

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 6, Number 47

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008

This Week in Highlands

On-going Events

• Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A variety of items are needed. Call (828) 787-2114.

• Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to Benefit The Bascom. To purchase a raffle ticket, call 526-4949, ext. 8#.

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

Mon. & Wed.

• Middle School students After School Program from 3-5 p.m. at the Rec Park. Call 526-3556.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

• Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$50 a month.

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

• Highlands Mountain Top Rotary Club meets at the Highlands Conference Center at 7:30 a.m.

Thursdays & Fridays

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

Saturdays

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

Saturday, Nov. 22

• College Tour of Clemson and Furman Universities. Be at Highlands School at 8:15 a.m., return at 4:30 p.m. It's free. Call Buz Dotson at 526-5587 or 526-5868.

• Wine Tastings at OEI in the Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. \$20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

• A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8#.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

• Highlands Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Civic Center at 6 p.m. It's FREE.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital giving free flu shots 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Jane Woodruff Clinic. Call 526-1434 to register.

Wed.-Mon., Nov. 26-Dec. 1

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Mary Louise Jewelry Trunk Show. Exclusive line of 18k gold jewelry with a distinctively feminine flair.

Playhouse gets lease; Board rethinks Town Hall

The Highlands Playhouse board left Wednesday night's Town Board meeting better off than when it arrived.

With a 3-2 vote, commissioners agreed to reinstate the town's lease with the Playhouse but this time for 10 years instead of five. Like before it will pay \$1 a year rent, and be responsible for all utilities, maintenance and renovations.

As part of the new lease agreement, Town Attorney Bill Coward wants the Playhouse to have a written contract with whomever it allows to use the facility and to have on file with the town copies of its insurance policies.

Commissioners Hank

Ross and Larry Rogers voted against the motion only because they wanted a five-year lease.

"A lot can happen in 10 years," said Rogers. "That's a long time without a review."

A review of the Playhouse's relationship with other artistic entities in town is what Wednesday's meeting was all about – initiated by

Commissioner Ross and others to see if the Playhouse board of directors or General Manager Henry Johnson were making the use of the facility prohibitive to others.

Also on the table was the possibility of the town insulating the building so it could be adequately heated and used during the winter.

• See PLAYHOUSE page 13

New K-4 School explained

A recent article about the pending K-4 school on the current Iotla School site had Macon County Commissioners and outgoing and incoming school board members asking for a facilities update.

So, on Monday, Nov. 17 Superintendent Dan Brigman, Finance Director Betty Waldroop, school board members Donnie Edwards, Tommy Cabe, Tommy Baldwin and incoming member Frieda Bennett, met with Macon County Manager Jack Horton, Finance Director Evelyn Southard and commissioners Ronnie Beale and Jim Davis to learn specifics.

Architect Mike Watson with the Bowers, Ellis and Watson Architectural Firm explained the plan as it now stands.

The fact that the county commission opted for the less expensive infrastructure

• See K-4 SCHOOL page 13

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
36-17°F	38-19°F	40-25°F

HS Soccer players honored



The Highlands School Varsity Boys Soccer team received high honors when Ezra Herz, Taylor Parrish and Luke McClellan were named All Conference and Parrish, Herz and Mikey Lica were named to the WNC All Regional Team. Coaches of the conference vote for the top 13 players named to All Conference. WNC All Regional is similar to All Conference but represents the top 1A players in all of Western North Carolina. Highlands School's 1A classification is based on the size of the student population. "This is a very big honor," said Coach Chris Green. Mikey Lica, Hunter Leffler and Cord Strawn were named All Conference Honorable Mention.

Photo by Kim Lewicki

Auditor says county is fiscally fit

At the Monday, Nov. 17 continued Macon County Commission meeting, auditors verified what the board already knew – that Macon County was in excellent economic standing.

Chris Kosner with the accounting firm of Martin-

Starnes & Associates, said when it comes to audits "no news is good news" and said there were no unqualified opinions, no findings or questioned costs, or any material internal control or weaknesses identified concerning Macon County's finances.

He said the 2008 budget was slightly less than the 2007 budget — \$42,359,043 in 2007 to \$42,264,410 in 2008, with expenditures in 2007 at \$36,746,857 and expenditures in 2008 \$38,597,426.

He said the fund bal-

• See AUDITOR page 13

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Middle East expert presents 'Iraq 101'

This is part 4 of a multi-part series

As military, social and economic events continue to present themselves in the Middle East, predictions by Middle East expert Sandra Mackey made on Oct. 20 in Highlands are eerily ringing true.

Recap:

"On Dec 31, 2008, the mandate the U.N. gave the U.S. to go into Iraq ends. So we need an agreement with the Iraqi government called a Status of Forces Agreement to stay. We have dozens of these around the world wherever American troops are in any capacity there is a Status of Forces Agreement with that government. It outlines a timeframe and most importantly, no American military person can be tried by courts of that country. All military are given immunity.

"The truth is we are having problems with the Iraqis. The agreement is on the table in parliament now, that says "No American combat operations in Iraq after July

• See MACKEY page 9

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• LETTERS •

We must rise above the attacks

Dear Editor,

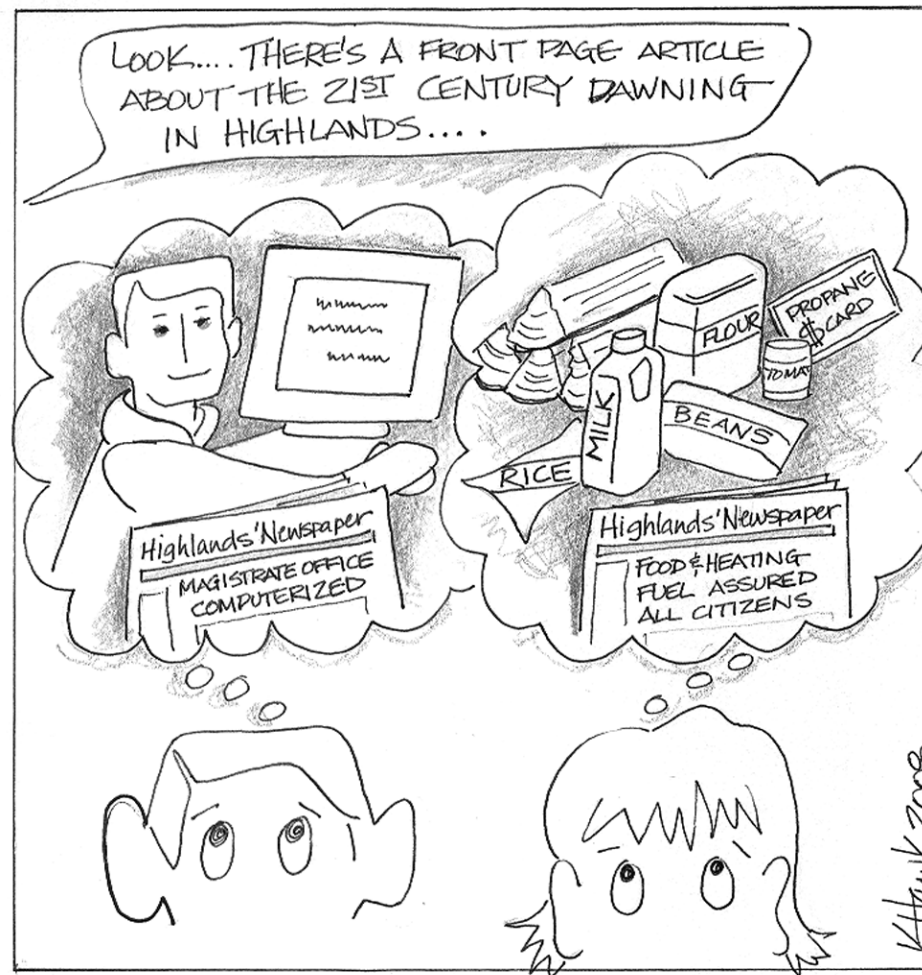
In the wake of this year's monumental election season I find myself fortified with inspiration, motivation, and hope. I feel a sense of patriotism for my country the likes of which I have never known before. I am ready to do my part to make this country a better place. I realize now with certainty that it is also my responsibility to do my part. The elections have shown me that we as a people have the power to affect positive change in this country. One of the ways that we will continue to move in a positive direction is to speak out against the voices of negativity that seek to divide us rather than unite us. The tactics of disrespect, fear mongering, and outright lies have been rejected in this country. Those who continue to speak with such voices are, in my opinion, unpatriotic and hurtful. This is a time for positive unity not divisiveness.

The views expressed last week by Mr. Johnny Owens in his letter-to-the-editor are a case in point of the unpatriotic attitude that has no place in our public discourse. It is telling that Mr. Owens begins his diatribe with the notion that "this country will fall" and that we the people are to blame because we are "ignorant." What kind of person talks about his country and its people in such a negative way? With disrespect, sweeping generalizations and inaccuracy Mr. Owens declares that "most people" voted for President-elect Obama "out of emotion." I'm curious just how Mr. Owens gained such insight into our personal feelings. Leading news sources reported economics, health care, Iraq and terrorism as the leading concerns on voters' minds. In reality, people vote on issues not emotions.

Mr. Owens goes on to generalize once again that the "vast majority" of the people have never laid eyes on Mr. Obama's record, the Library of Congress, or Articles I & II of the Constitution. This sort of condescending rhetoric is offensive and unfounded. Mr. Owens is quick to assume that we are all ignorant, but he can't even get his own facts straight.

In some sort of last-ditch scare tactic to associate President-elect Obama with terrorists, Mr. Owens informs us that the "Pakistani" group Hamas fired celebratory missiles into Israel on the day after the election. In fact, it was the Palestinian group Hamas that fired missiles into Israel, not in celebration but rather, "after Israeli forces killed six Palestinian militants," according to Reuters. If Mr. Owens does not

• HAWK'S EYE VIEW •



LETTERS-TO-THE EDITOR-POLICY

We reserve the right to reject or edit submissions. No anonymous letters will be accepted. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Highlands' Newspaper. Please email letters by Monday at 5 p.m. There is a 500-word limit without prior approval.

Highlands' Newspaper

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know the difference between Pakistan and Palestine then he really shouldn't use Middle Eastern affairs to fuel his floundering vessel of a smear machine. Furthermore, he shouldn't lecture us on doing our homework when obviously he hasn't done his own.

Barack Obama won this election by rising above the attacks. He won by sticking to his principles and inspiring millions to do the same. Positive forces are at work in this country. Remember, if you are not part of the solution then you are part of the problem.

Canty Worley
Highlands

So now in America socialism is a good thing?

Dear Editor,

I read Katie Brugger's column in the Nov. 13 issue of Highlands' Newspaper, entitled "Socialism."

What I got was: She is a socialist; Barack is a socialist; It's a good thing. Did I miss anything?

J.L. Clark
Highlands

Accident victim needs help

Dear Editor,

The morning of November 13, 2008 was a dismal, dreary, cold, and rainy morning. My mother was driving to work in her 2006 Champaign colored Ford Freestyle going North on Hwy. 106. She works in Highlands for J&J Lawn Service.

At approximately 7:50 am she was about 4 miles South of Highlands, just passing Koenig Builders office, when she was involved in an accident. An 18-wheeler was driving south on 106 at this same time going faster than he should have been for the weather and road conditions. His rear driver's side back tires of the trailer came into her lane of traffic and hit her. She had attempted to get off the shoulder of the road the best that she could have, but if anyone knows that area of the road the shoulder is maybe very narrow and drops off to a very steep ditch.

The Ford Freestyle she drives has a new system that "feels" if the driver veers off the road and the vehicle actually tries to correct this by pulling itself back onto the road. My mother was fighting the vehicle by trying to pull off the road to save her life and the car was trying to save her life by getting her back onto the road. Had she not

•See LETTERS page 16

• MILESTONES •

John and Julie McCall of the Goldmine Community would like to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter Stephanie M. McCall of Highlands to Justin Keith Stanley of Franklin.

The bride-elect is a honors graduate from the Southwestern Community College Radiography program. She is employed as a Radiologic Technologist. She is the paternal granddaughter of Grover Ray SR and Linda Dendy McCall of Goldmine and the late Della McCall of Goldmine. She is the maternal granddaughter of Mary Virginia Alford and the late Julius "Jake" Alford of Highlands.

The groom-elect is the son of Randy K. Stanley of Franklin and Charlene Keener Stanley of Gastonia. He is the paternal grandson of Frank and Nancy Stanley of Franklin, and the maternal grandson of Phyllis Carpenter of Otto, Ruth Woods of Virginia, and the late Norman Keener of Franklin. He is employed as the yard manager for Reeves Hardware in Highlands.

A wedding is planned for December at Goldmine Baptist Church with Rev William Wooten officiating. Some formal invitations have been sent, but all close friends and family are invited to attend.

McCall-Stanley to wed



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SALADS:

Cranberry Congealed Salad

Roasted Beets, Oranges & Montrachet

Arugula Salad with Figs & Parmesan

SOUPS:

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Split Pea, Shrimp Bisque

SIDES: \$7.95 per pound

Cornbread Stuffing,

Oyster Stuffing (\$9.95 per pound),

Sweet Potato Souffle, Potatoes Anna,

Squash & Corn Bread Pudding,

Squash Casserole, Creamed Spinach,

Roasted Green Beans with Onions

Southern Green Beans,

Broccoli Casserole, Corn Pudding

BREADS:

Buttermilk Biscuits \$3.95/dz.

Cheddar Scones \$4.95/9

Italian Sourdough Boule \$4.95/ea.

French Seeded Miniature Baguettes \$2.25/ea.

DESSERTS:

Apple Crumble \$15.95

Cherry Pie w/ Lattice Top \$16.95

Pumpkin Cheesecake \$49

Buttermilk, Coconut, Pecan or Pumpkin Pies \$16.95/ea.

Ambrosia \$9/lb

Carrot Cake \$49

Cranberry or Apple Walnut Bread Pudding \$3.95/serving



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tim@distinctiveevents.com

An Invite for WWII Veterans...

Fly with us to Washington D.C.

