where he is busily preparing to stage a one-man review of his long, if undistinguished, career. He assembles antique foot lights to mark a playing area and proceeds to ad-lib ideas for his show, straining to pull down dusty manuscripts from overflowing shelves of vintage souvenirs, using a stunt dummy to play off of, and confer-

ring often with his pet, a stuffed crow. This little known, but superbly realized two-character play, is ideal for theatre lovers.

Milford has been a professional actor for more than 40 years, appearing frequently in Atlanta at the Theatre in the Square, the Alliance, Theatrical Outfit, Horizon Theatre and the Jewish Theatre of the South. The Return of Herbert Bracewell marks his forth production in the ITC's Studio, and the third time he and Davis have appeared together.

"The Return of Herbert Bracewell" will play June 11-14

and 18-21. For reservations call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. Tickets are \$20 with reservations and \$25.00 at the door. The Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak Square, Main Street Highlands, NC. This delightful, comedic production is generously sponsored by Jolies of Highlands, Main Street.



David Milford as Herbert Bracewell in The Return of Herbert Bracewell.

Photo by Endless Summer Studios, Highlands, NC

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Tuesday, June 24

• Owl Pellets 3-4 p.m., ages 6 and up): Dissect a pellet to discover skulls and bones of an owl's prey.

Wednesday, June 25

• The Village Nature Series is a free summer-time lecture series co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust & Village Green. "History, Fun & Safety of the Appalachian Trail" with Morgan Somerville. Everyone is welcome. Lectures are held at the Albert Carlton Library in Cashiers. Lectures begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments follow. There is no charge but donations are graciously accepted. Call HCLT for info: 526.1111.

• Owl Prowl 8 p.m. until; all ages: In association with the Audubon Society and Carolina Raptor Center, observe live owls in captivity and stay for a night hike to look and listen for owls in the wild. (Bring flashlight).

Thursday-Sunday, June 27-29

• "Foxfire" a play based on the living history of Rabun County. 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Call 706- 212-2500.

Sunday, June 29

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy 3.5 mile hike (with one short climb) on the Kimsey Creek Trail from the Back Country Parking Area. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 2 p.m. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20 people. Call

leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Monday-Saturday, June 30-July 12

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Microbial Ecology. 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 the Highlands Biological Station at (828) 526-2602.

Monday-Saturday, July 7-12

• The Highlands Biological Station will offer a week-long workshop in July with Nancy Lowe of the Atlanta Botanical Garden and Atlanta College of Art Continuing Education. Participants will learn to render nature's details with accuracy, a valuable skill for people interested in natural history at every level. Participants in this workshop will spend a week at the Highlands Biological Station studying the rich biodiversity of the southern Appalachians and learning the conventions of illustrating plants, fungi, insects and other invertebrates, and some vertebrates. Working in the field as well as the lab, participants will explore techniques in graphite pencil, carbon dust, color pencil and watercolor. Special problems will include changes of scale, including drawing from a microscope; complex geometries such as spirals and branching patterns; and challenging surface textures such as iridescence, translucence, velvet, gloss, and waxy bloom. Trips to sites in the southern Appalachians and piedmont will emphasize field recognition, whereas lab work will involve exami-

Dance at ITC to Hurricane Creek, Friday, May 30



There are a few things to do on Friday May 30 in Highlands. There is only one dance, starting at 8 p.m. in the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main, Western NC favorite R & B and Rock n' Roll band, where Hurricane Creek will rock your world. \$10 and a driving need to move to the groove is all you need.

