

Highlands' Newspaper

FREE

Volume 6, Number 40

PDF Version – www.HighlandsInfo.com

Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008

This Week

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

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

Mondays & Wednesdays

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

Mon., Wed., & Fri.

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

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- Highlands Rotary Club noon at the Highlands Conference Center.

Wednesdays

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

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

Thursdays

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

Friday & Saturday

- Live music at The Rib Shack every Fri. and Sat. night from 8-11 p.m.

- Chad Reed at piano at ...on the Verandah restaurant from 7 p.m.

Friday-Sunday

- At Skyline Lodge & Restaurant. Hal Philips at the piano, 7-9 p.m.

Saturdays

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

Thursday, Oct. 2

- An Evening with Casablanca at Jack's at Skyline. Dinner, dancing, movie and prizes. \$50 per person. Call 526-2121 for reservations.

- Fuel Assistance Sign-up at the Highlands Emergency Council, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proof of income required. No phone call sign-up.

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 3-4

- Trunk Show at Acom's on Main Street, a SHC Jewelry Sara Hall Clemmer Designs.

- The Bascom's Autumn Auction at OEI's The Farm and the Autumn Leaves Party at The Bascom. Tickets are \$225 for both events or \$35 for just the "Leaves" party. Call 526-4949.

Friday, Oct. 3

- Montana Skies in concert at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater's Studio on Main, Call 828-342-9197.

Saturday, Oct. 4

- Spaghetti Dinner Raffle & Auc-

tion Benefit for David Buck and family at High Country Cafe at 5 p.m.

- A memorial service for Julie Miller, the sous chef at ...on the Verandah, at the restaurant from 12-3 p.m.

- At Cyrano's from 1-3 p.m. Susan Wilson will sign copies of "Come to the Table: Food, Fellowship and a Celebration of God's Bounty."

- Charity Fair for the whole family at the Highlands Rec Park, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. BBQ plates for sale, a silent auction, a bake sale and a free yard sale. All proceeds will go to help needy Highlands School students and leftover items will be taken to F.A.I.T.H. (Fighting Abuse in the Home) in Clayton.

- At the Instant Theater, stand-up Comedy with Al Ernst and Dr. Babylon with music by Rocco and Brian Two shows: 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Call 828-342-9197 for tickets.

- The Fall Gorge Road Clean Up Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Sign up by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 526-5841.

- At The Bascom, needlefelting with Teresa Bouchonnet. For more information or to register, call 526-4949.

- Bats program at the Highlands Nature Center, 3:30 - 5 pm. Come for an informative presentation featuring live bats! All ages, \$2 per person.

- Third Annual Scaly Mountain Turkey Shoot & Festival from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Volunteer Fire Station property on Hale Ridge Road in Scaly Mountain. For details call 787-1860.

- At Summit One Gallery, "Canine View of Sport and Field" artist's reception 5-7 p.m. South 2nd Street.

Sunday, Oct. 5

- Blessing of the Animals at the Nature Center amphitheater at 1 p.m.




- Highlands-Cashiers Life Chain to stand against abortion on N. 4th Street across from Town Hall from 2-3 p.m.

- At Cyrano's from 1-3 p.m. Marjorie O'Neill Eubank will sign copies of "Roger, A Love Story." Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488

Sat.-Wed., Oct. 6-10

- At The Bascom, figurative oil painting with M. Kathryn Massey.

Weekend Weather:

FRI	SAT	SUN
		
64-40°F	66-42°F	67-44°F

Town Board meeting wrap-up

Wednesday night the Town Board set three public hearings for Nov. 5 – two concerning rezoning and one concerning amending the built-upon percentage ordinance.

Rezoning discussion centered on establishing con-

ditional use zoning for requests rather than rezoning. Both cases heard by the Planning Board at its last meeting were sent to the Town Board. The planning board voted 3-2 to deny Billy Hawkins request and voted 3-2 to grant Thomas Young's request.

At the Town Board meeting, Commissioner Dennis DeWolf initiated discussion about conditional use zoning. "The Planning Board was split on the vote. I think we need to be aware of what a person has in mind for a prop-

• See MEETING page 19

County ready to bid animal shelter

The final step toward creating a county-owned and -operated animal shelter took place at Monday night's county commission meeting.

At the continuation meeting, commissioners met primarily to read the final draft of the revised animal control ordinance – considered the backbone to controlling the county's stray problem — and to finalize plans prior to bidding out construction of the animal shelter.

The ordinance

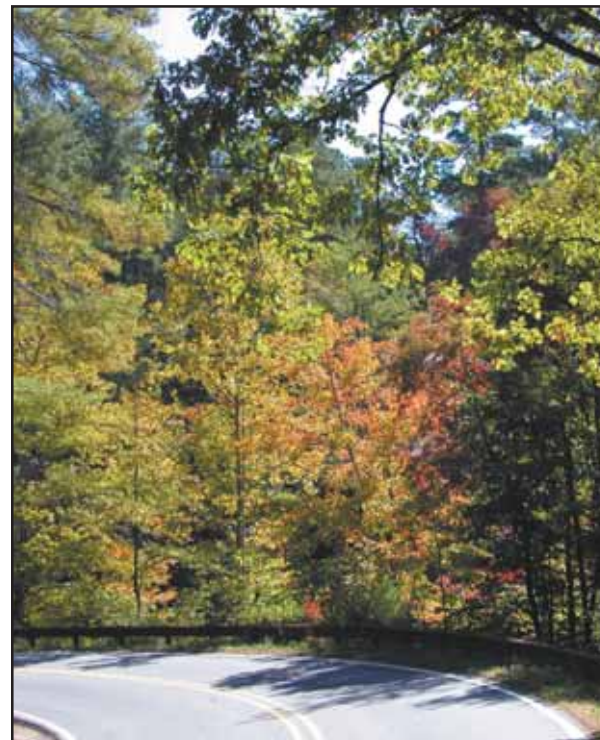
After three years of work by the county-appointed animal control committee, an extensive revised ordinance has been hammered out with final touches applied Monday night prior to the commission meeting.

A preliminary, barebones animal control ordinance was adopted by the county in Sept. 2006 mainly to protect citizens from dangerous animals. The ordinance discussed Monday night is much more involved.

With the help of County Attorney Lesley Moxley every "I" has been dotted and "T" crossed to ensure the ordinance is not only enforceable

• See SHELTER page 22

Fall color is on its way!



Byway vistas in Highlands are beginning to show hints of fall color.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

Gomes indicted on 5 counts, arrest pending

This week Superior Court of Macon County ordered the arrest of Mario Gomes, previous CEO of Old Edwards Hospitality Group, on five counts of obtaining property on false pretenses.

Several months ago, whistle blowers in the Old Edwards Hospitality Group bookkeeping department

initiated an investigation into accounts payable transactions concerning the Gomes property on Ron Sanders Lane.

They alleged Gomes hired contractors who had worked on property owned by Old Edwards Hospitality Group to work at his private

• See ARREST page 39

• Inside •

Police FAQ	2
Salzarulo	5
From the Mayor	11
From Turtle Pond ..	14
Coach's Corner	17
Spiritually Sp.	27
Upcoming Events ..	28
Classifieds	34
Police & Fire	37
Fun & Games	39

'Cove' new name, 'Old Edwards Club'

Now that the Highlands Cove property owners are in the loop, it's official — The Old Edwards Hospitality Group is the new owner of the golf course and recreational amenities at the Cove.

As of Nov. 3, 2008, the golf course, clubhouse, restaurant and other recreational amenities will close for renovations and when they open back up mid-May of 2009, Highlands Cove will be the Old Edwards Club.

For the month of October, all will stay as it is.

The gated community will be a "country club" version of the Old Edwards Hospitality Group featuring a private, limited membership of 100 founding members.

All Highlands Cove property owners will receive first option on the "heavily discounted" Founding Membership cost of \$35,000. Memberships will be limited and available from Oct. 1 – Nov. 15. After 45 days memberships will be extended to outside parties. After 90 days the "founding membership" will be discontinued and the membership fee will increase significantly, likely double,

• See COVE page 25

• THE PLATEAU'S POSITION •

• FAQ ABOUT LAW ENFORCEMENT •

Part 1

By Chief W.E. Harrell
Highlands Police Department

Questions sometimes arise about investigations & criminal activity. To help everyone understand why and why not certain cases are pursued or why some people are arrested or questioned and others not, over the next couple of weeks in Highlands' Newspaper, I will attempt to answer common questions.

1. What actions must the police department take prior to arresting someone for a crime?

Generally, for a law enforcement officer to arrest and take a citizen into custody, the officer must go before a magistrate judge and demonstrate he or she has probable cause to seek the charge and make an arrest.

The officer must make a sworn statement before the magistrate as to the facts, information and evidence that he or she has concerning the crime and who committed the offense. Based on the officer's testimony, the magistrate determines whether all the elements for a particular crime have been met.

The elements for a crime are specifically identified by established criminal law and are clearly outlined in a manual covering North Carolina criminal statutes.

If the magistrate determines that the elements of the crime have been met and that there is probable cause that the person the officer identified is responsible for the crime, an arrest warrant is issued by the magistrate. If the magistrate finds that all the elements are not met, or that it is questionable that the person being accused was involved, the magistrate can refuse to issue an arrest warrant.

The term probable cause means "fair probability." In other words, if the average citizen heard the information concerning a criminal offense before a magistrate, that ordinary citizen would find it reasonable to believe the person accused was directly involved in the commission of the crime. When a magistrate determines that there is probable cause, he or she is not determining that the accused person is guilty. The magistrate is simply verifying that there is validity and credibility to the charges and that the case should be moved forward to a hearing in the District Court.

The magistrate system in North Carolina is a check and balance system to

insure that law enforcement officers have valid and substantial reasons for charging a person with a crime. For certain misdemeanor offenses, such as trespass, individual citizens can also go before a magistrate requesting charges against someone who they believe has committed a crime against them or their family.

In some instances a law enforcement officer will arrest someone without a warrant. For example, in a domestic violence incident where it is evident that a person has been assaulted, and that a dangerous situation exists for the victim and/or others, the officer can arrest the person who did the assault without first getting an arrest warrant. In these cases, the law enforcement officer will make an arrest and immediately take the person in their custody before a magistrate. At that time the magistrate will hear a sworn statement as to why the law enforcement officer arrested the person in custody. If the magistrate determines there is probable cause, a magistrate's order will be issued charging the person in custody with a crime. If no probable cause is established, the person in custody will be released.

This procedure applies to DWI cases also.

All people arrested and taken into custody are brought before a magistrate for an initial appearance. The person in custody is explained the charges on the arrest warrant or magistrate order, and informed of their District Court date. During this initial appearance, a conditions of release order is issued by the magistrate setting any restrictions and the amount of bond for the now defendant in the case.

In most cases, such as a DWI, the defendant can post the bond at the magistrate's office and then return home.

2. How dependent is the police department on the District Attorney's office when it comes to prosecuting criminals?

The law enforcement officials confer with a district attorney on a regular basis concerning pending cases, especially major felonies. But, in most situations the law enforcement officer will go before a magistrate to obtain charges and arrest warrants. Inevitably, the DA's office must give it their blessings for prosecution to occur.

• More questions will be featured in the Oct. 9 issue of Highlands' Newspaper.

• FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT •

School district on top of fuel situation

Jerry Hodgkin and Randy Stoudemire, in the transportation department for the Macon County School System are doing a superior job monitoring our consumption and available reserves and have provided me with the following fuel summary as of Thursday last week.

Diesel

We have a 15,000-gallon capacity storage tank on site at the central office in Franklin which has 9,300 gallons of diesel remaining. The fuel truck used to deliver diesel to the buses has 1,400 gallons of diesel remaining in the tank. The tanks at Nantahala and Highlands combined have approximately 1,300 gallons remaining. The total diesel available in district as last Thursday was 12,000 gallons.

Our school system uses approximately 400 gallons of diesel per day so we currently have about 30 school days of fuel remaining.

We typically order and receive a truck load of diesel fuel every 3-4 weeks.



**Macon County
Schools
Superintendent
Dan Brigman**

As a result of our field trip restrictions applied this semester, a noticeable reduction in fuel consumption is evident when comparing this year's information to our fuel statistics from this time last year. Therefore, the field trip moratorium has been applied at a prime time to assist us with our fuel situation.

Gasoline

With the majority of our fuel consumption being diesel, gasoline use is limited to fleet cars and some maintenance vehicles. Our gasoline status

is as follows:

We have 3,000 gallons in reserves with daily use at approximately 100 gallons so we have about 30 school days of gasoline remaining.

I feel confident that we are fine at this time and, unless the situation takes a turn for the worse, we will not need to consider any additional transportation changes or restrictions.

• See FUEL page 16

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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• MILESTONES •

Feldkamp inducted into 'hall of fame'

On September 6, 2008 Sue Feldkamp travelled to Central Methodist University in Missouri to be inducted into the Hairston Hall of Fame in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments as a coach and educa-



Sue Feldkamp

tor. She was responsible for the establishment of the Women's Athletic Program at CMU in 1973 and served as head women's athletic coach from 1973-1977. She also served at the head coach for women's basketball, volleyball, softball, was the cheerleader sponsor and an Assistant Professor of Physical Education.

Her team won the first Missouri Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (MAIAW) Small College Basketball Tournament in 1973-74 with only seven players.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Education in 1971 and a Master of Science degree in Physical Education in 1972 from Eastern Kentucky University.

Sue works at Cedar Creek Racquet Club in Cashiers and contributes to the children's program and the pool programs. She is a member of the Highlands-Cashiers Players last seen on stage as Snookie in "The Raindrop Waltz" last fall. Sue participates in the Macon County Senior Games in badminton, softball throw, football throw, discus, and shot put.

Rawlins to perform at Applachian State

Rawlins to perform at Applachian State Callie Rawlins, Highlands School graduate, class of 2006, will perform at the Valborg Theatre in Boone this week in the play "A Shayna Maidel" through Sunday.

She will play the part of Rose. Barbara Lebow's "A Shayna Maidel" (translated as "pretty girl") reunites a Polish Jewish family shattered and mostly destroyed in the Holocaust. Lucia, a survivor of the death camps, at last is able to come to America to join her sister and father who came some 14 years before.

She arrives in New York in 1946, barely able to comprehend the Americanized way of her younger sister Rose. Lucia's assimilation into her new surroundings and Rose's growing awareness of her family's tragic history are at the center of this touching drama.

Through flashbacks and dream sequences, we see the life that Lusie had in Poland, and that which she hopes to have in America.

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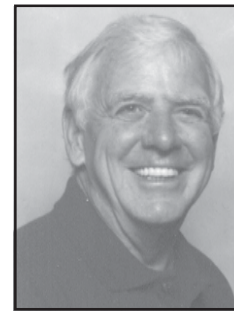
• LAUGHING AT LIFE •

The world's end

No, no, no, I'm not talking about that cute little boutique in downtown Atlanta with the same name. I'm talking about the real deal. You know, fini, global toast, no more caramel/coffee ice cream shakes, no more nothing. It's supposed to happen around December 23, 2012, when the Mayan calendar comes to an end.

What, you haven't been keeping up with the Mayans? Well, you better start 'cause it's only four years away. I have already ordered two extra cases of Merlot and a case of Viagra. I say, "Let the party begin." For true believers, the end of time is an awesome moment to be celebrated.

Actually, the end of time for each of us is when we croak. In that moment of transition, it really is the end of everything mortal. Once I'm tucked away nicely in my urn, will I really fret over global warming or



Fred Wooldridge

Feedback
is encouraged!
email:

askfredanything@aol.com

the price of gas? Oh, I almost forgot. I'm having my ashes flushed down the toilet. I've always wanted to experience the inside of a septic tank with the lid on and, ha, I will be safe from nuclear attack.

Allow me to proceed. In the mythology of the Aztecs, in case you didn't know, the first age of mankind ended with animals devouring humans. (Hey, don't blame me; I was not around for that.) The second age was finished by wind, the third by fire, and the fourth by water. The present age, the

fifth epoch, is called Nahui-Olin (common spelling). That means Sun of Earthquakes which began in 3113 BC and will end on December 24, 2011. Okay, so the Mayans were off one year. This destruction of all human existence on earth coincides closely with that determined by the brothers McKenna, whoever they are, in *The Invisible Landscape* as "the end of history" indicated by their computer analysis of the ancient Chinese oracle-calendar, the I Ching. (I can't believe you're still reading this.)

Now I'm worried. Bartender, another pitcher of Moose Drool and be quick about it! Did you know I swallow my Viagra with Moose Drool beer?

Let's get back to the Mayans. About the time Jesus walked our planet, the Mayans had already created an extremely accurate calendar that ended the moment the world would come to an end. How did they know?

And here's another little thingy I can't figure out. In 100 BC, did all the calendars count backwards to the year zero? How did they know how to do that? Definitely needs more study.

Actually, I hate calendars. If there were no calendars, no one would know how old they are and doctors would starve to death. If you woke tomorrow morning and didn't know how old you were, how old would you guess you are while looking in the mirror? Personally, I look younger after stumbling around for an hour, how 'bout you? I also look much older and scarier in the nude.

If you think I'm making fun of some pretty serious stuff, then you are right. And here's my favorite end of time story. Two monks are sitting at a table in a small Italian village playing chess. Then one monk says, "If you knew the world was coming to an end in one minute, what would you do?" The other monk, without looking up from the chessboard said, "I would hurry up my next move." Now that's my kind of monk.

If all of this is confusing or depressing

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• See WOOLDRIDGE page 7

• THE VIEW FROM HERE •

On being someone other than who you are



Dr. Henry Salzarulo

**Feedback is encouraged.
email:**

hsalzarulo@aol.com

Bull asked me the other day if I like Halloween. He asks every year. He knows that I don't like it and don't get it, that I don a costume only grudgingly, and to make him happy, but he asks anyway. Every year he hopes I'll share his enthusiasm. It hasn't happened yet.

There is a lot I don't like about Halloween, not the least of which is the smell of those hideous masks. I don't like sweating under the rubber, or the limited visibility, or the feel of plastic hair against my skin. I like Snickers Fun Size bars, but that's about it. I like full size Snickers even more and those are never Halloween bounty except at Mary Bowman's house. Even after today's Wall Street crash, I can still buy a Snickers any

time I want.

I like bubbling dry ice, but I hate plastic cauldrons. Why doesn't the Dollar Store sell cast iron pots instead? Probably costs too much to ship them from China. I really hate Halloween CDs and adults who look like they're having fun.

Most of the costumes are pretty sleazy, lucky to last the night, but I do enjoy a ripped six-year-old Superman. Years ago, when I lived in Houston, I learned that Halloween had become an adult holiday. I'd been living in Oxford, Ohio, home of Miami University where the kids celebrated everything, included Thursday, so I wasn't surprised that they got drunk on Halloween. But it was in Houston that I first saw more or less normal adults celebrate with costume parties. It seemed odd to me at the time, and at the risk of sounding stodgy, it still does. Adults pretend to enjoy the parties in pretty much the same way that the pretend to like raw oysters, with lots of booze and cocktail sauce.

It was in Houston that I was invited to my first grown-up Halloween party.

That's when I learned that there were costume shops that rented outfits for outrageous amounts, like tuxedo shops, but without the wedding and free wine.