The Rotary Club of Highlands would like to invite you to see the WW II Memorial in Washington, D.C. which has only been open since 2004. It will be our honor to honor you on this trip of one day, fly up in the morning and fly back that afternoon on a chartered jet out of the Asheville Airport.

This trip is part of the Honor Air Flight Network that began in 2006, and has since sent hundreds of veterans, totally free, to Washington to visit a number of the memorials in addition to the WW II Memorial.

Memorials such as the Vietnam Wall, Korean War Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, Changing of the Guard and the Marines Monument.

As of now 2 trips are being planned for early 2009, and there may be more. If you are interested please call: Bert McCall at 828-526-9736; Doc Wilson at 828-526-2568 or Steve Perry at 828-787-2323.

Flu shots available at MC Health Center Mon.-Fri.

The Macon County Public Health Center is currently administering flu shots at their Franklin location on Lakeside Drive. Shots are available Monday through Friday (except on holidays) from 8 am to 4 pm for both adults and children. The cost of the

vaccine is \$25 for adults or it will be billed to insurance. Vaccine is free or billed to insurance for children through age 18. No appointments are necessary. Call 349-2081 for more information.

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• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

The white rubber suit

This is one of those outrageous stories that, after reading it to the end, you'll know it's true but don't want to believe it. Well, believe it, it's true.

First the facts: If you take a really nice, easy-going, likable police officer and want to immediately transform him into a first class, mean spirited, vicious, boneheaded jerk, slide a motorcycle under his ass. I've seen it happen many times. There's something about that motorcycle that changes a police officer's entire personality. For the most part, regular street cops dislike motorcycle guys...a lot! They're all pompous asses.

When I was a rookie cop I spent my whole existence trying not to offend anyone until my probationary period was complete. I walked on eggshells and tried to keep far away from motorcycle officers, especially this one guy. Not only was he mean spirited, but he was several clicks left off center. Actually he had no oars in the water. Get my drift? I'm hoping this guy has passed on to the big precinct in the sky and won't be looking to gun me down if he reads this. Hmmm, maybe he's in "hog" heaven?

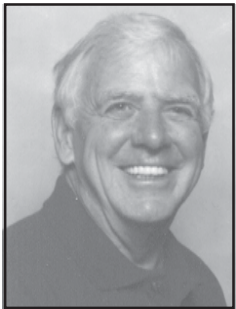
Anyway, one afternoon, this particular motorcycle cop...let's call him DH, spots a Cadillac run a red light at a busy intersection. DH takes pursuit and pulls the car over. The car is being driven by the mayor of Miami Beach. The problem is that the mayor is of the exact same personality as Officer DH and sparks are about to fly.

Ignoring the enormous *Mayor of Miami Beach* emblem boldly attached to the rear of the Cadillac, Officer DH approached the car and asked the mayor for his driver's license. The mayor was shocked.

"Do you know who I am?" the mayor asked indignantly.

Officer DH responded, smiling, "No, but once you give me your license I'll know exactly who you are and where you live."

"Don't get smart with me, officer. You know very well I'm the mayor of this city. I'm leaving and you can take your traffic ticket and shove it." The mayor pulled his shift lever into drive and DH



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback is encouraged!
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

pulled his gun from his holster. Wait, this gets even weirder.

The mayor's eyes widened with shock. "What, you're going to shoot me for supposedly running a red light? You know what, officer? You need a white rubber suit to fit your personality."

Rule #1: Never insult a crazy police officer pointing a gun at you.

The mayor drove away and so ole DH jumped on his hog in

hot pursuit. Once alongside the mayor's Caddy, Officer DH fired his weapon at the front tire, causing a blowout. The Caddy slowly rolled to a halt. Officer DH approached the car again and calmly said, "Sir, you have run a red light. May I see your driver's license?"

At this point, the mayor is freaking out. "You idiot, you shot my car!"

Remaining calm, DH demanded, "Give me your license, please."

The mayor pulled his license from his wallet and handed it to the officer, threatening him. "I'll have your job for this."

Officer DH smiled again. "Well, you probably won't like it. It's very dangerous, the pay is not great and the hours are terrible." DH started writing the ticket while the mayor fumed.

Weeks passed before any action was taken. DH was eventually given a 30-day suspension for inappropriately discharging his firearm. During the suspension period, the mayor worked hard at trying to get DH fired. If it had not been for the city manager, that might have happened. Instead the city manager calmly pointed out to the mayor that he could have received jail time for fleeing an officer in the lawful performance of his duties, reckless driving, refusing to display his driver's license on demand, etc, etc, etc. In time DH returned to work and the mayor paid his ticket and they all lived happily ever after...kinda.

Are you sitting down? DH asked the city to reimburse him for the cost of the spent bullet. The city cut him a check for seven cents.

• Know why Highlands needs a Gallus Domesticus cannon? Read Fred's book, *I'm Moving Back to Mars*.

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

Tell politicians to invest in the future, not the past

Back in 1983, I helped Lee Iococca save Chrysler. I bought a LeBaron convertible. It was the worst car and last American car I ever owned. I kept it for a few years until the engine seized and sold it for scrap. When it was new, I drove it to a fancy restaurant, valet parking and all. After dinner I gave my claim check to the valet. While I waited, a silent stream of Mercedes, BMWs, and Jags pulled up. Elegant couples claimed them and drove quietly into the night. From around the corner, just out of sight, came what sounded like scrap metal being vigorously shaken in a tin bucket. "Let's go," I said to my date. "My car is coming."

It's hard for me to oppose a rescue of the American automobile industry. It must be nearly impossible for Congressmen. The auto industry, once a source of pride and cornerstone of industry, is teetering on the edge of extinction. Its loss would result in millions of job losses and economic upheaval. Then again, Detroit has had 50 years to get it right. It scoffed at the first VW Beetle, and ignored the appeal and quality of Japanese imports. Finally, Detroit responded with such stellar examples of automotive excellence as the Pinto, Chevette, and Maverick. My LeBaron was still years away. Its reliance on gas guzzling dinosaurs has led it to the edge of extinction.

The study of the buggy whip industry is common in economics classes. You may recall that the industry went through some pretty tough times in the early 20th century. The American auto industry may offer a parallel. We've seen many industries wither and disappear from America. We don't make much steel anymore. Cameras, TVs, and shoes are mostly produced abroad. Most of our clothes and Walmart's entire inventory are manufactured in Asia or Central America. A friend of mine shopped around for a partner to manufacture an electronic widget. He found no one in America capable of producing the part. At this moment he is in Seoul, Korea, finalizing a deal with a Korean company.

If we invest billions in the automotive industry, it may save manufacturing jobs in the USA. Given the experience of recent decades, it's more likely that it will simply delay the inevitable. Why not invest the money in a facility to manufacture widgets for my friend? Why not invest in the future rather than in the past? Japanese auto makers have built plants in America, factories which employ American workers



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

Feedback is encouraged.

email:

hsalzarulo@aol.com

and buy from American suppliers. BMW has boosted the economy of Greenville, South Carolina, and surrounding communities. This morning I saw a list of the best and worst cars sold in America. Toyota and Honda dominated the top 10. Toyota claimed six and Honda four of the top 10. Chrysler, even without my LeBaron, dominated the list of the worst. Ford, General Motors, and Korean manufacturers rounded out the list. The

Japanese and Europeans build better cars. I don't care if the profits ultimately go to fat cats in Detroit or fat cats in Munich or Tokyo. With a population in excess of 300 million, America will continue to be a market for automobiles. The Big Three

can't maintain market share or profitability. After decades of offering an inferior product, the industry has lost the faith of the consumer. It appears that marginal, or even substantial, improvement can't reclaim it.

We hate the thought of more unemployment, especially in these troubled economic times. We deplore the loss of income, health insurance, and self

esteem suffered by those who suddenly find themselves without a job. But what is the alternative? To prop up a dying industry? To spend billions to delay the inevitable? To reward companies for years of mismanagement? To deny the truth? I hate to sound callous, but I did my part in 1983. I think that it is time for the industry to face the music, even if it is a funeral dirge.

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Saturday

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Sunday

Closed

Thanksgiving

Brunch, 9am -2pm; Lunch, 11am

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Nov. 21, 22, 23

26, Thanksgiving Day, 28, 29 30

December

Open Wednesday - Sunday
Dec. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,
26, 27, 8, 29, 30, 31

January

Open Wednesday - Sunday
through Jan. 21.

Closed Jan. 22 - March 18

Re-opening Thursday March 19th

...

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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

Holiday SOS – Help for the host

When it comes to holiday meals, it's not about working harder — it's working smarter that gets the job done right. Armed with delicious, dependable recipes, time-saving tips and wonderful wines for your guests, pulling it off seamlessly isn't as intricate as you might think. Who knows — even seasoned cooks might pick up a few pointers.

Keep the menu simple. Don't feel abashed about buying store-bought items to supplement the meal, as long as they are quality items. Source a good local bakery for crusty rolls for the main course and a fresh apple pie or creamy cheesecake for dessert. You may spend a bit more, but you'll save your sanity and, if you find good sources, the store-bought items can be as good as homemade. Eventually, as you build your skills, you'll be able to branch out to making more dishes from scratch.

Cajun Deep Fried Turkey

Makes: 12 to 15 servings

Wine suggestion: Pair with a Rioja red

1 (15-pound) turkey

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Garlic salt

Cajun seasoning

4 to 5 gallons peanut or vegetable oil

Deep-fry thermometer

26 to 40 quart large pot High-pressure, outdoor propane cooker

Thaw turkey completely. Clean out cavity, rinse and pat dry. Season turkey with dry ingredients to taste. (For more flavor, season the night before you cook.)

Place cooker outside in an open space, away from the house. Never use a turkey fryer indoors, in a garage or under a covered patio due to potential fire hazard. Heat oil in pot (allow enough room in pot for turkey to be placed, as too much oil will cause overflow), bringing oil to at least 375° F. Immerse turkey in oil. Maintaining at least 325° F throughout the cooking process, cook turkey until golden brown, about 4 minutes per pound.

Curry Pumpkin Soup

Makes: 6 servings

2 medium pumpkins (3 to 4 pounds)

1 large pumpkin (for use as soup tureen)

2 cups chicken broth

1 cup water

1/4 cup maple syrup

1 teaspoon cinnamon

2 teaspoons curry powder

1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ginger

1 cup heavy cream

Toasted pumpkin seeds, optional

Crème fraiche or sour cream, optional

Preheat the oven to 350° F. Cut two medium pumpkins in half. Reserve large pumpkin for use as soup tureen. Scoop out seeds and place skin-side down on baking sheet. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes, or until soft. Scoop out pumpkin flesh into food processor and puree until smooth. Pour pureed pumpkin into saucepan and add chicken broth, water, maple syrup and spices. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer and cook for 30 minutes.

While the soup is cooking, cut the top off the large pumpkin to create the serving bowl. The hole should be wide enough to fit a ladle. Hollow out seeds, checking for holes and lining with plastic, if necessary. Remove soup from heat and stir in heavy cream. Pour soup into large pumpkin and serve garnished with toasted pumpkin seeds and crème fraiche.

• All materials courtesy of Family Features. Digital Vision/Lisa Peardon/Getty Images



• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Upside of the downturn

I love to weave. I don't have much time for weaving but I have a small loom I try to keep strung with a sampler pattern during the season. Last year about this time I ordered a bunch of cones of cotton yarns in a variety of colors for some winter projects. After weaving the items I had planned I had a generous supply of yarn left. This summer as I began thinking about what to string on the loom for my summer sampler I was reluctant to spend any money on yarn, considering the way the economy was looking, so I lined up the cones in different combinations until I found something interesting.

I'm now on this season's second sampler, using an even more restricted palette of colors, and as I was setting up the loom I thought: "This recession (let's go ahead and call it that, even though maybe we're technically not there yet) has been a great thing for my weaving experience." If I had felt flush enough to just order new yarn for every project, I would never have tried the color combinations I am experimenting with. I am thrilled with some of the effects I have achieved using colors of similar color-value — a pink and yellow in particular — and I can guarantee I would never have put those two together ordinarily.

This got me to thinking about whether an economic downturn has its upsides. Last week I typed the paragraphs above and gave the article this title, and the next morning (Nov. 15) while perusing the *New York Times* my eye fell on a letter to the editor with the exact same title! The letter spoke eloquently the thoughts in my mind, so I'll quote it in its entirety:

"Having recently read 'Goodbye Seduction, Hello Coupons' (Advertising, Nov. 10), as well as considered the far-reaching social and cultural implications this economic crisis may have, I am beginning to become optimistic despite the struggles in front of us. For the first time that I can remember, people will be forced to put their lives, their spending and their desires in perspective. The age of shallow commercialism, for the foreseeable future, is over. Our economy will have to restore its balance and focus on our necessities, not our desires. Many articles in various news outlets have been discussing the far-reaching changes in consumer spending. My hope is that these changes will penetrate our psyches and forever change our perspective so that we may move forward and rebuild our economy and society based on real intrinsic value, not indulgent



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consumerism." — Joshua Shapiro

My husband has for years told of something he saw in a *National Lampoon* magazine: a photograph showed two children sitting with a big tub of peanut butter between them, both of them dipping into it with spoons; their faces covered with peanut butter. The caption read, "These children are being forced to share a 5-pound tub of peanut butter — an American shouldn't have to share." This is how we have come to think; we want it *all now*.

Our society is about instant gratification. Don't scrimp and save enough money to make a purchase like our grandparents did. Take out your credit cards and buy it NOW. Suck all the equity out of your home to take lavish vacations.

I'm reminded of a cartoon that showed shoppers in a mall carrying bags labeled "House of Useless Figurines." Not only do we buy things we don't need, we buy them with money we don't have.

The American Dream has turned from a vision of the land of opportunity to a vision of material prosperity. The only thing many people seem to care about any more is making money and spending it. So many of us are so busy working, trying to chase that prosperity dream that we completely miss out on life happening around us.

When I was growing up, my family ate dinner together every night of the week. It was a huge part of our family's life and I can't imagine family life without it. It astonishes me to hear that many families today rarely eat meals together. How do they stay connected?