Come learn about coyotes In Highlands



Yes, there are coyotes in Highlands. The Highlands Plateau Audubon Society will have a program on coyotes by Dr. Chris Mowry, from the Biology Department at Berry College on June 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Chris' recent research on coyotes has involved radiotracking collared individuals in north Georgia to assess the population structure, movement patterns and distributional relationships of different social groups of coyotes. Chris' ongoing studies should add considerable insight into the ecology and behavior of these highly intelligent and adaptive predators. There will have a potluck supper beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the program following at 7:30 p.m. Please call Brock Hutchins at 787-1387 for additional information.

nation of live and preserved specimens, drawing technical features, and the use of taxonomic keys. Participants will also build a personal herbarium of reference specimens. Prerequisites: No previous drawing experience required; materials provided. Cost: \$350 (housing included). For more information, visit www.wcu.edu/hbs or call 828-526-2602

Mon.-Fri., July 7-18

• Highlands Playhouse Children's Theatre taught by instructors with extensive experience in theatre education 9 a.m. to noon for ages 6-10, and 1-4 p.m. for ages 11-16. Please contact the Highlands Playhouse for the cost of the two week session.

Thurs.-Sun., July 10-20

• At Highlands Playhouse, "On Golden Pond."

For further information or reservations please call 828-526-2695.

Thurs.-Sat, July 10, 11, 12

• "The Best of Parallel Lives," at The Instant Theatre Company on Main Street. The comedy hit of the season returns with your favorites. For reservations call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197

Fri.-Sat., July 11-12

• Bascom-Louise Gallery's annual "Mountains in Bloom" Garden Festival and will feature a two-day exhibit of some of the prettiest plants, flowers and trees grown by area residents and visitors. For more information, call Donna Woods, Bascom-Louise Gallery's events director, at (828) 526-0207.

Monday-Saturday, July 14-26

• Summer Courses offered at the Highlands Biological Station. Fleshy Fungi of the Highlands Plateau. 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>

Wednesday, July 16

• Lakeside Restaurant will donate a portion of its revenue to The Highlands Playhouse when the Playhouse is mentioned.

Thurs.-Sat., July 17, 18, 19

• "The Best of Parallel Lives," at The Instant Theatre Company on Main Street. The comedy hit of the season returns with your favorites. For reservations call the ITC Box Office at 828-342-9197

Saturday, July 19

• Highlands Playhouse Children's Theatre performance.

Wednesday, July 23

• The Village Nature Series is a free summer-time lecture series co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust & Village Green. "Understanding the Black Bear" with Bill Lea. 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

Thurs.-Sun., July 24-Aug. 10

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

Friday & Saturday, July 25-26

• "Foxfire," a play based on the living history of Rabun County. 7 p.m. at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Call 706-212-2500.

Saturday, July 26

• Montana Skies in Concert Jennifer & Jonathan Adams create a new acoustic sound with the pairing of guitar and cello, ranging from Vivaldi and Bach to Rush and Pink Floyd to their own award winning compositions. At the ITC's Studio on Main at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$25

Monday-Saturday, July 28-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.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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828-526-0782

HELP WANTED

FRESSERS EATERY – Hiring experienced wait staff. Apply in person at 151 Helen's Barn.

SCALY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR CENTER – Now hiring, cooks, dishwashers, wait staff and general help. Call Brenda at 526-3737.

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

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

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

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

THE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CENTER OF HIGHLANDS, NC is seeking part time administrative assistant starting May 1, 2008. Applicant must have both written and oral Spanish knowledge, must be motivated and work well with others. Basic computer skills are necessary. Additional training will be given once applicant begins. For more information please call Jill at 828-526-9938 x 290.

INPATIENT CODER/CLERK NEEDED AT HIGHLANDS-CASHIERS HOSPITAL – Full-Time, day shift. Must possess RHIT or CCS certification or working towards certification plus 2 years coding experience in a n Acute Care hospital. Knowledge in Long Term Care and Swingbed coding helpful. Must have strong technical skills and self motivation. 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.

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.

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN! Are you interested in a new career? Become a Certified Nursing Assistant for Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. C.N.A. classes will start on Tuesday, May 27, 2008. Students will be paid while in class Mondays through Fridays for 6 hours a day. Upon graduation and successful completion of the exam, students will become a Certified Nursing Assistant and will receive a substantial increase in pay. Excellent benefit package after 30 days. Pre-employment substance screening. If interested in joining a dynamic healthcare team, call Robbin Houston at 828-526-1317, or apply online through our website at www.hchospital.org.