I don't like crowds so I hated the scene at the costume shop on the Saturday before Halloween. I joined a line and waited patiently for assistance from a clerk. When I finally reached the

head of the line, I found that I had been waiting in a check-out line. The clerk, who offered no help, was eager to ring up a sale and get me out of the store. He got half his wish. My date decided to be a frontier dance hall girl. I promised that I'd come back during the week, when the crowd would be smaller, but it was a lie.

•See SALZARULO page 9

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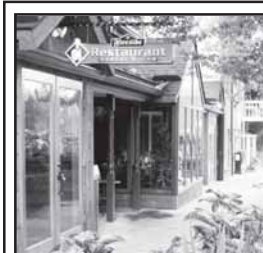
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Friday, Nov. 14

Domaine Serene, Wine Spectrum Luncheon.

Boutique Winery Gala, "Battle of the Sexes"

Women Winemakers vs. Male Winemakers "Battle of the Sexes" Gala Cocktail Party.

Saturday, Nov. 15

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DISTRICT IV
Dwight C. Vinson

Macon County Association of Educators candidates' forum to be held Thursday, Oct. 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the Franklin High School Fine Arts Center

All candidates running for county commissioner and the school board have been invited to the forum. So far, two of the three county commissioner candidates have accepted the invitation and six of the 10 school board candidates have also committed to appear.

Doors open at 6:30 for a brief reception

and refreshments in the Fine Art Center lobby. The forum will begin promptly at 7 p.m. with opening statements from each of the candidates. Following the opening comments, the candidates will field questions submitted by audience members. Anyone may submit a question to a review panel of the Macon County Association of Educators

(MCAE) officers and representatives. From that pool of questions, those questions of the greatest relevance with the goal of covering the broadest spectrum of audience concerns will be asked. Candidates will have two minutes each to respond, followed by the option of a one minute response to the initial responses.

Following the forum, refreshments will be available so candidates can mingle with participants and answer questions on a more informal basis until approximately 9 p.m.

All of these races are open to be voted on by all registered Macon County voters regardless of where they reside in the county. There

•See FORUM page 9

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• VIDEO GUY •

Lars and the Real Girl

The 2007 comedy/somewhat drama starring Ryan Gosling (Half Nelson, Notebook) Emily Mortimer (Dear Frankie), Paul Schneider (Assassination of Jesse James) Kelli Garner (Aviator) and Patricia Clarkson (Far From Heaven). Directed by Craig Gillespie (Mr Woodcock), written by Nancy Oliver (6 Feet Under). The doll, Bianca is played by herself. The movie won multiple awards, including Screen Actors Guild award for Best Performance, an Academy Award nomination for best screenplay, and Golden Globe Award for best actor.

The Storyline: Lars (Gosling) is an amiable but socially inept guy in a small, pleasant town, well liked by his colleagues and family. And he has a new girlfriend, Bianca. So you would think that all his friends would be happy for him, right? So they met on the Internet, so what? That's not that unusual these days, is it? And so what if she doesn't speak English, other people have overcome greater obstacles than that in the quest for true love, haven't they?

So Bianca settles in to the new town, makes friends, gets a part-time job as a model in a clothing store, doing some volunteer work, you know, the kind of things people do in a small town.

Oh, Bianca is a life-sized doll he ordered from an adult website. Lars' brother and sister-in-law (Mortimer and Schneider), working with the local family doctor (Clarkson) work to pretend to accept Bianca as a way of providing therapy for Lars. T

hings continue smoothly for some time, and as the townspeople interact with Bianca, Lars starts interacting with people a little more often, and a little better. Lars starts to have feelings for one of his co workers (Kelli Garner as Margo), he is, however, too much of a gentleman to act on his feelings.

Margo only wishes she had someone as faithful as he, and she is also impressed with his ability to perform CPR on a strangled teddy bear. Without giving away any of the surprise ending (well, it actually ends the way almost all "Boy meets Doll" stories do, don't you know), you sort of get the feeling that somehow, everything will work out for



Stuart Armor

the best.

OK, if this sounds a little strange, it's because it is. No, it's actually A LOT strange. It also is strangely sweet and cute, as well as hilarious. Oliver, the writer, could have gone for cheap laughs, and there are plenty of laughs, but mostly quieter, smarter humor. The characters are well developed and sympathetic, and as Lars grows (and heals) so do many

of the people around him. Well done, gentle comedy, and a very clever story, that ultimately delivers a good message, in a round about way.

For more stories like this (and there are some similar in tone), try Death at a Funeral, Savages, Little Miss Sunshine, Juno, Very Annie Mary, Stranger than Fiction, and not unlike Jimmy Stewart's classic, Harvey. These and about 5,000 other title are available for rent or sale at Movie Stop Video, stop on by and give a look.

... WOOLDRIDGE continued from page 4

you, I am successful. If not, read on. According to the Hebrew calendar, the current year is 5768, give or take a thousand years. This has to be the oldest calendar in existence because it was supposedly created one year before creation. Hmm, I'm totally stumped on that one.

I like the Hebrew calendar because it doesn't predict the end of the world. It predicts the arrival of Mashiach, not to be confused with meshugenah. Mashiach will end the world as we know it and that's a good thing. This part is scary, though, because they also predict dead people will rise from their graves. Holy smoke, I will have to go into hiding. I have loads of dead enemies squirreled away in the ground who will definitely be hunting for me. I think I'll just stay put in my septic tank.

And finally, if you wake in the morning and find the world has actually come to an end, call me at 1-800- who-cares.

Is dying like holding your breath forever? Read Fred's book, *I'm Moving back to Mars.*

HS students meet at the flag pole



Highlands FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) sponsored a prayer time prior to the start of school on Wednesday, Sept. 24, to pray for students, faculty, and the nation. This was in collaboration with the national day of prayer emphasis called "See You at the Pole." Many students, parents, teachers, and community leaders gathered in front of Highlands School. "See You at the Pole" is a student-initiated, student organized, and student-led event. "See You at the Pole™" is not a demonstration, political rally, nor a stand for or against anything. The event is scheduled annually on the fourth Wednesday in September.

Photo by Anne Porter

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• CONSERVATIVE POV •

This one hurts

I have whined from time to time about having to write about serious matters while others choose to dabble in various forms of frivolity. This is another one of those times. While college football being in full swing helps offset the gloomy goings on in financial circles, the reality of Wall Street's miseries is crushing.

Even the joy of the Miami Hurricane's wipeout of Texas A&M in their house can't overcome the weight of the problems facing our national financial structure.

For those of you who actually have a life and don't spend many hours a day reading and watching and listening to what's going on in these matters, I realize the that news over the last few weeks presents a blur of dramatic events, starting with the demise of Bear Stearns. As usual, I'm starting to write this 10 days or more before you read it, and things can and will change by then (now, to you).

so please bear that in mind when you read it. I will now try and explain the situation.

Upon his election, Jimmy Carter initiated and his Democrat Congress passed the Community Reinvestment Act under which the Fed and other financial regulators have pressured/extorted banks into making more loans to less-than-creditworthy barrowers than they would normally be willing to risk. Carter's administration instituted the prohibition against "redlining," a lender's practice of defining certain areas within a community as generically uncreditworthy. Banks were told, if you want to do home loan business in your market area, all individuals therein must be considered.

Then, according to Wikipedia, "In 1995, as a result of interest from Bill Clinton's administration, the implementing regulations for the CRA were strengthened by focusing the financial regulators' attention on institutions' performance in helping to meet community credit needs. These revisions were credited with substantially increasing the number and aggregate amount of loans to small businesses and to low- and moderate-income borrowers for home loans. The revisions allowed the securitization of CRA loans containing subprime mortgages. The first public securitization of CRA loans started in 1997 by Bear Stearns." Sound familiar?

In 2003, the Bush Administration recommended what the NY Times called "the most significant overhaul in the housing finance industry since the savings



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

and loan crisis a decade ago." This change was to move governmental supervision of two of the primary agents guaranteeing subprime loans, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under a new agency created within the Department of the Treasury.

The changes were generally opposed along party lines and eventually failed to happen. Representative Barney Frank (D-MA), now head of the Senate Banking

Committee, claimed of the thrifts "These two entities – Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac – are not facing any kind of financial crisis, the more people exaggerate these problems, the more pressure there is on these companies, the less

we will see in terms of affordable housing." We are currently looking at a \$700,000,000,000 bill for Frank's "affordable housing."

This was only one of many efforts by the Bush Administration to warn of impending problems relating to shoddy lending practices in the home mortgage markets. Starting in 2001, the president and his administration have not only warned of systemic consequences of financial turmoil at government-sponsored enterprises (GSE) but also put forth thoughtful plans to reduce the risk that either Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac would encounter such difficulties.

President Bush publicly called for GSE reform 17 times in 2008 alone. Unfortunately, these warnings went unheeded. The president's repeated attempts to reform the supervision of these entities were thwarted by the legislative maneuvering of those who denied that there were problems.

In 2005, Sen. John McCain stated to the Senate, "I join as a cosponsor of the Federal Housing Enterprise Regulatory Reform Act of 2005 to underscore my support for quick passage of GSE regulatory reform regulation. If Congress does not act, American taxpayers will continue to be exposed to the enormous risk that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac pose to the housing market, the overall financial system, and the economy as a whole. I urge my colleagues to support swift action on this GSE reform legislation."

What is Obama doing while McCain warns the Senate? He was running for the Senate. He couldn't wait to be bought off by Fannie and Freddie. They cooperate and, in only two years, Obama received the second

• See SWANSON page 9

... SALZARULO continued from page 5

There was no chance that I would never return to that dreadful place, even if they were offering free rental and complimentary wine. I had no idea how I was going to solve my Halloween dilemma, but the costume shop would not be part of the solution.

Halloween arrived and I had no costume. For some inexplicable (to me) reason, the party was very important to my date. Approaching panic, I saw a crisply starched, long, white clinical coat hanging in my office. I covered my name with a piece of white adhesive tape and neatly scrolled, "Marcus Welby, MD." I borrowed a stethoscope from the recovery room, put on a yellow oxford cloth shirt and a nice tie. Eureka! I was a doctor, and a famous fictional physician, at that.

My date was disgusted at my lack of holiday spirit, but wanted to show off her costume, even if I was a complete drag. We had been at the party long enough to have a couple of drinks when a guy walked up to me and asked, "Are you a real doctor?"

"Nah," I answered. "I'm a stock broker. I borrowed this stuff from a buddy."

"Man," he said with genuine admiration, "you look so..." He stammered for a moment then found the right word, "Authentic."

"Yeah," I smiled. "I guess I should have gone to medical school."

When Bull was very little, I thought it would be a swell costume if I dressed as a eucalyptus tree and he as a Koala bear. I waited for him to grow into the idea. Then one year, while I wasn't looking, he outgrew his tree.

I don't understand why so many parents around here are afraid that if their kid puts on a devil costume, a real demon might take up residence in him. A fall festival is not a good substitute, regardless of what they say. Bull was a pea pod before he could walk. He has been a hippy, a cowboy, a dragon, a rhino, and the cutest dinosaur you ever saw. He didn't grow scales and won't eat vegetables, so I guess the outfits didn't take root.

I know I'm rushing the season, but I was in CVS the other day, picking up a prescription, when I wandered into the Halloween section. Then Bull asked me about my costume. I thought about Sarah Palin as president, which was the scariest thing I could think of. I'll bet Walmart has Sarah Palin masks. It might be easier if I bought a pair of suspenders, rolled up my shirt sleeves, loosened my tie, pushed an old hat back on my head, put a note pad in my hip pocket and went as a columnist for a North Carolina weekly. I think I'll skip the cigar.

... SWANSON continued from page 8

most contributions from them behind Chris Dodd, who took 10 years to top him.

Jim Johnson and Franklin Raines, both previous CEOs of the failed Fannie Mae, and implicated in its demise, were recruited into Obama's current campaign. Guilt by association? You be the judge.

... FORUM continued from 6

are no run-off elections for the school board races; all races are decided by simple plurality.

This is the only evening forum set up for all candidates. Organizers hope the time and place will maximize the opportunity for voters to learn about the future office holders who make decisions which often impact their lives and their children's lives far more

than the representatives in Raleigh or Washington.

Not pictured are: county commissioner district II Jim Davis who is running unopposed. Commissioner Davis has committed to appear and the other county commissioner district III candidates Bobby Kupperts and Jimmy Goodman. Both are running for the seat currently held by Charlie Leatherman.



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• COOKING ON THE PLATEAU •

French cheese – A daily slice of your healthy diet

French cheese lovers will be happy to know that French cheese, or fromage, is a nutritious choice and a great-tasting staple of a healthy diet. Cheese is a nutrient-rich food, which means a little goes a long way toward providing important daily nutritional benefits like calcium, protein and vitamins. What's more, cheese is a recommended part of one of the world's healthiest eating patterns, the Mediterranean Diet.

Scientists have been studying the Mediterranean Diet for more than 50 years. The diet is based on the dietary traditions of the southern Mediterranean. It includes eating fruits and vegetables, whole grains, nuts, olive oil — and nutrient-rich cheese in moderation every day. Researchers have linked the Mediterranean Diet to an amazing array of health benefits, from lowering your risk of heart disease to breathing easier to maintaining a healthy weight.

The French diet is grounded in the traditional Mediterranean ways of eating which includes the enjoyment of cheese, fiber-rich bread and wine every day. Nearly 30 years ago, nutritionists were intrigued with the discovery that, despite a diet high in fat, the French had the lowest cardiovascular mortality rate in the industrialized world. Over the years, scientists have struggled to explain this "French Paradox." But now we are beginning to have some answers about heart health and the French food diet, thanks to new research in the field.

What may explain the apparent heart-healthy benefits of the traditional French diet? Cheese, bread and wine — or more accurately, the way these three foods, so essential to the French diet, work together to protect your heart.

Cheese, it turns out, plays a pivotal role in protecting arteries. The high calcium content in cheese helps your bones and helps the body eliminate certain harmful fatty acids and promotes the beneficial action of other fatty acids. This process works even better when fiber-rich bread is present. Add a little French wine with its positive effects on cholesterol, and you have a powerful trio at work.

Enjoy fromage every day with a slice of recognized cheeses like Brie, Comté, or Roquefort or be adventurous and try one of the hundreds of other mouth-watering French favorites available at specialty cheese shops, supermarkets and on-line. For entertaining, consider creating a memorable fromage plate for an easy, crowd-pleasing showcase of the broad variety France has to offer.

You can be comfortable knowing that all the cheeses of France are healthful, minimally processed and free of artificial growth hormone/rBST.

For more information about The Cheeses of France and the French Paradox, visit www.cheesesoffrance.com. For more on The Mediterranean Diet Pyramid eating plan visit www.mediterraneanmark.org/html/meddiet/meddiet_pyramid.html.

• Courtesy of Family Features



The Mediterranean Plate: Pictured from left: Back Row: Fleur du Maquis, Casinca Chèvre, Saint-Marcellin; Front Row: Cabécou Feuille Thym Tamarre, Vache de Chalais

• FROM MY PERSPECTIVE •

Patience needed in trying times

Forced change in habits not only bring out the best and worst in our personalities but also indicates to us how fragile our society can be. The recent gasoline shortage is a good example. Frustration and anger have been seen all over western North Carolina even though the shortage, caused by power outages due to Hurricane Ike, but it was nothing like what we had in 1973 when there was a true shortage across the entire country.

The current shortage also reveals how little patience for a forced situation most of us have and how our own greed and individualism can result in isolated breakdowns in the way we do things. We can learn a lot about ourselves when we are under forced pressure to change our ways. In getting this insight I hope we can become better people. For those of you who had patience and simply slowed down a little bit I am grateful. It is imperative that our country do something soon to diminish this dependence on oil products. These little wake-up calls are simply the tip of an iceberg which may surface completely at any time.

We are all certainly glad that the state DOT has confirmed our desire to retain restrictions for trucks on the Gorge Road. A four-axle limit will soon be posted on the highway which will make this difficult road much safer. However, even 12- and 16-wheelers have difficulty with parts of that road and should take other routes to Highlands. It is a road that needs constant supervision and common sense on the part of drivers. Many truckers who are familiar with the area use other routes and it is my hope that the word will spread.

The Antique Show at the Civic Center was a big success this year as it has every year it has been in Highlands. My wife and I were there and thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful furniture, fixtures, and paintings displayed beautifully. And one of the best things about the show was that the proceeds help to keep the Highlands Playhouse alive and well financially. We all want to continue to enjoy the great plays and musicals which go on during the year at the playhouse. I thank everyone who continues to support our heritage as Highlanders!

During last weekend and throughout this week the governor has declared litter pick up week and I have also proclaimed this time litter pickup week for Highlands. Saturday, Oct. 4 will be Gorge Road pickup day sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and last Sunday the Mountain Garden Club started pickup on Flat



Mayor Don Mullen

Mountain Road. We all encourage our citizens to join in the litter pickup around their own homes to make the Highlands plateau an even more beautiful place to live. Join with these organizations to help them in this very important civic duty.

The Town Board of Commissioners, committees and department heads are continuing to work on a

strategic plan for the many capital improvement projects we have facing us. I have asked them to have for presentation to the Board by January a plan which we can follow over the next year, the next five years and the next 10 years. Such plans as the possibility in the future of a new or improved Town Hall, the completion of our sewer and water needs, Pine Street Park, stormwater controls, The Greenway, and other projects will be under discussion and consideration.

I can assure everyone that final plans have not been completed for any of these projects and there are certainly no plans to use the taxpayers' money inappropriately. Our intention is to keep taxes reasonable as we make very clear and well thought out decisions regarding the future of our town and its ability to pay for important projects. The Town of Highlands is in excellent financial condition currently, and we plan to keep it that way by not going into any major debt. I thank all of you who have shown concern for the cost to the town of major capital fund projects, and we certainly want to keep this dialogue open.

... SHELTER from 23

He and Horton visited the facility in Haywood County and used its design as a starting place.

The structure can house 20 canines and 26 felines, with additional housing allocated for animals that need to be isolated.

In addition, there is an outdoor run, where people who come to adopt an animal can interact with them outside prior to taking them home and the sally port where animal control officers can drive in and leave animals without interfering with the public or administration areas of the complex.

Ritter estimates building costs to be \$55-\$60 per sq. ft. The county has budgeted \$350,000 for the building.

Suggested additions to the plan included solar tubes for natural lighting inside the building — particularly over the animal pens — more exterior windows and an outdoor pen where citizens can drop off strays if they don't want to wait until shelter operating hours.

— **Kim Lewicki**

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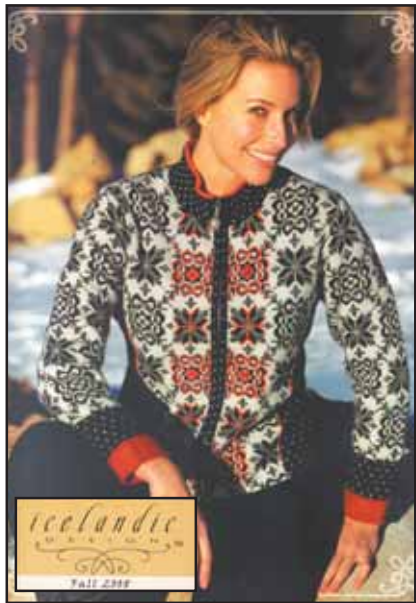
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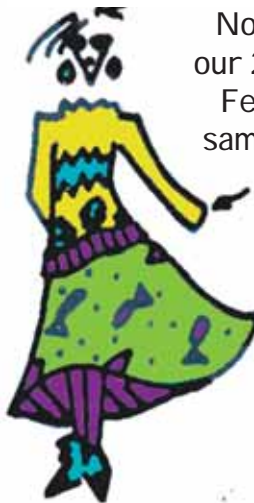
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Renovations progressing at the landfill



Crews are working on building the new transfer station at the landfill on Rich Gap Road. It has been closed to construction and debris, but recycling can still take place at the site. Renovations at the landfill are expected to be completed in November of this year.