I find Michelle Obama's life story very inspiring. She grew up in Chicago. Her father worked for the city even though he had multiple sclerosis; his disability did not stop him from working. Her mother stayed home with Michelle and her brother until they reached high school. The family lived in a one-bedroom apartment on the top

floor of a brick bungalow. The living room — converted with a divider down the middle — was Michelle's bedroom.

The family spent many evenings together after dinner playing games. Both Michelle and her brother ended up attending Princeton University; she graduated from Harvard Law School and he is a basketball coach at Oregon State University.

We always dream of giving our children more stuff, more material prosperity. But Michelle's parents gave their children something more important: their time and attention.

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

Western Square Dance Clubs Hold Annual Fundraiser for Hospice

Clubs of the Western Carolina Federation of Round and Square Dancing are now conducting their annual fundraiser for local hospices.

The twelve clubs of the Federation are selling raffle tickets for \$1 each and will donate the total proceeds to hospices selected by the clubs. The winning ticket will be drawn November 29th during the Federation Hospice Dance at Eliada Home in Asheville. An award of \$300.00 in cash will be given by the Federation to the winning ticket holder. The winner does not have to be a dancer or be present for the drawing to win.

For information on the tax deductible donation, call Bob Walker at 828-332-0001.



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• HIS & HERS •

The pinball bailout?

Is the proposed bailout of the "big three" auto makers really for them? Or is it something else entirely?

Here I sit in a farmhouse on the Eastern Continental Divide. From my front porch, I can see most of upstate South Carolina. In that territory are several auto manufacturing plants that are doing just fine, thank-you-very-much.

To my left, or west, is the Tennessee border. Over those mountains are several more auto plants which are quite healthy, also.

So, let's chuck in the trash the idea that auto manufacturing in the US is failing generally. It isn't. It is just the "big three" American manufacturers. Properly, it should be called the "big two and a half," since Chrysler is in the bucket, once again.

Auto manufacturers must be in the business of not only manufacturing cars, but selling them. So, let's start at the end and work backwards to a realistic starting point. Let's say that next year General Motors will have a demand (both foreign and domestic) for one million cars and trucks. That means, regardless of corporate or governmental actions, it will need enough employees to manufacture one million cars.

Employees above that need are going to lose their jobs, no matter what the government, or corporate management, or auto unions do. That is, unless the government goes into the business of buying up stockpiling unsold cars, like it does for certain farm products. I begin with the assumption that the feds are not so stupid as to start dumping excess cars in silos in South Succotash, Iowa.

It follows, then, that enough GM employees to manufacture one million cars and trucks, will get to stay on the job in GM plants, doing that work, REGARDLESS of whether the feds bail out GM, or do nothing and GM has to file for bankruptcy.

In bankruptcy, GM would be rid of its present, clearly incompetent management. It would also be free of the tentacles of the United Auto Workers. If anyone is paying attention, the healthy auto plants in states other than Michigan, are generally non-union and in a welcoming environment for businesses generally.



**Michelle Mead-Armor &
John Armor**

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John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

There's also the wrinkle that the unions operate a worker retirement and welfare plan which is owed a \$7 billion payment early next year. If U.S. auto companies get bailed out, that payment gets made. If not, then not. And don't forget that only union contract employees pay union dues.

Bottom line, this is not a proposed bailout

for the American auto industry. It is really a bailout for the auto unions. And, as the pinball bounces, it is also a bailout for a failed Democrat city (Detroit) and a failed Democrat state (Michigan).

This fits right in with the proposed federal law to end secret ballots in union elections. Except in the public sector, unions have been in a steady decline in membership for more than forty years. Terminating secret ballots in union elections will have only one result: more unions will be recognized in more places if union organizers can lean on employees personally and directly, to force their "votes" to go in the right direction.

This, by the way, is not a new concept. The secret or "Australian" ballot was not introduced in the U.S. until 1888 in Louisville, Kentucky. Prior to that, the political parties printed their own ballots for every election, and urged their supporters to use them. The advantage was that party organizers could tell by the color or shape of the paper ballots whether each voter was voting the right way, or with the hated opposition.

What does it matter that the bailout is really for the unions, and for two, failed Democrat administrations? In the long run, this bailout is designed to save the Democrat Party itself. If the incoming administration is an abject failure, it will take hundreds of millions of dollars, and hundreds of thousands of warm bodies, to pull its chestnuts out of the fire in 2010, and especially in 2012.

Where are those bodies and that money coming from? Majority Leader Harry Reid has a plan for that. Watch the Senate on Monday afternoon as he fires the first shot in the pinball bailout.

• About the Author: John Armor practiced law in the US Supreme Court for 33 years. He now lives in Highlands, NC, and is working on a book on Thomas Paine. John_Armor@aya.yale.edu

• CONSERVATIVE POV •

Buckle up, dudes!

Just walked in on the tail end of Treasury Secretary Paulson's televised address, evidently intended to calm investors and voters. The position that Paulson finds himself in reminds me of a person who is sitting in a bar or club or wherever these things reside, and decides to ride the mechanical bull. For a while, he's doing OK and then something goes nuts with the mechanical part of the bull. The bull starts bucking and bronking with extreme vigor and the rider is looking concerned and is hollering to anybody who will listen to turn off the beast. It's a noisy place and his cries go unheeded.



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

The bucking gets more furious and the rider is hanging on for dear life, eyeballs popping out, sweat pouring off, and he yells even louder, TURN IT OFF! Nothing. Suddenly, on a giant screen that these places seem to have many of, a finger appears and starts writing. "I have some good news, and I've got some bad news. The good news is that I'm going to stop the beast for a half an hour, you will get off, go next door to a television studio where you can speak to the people about anything you wish. The bad news is, in exactly one half hour, you will mount up, and the wild ride will continue."

"OK, OK, just stop it." So he dismounts, goes next door, faces the cameras, and starts to speak. After apologizing to the world for being an evil country, he says,

"Remember a few weeks ago, we said we need \$700 billion to buy up toxic mortgages and keep people in their homes. We called it TARP, Troubled Asset Relief Program. Well, that was then, this is now. So, thanks for handing over your grandkids money, but we're changing the terms of the deal and instead, we're going to do a CARP, Consumer Asset Relief Program. We're

thinking about bailing out GM, Ford, American Express, California, Ohio, etc."

Now I am not making fun of Paulson's speech impediment, if, in fact, he has one.

I swear I am not, but he does not have a manner of speaking that would engender large amounts of confidence. He stammered about changing the rules after telling you and me that, weeks ago, he absolutely had to have a blank

check backed by the United States Treasury right now to effectuate Plan A or the world would end, and now it looks like Plan B might work, but it would take a couple of months to get it in gear. He didn't calm my jangled synapses.

So, back on the bronk he goes to continue his wild ride through the financial morass of the universe, twisting and turning, but getting nowhere. I am not minimizing the complexity of the problems facing him, and us. They are devastating and possibly insolvable in my lifetime — and maybe yours. I am having a problem with the cries of lack of transparency as to the disposition of these huge amounts of money. Even Barney Franks, who backed Paulson in round one, is exercising his own particular brand of speech concerns over the latest version of "over the rainbow."

Some time long, long ago, I developed a certain level of discernment, especially when it came to being sold something, and the deal must be done "right now" or the sky would fall. Sorry Charlie, I'll pass, especially when Charlie appears very hinky. Or maybe I was just born a skeptic. In any event, I'm having vague shadows of a thought in the back of my mind about a small group of felons buying Monte Carlo

or some other swank place, building a giant fence (possibly the one that isn't on the US/Mexico border) around it, and giving us, including Franks, Pelosi, Reid and the Obamas (both of them) the fickle flangie.

Call me crazy (I heard that) but the whole scenario is so bizerko that absolutely nothing would surprise me at this point. Meanwhile, we should be thankful the messiah is soon on the scene; it will take all

his brilliance to get us out of this one.

Oh, BTW, I think I'm hearing the sounds of his administration-to-be backing away from the middle-class tax cuts 95% of us were going to enjoy. Darn. And I had it all spent.

Also, I'm hearing he is going to RULE from day one, reversing many recent accomplishments by Executive Order. That's ominous. If that isn't enough, Obama has said we need a "Civilian National Security Force" as big as our military. Can you say "Sieg Heil?"

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... MACKEY continued from page 1

of 2009; that American troops will be withdrawn back into bases by 2009 and by 2011 all troops will be gone. When that happens, Americans in the country are American citizens not military personnel and they can be tried in Iraqi courts and military personnel who aren't involve in actual military operation — say they are out on street and decide to rape someone — then they go into Iraqi court. If this "agreement" passes, Iraqi will be only country with that sort of thing in effect. So it's a big problem, so we are starting to pull down in Iraq.

But now what?

"What we're having to look at change is American foreign policy in Persian Gulf from what it has been from 1970s. The U.S. used

the Shah of Iran and Iraq to balance off each other to keep them both weak and to keep the Persian Gulf out of the hands off either of the countries — we used Saudi Arabia in that way, too, basically balancing Iran and Iraq off each other. But that's not working now.

"Now there is a government in Baghdad that is tepid about us and Iran who is really against us, or it seems. We desperately need a regional approach to this which brings us to the fact that the countries we thought we could never get along with, we suddenly have common interests. You know what they say, "No country has friends or enemies only interests." To the consternation of Iran and America, we're beginning to have a lot of

• See MACKEY page 11

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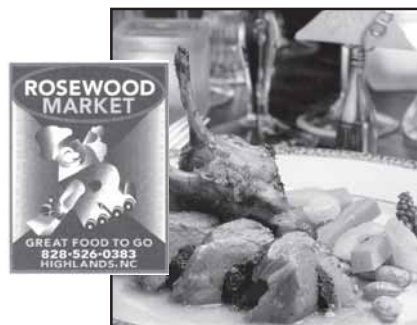
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• COACH'S CORNER •

Four Observations: Duke-Rhode Island

The major story from college hoops this weekend was the near upset of Duke by Rhode Island at Cameron Indoor Stadium. Here are a few observations from that game.

1. The lone bright spot from Sunday night for Duke was that Coach K has finally figured out that Duke's best players are Jon Scheyer, Kyle Singler, Nolan Smith and Gerald Henderson. Greg Paulus was nowhere to be found on the floor last night late in the game, and I honestly believe that is why Duke managed to pull it out. Greg Paulus is a fine basketball player, particularly in the open court, but teams attacked him both offensively and defensively at the end of games last year, so taking him off the floor eliminates a weakness for Duke. Paulus can still be a valuable player for Duke, especially his shooting ability and experience, but he is a known defensive liability at this point in his career and allows the opposing coach an easy choice to attack when they need a basket.

2. I agree with the sentiments of those pundits who believe that Duke's talent level is down. There is a big drop off after the aforementioned four players -- although I think that Elliot Williams has the potential to become a major player and McClure has become a nice role player in the mold of a Marcus Ginyard type who can provide defense and rebounding. The problem with Duke's other players is that they excel at one aspect of the game, while being weak in many others. Paulus is a shooter who can't play defense or penetrate. Martynas Pocius is an athlete who gets run on defense and can't shoot. Miles Plumlee looks adequate on offense and passes well for a big man, but has not rebounded well thus far. Same goes for Lance Thomas, who has been very active on the offensive boards and defends the post well, but cannot shoot a lick and is a poor defensive rebounder. Brian Zoubek...well Zoubek does nothing well. Just too many holes in the games of these players -- something that assistant coaches are supposed to fix...

3. The loss of Demarcus Nelson was felt full force last night, as Duke failed to find the guy that could cool off Rhode Island star Jimmy Baron until right at the end. I think ultimately that Nolan Smith will be the guy called upon to lock people down, but Scheyer did a terrific job during major stretches last night of guarding Baron, only to see Baron hit some incredible shots. Coach K cannot be happy at all that his defense allowed Rhode Island to shoot such a great percentage this early in the season.

4. Lastly, perhaps the greatest strategic nuance that I noticed on Sunday night was that Rhode Island greatly disrupted Duke's offense by pressuring the initial inbound and not letting Duke get into their secondary



Ryan Potts
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break. The confusion you saw on offense in the first half from Duke looked like a team that had a late start to the season. Coaching in high school, we usually put in our press break and primary and secondary break first, and then work on half court offense more as the season goes along. It looked to me like Duke had not spent a whole lot of time on half court offense and it took the individual efforts of Scheyer and Singler to pull this game out. In my opinion, Coach K was outcoached until the last minute of the game, where he matched the 6'9" Singler against Jimmy Baron and forced a blocked shot..

HS Basketball

The Highlands Highlanders began their basketball season with a strong performance on the road versus the Andrews Wildcats Tuesday night. In the 5 p.m. game, the Highlands JV boys lost a nail biter 43-42 when a buzzer beating shot by JJ Rodriguez was ruled to have been a hair too late.

The JV Highlanders were led by Cody St. Germaine with 16 points, and Rodriguez chipped in 9 points.

In the Lady Highlanders first game of the year, they used a smothering full court press to force 12 Wildcat turnovers in the first quarter and build a lead they would never relinquish.

Despite some cold shooting in the first half, the Lady Highlanders still managed enough offense for a blowout, mainly due to their effort on the defensive end to finish up with a 43-20 victory. Lady Highlanders coach Brett Lamb was "very excited about the effort on the defensive end." Lamb also noted that the Lady Highlanders did not pick up their first win until the 19th game of the season last year, and it was good to get one under their belt early. "It's hard to believe that we still have no seniors," said Lamb, "and with a young team like this it is good to have something to build on early."

Junior Sarah Power led the Lady Highlanders with 11 points, and Freshman Stephanie Smart added 8.

The nightcap saw the Highlands Men's Basketball team showcase a dominant performance on both the offensive and defensive end in a 93-43 victory over Andrews. Turnovers were also the story in the boys' game, as the local lads defensive pressure forced 17 steals against the Wildcats that led to numerous easy baskets early in the game.