PLANT OPERATIONS MANAGER is need at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. There will be an overall responsibility for the physical and equipment maintenance operation for all facilities owned and operated by HCH. Four years experience in hospital maintenance with a working knowledge of methods and techniques

used in electrical, mechanical, and building maintenance. A minimum of two years in hospital safety management with a working knowledge of current JCAHO standards. C-Well Certification is preferred. Effective leadership and management skills are important. Full-Time, Monday through Friday position. Must be able to take call. 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.

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

DIRECTOR OF NURSING is needed in the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina. Experienced nurse leader for a 24-bed Critical Access Hospital, responsible for managing a budget, quality of patient care, customer satisfaction, and the oversight of management for the Acute Care Unit (Med/Surg), ER, OR, PACU and GI Lab, Hospice, and Cardio-Pulmonary. Must be able to provide leadership for managers and staff, and conduct recruitment and retention activities. Masters degree

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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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 shifts. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 30 days of employment. PRN positions are also available with Hospice.

Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

FITNESS CENTER. Downtown Highlands. 100+ members. Great income potential. Business and equipment only. \$49,000. Call Debbie 828-200-9360 or Gene 828-506-4296. 6/19

YARD SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 156 Mt. Lori Drive, Highlands. Furniture, lots of kitchen stuff, silver, small appliances, books and videos.

LOST & FOUND

CANOE FOUND IN MIRROR LAKE. Call 828-506-0308 for details.

CANOE FOUND IN LAKE SEQUOYAH. Call 526-5721.

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

UNIQUE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY on Main St Highlands. 800 sq ft retail/office space just in time for the season. Space includes bath & kitchen. Call for de-

tails 526-3363.

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

IN-TOWN COMMERCIAL SPACE WITH OPTION-AL LIVING SPACE FOR RENT. Charming and supremely convenient commercial building in high traffic district. One block off main, Walking distance to Main Street shopping at Old Edwards Inn. Loft apartment above commercial space. Commercial space \$1,700/month. Loft \$850/month. Call today to schedule a showing! 828-526-2769. Ask for Ralph.

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

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

NEW LODGE STYLE HOME — 3Bed/3.5Bath in Holly Forest, all community amenities included, Minimum 3 month rental, \$2650 a month 813-972-2111. 6/26

3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE — In town. \$1250 per month. Very clean. 770-722-5654

1 BEDROOM, Living Room, Kitchen, Patio,. 6-month lease. Utilities included except phone. 1 month's security deposit. \$650 a month. Call 526-2679.

ROOMMATE WANTED — separate living room, bedroom and bathroom. \$700/month utilities included except phone. Call 828-342-0157.

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

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

ON MIRROR LAKE — Charming 3 bed, 2 bath. Huge sunroom, stone fireplace, 3 decks, canoe, furnished. Available Nov-May. \$1,500 a month plus utilities. Call 770-435-0678.

COTTAGE FOR RENT — 1BR, 1BA in town @ Chestnut Cottages. Private, screen porch, Heat/AC, FP,

extra sleeping loft, furnished or unfurnished. 6 month lease - \$750. monthly plus utilities. Call 526-1684.

VACATION RENTAL

4 BEDROOMS, 2.5 BATHS, LONG RANGE VIEW. Sleeps 9, Immaculate, Newly Remodeled, \$875/week. Lower rates for 4 persons or less. See photos at <http://vrbo.com/181808.305-458-0033>. 6/5

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

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

RV LOT FOR SALE — Lot 1 The Coach Club. Class A Resort. Downtown Highlands. 200 sq. ft. cedar coach house, landscaped, outdoor kitchen, gas fire pit, overlooking stream. Live the Highlands life. See Terryhallhomes.com click on RV lot. Call 828-787-1014 or 352-258-4187. 6/26

WALK TO TOWN — .75 acre off Hicks Rd in Mirror Lake. Beautifully wooded hillside elevation. Water, Electric and driveway. Make an Offer. Call 828-200-9334. 5/29

RV SITES FOR RENT OR LEASE IN-TOWN. Walk to Main Street. Call for details. (828)526-1684.