Photo by Jim Lewicki

... SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING continued from pg 27

talks about treasures in heaven, and the lilies of the field. He tells us not to worry about what we will eat, drink, or wear. Why? Because our heavenly Father knows our needs.

The focus is on our needs, not our wants or extravagances. We are told to first seek His kingdom and righteousness, and everything else will follow. (Matthew 6:19-35) And you thought when Jesus said "Blessed are the poor," He was talking about poverty. No, He was talking about the spiritual condition of a humble, happy person. In the New Testament, John writes that we may prosper in all things and be in health, just as our souls prosper (3 John 1:2). The promise is that as our souls prosper, we will prosper in all things. Prosperity is a condition of the heart, as well as, the bank account. It is a level of contentment.

The Apostle Paul found this level of contentment as he writes in Philippians 4:11-13: "I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." And again in Philippians 4:19 "My God shall supply all of my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Was Paul prosperous? Do you notice that Paul is focused on his needs, not his wants?

Without God's perspective of prosperity, we will be no better off than Solomon who had enormous wealth, but lost purpose later in his life: "Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless." (Ecclesiastes 5:10) For those of us who have been blessed with material prosperity Paul tells Timothy "Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy." (1 Timothy 6:17). And Jesus says in Luke 16:9-13. "What I say to you is this: make friends for yourselves through your use of this world's goods, so that when they fail you, a lasting reception will be yours." Those of us who have been blessed should be inspired to use our prosperity for God's Glory and to further His Kingdom. You don't have to sell everything and move to India, God's work is right around the corner. "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8)

Yes, God does want us to be prosperous, but it is by His definition of prosperity, and He wants us to invest that prosperity in something that is certain and eternal. If you don't know what that certain thing is, then email me! I wouldn't want you to miss the opportunity of a lifetime.

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• HIS & HERS •

The Honeymoon, Part 3

With our whisky samples creating nice little campfires in our tummies, we eyed the lush green hills of Perthshire slipping by, on our way to the Scottish capital, Edinburgh. Our base for the next two days, the Apex City Hotel, was a lovely modern place just down the hill from Edinburgh Castle. It was a treat to settle in, and know we wouldn't be leaving the next day.

That evening, we were rounded up, and taken to another hotel, for what the brochure advertised as "a traditional Scottish evening." This brings me to a sore subject for many Americans. How does one deal with events which are really specifically aimed at tourists — often Japanese and American tourists? Yes, the costumes and songs were a bit corny, as was the slightly forced ambiance. With age, I have become more reconciled to these events, which are meant to give a good natured taste of the host country.

The male highland dancer was a talented young man — remarkable in more ways than one. An accomplished performer, he was also — wait for it — originally from Japan. Yes, we had a dancer in full Scottish regalia who had learned his craft, not in the highlands of Scotland, but in dance classes in Tokyo. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the haggis, served as is the tradition with "champtit tatties and bashed neeps," or as we would say over here, mashed turnips and potatoes. Of course, people made faces and carried on, with jokes about stuffed sheep's stomachs making the rounds of every table. The braver of the guests picked up their forks, and most were pleasantly surprised to find haggis quite to their liking. John bravely dug in, and while not a fan, exclaimed that it was not what he'd expected — "villainous." Still, I haven't seen him clamoring for the two cans of canned haggis I picked up the Scottish Museum in Franklin.

After breakfast the next morning, we boarded our bus for a city tour with a knowledgeable local guide. As a former travel agent, this is something I recommend to anyone visiting a place for the first time. Guided tours give you a wonderful overview and an idea of where to go back, and explore in more depth. Edinburgh was particularly crowded during our stay, which coincided with the Edinburgh Fringe, a wild collection of off-beat theatrical events and performance art, including such gems as "Puppets on Prozac" and a massive purple cow lying on its back, legs and udders in the air. You had to be there.

Our tour took us through the heart of the city along Princes Street, with its shops on one side and magnificent gardens on the other. We saw the elegant 18th century New Town with its broad streets, spacious squares, and elegant town houses. Of particular interest to us was the home of Robert Louis Stevenson, the noted Scottish author, since Stevenson



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collaborated on four plays with William Ernest Henley, an English poet, critic and author — and ancestor of my husband John. Many of you may recall Henley's famous lines "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."

The bus drove us along the Royal Mile, which ends with the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of Her Majesty the Queen. Nearby sits the highly controversial Scottish Parliament Building, completed three years late, and at over 10 times the initial budget. Enric Miralles, the Catalan architect who designed the highly controversial building, died before its completion. While praised by many architectural critics, John and I found the Scottish Parliament one of the ugliest buildings we have ever seen! Later on our tour — and much more to our liking — was the charming statue and fountain of Greyfriars Bobby, the loyal Skye terrier whose 14-year devotion to his late master grave brought him international fame.

The tour wound up at Edinburgh Castle, perched high above the city on volcanic rock. Edinburgh Castle is an imposing fortress, and still has strong Army connections. Later that evening, we returned to the Castle for the famous Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a performance by many Scottish regiments and other armed forces from around the world. The Tattoo takes place on the Castle Esplanade with the castle forming a dramatic backdrop. As rain was forecast, several more cautious members of our group made other plans, but the rest of us bravely tackled the hill, armed with layers of waterproof clothing, hoping for the best. Umbrellas are banned, since an open umbrella ruins the view of spectators stuck behind the offending object. Maman and I wound up sitting together; John's ticket had him sitting a bit to our left. We wrapped ourselves up, and crossed our fingers. No luck! Just as the performance began, the heavens opened, and it proceeded to pour for the next 2 ½ hours. As magnificent as the spectacle was, Maman and I finally bailed out, missing the last 10 or 15 minutes. John was made of sterner stuff. When we finally met up at the

hotel, we were all cold and soaked through to the bone. A call to room service brought us bowls of steaming hot soup and thick sandwiches — just what we needed to restore our spirits. We had just enough time to pack our suitcases, ready for our early departure the next morning. Heading west, we traveled through Glasgow and along the coast to Stranraer. A short ferry ride would take us to Larne in Northern Ireland. My father's mother passed through Ellis Island at the age of eight, hailing from Portadown, in Northern Ireland. The Armor family came from Northern Ireland, too. With any luck, we might be able to track down some family connections, and who knows, maybe a skeleton or two?

• About the Author: Michelle A. Mead-Armor is a writer and translator who grew up in Waynesboro, Virginia, before wasting her youth and good looks in Baltimore, Sydney, Paris, and New York. She and her husband live on top of a mountain on the Continental divide near Highlands. They are members of the Highlands Writers Group. She is working on a local haggis substitute, preferably using grits.



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• REFLECTIONS FROM TURTLE POND •

Being in debt means fewer choices

I had this article ready to submit on Monday; the opening lines stated my belief that the bailout plan would have passed Congress by the time this newspaper came out. I went to town before submitting it and by the time I got back I needed a new beginning. That afternoon there was a palpable sense of fear among the people I talked to in Highlands; I have never felt this level of collective anxiety before.

President Bush announced in conjunction with the proposed bailout that he was raising the federal debt limit to \$11.3 trillion. The "limit" was last raised in July to \$10.6 trillion after the Freddie and Fannie bailouts. What a joke that "limit" is!

Back in the early 1990s there was a lot of public discussion about the federal debt. Ross Perot ran a strong third-party presidential campaign in 1992 based mostly on his opposition to deficit spending by the federal government. But since President Clinton balanced the budget we don't hear much about the debt anymore, even though it has

doubled in the last eight years — from \$5.7 trillion in 2000 to \$9.8 trillion today.

If you'd like to see these numbers for yourself, go to www.Treasurydirect.gov, click on "debt to the penny" under the "highlights" section (strange classification don't you think?). On September 25, 2008 at 10:36 PM it was \$9,788,080,661,828.23. You can look up the federal debt for any date since 1993, for example, I punched in Bush's inauguration day in 2001 and got \$5,727,776,738,304.64.

In April of 2008 Garry Trudeau published a "Doonesbury" cartoon with this text: "Since 1776 the US has accumulated a national debt of \$9 trillion, over HALF of which was incurred when a Bush was on watch! What a family legacy! If you throw in Reagan, fully 70% of the national debt was created under just three Republican presidents! What's more, they didn't even



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try to restrain spending! Out of 19 submitted budgets, only two were balanced. So here's my question... Where did the myth of GOP fiscal responsibility come from?"

Some people will tell you that the federal debt is really unimportant. They'll give you complicated explanations for why that is, but these are the same people who, a few months ago, said there was nothing

wrong with the economy, so I don't give their arguments much credence.

I ended last week's article with a concrete example of why the debt matters. Paul Krugman, the Princeton economist, wrote in his 2003 book *The Great Unraveling*: "15% of your federal tax dollar goes to pay interest on a debt mainly run up in the 80s and early 90s."

Allen W. Smith, Ph.D., wrote in *The Looting of Social Security* (368.4S): "Another consequence of our economic illiteracy is a lack of understanding of what the federal debt costs us. It is no different from the effect personal debt has on our family budget. The higher the debt, the higher percentage of our monthly spending is eaten up by interest costs. In 2002, we paid \$333 billion in interest on the national debt, and it was that low only because interest rates are at historic lows." Dr. Smith went on to compare this interest payment with the 2004 federal budget allotments for various agencies, but I thought I'd update the figures a little.

In President Bush's 2009 budget, the total discretionary spending given for the year 2007 was 1.042 trillion dollars. Of this, \$594 billion was spent on "security" and \$448 billion on "non-security." The total spent on interest payments was \$237 billion. I have seen other figures for the interest payment, much higher (not surprising that the administration might cook the books in its favor) — \$400 billion for example. Let's compromise and use the figure of \$300 billion (see Smith above). In 2007 we spent \$54.4 billion on education, \$23.6 on energy, \$67.6 on Health and Human Services, \$33.6 on Housing and Urban Development, and \$5.6 on the National Science Foundation. The only category that received more than "interest" was the Defense Department (Social Security is more but that is not part of the budget). www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2009/summarytables.html

What could we fund with that \$300

billion a year we spend on interest? My dream progressive agenda includes universal college education, universal health care, a strategy to achieve energy independence, and a secure Social Security.

Many industrial countries around the world provide free college education to all of their young people. Barack Obama has a plan for universal higher education; he proposes a \$4,000 annual tuition credit. The U.S. Census website, census.gov, says there were 15.9 million college students in 2004. Let's increase that to 25 million (surely more students would enroll with this incentive); this would cost \$100 billion.

Jonathan Gruber of MIT is a health-care economist. He has found that we could implement a health care plan similar to the one that Hillary Clinton proposed in her presidential bid, which would cover everyone in this country with a hybrid of private and public insurance, for \$124 billion a year.

A couple of weeks ago I wrote an article entitled "Green Power" in which I quoted a couple of scientists' plan to provide 69% of electricity and 35% of the U.S.'s total energy from solar power. This plan was estimated to cost \$400 billion over 40 years. That comes to \$10 billion a year; but let's go wild and double it for the purpose of becoming truly energy-independent.

Remember the plans to privatize Social Security? Now that the stock market has tanked aren't you thankful that plan didn't go anywhere? (Although if you look at Bush's budget pages you will see entries on the ledger for the costs of implementing private accounts — they never really gave up on the idea.) Back in 2005, the figure of \$3.7 trillion was thrown around as the amount needed to capitalize Social Security for the next 75 years. That comes to about \$50 billion a year.

Add these up: $100 + 124 + 20 + 50 =$ \$294 billion.

The reason the Republicans have increased the federal debt so dramatically in the last 28 years, and then reassured us that it doesn't matter, is because they are opposed to these types of progressive social programs. The majority of the American people are in favor of them, so the only safe way, politically, for the Republicans to stop them is to make sure the federal government is too broke to afford them. Is this just another way to drown "big government" — in debt?

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

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Free are dental clinic kicks off annual fundraising campaign

The Cashiers-based Free Dental Clinic has kicked off its second Annual Campaign, to raise the operating funds needed to serve hundreds of area residents each year who would otherwise be unable to obtain the care they often desperately need.

Bill Jacobs, President of Blue Ridge Mountains Health Project, which operates the Clinic, said, "Even with our volunteer dentists and a debt-free clinic facility, dentistry is expensive, and it costs us about \$150,000 per year to operate the Clinic. But with that, our dentists and staff serve about 400 new patients each year, performing over 4,000 procedures with a dollar value of about \$600,000 — a 4-to-1 multiplier of our donors' funds."

Karen Minton, the Clinic's Executive Director, added, "I work closely with all of our patients, and I know the dollar value of our services is dwarfed by the impact we have on their lives. We see people with disabling levels of pain and infection, or who have withdrawn from public contact because of unsightly mouths. There are people around here who would probably be dead if we had not removed teeth that were the source of massive infections

spreading to their hearts and other vital organs. There are other people who no longer use alcohol to deal with the awful pain of rotten teeth. There are also people who smile again — or can now eat normal diets — after we've repaired the teeth we could, removed the ones that could not be saved, and provided crowns or dentures. Like the 60-ish couple who were slowly starving because they could not chew regular food, or the 88-year old woman who really wanted to be able to smile at her wedding, or the teenage girl who had been painfully sensitive to the appearance of her awful teeth, or the 34-year old woman who finally felt she could seek a better job — and stop being ridiculed by her brothers."

Jacobs added, "We have good support from area churches, and social and service organizations, and also from some important foundations, although foundation support generally focuses on capital equipment rather than recurring operating expenses. We still depend for about a third of our annual operating budget on the individual generosity of people in the communities we serve, so the Annual

Campaign is a critical event.

"The Free Dental Clinic has been embraced by this community from the start. I believe that people really understand the huge need, the devastating effects of dental disease, and the Clinic's unique capabilities. The Clinic is quite deservedly a point of community pride, and I am confident that both full and part-year residents will continue to provide the support we need."

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Benefit for David Buck at High Country Cafe is set for Oct. 4

David Buck and his family have been a part of Highlands for a long time and he and his family need the community's help.

He came to Highlands in 1974. His first job was with Mary Thompson, John Cleaveland and Mike Thompson at the Highlander Restaurant, until it sold to Dayton & Creighton. He continued to work there for about a year. He then went to work at the Mountaineer Restaurant for Morris and Cindy Reed as a cook in 1981, where he flipped many an egg and hamburger until 1991. In August, 1991 he went to work at the Highlands ABC Store where he is currently employed. He continued to work at the Mountaineer for Sara Lee on his days off until 1996 when she sold the restaurant. He is also an employee now at

the High Country Café where he works on his days off from the ABC Store.

David is well known for his warm smile and kind demeanor, he is very dependable and a hard worker.

He was diagnosed with Stage 3B cancer in May, 2008. He has taken chemo and 24 radiation treatments. His right lung was removed on July 28. He is now doing chemo again and will have an additional seventeen radiation treatments.

We are having a benefit for him on Oct. 4, at High Country Café. There will be a spaghetti dinner starting at 5 p.m., plates are \$7. We also have raffle tickets for a Remington Model 1100, 12-gauge shotgun and several other items with a live auction. Music will be by the J. W. Band.

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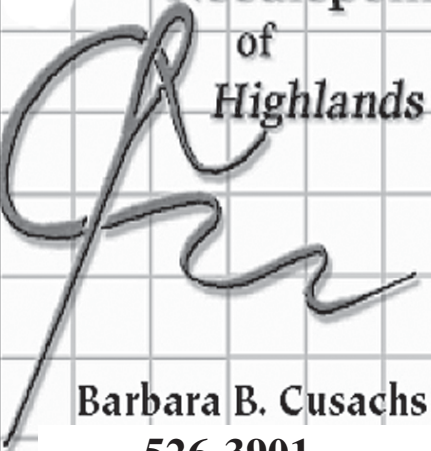
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... FUEL continued from page 2

Director of Auxiliary Services, Terry Bell said he doesn't anticipate any problem keeping buses and other vehicles fueled. "We had an approximate 35-day supply as of Sept. 15. We will place an order for more fuel around October 10."

Meanwhile, with fuel costs rising and fuel availability tenuous, Macon County Schools Finance Director Betty Waldroop is keeping an eye on supplies and the money needed to fund those supplies.

"What I did was put enough money in fuel costs to hopefully cover gas/diesel for the year," said Waldroop. "However, we will have to dip into local money to cover bus driver salaries before the end of the year. We have had to do that in the past but not last year."

She said the bottom line is there is not enough money in state allocated fund to cover all the costs of operating the busses for the whole year. "I could have put all the money in drivers' salaries and then the fuel budget would have been short. It is six of one and half a dozen of another," she said.

The allocation of funds in the transportation budget for the "yellow" buses, which comes from the state, is as follows: the beginning budget for 2008-2009 was \$65,167, after revisions to budget the amount was \$128,660 leaving

a total available \$193,827. After expenditures of \$193,826.94 that left six cents in the account.


The school system also has a transportation budget in local fund allocations to cover the activity busses, maintenance vehicles and county car fleet. That beginning budget was \$60,000. After revisions to the budget that was \$12,398, leaving a total available of \$72,398. After expenditures of \$72,397.58, 42 cents was left in that account.

"We received additional allotments for fuel during the year as fuel costs rose from the state. We did not have to use local money to fuel the school busses. We were able to move money around within the state transportation budget and make it through the year. As you can see it was tight," said Waldroop.

The budget in the state fund is \$231,757. "We will just have to wait and see if we have to make any adjustments to this figure," said Waldroop. "What I did was put enough money in fuel costs to hopefully cover gas/diesel for the year. However, we will have to dip into local money to cover bus driver salaries before the end of the year. Bottom line is there is not enough money in state allocated fund to cover all the costs of operating the busses for the whole year."

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• COACH'S CORNER •

MLB playoff preview

Now that the playoff fields are set, let's look at the matchups and figure out some predictions that we can all have a good laugh at later this fall.