Leading the way for the Highlanders was senior Ezra Herz with 22 points, followed by senior Michael Baty with 18 and sophomore Robbie Vanderbilt adding 13. Vanderbilt, Baty and sophomore Josh De La Cruz all added 10 rebounds apiece in what was a superior effort on the glass.

The Highlanders open their home schedule on Friday against Rabun County, with the JVs beginning at 5 p.m. followed by both the Varsity girls and boys. We would like to encourage all fans to come out Friday night and support the Highlanders. — Ryan Potts

Two Highlands School students have 'Governor's' school in sights for summer 2009

Brice Jenkins, a junior at Highlands School is the superintendent's nominee for the math program and Ashley Dickey, also a junior, is the superintendent's nominee for the Spanish program at The Governor's School of North Carolina this summer.

Dickey must go through one more process before learning if she will go on to The Governor's School.

Each of North Carolina's 100 counties gets two guaranteed spots — superintendent's choice — and can nominate others.

The Governor's School of North Carolina is a six-week summer residential program for intellectually gifted high school students, integrating academic disciplines, the arts, and unique courses on each of two campuses. The curriculum focuses on the exploration of the most recent ideas and concepts in each discipline, and does not involve credit, tests, or grades. The program is entirely free of charge to all students, funded by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

The Governor's School is the oldest statewide summer residential program for academically or intellectually gifted high school students in the nation. The program, which is open to rising seniors only, with exceptions made for rising juniors in selected performing/visual arts areas, is located on two campuses of 400 students each: Governor's School West at Salem College in Winston-Salem (begun in 1963), and Governor's School East at Meredith College in Raleigh (begun in 1978).

All students study in three curricular areas.

Area I consists of English, French (East), Spanish (West), Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Art, Choral Music, Instrumental, Music, Drama, and Dance.

AREA II — Study that explores connections between and among the Area I disciplines. As integrative concepts emerge, the class attempts to construct an understanding of contemporary ways of thinking and of the culture that arises from them.

AREA III — Study that grounds the learning from Areas I and II in student's own personal experience, and applies that understanding to their social worlds; that is, they try to discover links between ideas and actions, theory and practice.

Macon County Superintendent Dan Brigman said every school district may send

in two nominations as Superintendent's Choice and these two are guaranteed a spot at Governor's School. He personally interviewed each "Superintendent Choice" nominee.

"Based on Macon County School System size, we also send in two additional nominees to the State Committee for their consideration of acceptance to Governor's School.

Brice was a Superintendent's Choice and Ashley was an additional nominee that will be taken under consideration for attendance by the

State Committee. In the past, several of our additional nominees have been selected to attend," he said.

He said all of the school system's candidates for the NC Governor's School were extremely impressive.

"Brice has excellent communication skills and student leadership experiences to assist him as he represents the Macon County School System and Highlands School," he said. "Each student greatly benefits from the unique leadership and academic opportunities presented to them through their attendance at the Governor's School. Many students who have attended in the past have reported this to be a life-changing experience."

... MACKEY from page 9

common interests that we might be able to get together on.

"As we all know, since 1979 the U.S. and Iran haven't had cordial relations. We had a situation in which there has been this incredible hostility from Iran because of the fact that Iraq was taken away as a balance point to Iran. Now, Iranians can exert a lot more influence in this area than they have been able to do so previously. So what they're doing is throwing their weight around — pursuing nuclear weapons, saying outrageous charges since the revolution.

"The question is, do we, at the price of lowering our presence in Iraq, sit down with Iran? No. No. You don't sit down with Iran. What you do is pursue the same path since 1989 which is the U.S. over here, and Iran over there and we're like two rats who come up out of our holes, look at each other and then go back down in.

"We come back and look at each other,

• See MACKEY page 14



Ashely Dickey



Brice Jenkins



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- William B radford

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Learning Literacy: A success story

By Laura Miller

Individual tutoring can mean the difference between struggling to read and literacy success. Many students receive one-on-one instruction from the dedicated and highly qualified volunteer tutors at the Literacy Council of Highlands. One such student is Leah Craig.

Since July of 2008, Leah has been tutored by Leslie Doster, a part-time Highlands resident and professor of Speech Pathology at the University of Central Florida. In just a few months of working with Leslie and the intensive instruction of the Wilson Reading System, Leah has shown remarkable progress.

The enthusiasm and confidence shows in this bright girl's voice as she describes how Leslie's patient guidance has not only helped her to read better, but also to enjoy reading. "Now I'm on my second page of Reading Counts... I'm making 100s!" Her mother Kay appreciates the changes in Leah's whole attitude: "She has tremendous confidence and isn't embarrassed to try anything as far as reading goes... she writes things, she reads things - she doesn't feel scared to do it any more." Kay adds that the Wilson program is excellent for students like Leah who are dyslexic.

Dyslexia affects nearly one in five students worldwide, and is marked by reading difficulties, spelling errors such as mixing up the order of letters, difficulties in speech development, and problems associating letters with the sounds they represent. This learning disability is best addressed through early

diagnosis and intervention, particularly one-on-one tutoring with methods like the Wilson Program that incorporate a detailed phonics-based curriculum with a multisensory approach to teaching.

The step-by-step instruction, combined with the patient guidance of a mentor like Leslie Doster, gives children like Leah the skills to excel at reading. Anyone wishing to join the team of highly skilled professionals who volunteer at the Literacy Council is encouraged to contact us at 828-526-9938, extension 261. Tutors with a background in all academic disciplines are greatly appreciated.

• Laura Miller is the Programs Coordinator for the Literacy Council of Highlands.




Leah Craig

Christmas Parade Book Give-away

Matt Eberz of Sam Call Productions, LLC, and Clair and Arthur Simpson of Cyrano's Book Shop, will once again donate books to the Literacy Council of Highlands, to be given away during the annual Christmas parade in Highlands on Dec. 6. The members of the Literacy Council of Highlands, dressed as storybook characters, will be marching in the annual parade and will be giving away children's books to the young children watching along the parade route. Last year the Literacy Council gave away over 500 books to the children attending the annual event.

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... AUDITOR continued from page 1

ance, which measures the county's available financial resources, is broken into three categories – reserved, unreserved designated and unreserved undesignated.

The Unreserved Undesignated Fund Balance is what citizens are most familiar with because it's from that fund the county has drawn money to fund projects for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

The unreserved undesignated fund balance for 2008 is \$11,776,596 — \$95,000 more than the board of commissioners' policy of keeping the unreserved fund balance at 25% of the current year's budget.

"The '08-'09 budget is \$46,723,013," said Finance Director Evelyn Southard "Twenty-five percent of that number is \$11,680,753. The unreserved undesignated fund balance at June 30, 2008, was \$11,776,596 which is \$95,843 over the 25% threshold."

Kosner said that amount of money gives the county funds to operate for three months, should revenues stop.

He said the county's main revenue gen-

... PLAYHOUSE continued from page 1

First the board learned that the perception that the Playhouse use was prohibitive or too expensive was based on miscommunication. It costs \$175 a day not \$500 as reported to rent the Playhouse but a Playhouse technician and a front-of-the-house Playhouse employee must be on premises and each paid \$15 an hour.

Much discussion revolved around Johnson's practice to decide if a production was appropriate for the Playhouse as a family-oriented venue and to protect the its reputation. This concerned the Town Board as well as representatives from the Instant Theatre Company and the Highlands-Cashiers Players.

"You are running a facility and judging what people put on when we're talking about local groups who have a finger on the pulse of the community and know what the community wants," said Commissioner Patterson. "I have a problem with a lot of censorship in the arts."

Bonnie Earman with ITC said the dichotomy of Highlands has changed. "At ITC we do more adult entertainment so the censorship worries me a little regarding our ability to express ourselves artistically," she said.

Johnson said that he would certainly negotiate verbiage and content of productions, but if an agreement couldn't be reached he would suggest the group to find another venue.

He said in the recent past the Playhouse lost sponsors and patrons due to the use of one "bad" word in a production which translated to the loss of a huge amount of money.

Another reason for the discussion between the three entities and the Town Board was to determine if a year-round Playhouse would be beneficial and worth the cost to renovate.

Mary Adair Leslie, with HCP, said the town has a year-round playhouse in the Performing Arts Center but Commissioner Den-

erator is property taxes which amounts to 52% of the General Fund's revenue or \$22,089,392 in 2008, up slightly from 2007's \$21,460,911.

The next revenue generator is the sales tax – 19% of revenues or \$8,084,993, down slightly from 2007's \$8,306,691.

Restricted Intergovernmental funds – designated grant money – amounted to 14% of the 2008 budget or \$6,015,440, down from 2007's \$6,852,830 because that figure reflected the last allocation of hurricane relief grant money the county had been receiving since 2006.

The remaining 15% in revenues came from unrestricted intergovernmental funds, permits and fees, sales and service and investment income.

Expenditures were pretty evenly distributed across the board – other (28%), public safety (26%), human services (25%) and education (21%).

Total expenditures for 2008 were \$38,597,426 with general expenditures up in

nis DeWolf said it wasn't really the same.

"There's that aura of the theatre at the Playhouse that you just can't duplicate at PAC and that's what some people want," he said.

Madelene Davis, with ITC, said the raised seating at the Playhouse was also a plus because everyone can see the stage.

Scott Paxton, with ITC, said patrons told him that if the Playhouse allowed ITC to perform there, they would pay to retrofit the structure.

Estimates to insulate and heat the building properly are upwards of \$75,000.

Still, the board said the decision to renovate the Playhouse would be discussed at another time.

Commissioners also discussed new scenarios concerning the Town Hall complex involving the use of the ABC Store which will be vacated early 2009.

One scenario involves modernizing the existing Town Hall to temporarily house the administration; renovate the ABC Store to house the Police Dept. and eventually build a new Town Hall next to the existing Town Hall building.

Another plan involves constructing a new Town Hall to house administration next to the existing Town Hall and to renovate the ABC Store to house the Police Dept. and more public bathrooms.

The third plan involves constructing a new Town Hall to house the administration and Police Dept. next to the existing Town Hall as suggested by the architects.

Commissioners agreed since the town doesn't have the money to build the complex as originally planned and since the ABC Store will be vacated it makes good fiscal sense to use it thereby decreasing future Town Hall construction costs.

These ideas will be discussed in January when the board begins to formulate a strategic plan for major capital projects over the next 5-10 years.

2008 — \$6,909,282 to 2007's \$5,790,451; public safety expenditures were down in 2008, \$9,994,481 compared to 2007's \$10,148,813; human services expenditures were up slightly — \$9,481,690 in 2008 to \$9,438,135 in 2007; and education expenditures for 2008 were \$8,245,555 compared to 2007's \$7,815,684.

He said the county's only enterprise fund – the Solid Waste Department – was in good shape with a positive cash flow of \$810,156 even though it was down from 2007's \$1,471,649 cash flow. Southard said that is due to monies the county has expended at the Highlands Land Fill.

County Manager Jack Horton asked Kosner how the county stacks up compared to other like-counties in the state.

He said several counties would be envious of Macon County's fiscal standing.

— Kim Lewicki

... K-4 SCHOOL from 1

solution – drilling wells and laying drainage fields instead of running water and sewer lines out to the site – has changed the plan somewhat, he said.

"More extensive soil tests due to the necessary intensive treatment and certification for a below ground septic tank system that bleeds out to a drain system, as well as numerous water wells is needed, but preliminary reports indicate that everything is OK," said Watson. "It is a viable area for everything we need to do."

Another change – this one suggested by Watson – is to move students to the nearby Cowee School while the new Iotla School is being built, rather than building the new school around the occupied old school – this for safety, the expedition of construction

• See K-4 SCHOOL page 23



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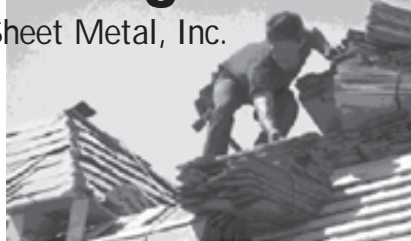
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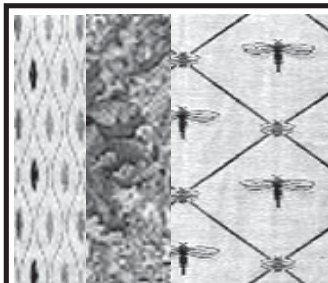
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Library helpers for an afternoon



On Friday, Nov. 14, members of The Girls' Clubhouse worked at the Hudson Library dusting shelves and "edging" books. Pictured from left are Ivy Satterwhie, Veronica Garcia, Elizabeth Houston, Meredith Garren, McKinley Mosely and Grace Brassard. Not pictured is April Moss.

Photo by Supervisor Kim Lewicki

... MACKEY continued from page 11

take a few steps forward, then back and go back into our holes. Since 1989 both countries trying to find a path to talking to each other. And it's been the fault on both sides. You will get some movement and then one side or other will blow it and we're right back.

"When president of Iran — Mahmoud Ahmadinejad — got elected 4 years ago you had the absolute non-intellectuals, the representatives of the poorest least educated people in the country ascend to the presidency and Ahmadinejad has blown it. Totally blown it.

"The truth is, Iran is not nearly as powerful as it appears. The leadership in Iran since Khomeini's death in 1989, has been very split. You have those who believe in keeping Khomeini's hard-line and not wavering from edicts promoting Islam and those who say the interests of the Iranian nation are greater than the interests of Islam. They are the nationalists. They want to reform the system, because they know if they don't reform the system the country won't survive.

"You have a split within the regime and a split between the regime and those outside the regime who want nothing to do with Islamic Republic. They are in the majority but they just don't have any level of power.

"Secondly, the economy of Iran is in a disaster because President Ahmadinejad and his band of merry men have decided they need to go back to Khomeini's idea of Islamic Socialism.

"It has wrecked the economy of 1979-1989, which was sort of patched up at that

time and able to go forward but now it is just in shambles. Plus, now that oil prices are down they are really hurting.

"With the Iranian presidential election coming up next year, the hard-liners around the president know their only chance to stay in power is to goad the U.S. into bombing their nuclear facilities thereby igniting Iranian nationalism which is very powerful. That's why Ahmadinejad says all the crazy things he says, which aren't necessarily backed by anyone else.