REDUCED FROM \$459,000 to \$399,000. NEW CONSTRUCTION WITH LONG RANGE VIEW — 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Granite Kitchen, Buck Creek area, \$399,000 firm. (305) 458-0033. 6/5

LAND FOR SALE — By owners. Unrestricted, 64+ acres. Close to Highlands. 360-degree view. Level pastures. 2 bed house and highway frontage. Call 828-526-2879. 5/29.

HOUSE FOR SALE IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath in adorable, quiet neighborhood 2 miles from ocean and Palm Beach Island and 5 miles from downtown. \$450,000. Call 561-379-9151. 7/31

ITEMS FOR SALE

LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES — Variety shrubs, trees, rail road ties, stone and mulch varieties, pine straw and soil additives. Call 828-526-2251.

AT PETRONE'S BARN — Open again, Antiques, collectibles, and Junk. Open Friday & Saturday. 4 1/2 miles down Buck Creek Road. Call 526-3288.

STUFF FOR FREE — 5-section sofa, (2 reclining ends), blue. Nice condition; 8-piece white metal deck furniture, glass top and cushions; two-leaf wooden coffee table; 2.5-ft. shelving units, like new. Call 706-746-0011.

BEAUTIFUL AND COMFORTABLE NEW WOODEN ROCKER with slatted seat in Oak finish. \$85. Call 526-4340 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

UPSCALE PINE COMPUTER ARMOIRE — paid \$1,500. Asking \$400. Like new. 58" x 78" Call 404-314-4909 or 526-0545.

BEAUTIFUL BLACK WICKER SOFA — for porch. Custom cushions. like new. 98" \$400. Call 404-314-4909 or 526-0545.

8-PIECE BED ENSEMBLE — California King multi-color reversible comforter, 2 king shams, bed skirt, quilted matching throw, 4 decorative pillows. \$30. Call 526-9966.

20-PIECE WROUGHT IRON PATIO SET WITH COORDINATING SUNBRELLA FABRICKS. Table, 4 chairs, 6 side chairs, love seat, coffee table, 2 chaises, accent tables. Priced separately. Call 526-9966.

JENN-AIRE — DOWN DRAFT COOK TOP. Like New, Take Out. Originally \$585. Asking \$125. Call 743-7878.

6' DOUBLE DOORS WITHOUT WINDOW — \$50.00. 526-9107.

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

DUMP TRAILER — 12 ft. hydraulic. \$1,200. Call 526-5910.

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

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

•See CLASSIFIEDS page 30

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• CLASSIFIEDS •

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COMPLETE CARPENTRY & PRESSURE WASHING - Painting, decks, water proofing, remodeling, mountain laurel. Complete home care. Fully insured. References. Ask for Kent. 526-1853. 6/14

AIRPORT SHUTTLE - Serving ALL airports and ALL out-of-town driving needs. Call Darlene at 524-3265. 6/26

EXCAVATING - Road Construction and Maintenance. Tree Service. Forest and Property Management. 35 years experience. Refercnes. Rick Smith. Zotol, Inc. 828-526-4886. 5/29

MILT'S LAWN SERVICE - Lawn mowing, weed eating, yard cleaning & light hauling. Call Bill at 828-524-8659 or Milton at 828-421-7919 or 828-369-3569. 6/19

FIREWOOD "Nature Dried" Call 526-2251.

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

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

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

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

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

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

LEGALS

FILING PERIOD FOR SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION AND FOR SCHOOL BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the filing period for Soil and Water Conservation (G.S 139-6) and School Board will begin on Monday, June 9, 2008 at 12:00 Noon and will close on Monday, July 7, 2008 at 12:00 Noon.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION:

There is one (1) seat open and the filing fee for this seat is \$ 5.00.