Milwaukee vs. Philadelphia

This could be one of the more interesting series of the last few years because it will feature two teams that did not clinch playoff births until the last week of the season. Both teams have been in a "playoffs" atmosphere for a few weeks now, so they should both be playing at a high level. The Brewers will likely be without star pitcher Ben Sheets for this short series, and he could have been the difference when paired with my NL Cy Young winner CC Sabathia. As it stands, I think the pitching and offense are fairly even between the two teams, but the real advantage lies with the Philadelphia bullpen and Brad Lidge. Lidge has been untouchable down the stretch for the Phillies, and he gives them a much more stable closer than the Brewers have in Saloman Torres. (plus, Torres is a former Pirate...always bad news in the postseason) - **Phillies in 5**

LA Dodgers vs. Chicago

Many people have opined that this is the Cubs year-which we have all heard for every year since 1950. While I think that this year's version of the Cubbies are by far the best team in the majors, they have the misfortune of a terrifying matchup for them in the NLDS. The Dodgers have been hot as of late, and boast a lineup anchored by one of the best postseason hitters of all time in Manny Ramirez. Since Ramirez has joined the Dodgers, guys like Russell Martin and James Loney have seen better pitches and it has invigorated the LA offense. I think that this series will be decided in game one when Derek Lowe faces Ryan Dempster. If the Cubs can win game one, then it sets up Carlos Zambrano and Rich Harden to pitch with very little pressure and likely give the Cubs an easy series win. However, if Lowe's sinker is diving and the Dodgers win game one-panic will set in for Chicago and they will go home early yet again. - **Dodgers in 5**

Tampa Bay vs. Chicago

Recent history favors Chicago in this situation, particularly because Tampa Bay clinched a playoff birth a few weeks ago and has been resting up since then. This



Ryan Potts
tryanpotts@hotmail.com

will certainly be a test of the young pitching of the Rays versus the veteran sluggers of the White Sox. The Rays can win this series if they can score a few runs early in ball games and let their defense carry them. Also, the Rays have the best home record in the majors at Tropicana Field this year-all of which means that the White Sox will win this series. -

White Sox in 5

Anaheim vs. Boston

Probably the two most talented teams in the American League face off in this series, with the Red Sox looking to defend their championship from last year. The health of Josh Beckett is a major concern for Boston fans, but if he is right then he is the type of guy that can carry a team through a series. Both of these teams have excellent starting pitching, lineups with power and speed (Vladimir Guerrero vs. David Ortiz is an interesting subplot) terrific closers and great managers. The difference maker in this series is a guy like Beckett who has been dominant in the postseason throughout his career. - **Red Sox in 4**

Benefit for David Buck at High Country Cafe is set for Sat., Oct. 4

Come help support his fight with cancer Saturday, Oct. 4, at High Country Café. There will be a spaghetti dinner starting at 5 p.m., plates are \$7.

There will be raffle tickets for a Remington Model 1100, 12-gauge shotgun and several other items with a live auction. Music will be by the J. W. Band.

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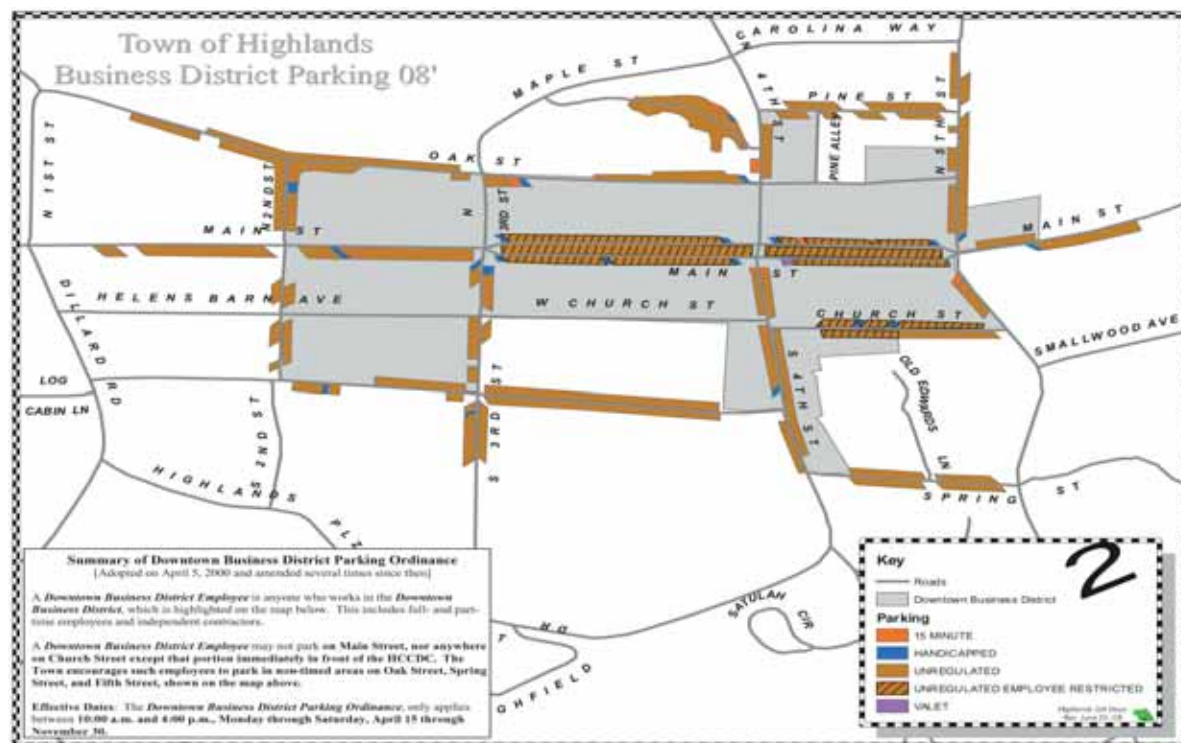
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Police remind citizens of town's parking regulations

In recent weeks, Highlands Police Department officers have been called numerous times to field complaints from downtown merchants concerning parking infractions. "Enforcement of parking in the downtown area has become complaint-driven," said Police Chief Bill Harrell. "Basically, it's merchants complaining that employees from other businesses are taking up parking spaces either in front of their stores or elsewhere on Main Street. Employees need to remember that as per the parking ordinance, they aren't to park on Main or Church streets."

Though timed parking was lifted this past spring, employees are still not allowed to park anywhere on Main Street, curbside or middle, or on Church Street, said Harrell. These restrictions apply Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 15 through Nov. 30. Employees are urged to park on Oak, Fifth or Spring streets



Attorney Clarke suggests ways to protect watershed

Members of the Upper Cullasaja Watershed Association hoped to pick the brain of Environmental Law Attorney Billy Clarke when he spoke at its annual meeting Thurs-

day, Sept. 25.

What they quickly learned is if people want to make soil erosion and sedimentation citations stick to developers they must thoroughly document sites before and after the fact with photographs and the proper paperwork.

Clarke successfully represented River-Walk developers against the Town of Highlands last year mainly because the town's paperwork wasn't in order, he said.

"Five factors must be satisfied for civil penalties to be assigned at an Administrative Hearing," said Clarke. "The town only had two factors when it issued zoning violations. It hadn't considered all the factors, presented evidence of harm or a monetary figure for repair."

He said there are significant procedural issues when a local entity tries to enforce regulations and levy penalties against someone. If all the I's are dotted and T's crossed, entities can require someone who has violated a soil erosion and sedimentation plan to restore and repair damage, he said. "But stream and riverbeds must be documented prior to an action to verify harm."

State regulations have gotten stricter over the years concerning silt trap design, placement and maintenance but it hasn't committed the funding to back its regulations with an enforcement program.

That leaves enforcement to local enti-

ties which face significant procedural issues during enforcement actions. However, he said civil litigation since 1999 has heightened enforcement issues in Western North Carolina.

Sedimentation and erosion is a natural occurrence everywhere, but can be particularly hard to control in Western North Carolina due to its geography, said Clarke.

"Developers who come to Western North Carolina aren't used to its steep slopes nor do they realize how hard it can rain during one event — particularly in Highlands — and how fast water runs downhill," said Clarke.

He said development can be done the right way. "Good development can benefit us all as can good enforcement laws."

When members became stuck on whether a municipality or the county could issue stop work orders and seek an injunction to enforce them,

he asked "Is your purpose to enforce or improve your water quality?"

He suggested UCWA look at its watershed in its entirety and determine the sources of sediment. "Some sediment may be due to parking lots and not development," he said. "Consider re-establishing buffers in the watershed — they are the natural way to control sedimentation. Channel restoration is another avenue but sedimentation prevention is the best thing."

— Kim Lewicki



Environmental Law Attorney Billy Clarke at the UCWA meeting.

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... MEETING continued from page 1

erty if it does get rezoned," said DeWolf. "That should be a policy."

Commissioner Hank Ross agreed but said it wasn't the issue before the board. "It would be nice if a conditional use was required, but that's not what's before us today. The requests should go to a public hearing and there conditional uses might be discussed."

The other issue set for the Nov. 5 public hearing is an amendment to the town's zoning code concerning the built-upon percentages as they apply to areas of the watershed.

"This is a direct result of the joint meeting between you and the Planning Board where priorities were set," said Town Planner Joe Cooley. "The way the code is set up now is there is no built-upon limit for large lots just for minimum size lots in the watershed. This means the impervious built-upon can be 100% within the setbacks whereas a smaller lot has a maximum of 24% built-upon depending on its watershed classification."

The Planning Board recommended the change and agreed that a 50% built-upon for all lots across the watershed meeting or exceeding the minimum lot size as defined in their watershed category would give plenty of opportunity to develop the site while addressing setbacks and other site issues.

Annexation – The board voted 4 to 1 to annex eight vacant lots owned by five people off Satulah Ridge Road. As per the annexation ordinance, if developed owners will have to comply with all Highlands zoning and setback requirements.

Commissioner Buz Dotson voted against the annexation on the grounds that three of the 11 lots in the subdivision won't be annexed as requested by the owners. "I'm not in favor of annexing with three lots pulled out. In the future this might create conflicts and may have the potential for miscommunication and problems."

Town Administrator Richard Betz said the three owners who didn't request annexation said they don't want to be in the corporate limits of the town. "We can't force them to annex," he said.

Town Engineer, Lamar Nix, said there is only one lot with a house on it and the owner doesn't want to be annexed and pays double fees for town water.

There is water to the subdivision, but not sewer. However, once in the town limits, property owners could hook on the Harris Lake Sewer line once it's completed, but would have to pay to extend the lines to the subdivision on their own dime.

Harris Lake Sewer Project – The board voted unanimously to accept the

lowest bid to construct the Harris Lake Sewer Line from DPI Construction Inc., of Arden, N.C., for \$1,878,494.62. Work on the line is expected to begin this November.

Performing Arts Center – After Town Attorney Bill Coward looks over its lease, the board will likely allow PAC to rent out the facility for private events like weddings. The current lease, which is in effect until 2010, says events at the center can only be performing arts events.

Commissioners said they saw no harm in amending the lease especially if it would offer the community another place to use and help augment PAC expenses.

Commissioner Amy Patterson said the income generated from renting out the facility won't help PAC's bottom line that much, "but it offers another option to people in the community."

Greenway – Hillrie Quin, on the Greenway Committee, asked to tap the \$100,000 budgeted for the Greenway for 2008 to buy \$32,800 in equipment, rock, and for consulting fees, to construct the loop trail over Bear Pen which is part of the Phase I of the Greenway.

The equipment would include an excavator which would be owned by the town and could be used for other projects after the Greenway is completed. Quin said a town employee and two volunteers would be trained to operate and maintain the excavator which will be used to construct trails.

The board agreed in concept, but won't decide on the issue until Coward and Betz determined if volunteers would be covered by town insurance if using town equipment.

Quin also discussed removing Biscuit Rock Road from the current Greenway map. He said the committee didn't realize it was a private road but would remove it from the trail and would destroy old maps and reprint

new ones if the board thought it necessary. Again, the board deferred to Coward who will look into the matter.

Meanwhile, Nix is giving Quin the Powell map which designates all state, town and private roads in the Highlands area for future Greenway development.

County Recreational Funding

Coward said the county was requesting a longer term with the town concerning recreational funding so the issue doesn't have to come up every year. A timeline of three to five years was discussed instead of one year, but commissioners were concerned about the price tag.

"The longer the timeline, the more speculative your costs," said Coward. "What's given now may be too much or too little later."

He suggested projecting expenses out over a two to five year period, so the county could see how costs increase each year and

how the \$500,000 now allocated by the county for recreation in Highlands isn't enough. The board agreed to present a projected cost sheet to the Macon County Commission at its joint meeting with the Town of Franklin, the Town of Highlands and the county commission at Fireside Restaurant on Oct. 21 at 6 p.m.

Town Manager – Bill Wilder, with Wilder Consulting, presented the board with a draft copy of an employment profile for the position of Town Manager. Once tweaked, it will be given to finalists being considered for the Highlands Town Manager position. So far 75 people have applied for the job from all over the country and locally.



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- Quiet Getaway at Spring Island
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- Rosemary Clark Stadel Fog
- Cause Within the Cause: Support for The Bascom's Young Artists Program
- Dinner at the Lawhorn Estate for 12 - Enjoy a magical evening and Tim Lundy's Gourmet Dinner
- September at Sea Island
- A Wine Dinner on Lake Sogapah with Gail and Paul Jones
- Bench by Ed Bokling with Permanent Home in New Art Center

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• HIGHLANDS SCHOOL SPORTS •

Highlands School Varsity Soccer beat Swain at Highlands Tuesday night, 12-9. Pictured is Jose Feria who scored twice.

Photo by Noel Atherton

Soccer week wrap-up

By Ryan Potts

The Highlands Varsity Soccer team went undefeated for the third week in a row with victories over Blue Ridge and Swain County to push their overall record to 7-2-2.

The Highlanders also completed an undefeated September, which is a testament to the hard work of the players and the resilience to get better after a rough start.

On Wednesday of last week, the Highlanders mauled conference rival Blue Ridge by a score of 7-1. The strong Highlander effort was led by Michael Shearl's hat trick. The team also received offensive support from Mikey Lica, Taylor Parrish, Samuel Wheeler and Hunter Leffler. Leffler, a defender, scored the first goal of his high school career and capped what was a great night all around for the fighting Highlanders.

Monday, the Highlanders built on their performance against Blue Ridge with a 12-0 destruction of the Swain County Maroon Devils. Highlands coach Chris

Green called the performance "our most complete effort of the season." The team's scoring list was extensive and included Taylor Parrish (3), Luke McClellan, Ricki Reyes, Clayton Creighton, Samuel Wheeler, Jose Feria (2) and Mikey Lica (2). The Highlanders were scheduled to play a home match with Madison today, but that game has been canceled.

The next match will be Monday Oct. 6 when Highlands will travel to Hayesville.

Upcoming games

- Mon., Oct. 6 – 4 p.m.
at Hayesville
- Wed., Oct. 8 – 6 p.m.
Andrews at Highlands
- Thurs., Oct. 9 – 6 p.m.
Polk County at Polk County



This year's winners of the town's annual Scholarship Golf Tournament were Tom Nelson, Matt Schroeders, Jay Calloway and Mac Johnson.

Town of Highlands Scholarship Golf Tournament a success

Scholarship endowment tops \$800,000

Town officials met with members of the Scholarship Endowment Fund Committee recently to review the Town's annual Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament, which took place at the Cullasaja Club on Sept. 15.

The tournament, originally set for August 25, had to be re-scheduled this year due to rains from tropical storm Fay.

Although attendance was down due to the re-scheduling, Cullasaja Club General Manager David Cull announced that the gross for the tournament was expected to be more than \$31,000. He also said that the Cullasaja Club's Board of Governors has agreed to host the tournament for the fifth year in a row next year.

"Our Board has supported this tournament for many years, and our membership has really stepped up and supported it as well," Cull said. "But we're hoping that next year we can get better participation from Highlands School and from other clubs and organizations. It's a great event and it raises money for a great cause."

Donations are encouraged at several levels of giving, from \$5,000 for Diamond Sponsors to \$1,000 for Platinum Sponsors to \$150 for golf contestants. Depending on the level of donation, sponsorship includes golf, dinner, and the awards party. Even though this year's event is over, fund-raising is ongoing throughout the year; checks should be made out to the Town of Highlands Scholarship Fund.

The Endowment Fund was established in 1987 by a handful of farsighted local

businessmen, including Jack Taylor and Jack Brockway. With the help of many generous donors and the popular annual golf tournaments, the fund has grown over the years to more than \$770,000; with the proceeds from this year's tournament, it should top \$800,000. Each year, interest from the endowment is used to award scholarships to graduating seniors from Highlands School, and to support graduates attending colleges and universities across the nation.

In June, Mayor Don Mullen presented this year's awards to graduating seniors at Highlands School. A total of \$47,000 in scholarships was awarded, half of it to seniors. He said that over the years the Endowment Fund had provided a total of 863 individual scholarships, totaling \$545,170. "That is a truly amazing accomplishment for a community the size of Highlands."

Town Administrator Richard Betz echoed the Mayor's comments. "These town scholarships really make a difference. My daughter Katy is completing her education at UNC-Chapel Hill this semester, and I can tell you that every dollar she received from the town and from other generous community organizations was very much appreciated. For many students, a higher education is simply not an option without scholarship assistance."

The Committee is already planning improvements to next year's scholarship tournament, tentatively scheduled for the fourth Monday in August, 2009.

The 'Name the Park' winner will be announced in the Oct. 9 issue of Highlands' Newspaper.

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- See SHELTER page 23

Highlands, NC

... SHELTER continued from page 22



Architect Tom Ritter and Macon County Manager Jack Horton show commissioners the spot for the shelter -- on a vacant 4.5-acre tract owned by the county.
Photo by Kim Lewicki

which it's likely the ordinance will be adopted.

Commissioners and Sheriff Robert Holland have long said that the main problem in the county is the number of animals presumed to be strays due to a lack of identification.

Therefore, once the ordinance is adopted all owners of cats or dogs must make sure their pets wear or have affixed to them an identification tag, tattoo, microchip or other marking so the owner's name, address and contact information is available.

In addition, all dogs and cats must receive rabies shots and dogs must wear a vaccination tag when not confined on their property. As per state law, cats don't have to wear rabies tags, but the owner's must be able to produce proof of the vaccination.

Even if an animal is properly tagged, it can still be picked up if it is deemed a nuisance, dangerous, or rabid.

"Public nuisance means any animal off the owner's property which without provocation habitually or repeatedly chases, snaps at, attacks or otherwise behaves in an aggressive manner to pedestrians, bicyclists or vehicles, or turns over garbage cans, damages gardens (vegetable or flower), damages plant beds, damages public or private property or damages livestock."

A dangerous dog means "any dog that without provocation, has killed or inflicted severe injury on a person or another domestic animal, any dog that is owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of dog fighting, any dog that is trained for dog fighting or any dog that has been determined to be potentially dangerous."

Under the new ordinance, all security dogs must be registered as such animals with the county's animal control director and a sign or placard must be placed prominently on the owner's property warning of a patrol or sentry dog.

Furthermore, it will be against the law for anyone to keep a security dog in the county unless it is under restraint and in the control of a competent person or under restraint and on the owner's property.

Commissioners Jim Davis and Charlie

Leatherman took issue with the fact that properly ID'd dogs can't run loose on county property.

"So basically if I want to take my dog to the park and throw a Frisbee I can't" said Davis.

Sheriff Holland confirmed that the county had passed the leash law on county property some years ago and said in that case "owners would have to run along with the dog to catch the Frisbee."

Commissioner Leatherman said due to that rule, the county basically had a leash law. "Having a leash law once a dog is deemed a nuisance is one thing, but this ordinance is supposed to help citizens. This isn't an animal problem, it's a people problem driven by the least common denominator."

Holland agreed. "This ordinance is because of irresponsible people. It's not too much to ask of pet owners but it is enough for us to do something."

Hunting dogs, however, can run free during hunting season as long as they are tagged and ID'd but they can't run on other people's property.

Commissioner Davis suggested the county establish a "dog park" where tagged and ID'd dogs can run free without a leash.