"What draws the U.S. and Iran together?

"Things have happened that have changed the situation. One thing is that neither Iran or the U.S. wants chaos in Iraq.

"Iran with one hand is stirring up trouble in Iraq to get to the U.S., but at same time, Iran wants to keep a hand on that violence because they don't want chaos on their border because that is unsettling for them.

"Secondly, they don't want Alkada to be operating in Afghanistan. Why? Because Alkada are Suni Muslims and the Iranians are Shite Muslims. They are terrified of Alkada.

"In fact, shortly after the attack on Afghanistan in 2002, there was a lot of cooperation between U.S. and Iran on that issue. When Russians got involved in the state of Georgia recently, that made the Iranians extremely nervous because in the mid 19th century Russia actually broke a big chunk of what was Iranian territory and put it in Russia. So Iran is very nervous about them. That's a common interest we have."

• Next week: The Russia and Afghanistan story.

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

The great American feast is next week!

By Ted Schmidt

Next Thursday is Thanksgiving Day! Have you ordered your turkey? Have you invited all of your guests? Do you know which football games you will be watching? Do you plan to start your Christmas shopping the following day? The day that is called Black Friday, because retailers hopefully have a bottom line that is not red. As we approach the official start of the holiday season, I can't help but think about how we all manage to get caught up in all the Stuff. The food, the decorations, the activities. Don't get me wrong, it is my favorite time of year, I am just amazed at how far we have come from its original meaning.

Thanksgiving Day was not always celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. Some may remember that prior to 1941, presidents declared a day of Thanksgiving on various days in the Fall. The Pilgrims, who we generally credit as having the first Thanksgiving in 1621, may not have even had the first Thanksgiving in the United States. Claims to the First Thanksgiving title are also made by the Spanish settlers of St. Augustine in 1565, and the Virginia colony in 1619. For the Pilgrims, Thanksgiving originally was not an annual event, and unlike many annual harvest festivals, the Pilgrims would have a Thanksgiving Day in good harvest years, but fasting in drought years. By the mid-17th century, it was an annual event, and fasting was not part of the program.

The Pilgrims, as well as the Spaniards and the Virginia colony, viewed a day of Thanksgiving as a spiritual event, not a harvest festival. The focus was on God, and His Goodness, not the food. The case has been made that the Pilgrims adapted the Feast of Tabernacles from the Old Testament to celebrate the autumn harvest. The Feast of the Tabernacles was also called the Feast of Ingathering because it occurred at the time of the major autumn harvest. But the Feast of the Tabernacles (also called the Feast of Booths) was really an eight-day celebration during which participants traveled and lived in temporary shelters (tents or booths). The concept is just as they lived in traveling tents, so too, we live in temporary shelters called our bodies traveling in this life, and to be resurrected for an eternal life.

The apostle Paul refers to the Feast of Tabernacles in 2 Corinthians 5:1-4. "Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life."

So over the course of more than 2,000 years, we have gone from a spiritual appreciation of eternal life to turkeys, football, and a big parade in New York — a parade that is financed by a retailer who wants you to start shopping the next day. Is it any wonder that some may have a difficult time being thankful this year? In addition to the misplaced focus, it may be hard to be thankful if you are without a job, or have seen your investment portfolio take a serious hit, or if your business volume continues to decline. It may be hard to "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:19-20) It may be really hard to "give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:18) But even if this hasn't been a great year, there is still a great blessing for which we need to be thankful. "Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; His love endures forever." This phrase appears several times in the Bible, in fact, several times in Psalms and Jeremiah alone. God's love is the greatest thing for which we need to be thankful. It is out of God's Love that our health, finances, and relationships can be restored. (Jeremiah 33:11) It is out of God's Love that He sent His Son, so that all men who believe in Him can have eternal life. Can you really think of anything for which you might be more thankful than eternal life?

So, enjoy the holiday, enjoy the food, enjoy your family, and yes, you can even enjoy the football game and the parade; but take some time to thank God next Thursday for the free gift of eternal life, and take some time to share God's Love with someone who may not know Him. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

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4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

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... LETTERS continued from page 2

veered off the road when she did, this truck's back tires would have hit her directly in the driver's seat! This truck never stopped to see about the accident and kept driving. This by law is called a hit and run.

Then there were two or three cars behind her when this accident happened and no one stopped to see if she needed any assistance nor has anyone reported anything about the truck or the accident except us. She sustained \$3,009-\$5,000 in damages to her car. We are very thankful that my mother was not killed or seriously injured in this accident, but the truck driver and the other drivers didn't seem to care if she was injured or not.

The highway patrol officer also did go to the scene of the accident, but was not able to find a witness to write a report about the accident even though there is evidence

that a person ran off the road and hit the rocks in front of the Koenig office very recently. In fact, when the other drivers behind my mother stopped suddenly, due to the accident, one driver had to swerve to avoid from hitting the other cars and this may have been who hit the rocks.

If anyone has information about this accident please contact the NC Highway Patrol and give them the information. This truck driver needs to be found and made to pay for the damages and injuries he caused by veering into oncoming traffic's lane and causing an accident!

One day a friend, family member, or someone you love is going to be killed by reckless drivers, help us in stopping this before it happens to me or you!

*Berita L. Easland-Fox
Otto, NC*

HS Beta Club members inducted



The Senior Beta Club at Highlands School held its annual Induction Ceremony on Nov. 10 to formally welcome new members into the local and national organization. Nine new members were inducted, bringing the school membership to 27. Officers for the '08-'09 school year are Carolyn Hornsby, president; Luke McClellan, vice-president; Marisol Ruiz, Andrew Billingsley, treasurer. Membership in Beta Club is based on academic achievement and character. The Highlands Beta Club is active in service projects, locally and internationally. The club handles the ongoing recycling program at the school, collecting and sorting cans, bottles, and papers, and taking them to the Recycling Center. The club also plans to sponsor local children again this year at Christmas and lend money to a Third World entrepreneur through the Kiva organization. The Induction Ceremony concluded with Officers Carolyn and Marisol passing the symbolic torch of Beta Club leadership to all the members of the club.

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• OBITUARY •

Calvin 'Squeak' Speed



Calvin "Squeak" Speed, 53, of the Buck Creek community died Sat. Nov. 15, 2008 at Angel Hospital in Franklin, N.C. He was a native of Macon County, the son of the late Chester and Kate Ledford Speed. He was a construction worker, and a member of Blue Valley Baptist Church.

He is survived by a daughter Jessica Stickle of Cocoa Beach, FL, a son, Chester Speed of Cocoa Beach, FL; eight sisters, Nancy Tilson, Kathy Branum, Frankie Beck, Susie Barnes and Rita Speed all of Highlands, NC; Pat Green and Brenda Guertin of Clayton, GA and Tinker Guillet of Charleston, SC; one brother David Speed of Highlands, NC; two grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services were Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home in Highlands, with Rev. Bobby Cloer and Rev. Oliver Rice officiating. Pallbearers were Sam Johnson, William Passmore, Davis Green, Brantly Potts, Brian Reese, Keith Barnes, and Toby Barnes.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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• THANK YOU •

Thanks for making the 2nd Annual Culinary Weekend an amazing success

The foundation has truly been laid for a not-to-be-missed event in the coming years. When we began coordinating this year's event (not long after the completion of last year's event), I could only hope that things would turn out as well as they did. The word of mouth of last year's event brought people back and enticed new visitors to Highlands – the true purpose of The Highlands Culinary Weekend! Once again, the weekend brought great success - a delightfully delicious opening night party; cooking demonstrations; guest speakers; inspired dinners and, new this year, "Sip & Stroll" which was a sell-out this year and, from the feedback that I've received so far, should grow to include more merchants and more attendees for next year.

Much of the credit for the event's success goes to the staff and volunteers of the Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center whose dedication and hard work made the event happen. I was fortunate this year to be working with a wonderful committee that took on tasks and provided me with the final product.

Thanks to the "working" committee - Mindy Green, Laura Huerta, Jan Healey, Vicki Aspinwall, Ginger Sweat, Melissa Delaney, Leah McGlade, Debbie Grossman and Faye Wurm, as well as Marianne Vines, Lynn Delgado, Amanda Sullivan, Anne Tate, Little Flower Shoppe, and the 43 Opening Night Party volunteers. Thank you to the Town of Highlands, the Town Board and Mayor Mullen and the Highlands Police and Fire Departments.

I appreciate the support and vision of our sponsors: The Highlands Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, PFG Milton's Food Group, the *Laurel Magazine*, *WNC Magazine*, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry Corporation, WHLC 104.5 FM, Highlands Medical Associates, Manning Brothers, Stanberry Insurance, Nellis Communities, Inc., Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop, A Moment in Time Photography, Old Edwards Inn & Spa, ...on the Verandah Restaurant, Wolfgang's Restaurant and Wine Bistro, NC Signature Magazine, Clique Photography & Design, Integrated Installations and Bryson's Food Store.

And finally, a heartfelt thanks to all the participants: Chestnut Hill, Come to the Table Cookbook, Cyprus Restaurant, Fireside Restaurant, Fressers Eatery, Highlands Wine & Cheese Shop, Lakeside Restaurant, Main Street Inn, Old Edwards Inn and Spa, Oak Street Café, ...on the Verandah, Ristorante Paoletti, Sweet Treats, The Log Cabin Restaurant, Wolfgang's Restaurant and Wine Bistro, Artist Wesley Wofford, Carolina Eyes, Xtreme Threads, The Toy Store, Cyrano's Bookstore, The Christmas Tree, Village Kids, Bryant Art Glass, McCulley's, Wits End, Dutchman's Design, John Collette Fine Art, Drake's Diamond Gallery, Summit One Gallery, Highlands Fine Art & Estate Jewelry Corp, Basketcase, Mountain Rarities, Hand Picked Selections, Pacific Southern, Nickel & Nickel, Grapevine Distributors, Skyland Distributors, Anderson's Conn Valley, Jackson International, Frederick Wildman, Cape Classics, Vine Connections, Dionysus, Mutual Distributing Company, Grapevine Imports, Rodney Strong Vineyards, Amity Vineyards, Majestic Fine Wines, Edward Sellars, Adelsheim Vineyard, Creative Wines International, Duckhorn Wine Company, St. Suprey & Robert Skalli Wines, Billington Wines, Ex-Cellars & Country Vintner Australian/New Zealand Imports, J. Lohr Winery, Caymus Vineyards and the Wines of the Wagner Family, and Grateful Palate.

We will be holding a wrap up meeting on Monday, Nov. 24 at 10:30 a.m. at the Visitor Center and encourage your input. I look forward to even greater success next year and in the years to come!

Marlene Alvarez...on the Verandah Restaurant Committee Chair, Highlands Culinary Weekend

Locals turn out for Fireside wine dinner



Bevand Ted Anderson



Dick and Barbara Lawrence



Gus and Jan Lard with son Zack



Ginger and Maurice Sweat



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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Mountain Garden Club has Fall 'Litter Sweep'

As our beautiful fall colors begin to fade, many leaves will fall on clean litter-free earth, thanks in part to the Mountain Garden Club. On September 28th, twelve energetic members of the Mountain Garden Club gathered to pick up trash along Buck Creek Road. The group included President Ann Maxwell, and members Pud Brogan, Wendi Diamond, Candy Field, Jeannie Chambers, Becky Shilling, Midge Rothermel, Sarah Sloan, Elaine Johnson, Molly Leonard, Diana Rethorst and Ann Turner.

The group divided into pairs and started at the Recycling Drop-Off Center on Buck Creek Road, working north for a period exceeding four hours and covering over two miles. They worked with gloves, bags, pick-up sticks, and vests, all donated by the North Carolina Department of transportation. At least seven large orange bags were filled with

trash, and four large blue bags were filled with aluminum items and plastic items for recycling.

Participating members said they had great fun working on the project. They also expressed having experienced a sense of accomplishment in doing something good for the community and the environment. The Mountain Garden Club's Fall Litter Sweep was one of many held around the state this fall. September 20th through October 4th, 2008, was proclaimed by Governor Easley as LITTER SWEEP time in North Carolina. The state's fall cleanup celebrates the 20th anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and its 6,000 volunteer groups that donate their labor and time.

The Mountain Garden Club hopes to make their Litter Sweep a bi-annual event to occur each spring and fall. They join with



the state to encourage organizations as well as individual members of the community to participate in keeping Highlands and its surrounding roads and highways clean. For anyone interested in forming a litter sweep,

information can be obtained from the North Carolina Department of Transportation hotline at 1-800-331-5864 or the website at www.ncdot.org.

– Janet Sossomon

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Tree lighting Nov. 29



Town workers began decorating the Christmas Tree in front of the Highlands United Methodist Church in preparation for the town's annual tree lighting set for Saturday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 in front of the church on Main Street.

Highlands Historical Society Christmas Showhouse set for Dec. 6-7



Nancy Ostema, proprietor of Coper Flowers is one of the decorators whose talents will contribute to the Christmas Showhouse sponsored by the Highlands Historical Society. The Showhouse this year will feature one of the largest Joe Webb log-houses. Built within walking distance of Main Street in 1930 it is still surrounded by a forest of ancient trees, with a view of surrounding mountains including Whiteside. The Showhouse will be open from 1-5 p.m. December 6 and 7, 2008. Tickets are \$15 each, available now at Cyranos Bookshop or outside Bryson's Food Store on the days of the event. Shuttles will run to the Showhouse from Bryson's. Proceeds will benefit the Highlands Historical Society.

On-going Events

- The Bascom is offering a host of art classes for preschoolers to pre-teens from now through the end of the school year. For more information, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 0#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

- Friends of Panthertown work days, last Thursday of every month (time and location varies). Volunteers needed to maintain trails. For more information, contact Nina Elliott at 828-526-9938 (ext. 258) or friends.of.panthertown@gmail.com or online at www.jmca.org

- Four churches prepare to "Walk to Bethlehem." The Macon County Public Health Center is continuing a successful faith-based wellness program. Four local churches, with assistance from the Health Promotions Program at the public health center, are embarking on a virtual journey from Franklin to Bethlehem as a part of the "Walk to Bethlehem" program. The four participating churches include First United Methodist Church, Holly Springs Baptist Church, Prentiss Church of God, and Watauga Baptist Church. The Walk to Bethlehem program encourages church members to be more physically active and make healthier food choices. According to the Centers for Disease Control, everyone needs at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days to stay healthy. As a part of the Walk to Bethlehem program, the public health center provided a pre-event health screening to the churches.