This is a NON-PARTISAN SEAT.

SCHOOL BOARD:

District I: one (1) seat open
District III: one (1) seat open
District IV: one (1) seat open
Unexpired Term: District IV: one (1) seat open
All School Board seats are \$5.00.

These are NON-PARTISAN SEATS.

Any persons interested in filing may file at the Macon County Board of Elections Office, located in the Macon County Courthouse.

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections
5/29, 6/5

message

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

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

JEEP RIMS - 17-inch aluminum factory rims off 2005 Jeep Liberty 4x4. Brand new! Complete set of 4 \$800. Valued at \$265 each. Call 706-982-2254.

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

BALDWIN ACROSONIC PIANO Excellent condition. \$300. Call 743-5151.

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

THREE "HOUSE OF DENMARK" 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.

MISC. ITEMS - Various proof coin sets, old 78 LP, Old Walt Disney movies (never opened); Girls' bicycle; Collectible Basketball Cards (never opened). Call 526-9123.

MASSEY FERGUSON DIESEL DELUXE 35 WITH POWER STEERING. Completely rebuilt, repainted, new tires. Includes scrape blade, and an 8,000 lbs. tandem axle trailer. Sharp Package! \$6,000. Call (828)526-1684 and leave message.

BEAMS, FLOORING AND ENTIRE STRUCTURES: HAND HEWN BEAMS. Beautiful material, large faces, \$3.50-\$4.50 per board foot. Wormy white oak flooring (milled w/ a t&g), 6-12" widths, \$8 per ft. Original, reclaimed white and yellow pine flooring, random wide widths (6-16") \$6/board ft. Wide barn siding, \$3/ft. Also historic log cabins and barns ready to reassemble. 215-529-7637. Delivery available.

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

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

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

CUSTOM DECK SET - Painted aluminum Love seat & club chair with laminated waverly cushions. \$125. Call 526-1078.

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

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

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

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

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2006 POLARIS RANGER BROWNING EDITION 700XP. Has dual gun scabbards, complete cab system, and 4000lb warn winch. Has 78 hours on it. I have \$16,000 invested in it asking \$11,000 OBO. Call cell (828) 421-0730 leave message.

1979 CJ7 JEEP - original parts, runs well, rebuilt engine, new tires. \$8,000 or OBO. Call 508-6533. 5/29

POLICE , FIRE & SHERIFF LOGS

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for May 22-26. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

May 22

• At 10 p.m., officers responded to a call from Highlands School where four students were accused of disorderly conduct. They were told to leave the premises and return the next day with their parents.

• At 10:35 p.m., officers received a complaint of harassing phone calls.

May 23

• At 7:40 a.m., a motorist on N. 4th Street was cited for traveling with a youngster out of a seat belt.

May 24

• At 9:21 p.m., a motorist on N.C. 106 was cited for speeding 54 mph in a 35 zone.

May 25

• At 11:33 p.m., a resident on Hickory Hill Road called about barking dogs.

May 26

• At 9 a.m., officers responded to a call of a breaking with larceny of tools valued at \$2,300 from a residence on Foreman Road.

• At 3:35 p.m., officers responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle parked at Bridal Veil Falls.

• At 4:05 p.m., officers conducted a welfare check at a residence on Russell Lane. All was secure.

• At 8:56 p.m., a resident on Hickory Hill Road called about an animal nuisance.

• At 11:45 p.m., a motorist on Main Street was cited for unlawfully operating a vehicle.

• At 4:30 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on S. 4th Street.

During the week, officers responded to 5 alarms and issued 9 warning tickets.

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

May 21

• The dept. responded to an accident on Hicks Road. The call was cancelled en route.

May 22

• The dept. responded to a report of an accident on U.S. 64 and Goldmine. There were no injuries.

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

May 24

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

• The dept. was called to assist with a possible structure fire in Cashiers. The call was cancelled en route.