If a stray animal is picked up, it will receive a rabies vaccination and be ID'd and tagged. If it is indeed owned by someone, once the owner comes to pick it up, they must pay a penalty fee -- yet to be determined -- and pay the cost of tagging and inoculating.

"This is a good working ordinance and offers protection and well being of animals," said Commissioner Bob Simpson who headed up the animal control ordinance committee.

Once the ordinance is adopted, Simpson suggested a 90-day grace period to give pet owners time to get their animals inoculated and tagged.

Sheriff Holland suggested impoundment be a minimum of 72 hours. County Manager Jack Horton said space should determine how long an animal is kept. "Adopting out rather than putting down is much more acceptable to all," he said.

Sheriff Holland said the only time an

animal will be impounded at the shelter is if it is a stray -- without identification -- and only after the animal control officers have made every effort to find its owner or identify the animal. It could also be picked up if it has been classified a nuisance or dangerous animal and it isn't kept on its property.

Sheriff Holland urged the commissioners to adopt the ordinance prior to completion of the shelter. "Legally, this can be implemented without an impoundment. The only difference is once the shelter is built, we'll have a place to take the animals," he said.

The shelter

At Monday night's meeting, commissioners agreed to hire Architect Tom Ritter with Ritter Architecture, to prepare specs and plans for bidding purposes, and to negotiate a contract with him for his services.

Ritter performed the preliminary plans for free. Since his fee for spec and plan work

is \$21,003 -- below the \$30,000 limit which would require the county bid out the architect work -- commissioners agreed to enter into a contract immediately.

The animal shelter will be built on county-owned property on Lakeside Drive across from the landfill which is currently vacant, easily accessible to water and sewer lines and away from residential areas.

Only an acre of the 4.5-acre lot is needed for the 4,200 sq. ft. shelter which includes an 800 sq. ft. sally port and an outdoor run.

Ritter designed a single-story, masonry building, split-faced on the outside with tooled joints and clear sealing.

"This simple design can come in under your budget which leaves money for floor finishes which are non-decorative but very easy to clean, mechanicals for adequate air exchange, plumbing and drains," he said.

•See SHELTER page 11

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From left: Mountain Area Democrats Audrey Tritt, Ed Jones, John Snow, Sue Jones, Mark Jones and Jackie Lassiter pose at the 11th District Democrat Convention with Congressman Heath Shuler. Rep. Heath Shuler, runner-up for the Heisman Trophy, shows a football he autographed for a recent Democrat event to his wife Nikol, Eddie Madden and his high school coach, Boyce Deitz.

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Seated democrats and candidates turn out for Democrat Gathering at Zachary Field, Saturday, Sept. 27

Right, Democrat Precinct President Allan Bryson, School Board candidate Bobby Bishop, MC Commissioner Bob Simpson with other candidate representatives. In the background is MC Commission candidate Bobby Koppers.



Photos by Kim Lewicki



Above, Senator John Snow speaks to citizens as does June Atkinson representative. Atkinson is running for State Superintendent.

Area Democrats to hold rally

Kicking off the first day of Early Voting in North Carolina, a Democrat Rally in support of Democrats running for office at the district, state and national level will be held at the Cashiers Community Center on Thursday, October 16, from 5:30 to 7:30.

State Representative Phil Haire and State Senator John Snow are expected to attend, along with officials from Barack Obama, Heath Shuler, Bev Perdue and Kay Hagan campaign headquarters. Heath Shuler, who is running for re-election to the United States Congress, represents North Carolina's 11th District, which includes Highlands and Cashiers. Bev Perdue is a candidate for Governor of North Carolina, and Kay Hagan is in a tight race against incumbent Elizabeth Dole for election to the United States Senate.

Also in attendance will be county commissioners and other elected precinct, county and district officials.

Highlighting the event will be a free supper featuring All-American hotdogs and apple pie, a hotdog chili cook-off, a silent auction, and foot-stomping music by Lee Knight, Mark Lassiter and John Warren.

Candidates and their representatives will be on hand to answer questions and to pass out bumper stickers, yard signs and campaign literature.

The rally, sponsored by Mountain Area Democrats, is open to all registered voters and their families. To donate auction items or for more information, please call 743-2558.

... COVE continued from page 1

said OEI president Richard Delaney.

Memberships to Old Edwards Club will include all of OEI's amenities available in town including the spa and pool, and club memberships will pass directly to children and grandchildren.

Membership amenities include the state-of-the-art fitness center open seven days/week, personal trainers and multiple complimentary fitness classes, use of the spa, its steam rooms and Jacuzzis, use of two lighted clay tennis courts, the heated salt water pool and discounts at all retail outlets, on rooms, and at Madison's, Wine Garden, Rib Shack and Spa Café.

This past Saturday, OEI owners and officials met with the property owners, which number about 180 including land, condominium and home owners.

Lou Miller, president of the Old Edwards Club and 48-year friend and business partner of Art and Angela Williams, owners of Old Edwards Hospitality Group, said the reason for purchasing the golf course, restaurant, club and other recreational amenities is to offer OEI guests the same experience when they play golf as they currently get in town at the OEI complex.

"We want to build a neat, golf experience that offers fun and fellowship for the entire family," said Miller. "It's going to be family friendly for OEI guests and club members."

Miller said the news was very well received by Highlands Cove property owners. "They have invested a lot of capital and take pride in living there and they are excited about this joint venture and taking Highlands Cove to the next level," he said.

Miller considers Highlands Cove a great property with wonderful mountain views and a great mountain golf course. "It's just in the need of direction," he said.

In the works are renovations to the golf course, a face-lift to the clubhouse "so it has a more mountain lodge look and feel" and the addition of a swimming pool.

Specifically, renovations and capital improvements will involve rebuilding and laser-leveling all tees, re-working several holes including Hole #4, beautifying the course, the softening of some areas, improving the driving range and enlarging the tee, re-building and increasing the size of several greens, improving drainage, renovating the clubhouse, updating the tennis courts, and constructing a pool.

Miller said it's likely Cove employees will be retained but they will have to go through OEI's hospitality training.

Miller said for now the number of memberships is limited to 100 because they don't want to crowd the club. "We don't want the golf course to be packed; we want people to be able to play in a fast manner."

— Kim Lewicki



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• BUSINESS NEWS •

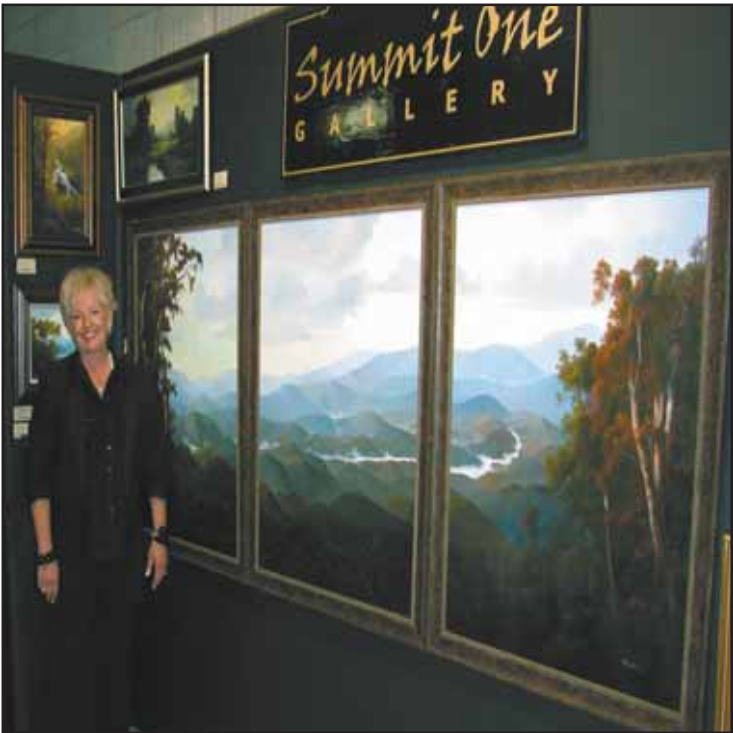
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Last weekend's Highlands Playhouse Antique Show brought exhibitors and buyers from near and far



Above, potential buyers at the show's preview party, Thursday, Sept. 28, browse through Hazel Giles area, an exhibitor from Glenville, N.C.

Left, Gallery owner Mary Adair Leslie, who sponsored the show, brought some dramatic examples of the work on display at Summit One Gallery on S. 2nd Street here in Highlands.



Robert Slack and his wife came from Ocala, FL with their European and American Fine Paintings.



Linda Ketterling hales from Toledo, OH, and featured Victorian Majolica Pottery and objects d'art.

Photos by Kim Lewicki

• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •

Finding prosperity in uncertain times

by Ted Schmidt
tedschmidt@aol.com

“God wants you to be prosperous!” The television evangelist receives a thunderous response as the attendees envision new homes, new cars, new clothes, gadgets of all sorts, and trips to exotic locations. Yes, Proverbs 28:25 says, he who trusts in the Lord will prosper, but is God's idea of prosperity the same as man's? Earlier this week, the largest single day loss in the history of the Dow Jones Industrial average wiped out one trillion dollars of stock market value. If you had money in the market, did you feel prosperous on Monday? Now the experts expect unemployment to rise. Faced with the prospect of not having a job, do you feel prosperous?

The Bible speaks of both spiritual prosperity and earthly prosperity. Abraham, Joseph, David, Solomon, Job, and many others would be considered rich, and even super rich, using earthly standards. So it is clear God does offer more than spiritual riches, but these men were men of God before they were men of finance. It was Job who said, “Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way prosperity will come to you.” (Job 22:21) David not only recognized the Lord takes pleasure in the prosperity of his servant (Psalm 35:27), but he also knew how to receive the blessing of prosperity: “Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.” (Psalm 128:1-2). In the cases of these men, material wealth followed those who sought to know God and to please Him.

But what about God's people who are not materially wealthy. Did they do something wrong, or is God's perspective different from ours?

Prior to the Fall of Man, God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden, and gave them dominion over the earth and everything in it. Imagine this natural abundance. Not a weed or a pest in the garden! They had a relationship with God, and their nutritional needs were amply met. They didn't need clothes until after the Fall, and then God provided them. Were they prosperous? It does appear all their needs were met without a mall, the internet, or cable TV.

What if we are blessed with material wealth? I would guess that most (if not all) of you reading this article enjoy a standard of living that is among the top five percent in the history of the world. That's not just the people living today, but of the people who have lived throughout all of history. Sounds prosperous to me! But Jesus said it is difficult for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven, however, with God even this is possible. (Matthew 19: 16-26) It is not whether you have material wealth, it is what you do with it.

Paul tells us it is not money itself, but the love of money that is the root of all evil. “For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.” (1 Timothy 6:7-10)

There's the contentment issue again. Food and clothing, just like Adam and Eve! In the book of Matthew, Jesus

•See SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING page 12

• PLACES OF WORSHIP •

BLUE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

BUCK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHAPEL OF SKY VALLEY

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

Pastor's residence: 706-746-5770

Sundays: 10 a.m. – Worship

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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

CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Office – 526-2320

Sunday: Holy Communion – 11 a.m.
(Highlands Community Center on. U.S. 64 next to the ballfield in Highlands)

Monday: Evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

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

Pot Luck Lunch last Sunday of each month.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

Corner of Spring and Third streets
Sundays: 11 a.m.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Everett Brewer

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

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

www.cbchighlands.com • 526-4685

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

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

Thursdays: Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

The Rev. Brian Sullivan – Rector: 526-2968

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

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

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

Monday: 4 p.m. Women's Cursillo Group

Tuesday: 8 a.m. Men's Cursillo Group

4:30 P.M. Education for Ministry

Wednesday: 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

Thursday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King

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

FIRST ALLIANCE CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

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

Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; 6: p.m.
(nursery provided)

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

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

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

Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Small groups available throughout the week.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Daniel D. Robinson, 526-4153

Sun.: Worship 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; School – 9:30
a.m.; Youth – 6:30 p.m.; Choir – 7:15

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

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Mark Kayser, Interim Pastor

Dr. Don Mullen, Parish Associate 526-3175

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

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

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. – Seekers

Choir – 7

HIGHLANDS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sixth Street

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Paul Christy

526-3376

Sun.: school 9:45 a.m.; Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m.;
5 p.m. Youth Group

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

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

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

HOLY FAMILY LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

Chaplain Margaret Howell

2152 Dillard Road – 526-9741

Sundays: Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Adult discussion
group 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion – 10:30

HEALING SERVICE on the 5th sunday of the month.

LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WILDWOOD

Services at the Church in the Wildwood in
Horse Cove. Memorial Day through Labor Day

Call Kay Ward at 743-5009

Sundays at 7 p.m. Dress is casual. Old fash-
ioned hymn-sing.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Pastor Jamie Passmore, (706) 782-8130

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

Choir – 6 p.m.

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

MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, Franklin

Mon. Sept. 29: Erev Rosh Hashonah at 7 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 30: Rosh Hashonah at 10 a.m.

For information, call

828-369-9270 or 828-293-5197

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Dean Cesa, pastor

Parish office, 526-2418

Sundays: Mass – 11 a.m.

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

(through last Saturday of October)

SCALY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Clifford Willis

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

Wednesdays: Prayer Mtg. – 7 p.m.

SCALY MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF GOD

290 Buck Knob Road; Pastor Alfred Sizemore
Sundays: School – 10 a.m.; Worship – 10:45 a.m.;

Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

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

For more information call 526-3212.

SHORTOFF BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Andy Cloer.

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

Wednesdays: Prayer & Bible Study – 7

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

828-369-3633

Lay Led Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Sundays: Worship – 11 a.m.

WHITESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cashiers, Rev. Sam Forrester, 743-2122

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

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• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Tickets still remain for The Bascom's Autumn Leaves Party this Saturday



Popular area band Cashiers Music Company will provide tunes for The Bascom's Autumn Leaves Party, set for this Saturday, Oct. 4. Tickets are still available.

Tickets are still available for this Saturday's Autumn Leaves Party, a community celebration designed to raise money for The Bascom.

The event, held Oct. 4 at 6 p.m. at The Bascom (Hudson Library building), features a large silent auction, barbecue, music by Cashiers Music Company and more. Tickets are \$35.

"We have priced the party intentionally low to attract all people to The Bascom while still raising funds for our art center," said Donna Woods, The Bascom's director of events. "It will be a lot of fun, so please come."

Popular area band Cashiers Music Company will provide great tunes for the party. Their music reflects the area's mountain heritage but also includes other influences, such as jazz, ragtime and Irish. Instruments include guitar, mandolin, banjo, saxophone, accordion and stand-up bass. Musicians include John Warren, Jim Yoder, Joe Fowler and Bill Coward.

Barbecue by the soon-to-be-opened Highlands Smokehouse rounds out the fun, plus a more than 50-item silent auction featuring pottery, jewelry, trips and more.

Andrea Chalker is providing free childcare for The Bascom's benefit from 5:30 p.m. until 30 minutes after the event ends. The service is for children ages preschool and up. Advance childcare reservations must be made with your ticket purchase.

Corporate sponsors are Old Edwards Inn and Spa, ZWJ Investment Counsel, The Laurel magazine, Nellis Communities and Mountain Party Tents & Events.

For tickets to the \$35 Autumn Leaves Party, call (828) 526-4949, or visit www.thebascom.org/gala to purchase tickets online.

On-going Events

- 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

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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 Four different images will be available for sale and for raffle, so people can buy all four images for \$2,000 and have four different chances of winning.

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

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

- NA open meeting every Saturday at 7:30 p.m. of the ACC Satellite Group at the Graves Community Church, 242 Hwy 107 N. in Cashiers. Call 888-764-0365 or go to the website: www.ncmana.org.

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

- 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.

Mondays & Wednesdays

- 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

• See EVENTS page 30

Full weekend of music & comedy at the Instant Theatre Company



Jennifer and Jon Adams of Montana Skies at ITC Friday, Oct. 3 at 8 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 3 at 8 p.m., the Instant Theatre Company brings back the incredible Montana Skies. Jennifer and Jon Adams return to the Studio on Main after a triumphant tour of Russia. Their passionate fusion of cello and guitar thrilled a sold out Studio audience last July demanding their return. Limited seating, reservations are strongly suggested.

All tickets \$25 with reservations, \$30 at the door (if any are available)

Saturday, October 4 the ITC brings a



Comedy Hour with Al Ernst at 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4

night of comedy to the Studio on Main. There will be two opportunities Saturday to see funny men Al Ernst and Dr. Babylon. A cocktail hour show at 5:30PM and an after dinner show at 8:30 p.m. The talented duo of Rocco and Bryan will provide musical interludes of classic rock and roll.

Al Ernst brought stand up comedy to Highlands, first as a surprise guest on the ITC's hit show series Little Entertainments. He then created the Instant Theatre Company's Comedy Festival, and as master of ceremonies he brought in eight comics



Comedy Hour with Dr. Babylon at 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

over one week last October.

Al, known also as BigE, the EMan, the Enforcer of Euphoria, leader of the EMan Nation, and the King of the Carnival Comedy Cruises, brings all in his circle of influence to their knees in laughter.

Among the festival comics last year Greg Ray, known as Dr. Babylon, was an audience favorite. The Doctor offers a nuts and bolts guide to love, relationships, and communication using simple, male logic — often with priceless, hysterical results. Dr Babylon can be seen on the DVD "Save the Males" and is the author of "Men are from Mars, because the women killed the ones on Venus."

Reserve your tickets now for a weekend of passionate music, comedic insights and just plain fun at the Instant Theatre Company's Studio on Main, 310 Oak Square, Main Street, Highlands. For information or reservations call the box office at 828-342-9197.

Two authors – Cookbook Designer and Dog Memoirist both at Cyrano's this weekend

Whether you're looking for a gorgeously produced book of recipes with a Christian theme or want to read a true story of the small dog with a big heart, Cyrano's has a book signing for you this weekend.

"Come to the Table: Food, Fellowship, and a Celebration of God's Bounty" isn't just another cookbook: It brims with wonderful southern recipes and inspiring quotations from scripture, church fathers (and mothers), philosophers and saints: It may also be the most beautiful cookbook you've ever seen. Susan Wilson, who, as the book's artistic and floral designer, brought all its varied elements into a gracious whole, will be at Cyrano's to autograph it this Saturday, Oct. 4, from 1-3 p.m. Wilson collaborated with three other friends from Augusta, Georgia: Benita Long did the writing, Ann Mitchell contributed the recipes and food styling while Sammy Wilson took the stunning photographs — many of which will look familiar to residents of Highlands, Cashiers and the surrounding area as Whiteside Mountain, Dry Falls, and the

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation are shown, as well as local interiors, both rustic and grand. There are pictures from throughout the South on almost every page, including historic gardens and homes. But the images of food are perhaps the most stunning, as each dish gets to star in a photographic still life reminiscent of the old masters or Impressionists. Just published by Thomas Nelson and — like the finest art books — printed in Asia, "Come to the Table" is a book that can be judged by both its cover and its contents.

Speaking of which, "Come to the Table" features more than 60 recipes divided into chapters on Breakfast, Picnics and Lunches, Meals at Church, Small Group Dinners and large Family Gatherings, Seafood and Small Morsels. Some of the recipes were inspired by Biblical passages. With the help of Virginia evangelist Steve Wingfield, they

wove scripture and prayers throughout their celebration of entertaining family and friends, creating a book that nourishes the soul as well as the body.