- Collections for men and women overseas at Chestnut Hill Retirement community. A wide variety of items currently are needed, including books and magazines, CDs and DVDs, and small pocket books, which fit neatly in the BDUs (Battle Dress Uniforms). Phone cards, lounge pants, grey or black t-shirts, and cards of encouragement are also in great demand. Consumables such as insect repellent, lotions, and other hygiene products must come new, in original packaging. Monetary donations to fund the flat rate APO shipping at \$10.95 per box should be left at the front desk of Chestnut Hill. The drop point for all items will be under the flagpole at the Chestnut Hill Clubhouse on Clubhouse Trail. For any questions, or to schedule a drop-off, contact Jeremy Duke in our community office at (828) 787-2114.

- Refuge Youth meets every Sun. night at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at Cullasaja Assembly of God. If you are in grades 6th-12th then this is the place to be! The church is located at 6201 Highlands Rd. next to Exxon. For more info call youth ministers Matt and Candace Woodroof at 828-369-7540 ext. 203, www.cullasajaag.org.

- Raffle of handcrafted Stiefel Botanical Book to Benefit The Bascom. To purchase a raffle ticket, call 526-4949, ext. 8#.

- 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.

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

- "The Circle of Life" support group continues at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital at the Jane Woodruff room 201, 10 a.m. until noon. Call Barbara Buchanan

at 526-1402 or Florence Flanagan at 743-2567.

Mon. & Wed.

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

- Middle School students After School Program from 3-5 p.m. at the Rec Park. The program is free and will include a snacks, homework help, arts/crafts, sports, community involvement projects, and mini field trips. Parents will be required to register their child(ren) upon their second day of attendance and children will be required to sign in daily. For more information please call 828.526.3556.

Mon., Wed., Fri.

- Step Aerobics with Tina Rogers at the Rec Park, 8-9 a.m. \$10 per class or \$50 a month.

Wed., & Fri.

- Open AA meeting noon at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

Tues. & Thurs.

- Dance Aerobics with Susan, 8:30 a.m. at the Rec Park.

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

- Open AA meeting, 8 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

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

Tuesdays

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

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

Wednesdays

- 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

- AI-Anon meeting, noon at the Episcopal Church on Main and Fifth streets.

Thursdays & Fridays

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

Saturdays

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

Through Nov. 22

- The Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences presents Celebrate Clay, a pottery show featuring Western North Carolina Potters. Monday

through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hambidge can be reached at 706-746-5718 or visited online at www.hambidge.org.

Thursday, Nov. 20

- At the Albert Carlton - Cashiers Community Library, "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" is the fourth in the Indiana adventure series. Dr. Henry "Indiana" Jones (Harrison Ford) becomes entangled in a Soviet plot to uncover the secret of the mysterious Crystal Skulls. The movies will be shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. The movies and popcorn are free, but donations are appreciated. Movies are among the many services provided to the community by the Friends of the Library.

Friday, Nov. 21

- Macon County Mental Health Task Force will meet at 10:30 AM in Meeting Room A at the Health and Human Services Building on Lakeside Drive in Franklin.

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 21 & 22

- The annual all children's play "Cinderella" 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, Nov. 22

- Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sumptuous hors d'oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. \$20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

- A tour of The Bascom's new facilities at 3 & 4 p.m. To attend call 526-4949, ext. 8# or email

• See EVENTS page 20

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Mon – Thurs: (4:15), 7:10, 9:15

QUANTUM OF SOLACE

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

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Mon – Thurs: (4:20), 7:15, 9:20

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA

rated PG

Friday: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

Mon – Thurs: (4:10), 7:05, 9:10

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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• **NANTATHALA HIKING CLUB** will take a 5.5 mile strenuous hike over Rabun Bald and down the east slope to Hale Ridge road, with an elevation gain of 300 feet and a descent of 400 feet. Meet at the Scaly Mtn. Post Office at 9:30 AM. Drive 5 miles round trip with car shuttle. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy shoes, hiking preferably boots. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Virginia Tailbot, 526-4904, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• A Benefit for Justin Scruggs to help with medical bills. Justin is 19 years old. He recently sustained a gun shot to the face. He has had a lot of facial injury and faces years of reconstructive surgery. At this point, he has no vision. 5 p.m. until, at Cartoogechaye School. Exciting raffle items (a set of braces to be donated by Dr. Ralph Kurti), cake walk, kids' games, music, hot-dogs, BBQ and more.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

• Highlands Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Civic Center at 6 p.m. It's FREE.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

• Highlands-Cashiers Hospital will offer free flu shots to the general public at a special, one-day-only clinic on the hospital campus Wednesday. Hospital personnel will be giving flu vaccinations between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Suite 103 on the first level of the Jane Woodruff Clinic. There will be no charge, but pre-registration is required and supplies are limited. Those interested in signing up for the clinic should call 526-1434 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointment slots will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis in order to reduce waiting times.

Wed.-Mon., Nov. 26-Dec. 1

• At Acom's on Main Street, a Mary Louise Jewelry Trunk Show. Exclusive line of 18k gold jewelry with a distinctively feminine flair.

Friday-Saturday, Nov. 28-29

• The Artisans of the Highlands Plateau will be selling their wares at the Highlands Community Building on U.S. 64 east next to the ballfield 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to buy one-of-a-kind, handcrafted items for everyone on your Christmas list this year.

• The Annual Hard Candy Christmas Fine Art & Craft Show at the WCU Ramsey Center in Cullo-
whee. \$3 for adults, children under 12 free. Free parking. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Friday, Nov. 28

• Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sump-
tuous hors d'oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. \$20 ap-
plies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

• Santa will be at the Highlands Visitor Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to hear wishes and for photos.

Saturday, Nov. 29

• Highlands annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Main Street in front of the Highlands United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m.

• Santa will be at the Highlands Visitor Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to hear wishes and for photos.!

• The Mirror Lake Improvement Association's Christmas Gathering is Friday at 5 p.m. at Jane and Paul Wilgus's home. Bring a covered dish and serving utensils. For more information, call Elaine Johnson at 526-9939.

• At PAC at 7:30 p.m., "The Prince of Dark Cor-

ners," a play written by North Carolina humorist Gary Carden, at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Cen-
ter on Chestnut Street. Admission price: \$15. Call 526-
9047.

• **NANTAHALA HIKING CLUB** will take a mod-
erate 4-mile hike with a couple of steep descents to Turtleback Falls, Rainbow Falls, and Stair Step Falls on the Horse Pasture River. Meet at Wachovia Bank in Cashiers at 8:30 AM. Bring water, lunch; wear stur-
dy shoes. Drive 16 miles round trip. Hikes are limited to 20. Call leader Walker Taylor at 743-6977 for res-
ervations. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

• At the Highlands Historical Society a class on making "Galax Roses" with Sue Potts with two ses-
sions available – 9 a.m. until noon and 1-4 p.m. The cost per session is \$15. To register call Sue Potts at 526-3163.

Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 6 & 7

• Sanders' Family Christmas" (sequel to "Smoke on the Mountain") a wholesome musical at 7 p.m. on Saturday at the Dillard Playhouse, in Dillard, Ga. Tick-
ets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 11. Call 706- 212-2500.

Boys Macon County basketball signups

The final day for signups for Macon County Boys Basketball is this Saturday, November 22. An all- day
signup event will be held Saturday in the lobby of the Highlands Civic Center from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Boys ages 7-18 are invited to play. Must be 7 by December 31, 2008. The cost is \$35.

Age divisions are 7-9 year olds (Biddy), 10-12 year olds (Junior), 13-15 year olds (Senior) and 15 year old sophomores to 18 year olds (Varsity). Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. Applications are available at Highlands Civic Center throughout the week.

A draft for the Biddy League, ages 7-9, will be held Saturday, December 6, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The draft for Junior League (ages 10-12) will be held the following week, date and time to be announced. A minimum of 8 players must sign up to form a senior or varsity division team.

Anyone interested in coaching or assistant coaching must fill out a coaching application and additional paperwork available at the Highlands Civic Center.

For more information call Michelle Munger at 828-342-3551 or 828-342-3850.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• Christmas Showhouse to benefit the Highlands Historical Society 1-5 p.m. each day. The Joe Webb log-house at 149 Satulah Road will be decorated for

the holidays by professional and semi-professional decorators. Advance tickets: \$15.00 each at Cyra-no's. Shuttle from Bryson's.

Artisans of the Plateau sale Nov. 28-29



On Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28-29 The Artisans of the Highlands Plateau will be selling their wares at the Highlands Community Building on U.S. 64 east next to the ballfield 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to buy one-of-a-kind, handcrafted items for everyone on your Christmas list this year. Jean Trott will be displaying and selling her log house miniatures.

'Prince of Dark Corners' at PAC Nov. 29

"The Prince of Dark Corners," a play by Gary Carden, will be presented one night only at the Martin-Lipscomb Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. The play was winner of the Paul Green Multimedia Award from the North Carolina Historians Society, and was adapted by Carden from the true-life story of Lewis Redmond, operator of an extensive bootleg operation in North Georgia, upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina in the lean and hopeless years of Reconstruction.

To the people of Southern Appalachia, Redmond became an American Robin Hood, fighting revenuers and using moonshine money to save people's land from tax collectors. Northern newspapers depicted Redmond as a degenerate and cold-blooded murderer who shot and killed a childhood friend who had become a federal marshal. But he retained a reputation for honesty and generosity, and



no one could have predicted the end of his story. "The Prince of Dark Corners" sheds light on a time and place long shrouded in mystery, if not forgotten.

Tickets to the performance, priced \$15 each, are available now at the Performing Arts Center on Chestnut Street. They can be charged by phone at 526-9047 or at www.highlandsp Performingartscenter.org.

Saturday, Dec. 6

• Wine Tastings at Old Edwards Inn & Spa. Sumptuous hors d'oeuvres amid festive fireside ambiance of Hummingbird Piano Bar in the inn. 2-4 p.m. \$20 applies to purchase if you choose to buy and not just taste! Call 526-8008.

• Highlands Alternative Market immediately following the Christmas Parade until 2:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Free lunch and chance to give to area nonprofits.

• Annual Christmas Parade 10 a.m. until noon on Main Street.

• Santa will be at the Highlands Visitor Center from 12:30-4 p.m. to hear wishes and for photos.

Friday-Sunday, Dec. 12-14

• Sanders' Family Christmas" (sequel to "Smoke on the Mountain") a wholesome musical at 7 p.m. on 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.

Galax Rose Workshop, Dec. 2

One of the area's most abundant evergreen plants is the galax with shiny green heart-shaped leaves. It covers the ground like a green carpet. After the leaves have fallen and the plant gets more light its leaves change to maroon.

Many of these leaves are used to decorate homes especially at Christmas. Sue Potts, former florist and teacher at Highlands School, will teach the workshops on making galax roses Dec. 2 at the Highlands Historical Society's Museum 520 North 4th Street next door to the Civic Center. There will be two sessions: first session is from 9 a.m. until noon and the second session from 1-4 p.m. each session will be limited to 15. The sessions will cost \$15. All materials will be provided and each attendee will be able to take their rose home. Please call Sue Potts at 526-3163 to register for the class. If not available please leave a message and she will call you back.

Sue Potts displaying two versions of Galax Roses.



Fraser Fir Christmas Trees at Peak Experience, You Choose-We Cut.

Delivery and Set up in the Highlands Area Available for \$20.00 per Tree.

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\$5. for 20 words weekly**• CLASSIFIEDS •****\$2. for each add'l. 10 words****HELP WANTED**

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is actively seeking a responsible and energetic individual to fill the full-time position of Director of Children and Youth Ministries. Bachelor's degree or five years related experience required. Send resumes to HUMC, P.O. Box 1959, Highlands, NC 28741. Attn: Scott Roddy or email inquires and resumes to humcsc@dnet.net.

SOUS CHEF – Experience required. Full time position available. Team player. Call 787-2200.

MLT or MT needed in the laboratory at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Second and third shifts available with an occasional weekend and holiday rotation. Registry of ASCP or equivalent is required. Must be able to work alone. 3-5 years experience as a generalist with blood banking is preferred. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

PHYSICIAN BILLING MANAGER: needed at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Full time position available. Responsible for managing all billing procedures for the physician's offices. At least 3 years of office and insurance billing experience. CMA, EMT, or similar training and certification. Current training in coding is required. Full benefits, or the option to opt out of benefits for an increase in pay, available after 60 days of full-time employment. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1376 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.

CNA OR CNA II at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. PRN positions are available. Our wage scale is \$11.00 to \$14.40 per hour, and you also receive shift and weekend differentials. Pre-employment substance screening. Call Human Resources, 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

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APARTMENT FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath, living area, kitchen and utility room. \$750/month. \$300 security deposit. Rent includes utilities (electric, water, heat, local phone.) one-year lease. Prefer non-smoker. No pets. Unfurnished. Good for 1-2 people. Call 526-9494. (st. 11/13)

AVAILABLE DECEMBER 10TH. Prefer long term. Location: Off Buck Creek Road and Shortoff....Highlands mailing address. 4 bedroom plus bonus room (can be used as bedroom); 3.5 bath..year round house for rent, rent to purchase or purchase. W/D, dishwasher. Walk in closet in Master. Master on main; deck, water feature, two car garage. Loads of storage. Will rent partially furnished or unfurnished. NO smoking; prefer no pets; \$2,200/mo plus utilities. Require one month security deposit that CANNOT be used as final months' rent. Pictures available upon request. Please call Jim at 828.200.0723 for rental information. 12/4

LUXURY LONG-TERM RENTAL HOME W/ OFFICE — Convenient "Heart of Cashiers." Quiet lake. Furnished 3 bdrm/3 bath with large home office. www.nc-mountainhouse.com \$2,600/month + utilities. (828) 526-3704 or (828) 526-0169. 11/27

LOOKING FOR CLEAN, QUIET NON-SMOKER WITH NO PETS. – to rent furnished 1 bed, 1 bath apartment. \$600 includes all basic utilities. Cheaper with one year lease. Call 526-0079.