May 25

• The dept. responded to a single-vehicle accident on N.C. 106. There was an injury, but no transport to the hospital.

May 28

• The dept. responded to an alarm at a residence on Split Rail Road. All was secure.

The following is the Sheriff Dept. log entries for the week of May 19.

May 22

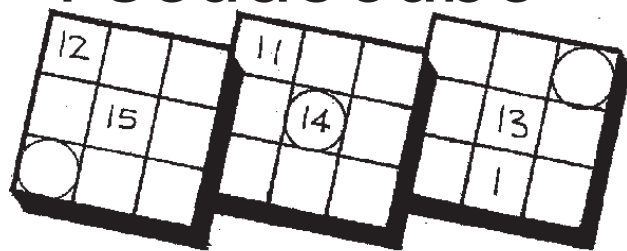
• At 8:45 a.m., deputies arrested Antonio Aguilar, 20, of Walhalla, S.C., for driving without a license and registration on N.C. 28.

May 24

• At 12:48 p.m., deputies responded to a call of larceny and criminal damage to a vehicle parked across the road from Flat Mountain Road. Damages are estimated at \$340.

• FUN & GAMES •

PseudoCube®



#AN1F – Level of Difficulty – Difficult

THE SETUP:

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

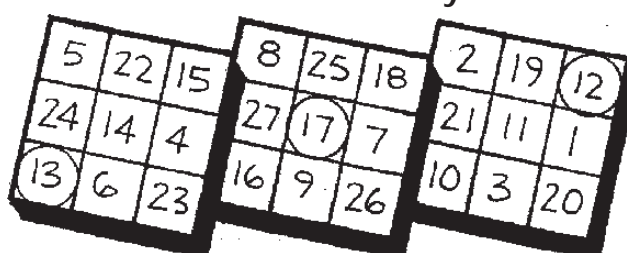
THE CHALLENGE:

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Feedback encouraged!

Solution to #DN2E in May 22 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 "Monarch-free country"

Across

1. Representative (abbr.) (3)
2. Prince Edward Island (abbr.) (3)
3. Tavern (slang) (3)
4. Southern soldier (slang) (3)
5. Circumference/diameter constant (2)

Down

6. Vertical direction (2)
7. Junk yard dog (3)
8. Knight's title (3)
9. Ball-point pen (3)
10. Exists (2)

	⁹ B			C			R	
P		L	S		R	C		U
⁸	C			⁶ U	²	E		
I		S	⁷ C			B		R
¹	E	³		B			C	
B			R		S	L		
	⁴ R			S			L	
L		B	P		U	E	¹⁰	C
	⁵ P			L			S	

Solution to May 22 puzzle

U	R	S	B	N	H	A	L	F
L	B	F	A	U	S	N	H	R
A	H	N	F	R	L	B	S	U
S	U	B	R	A	N	L	F	H
F	L	A	S	H	B	U	R	N
R	N	H	F	L	U	S	A	B
H	F	U	N	S	A	R	B	L
N	A	L	H	B	R	F	U	S
B	S	R	U	L	F	H	N	A