St. Francis of Assisi, whose teachings appear in "Come to the Table," would appreciate "Roger: A Love Story" by Marjorie O'Neill Eubank, who will sign her book from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5. Marjie and her husband Joe were watching the Westminster Kennel Club Dog show on television in 1991 when Fairewood Frolic, a Norwich Terrier won "best of show."

Not yet recovered from the recent death of their beloved Buck, a collie/Labrador mix, the Eubanks were intrigued by the small terrier breed, which the American Kennel Clubs describes as "gay, fearless, loyal and affectionate. Adaptable and sporting, they make ideal companions." As Marjie writes,

"They sounded like perfect pets. But I wasn't ready to have my heart broken again." But Joe knew better, and bought Roger, a 10-week-old puppy a few months later, taking his wife to the airport to meet the plane that the little dog was flying in from Kentucky to the Eubanks' home in Daytona, FL.

Joe told Marjie that they were going to meet "Roger," a business associate of Joe's described as "short, with brown hair." The airport, which was in on the surprise, even had "Roger" paged over the PA system.

"Roger: A Love Story" is Eubank's charming account of 15 years with Roger. Devastated when he died, Marjorie decided to write her memoir of Roger, dealing with her grief by sharing hilarious stories of the 13-pound dog's antics and misadventures. If you loved "Marley & Me," then "Roger: A Love Story" is for you.

Cyrano's Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488.



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

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.

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Showing Oct. 3-9

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA

rated PG

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

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:05), 7:05

FIREPROOF

rated PG

Friday (4), 7, 9:30

Sat & Sun: (1:30), (4), 7, 9:30

Mon – Thurs: (4), 7

NIGHTS IN RODANTHE

rated PG-13

Friday: (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

Sat & Sun: (2:05), (4:15), 7:05, 9:15

Mon – Thurs: (4:15), 7:05

EAGLE EYE

rated PG-13

Friday: (4:20), 7:10, 9:20

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

Mon – Thurs: (4:20), 7:10

• OpenAA meeting noon and 8 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at Fifth and Main streets.

First Mondays

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

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

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

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

Friday & Saturday

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

• Chad Reed at piano at ...on the Verandah

Annual Highlands Craft Show Oct. 11



The annual Highlands' Woman's Club Craft Show, Oct. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center, will feature hand-crafted items, baked goods, jewelry, textiles, stained glass, pottery, wood bowls, photography, artwork and scores of other items. Admission and parking are free. Breakfast and lunch available by Fressers Eatery.

restaurant from 7 p.m.

Friday-Sunday

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

Saturdays

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

Through Nov. 12

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

Thursday, Oct. 2

• An Evening with Casablanca at Jack's at Skyline. Dinner, dancing, movie and prizes. \$50 per person. Call 526-2121 for reservations.

• Fuel Assistance Sign-up at the Highlands Emergency Council at 71 Poplar Street. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proof of income required. No phone call sign-up.

• The Friends of the Cashiers Community Library will host another free family movie night at the library Thursday at 5 p.m. All Cashiers families are invited. The evening begins with a cookout. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. "The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep," a great family movie, will be shown. This magical movie is rooted in one of the most intriguing legends of all time. A young boy finds a mysterious enchanted egg. What hatches from it sets in motion an adventure that takes him on a journey of a lifetime as

the sea creature of Scottish legend is born.

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 3-4

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a SHC Jewelry Sara Hall Clemmer Designs. Using pearls, semi-precious and precious stones.

• The Bascom's Autumn Auction at The Farm at Old Edwards Inn and the Autumn Leaves Party at The Bascom. Tickets are \$225 for both events or \$35 for just the "Leaves" party. For tickets call 526-4949.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 3-5

• "Barefoot in the Park," a comedy by Neil Simon. Call 866-526-8008.

Friday, Oct. 3

• Montana Skies in concert at 8 p.m. at the Instant Theater's Studio on Main, Call the ITC Box Office for reservations. 828-342-9197

Saturday, Oct. 4

• Spaghetti Dinner Raffle & Auction Benefit for David Buck and family at High Country Cafe at 5 p.m.

• A memorial service for Julie Miller, the sous chef at ...on the Verandah at the restaurant from 12-3 p.m.

• At Cyrano's from 1-3 p.m. Susan Wilson will sign copies of "Come to the Table: Food, Fellowship and a Celebration of God's Bounty." Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488

• Charity Fair for the whole family at the Highlands Rec Park, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be BBQ plates for sale, a silent auction, a bake sale and a Free Yard Sale. To donate items for the silent auction, the bake sale or yard sale either call Jennifer Schmitt at 526-5244 or take the items to the Rec Park that morning. All proceeds will go to help needy Highlands School

Scaly Mountain 'Turkey Shoot' set for Saturday, Oct. 4 at fire dept in Scaly



Shooters take aim at winning a valuable new gun as first prize in the Third Annual Scaly Mountain Turkey Shoot & Festival set for Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Volunteer Fire Station property on Hale Ridge Road in Scaly Mountain. For details call 787-1860.

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

students and leftover items will be taken to F.A.I.T.H. (Fighting Abuse in the Home) in Clayton.

• At the Instant Theater, stand-up Comedy with Al Ernst and Dr. Babylon with music by Rocco and Brian Two shows: 5:30 P.M. and 8:30 P.M. Call the ITC Box Office for reservations 828-342-9197.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate

6-mile hike to Sam Knob off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Black Balsam Mountain. Meet at Westgate Plaza in Franklin (opposite Burger King) at 9 a.m. Drive 134 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited to 20; reservations are required. Call leader Gail Lehman at 524-5298 for reservations or more information. Visitors are

welcome, but no pets please.

• The Fall Gorge Road Clean Up Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please sign up by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 828-526-5841.

• At The Bascom, needlefelting with Teresa Bouchonnet. For more information or to register, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 4#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

• Bats program at the Highlands Nature Center, 3:30 - 5 pm. Come for an informative presentation featuring live bats! Learn about bat anatomy and behavior, and dispel common misconceptions about them. All ages, \$2 per person.

• Third Annual Scaly Mountain Turkey Shoot & Festival from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Volunteer Fire Station property on Hale Ridge Road in Scaly Mountain. For details call 787-1860.

• At Summit One Gallery, "Canine View of Sport and Field" artist's reception 5-7 p.m. The exhibit continues through Nov. 12. Summit One Gallery, located in "The Galleries", South Second Street, Highlands. 526.2673 summitonegallery@verizon.net www.summitonegallery.com

Sunday, Oct. 5

• Blessing of the Animals at the Nature Center amphitheater at 1 p.m. Fellowship and fun for animals and their people.

• Highlands-Cashiers Life Chain to stand against abortion on N. 4th Street across from Town Hall from 2-3 p.m.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take an easy one-mile hike in Black Rock Mtn. State Park in Georgia, visiting viewpoints at the Visitors' Center and Tennessee Rock, and hiking a short new trail around Taylor Lake. Meet at the Smoky Mt. Visitor Center on 441 South, near Otto, at 2 p.m.; or call leader for alternate meeting place if coming from Highlands or Cashiers. Drive 30 miles round trip. This hike is suitable for children ages 10 and up. Bring a drink, a snack if you wish, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Call leader Kay Coriell, 369-6820, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• At Cyrano's from 1-3 p.m. Marjorie O'Neill Eubank will sign copies of "Roger, A Love Story." Books can be reserved for autographing by calling (828) 526-5488

Sat.-Wed., Oct. 6-10

• At The Bascom, figurative oil painting with M. Kathryn Massey. For more information or to register, call (828) 526-4949, ext. 4#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

• Poetry Alive! will present a program of poetry performance on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., in the Rathskeller Coffee Haus in Franklin. Bringing poetry from the page to the stage, the Poetry Alive! team of two professional actors presents memorized poems in theatrical style, turning verse into script and audience members into fellow actors. The result is a high-energy, interactive show that not only entertains but also infuses the audience with a heightened appreciation of classic and contemporary poetry. This program is sponsored by the Arts Council of Macon County, supported by a Grassroots Arts Program grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency. For information contact the Macon Arts Council, 524-7683 or arts4all@dnet.net.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

• The Plateau Fly Fishing Club will host its last

meeting of the season on Wednesday The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Albert Carlton-Cashiers library. Everyone is invited. Kevin Howell, local guide, author and owner of Davidson River Outfitters will address the club. One of the areas's top guides, Kevin has appeared on ESPN's fly fishing shows and successfully competed in national fly fishing contests. Local streams will be stocked beginning in early October and Kevin will discuss techniques, locations, equipment and flies to catch the elusive trout. Following the presentation, a raffle will be held and the trophy water fishing package will be awarded. Call 743-2078 for information. The Plateau Fly Fishing Club meetings will resume in May 2009.

Thursday, Oct. 9

• See EVENTS page 32

'Fall Colors' show at Rec Park, Oct. 18-19

The Art League of Highlands has announced the date of its "Fall Colors" Fine Art Show. This annual event of the fall season will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 18 and 19 from 10-5 each day at the Highlands

Recreation Center just a few blocks from the main street of Highlands. The show will feature over 55 artists from throughout the southeast. There will be demonstrations and visitors to the show will be able to purchase fine quality art work directly from the artists. The Children's Art Room is a fun experience for all the young people attending the show. Under supervision of Art League members, children make their own special works of art that they may take home with them. There will be over \$1,000 in gift certificates given away during the 2 day event. Admission is free and everyone is encouraged to attend and bring the entire family!



Art League member Neal Adams, a potter from Florida, always draws a crowd as he explains Raku pottery.

Annual Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, Oct. 5 at the Nature Center Amphitheater

As fall is upon us, we may notice something very strange happening in Highlands — animals being led in procession to a religious ceremony.

In church calendars Oct.

4 marks the date that St. Francis of Assisi is remembered. Francis is the saint who left his wealthy family to begin a life solely focused on Christ. He formed a monastic order, and became a very popular religious figure. At one point in his ministry, he went to see the Pope to preach a sermon on reform. After being denied access, legend has it that he went to the garbage dump, and preached his sermon to the birds. Thus, he has



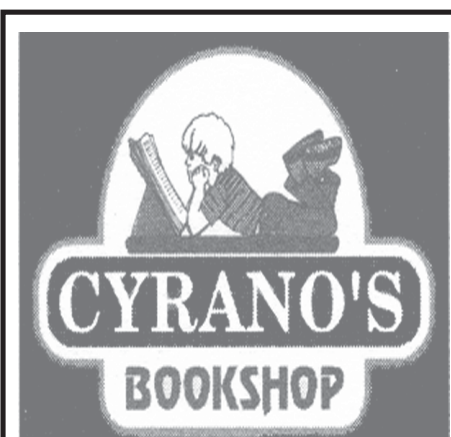
Photo by Helen Moore

become a common statue in many gardens, seen as a robed figure with a bird perched in his hand.

This Sunday, Oct. 5 at 1 p.m. at the Nature Center amphitheatre, the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation and Holy Family

Lutheran Church invite you to their annual Blessing of the Animals. Last year more than 80 people and close to 100 animals were in attendance. Everything from birds to cats to dogs restlessly received a simple blessing as we humans enjoyed fellowship and prayer.

Come and join us this year, literally, all are welcome! There will be treats for the animals, and refreshments following this simple service.



390 Main Street • 526-5488

www.cyranosbooks.com

Upcoming Book Signings

October 4

1-3 p.m.

Susan Wilson

"Come to the Table: Food, Fellowship and a Celebration of God's Bounty"

October 5

1 to 3 pm

Marjorie O'neal Eubank

"Roger. A Love Story"

October 11

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Philippa Gregory

"The Other Queen"

October 11

2 to 4 pm

Kevin Adams

North Carolina: Now and Then

October 19

4 to 6 pm

Ron Nash

"Serena"

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

• Macon County Commissioner candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters at 12:15 at Tartan Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin. In the November 4 election, Robert (Bobby) Koppers (Democrat) and James (Jimmy) Goodman (Republican) will compete for the County Commission District III seat. Incumbent James Davis is unopposed for the District II seat. Also participating in the forum will be candidates for the Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, Calvin Conley and Dennis Desmond. The public is invited to come and meet the candidates and hear them speak on the key issues in the positions they seek. Lunch will be available at noon, by reservation. Call 524-8369. The program will begin at 12:15 p.m.

• Candidate forum at the Franklin High School Fine Arts Center at 6:30 p.m. Candidates will be those running for the school board and the county commission. The forum is sponsored by the Macon County Association of Educators. Refreshments will be served.

• "Rear Window" (1954), rated PG, is the story of a wheelchair bound photographer (James Stewart) who spies on his neighbors from his apartment window and becomes convinced that one of them has committed murder. Grace Kelly plays his girlfriend. The movie was nominated for four Oscars. The movies are shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. on Thursday nights. 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.

• John Mac Kah will give a lecture, "View of Winter: On the Plateau," at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal

Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. Cost is \$10. For information, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949, or visit www.thebascom.org.

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 10-11

• The "Don't Count Your Chickens" folk art show at the Highlands Community Center, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

Friday, Oct. 10

• Cyrano's celebrates "All Things Tudor" with author Philippa Gregory at the Performing Arts Center at 6:30 p.m. Before a screening of "The Other Boleyn Girl," with champagne, wine and hors d'oeuvres with the author with dessert and coffee served after the movie. The outfits worn by the actors in the film will be on display. Tickets are \$75. Call 526-5488 for reservations.

Sat.-Thurs., Oct. 11-Nov. 13

• "2008 Juried Art" exhibition at The Bascom featuring art from all over the Southeast. Free opening reception Oct. 11 5-7 p.m. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is free. For information, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949, or visit www.thebascom.org.

Saturday, Oct. 11

• At Highlands Falls Country Club, a luncheon with the author Philippa Gregory at noon. Included is luncheon, dessert during which the author will be on hand to autograph copies of her book. Tickets are \$100. To make reservations call 526-5488.

• At Cyrano's, author Philippa Gregory will sign copies of her newest book "The Other Queen," as well as copies of her other books from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

• At Cyrano's Bookshop, author Kevin Adams

Artist John Mac Kah to lecture in Highlands Oct. 9

Landscape painter John Mac Kah, sponsored by The Bascom, is coming to Highlands next week for a special lecture.

"Views of Winter: On the Plateau" is set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. Mac Kah will talk about his experience

painting the winter and early spring landscape of Highlands during his time as The Bascom's artist-in-residence. Cost is \$10.

"We are really excited about this lecture," said Kaye Gorecki, The Bascom's artistic director. "John's work is in collections all over the country and in London, and he brings a unique perspective about the beauty of the mountains. Please come and enjoy an up-close-and-personal glimpse into this artist's work."

Mac Kah holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Ringling School of Art &



John Mac Kah with one of his paintings, "View from Grant Mountain: Lake Lure." The Bascom will present a lecture by Mac Kah at 7 p.m. Oct. 9 at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

Design. He is on the faculty of the Fine Arts League of the Carolinas and teaches all over the region. He has been a freelance artist and has had a private studio since 1984. He is represented by 16 Patton Gallery, Asheville.

"For me, painting is ultimately

about engaging with the landscape, about creating context for my experience," Mac Kah said. "In painting our environment, I am interested in arresting a moment's perception and I have tried to build a vocabulary to explain the intricacies of my experience. Painting is to some degree a celebration of those places that survive in the wild state, at the edge; but it is also elegiac and frustrating, as we are losing so much every day."

For more information about the lecture, call (828) 526-4949, or visit www.thebascom.org.

HCP's 'A Thousand Clowns' on Oct. 16



Pictured is the cast of "A Thousand Clowns," the first play of the Highlands Cashiers Players' new season, runs Oct. 16-26 at the Performing Arts Center. From left: Harry Bears plays the older brother of Murray Burns, played by Jim Gordon, with his son Ash as Nick Burns. Begging Murray to return to his TV show is Chuckles Chipmunk, played by Bob Tietze, while Marsha Shmalo and Rick Siegel, playing child welfare officers, round out the cast. The box office opens season subscribers, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 9 & 10 and for general tickets on Saturday, Oct. 11. Tickets are \$20.

will sign copies of "North Carolina: Now and Then" from 2-4 p.m. • At the Instant Theater, Love Letters, by A.R. Gurney, 8 P.M. This performance piece, costarring Rex Reed and Collin Wilcox, is being held as a benefit for The Instant Theatre Company. Call the ITC Box Office for reservations 828-342-9197.

• Annual Highlands Craft Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center. Admission and parking are free. Breakfast and lunch catered by Fressers Eatery.

• Macon County on Saturday Area veterinarians will vaccinate dogs, cats, and ferrets over 4 months of age, as required by NC state law. The cost is \$5 (cash only) per pet and all pets should be kept in vehicles, on leashes or in carriers. Dr. Patterson will vaccinate at the Highlands Conference Center from 1-2:30 pm and at the Scaly Mtn. Post Office from 3-4 pm. Call 349-2081 for a recorded schedule of other sites.

• The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate six-mile hike in Panthertown Valley, including Black Mountain, Warden's Falls, Granny Burrell's Falls, Homeplace, and Saltrock Gap. Fall leaves should be colorful, but due to the recent drought, waterfalls will have a light flow. Meet at the Highlands Bank of America at 9:30, or at the Cashiers Wachovia Bank (in back) at 9:50. Drive 30 miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear sturdy comfortable shoes. Hikes are limited

to 20; reservations are required. Call leader: Jim Whitehurst, 526-8134, for reservations or more information. Visitors are welcome, but no pets please.

• At the Instant Theater, Rex Reed will appear with local stage, film and TV actress Collin Wilcox in A.R. Gurney's performance piece, Love Letters at 8 p.m. Following the performance piece a champagne reception will be held to honor Rex Reed. Tickets to benefit the Instant Theatre Company are \$35. For reservations call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. The ITC's Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak square, Main Street, Highlands. Visit our website at www.instanttheatre.org.

Sat, Mon, & Wed., Oct. 13, 15, 17

• Artist Margie Shambaugh will teach "Porcelain Painting" for The Bascom on Oct. 13, 15, and 17 for beginning to advanced students. Learn a step-by-step process for classic porcelain floral painting (china painting). Using the loaded brush system, participants will be guided through a three-day process of painting and firing with exquisite show-stopping results. Cost is \$130 (\$117 Bascom members). For information or to register, call The Bascom at (828) 526-4949, ext. 4#, or visit www.thebascom.org.

Monday, Oct. 13

• "Making Apple Butter" 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• See EVENTS page 33

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

Best-selling English Novelist Philippa Gregory Comes to Highlands; several events planned

Philippa Gregory, author of the New York Times bestseller "The Other Boleyn Girl," and other page turners set in Tudor England, will be in Highlands on Oct. 10 and 11 — her only stop in the southeast on her 10-city U.S. tour promoting her new novel about Mary, Queen of Scots, "The Other Queen." Sponsored by Cyrano's Bookshop, Ms. Gregory's stay will include a Friday evening screening of the film based on her novel about sisters Mary and Anne Boleyn, "The Other Boleyn Girl," and an author lunch on Saturday, as well as a book signing at Cyrano's later that afternoon.

As anybody who's read one of Gregory's works of historical fiction will attest, the books are addictive. Whether it's one of the tales of Henry VIII's court or those of his children Queens Mary and Elizabeth ("The Queen's Fool," "The Virgin's Lover"); or the books about Charles I's team of father-&-son royal gardeners and world travelers the Tradescants ("Earthly Joys," "Virgin Earth"); or Gregory's "Wideacre" trilogy set in an 18th-century English country house, the author's combination of fast-paced plot, in-depth historical research and beautiful writing captures you from the first few pages.