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DOWNTOWN APARTMENT RENTAL – One bedroom (Queen), one bath, vaulted ceiling in great room, heat and air with gas fireplace. Fully furnished with W/D, cozy and comfortable. \$750 a month plus utilities. Call 526-2598 or 421-3614.

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2 BDRM, 2 BATH CONDO AT HIGHLANDS MTN. CLUB, next to Highlands Country Club. AC, gas logs, hwd floors, fully furnished. One small pet allowed. Deck & screened porch. In city limits. Amenities include heated pool, road & entrance snow removal. \$875 per month. 828-200-0786.

2 BED, 2 BA HOUSE – Carport, Storage, Garage. \$800 a month. In Scaly. Call 423-715-7757.

2 BED, 2 BA, COTTAGE – W/D, 2 miles from town off Cashiers Road. Garage/basement, covered deck. \$925 a month. Call 864-944-1175.

FURNISHED 3BD/2BATH HOUSE IN MIRROR LAKE area available for 6-12 month lease \$1200+ utilities. Call 770-977-5692.

ATTRACTIVE 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH APARTMENT available for immediate occupancy. Desirable Main Street location features balcony, large kitchen with dishwasher, spacious laundry equipped with washer and dryer. Recently renovated. No smokers and no pets. Call John for details. 526-5587. References required.

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3BR, 2BA COTTAGE NEAR MIRROR LAKE – In town. \$1250 per month. Very clean. 770-977-5692.

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

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, No min. Call 828-342-2302.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

OWNERS MOTIVATED! LOWEST PRICED LOT IN DESIREABLE PINCHOT DEVELOPMENT IN CASHIERS. – 3.04 acres. Flat, ready to build. Priced to sell. \$399K. Lot 32B. Call Elaine at 706-746-5220 or Leif at 954-551-9271. 11/27

ITEMS FOR SALE

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SMALL EMERALD AND GOLD RING. Originally \$300 Asking \$175. 828-631-2675 after 5 p.m.

BABY LOCK SERGER MACHINE with extra spools of thread. \$200.00 828-631-2675 after 5:00 p.m. Sylvia area.

REDUCED! 52" BIG-SCREEN TV RCA Home-Theater edition, with guide-plus gold. Moving and its too big to take. \$375 or OBO; this TV is in great condition and has a perfect picture, purchased at Circuit-city. Allows for 480P HD through Direct-tv. Call cell: 828-342-2809

YARD MACHINE LEAF MULCHER – purchased at Lowes. Used only a few times \$350. 526-5056.

SIX CEDAR ADIRONDACK CHAIRS – custom made. \$100 each or all for \$500. Call 526-3719.

LENOX CHINA "AUTUMN" PATTERN – \$125 for 5-piece place setting or sell by the piece at 20% below store prices. Call 526-0498

3-PIECE BEDROOM SET – Oak veneer. one dresser, one desk, one chest. \$300. Call 526-5772.

NEW BAUM BROTHERS CHINA. Service for 8- with serving pieces-white with gold trim, In original box \$150. for set. Call 526-3251

STONE AVAILABLE – Assorted. 14 pallets. \$200 per pallet. Call 526-9532

MARTIN-C-1740 UNVENTED GAS HEATER

– with oxygen depleting sensing system. BTU 40,000. H. 14 24 3/4 W. 25" D. 13". Fan blower-model B35. \$125. Call 526-5640.

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TWO 19" PORTABLE TELEVISION SETS. Perfect for rentals or spare rooms. \$20 each. Call 369-5863.

ANTIQUE WOODEN ROCKING CHAIR FROM LATE 1800'S. Fully refinished. \$100. Call 369-5863.

AVON CAPE COD RED GLASS – 8 piece place setting. 64 pieces. \$385. Also, accessory pieces available. Call 828-524-3614.

SET OF 4 ORIGINAL RIMS/TIRES FROM TOYOTA SOLARA – 16" x 6 1/2" with mounted Bridgestone Potenza tires 215-60-R16 M&S. \$500. Call Wolfgang at 526-8396 or 526-4603, evenings.

ANTIQUE WALNUT DINING TABLE with two 10 1/2 inch leaves, \$250; six oak pressed back chairs. Very good condition. \$300. Whirlpool upright freezer, \$100; 80,000 BTU propane central heat unit, \$100 and 60-gallon propane hot water heater, \$75. Call 526-0036 or 421-1159.

DESK (LARGE) WITH MATCHING CREDENZA, oak, leather chair. \$850. Call 743-6869.

4 BOARD PINE DINING TABLE - \$300. Early American New England spinning wheel - \$225. 526-2671

GOLF CLUBS CLASSIC – SET OF MacGregor Tourney 9 irons (2-9 P.W.) 1980. Persimmon Drivers, new. \$50. Used \$25. Also miscellaneous items cheap. Call 706-746-3046. (Sky Valley).

DOUBLE UPHOLSTERED HEAD BOARD with 4 matching valences. \$35 for all. Blue and yellow plaid. Call 526-3251.

MR. HEATER – 75,000 BTU. Forced Air Heater. Like New. \$110. Call 526-3206.

TABLE SAW – 9" with 4" Joiner. All one stand. \$75. Call 526-3206.

PFALTZGRAFF "HEIRLOOM" DISHES. Complete service for 8 plus numerous serving pieces, extras and accessories. Too much to list. \$300 Call (828) 631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylvia area.

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8 SOLID OAK, LADDERBACK dining room chairs with woven seats. \$800 for set. Call 526-3048.

UNUSUAL OLD OAK ROCKER. \$225. Call 526-3647.

1930S CHILD'S WICKER ROCKING CHAIR. \$175. Call 526-3647.

1930S WICKER DOLL CARRIAGE. \$200. Call 526-3647.

OLD OAK MIRROR TOWEL RACK. \$85. Call 526-3647.

TWO LOW-BACK SOUTHWESTERN-LOOKING UPHOLSTERED CHAIRS. \$400. Call 526-5056.

RED WICKER CHAISE LOUNGE WITH PAD. \$250. Call 526-5056.

5-PC BEDROOM SET C.1920 Bed/Chest of Drawers/Vanity-stlye Dresser/Stool/Mirror. Rosewood inlay. Original brass hardware. Good condition. \$995. 828-200-1160 or highlandsnative@yahoo.com

CRAFTSMAN 10" RADIAL ARM SAW WITH STAND. Old but used very little. Excellent working

• CLASSIFIEDS •

condition. \$150. 828/787-2177.

HEWLETT PACKARD 15" CRT MONITOR in good working condition with all connection cord included. "FREE." Call Randy at 828-488-2193.

COLONIAL GLASS – set of 12 Sherbet Goblets, and dessert plates. \$35. Call 526-4063.

TANZANITE LOOSE STONES: I have for sale 10 gorgeous oval cut 1-carat Tanzanite stones which would make beautiful earrings, bracelet, necklace, or a cluster ring. These stones are AAA+++ quality grade. Each stone is priced at \$400 each or discounted for a multiple stone purchase. Call 828-488-2193 and ask for Randy.

WATER PURIFYING CHLORINATOR PUMP with large heavy duty plastic holding tank. Was \$75. Now \$50. Call Randy at 828-488-2193.

PLASTIC OUTDOOR TABLE: Hunter green 36"x36" in like new condition. \$10. Call Randy at 828-488-2193.

DECK CHAIR WITH MATCHING FOOT RESTS – \$20. Call 526-5367.

DRESSING MIRROR – \$5. Call 526-5367.

STEEL TYPEWRITER TABLE – \$5. Call 526-5367.

TWO TWIN CREAM COLORED BED-SPREADS – \$6 each. Call 526-5367.

3-TIERED GLASS CORNER SHELF \$10. Call 526-5367.

TWO ELECTRIC WATER COOLERS for sale. Approximately 38" tall x 12" square. Put bottled water on top. \$50 each. OBO. Call 526-3262

7 JIM SHORE LAMPS BY ENESCO For sale. Call 828-787-1292. Prices range from \$70-\$125.

FREE BRICK FRONT FOR BUILT-IN FIRE-PLACE. W-68", H-52" Call: 828-349-3320

LENOX SPICE JARS, full set mint condition, original price \$45 each. Also jewelry call 369-0498. 7-9 p.m.

GEISHA GIRL NIPPON TEAPOT, rattan bails handle circa 1891-1921, Creamer/Covered Sugar Set, Tea set/ rice bowls 369-0498 7-9 p.m.

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

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.

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

MISC. ITEMS – 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 – drop-leaf. rope carved legs. Seats 4-10 people. \$1,500

obo 828-787-1515

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)

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1997 FORD F250 CREW CAB — 4WD. 75,000 original miles. 460 8 CY, 5 SP, Short WB, Black, one owner. 35" tires. 3" lift. \$8,500 or OBO. Call 526-3824.

1984 JEEP CJ7 – Rebuilt 304. 10,000 miles. 8 CY, 4 SP, 4WD, Front Bush Guard. 35" tires. 6" lift. Headers. Good condition. \$8,500. OBO. Call 526-3824.

02 DUTCHMEN 27' LITE TRAVEL TRAILER. – Slidout. Queen MBR, sleeps 6. \$12,000. OBO. Call 526-3824.

15-FT. DUAL AXLE TRAILER FOR HAULING TRACTORS FOR TRADE – Worth \$750. OBO. Call 526-3824.

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LANDSCAPE CLEANUP – leaves, gutters and more. Call Juan at 200-9249 or 526-8525.

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

... K-4 SCHOOL continued from page 13

phases and to save money.

"If we take down the old school, the need for an upwards of \$100,000 retaining wall is eliminated because we can toe the building into the slope instead of building a retaining wall first," he said. "Also, we can move the footprint back away from the property line which means extra space for grease traps, for generators, the preservation of trees and a more accommodating situation for neighbors," said Watson. "But mainly it's a safety issue. We won't have to worry or have limited construction time, traffic and loading and unloading logistics to work out and we can do the earthmoving when it should really be done, in the beginning of a job instead of the end."

Doing earthmoving in the beginning eliminates by-products of that scenario – that of air-borne dust and particles and the tracking of dirt into the school.

The current plan involves moving the current 150 Iotla School students into Cowee where the older students will occupy modu-

lar units with the younger students occupying the classrooms in the main school.

Watson said once construction starts it will take 18 months to complete the school – or two school years.

"I understand what you are saying, but you are asking parents and students to sacrifice two years and the older students won't reap the benefits of the new Iotla School," said Commissioner Beale.

The new Iotla School will be 92,500 sq. ft and will be able to hold 650 students. The current Iotla School has 150 students.

The school is estimated to cost \$165 per sq. ft., though Watson said concrete costs are expected to increase the first of the month.

The cost to set up, electrify and water/sewer the six modular units needed at Cowee is about \$90,000.


At this point it's up the Macon County Commission to decide if it wants to allocate the funds to move forward with the 5-6 School.

– Kim Lewicki

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Scruggs benefit Saturday

On Saturday, Nov. 22 at the Cartoogechaye School in Franklin there is a benefit for Justin Scruggs to help with medical bills. Justin is 19 years old.

He recently sustained a gun shot to the face. He has had a lot of facial injury and needs years of reconstructive surgery. At this point, he has no vision.

The event is 5 p.m. until, at the school. There will be exciting raffle items including a set of braces donated by Dr. Ralph Kurti, a cake walk, kids' games, music, hotdogs, BBQ and more.

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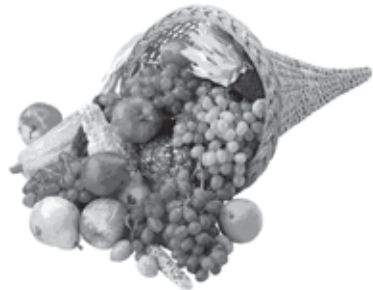
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• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wheeler, Goodloe, Bishop join board of Community Care Clinic

Wheeler to serve as new Medical Director



New Community Care Clinic board members David Wheeler (who is also the clinic's new medical director), Travis Goodloe and Sandy Bishop pause for a smile.

The Community Care Clinic now has a new Medical Director and three new board members to help it provide the area's uninsured with healthcare.

David Wheeler, Travis Goodloe and Sandy Bishop are joining the board, replacing Don Mullen and Bruce Berryhill, whose terms are expiring, and Mark Heffington, who is leaving the area.

Wheeler will also serve as Medical Director, replacing Heffington.

"We are so grateful to these new board members for selflessly volunteering their expertise to help guide our clinic," said Jerry Hermanson, the clinic's executive director. "We also appreciate the service of Don Mullen, Bruce Berryhill and Mark Heffington, who have given so much to get us to

where we are today."

Wheeler is a family medicine physician in private practice at Mountain Area Family Medicine in Cashiers, which he started and co-owns with Heffington. Wheeler also attends patients at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and the Fidelia-Eckerd Living Center, and he covers the emergency room there. He hails from Kentucky, where he attended medical school at Vanderbilt. He did his residency in Asheville and then moved to the Highlands-Cashiers area in 1988, when he opened his practice.

"I think the Community Care Clinic is a very needed outreach program," Wheeler said on why he is helping the clinic as medical director and board member. "I want to do what I can to try to help see it flourish

and be successful."

Goodloe is a retired pediatrics and emergency medicine physician from Mobile, Ala., who now lives in Highlands. He served on the board of the International Friendship Center, is an elder at the First Presbyterian Church and volunteers at the Bookworm and the Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

"I hope with my knowledge I can add some expertise and insight to the clinic," Goodloe said on why he is helping.