Find It All On This Map

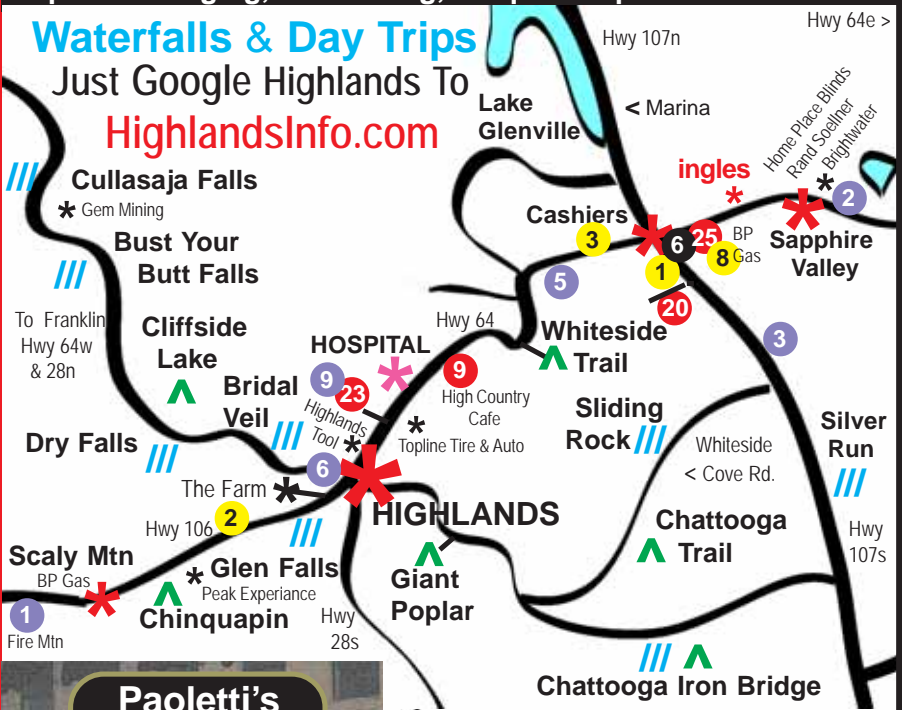
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J&J Lawn & Landscaping
1 Mile Hwy. 28s

2008 Highlands Map

FIND IT ALL ON THE MAP - EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

DINING	DINING	Fashion	Antiques
1 Brick Oven	15 Madison's	1 AnnaWear	1 Acorns
2 Buck's	16 Nick's	2 Bear Mt. Outfit.	2 Chinz
3 Cyprus	17 Oak St Cafe	3 Bungalow Boutique	3 CK Swan
4 Don Leon	18 Paoletti	4 Carolina Eyes	4 Elephant's Foot
5 Fireside	19 Pizza Place	5 Drakes Diamonds	5 Mirror Lake
6 Fressers Eatery	20 Pescado's	6 Highland Hiker	6 Scudder's
7 Fressers Express	21 Rib Shack	7 Jackson Madeleine	7
8 Golden China	22 Rosewood	8 Needle Point	Galleries
9 High Country	23 Skyline Lodge	9 Raspberry Fizz	1 Bryant Art Glass
10 Highlands Deli	24 Sports Page	10 Silver Eagle	2
11 Hill Top Grill	25 Subway	11 Stone Lantern	3 Mill Creek Gallery
12 Kelsey Place	26 SweetTreats	12 Village Kids	4 Tin Roof Gallery
13 Lakeside	27 Wild Thyme	13 Wit's End	5 Tino Gallery
14 Log Cabin	28 Wolfgang's		6 Summit One

Twigs At Highlands Edge

The Maps Are Updated Weekly

Performing Arts Center

Community Players

Lodging

- 1 Fire Mountain
- 2 Hampton Inn
- 3 High Hampton Inn
- 4 Highlands Suites
- 5 Millstone Inn
- 6 Mirror Lake Lodge
- 7 Mtn. High Lodge
- 8 Old Edwards Spa
- 9 Skyline Lodge
- 10 The Lodge

Beauty	Home Decor	Real Estate
1 # 1 Nails	1 Acorn's	1 Buyers
2 All Seasons	2 Bird Barn	2 Caralina Mtn Br.
3 Creative Concepts	3 Dry Sink	3 Century 21
4 Images Unlimited	4 Out On A Limb	4 Chambers
5 Michael's	5 On The Rocks	5 Country Club
6 Mountain Rayz	6 Shiraz Rugs	6 John Cleveland
7 Old Edwards Spa	7 Summer House	7 John Schiffl
8 Pro Nails	8 Twigs The Season	8 Meadows Mtn.
9 Taylor Barnes	9 Twigs	9 Prestige Realty
	10 Wholesale Down	10

Brad Varoon
Live Music
The Rib Shack
Fri. & Sat.
7-10 p.m.