Gregory's brand-new novel, "The Other Queen," recounts the final years of the doomed Mary of Scotland, when she was a prisoner of her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I of England. Mary's jailors at Fotheringhay Castle were the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury. The Earl fell in love with his prisoner, causing his wife Bess — the countess — to leave him, before he was himself relieved of his duties prior to Mary's execution. Bess Shrewsbury — a close friend of Queen Elizabeth, and as forceful and liberated as her monarch — became famous as the creator of the magnificent country house Hardwick Hall, the Tudor equivalent of Philip Johnson's glass house: "Hardwick Hall, more glass than wall."

Cyrano's kicks off its two-day celebra-

tion of all things Tudor on Friday evening, Oct. 10, with a 7:30 p.m. screening of "The Other Boleyn Girl," at the Performing Arts Center. Before the movie there will be champagne, wine and hors d'oeuvres with Philippa Gregory starting at 6:30 p.m.; dessert and coffee will be served after the movie, and audience members can buy books and have them autographed by the author. On display during the evening will be some of the actual costumes made for the film, as well as those created for the book covers. These lush outfits worn by Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Kristin Scott Thomas and other actors are authentic copies of the lush, 16th-century dress worn at court. Cyrano's employees and others will also be attired in period clothing and there will be jesters and swordsmen performing live. For one evening PAC will be Nonesuch Palace, Hampton Court and Hever Castle all rolled into one.

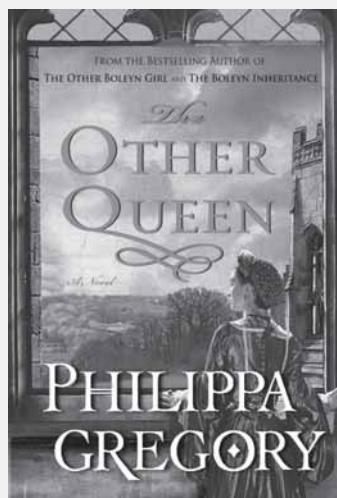
Tickets for Friday are \$75 per person.

On Saturday, Oct. 11, Ms. Gregory will preside at lunch given in her honor at Highlands Falls Country Club, starting at noon. There will be a fabulous menu featuring an incredible dessert, and Gregory — a great, engaging public speaker — will discuss her life and work. Born in Kenya, Gregory moved to England with family, and became a newspaper reporter and producer for the BBC. Afterward lunch Gregory will autograph copies of her books. The price for the luncheon is \$45; one can buy tickets to attend both the Friday film screening and the Saturday lunch for \$100. Finally, later on Saturday afternoon, Ms. Gregory will be at Cyrano's Bookshop for one hour only, from 2:30 to 3:30 to autograph for customers.

Cyrano's Bookshop is located at 390 Main Street in Highlands, North Carolina. Books, as well as tickets for the film screening and the author lunch, can be reserved by calling (828) 526-5488.



Philippa Gregory



Workshops cost \$5 each and participants get to take home a jar of apple butter and apple jelly. Pay the day of the workshop. Must call to reserve a spot. Space is limited. 349-2046.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

• "Making Apple Jelly" 1-4 p.m. Workshops cost \$5 each and participants get to take home a jar of apple jelly. Pay the day of the workshop. Must call to reserve a spot. Space is limited. 349-2046.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

• A Mountain Top Charity Classic Golf Tournament at Mountain Top Golf & Lake Club between Highlands and Cashiers. Registration is at 10 a.m. \$500 per player. Shotgun start. Lunch will be provided during play. Only 120 players. Entry deadline is Sept. 29. Dinner bash is 5:30-10 p.m. and \$150 per person. RSVP Member Services at 743-4707. All proceeds will benefit The Crossnore School in Crossnore, NC, R.E.A.C.H. in Franklin and Discovery Land Company Foundation.

Thurs.-Sun., Oct. 16-19

• An old favorite, the comedy/drama "A Thousand Clowns," is the Highlands Cashiers Players fall play this season at the Performing Arts Center in Highlands. Tickets for "A Thousand Clowns" go on sale for the public beginning Saturday, Oct. 11. Box office hours at PAC, 507 Chestnut Street, are 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. Call 828-526-8084 for reservation.

Thursday, Oct. 16

• "To Catch a Thief" (1955) features Cary Grant

as a reformed jewel thief who is suspected of returning to his former occupation. In order to prove his innocence, he must find the real thief. He is aided by an American heiress played by Grace Kelly. The movies are shown in the Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. on Thursday nights. 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.

• Democrat rally at the Cashiers Community Center from 5:30-7:30. Most candidates or their representatives are expected to attend. There will be music, a silent auction and a hot-dog, chili cook-off. For more information, call 742-2558.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 17-19

• At Acorn's on Main Street, a Bijoux de Mer Jewelry Trunk Show. Bijoux de Mer specializes in pearls and precious stones and a Laruen Lachance Botanical Pressings Trunk Show Transforming a five hundred year old tradition of pressing plants into an arrestingly beautiful contemporary art form.

Fri-Sat., Oct. 17-18

• At the Instant Theater, The Second Lady at 8 P.M. A powerful one-woman show about a fictional political wife. She has mislaid her prepared remarks and must draw on her experiences and recollections to fulfill a speaking engagement on behalf of her husband. Stars Madeleine Davis Directed by David Milford. Call the ITC Box Office for reservations 828-342-9197.

Rex Reed to appear at the ITC Oct. 11

Rex Reed will appear with local stage, film and TV actress Collin Wilcox in A.R. Gurney's performance piece, Love Letters at the ITC's Studio on Main. Rex Reed is a critic, journalist, author and lecturer whose reviews appear every week in the New York Observer.

His articles and essays on the arts have appeared in almost every national magazine and newspaper in London and the United States. He is the author of eight books about the movies and his first novel, Personal Effects, was optioned by NBC-TV for a four-hour miniseries.

For five years he starred in the nationally syndicated television show, "At the Movies." As an actor, he appeared in the films Myra Breckinridge with Mae West and John Huston, Ichon! with Laurence Olivier, Superman with Christopher Reeve and Marlon Brando. He also appeared with Melina Mercouri, Laurence Olivier, Lillian Hellman and Edward Albee in Jules Dassin's antiwar film, "The Rehearsal." Rex has been a member of the juries at the Montreal, Venice and Berlin film festivals and is a

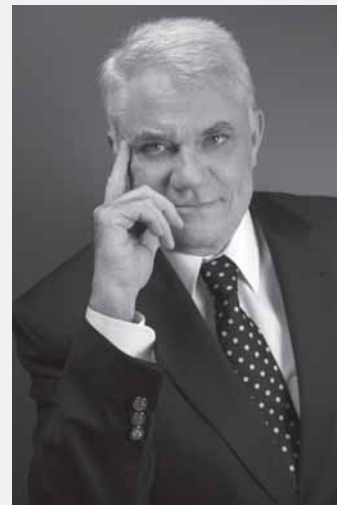
member of the New York Film Critics Circle and the National Society of Film Critics. As a music critic, and ardent supporter of Broadway show music he has written liner notes for Liza Minnelli, Lena Horne,

Tony Bennett, Mel Torme, Eileen Farrell, Barbara Cook and many others. In 1993, he was inducted, along with James Carville and legendary Supreme Court Judge Minor Wisdom, into the Louisiana Hall of Fame in his native state. He has been nominated for two Grammy Awards and holds a journalism degree from Louisiana State University.

Love Letters will be performed one night only, on Oct. 11 at 8 p.m., to benefit the Instant Theatre Company. Following the performance

piece a champagne reception will be held to honor Rex Reed. Tickets to benefit the Instant Theatre Company are \$35.

For reservations call the ITC box office at 828-342-9197. The ITC's Studio on Main is located at 310 Oak square, Main Street, Highlands. Visit our website at www.instanttheatre.org.



Rex Reed

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20 words for \$5; \$2 for each
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YARD SALES

SATURDAY OCT. 4, 10-5 – Multi-Family. 401 N. Fifth St, Highlands. One block off Main St. Next to Roman Catholic Church. Glass ware, garden tools, dishes, furniture, and more.

SATURDAY, OCT. 11, 9-5 – Annual community yard sale. Unique gifts, designer floral decor, furniture, professional lawn equipment, tools & more. Take Dillard Road to Bald Mountain Road, turn left at Bald Mtn. Road at the gazebo, corner of Dam Lake Drive and Bald Mountain. 1 1/2 miles north of Sky Valley.

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 humsc@dnet.net.

PART-TIME CLEANERS NEEDED TO CLEAN BANKS – in Highlands area. Call Linda at 828-691-6353.

HIGHLANDS INN & HAMPTON INN now hiring Guest Services Representative. Partime or Full time available. Please call 526-9380 for interview

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

SCALY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR CENTER – Now hiring, cooks, dishwashers, wait staff and general help. Call Brenda at 526-1663.

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST: at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital. Part time and PRN positions available. Responsibilities include taking call and being able to respond within 20 minutes. Also must be able to intubate a patient. Current registration or certification in North Carolina, along with a current BLS and/or ACLS required. Experience with rehabilitation and disease prevention preferred. Pre-employment screening required. Call Human Resources at 828-526-1301 or apply online at www.hchospital.org.

RNs at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and Fidelia

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

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

CNA OR CNA II at Fidelia Eckerd Living Center. 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.

WORK WANTED

PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED CHEF – with 15 years experience in 4 and 5 star restaurants available to prepare custom menus for you and your family. Your kitchen or mine. Will travel for specialty/organic ingredients. Long-term/year around or special event catering available. Special dietary needs accommodated. Please call 743-0649 or email eleanorcrowe@aol.com for consultation or questions.

LOOKING FOR A HOUSEKEEPER? – Call Dora at 828-200-1038. References available.

FOUND

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

A Male Lab Mix – on Sept. 21. Vicinity of August Produce. Please call 526-9027.

FREE DOG

MOVING: 5-yr-old Jack Russell Terrier looking for a loving home. Call 828-200-9842.

LOST

YELLOW CAT – No tail. From Rocky Hill/Raoul

Road area. "April Mae" If seen please call 526-0991

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT

DEVELOPER CLOSEOUT! – Unit at Freeman Center on N.C. 106 available for Rent/Own at \$1,995 monthly or for sale at \$379,900. That's a purchase price of only \$165 per sq. ft. Call 526-5296 or 828-421-3161.

UNIQUE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY on Main St Highlands. 800 sq ft retail/office space just in time for the season. Space includes bath & kitchen. Call for details 526-3363.

PRIME Office Space for Rent — 800 sq. ft., air-conditioned, heated, plenty of parking. Call 526-5673.

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

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

RESIDENTIAL FOR RENT

ONE BED/ONE BATH APARTMENT. Whiteside Cove, nonsmoker, \$400/month, negotiable. Call 787-1515.

AVAILABLE NOV 1 – 2 bdrm, 2 bath condo at Highlands Mtn. Club, next to Highlands Country Club. AC, gas logs, hwd floors, fully furnished. Deck & screened porch. In city limits. Amenities include heated pool, road & entrance snow removal. \$950 per month. 828 200-0786

HIGHLANDS GARAGE APARTMENT- Cozy wood panelled living room. 1/1, balcony, newly painted and carpeted. One person. Six month minimum, unfurnished or furnished. \$450/mo + utilities!! Call 404-892-2090 or 828 -526-4445. 9/25

TWO-STORY APARTMENT FOR RENT ON CHENEY LANE – (3 minutes from Highlands/Cashiers Hospital). One-year Lease Agreement. Recent Renovation. Fully Furnished. Available October 1, 2008. 2 bedrooms/2 baths. 3 extra large closet. Kitchen with dishwasher and new JennAire cookstove, many kitchen cabinets. Washer/dryer, dining area, living room, cable and telephone connection, native stone fireplace. \$1,000/month, includes water, sewer, electricity. Single Family. References Required. No Pets. No Smoking. Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489.

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.

COTTAGE FOR RENT – 1 bed, 1 bath. In town. Chestnut cottages. Screened porch. heat, furnished. Weekly \$350 a week or \$1,200 a month. Call 526-4063. 10/2

ONE-BEDROOM – Furnished apartment with covered patio. Includes electric, water and cable. No pets and no smoking inside. \$650 per month plus deposit. Call 526-2561.

2 BR, 2BA HOUSE ON HWY 64 IN FRANKLIN. Heat/AC, easy access. Comfortable for 2 or makes a great office. \$700 per month, 1 mo security dep. Call Sandy at 369-6263.

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT – 2 bed, 1 bath, newly renovated on Main Street. Personal & Business references required. One year minimum. Washer and Dryer. Call John Dotson for details. 828-526-5587.

WALK TO TOWN – from this 3/3 older home available all year round. Fuel oil heat, some electric. Furnished but negotiable. Small pets OK. \$1275 includes electric. Call 526-5558. 10/2

DAYLIGHT 1 BED/1 BATH BASEMENT APARTMENT FOR RENT — One-year Lease Agreement. Available Now. (3 minutes from Highlands/Cashiers Hospital). Recent Complete Renovation. Fully Furnished, kitchen, dining area, living room, washer/dryer, cable connection, fireplace, \$600 includes water, sewer, electricity, Single Family, References Required, No Pets, No Smoking, Call Jim at 1-770-789-2489.

TURTLE POND 2 bed/2 1/2 bath, hot tub; furnished; no smoking/pets 828-526-2759.

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

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

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

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

VACATION RENTAL

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

MOTORHOME, LOT and ADJOINING COACH HOUSE. Absolutely beautiful and shining 40

• CLASSIFIEDS •

Home for Sale Under \$200,000

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ft. PREVOST COACH "Liberty Lady" model by Liberty Coach. Garaged since new. 55,0000 pampered (two owner) miles. Priced well below market. Gorgeous lot and coach house. Located/can be seen at the corner of Fifth St. and Chestnut St. in Downtown Highlands. Total package: MOTORHOME, LOT and ADJOINING COACH HOUSE 10/30

WALKING DISTANCE TO TOWN! Adorable Park Model in Chestnut Park. 1 Bedroom, one bath with cathedral ceilings and loft. Full size kitchen appliances, stack washer & dryer. Central heat & air and electric fireplace. Screened porch and open deck. Adjacent lot available for expansion or motor coach. \$185,000 or \$270,000 with extra lot. Phone 526-2598.

1,600 SQ. FT. HANDICAPPED ACCESS HOUSE ON 2 ACRES. 3br/2 large bath w/roll under sinks; elevator, finished basement, w/unfinished workshop area, 2 car carport; new metal roof; native stone fireplace & landscaping; new hardwood floors, new Pella windows. Hi volume well & access to two springs and a fish pond. Bordered by USFS. & creek and Buck Creek Road. \$329,000 Call 828-524-6038.

AFFORDABLE IN-TOWN HIGHLANDS N.C. — Low maintenance, in-town, no annual fees, totally renovated, highly motivated owner An incredible deal on a cozy mountain cottage, now just \$259,000! Would make a great vacation rental Call NOW 800-526-1648 ext. 1008 for recorded property details, Green Mountain Realty Group

HOME BUYERS: — How to Avoid Paying Too Much. Do you want the most house at the best price? Do you want to know just as much (if not more than) the seller about the real estate buying process BEFORE you begin negotiating a deal? New report with 24 tips you MUST know before investing in real estate. FREE while supplies last. Call now toll free at 800-526-1648 ext. 0038 to request your free copy of our report: "Home Buyers: How to Avoid Paying Too Much" It could save you thousands! Green Mountain Realty Group

MOTOR HOME SITE – Uptown Highlands. Upscale site and adjoining new cedar-shake cabin.

HIDDEN CREEK. Corner of Fifth and Chestnut Sts. Pleasant stroll to shops and fine dining. Open for your inspection. Great site. Great investment. Pricing, pictures, all details: On-site, or call www.jtimms.com/hiddencreek 828-526-5333

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, PLUS OFFICE. In Town. \$249,000. Lease to own option for qualified. \$1,100 per month. Call 707-354-3011.

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

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

ITEMS FOR SALE

ANTIQUE WICKER BABY CARRIAGE for sale \$100. Call 369-5863.

GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK FOR SALE. Key wound. \$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 – 15" 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.

2 ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS. 1 Pine, \$75 - can hold 27" TV, 1 dark wood \$50. Call 369-5863.

CHAIR AND OTTOMAN – oversized brown leather – excellent condition \$500 for both - 828-526-3746

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

BOWFLEX EXTREME 2 SE home gym. New. Used 2 weeks and now it collects dust. \$1,500 obo. 706-212-7341

OAK 6-FT. DINING TABLE with extra 2-ft leaf insert and 6 dining chairs - \$400. Call 526-2767 or 526-0096.

TWO COWBOY DUSTERS – Full length coats. One black, one tan. Like brand new. Bought at T.J. Bailey's for \$350 each. Will sell for \$75 each. Also misc. 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.

STEEL PALLET RACK FOR SALE – Approximately 50 ft. of 42" high x 42" deep x 8" wide steel pallet rack, includes frames and rails; 3,000 lb. capacity. Perfect for home or industrial applications - includ-

ing work benches; \$450. (828) 787-1035.

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. Sylva area.

JESSICA MCCLINTOCK VICTORIAN STYLE WEDDING DRESS. Very unique. Size 11/12. \$200. Call (828) 631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.

MAN'S FORMAL (MID-LENGTH) WESTERN STYLE BLACK COAT. Size 46. Worn once. Bought at Stages West in Pigeon Forge. \$150. Call (828) 631-2675 after 5 p.m. Sylva area.

KODAK 8 inch EASYSHARE DIGITAL PICTURE FRAME with remote. New - in box. \$95. 526-2713

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.

GORGEOUS SOFA, LARGE MATCHING CHAIR, COFFEE TABLE, SIDE TABLE. All for \$875. Call 828-349-8907 for info.

5-PC BEDROOM SET C.1920 Bed/Chest of Drawers/Vanity-style 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 condition. \$150. 828/787-2177.

9X15 KARASTAN RUG – Kirman design. Approximately 60 years old. Excellent condition. Call 526-5451.

6-FT. SLIDING GLASS DOOR SET – aluminum with screen. \$100 OBO. Call 349-4930.

BUNK BEDS in great condition, solid wood, honey color, mattresses and denim comforters included - \$350. Call 526-8321.

SONY PSP HANDHELD GAME SYSTEM. 1 year old. Used very little. Comes in original box with manual. Excellent condition. \$165. 526-9107.

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

CHARBROIL GRILL – Chrome, \$100 and another one for FREE. Call 526-4063.

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

MURRAY RIDING LAWN MOWER – 12.5 HP, 40" cut. Bought new. Garage Kept. Excellent Condition. \$400. Call 526-2607.

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 BEDSPREADS – \$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 FIREPLACE. W-68", H-52" Call: 828-349-3320

ETHAN ALLEN HEIRLOOM CROWN GLASS CHINA CABINET with a bottom 3-door buffet. Call 828-526-4077. \$995

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.

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

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

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

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

MISC. ITEMS – Various proof coin sets, old 78

• See CLASSIFIEDS page 36

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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LP, Old Walt Disney movies (never opened); Girls' bicycle; Collectible Basketball Cards (never opened). Call 526-9123.