Bishop is a retired board-certified veterinary pathologist and cardiologist who has lived in Glenville full-time for the past 10 years. He was on the faculty at Ohio State University, then spent 25 years on the faculty of the University of Alabama at Birmingham as Emeritus Professor doing research and teaching. Locally, he served on the board of Habitat for Humanity for four years, and he serves on the board of the Cashiers Community Fund, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina. He has worked with Cashiers' free dental clinic and is active in the Church of the Good Shepherd's Outreach Committee.

"Fifteen percent of the people in this country don't have medical insurance, and it may be higher around here," Bishop said. "I feel we have a mission to try to help those folks who don't have the resources. The Lord has been good to me, and I feel I need to give some of it back."

For more information on the Community Care Clinic or to make a tax-deductible donation, call (828) 526-1991.

Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board adds five new members

Five new members have officially joined the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors.

New faces on the board include a Cashiers educator, a former executive with Georgia Pacific and hospital CEO, a well-known leader in various Highlands civic organizations, and the new chairman of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation. Lynn Dillard, Ronald P. Hogan, Frances Oakley, and Earle Mauldin are all joining the hospital board for the first time. Cashiers family physician David M. Wheeler, MD, returns to the board by virtue of his position as the new chief of the hospital's Medical Staff.

While there are number of new faces around the board table for the coming year, the board's officers remain unchanged for another year. Bud Smith of Cashiers remains chairman. Vice chairman Donald C. Mullen, MD, of Highlands, and Secretary Brenda



Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Board of Directors Chairman Bud Smith (second from left) recently welcomed five new members to the board for the 2008-2009 year. Among the new members were from left: Lynn Dillard of Cashiers; Foundation Board Chairman Earle Mauldin, of Highlands, Atlanta, and Ponte Vedra, FL; and Ron Hogan, of Highlands, Atlanta and Naples, FL. Other new members not available for the photo are Frances Oakley, of Highlands and Charlotte, NC, and Cashiers family physician David Wheeler, MD, who is the new chief of the hospital's Medical Staff.

• See HOSPITAL page 25

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Wayah's Jeff Cloer earns LUTCF professional designation

Jeff Cloer of Wayah Insurance Group has earned the Life Underwriting Training Council Fellow professional designation. The LUTCF is conferred only upon those individuals who meet or exceed the exacting qualification standards determined by two organizations that jointly sponsor the designation – The American College and the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA).

The designation marks an agent's long-term commitment to professionalism on behalf of clients, establishes the agent's

competence and business experience, marks a commitment to the American College's and NAIFA's Code of Ethics and fosters additional professional development. In addition to successful completion of the five course curriculum, LUTCF candidates must also complete an ethics course and be a member in good standing with NAIFA.

Since the introduction of the LUTCF designation in 1984, only 67,000 individuals in the United States have earned the designation.

... HOSPITAL continued from page 24

Stewart, of Cashiers, were also re-elected to their leadership posts.

Dr. Lynn Dillard of Cashiers spent her professional career as an educator. She earned her Ph.D. at Emory University in Atlanta in 1993, where she had also earned her master's degree some 19 years earlier. Prior to retiring in January of 2007, she was an adjunct instructor at Western Carolina University and director of the Exceptional Children's Program and Coordinator of Student Support Services for Highly-At-Risk Children in the Jackson County School System.

During her distinguished career she

served a number of professional organizations, most recently as a director of the state board of the NC Association of Alternative Educators. She was named Educator of the Year at different points by both the Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce and the Jackson County Chamber.

Dr. Dillard has also been active in many state, regional, and local civic organizations. She was named Woman of the Year two years running by the Jackson County Community Development Council, and has served as president of the Cashiers Community Council,

• See HOSPITAL page 26

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... HOSPITAL continued from page 25

the Jackson County Community Development Council, and the Blue Ridge School PTO in the past, as well as being a board member of a number of county and Cashiers area charities. In fact, in the late 1980s she served on the steering committee for the campaign of the new Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

Ron Hogan, who divides his time among Highlands, Atlanta and Naples, FL, spent 27 years with Georgia Pacific Corp., one of the country's leading manufacturers of forest product products. He joined the company's sales department in his native Houston after graduating from the University of Houston in Business Administration. He worked his way up the corporate ladder, becoming President and COO in the late 1980s and early 1990s, before retiring as the vice chairman of the company's board of directors in 1992 to run his own real estate investment company in Atlanta. However, while serving as a volunteer board member of St. Joseph's Health System in Atlanta in 1995, he was persuaded to come out of retirement to be the organization's president and CEO – a position he held until 2002.

He currently serves on the board of Georgia Mutual Insurance and is a past member of the board of Wachovia Bank of Georgia. In addition to belonging to a numerous professional organizations, he has been active in community affairs in both Atlanta, including being vice chairman of the board of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and vice

chairman of the board of the Atlanta College of Art. He is a trustee emeritus of Westminster Schools in Atlanta.

A former stock broker with Dean Witter, Frances S. Oakley and her husband Obie now operate a commercial printing brokerage business in Charlotte. Born in Charlotte, she has been coming to Highlands since the 1930s when her grandmother first bought a summer home here. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was a member of the History Honors Society.

In addition to serving currently as president of the Highlands Community Child Development Center, she is also a member of the executive committee of the Highlands Biological Station Foundation. In the past she has served as chairperson of the HCCDC Building Campaign and as a board member of Highlands Country Club. Previously in Charlotte she was president of the local chapter of the National Alzheimer's Association and a member of the Junior League.

Earle Mauldin, who divides his time among Highlands, Atlanta and Ponte Vedra, FL, is a former president and CEO of Bell-South Enterprises and vice chairman of Bell-South. In addition to chairing the Bob Jones Golf Tournament Committee at Highlands Country Club, he also serves as a member of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Board of Directors, and, as of Oct. 1, chairman of the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital

Foundation board. He joined the hospital's Foundation board two years, and has also served on the hospital board's Finance Committee for the past year.

He is a former chairman of the board of trustees of the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and former member of the board of the Atlanta Community Foundation.

As the new Chief of the Medical Staff for the coming year, family physician David Wheeler, MD, has served several terms on the hospital board in the past, both as a voting and non-voting member. He served as a regular voting member from 1993-97 and again as a voting member when he represented the Medical Staff's Medicine Committee several years ago. He has also served as a non-voting member under the old board structure by virtue of previously being Chief of Staff. Under the new board structure implemented two years ago, the Chief is now a full voting member.

Dr. Wheeler earned his medical degree from the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, TN, before undertaking his residency in family medicine at the Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville. After completing his training, he joined Dr. Mark Heffington in Mountain Area Family Medicine in Cashiers, where he has practiced for the past 20 years. He is certified by the American Board of Family Practice, and a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Southern Medical Association, and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society.

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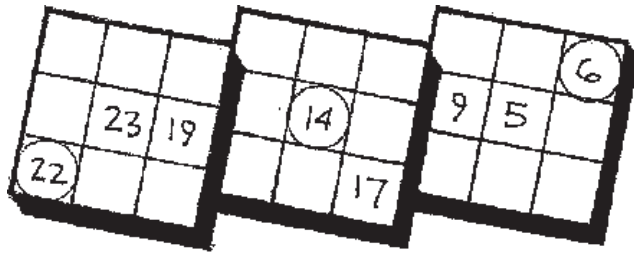
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#BN2F Level of Difficulty – Easy

THE SETUP:

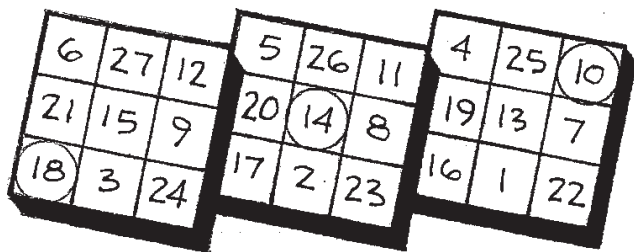
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through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

THE CHALLENGE:

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

Email: pseudocube8@aol.com.

Solution to #AZ2F in Nov. 13 issue



Sudo-Grams® 2008

by Pete Sarjeant and Don Cook

OBJECT:

A mystery word or phrase using all different letters is designated by circled squares (other short words will appear when solving, for which a list of meanings is provided). Every puzzle has a different mystery word or phrase (no spaces). Assign different letters to each square of each column and row. In addition, various cells (six, eight or nine) in the puzzle layout have the same different letters (this is like Sudoku but uses letters instead of numbers).

How to Solve:

Determine the different letters among those given. Write in the mystery word using the clue and these letters. 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 blank squares according to the rules noted above. Focus your attention where the least number of letters are needed to complete a line, column or cell.

Mystery Word

#E605

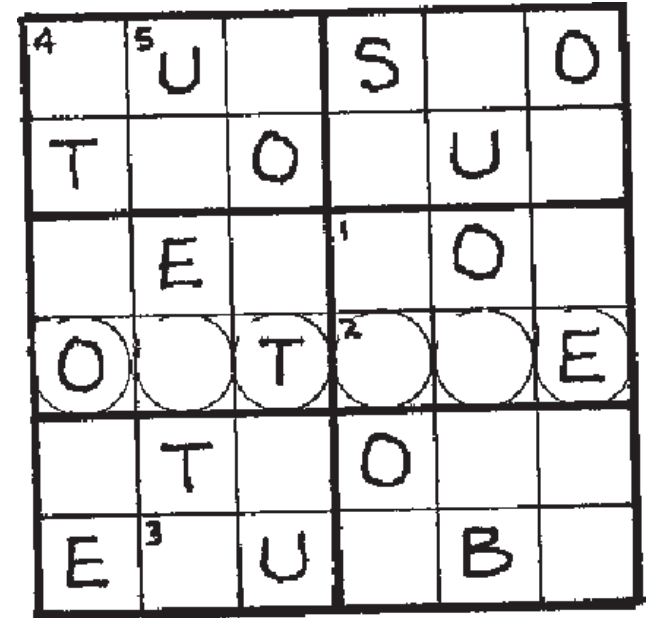
Lacking Intellectual Power (6)

Across

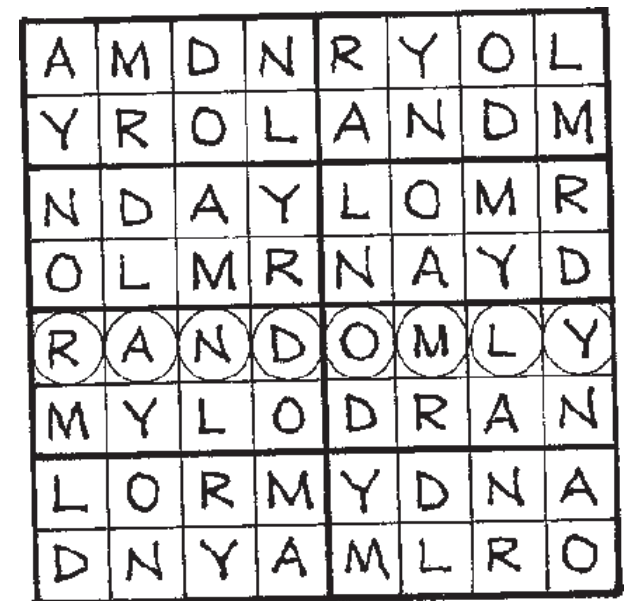
1. African parasitic fly (3)
2. Utilize (3)
3. Not in (3)

Down

4. British Thermal Unit (Abbr.) (2)
5. We (obj.) (2)



Solution to Nov. 13 Sudo-Grams



POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT ENTRIES

The following are the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for Nov. 2-19. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Nov. 2

- At 10:35 p.m., officers responded to a call of an assault on a female on Old Farm Road.

Nov. 5

- At 11:15 p.m., officers responded to a two vehicle accident on U.S. 64 and Holt Circle Road.

Nov. 7

- At 6 a.m. a glass display at Buck's Coffee Cafe was reported smashed.
- At 12:30 p.m. officers responded to a call of a suspicious person hanging around Bear Mountain Outfitters.
- At 11:10 p.m., officers assisted an intoxicated girl who was lost and sitting on S. 4th Street.

Nov. 8

- At 10 p.m., officers responded to an accident between two vehicles on Log Cabin Road.
- A motorist was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 20 zone at N.C. 106 and Main streets.

Nov. 9

- At 10:44 p.m., Jose Manuel Cruz, 24, of Cashiers, was arrested

for DWI when he was stopped and it was discovered he was driving without a license. He was released on a secured \$500 bond.

- At 11:15 p.m., Ward William Chapman, 41, was arrested for DWI at U.S. 64 and Holt Circle Road. He was released on a \$1,000 bond.

Nov. 10

- At 10:25 a.m., Aledandro Torres, 28, and Juan Torres, 22, both of Cullowhee, were arrested for driving without a license on Chestnut Street.

Nov. 11

- At 11:30 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Fifth and Main streets.
- At 2 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at Fourth and Church streets.

Nov. 13

- At 8:40 a.m., a motorist on U.S. 64 west was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.

Nov. 14

- At 11:40 a.m., officers responded to an accident at U.S. 64 east and Foreman Road.

Nov. 17

- At 8:45 a.m., a motorist on U.S. 64 west was cited for speeding 50 mph in a 35 zone.
- At 4:30 p.m., Highlands Pharmacy reported a customer attempting

to have prescriptions filled for narcotics by fraudulent means.

- At 5:15 p.m., Carl Ray Dover, 60, of Sylva, was arrested for forgery and fraud and released on a \$2,000 secured bond.

During the week, officers issued 3 warning tickets and responded to 7 alarm activation.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Nov. 12-19

Nov. 12

- The dept. provided mutual aid to Jackson County concerning a brush fire out of control, but the call was cancelled.

Nov. 14

- The dept. responded to an two vehicle accident on U.S. 64 west between Bust Your Butt Falls and Goldmine Road. There were no injuries.

Nov. 15

- The dept. responded to a vehicle accident on Buck Creek Road. There were no injuries. The dept. directed traffic.

Nov. 17

- The dept. responded to the call of a structure fire at a residence on Picklesimer Cemetery Road but it was false.

Nov. 19

- The dept. responded to a fire alarm at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road but it was false.