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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

2001 VOLKSWAGON CABRIO CONVERTIBLE – Leather interior. Power top/windows, seat warmers, 5 speed. 42,000 miles. 35 mpg. Sharp. \$8,600. Call 526-2848.

1997 FORD F-250. \$12,500. Call 526-3824.
15-FT. DUAL AXLE TRAILER FOR HAULING TRACTORS – \$1,050. Call 526-3824.

1989 4WD BLACK CHEVY BLAZER SILVERADO convertible truck. Rebuilt engine, towing package, roof rack, nice stereo, runs great, goes anywhere and can pull anything! \$5,000 OBO. (828)

421-7922.

2001 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED – Fully Loaded. 84,500 miles. \$9,500. Call 828-743-6353.

1994 FORD 150 PICK-UP. Cab. Low Mileage, 8-cylinders. Clean inside and outside. Dar Green. Must see to appreciate. \$6,000. Call 526-8401. 10/16

BUSINESS FOR SALE

FITNESS CENTER – Downtown Highlands. 125+ members. Business and equipment can be purchased for less than equipment cost. \$35,000. Call 828-200-9360 or 828-506-4296. 10/9

SERVICES

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

HANDY MAN – Will do odd jobs. References. Call Tim Alexander at 526-3824

DEPENDABLE HOUSESITTER AND PET SITTER. Available weekdays and weekends. References Available. Call 443-315-9547. 9/25

HANDYMAN SPECIAL – Repairs and Remodeling, Electrical and Plumbing, Carpentry and more. Low prices. For free estimate call 828-342-7864. 10/9

EXPERIENCED ATTENDANT FOR ELDERLY – Full or part-time. References. Call Mila at 526-4813 or cell: 718-570-7468. 10/9

COMPLETE LAWN SERVICE - All Levels of Lawn Care at Competitive Rates. Design, Installation, & Maintenance. No Job Too Small or Too Large. 30 Years Experience. For Free Quotes, References, or Scheduling, Please Call: 526-1684.

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

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LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 for all Federal, State, Judicial, Legislative and County Offices. The Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. To vote in this election you must be a registered voter of Macon County.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Citizens that wish to vote in the 2008 General Election must be registered to vote by Friday, October 10, 2008. (G.S. 163-82.6(c). Voters of Macon County who need to update, or make any changes to their information must also do this by the same date. This does include name changes, party affiliations changes, or address changes. Registration forms if submitted by mail must be postmarked or delivered in person by this day. Registration forms are available at the Macon County Public Library, Highlands Civic Center, Hudson Library in Highlands, Highlands Town Office,

Macon County Public Health Center, and the Macon County Board of Elections Office.

One-Stop Voting:

One-Stop Absentee Voting will begin on Thursday, October 16, 2008 (G.S. 163-227.2) and it will end on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. One-Stop Voting will be available at the Macon County Board of Election Office. The Board of Elections office is located on the 1st floor of the Macon County Courthouse. The hours for One-Stop voting will be **Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.** In addition the office will also be open on **Saturday, October 18, Saturday, October 25, and November 1, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** One-Stop Voting will only be held during these hours, if you do not vote Absentee By Mail or One-Stop you must go to your polling location on Election Day to cast your vote. In-Person One-Stop Registration is for resident that have missed the deadline for voter registration. A resident must fill out a voter registration application and prove residency by providing appropriate identification with current name and current address. In-Person One-Stop Registration is ONLY for ONE-STOP voters, this process is NOT allowed on Election Day.

If you have any questions regarding election matters you may contact our office at 828-349-2034 or visit our web site at www.maconnc.org/elections

Sara R. Waldroop, Chairman
Macon County Board of Elections
10/16

• BUSINESS NEWS •

Highlands Falls Country Club honors bridge director Teri Dolci

HFCC was the scene Tuesday night of a "Thank You" celebration for bridge teacher and Director Teri Dolci. Appreciative participants from all bridge levels attended to express their gratitude for an enviable bridge program this summer.

In addition to Teri's weekly scheduled bridge lessons and sanctioned games, she arranged for HFCC and other local clubs to host two very popular and sought-after bridge seminars given by Jerry Helms, Audrey Grant and Marty Bergen, national renowned teachers and authors.

Teri's passion to share her knowledge and love of the game has fostered new enthusiasm for bridge excellence, and HFCC looks forward to another season of Bridge with the Masters.



Bridge expert, Teri Dolci

POLICE, FIRE & DEPT. LOG ENTRIES

The following is the Highlands Police Dept. log entries for Sept. 18-23. Only the names of persons arrested, issued a Class-3 misdemeanor, or public officials have been used.

Sept. 25

• At 3:45 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle accident at NC 106 and S. 2nd Street.

Sept. 27

• At 12:30 p.m., a motorist on N.C. 106 was cited for driving with a revoked license.

Sept. 29

• A little past midnight, officer stopped to assist a motorist on Many Road.

• At 1:35 p.m., a motorist was cited for driving with a revoked license at Main and Third streets.

• At 3:35 p.m., Clinton Alexander O'Brian, 27, of Highlands, was arrested for driving with a revoked license and a fictitious license plate. He posted a \$1,000 secured bond.

• At 6:25 p.m., a motorist at U.S. 64 and Main Street was cited for unlawfully operating a vehicle.

• At 1:36 a.m., officers were called to assist another agency helping an intoxicated woman who was on the side of the road. She was escorted to the cabin she was renting.

• During the week, officers issued 2 warning tickets and responded to 3 alarm activation.

The following are the Highlands Fire & Rescue Dept. log entries for the week of Sept. 24-Oct. 1

Sept. 24

• The dept. responded to a vehicle accident on Turtle Pond Road.

• The dept. responded to an alarm activation at OEI on Spring Street. It was cancelled en route.

Sept. 26

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Kline Road. The victim wasn't taken to the hospital.

Sept. 27

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Club House Trail. The victim wasn't taken to the hospital.

Sept. 29

• The dept. was first-responders to assist EMS with a medical call at a residence on Whiteside Mountain Road. The victim wasn't taken to the hospital.

Sept. 30

• The dept. responded to an alarm activation at a residence on Ravenel Ridge Road. No problem was found.



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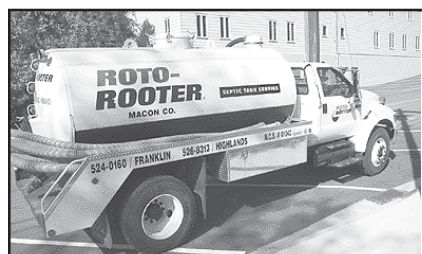
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Regional Early Childhood Education Conference registration deadline approaching

October 10 is the deadline for parents of young children and early childhood educators to register to attend the regional event, "Region A: Caring for Children."

The conference will be held on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., at the Macon County Public Library and the Macon Campus of Southwestern Community College.

The conference, sponsored by NC Cooperative Extension, Southwestern Child Development Commission, Smart Start, Southwestern Community College, and Harrah's, will be helpful to both parents and child care providers.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Kimberly Johnson, a children's author and motivational speaker, who offers ideas for helping children with reading and writing. Her dynamic presentation will inspire and move participants. Everyone attending the conference will receive one of Johnson's

books. Sixteen workshops will be offered – some one hour, some two hours.

Topics include: developing pre-literacy skills, helping children navigate life transitions, computer resources, common childhood infections, ADHD, welcoming children into childcare, importance of outdoor play, introduction to Foundations (early learning standards for preschoolers), guidance, music, teaching "green", mixing math and multiple intelligences, working with multi-age groups, nutrition, and a "make and take" session.

The registration fee for "Region A: Caring for Children" is \$20 which includes lunch, handouts, tote bag, snacks, Kimberly Johnson's book, and educational materials. To obtain a registration form, contact Cheryl Beck with Cooperative Extension at 586-4009. Registration must be postmarked by Oct. 10.

CFWNC celebrates \$100 million in grants and scholarships awarded over 30-year history

450+ Gather for 30th Anniversary Luncheon

Recently more than 450 people gathered at the Renaissance Asheville Hotel to celebrate two major milestones for The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina (CFWNC): the organization's 30th Anniversary, and most importantly, the fact that the Foundation has distributed more than \$100 million in grants and scholarships while developing \$170 million in charitable assets for the mountain region. CFWNC works locally with the Highlands Community Foundation, one of nine regional affiliates.

Thirty years ago, resources for charitable programs in Western North Carolina were scarce, with just a handful of private foundations, created by local families or businesses, in existence. But in 1978, that all changed when a small group of visionaries saw an opportunity to create a community foundation and build lasting resources for our mountain region.

Guests at the 30th Anniversary Friends Luncheon learned about the people who started the Foundation, major milestones and initiatives in its history and the non-

profit programs that have used its grants to improve the quality of life in Western North Carolina. Pisgah Legal Services received the 2008 Chairman's Award for excellence and 10 guests were selected at random to become "Grantmakers for the Day" and help award \$30,000 in charitable grants to WNC nonprofits in honor of the 30th Anniversary.

"The Community Foundation began thanks to the vision of a small group of dedicated community leaders who recognized both the need and potential for starting a foundation," said Pat Smith, CFWNC president. "But it has been the generosity of our donors whose gifts have established hundreds of charitable funds and made it possible to award more than \$100 million in grants and scholarships." She continued, "These grants have helped address our most pressing needs and promising opportunities, and improved the lives of countless people in Western North Carolina."

For more information about The Community Foundation, please visit www.cfwnc.org/30years or call (828) 254-4960.

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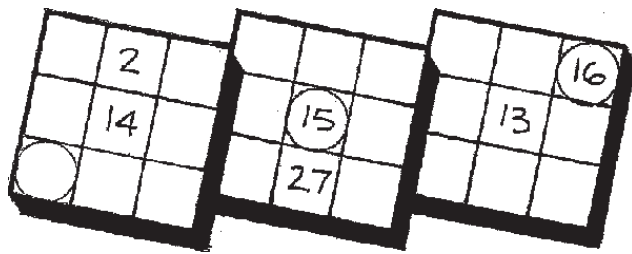
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The 'Name the Park' winner will be announced in the Oct. 9 issue of Highlands' Newspaper.

• FUN & GAMES •

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AZ4E Level of Difficulty Hard

THE SETUP:

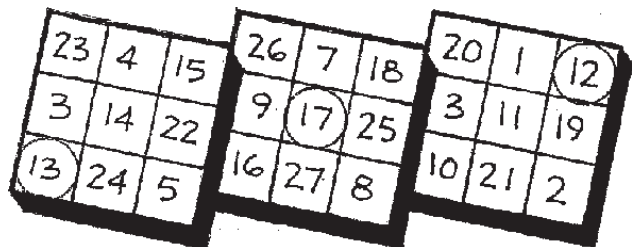
The cube has 27 consecutive numbers in it, arranged in three layers with 9 numbers each. These numbers are arranged in a special pattern: For each layer, the sum of the three numbers in each row, column or diagonal, is 3 times its center number. Eight diagonals connect all 3 layers by running through 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 #DZ4E in Sept. 25 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

#B802

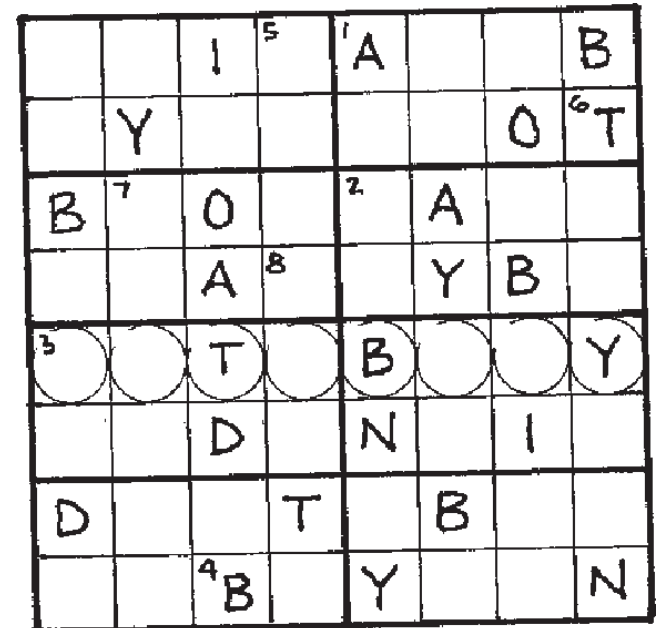
Immunity Protective Cell (8)

Across

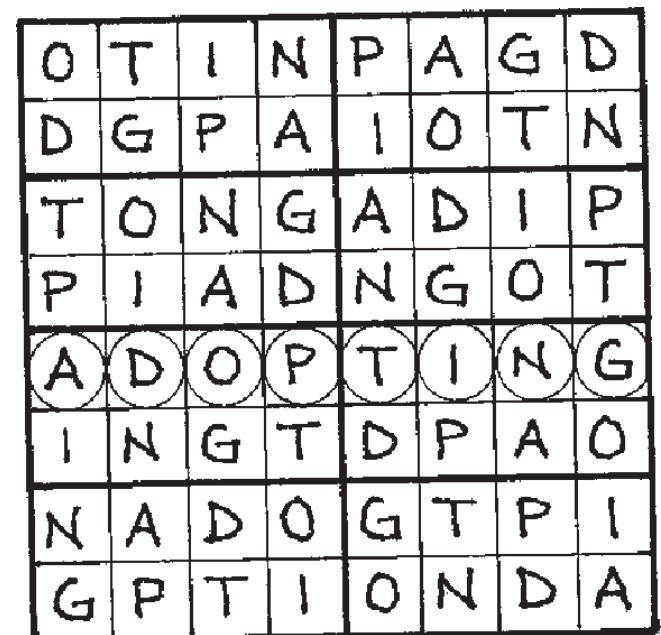
1. Some (3)
2. Light Brown (3)
3. Small Insect (3)
4. Male Child (3)

Down

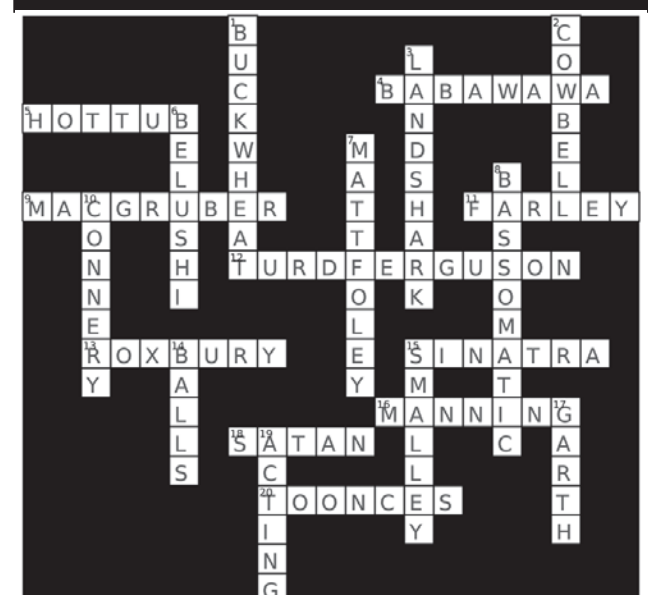
5. Break of ____ (3)
6. Organized (4)
7. Huge Noise (3)
8. Pen Point (3)



Solution to Sept. 25 Sudo-Grams



CROSSWORD SOLUTION: 9/25



... ARREST continued from page 1

residence but billed the work through the Old Edwards accounts payable department.

"In other words, he had OEI pay for the work done on his home," said Highlands Police Captain Todd Ensley. "Employees became concerned over potential billing issues and conflicts of interest involving OEI and reported it."

Ensley said the contractors who performed sheet metal work, dry wall work, marble and tile work, electrical and plumbing work didn't do anything wrong.

"There's nothing wrong with the fact that he hired contractors who did work for the OEI company, but Gomes had them do the work and billed the work performed on his home back to OEI. That's committing a crime by obtaining property on false pretenses," he said. "The contractors did the work legitimately."

The Old Edwards group hired a private investigator from Raleigh, N.C., to see if there were potential criminal charges.

Ensley said they discovered criminal violations had occurred and contacted the Highlands Police Department.

An exact monetary value hasn't been disclosed, but Chief Ensley said each count involves "thousands of dollars."

According to police, Mario Gomes no longer resides in Highlands so the law enforcement agency in Gomes's current jurisdiction will handle the arrest.

"We don't know his exact location at this time," said Chief Harrell. "We've heard several scenarios."

He said his court date will be determined once he is arrested and the case will be heard in Macon County Superior Court.

Harrell said other investigations concerning more criminal conduct that allegedly took place in other areas of the OEI company are ongoing, "but the outcome may take some time."

— Kim Lewicki

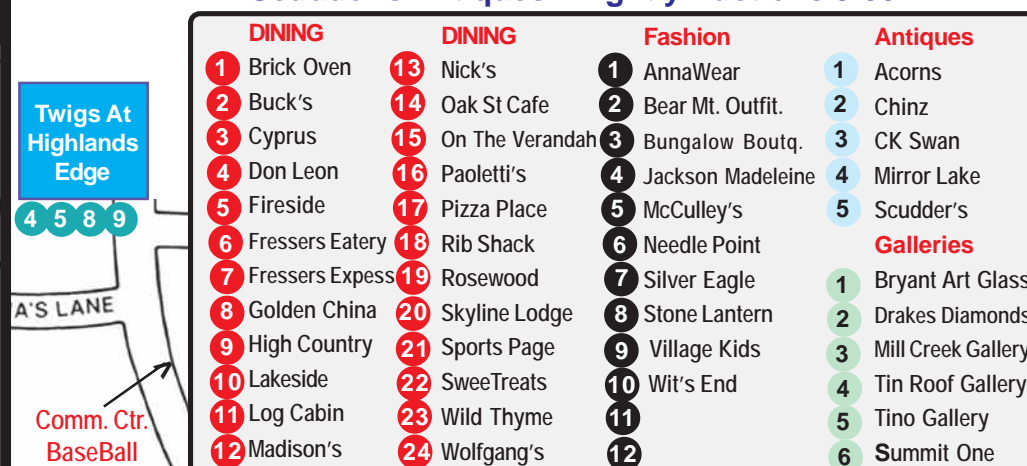
2008 Highlands Map

Scudder's Antiques - Nightly Auctions 8:00 PM

Waterfalls & Day Trips

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HighlandsInfo.com



6 Shiraz Rug Gallery - Big October Sale

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Wine Spectator**

Wolfgang's Wine Spectator

**Madison's
Wine Spectator**

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- 1 # 1 Nails
- 2 All Season
- 3 Creative
- 4 Head Invo
- 5 Images U
- 6 Michael's
- 7 Mountain
- 8 Pro Nails
- 9 Taylor Ba
- 10 The Salo

Home Decor

- 1 Acorn's
- 2
- 3 Dry Sink
- 4 Out On A Limb
- 5 On The Rocks
- 6 Shiraz Rugs
- 7 Summer House
- 8 Twigs The Season
- 9 Twigs
- 10 Wholesale Down

Real Estate

- 1 Buyers
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- 3 Century 21
- 4 Chambers
- 5 Country Club
- 6 Green Mountain
- 7 John Cleaveland
- 8 John Schiffli
- 9 Meadows Mtn.
- 10 Prestige Realty

Lodging

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

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